

The Place of Mysticism in Hossein Panahi's Poetry and Thought

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Abstract

Language-wise, mysticism means “knowledge” and “knowing.” In its terminology, it means deep and intuitive knowledge of God and the truth of existence, which is achieved through self-purification and spiritual conduct. This knowledge leads to inner discovery and intuition and closeness to God. Questions about the origin of creation, existence, and man exist in the thoughts of theologians, mystics, legal scholars, and especially philosophers, and sometimes poets have also addressed these issues from various perspectives. Panahi is one of the poets of contemporary literature who has addressed these principles with deep pain and broad astonishment and a philosophical attitude. Reflection on his poems shows that he is a thoughtful poet whose doctrinal and ontological issues have been among the most important concerns of his life. Panahi believes in the originality and greatness of life and creation and considers God the creator of existence. The findings of the present study, which was conducted using a descriptive-analytical method based on Panahi's poems, indicate that God is manifested in Panahi's words in various forms (objective and intuitive) and that the only one he considers worthy of worship is God. The knowledge of God, the philosophy of existence and death all originate from Panahi's philosophical thinking, and Panahi's type of thoughtful view of God, existence and death are somewhat different from that of his contemporaries; the wandering and bewilderment resulting from the lack of understanding of many tangible truths and realities of creation, the inevitable fate of man and ultimately death is reflected abundantly in Hossein Panahi's poems; he has reached this stage of awareness in thinking about death, which he refers to as one of the laws of nature. This can be seen even in the vocabulary of his poems. Panahi knows both himself and the world around him well and has realized that without these two, he cannot achieve knowledge of God. He knows the three important factors of life as who, when and where, and questioning to the point of doubt is the bottom stone of Panahi's poems.

Keywords: Contemporary literature, Hossein Panahi, Poetry and mysticism God, existence and self.