

Alienation and the Alienated Spirit in the Poetic Themes of Sherko Bekas and Ma'arouf Rosafi

Esmail Barwasi*

PhD Student of Arabic Language and Literature, Department of Arabic Language and Literature, Faculty of Letters and Humanities, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, Mashhad, Iran

Ahmadreza Heidaryan Shahri**

Associate Professor, Department of Arabic Language and Literature, Faculty of Letters and Humanities, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, Mashhad, Iran

Hossein Nazeri***

Associate Professor, Department of Arabic Language and Literature, Faculty of Letters and Humanities, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, Mashhad, Iran

(Received: 01 February 2020, Accepted: 18 August 2020 Date of publication: August 2022)

Abstract

Sherko Bekas, the renowned Kurdish poet, and Ma'arouf Rosafi, the famous Arab poet, are contemporary poets from Iraq who have a particular interest in alienation in their works. The two poets suffered from socio-political alienation and consequently from the alienation of place in addition to the mental isolation in their personal life. Since there is no independent study of comparative analysis of the phenomenon of alienation in the poetry of Bekas and Rosafi, the authors aimed to do a comparative study of alienation in the poetry of two poets. The fundamental question of the present study is how and in what forms is the phenomenon of alienation expressed in the works of the two poets, and what implications does it have? To study this issue, the authors have used a descriptive-analytical approach based on the sociological foundations of the poems of these two poets. The spiritual, social, and political alienations resulted from the hegemony of the alienated and the downtrodden; resentment of living at home; failures and fractures; suffocation and lack of freedom; rampant corruption; destruction of morality and authentic criteria; frustration at people's disregard for enlightenment; disillusionment from the public's disregard of the Enlightenment; the sadness of retrogression; and the regret over the decline of the motherland and the ancient archetypes have led the two poets into isolation while suffering from temporal alienation caused by dissatisfaction with life and calamities of the time leading to a desire to return to the past. Compared to Rosafi, Bekas' outlook on global issues arising out of grief and alienation is broader. Among the concepts associated with alienation, the theme of *homeland* has a particular place in their works and overshadows other provocative elements of the alienation. Because the home is the focal point for all the social, political, temporal, and place issues and the sense of alienation surrounds it in the poetry of the two poets.

Keywords: Kurdish poetry, Arabic poetry, alienation, Bekas, Rosafi

* ebarwasi@gmail.com

** heidaryan@um.ac.ir (corresponding author)

*** nazeri@ferdowsi.um.ac.ir