

Beyond Faith And Infidelity The Sufi Poetry And Teachings Of Mahmud Shabistari

A Luminary Unveiled: Embarking on Mahmud Shabistari's Poetic Revelation

For those seeking a profound and transformative literary experience, the exploration of Mahmud Shabistari's "Beyond Faith And Infidelity: The Sufi Poetry And Teachings Of Mahmud Shabistari" promises an unparalleled journey. This remarkable work transcends the boundaries of mere religious text, inviting readers into a vibrant tapestry woven with imaginative settings, profound emotional depth, and a universal appeal that resonates across generations. It is a book not just to be read, but to be felt, contemplated, and ultimately, embraced.

The strength of this collection lies in its masterful ability to transport the reader. Shabistari's verses paint vivid pictures of an inner landscape, an "imaginative setting" that is both deeply personal and universally understood. Through his exquisite language, we are guided through realms of spiritual yearning, divine love, and the intricate dance between the human soul and the Infinite. The metaphors employed are not confined to a single creed, allowing for a boundless interpretation that speaks to the core of human experience.

Furthermore, the "emotional depth" of Shabistari's poetry is truly breathtaking. He delves into the rawest and most sublime emotions, from the ache of separation to the ecstatic joy of union. This is not a detached philosophical treatise; it is a heartfelt outpouring that acknowledges the complexities of life and love. Readers will find their own joys and sorrows reflected in these verses, forging a powerful and intimate connection with the poet and the divine essence he illuminates. This emotional resonance makes the work incredibly accessible, drawing in readers of "all ages" and backgrounds.

Key Strengths of "Beyond Faith And Infidelity":

Imaginative Settings: Shabistari's poetic landscapes are rich and evocative, creating a spiritual journey that is both visually and emotionally engaging.

Profound Emotional Depth: The verses plumb the depths of human emotion, offering solace, inspiration, and a profound understanding of love and longing.

Universal Appeal: The themes of love, longing, and spiritual seeking transcend cultural and religious divides, making the work relevant and accessible to all.

Accessible Wisdom: While deeply spiritual, Shabistari's teachings are presented in a way that can be readily grasped and contemplated by general readers, book clubs, and avid readers alike.

To "revisit" this magical journey is to embark on a continuous discovery. Each reading unveils new layers of meaning, new insights into the nature of existence, and a deeper appreciation for the boundless love that underpins reality. For those encountering Shabistari for the first time, this book is an open invitation to a realm of profound beauty and spiritual awakening. It is a "timeless classic" that offers not only aesthetic pleasure but also invaluable wisdom for navigating life's challenges and celebrating its triumphs. In an age often characterized by division, Shabistari's poetry offers a potent antidote, reminding us of our shared humanity and our collective yearning for something greater.

Recommendation: This book is an essential addition to any reader's library. It is a testament to the enduring power of poetry to illuminate the human spirit and to connect us to the divine. We wholeheartedly encourage every reader, regardless of their background or beliefs, to experience the transformative magic of Mahmud Shabistari's "Beyond Faith And Infidelity." It is a journey that will enrich your life and linger in your heart long after the final page is turned.

A Heartfelt Recommendation: "Beyond Faith And Infidelity" continues to capture hearts worldwide because it speaks to the deepest aspirations of the human soul. It offers a pathway to understanding love in its purest, most transcendent form, a message that is as vital today as it was centuries ago. This book is a gift, an invitation to a profound connection with oneself and with the universe.

Strong Recommendation: Celebrate the enduring impact of this luminous work. Mahmud Shabistari's poetry is a beacon of spiritual insight, offering timeless wisdom that educates, inspires, and uplifts. This is more than just a book; it is an experience that promises to educate readers and leave an indelible mark on their spiritual and intellectual journey.

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working from the original persian sources translators and scholars david and sabrineh fideler offer faithful elegant translations that represent the full scope of sufi poetry these concise tightly focused meditations span only a few lines but reveal worlds of meaning the poems explore many aspects of human life and the spiritual path but they center on the liberating power of love

focuses on the poems rather than on their authors surveys the development of persian mystical poetry dealing first with the relation between sufism and literature and then with the four main genres of the tradition the epigram the homiletic poem love poetry and symbolic narrative

al shushtari life poems translation introduction by paul smith abu al hasan al shushtari 1312 1369 was a sufi poet who was born in guadix northwest of granada spain as a young man he travelled to tunisia algeria damascus and several times made the pilgrimage to mecca he finally settled in egypt he became a devotee of the sufi master ibn sab in who was four years younger than him and was widely respected at that time they first met in algeria when in their thirties and later went together to mecca and egypt al shushtari composed two treatises on sufism and dedicated three poems to his spiritual master often when walking or riding the poet would sing his poems and play an instrument as he did so in his latter days he had many disciples he was influenced by the great sufi perfect master ibn arabi although he expressed at times criticism of the complicated nature of his teachings preferring a simpler explanation al shushtari s true legacy lives on in the heart of men who still sing his poems and celebrate his memory in the delta of egypt followers of the shadhiliyya order still recite his zajal while in tunisia his words are sung to the tones of a musical instrument bearing his name al sustariyya in morocco his songs are a

common denominator to several sufi celebrations and in spain he is regarded as a trendsetter in andalusian literature and is better known as the juggler of love most of his poems are in the forms of qasidas ghazals qit as muwashsha zajal all here represented in the correct form meaning introduction on his life times poetry on sufi poetry on the forms of poetry in which he wrote selected bibliography 120 pages introduction to sufi poets series life poems of the following sufi poets translations introductions paul smitha alisher navoi ashgar ahmed yesevi aishah al ba uniyah amir khusrau ansari anvari al ma arri arifi attar abu sa id auhad ud din baba farid baba azfal baba tahir bedar bedil bulleh shah dara shikoh dard faizi ghalib ghani kashmiri hafiz hali hasan dehlavi hatef huma ibn arabi ibn yamin ibn al farid iqbal inayat khan iraqi jahan khatun jami jigar kamal ad din kabir khaqani khayyam lalla ded mahsati makhfi mansur hallaj mir momin mu in ud din chishti nazir nesimi nizami nund rishi obeyd zakani paul qutub shah rabi a rahim rahman baba rumi sadi sa ib sana i sarmad sauda seemab shabistari shah latif shah ni mat ullah shefta sultan bahu urfi wali yunus emre zafar zauq early arabic persian urdu turkish afghan sufi poets 90 120 pages paul smith b 1945 is a poet author and translator of many books of sufi poets from the persian arabic urdu turkish pashtu and other languages including hafiz sadi nizami rumi attar sana i jahan khatun obeyd zakani mu in amir khusrau nesimi kabir anvari ansari jami khayyam rudaki yunus emre and others and his own poetry fiction plays biographies children s books screenplays amazon com authoe smithpa

seven shahs of sufi poetry selected poems mas ud shah shah ni mat ullah shah da i qutub shah shah latif bulleh shah nur ali shah translation introduction paul smith mas ud shah 1048 1122 originally came from hamadan in the beginning he was at the court of the prince of ghazneh and governor of india sayfu daula mahmud and quickly progressed in wealth and honour when he was forty he was thrown into prison after being wrongfully accused along with his patron of treachery by sultan ibrahim he became a servant of god or a sufi and a bit of a hermit his famous habsiyyat prison songs are among the most interesting poems in the persian language shah ni mat ullah 1330 1431 was the founder of an order of sufis that is today the largest in iran as well as a sufi master he was a poet who at times used sayyid as his takhallus or pen name he was influenced by ibn arabi and hafiz he composed many prose works on sufism and his divan contains over 13 000 couplets mostly ghazals and ruba is shah da i 1406 1464 was born and passed away in shiraz he was initiated into sufism by abu ishaq bahrami known as the shaikh of four books a leader or representative of shah ni mat ullah among shah dai s works are a number of risalahs essays including interpretations of koranic verses a translation of a short work of ibn arabi qutub shah 1565 1611 was the fifth sultan of the qutub shahi dynasty of golconda in south india he founded the city of hyderabad qutub shah was a scholar of arabic and persian he wrote poetry in urdu and persian qutub shah had the distinction of being the first urdu poet and is credited with introducing a new sensibility into prevailing genres of persian urdu poetry he was also a mystic or sufi poet shah latif 1689 1752 was a sufi master and is

considered by many to be the greatest poet of the sindhi language his book of poetry is called the risalo his shrine is located in bhit and attracts hundreds of pilgrims every day he is the most famous sindhi poet and sufi bulleh shah 1680 1758 was a sufi poet who composed in punjabi and settled in kasur now in pakistan his spiritual master was shah inayat the poetic form bulleh shah used is called the kafi a style of punjabi poetry used not only by the sufis of sindh and punjab but also by sikh gurus nur ali shah 1760 1796 the 36th qutub or perfect master or pole of the ni matullah sufi order was born in isfahan the ulama of kirmansh ali bihbahani who was nick named the sufi killer saw the sufi poet nur ali shah as a threat and he was poisoned the correct rhyme structure for the first time has been achieved in all poems biographies of all poets and essays on sufi poetry its forms selected bibliographies paul smith b 1945 is a poet author and translator of many books of sufi poets of the persian arabic urdu turkish pashtu and other languages including hafiz sadi nizami rumi attar sana i jahan khatun obeyd zakani nesimi kabir anvari ansari jami khayyam rudaki yunus emre iqbal ghalib makhfi lalla ded nazir iqbal seemab jigar and many others and his own poetry fiction plays biographies children s books memoir and a dozen screenplays amazon com author smithpa

the sufi path metaphysics stages of the way in poetry by mansur al hallaj nizami ibn al farid and others translation introduction paul smith contents the tawasin mansur al hallaj was executed for declaring i am the truth anal haq much has been written about his famous and in famous statement and his masterpiece the tawasin in which he makes it written in rhymed arabic prose it sets forth a doctrine of saintship a doctrine founded on personal experience and clothed in the form of a subtle yet passionate dialectic r a nicholson treasury of mysteries by nizami the most beautiful mystic poem in the persian language has both perfection of language and grandeur of thought every line of his treasury of mysteries is a living witness to his absolute certainty that piety devotion humility and self forgetfulness are the corner stones of total annihilation which in turn is necessary for unification with god and the foundation of the edifice of eternal life g h darab senior lecturer in persian university of london rose garden of mystery by shabistari is regarded as one of the finest books on sufism e g browne on the whole one of the best manuals of sufi theosophy that exists rev john a subhan important because it is a compendium of sufi terminology in the form of question and answer r a nicholson a versified exposition of the chief sufi doctrines it should be read by every one seriously interested in the subject the sufi s progress by ibn al farid who is considered to be the undisputed master of islamic mystical sufi poetry into arabic he is considered not only to be a poet but a perfect master qutub a god realised soul it is his journey to unity with god that he reveals in probably the longest qasida ode in arabic book of ecstasy or ball polo stick by arifi allegory of the human soul and also a rendition of the analogy of that soul and the macrocosmic soul goes further than many mystical treatises in that it not only deals with the matter of spiritual ecstasy but also emphasises that when attunement with

the macrocosmic element is attained even mystical experience is dwarfed a most important and still valuable part of the scriptures of the sufis al faqir hafiz amir barakawi khajawi poems composed while reading god speaks of meher baba meher baba s metaphysical views are most notably described in god speaks he upheld the concept of non duality the view that diverse creation or duality is an illusion and that the goal of life is conscious realization of the absolute oneness of god inherent in all animate and inanimate beings and things these free form and rhyming poems by paul smith were composed during studying this masterpiece the correct rhyme structures have been kept in all forms of all the poems large format paperback 7 x 10 572 pages paul smith b 1945 is a poet author and translator of many books of sufi poets of the persian arabic urdu turkish pashtu and other languages including hafiz sadi nizami rumi attar sana i jahan khatun obeyd zakani nesimi yunus emre and many others and his own poetry fiction plays biographies children s books and screenplays newhumanitybooks com

the sufi poets of the ninth century selected poems translation introduction paul smith prophet mohammed s nephew and son in law hazrat ali 598 661 was the first imam of the shi ites and the fourth of the true caliphs of the sunnis sufi masters believe in ali as one of the seven great ones in the first generation of teachers and many in orders of dervishes trace their spiritual ancestry back to him his ghazal that follows contains the essence of all the sufi poetry in this book that came after him you do not know it but in you is the remedy you cause the sickness but this you don t see you are but a small form this you assume but you re larger than any universe in reality you are the book that of any fallacies is clear in you are all letters spelling out the mystery you are the being you re the very being it you contain that which contained cannot be contents sufis dervishes their art and use of poetry 7 god realization god intoxication 26 the main forms in sufi dervish poetry 35 the poets rabi a of basra 47 dhu l nun 65 bayazid bistami 75 al nuri 78 junaid 88 sumnun 76 mansur al hallaj 99 ibn ata 166 rudaki 171 shibli 216 baba tahir 225 the correct form has been attained in all of these beautiful inspiring powerful poems each poet has a biography bibliography large paperback 7 x 10 pages 296 comments on paul smith s translation of hafiz s divan it is not a joke the english version of all the ghazals of hafiz is a great feat and of paramount importance dr mir mohammad taghavi dr of literature tehran superb translations 99 hafiz 1 paul smith ali akbar shapurzman translator of many mystical works in english into persian and knower of hafiz s divan off by heart smith has probably put together the greatest collection of literary facts and history concerning hafiz daniel ladinsky penguin books author paul smith b 1945 is a poet author and translator of many books of sufi poets from the persian arabic urdu turkish pashtu and other languages including hafiz sadi nizami rumi attar sana i jahan khatun obeyd zakani nesimi kabir anvari ansari jami khayyam iqbal rudaki yunus emre ghalib iqbal ghani kashmiri lalla ded rahman baba and many others as well as his own poetry fiction plays biographies and a dozen screenplays amazon com author smithpa

hafiz a quarry of imagery in which poets of all ages might mine ralph waldo emerson hafiz was born at shiraz in persia some time after 1320 and died there in 1389 he is then an almost exact contemporary of chaucer his standing in persian literature ranks him with shakespeare and goethe a sufi hafiz lived in troubled times cities like shiraz fell prey to the ambitions of one marauding prince after another and knew little peace the nomads of central asia finally overthrew the rule of these princes and led to the establishment of the succeeding timurid dynasty it is of utmost literary interest that a poet who has remained immensely popular and most frequently quoted in his own land should for the universality and grace of his wisdom and wit be known outside the land of his birth as he used to be the subject of veneration among literati both in europe and the united states the time for revival of interest in a poet of such cosmopolitan appeal is overdue his poems celebrate the love wine and the fellowship of all creatures this volume first published in 1952 brings back into print at last the renderings the most beautiful and faithful in english of this greatest of persian writers

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these poems by the sufi master evoke the experience of spiritual love provoked by an encounter with a young persian woman who becomes for the poet an emblem of the divine illustrations

sufi poetry is both complex and yet very simple in its approach because it only focuses on lord almighty and relevance and revealing of lord almighty to all that ever exists while lord almighty is on pre eternal plane soul is on eternal plane which originates from pre eternal plane to encompass also temporal and material planes poetry is one way to explain relationship between fourth planes in existence via use of symbols and special expressions

one of the most famous poets in the history of turkish literature yunus emre d 1320 is well known as a sufi saint poet who has exerted a great influence in both the east and the west this book is an analysis on emre s ardent deceptively simple yet powerful expressions of love the musicality of the verse and the daring and sometimes even daunting imagery unesco celebrated 1991 as the year of yunus emre

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three great sufi poets of andalusia abu madyan ibn arabi al shushtari selected poems translation introduction paul smith abu madyan 1126 1198 was a sufi teacher scholar and writer and poet some say he is the most important founder of sufism in the maghreb and andalusia he received his religious education in fez where he underwent the influence of the teachings of gilani abu yaza and al ghazali after his pilgrimage to mecca and studies in the middle east he returned to teach in bougie algeria ibn arabi called abu madyan the teacher of teachers ibn arabi 1165 1240 in the west he is also known as the doctor maximus and in the islamic world as al shaykh al akbar great master he was born in murcia in andalusia at the age of thirty five he left spain intending to make the hajj to mecca he lived near mecca for three years where he began writing the meccan illuminations in 1204 he left for anatolia he finished his influential and controversial book of poems the interpreter of ardent desires in 1215 in 1223 he settled in damascus where he lived the last seventeen years of his life a prolific writer ibn arabi is generally known as the prime exponent of the idea later known as the unity of being al shushtari 1212 1269 was a sufi poet who was born in guadix northwest of granada spain as a young man he travelled to tunisia algeria damascus and several times made the pilgrimage to mecca he finally settled in egypt he became a devotee of the sufi master ibn sab in al shushtari composed two treatises on sufism often when walking or riding the poet would sing his poems and play an instrument as he did so he was influenced by ibn arabi the correct rhyme structure has been kept in all these beautiful powerful poems introduction on the life times poetry of the poets and sufi poetry and forms large format paperback pages 187 comments on paul smith s translation of hafiz s divan it is not a joke the english version of all ghazals of hafiz is a great feat and of paramount importance i am astonished dr mir mohammad taghavi dr of literature tehran superb translations 99 hafiz 1 paul smith ali akbar shapurzman translator and knower of hafiz s divan off by heart paul smith b 1945 is a poet author and translator of many books of sufi poets from the persian arabic urdu turkish pashtu and other languages including hafiz sadi nizami rumi attar sana i jahan khatun obeyd zakani mu in amir khusrau nesimi kabir anvari ansari jami khayyam rudaki yunus emre shah latif mahsati lalla ded rahman baba iqbal ghalib seemab jigar abu nuwas ibn al farid ibn al arabi abu nuwas and others and his own poetry fiction plays biographies children s books and a dozen screenplays newhumanitybooks.com

mystical tradition or approach to god is present in all religions especially judeo christian islamic religions the jewish kabbalists christian gnostics and muslim sufis are well known

to the people sufis especially encompass the idea that god can only be known through love indeed approaching him knowing him and the act of immersion and immanence all involve love according to sufi doctrine a typical sufi disciple practices these stages through an accomplished master who symbolically embodies all that is god and his manifestations the mystical language of the sufis is thus full of symbolic manifestations and its consequent pitfalls in itself a very difficult journey it is pitched in the renouncement of this world with an orientation toward god the journey by stages while it imbues one with the eternal love of god and teaches him or her the love of his creation sufis are thus the most benevolent creatures of god the most docile and the most loving indeed they are lovers by profession in its purest sense this anthology though probably already reeking of the specialized language reflects my journey toward god toward loving him and in that process loving my fellow human beings and loving his creation

written from the ninth to the twentieth century these poems represent the peak of islamic mystical writing from rabia basri to mian mohammad baksh reflecting both private devotional love and the attempt to attain union with god and become absorbed into the divine many poems in this edition are imbued with the symbols and metaphors that develop many of the central ideas of sufism the lover the beloved the wine and the tavern while others are more personal and echo the poet's battle to leave earthly love behind these translations capture the passion of the original poetry and are accompanied by an introduction on sufism and the common themes apparent in the works this edition also includes suggested further reading

the four babas of sufi poetry baba tahir baba azfal baba farid rahman baba selected poems translation introduction by paul smith baba tahir or oryan the naked of hamadan approx 990 1065 was a great god intoxicated or god mad soul mast and possibly a qutub perfect master who composed about 120 known ruba i in a simpler metre than the usual hazaj metre his simple mystical poems that he would sing while wandering naked throughout the land had a profound influence on sufis and dervishes and other ruba i composers especially abu sa'id ibn sina and omar khayyam included in the introduction the life of baba tahir an essay on the ruba i and on sufi poetry bibliography baba afzal 1186 1256 came from maraq near kashan he is the author of many persian works on philosophical and metaphysical subjects and translated the arabic version of aristotle's the book of the soul into persian he was a sufi and the author of about 500 mystical and at times controversial ruba is he is one of the greatest poets among the philosophers of islam and one of the greatest of this form introduction includes the life times work of baba afzal the father of punjabi poetry baba farid 1173 1266 was born in the punjab khwaja bakhtiar kaki was baba farid's spiritual master kaki met mu'in ud din chishti at baghdad and became his disciple farid the sufi master poet laureate from punjab is famous for his wise and spiritual couplets slokas 112 of them are in the bible of the sikhs hospitals and

factories and even a town named after him introduction on the life times and poetry of baba farid rahman baba 1652 to 1711 is considered the greatest sufi pashtun poet to compose poems mainly ghazals in the pashtu language born in mohmand region of afghanistan near peshawar he was called the nightingale of peshawar this was a time of struggle and hardship and in the midst of the turmoil he was an excellent student with a natural gift for poetry his divan is 343 poems ghazals and a few qasidas and mukhammas introduction is on his life times poetry and the forms in which he wrote the correct rhyme structure is kept as well as the meaning of these beautiful enlightened poems by all four great sufi poets large format paperback 7 x 10 pages 498 paul smith b 1945 is a poet author and translator of many books of sufi poets of the persian arabic urdu turkish pashtu and other languages including hafiz sa di nizami rumi attar sana i jahan khatun obeyd zakani nesimi kabir anvari ansari jami khayyam rudaki yunus emre mu in abu nuwas ibn al farid seemab jigar lalla ded hali baba farid and many others as well as poetry fiction plays children s books biographies and a dozen screenplays newhumanitybooks com

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