A Comparative Critique of the Poem "Dogs and Wolves" by Akhavan Sales and Sandor Petofi

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Abstract

Since the Constitutional Revolution, the Iranian nation experienced a new stage of consciousness. By the entrance of translation into the realm of Persian culture, literature, and language, significant changes and major developments occurred in the socio-political and cultural attitudes of Persian poets and writers. As a result, exquisite and everlasting effects of translation came to fruition, and brilliant figures in the field of culture and literature emerged. One of these great figures is Mehdi Akhavan Sales whose poetry is the mirror of Iranian society from 1330 to 1360. Some of his poems are, in motive, thought, format, content, and theme, under the influence of the literature of other countries. A great example is the celebrated poem "Dogs and Wolves", influenced by the Hungarian revolutionary poet Sandor Petofi. This article, in an inferential-analytical method, will study the ways in which Akhavan adopted and used Sandor Petofi's poetry and examines how nations use "symbol" as a common form and through symbolic language express their shared thoughts. It is argued that in the realm of art and literature, "symbol" is the common form of expression between nations through which they can illustrate the intellectual communion that emerges from the social necessities for the enlightened man.

Keywords:comparative literature, adoption, literary communication, Akhavan Sales, Sandor Petofe, symbolic elements.

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