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### A Study of Social Themes in the Poetry of the Second Period of Afghanistan's Constitutional Era

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#### ABSTRACT

Literature is the identity of nations and an artistic source of learning the political, social and cultural conditions of human societies. In all periods, the association of society and literature and the influence of the social environment on the production of literary works can be seen. The essential role of literature is properly recognized when its content is examined. The second period of Afghanistan's constitutional era is considered to be the flourishing era of Afghan literature and culture. The literary evolutions of this period played a significant role in the transformation of the contemporary literature of Afghanistan. This period is the age of fundamental change and transformation in literary themes, including those of ancient Persian poetry, which leads to the introduction of many new ideas into poetry and prose. Amir Habibollah Khan's rise to power in 1284 AH initiated the constitutional movement in Afghanistan, which ended in 1307 AH. Constitutionalism in Afghanistan has a lifespan of approximately twenty-three years, and it has been divided into two periods. The constitutional era in Afghanistan is the age of fundamental changes and transformations in the old themes, including the themes of Persian poetry. Afghanistan's political and social transformations, tyranny, colonization, the French Revolution, and the movement known as intellectualism and familiarity with Western literature have played a significant role in this fundamental transformation. Unlike poetic content, form does not undergo much change in this period, and, therefore, it lacks innovation, since poets present new ideas in the same existing forms and old formats. The language of poetry in this period is close to the language of the people, and, as a result, poetry becomes more popular among the people. The purpose of this paper is to examine the most prominent social themes in the poetry of the second constitutional period and to identify the poets who played a significant role in the introduction of new themes in the poetry of this period. Patriotism is one of the period's prominent themes. From the beginning of the reign of Mohammad Zaiis, under the influence of Western ideas, homeland took on a new meaning, and patriotism became a political slogan. In this period, homeland is linked with concepts such as freedom and national independence, and patriotism, as well as nationalism, is added to its meaning. Another main theme of the poetry of the constitutional era is the concept of "freedom," the examination of which helps to correctly understand the message of the poetry of this era. The poets of this period emphasize the necessity of awakening and awareness of the people and always urge their audience to wake up from the sleep of ignorance. They are on the front line of the struggle to establish justice. They have sought to enlighten and awaken the people by criticizing the government of the time. The results of this study indicate that poetry has distanced itself from the court and replaced social

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demands with the praise of kings. Abdol Ali Mostaghni, Mahmoud Tarzi, Qari Abdollah, Abdul Rahman Loadin and Abdol Hadi Dawi are five prominent and influential figures of this era who play a significant role in creating new themes and introducing them into poetry, using the existing forms of poetry to express these themes. Homeland, freedom, awakening, political criticism, calling for struggle, anti-colonialism, union, education, condemnation of bribery, the glory of the times, idealism, and praise are the main core and central axis of this poetic thought, which has helped reform people's worldview. Among the mentioned themes, homeland has the highest frequency, whereas the condemnation of bribery has the lowest frequency.

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