

Englische Abstracts

Observing with “the Eye of the Heart” On the Symbols of the Mystical-metaphysical Attitude in Islam

Roland Pietsch¹

(pp 1 to 17)

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Abstract

The first part of this paper focuses on the general significance of the symbols representing the truth, which are above thought and perception. The second part describes four attitudes of the heart, according to Tirmidhi's treatise, *Bayān al-farq bayn aṣ-ṣadr wa l-qalb wa l-fu'ād wa l-lubb*. In the last and the main part of the paper, Ibn 'Arabi's doctrine of the mystical-metaphysical cognition and his teaching of “the eye of the heart”, based on his *Fuṣūṣ al-ḥikam* are explained.

Keywords

Mysticism, the recognition of God, al-Tirmidhi, perception of the heart, Ibn 'Arabī

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Transfer of Science and Technology from Austria to Iran

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(pp: 19 to 33)

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Abstract

This paper is concerned with the transfer of science and technology from Austria to Iran. The method adopted in this study is library research through document analysis. The results show that the transfer of science and technology was accomplished directly through the establishment of Dār al-Fonūn college (polytechnics) in Tehran, and indirectly in the form of services provided by foreign teachers, military advisers, translators, doctors, the visits made by Qajar kings to European countries, construction of roads, bridges, railways, postal services, mint office, security force, as well as the import of military equipment from Austria and copying them in Iran. The major implication of the present study is to show the impact of the transfer of science and technology from Austria to Iran and its role in the related fields.

Keywords

Dār al-Fonūn, Austria, Iran, transfer of science and technology

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**Has the West been defeated us?
On Today's Reception of Ali Shariati and Āl-e Ahmad Works in Iran**

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(pp: 35 to 58)

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Abstract

In 1962, a booklet published in Iran, which included many of the thoughts that later Edward Said formulated in his *Orientalism*. The booklet was Jalal Āl-e Ahmad's *Gharbzadegī*. Similarly, such thinking about the West continued in Ali Shariati's *Ommat wa Emāmat*. These two books, in addition to the *Tanbih al-umma wa tanzih al-milla* (Awakening of Communion and Purification of the Nation) by Mirzā Mohammad Ḥossein Nā'īnī and Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's *Hokūmat-e eslāmī* (The Islamic Government) are likely to be the most influential books in Iran in the twentieth century. This paper deals with the analysis of the mentioned books and today's reception of Ali Shariati and Āl-e Ahmad's works in Iran.

Keywords

Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, Ali Shariati, Jalal Āl-e Ahmad, *Gharbzadegī*

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The Reasons of the Aggression in Saudi Arabia's Foreign Policy Toward Islamic Republic of Iran (2001-2017)

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(pp 59 to 94)

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Abstract

Saudi Arabia's foreign policy toward Iran has turned from a pattern of conservative and interactive behavior before Iran's Islamic Revolution to a competitive and contradictory approach after the revolution. This policy, with the advent of international and regional events and changes, has taken a substantial departure from a prudent pragmatism to unprecedented aggression. The present paper systematically examines the reasons for Saudi Arabia's foreign policy attitudes, priorities, and behaviors, specifically from 2001 to 2017. This study indicates how the above-mentioned events and changes have affected the Saudi Arabian elites and political leaders' views on the position of Iran in the regional equilibrium. It seems that the authorities of Saudi Arabia consider the balance to be changed in favor of Iran. Therefore, their foreign policy has led to a more aggressive approach, with the aim of weakening Iran's role and influence. Accordingly, this study tries to examine the factors that have led to this alteration. The paper suggests that identity disagreements, security threats, and ideological rivalries are among the fundamental reasons for this aggressive policy.

Keywords

Iran, Saudi Arabia, aggressive foreign policy, prudent pragmatism, regional equilibrium

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The Autobiographical Element in the Works of Franz Kafka

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(pp: 95 to 108)

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Abstract

Franz Kafka's works can be considered as the epitome of interpretability in the modern fiction. Abandoning the search for the one and only correct meaning of Kafka's stories makes it possible to gain access to the meanings beneath the surface. The attempt to understand his stories brings out possible interpretations and discovers elements on which the stories are based. One part of Kafka's literary effort is certainly the processing of concrete events and circumstances of his life; therefore, this article tries to examine the autobiographical element of his stories. Although the biography of the author does not fully unlock the meaning of his texts, it facilitates their partial understanding and development of possible interpretations. As an example, reading Kafka's novel, *The Castle*, alongside his autobiographical sources of information (letters and diaries), provides a new interpretation of the fragmented text.

Keywords

Franz Kafka, interpretation, autobiography, *The Castle*, literature

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**The Construction of Social and Cultural “Foreignness”
in *Dalīl as-sufarā’*
A Persian travelogue to Russia**

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(pp 109 to 132)

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Abstract

During the reign of Peter the Great (1672-1725), Russia implemented an aggressive strategy against Iran, which reached its peak in the early years of 19th century. Since then Iran has entered into an uneven relationship with Russia. Focusing on *Dalīl as-sufarā’*, one of the first 19th-century Persian travelogues to Russia, this paper examines, on a sociological approach, the constructions of social and cultural foreignness through boundary-making practices. Exemplary text excerpts are used to illustrate what types of foreignness are created, and which strategies have been used either to maintain or adopt the experienced foreignness.

Keywords

Dalīl as-sufarā’, Iran, Russia, social and cultural foreignness, Persian travelogues

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