



ABŪ SALĪK GORGĀNĪ

ABŪ SALĪK (SOLAYK, according to Forūzānfar) **GORGĀNĪ**, Persian poet, contemporary of ‘Amr b. Layṭ the Saffarid (265-88/879-901). The *taḍkeras* *Majma’ al-foṣaḥā’* and *Lobāb al-albāb* have preserved two fragments from his work in four *bayts*. In the first fragment, written in *ramal* meter (-u-/u-/u-), the established traditions of written poetry can be felt, evidence of the fact that the verses have been subjected to literary reworking in the process of repeated copying. The second fragment, although written in the form of the classical *kaḥfīf* meter (-u-/u-u-/uu-), has a rhythm and images which reveal its roots in oral folk poetry.

Six other *bayts* (in *hazaḥ*, *mojtatt*, *možāre’* and *raḥaz* meters) of Abū Salīk were discovered by Sa’īd Nafīsī in various sources (*Farhang-e Jahāngīrī*, *Farhang-e Šō’ūrī*, *Farhang-e Rašīdī*, *al-Moḥjam* of Šams-e Qays); two of these attributed also to Šāker Boḳārī (Rūdakī in other sources). These verses use, for the first time in Persian poetry, some metaphors and poetic symbols which were widely used in the poetry of the 10th century: e.g., *šaman-bot* (shaman idol) and *nabīd-e gāḥčī* (morning wine). In one instance the poet compares the patron and the heavenly firmament (*carḳ*) to a hawk (*čarḳ*) and a quail.



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