

**Threatening and Meaning-Creator *Other* in Persian
Contemporary Poetry:
A Case Study of Shams Langroudi's Poems**

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Introduction

Existentialism brings philosophies to the realm of concrete issues; Therefore, it's connected with literature, art, and aesthetics in various ways. Existentialists consider art to be the revelation and discovery of the world and the manifestation of freedom, For them, there is no difference between metaphysical exploration and artistic experience: both are a way for humans to reveal their freedom and responsibility.

Metaphysical and phenomenological foundations should be considered as two important pillars in existentialist aesthetics. *The other* -who is also aware of her own -is an individual through whom we

discover ourselves; So, existential thinkers have written about it in various works. In the words of existentialists, one of the basic issues about the *other* is that it can be a threat to one's freedom and cause the death of her possibilities; Sartre is one of the thinkers who has extensive discussions on this issue; Also, another approach finds the *other* meaningful and value-creator in different areas, including in the works of thinkers such as Buber and Marcel.

The existential concepts has been investigated by many researchers in Iranian literature, but no independent research has been done on Shams Langroodi's poems, and in general, his poems have not been the subject of research in terms of reflecting existential concepts in Iranian literature and poetry. The current research has chosen the topic of research with the necessity of filling abovementioned niche in the study area of contemporary Iranian poetry analysis. Therefore, by surveying theoretical foundations of the existential concept of the *other*, the present work aims to shed light on humanism in the philosophy of existence, because there is a close connection between them, and finally, to discuss the reflection of concepts as two different (and even opposite) views of the *other* in the poems of Shams Langroodi; For this purpose, an effort is made to identify more detailed concepts from this main concepts as a framework to analyze the poems.

Results & Discussion

In a general view, the results indicate that we are faced with a broad reflection of the existential concept of the *other* in Shams Langroodi's poetry; So, it can be claimed that the poet has always been concerned with the *other*, and this significant reflection includes a wide

range from an optimistic to a pessimistic view about the *other*; In other words, we are facing both the other as a threat and the other as a possibility. By paying close attention to the poems, Several related concepts could be recognized which are included in these two main concepts (positive and negative), They are discussed in the following lines:

Regarding the general concept of "threatening *other*", many discussions have been formed in the existentialism of philosophers such as Sartre and Heidegger; and a field of related concepts could be recognized under the "negative view of the other" have reflections in surveyed poems; These are main headings:

- Threatening and restricting of freedom by the *other*
- The death of my possibilities by the *other*
- Becoming mass by the *other*
- Being homogenized and standardized by the *other*
- Being Dominated by the *other*
- The collapse of the authentic I-Thou to I-It relationship

An opposite approach through the point of view of authentic relations in the direction of freedom and in the general concept of "giving meaning to the *other* (which can be seen in the works of philosophers such as Buber, Marcel, and Jaspers) have also reflected in surveyed poems; In this main existential concept, which is generally a positive view of the *other*, we can mention continuous and related concepts, the most prominent of which are the following:

- Giving meaning
- Humanism
- participation

- Authentic I-you relationship

From the multiplicity and variety of examples, it can be claimed that this concept can be considered as one of the main existential concepts present in Shams Langroodi's poems and existentialism is one of the main trends in his poetry. It is as if he in his living sometimes discovered the possibility and meaning from *other* and even discovered a part of his existence due to the existence of another and sometimes he saw the death of his possibilities in another existence.

Conclusion

Existential concepts which deal with concrete issues are common between the fields of literature and philosophy; One of these existential concepts that is linked with other main existential is *the other*. The discussion of the concept of the other in existentialism as an individual who is also aware of his own existence is one of the main, diverse and wide-ranging topics. Existential thinkers have theorized from pessimism to optimism about *the other*. The results of this research showed that the *other* is widely reflected Shams Langeroodi's poems with different approaches that doesn't fully conform to a specific philosopher; The *other* has a significant reflection in his poems, both with a humanistic and pessemestic tendencies. In humanistic, which is a positive outlook, he belived in a meaningful and value-creating role foe *other*, and in pessimistic view, he reflects a set of concepts in which the *other* causes the limitation of his authority and possibility, destroyes the authentic relationship of Ie-you to I-it; Paying attention to diversity of approaches toward the other in surveyed poems,

exposes the difference between literary and philosophical text and the difference between philosophizing and poetry .

Keywords: the Other, Humanism, Existentialism, Phenomenology, Sartre, Contemporary Poetry of Iran, Shams Langroodi.

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