



Extended Abstract Vol 16, Issue 4, Winter 2025, Ser 62

# Hidden Equivoques Based on Musical Terms in Hafez's Divan

## Yaser Dalvand<sup>\*</sup> 🝺 Mohammadhasan Hasanzadeh Niri 🝺

## Introduction

The connection between Hafez and music is explored by many researchers. On the other hand, "Ihaame Tanaasob" (called equivoque here) is a stylistic feature of Hafez's poetry. Therefore, he has created hidden and apparent equivoques in his poetry using musical terminology. Hidden equivoque refers to a meaning of the word that can only be recognized by readers familiar with lexical realms; they cannot be discerned at first glance. In Hafez's *Divan*, some less commonly used musical terms are placed alongside well-known terms in such a way that they establish equivoques. However, since readers cannot perceive these lexical ties and hidden equivoques upon first reading, some of these terms remain concealed and unknown in Hafez's verses.

We have no exact information whether Hafez was a musician or whether he played an instrument; however, the readers' precise and detailed familiarity with musical terminology significantly enhances their literary enjoyment.

The definition of equivoque is well-established in rhetorics: where two words in a verse carry two meanings, but the poet intends only one of the meanings. Thus, the two words are interrelated through the meanings not intended.

## **Research Method and Review of Literature**

We have tracked all the words of Hafez in relevant dictionaries and music-related books. After identifying hidden lexical relations, we analyzed and organized them descriptively and analytically. The aim of this research is to demonstrate that Hafez, in addition to the relationships he openly establishes between words, has also created some hidden relations based on musical terminology in his poems. Numerous studies have been conducted on the use of musical terms in Hafiz's *Divan*; for instance, Hossein Ali Malah has explained many well-known musical terms in Hafiz's *Divan* in his book *Hafez and Music*. Yaser Dalvand has also referenced many musical terms that have been employed with hidden equivoques in his book *A Study of the Hidden Equivocations in Hafez's Poetry*. Mahdi Satayeshgar has provided extensive information about the connection between Hafez and music in his book *Lexicon of Music in Iran*. For the first time, Bastani Parizi introduced musicians who bore the title "Hafez". He suggested a connection between Hafez Shirazi's pen name with music.

\* Assistant Prof of Persian Language and Literature in Imam Khomeini International University of Qazvin, Qazvin, Iran. <u>70dalvand@gmail.com</u>,

DOI: 10.22099/JBA.2024.48888.4468

**Received:** 2024-04-15

Accepted: 2024-08-24



COPYRIGHTS ©2021 The author(s). This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY-NC 4.0), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, as long as the original authors and source are cited. No permission is required from the authors or the publisher.

#### Journal of Poetry Studies, Vol 16, Issue 4, Winter 2025, Ser 62

## Discussion

Musical terms in Hafez's poetry can be categorized as follows:

Musical terms in their musical meanings: Sometimes two or more musical terms are used without marked or apparent equivocation, and only in their musical meaning in Hafez's verses. In this case, the artistic value of these terms lies in the relations they create with each other.

Musical terms along with correspondence and equivocation: In this method, musical words occasionally have equivocation in addition to relations.

Musical terms with apparent equivoques: In this method, the words form either equivoques or clear twofold equivocality, and since the musical meaning of the words is apparent and well-known, a knowledgeable reader can easily recognize them.

Musical terms with hidden equivoques or hidden twofold equivocality: In this method, the words form equivoques or twofold equivocality; then, since the musical meaning of the words is concealed and obscure, even knowledgeable readers sometimes find it difficult to detect their meanings.

In this article, we focus on terms from the fourth category. Some examples include "charkh", which means daf, a circular instrument; "Ruh", the name of one of the musical modes; "Shishe", A string instrument; "Ashegh", which refers to the player and singer; "Goftaar", meaning melody and composition; "Mozdaghani", "Ma'shooq" and "Nasim", names of musical tones. The full list also includes Negar, Vasal, Sabz, Shahanshahi, Shahi, Shekan, Shekan dar Shekan, Shamaameh. In the present study, examples are provided for each of these term.

## Conclusion

The connection between musical terminology and the most important stylistic feature of Hafez' poetry, which is equivocation, leads to novel and diverse readings of Hafez's verses. These readings not only expand the semantic ranges of Hafez's works, but also enhance the literary and artistic enjoyment of readers.

Considering the musical terms in Hafez's *Divan* in relation to equivocation, we can categorize them into four types: 1) musical terms in their musical meaning, 2) musical terms along with correspondence and equivocation, 3) musical terms with apparent equivoques, and 4) musical terms with hidden equivoques. In this article, we examined less commonly used musical terms, such as Charkh, Ruh, Shishe, Ashegh, Goftaar, Ma'shooq, Nasim, Negar, Vasal, Sabz, Shahanshahi, Shahi, Shekan, Shekan dar Shekan, Shamaameh, and Mozdaghani, revealing that hidden equivoques arise alongside well-known terms like Avaz, Parde, and Rah-e Parde.

Keywords: Musical terminology, hidden equivoques, Hafez's Divan

### **References:**

- Avicenna, H. (2019). Alai Encyclopedia: Logic, Natural Sciences, Music, Theology. (M. Moein, M. Meshkati & T. Binish, Eds.). Tehran: Mowla Publications. [in Persian]
- Badr Chachi. (2008). *Divan of Badr Chachi*. (A. M. Gitifruz, Ed.). Tehran: Library, Museum, and Document Center of the Islamic Consultative Assembly. [in Persian]
- Banaei, A. (1989). Treatise on music [written in the Timurid period]. [With an introduction by Daryush Safvat and Taghi Binish]. Tehran: University Publishing Center. [in Persian]
- Basari, T. (1996). Musical terms in the *Divan* of Hafez. In Z. Sajjadi (Ed.). *Festschrift for Professor Modarres Razavi*. Tehran: Publications of the Association of Professors of Persian Language and Literature. [in Persian]
- Bastani Parizi, E. (1989). Hafez and many arts. In S. Niaz (Ed.), *Hafez Studies* (7<sup>th</sup> Vol.) (33-109). Pajang Publications. [in Persian]
- Borhan, M. (1963). Borhan-e Qate'. (M. Moein, Ed.). Tehran: Ibn Sina Bookstore. [in Persian]
- Dalvand, Y. (2017). From this hidden fire: A study of the hidden ambiguities in Hafez's poetry. Tehran: Elmi Publications. [in Persian]
- Dehkhoda, A. A. (1998). *Dictionary*. (M. Moein & S. J. Shahidi, Ed.). Tehran: University of Tehran Publications. [in Persian]
- Hafez (1990). Divan of Hafez. (P. Natel Khanlari, Ed.). Tehran: Kharazmi. [in Persian]

2

#### Journal of Poetry Studies, Vol 16, Issue 4, Winter 2025, Ser 62

- Hafez (2008). *Hafez* (Qazvini Ghani Ed.). [With a Collection of Commentaries and Footnotes by Allameh Mohammad Qazvini.] (A. Jarzbdar, Ed.). Tehran: Asatir Publications. [in Persian]
- Hamidian, S. (2013). *Description of passion: Commentary on Hafez's poetry*. Tehran: Ghatreh Publishing. [in Persian]
- Ismaili, E. & Ghaseminia, S. (2016). Comparison of ambiguity in musical terminology in the poetry of Hafez with two contemporary poets: Khwaju and Amir Khosrow. *Linguistic and Rhetorical Studies*, 7(13), 7-32. [in Persian]
- Kazzazi, M. (2002). Aesthetics of Persian Speech (Rhetoric). Tehran: Mad Publication. [in Persian]
- Khaqani, B. (2003). Divan of Khaqani. (Z. Sajadi, Ed.). Tehran: Zavar. [in Persian]
- Mallah, H. A. (1988). Hafez and music. Tehran: Hirmand. [in Persian]
- Mirak Bokhari, M. (2013). Translation of the commentary by Mobarak Shah Bokhari on the Advar Aramavy in the art of music. (A. Anvar, Trans.). Tehran: Academy of Art. [in Persian]
- Neishabouri, M. M. (1995). Treatise on music by Mohammad ibn Mahmoud ibn Mohammad Nishabouri. (A. M. Pour-javadi, Ed.). *Ma'arif, 34-35*, 32-70. [in Persian]
- Nezami, E. (1938). Iqbal-nameh. (V. Dastgerdi, Ed.). Tehran: Armaghan Printing House. [in Persian]
- Safvat, D. (2014). *Eight essays on music 3: Including a short treatise on the masters of music in Iran and Iranian melodies.* Tehran: Aras Publishing. [in Persian]
- Sarafi, S. (2017). *Kholasat ol-afkar fi ma'refat ol-advar* (a treatise on music) [8th century]. (A. Niknejad, Ed.). Tehran: Cultural Heritage Association. [in Persian]
- Setayeshgar, M. (1996). *Comprehensive Dictionary of Music in Iran*. Tehran: Ettela'at Publications. [in Persian]
- Shafiei Kadkani, M. R. (2010). Critique and Analysis of Anvari's Poetry. Tehran: Sokhan. [in Persian]
- Shafiei Kadkani, M. R. (2018). This alchemy of being: About Hafez. Tehran: Sokhan. [in Persian]
- Shamisa, S. (2007). A new look at rhetoric. Tehran: Mitra Publishing. [in Persian]
- Shamisa, S. (2009). Notes on Hafez. Tehran: Elm Publishing. [in Persian]
- Shamisa, S. (2022). The magic of language. Tehran: Ghatreh Publishing. [in Persian]
- Vojdani, B. (2007). Comprehensive encyclopedia of Iranian music. (n.p.) Gandoman. [in Persian]