



‘ĀŠEQ HAWĀSĪ

‘ĀŠEQ HAWĀSĪ “melody of the ‘*āšeq*,” term referring to (1) a type of poem often sung by ‘*āšeqs* in Iranian Azarbaijan and (2) the typical manner of singing the poem and the manner of accompanying it on the *sāz* (musical instrument).

1. The ‘*āšeq hawāsī* poem is most often composed in quatrains three to five stanzas in length. Each line contains eleven syllables which may be grouped into phrases of 6 + 5 syllables of 4 + 4 + 3 syllables. The rhyme scheme can be:

abab-cccb-dddb *or*

abcb-dddb-eeeb.

In Azarbaijan S.S.R where ‘*āšeqs* also compose and perform these poems, they are called *qošmā*; in Turkey they are known as *kos...ma*.

2. In performance the ‘*āšeq* usually sings these poems in a narrow tessitura, emphasizing one or two main pitches. The *sāz* only plays the *hawā* melody before the poem and in between quatrains.

For a music sample, see ‘[Āšeq Jonun](#).

For a music sample, see [Tajnis](#).