

بزم ادب

Bazm-e Adab

An Urdu Reading Group

Spring 2018

Bazm-e Adab, an Urdu Reading Group organized by the Urdu program at UC Berkeley, meets each spring semester to read some of the most beautiful poetry and prose in the world. In Spring 2018, the group will read a 19th-century Urdu marsiyah by Mir Babar Ali Anis (1803-1874). The poem commemorates the martyrdom of Hurr at Karbala in 680. Refusing to participate in the injustice carried out by his own army against the Husain (the grandson of the Prophet), Hurr defects and is eventually killed. As the marsiyah recounts one of the most powerful and moving episodes of the Karbala narrative, it also engages themes of devotion, justice, power, resistance, and virtue. Copies of the Urdu poem, along with an English translation, will be provided.

Bazm-e Adab is open to students and faculty at all levels.

For more information, please contact:

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