

## Modernism in Iranian Art: A Review of Investigating the Contemporary Iranian Art

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### Abstract

*Investigating the Contemporary Iranian Art* is an attempt for a systematic analysis of Iranian art, culture and society, which has been fairly neglected in the realm of research. In this book, the author, Hamid Keshmir Shekan has connected the modernist art, modernism and culture in an attempt to analyze and explain decades of Iranian art tradition and, in this way, arrive at an understanding of its contemporary art. The author refers to the importance of the present century in Iranian art and culture, where the heritages of tradition and modernism have been critically analyzed and revised. The book, while bringing up various issues in the study of contemporary art, reconsiders the link between art and socio-cultural issues. It is developed in six chapters, dealing with issues such as non-Western modernism, the meaning and concept of contemporary art in the context of Iran, and the response of the Iranian artist to the concept of modernism.

**Keywords:** Contemporary Art, Modernism, Modernist Art, Iranian Artist

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5

## From Behind the Glasses in The Light of New Historicism

A review and critique of the play From Behind the Glasses

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### Abstract

From the perspective of modern historicism, literature and history are influenced by the forces of cultural discourse and social action. New historians believe that the work of art (text) is not separate from its cultural, social, political and historical context. Therefore, in order to examine the text, we should be aware of the social concerns of the author and the historical and cultural background presented in the work. From this perspective, in Akbar Radi's plays, author's reflections on the state of dominant culture and society and the mutual influence of characters, in particular the intellectual characters, on the society of the author's era are among issues well worth studying and analysis. As one of the most influential Iranian playwrights, Radi observes and analyzes the cultural, political and historical context of his community, a method which is significantly influenced by his academic degree in social sciences. Radi's plays can be seen as a retelling of his sociological observations. He understands the straightforward language of the streets and the complicated shady language of the intellectuals of his era, and uses to perfection in creating characters and dialogues. The present research is a qualitative analysis of *From Behind the Glasses* in the light of the new historicism theory, while by describing the behavior and actions of the characters, the historical and cultural discourse analysis are also addressed.

**Keywords:** Akbar Radi, Plays, From Behind The Glasses, New Historicism, Cultural Discourse

**The Role of Editors in Presenting the Author**  
**A Review of Toghray Mashhadi's Biography in His Newly Published**  
**Book of Essays**

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**Abstract**

Researchers in the field of editing and correction manuscripts consider the writing of introductions as part of the correction process. The introduction of a corrected work usually includes an explanation of the author's life and the nature the author's works, as well as the thoughts, and the style of writing conveyed in them, and descriptions about different available editions of the work, method of editing and corrections. The preface writing editor uses the same author's other works and various other sources to make those alterations and corrections. This article is a review and analysis of the introduction note written on Toghray Mashhadi's Book of Essays, as corrected and published by Seyyed Mohammad Sahebi, and point to some of its errors and shortcomings. For this purpose, in the first place Toghray's other works were consulted and secondly other Tadhkirah writings in the peninsula region were sought as sources. The final part of the paper highlights some of the mistakes that were made in use of the resources for the introduction and other notes in the book.

**Keywords:** Toghray Mashhadi's Book of Essays, Sayyed Mohammad Sahebi, Toghray, Collection of Essays, Introduction

**On Calligraphy or *The Great Encyclopedia of Hand-Lettering*: introduction and review**

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**Abstract**

The first volume of *The Great Encyclopedia of Hand-Lettering*, titled The History of Codicology and Calligraphy, written by Ali Asghar Moqtadai, published in two volumes in 1394, is a collection that deals with the history of calligraphy in Iran and other countries of the world. According to the author, this book was the result of years of research and writing and analysis, and has been compiled using more than 100 Iranian sources and dozens of foreign sources and articles in various journals, resulting in the publication of a volume that consists of twenty chapters. But unfortunately, this work is not structured in the familiar Encyclopedic form and the most significant disadvantage of it is the disorganized arrangement of the entries.

Also, some of the material collected from different sources were used in the discussions in the book without having been thoroughly reviewed and evaluated. The failure to observe the alphabetical order or historical order in the list of names, the need to re-examine some of the concepts discussed, the lack of in-text references and the disorganized manner of footnote presentations are among other short comings of this work.

**Keyword:** The Great Encyclopedia of Hand-Lettering, The History of Codicology and Calligraphy, Ali Asghar Moqtadai, Origin of Writing in The World, Origin of Writing in Iran

## From Persian Tadhkirah To Magical Realism: A Discourse in The Review of Mystical Realism

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### Abstract

Mystical Realism; A Comparison of Sufi Tadhkirah writing and Magical Realism with Emphasis on Marquez's Works by Mohammad Roodgar is in effect his doctoral thesis in the field of Islamic Mysticism and Sufism, approved in 1394 (Persian Calendar) and published for the first time as a book, in 1396. In this work, he mentions the similarities and differences between magical realism as a mode of writing (based on Gabriel García Márquez's *One Hundred Years Of Solitude*) and the Sufi anecdotes contained in different Sufi Tadhkirah writings (emphasizing on Attar's *Tazkirat al-Awliya*) to introduce a novel way in Persian story writing; a way which is, in his opinion, native and driven from the experience and particular viewpoints of Muslim mystics. Despite the differences in subject matter and other epistemological and ontological differences between the views of these authors, he considers a strong structural similarity between magic realism and the methodology of Sufism in Tadhkirah writing. A similarity that compels him to attempt at comparing the two in order to find a localized and native mode of narratives in Persian stories. He also tried to implement his findings in his own writings in the form of a novel (*Seventh Wishing Rag*, 1395).

**Keywords:** Localization, Magical Realism, Tadhkirah Writing, Credibility, Dignity, Magic, Realms of Form and Idea

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3

## The Discourse of Chaos in The Realm of The Unhearing: A Criticism of *Fourteenth Hijri-Century Earache* Based on A Postmodern Reading

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### Abstract

The present research is based on the critique of *Fourteenth Hijri-Century Earache* by Abbas Habibi Badrabadi. Based on a critical analysis and a postmodern reading, it is argued here that the author of the mentioned book has successfully created a literary-performative genre which he calls "Far-Mohtava" in order to open up new horizons in Persian poetry by overthrowing the Literary restitution system of thinking and creating a suitable form that can best serve the purpose of producing content. Thereby he has created a significant shift towards post-modernism and the localization of the concept by adapting it to the contemporary culture of his motherland. This research is based on postmodern literature and opinions of thinkers such as Jean Francois Lyotard, Jean Baudrillard, Jacques Derrida and Michel Foucault.

**Keywords:** Postmodern Critique, Fourteenth-Century Earache, Abbas Habibi Badrabadi