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A study of Ibn al-Rumi's elegy for his son, focusing on the interaction between emotion and sounds

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Abstract

Poetry is one of the most important literary genres that has preserved significant human concepts throughout history and transmitted them across generations. Arabic literature, especially classical Arabic poetry, has played a crucial role in this transmission. Ibn Rumi was a prominent poet of the Abbasid era-an age marked by cultural exchange and intellectual development. Despite lacking financial prosperity and social status due to his sharp tongue and outspoken personality, Ibn Rumi possessed exceptional artistic talent, as demonstrated in his comprehensive divan. Following the death of his son Muhammad, he composed a unique and powerful elegy that continues to be worthy of scholarly attention. This article analyzes that work and concludes that the loss of his child profoundly awakened the poet's emotions, leading to the unconscious alignment of poetic elementssuch as rhetorical devices, meter, rhythm, and sound-with the intensity of his grief. From a linguistic perspective, each sound carries emotional and semantic weight, and in this elegy, these elements reinforce the poet's sorrow.

Keywords: Arabic poetry, elegy, Ibn Rumi, emotion, sounds.

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