

An Unfamiliar Phrase in a Verse Attributed to Labībī

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This article analyses a verse attributed to Labībī (10-11th century). It shows that discussion about the distortion of its parts, which was recently raised in an article, apparently to have stemmed from the unfamiliar phrase ‘*qārūra bar rūy-i pizišk/ṭabīb zadan*’ (“to hit the urine glass to the physician’s face”). An attestation from Šams-i Ganja’s quatrains supports the existence of this phrase in Persian.

The author critiques a recent interpretation suggesting a re-reading of the verse based on linguistic and syntactic grounds. To support his critique, the author brings two key arguments:

- 1- Grammatical Structure: The verse under discussion consists of a subordinate clause and a main clause, with the object of the first hemistich appearing in the second hemistich, which conveys the condition.
- 2- Historical Usage: The phrase ‘*qārūra bar rūy-i pizišk/ṭabīb zadan*’ is also found in a *rubāʿī* (quatrain) attributed to a poet called Šams-i Ganja’s.

Keywords: Labībī, Urine Glass (Qārūra), Physician, Šams-i Ganja’s Quatrains