

Playing with taboos in The Odes of abu nuwas: A Social- psychological Investigation

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Abstract

There has always been a stable link between ode composing (chāme sarāei) and the phenomenon of playing with taboos, and this feature has placed ode composing in a superior position among literary arts. Taboo breaking is more valuable in times that witness fundamental changes.

Historical studies show that the Abbasid period was one of the periods that witnessed numerous social, economic, political and especially intellectual changes, and this last change was the reason for the prevalence of the phenomenon of taboo breaking. This research tried to find the manifestations of playing with taboos in the odes of Abu Nuwas and the stimuli that motivated him to play with literary, social and religious taboos, and in this way, benefited from descriptive-analytical method and psychological-social analysis. The results of this research show that Abu nuwas, by playing with taboos and breaking values and norms, sought to establish new values and norms that would be suitable for the new society. Also, with this work, he launched a serious and comprehensive as well as structured struggle against whatever that was old, which was nothing but suffering for those who think about the current life like her. For him, the origin of playing with taboos is the force supported by knowledge, thought, culture and courage, not weakness. It's another origin is his questioner and dissatisfied inner from the context and time, which is full of different moods, old and rotten behaviors and moral inferiority and also the role he assumed, ie., the role of a social critic who is aware of various diseases such as hypocrisy, dogmatism, megalomania, etc., which have overwhelmed the society and Abu Nuwas considers them more ugly and harmful than diseases that men of religion called them sins .

Keywords: ode, Abbasid era, Abu Nuwas, taboo breaking, taboo.

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