

Reflection of the current of formalist mysticism in Khaqani's odes

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Abstract

Khāqāni is one of the great poets and masters of the ode in Persian literature. His works have always attracted the attention of literary scholars due to their prominent features, such as the grandeur of style, novelty of themes, selection of harmonious and innovative diction, and creativity in thematic development. Alongside these characteristics, which have drawn the careful consideration of researchers, the spiritual content of Khāqāni's poetry has also been among the recent interests of enthusiasts and scholars. By consistently employing mystical themes, Khāqāni urges the audience to contemplate the depth of this spirituality and evaluate his position on the path of spiritual wayfaring and gnosis. In this article, we have attempted to study Khāqāni's mysticism by examining poetic evidence and compare it with the characteristics of real mysticism. This research has been conducted using a descriptive and analytical method. The findings indicate that Khāqāni's use of mystical concepts and terminology is largely formal and linguistic, and his artistic ingenuity in creating the work takes precedence over his experiential and intuitive spiritual journey.

Keywords: Khāqāni, Mysticism, Formalist Mysticism, Semanticist Mysticism, Contradiction.