

The Turkish Sultan Portrait in Arabic poetry, during 648 – 784 a.h (An Objective and Artistic study)

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Abstract:

This research aims to study the depiction of the Turkish Sultans in Arabic poetry, in the period 648 – 784 AH (1250 – 1382 AD). The study takes into account the different themes and aesthetic aspects of the poetry of this period.

I chose to conduct this research because of my desire to write on a topic that pertains to Arabic poetry in the Turkish state, as well as to contemplate the role played by the Turkish Sultans in rescuing the Islamic Orient from the two largest colonial threats. In such a role, the names of the Sultans grew more resplendent in the fields of glory and heroism, and poets rushed to laud their victories and conquests. In addition, this revealed the other face of the Turkish Sultan, rendering it necessary to contemplate these poems and to study them thematically and aesthetically.

The significance of this paper lies in its concern with studying both the positive and negative depictions of the Turkish Sultans with regards to themes and aesthetics. This research has included a holistic view of a number of Turkish Sultans during the period 648 – 784 AH.

In this study, I have used a mixed approach: I have used the historical approach to study the public life in the Turkish state, the analytic approach for the study of poetic themes, the aesthetic approach to take into account the artistic aspect, and the statistical approach to address the issue of poetic meters and their repetition.

At the end of my research, I have arrived at several important results: The depiction of the Sultan had been a prominent, unambiguous theme in the works of poetry spoken during the reign of the Turkish state. Moreover, works of poetry during this period presented an honest depiction of the great Islamic battles and events, in which the Sultan had played a prominent role.

In conclusion, I recommend further study to be done on this topic focusing on the second period of this era, and for a comparative research to be conducted between the two periods, or between two different eras.