#### **Short article:**

# Religion or Low-Level Worship? Rectification and Description of a Verse by Amir Khosro Dehlavi

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# **Background and introduction**

Amir Khosro Dehlavi (born: 651 AH, died: 725 AH), in the poem Shirin and Khosro which was composed in imitation of Khosro and Shirin Nizami, there is a verse as follows:

I am a subservient for your slaves to worship (Dehlavi, 1961: 115)

This collection has been revised and printed twice so far. First, it was edited by Ghazanfar Aliyev and published by the Institute of Asian Nations in Moscow (1961); The corrector of the text included the combination of "religion-worship" in the manuscript and did not provide any difference in the version for this verse (ibid.).

In the fifth-text of Amir Khosro Dehlavi, which was published in 1983 with the correction of Amir Ahmad Ashrafi, the combination of "religious-worship" is mentioned (Dehlavi, 1983: 294).

In this essay, the researcher, by citing other examples of Nezami Ganjavi's manuscript and other existing ones, is trying to prove that "low-level worship" has been distorted and turned into " religion-worship", while it was the precise combination of "low-level worship",

but due to the low prevalence of this blend in Persian literature, it has been corrected or distorted by copywriters.

# Research method, background and aim

"Shirin and Khosrow" by Amir Khosrow Dehlavi was first edited in 1961 by Ghazanfar Aliyev in the Moscow Institute of Asian Nations or Soviet Oriental Studies, and the second time Amir Ahmad Ashrafi edited the fifth-text of Amir Khosro, which was published by Shagheg Publishing House in 1983.

Since to prove the authentic composition, various corrections of the fifth-text of Nizami were also referred, it should be said that the fifth-text of Nezami was also first published with the improvements of Hassan Vahid Dastgerdi, which was printed with corrections in 1997 by the efforts of Saeed Hamidian through Qatrah publishing house.

Another correction was made by Behrouz Servatiyan in 1989 from the fifth-text of Nezami, which was published by Toos Publishing House, and the latest correction was made in 2001 by Barat Zanjani and with the efforts of Tehran University Press.

In the current research, which was conducted in the field and in the library, the researcher faced the question of whether there was any presaging in the above composition or not?

By mentioning other Nizami Ganjavi's examples, which was the subject of special attention and imitation of Amir Khosro, this essay aims to prove that "low-level worship" was a valid combination that Amir Khosro borrowed from Nezami, but due to the small popularity of this composition in Persian literature and the closeness of the writings of

"Aeen" (religion) and "Paeen" (low) in the manuscripts, they have been corrected or distorted by the copywriters.

#### **Discussion**

There are two ways to perceive whether "religious-worship" is true or "low-level worship" in the mentioned verse from Amir Khosrow Dehlavi; First, referring to the authentic version, and secondly, analyzing and fitting the meaning of these combinations with the words in the verse. "religious-worship" means "one who is in favor of rituals and customs" (Moin, 1992: "religious-worship" index).

However, it is astonishing that this combination appears for the first time in the decisive proof of "Irony of serving with the utmost humility" (Khalaf Tabrizi, 1997: index religion worship).

"low-level worship" is a rare blend that can only be seen in Nezami's works, the pioneer of new combinations, and it means obedience, servitude and provision (ibid; Rampuri, 2008: index the word; Nafisi, 2015: index the word) and low-level worship means submissive, servant and retainer (Dehkhoda, 1998: index the word; Servat, 2000: index the word), but low-level worship is not very common in Persian poems.

Amir Khosrow has another verse in another Masnavi called "Deval Rani and Khezr Khan", which describes the love of Khezr Khan, the son of Sultan Alauddin Muhammad Khalaji, for Diwaldi, the daughter of Rai Karan, the ruler of Gujarat, in which the combination of "low-level worship" can be seen:

While you are surrounded by all low worshipers, Do not force subordinates (Dehlavi, 972 AH, page 148).

There is a verse in Nezami's Sharafnameh which is mentioned by Hasan Vahid Dastgardi, in correcting the Sharafnameh, placing "low-level worship" in the text:

Let's run him to Khosrow's access, Let's tame him to his worship (Nezami, 1999, p: 250).

But Behrouz Servatiyan, in correcting the Shrafnamah, included "low-level worship" in the text, which seems correct (Nezami, 1989, p:263). And in the description of it, he has given: "rejoicing of someone's servitude [means] celebrating and delighting in his servitude and nursing." (ibid.: 697) Barat Zanjani also considered "low-level worship" correct in revising the Sharafnameh (see: Nezami, 2001: 119). Therefore, the correct form of Nezami's verse, which has more meaning and has been mentioned by Behrouz Servatiyan and Barat Zanjani, is as follows:

Let's run him to Khosrow's access, Let's tame him to his worship (Nezami, 1999, p: 250).

On the other hand, in the three manuscripts of Amir Khosrow's khumsa in the library of the Islamic Council, the images of which are attached, i.e. copy number 78513 (Dehlavi, version 78513: page 103), and manuscript number 212288 (Dehlavi, copy 212288: page 80), and manuscript of that poem number 35535 (Dahlavi, version 35535: page 60) instead of religion-worship, low-level worship is mentioned.

#### **Conclusion**

The mentioned verse is more correct combination of "low-level worship" because, first of all, low-worship means obedience and compliance, both in the combination of the two words "low" and

"worship" is more meaningful than "religion worshipper" and with the key words of this verse like "Servant", "subordinate" and "maid" have a more precise meaning.

Second, Amir Khosro in another verse of the Masnavi "Deval-Rani and Khezr Khan" also used "low-level worship" along with "subordinate" and "superior" and since Amir Khosro was a imitator of Nezami's works in form and meaning, he used the combination of "low worship" He borrowed it from him and included it in his Divan.

Thirdly, in the mentioned three manuscripts of Amir Khosro's Khamseh in the library of the Islamic Council, whose pictures are also provided, it is mentioned "low-level worship". Fourth, in verses from Nezami like:

Let's run him to Khosro's access, Let's tame him to his worship
In the old version and authentic corrections such as improvements by
Barat Zanjani and Behrouz Servatiyan, it is written "low-level
worship". With the dispute that some of the readers, due to the closeness
of the writing of "Aeen" and "Paeen", have called the lower one a ritual
due to its greater use, so precise verse of Amir Khosro is as follows:
While you are surrounded by all low worshipers, Do not force

Key words: religion worship, Amir Khosro Dehlavi, low-level worship, correction, modification, Nezami

subordinates

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