

Dramatic Form in Siyah-Bazi (An Iranian Merry-mode Play)

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Abstract

Dramatic performance has existed in Iran throughout history. Siyah-Bazi is the only survival of those Iranian dramatic performances that mainly aimed to create a playful and funny interaction with its audiences. It once reached its peak but soon has been marginalized. The main reason for its misfortune may be relied upon unrevealed aspects of the play. Audiences go theatre with a given horizontal expectations, and dramatic form is surely one of these expectations. Since every dramatic form interacts with its audiences based on a specific function, this research attempted to identify the dramatic form in Siyah-Bazi. Thus it focused upon plot, character and function in comedy, farce and Siyah-Bazi to extract similarities. The end results indicate that Siyah-Bazi can be considered an Iranian farce, in terms of dramatic form.

Key words: Dramatic Form, Correcting laughter, Destructive laughter, Horizontal expectation in theatre.

