An Ideal World in the Medieval SUFI Literature of Siberian Tatars

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Abstract

The author researches the problem of manuscript Sufi literature, which has almost dropped off scientists' radar. This article is based on the personal author's materials, where she has found out and settled manuscript evidences of Sufi people, which hadn't been documented before. The author defines the problem of the ethnic and confessional cultures interconnection in the context of the embedded stereotypes. These stereotypes motivated the Sufi people to move towards to extremely unfavorable for a south person Siberian and North conditions. Analyzing the works of such poets as Ikany, Huvaydo, Amdamy, some fairy-tales and dastans (recorded by V.V. Radulov), the author explores mythological synopsis as the basis of branched system of mythological plots in the Sufi Siberian Tatar literature on the ground of dhikr. The author analyzes the inner worldview transformation of Sufi Ikany, who came to the Siberian bogs and forests from Arabian sands to prove perishable nature of all the material in front of the spirit.

DOI: 10.5901/mjss.2015.v6n3s4p207

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Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences ISSN 2039-9340(Print) ISSN 2039-2117(Online)

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Medieval literature is a broad subject, encompassing essentially all written works available in Europe and beyond during the Middle Ages (that is, the one thousand years from the fall of the Western Roman Empire ca. AD 500 to the beginning of the Florentine Renaissance in the late 15th century). The literature of this time was composed of religious writings as well as secular works. Just as in modern literature, it is a complex and rich field of study, from the utterly sacred to the exuberantly The scholarly literature of medieval Europe was produced chiefly in the academic tongues: Latin in the West, Greek in the East. Though both halves of Europe produced their share of secular scholars (e.g. scientists, historians), the central preoccupation of medieval Christian learning was theology, which can be defined as “the study of religious belief and practice”. In medieval Eastern Europe, the Byzantines continued to produce Greek creative literature, including poetry, prose, and drama. The golden age of Greek literature had passed, however; never again would a Greek writer rise to the ranks of the ancient masters. Medieval literature is a very diverse subject. The term covers the literature of Europe during the period between the fall of the Roman empire and the beginnings of the Renaissance in the 15th century, spanning a period of roughly 1,000 years. As a result, it is difficult to make generalizations about medieval literature. It is, nonetheless, possible to identify a few general trends. Allegory and symbolism are common in medieval literature, perhaps more so than in modern writing. Religious and philosophical messages were often conveyed through the use of figures, such as the panther, an animal.