


Poetry in the Muslim World

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The Goal

 By using literature and the arts as cultural lenses through which to view the figure of the Prophet, we are able to appreciate the role that literary and artistic contexts play in influencing the interpretation and expression of religious concepts and symbols.




ELA TEKS on Poetry


Elementary: 110.5 (11) (C)

-  C) recognize the distinguishing features of familiar genres, including stories, poems, and informational texts (1-3);

Middle: 110.19 (b) (4)


-  (4) Reading/Comprehension of Literary Text/Poetry. Students understand, make inferences and draw conclusions about the structure and elements of poetry and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to analyze the importance of graphical elements (e.g., capital letters, line length, word position) on the meaning of a poem.

High: 110.31 (b) (2)

-  (3) Reading/Comprehension of Literary Text/Poetry. Students understand, make inferences and draw conclusions about the structure and elements of poetry and provide evidence from text to support their understanding. Students are expected to analyze the effects of diction and imagery (e.g., controlling images, figurative language, understatement, overstatement, irony, paradox) in poetry.



Major Literary Techniques

 Parallelism- (Parallel structure) means using the same pattern of words to show that two or more ideas have the same level of importance. This can happen at the word, phrase, or clause level.

 In poetry, the couplet, stanza and rhyming patterns show parallelism

 Synonymous and Antithetical



Major Literary Techniques

■ Synonymous parallels were first found in the Old Testament


■ “Shew me thy ways, O Lord; Teach me thy paths.” (Prov. i. 31);

■ “They shall eat of the fruit of their own way, And be filled with their own devices.” (I Sam. xviii. 7; comp. Isa. xiii. 7, lv. 6 *et seq.*; Ps. xcv. 2).

■ “Saul hath slain his thousands, And David his ten thousands.”



Major Literary Techniques

 Synonymous parallels have the appearance of art and concinnity and a studied elegance; they prevail chiefly in shorter poems, in many of the Psalms, in Balaam's prophecies, in many of those of Isaiah, which are most of them distinct poems of no great length.



Major Literary Techniques

Antithetical Usage- when the poetic formation is parallel but the words used are opposite

■ The **thoughts** of the **righteous** are right,
But the **counsels** of the **wicked** are
deceitful. (NKJV)

■ In this couplet "thoughts" and "counsels" are synonymously parallel, but "righteous" and "wicked" are antithetically parallel, so the couplet, as a whole, is an example of antithetical parallelism.



Major Literary Techniques

- Antithetical parallelism gives an acuteness and force to adages and moral sentences, and therefore abounds in Solomon's Proverbs, but elsewhere is not often to be met with.
 - “Your metaphor[ical] being is a matter of astonishment for reality,
Your supplication is the place of coquetry for self-sufficiency” (117,p 42)



The Creator

Allah made day and Allah made night,
He split the darkness from the light.
Allah made you and Allah made me,
And Allah made the animals that we see.

Allah made the seas and the dry land too,
He made the flowers and the sky so blue.
Allah made you and Allah made me,
And Allah made the animals that we see.

Allah made the stars shining way up high,
He made the birds and put them in the sky.
Allah made you and Allah made me,
And Allah made the animals that we see.

Allah made the sun and Allah made the moon,
He made the ants and the silly baboon.
Allah made you and Allah made me,
And Allah made the animals that we see.



The Five Pillars

**We pray five times a day
We pray five times a day
Allah told everyone
To pray five times a day**

**We give to Charity
We give as best we can
Allah told everyone
To give to Charity**

**We'll go to Hajj one day
God Willing, we'll all go
Allah told everyone
To go to Hajj one day**

**We fast one month a year
We fast it every year
Allah told everyone
To fast one month a year**

**We worship Allah Alone
We worship only Allah
Allah told everyone
To worship Allah Alone.**



Who has seen Allah?

Subhan'Allah!
Who has seen Allah?
No one! neither you nor I,
But whether we speak or silently pray,
He hears every single word we say.

Subhan'Allah!
Who has seen Allah?
No one! neither you nor I,
But whether we're in school or climbing a tree
There's not a thing He cannot see.

Subhan'Allah!
Who has seen Allah?
No one! neither you nor I,
But He knows when we're happy or going to cry
And there's not a moment when He is not near by.

Subhan'Allah!
Who has seen Allah?
No one! neither you nor I,
Be it Summer or Winter – morning or night
He is our Creator – Our Guiding Light.

