

**The Rise and Fall of Storytelling in the Poems of Simin
Behbahani and Jaleh Esfahani**

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Introduction

In Iran, poetry and narrative poetry have a history from pre-Islamic times. In the Islamic period, narrative poetry was popular almost from the beginning of Dari poetry. In the contemporary period, the distance between narration and poetry has become very small, and this feature is very evident in the poems of some contemporary poets. It can be said that the movement of contemporary poetry is towards the structure of fiction; In other words, in addition to poetic elements such as imagination, music and image, poetry also has narrative elements such as character, dialogue, time, place and scene in its structure, and the frequency of these elements is such that this category of poems can be called narrative poetry. Among the differences between narration in poetry and fictional narration, we can mention the shortness of poetic narratives, the generality of narration in poetry, and the neglect of details and the one-dimensionality of the characters.

Research method and theoretical foundation

Fictional elements under the headings of narration, narrative elements or narrative in the poetry of some contemporary poets such as Mohammad Reza Shafiee, Kadkani, Qaisar Aminpour, Mehdi Akhavaneshal, Forough Farrokhzad and Tahereh Saffarzadeh have been studied separately or comparatively and in whole or in part. Here are some examples of dissertations related to the topic: A Comparative Study of Narrative Elements in a Barren Land and Believing in the Beginning of the Cold Season, (2015) by Amir Afshar; Structure and form of narration of Forough Farrokhzad's poems, (2012) by Elham Hajian; Storytelling in the works of Mehdi Akhavan Sales (2011) by Ramin Zaboli; A study of the narrative element in the poem of Qaisar Aminpour (2016) by Ameneh Hosseinpour. The closest work to the present study is the dissertation on the evolution of storytelling in contemporary lyric poetry (2015), the beautiful work of Safarpourchafi. In this dissertation, first the narrative lyric and the story lyric have been studied in general and then the narrative elements in the lyric poems of Simin Behbahani and Hossein Manzavi have been studied in two separate sections. Simin Behbahani's narrative poems are discussed briefly in this dissertation and only a few examples of Simin's narrative poems are mentioned. The statistical population of the present study has been extracted and provided from all their poetry books. The present applied research, effective narrative elements in the process of narration, story creation and poetry: dialogue, perspective, characterization, theme and format in the poetry of two contemporary female poets: Jaleh Esfahani and Simin Behbahani study in a descriptive-analytical manner and in some cases use statistical analysis,

tables and graphs. The statistical population of the study is 70 narrative poems by Simin Behbahani and 37 fiction poems by Jaleh Esfahani which have been extracted and provided from all their poetry books. The method of data collection in this research is the library method and the data collection tool is phishing. Then, the techniques and methods of storytelling in the works of both poets are examined in a comparative way to determine the similarities and differences in the use of fictional elements in the poetry of Jaleh Esfahani and Simin Behbahani.

Discussion

This study intends to study the use of important and influential narrative elements in the narrative process in the poetry of two prominent and contemporary female poets: Jaleh Esfahani (1300-1368) and Simin Behbahani (1306-1393) and shows that they have narrative elements such as characterization, How and with what characteristics have they used dialogue, description, atmosphere, time, place, scene, etc. in their poetry, and what themes have they mainly dealt with in their narrative poems. A comparison is then made between the two poets to show which of these poets has used the narrative method the most in their poems; In which works are the techniques and methods of storytelling richer and what are the similarities and differences between the quality of using narrative elements in the poetry of these poets. The focus of the research is on the relationship between storytelling and poetry in the narrative poems of two poets. Considering the influence of women's poetry in the field of contemporary poetry and the prevalence of storytelling and narration in various poetic formats by contemporary poets and the history of application of this artistic method in classical

literature, this type of research in addition to showing the evolution of contemporary poetry, scientific standards and It provides valuable art for the critique of poetry today and provides a broader and more diverse context for research in the field of fiction and narrative literature. Considering the importance and position of Jaleh Esfahani and Simin Behbahani in the history of contemporary women's poetry, it is important to study the fictional elements in the poetry of these poets.

Conclusion

Despite the similarities in the narrative poems of these two poets from the perspective of fictional elements, we conclude that in the narrative poems of Jaleh Esfahani, sometimes the expression of narrative in poetry has damaged the structure of the poem and reduced its poetic features. In fact, in Jaleh Esfahani's poems, narrative features have surpassed poetic features and have reduced the imagination, feeling and poetic nature of the poems, and the poems adhere more to the rules of the story than poetry; In the sense that the poet wants to include a story in the form of a poem and tell it to his audience in a melodic expression. In Simin Behbahani's poems, the narration of the story has not damaged the structure of the poem and has not diminished the poetic nature of the poems, and it is this narration and story that has served the poetry. In other words, poetry has approached narration and story by preserving the rules and regulations of poetry. According to the examples of Simin Behbahani's narrative poems that were mentioned and according to the characteristics that we mentioned for these poems, it can be said that Simin Behbahani has established the link between poetry and story in the best way in her poems. Expresses important issues and problems in

the form of poetry, using narrative elements in such a way that the audience does not reject the poem, but quite the opposite; Follow and remember the poem with interest. Finally, we can borrow from the sentence of Mehdi Akhavan Sales about his own narrative poems and point out that: Simin Behbahani has raised the narrative to the level of poetry and in some cases Jaleh Esfahani has reduced the poem to the level of narration.

Keywords

Storytelling, Jaleh Esfahani, Simin Behbahani, Narrative Poetry, Fictional Elements.

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