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Why is Majalis al- Nafais a turning point in the tradition of biography?

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Abstract

Majalis al-Nafais is a biography in Turkish that was translated into Persian five times after its publication. Most subsequent biographies are influenced by its style. As far as possible, the tradition of writing biography in Iran can be divided into two periods before and after Majalis al-Nafais. The main question of the article is formed at this point: What is the distinguishing feature of this biography? The answer must be found in the structural features of the work. To find the answer, after a brief review of the author's personality dimensions, we analyze the effect structurally and then explore the discourse order of the world outside and inside the text. To show what is the discourse basis of this different structure. Examining the methods and techniques of classifying poets, the method of introducing figures and the problem of criticizing poetry and poets are the other three central issues with the help of which we explain the methodological pillars of Majlis al-Nafais. The structure of this biography has a direct or indirect effect on the Persian biography tradition of the tenth to fourteenth centuries in different ways.

Keywords: *biography. Majalis al Alafais. Structure. Methodology.*

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Extended Abstract

1. Introduction

Amir Ali Shir Navai is truly the father of Turkish literature. By adopting special writing policies, he was able to bring Turkish language and literature to the center from the margins. Her works included writing a treatise on the Persian-Turkish debate, in which the Turkish-language debate won, composing love poems in Turkish, writing important books in Turkish, and translating important works from Persian to Turkish. Among these works we can mention *Majalis al-Nafis*, which is the first Turkish memoir about the author's contemporary poets. In this biography, the author pursues his main goal, which is to revive Turkish literature. That is why he pays attention to his own contemporary poets. Because there were very few Turkish poets in the past. Her contemporaryism was to revive Turkish literature, but after that it became part of the tradition of Persian biography. In her time, Turkish poets were less among the elites, and she was forced to pay attention to middle-class poets in order to increase the population of Turkish poets. Therefore, her motivation for paying attention to the "street poets" was to strengthen the Turkish discourse, but the later biographies followed her in this regard as well, and went to the middle class poets. Amir Ali Shir had to bring the "street poets" alongside the elite poets. He created a fusion of tradition and modernity in his work. He brought the tradition of elitism alongside his own modernist massism. His action was motivated by his goal and motivation to revive Turkish literature, but in the tradition of later biographers, the coming together of kings and princes alongside middle-class poets became part of the tradition. Nothing important was found in the lives of the street poets. Most of them had neither higher education nor status. Therefore, the author had chosen the method of brevity and brevity in introducing them. Also, they did not have many works and there was not much poetry left of them. Therefore, Amir Ali Shir mentioned a few sample poems for them. After her, the brief introduction of poets and the mention of a small number of verses for them became two other features of the tradition of biography.

2. Methodology

Our research method is library. First, we read the Majalis al-Nafais. We extracted their structural features (form and content). Then we compared his style with the biographies before and after him. Through this study, we obtained comparisons of the role Majalis al Nafais in the evolution of the biography tradition.

3. Results

Although Majalis al-Nafais was written in Turkish, it was translated into Persian five times immediately after their publication. Thus, not only the content of biography entered the tradition of Persian biography but also its structural, methodological and insightful features were imitated by later biographers. The five characteristics of Majalis al Nafais that later became part of the biography tradition are contemporaryism, massism, disrupting the hierarchy of power in biographies, recognizing minorities, and introducing poets in a concise and concise manner. Although his aim was to adopt such methods of reviving Turkish literature, later biographers used the same methods and tricks, regardless of his purpose.

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