

A Comparison of Mystical States and Stations in *Kashf al-Mahjub* and *Al-Risala al-Qushayriyya*

Valiolah Eslami

*Ph. D. student, Department of Persian Language and Literature,
Ha. C., Islamic Azad University, Hamedan, Iran*

Maryam Keyhani Shoa'a

High School Teacher, Hamedan Province, Bahar County, Iran

Reza Sadeghi Shahpar

*Professor, Department of Persian Language and Literature,
Ha. C., Islamic Azad University, Hamedan, Iran*

Abstract

The aim of this research is to examine and compare two foundational texts of Islamic mysticism: *Al-Risalah al-Qushayriyah* by Abd al-Karim al-Qushayri and *Kashf al-Mahjub* by Ali ibn Uthman al-Hujwiri. Mystical states and stations—such as fear and hope (*khawf wa raja*), longing and intimacy (*shawq wa uns*), contraction and expansion (*qabd wa bast*), patience (*sabr*), trust in God (*tawakkul*), contentment (*rida*), and certainty (*yaqin*)—are systematically analyzed and assessed within two traditions: the Nishapuri tradition (Arabic language, pedagogical approach) and the Khurasani-Lahori tradition (Persian language, narrative approach). The findings indicate that *Al-Risalah al-Qushayriyah*, relying extensively on the Quran and Hadith, provides a pedagogical and systematic framework for Sufism, while *Kashf al-Mahjub*, through the Persian language and narratives of the masters, makes the mystical experience tangible and comprehensible for a general audience.

Keywords: Mysticism, State (*Hal*), Station (*Maqam*), Hujwiri, Qushayri.