

Among Fire and Water

A Critique of the Last Correction of *Seir Al-Ebad Ela Al-Mā'd Masnavi*

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Abstract:

Sanai Ghaznavi's *Seir Al-Ebad Ela Al-Mā'd* is one of the most famous works in the field of Persian pedagogic literature. This remarkable Masnavi has been considered for many years among the most important sixth-century. However, due to some difficulties in reading the verses, there are still some vague points in this Masnavi. This paper attempts to refer to some of these difficulties in the text that occurred due to the imprecision of the copies or the mistake of the scribes, and based on the last print of the work, propose the correct form of some verses with reference to the oldest copies of the sixth century.

Keywords: Sanayi Ghaznavi, Masnavi of *Seir Al-Ebad Ela Al-Mā'd*, Text Correction, Pedagogic Literature

Hidden Layout

A Critique of the Book of *Gusheh: Iranian Melody Culture*

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Abstract

The book *Gusheh: Iranian Melody Culture* is the result of thirty years of Arshad Tahmasebi's life long work, and has undergone a shift in some of the key concepts due to the length of time it took to be written. These changes especially include the great changes in scholarship and music research in recent years. Nonetheless, closer studies show that this book is still very helpful and beneficial due to its critique of the primary sources, the classification of information based on historical periods, first-hand knowledge of musical modal system or *Dasgah*, and the gathering of large volumes of scattered material from several sources. At the same time, these studies also make it clear that the information on the entries regarding the ancient era and the Islamic period in the book should be studied and used more cautiously, since these periods are not the direct topic of the author's expertise and errors and mistakes in the entries are a possibility.

Keywords: *Gusheh: Iranian Melody Culture*, Iranian Music Culture, Arshad Tahmasebi, Persian Music, Music Modal System

an art piece with the test of history are among the characteristics of this book.

Keywords: *Kimiakhatoon, Rumi's Daughter, The Nation of Love*, Shams Tabrizi, Gholamreza Khaki

A Treasure from Iranian Culture A Review of *Folklore Tales of Lorestan*

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Abstract

Folklore Tales of Lorestan is a collection of 4 volumes recently published by the Center of Islamic Great Encyclopedia. The present article reviews the collection in two sections; in the first part, the printing method, the stories and the important narratives are introduced based on the Aarne- Thompson World List. In the second part, the editor's preface to the book and its various drawbacks are discussed.

Keywords: Tales and Fables, Oral Literature, Folk Literature

The Nation of Love or the Command of Desire

A review and analysis of two novels: *Nation of Love* and *Kimiakhatoon* with an approach to Rumi's life

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Abstract

The Nation of Love by Elif Shafak is one of the most read and most frequently translated novels in this decade that attracted an audience from all walks of life in a short time, as it did in the original language in Turkey (2009), and became a bestselling novel quickly. The collection of the works by this Turkish writer (16 books, mostly novels) has been translated to over 40 languages and published by internationally renowned publishers. *The Nation of Love* consists of two stories that are narrated side by side. First is the story of an affluent family living in America (the land of opportunities and failed chances) and the second story or *The Nation of Love*, is a historical-mystical story portraying the encounter between Shams and Molana. *The Nation of Love* is merely a novel, and not all of its events are based on historical documentations. Consequently, an almost new persona is presented of Shams, and most of the attention to the book is due to this second story, and if the first story (love of Ella to Aziz) was presented in a separate book as a novel, the book could not have been this popular. Shafak (as the narrator and writer) hides herself behind the Aziz Zahara character (the in-text narrator of the story of Shams), in such a way that we forget throughout the story that she is the actual author. The main theme of *The Nation of Love* is two types of love (divine and earthly); today's earthly love (Ella and Aziz Zahara), and the old-timely divine love (Shams and Molana). The author tries to tie these two together. In this article, *The Nation of Love* is analyzed with a critical approach and with regards to factors that make it a popular novel.

Key Words: Rumi, *The Nation of Love*, *Kimiakhatoon*, Shams al-Din Tabrizi

Two Masters and *Manazil Al-Sairin*

A review of the book *Manazil Al-Sairin* by Khawja Yousef Hamedani

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Abstract

One of the renowned mystics who has a book on mystic Manazil (stations) is Khawja Yusef Hamedani (535-440 AH). He is a mystic of the fifth and sixth centuries, one of the founders of the Naqshbandiyeh order and the leaders of the Khawjegan dynasty, and one of the mystics that had high Karamat or marvels. Many researchers consider his only known work to be *Rotbata-Al-Hayat*. However, another less-known and invaluable work, *Al-kashaf An Manazil Al-Sairin*, is attributed to him. This book has not been published yet and is only mentioned in Persian Literature anthologies. It is a detailed book in Farsi with a fluent language that has been overlooked since the eighth century BC. But by the second half of the 7th century AD. It is known enough that it is considered equal in value to Ibn-Arabi's *Fusus Al-Hekam*. Today, based on its synonymy with *Manazil Al-Sairin* by Khawja Abdullah Ansari, some scholars of the mystical texts regard this work as an interpretation of that work in Persian, or they describe it as a separate book from *Al-kashaf An Manazil Al-Sairin*, while it is in fact the full title of *Manazil Al-Sairin*, and in no way is the book related to Khawja Abdullah Ansari but an independent work with thirteen principles.

The only known version of it, which contains the second volume, is based on the analyzed and compared version of the 7th century AD which is kept in the Turkish Nafiz Pasha Library. This volume, which appeared in 512 pages, contains the 10th to 13th principles from the whole work and contains the description of the four principles of mysticism "addition and difference", "separation and connection," "adult and child," and "liberty". After describing the works and the life of Khawja Yousef, which is less discussed in literary sources, this article focuses on a comparison between the two masters' *Manazil Al-Sairin* and points out that the *Al-kashaf An Manazil Al-Sairin* is not a description of *Manazil Al-Sairin* by Khawja Abdullah Ansari.

Keywords: Mystical Literature, *Al-kashaf An Manazil Al-Sairin*, Khawja Yousef Hamedani, *Manazil Al-Sairin* by Khawja Abdullah Ansari.

A Critique of *Kimia of Rumi's Haram*

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Abstract

The present research is aimed at introducing and reviewing *Kimia of Rumi's Haram*. Although the book does not mention in the title that it is in face a critique but we see that it is an essay based on "... the critique of novels *Kimiakhatoon*, *Rumi's Daughter*, and *the Nation of Love ...*". also whenever deemed necessary it also criticizes historical works such as the *Managhlib-Al-Arefin Aflaki*, *Resaleyeh Sepahsalar*, and some other texts that are published in the cyberspace or periodical publications on this topic. The author also deciphers the undisclosed references of *Shams's Essays* based on the same biased view and presumptions, relying on the same historical texts as we shall see, the author depicts a biased image of Shams and his relationship with *Kimiakhatoon* and Aladdin (Rumi's son). Thus he is unwittingly caught up in the same trap that he is advising the novelists (the defendants in the present case) to avoid. A lack of structural cohesion, criticizing the thinkers rather than the criticizing the thought, the numerous contradictions in the text, and a refusal to acknowledge the boundary between history and imagination, and as a result, the evaluation of the novel as