

## **The Representation of Iranian Identity in Contemporary Tajik Poetry**

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### **Abstract**

It has been more than 250 years since Tajikistan's separation from Iran. Subsequently, the country has gone through many bloody wars and tragic events, yet it has retained its Iranian identity. Contemporary Tajik poetry inherits ancient Persian literature and is a mirror in which the manifestation of Iranian culture can be clearly seen. This article studies the poetry of five prominent Tajik poets with a focus on the elements and components of Iranian culture. In this study, it is demonstrated that Tajik poets look beyond their political borders to their historical homeland of Iran and are fascinated by and proud of their common cultural and literary heritage with Iran. Consequently, the two elements of Persian language and common historical past are the most important elements in the formation of their cultural identity. The manifestation of Iranian culture in their poetry can be seen as a celebration of the Persian language and concern for its fate in the face of various attacks, common remembrance of the past, and bowing to Iranian myths and personalities, especially poets.

**Keywords:** contemporary Tajik poetry, identity, Iran, culture.

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