

In poetry of Hafiz some of the traditional similes and metaphors lose their strength and suitability. Khayyam and Hafiz have compared God to a painter, but the comparison made by Khayyam is stronger and more beautiful than what Hafiz has done. The followings are good examples of such comparisons:

چون لاله رخ و چو سرو بالاست مرا	هرچند که رنگ و روی زیباست مرا
نقاش ازل بهرچه آراست مرا	معلوم نشد که در طریخانه خاک
(خیام)	
که گردمه کشد خط هلالی (حافظ)	هر آن نقاش قدرت آفرین باد

In the following poems we can see instances of comparison from Ferdowsi and Hafiz. The former has compared the sun to someone who is carrying a flag in hand. It suits the poem because the style is epic and one is thinking of the war and battle field. But the latter has used the same comparison when he is talking about love and as the result the reader is thinking of love and thus the "flag in hand" is not a suitable simile.

درخشان کند روی چرخ بنفش (فردوسی)	چو خورشید تابان برآرد درفش
نگونسار شد پرنیانی بنفش (فردوسی)	برافروخت از کوه زرین درفش
	سحر چون خسرو خاور علم بر کوهساران زد
به دست مرحمت یارم در امیدواران زد (حافظ)	

پژوهشگاه علوم انسانی و مطالعات فرهنگی
پرتال جامع علوم انسانی

The Development and Decadence of Simile and Metaphor
in the Poetry of Hafiz*

Khosrow Farshidvard

1. The Development of Simile and Metaphor in the Poetry of Hafiz.

The traditional similes and metaphors change so much in the poetry of Hafiz that every reader thinks that they are invented by him. Possibly, the readers are right because Hafiz, in giving the same simile and metaphor, has added his own colours. In doing so, he has made them much more meaningful, musical, beautiful, new and perfect. The followings are some traditional similes which are used by Hafiz:

Here he compares the straightness of the body to a cypress tree.

قامتش را سرو گفتم سر کشید از من به خشم
دوستان از راست من رنجد نگارم چون کنم
چو چشمش مست را مخمور مگذار
بیاد لعلش ای ساقی بده می

Here he compares the redness of the lip to a ruby.

باده لعل لبش کز لب من دور میاد
راح روح که و پیمان ده ایمانه کیست

Here he likens the lover to a candle.

کسی به وصل تو چون شمع یافت پروانه
که زیر تیغ تو هر دم سری دگر دارد

Here he compares the darkness and the odour of the hair of the beloved to ambergris.

آن ناله مراد که می خواستم زیخت
در چین زلف آن بت مشکین کلاله بود

2. The Decadence of Simile and Metaphor in the Poetry of Hafiz.

* Because of some Technical problems, this summary was not printed on time. The original text has appeared in No 83 - 89 of the same magazine.