

A few words which begin with an overlong syllable are also considered unpoetic. For example: گوشتفروش ، ریختگر ، دوستنواز

Conclusion:

In conclusion, the author hopes that this introduction to the question of how the metrical pattern of individual words in Persian affects the role they have in colloquial or formal Persian will stimulate further research into this crucial question of style in language.



Examples: اطاعت و گذشتن و پریشان و جفاجو و مزین

(2) - فاعلتن Words which are composed of one medium, one short, and another medium syllable.

Examples: مقتدر و انتها و مبتذل و بشنوی دلبری

(3) - فاعلاتن Words which are formed of one medium, one short, and one long syllable.

Examples: انفصال و التهاب و نوعروس و آرمود

The Least Frequently Used Words in Persian Poetry

The least frequently used words in Persian poetry, that is, the ones which are neither melodious nor appropriate to the most common meters of poetry, are those in which there are either more than five syllables, or most of the syllables are short, or there are more than one long or overlong syllable.

Since the longest meter in Persian poetry (بحر جزایه زج یارسل شمن سالم) contains only sixteen syllables, and the commonest ones are somewhat shorter, it is clear why words of six or more syllables are difficult to incorporate within them.

Similarly, it is virtually impossible to incorporate words which have a sequence of short or long syllables into the existing metrical patterns on Persian poetry.

Examples of words which are composed of all short, or primarily short syllables are the following:

عمه ، سزه ، غلبه ، عمله ، نشده ام ، نزده ام ، نخواستہ ام .

Examples of words which are composed of long or overlong syllables are the following:

انبار سوخته ، پیرهن دوخته ، بسیار باخته

In the case of words in which the long syllable occurs at the end, the word is not considered unpoetic. For example:

روزگار ، یادگار ، بی تاب ، داغدار و بیدار .

When such words do occur in formal prose, they do so in a shortened form which is more appropriate to the demands of the metrics of formal prose.

Examples:

فراهم نشده بوده است instead of فراهم نشده بوده
اجرا کرده نشد instead of اجرا نشد

The Most Melodious and Frequently Used Words in Persian

In Poetry, the most frequently used, and, by general consent, melodious words are shorter words of two or three syllables. What follows is a brief description of the kinds of bisyllabic and trisyllabic words which are most frequently encountered in form of prose and poetry, and which appear to be most in harmony with poetic metrics.

Bisyllabic words:

(1) فاعل - Words which are formed of two medium syllables.

Examples: دلبر، میزد، یغما، خارا، رفتم، محسن، عامل و آمد

(2) نعلیل - Words which are composed of one short and one long syllable.

Examples: کتاب و قبول بهار و زدند و اسیر

(3) مفعول - Words which are composed of one medium and one long syllable.

Examples: برخیز و خشنود و اکرام و تحصیل و معمار

(4) فعّل - Words which are composed of one short and one medium syllable.

Examples: رطب و حسن و سلب و هتر و سخن

Trisyllabic words:

(1) فَعولن Words which are composed of one short and two medium syllables.

THE METRICS OF SINGLE WORDS IN PERSIAN

Khosrow Farshidvard

From the point-of-view of metrics, there are several important distinctions between colloquial and formal Persian, whether poetry or formal prose. To begin with, all vowels in colloquial Persian are essentially of the same length. In both poetry and formal prose, however, the vowels /ā/, /ī/, and /ū/ are usually pronounced and scanned as longer than /a/, /i/, and /u/.

Another important distinction between colloquial and formal Persian arises from the metrical appropriateness of certain kinds of words. By that is meant how well suited particular words are to the formal style by reason of the syllables which they contain.

The Meter of Syllables in Persian

Syllables in Persian may be divided into four types: short, medium, long, and overlong. All words in Persian are composed of one or a combination of these four types of syllables.

In poetry and formal prose, words which have too many syllables are considered unsuitable and are little used. Without being able to specify exactly what constitutes excessive length precisely, words such as compound verbal periphrases, particularly negative ones, which contain as many as twelve syllables are clearly unsuitable.

Examples:

12 syllable

فراهم آورده نشده بوده است

11 »

فراهم آورده نخواهند شد

10 »

نگریسته نشده بودند