

An analysis of oral tradition and written text of Tragic-Romance story of Momin Khan- Sherino

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Abstract:

Oral tradition is one of the key features of traditional Pashtun society which has evolved rich folkloric genres both in poetry and prose. The romance narratives created, co-created and recreated by the ordinary Pashtuns on the continuum of historical course are the most viable symbols, tropes and images immersed in the socio-cultural consciousness of ordinary Pashtuns living in oral traditions and rural areas. The tragic romance story of the two crossed-star lovers Momin Khan and Sherino has been resonated in almost each corner of the world where Pashtuns lived. This story like all others stories which traveled from one area to another through oral tradition has been transformed in text, poetics and somehow in characters. This paper is going to compare and analyze the difference in the written text compiled by Muhammad Gul Noori of Kandahar, and the oral accounts that still remain in the memories of ordinary people in the villages of Pishin district.

Key Words: Pashto Romance Legends, Crossed-Star Lovers, Tragedy, Tragedy, Oral Tradition, Textual Analysis