

A tradition of textual criticism in Pashto

پښتو کبې د تدوین متن روایت

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Abstract:

The Tradition of textual criticism began in 1938 in Pashto when Abdul Hai Habibi edited, for the first time in the history of Pashto language and literature, kuliaat (collection) of classical Pashto poet, Khushal Khan Khattak. After this the tradition of textual criticism flourished here and many volumes of poetry and prose were edited. This paper aims at evaluating volumes of classical prose, various davaveen (classical poetry collections), and other edited books of poetry in the light of established principles of textual criticism. Drawing upon the frame works developed in the area of textual criticism, this study evaluates works related to different genres of Pashto literature produced between 1938 and 2009. It shows that most of works follow the principles of textual criticism with some of them that lack quality.

Key words: Pashto, literature, tradition, classical prose, textual criticism.