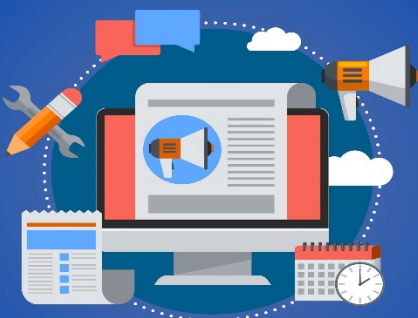


ISSN 0976 - 8165



# THE CRITERION


AN INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL IN ENGLISH

11<sup>th</sup> Year of Open Access


**Bi-Monthly Refereed and Peer-Reviewed  
Open Access e-Journal**

**Vol. XI, Issue -4 (August 2020)**

Editor-In-Chief : Dr. Vishwanath Bite  
Managing Editor : Dr. Madhuri Bite



www.the-criterion.com



AboutUs: <http://www.the-criterion.com/about/>

Archive: <http://www.the-criterion.com/archive/>

ContactUs: <http://www.the-criterion.com/contact/>

EditorialBoard: <http://www.the-criterion.com/editorial-board/>

Submission: <http://www.the-criterion.com/submission/>

FAQ: <http://www.the-criterion.com/fa/>



---

**ISSN 2278-9529**  
**Galaxy: International Multidisciplinary Research Journal**  
[www.galaxyimrj.com](http://www.galaxyimrj.com)

## Stale Bread

Dayem Mohammad Ansari

On my bed, I spent the day  
and it could be a Sunday.  
Staring the ceiling with moving fan  
and sound of its whirling.  
Silence was my room-mate.  
My refrigerator was filled with stuff  
yet I survived on tea.  
Thousand times I tried to reach my phone,  
wished to grab but it was still remote.  
I am a leftover meal, consumed by none,  
waiting in thrash for some canine  
to extract me from there by scratching  
with his legs and survive on me.  
It is an age where I am always followed,  
but accompanied by none.  
To be a friend I am always requested,  
and when accepted, I surely lose one.  
I must ask Alexa for she has a brain  
more lively than these walking dead.  
I am no God to live in solitary confinement.  
I have subscribed to Netflix, Amazon  
and watched a piece of mine there.  
And yes, I have always been into pieces.  
Some beeps reached my ear, I am alerted.  
I hold it and viewed the screen,  
"Happy Birthday! Stay blessed."  
I smiled and thanked the sender  
for sending the message but couldn't come.

### Bio Note:

Dayem Mohammad Ansari, 32, is an Urdu short story writer, poet and translator. He is a graduate in English Literature from Calcutta University and did his Masters in Urdu from Maulana Azad National Urdu University. He has also qualified UGC NET and subsequently enrolled in the course work of Ph.D (Urdu) in Vinuba Bhave University (Jharkhand). Urdu Fiction and Literary Criticism are his special areas of concern. His several short stories (in Urdu) have been published in Urdu journals. Moreover, he translated one Urdu Short Story of Siddique Alam into English which was published in 'Preeto-The Male Gaze', edited by Rakhshanda Jalil. He has attended and presented paper in various International and National

Seminar. Presently he is engaged as a Guest Lecturer in Department of Urdu, Calcutta Girls' College.