Exploring the application of theories of mental spaces and conceptual blending in semantic-rhetorical analysis of Persian poetry

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Abstract
Theory of mental spaces is a theory derived from the theory of possible worlds. This theory and its derived theory, conceptual blending, are useful tools for text analysis in the field of cognitive poetics. The purpose of this study is to investigate how these theories encounter Persian poetry. To examine the application of these theories in the analysis of Persian poetry, we first discuss their philosophical aspects and theoretical foundations, and then test how they work in a lyric by Saadi. The results of the present study show that the theory of mental spaces, despite its generally appropriate function, in some positions such as allegorical structures, does not have the necessary efficiency in semantic analysis of poetry and in such circumstances, the theory derived from that, theory of conceptual blending, can cover the functional vacuum. We have also shown that the theory of mental spaces is a tool that explains and analyzes the linguistic nature of ambiguity, as one of the most important elements of rhetoric in poetry.

Keywords: *Possible worlds, mental spaces, conceptual blending, cognitive poetics in Persian poetry, saadi's sonnet.*

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Extended Abstract

1. Introduction
The main issue of this research is to investigate the effectiveness of the theories of mental spaces and conceptual blending in the analyzing the Persian poetries. For this purpose, we try to answer two basic questions about this:

- How do these two theories interact with Persian poetries?

What semantic and rhetorical elements do these theories reveal in the analysis of Persian poetries?.

2. Literature Review
Prior to this, few researches have been conducted in the field of study of the present research in Persian language and literature. these few researches have only investigated the function of the theory of conceptual blending in Persian literary texts and the and has not been paid attention to the applicability of the theory of mental spaces in the analysis of the process of production and interpretation of meaning in literary texts. In this research, the application of the theories of mental spaces and conceptual blending is practically investigated in the analysis of the dynamic process of meaning production in Persian poetry. In fact, this

research considers these theories as two related theories. It is considered together that their function in the analysis of Persian poetry is sometimes dependent on each other.

3. Methodology
The present research method is a descriptive-analytical. This means that we will first describe the substantive and philosophical foundations of the theories of mental spaces and conceptual blending and then; analyze the application of these theories in a Persian poem. Therefore, the first part of the research will be descriptive and the second part will be analytical. The sources of the current research have been collected in a library manner.

4. Results
Theories of mental spaces and conceptual blending are derived from the theory of possible worlds, which are very useful in the ideological and context-oriented analysis of Persian poetry. In this research, we tested the effectiveness of those. In the first, we discussed about the theory of mental spaces and its offspring, i.e. votes, in a practical way in the

analysis of Persian poetry. Based on the discussed topics, the theory of mental spaces can reveal the extent and quality of continuous/narration of poetry. Also, we argued the quality of the actions and ideology of the characters created in the persian poems is analyzable through the theory of mental spaces. After that, this theory explains the conditional structures in the form of a comparison of the present and past/future space and its ideological aspects in a scrutinizing manner. Also, it is very respectable, by showing the referential connection of the elements of speech, it reveals the linguistic nature of the rhetorical element of ambiguity by justifying the connection of one element in a mental space with other elements in the corresponding mental space and also considering the issue of multi-referentiality and referential ambiguity, and from this point of view. Of course, this theory is suitable for simple word structures and is not suitable for the analysis of complex structures such as parables and equation style. In these cases, the theory of conceptual blending can replace the theory of mental spaces.

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