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THE PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE IN THE POETRY OF OGAHYI AND OMAR KHAYYAM: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

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Abstract: *This article examines the philosophy of life in the poetry of two prominent representatives of Eastern classical literature—Omar Khayyam and Muhammad Rizo Ogahiy—through a comparative approach. The study analyzes the poets' interpretations of the meaning of life, fate, the transience of time, and the moral responsibility of human beings. It highlights how Khayyam's Rubaiyat reflects philosophical reflections on the fleeting nature of life, the uncertainty of existence, and the inevitability of fate. In contrast, Ogahiy's poetry emphasizes ethical ideals, justice, intellectual development, and social responsibility as essential aspects of human life. Through comparative analysis, the article reveals that although both poets address universal philosophical questions about human existence, their interpretations differ in orientation: Khayyam focuses on existential contemplation, while Ogahiy stresses moral and social values. The study contributes to a deeper understanding of the philosophical ideas expressed in Eastern classical poetry and their relevance to broader discussions of human life and morality.*

Keywords: *Omar Khayyam, Ogahiy, philosophy of life, Eastern classical literature, Rubaiyat, fate, transience of life, ethical values, comparative analysis, spiritual development*

Introduction

Classical Eastern poetry has long served not only as a form of artistic expression but also as a medium for deep philosophical reflection. Many poets of the Eastern literary tradition explored fundamental questions concerning human existence, fate, morality, and the meaning of life. Through symbolic language and rich imagery, poetry became a powerful way to express philosophical ideas and ethical values. Among the most notable representatives of this tradition are Omar Khayyam and Muhammad Rizo Ogahiy, whose works reflect different yet complementary perspectives on life and human destiny.

Omar Khayyam (1048–1131) is widely known as a Persian poet, mathematician, astronomer, and philosopher. His collection of quatrains, commonly known as the *Rubaiyat*, contains profound reflections on the transient nature of life, the uncertainty of fate, and the limitations of human knowledge. Khayyam's poetry often expresses a questioning attitude toward rigid religious doctrines and emphasizes the importance of appreciating the present moment. His philosophical outlook reflects both scientific rationalism and existential contemplation about the human condition.

Muhammad Rizo Ogahiy (1809–1874), one of the prominent representatives of Uzbek classical literature, was not only a poet but also a historian, translator, and scholar. His literary works demonstrate a deep concern for moral values, social justice, and intellectual enlightenment. Unlike Khayyam's contemplative and sometimes skeptical approach to existence, Ogahiy's poetry focuses more strongly on ethical responsibility, the pursuit of knowledge, and the development of virtuous character within society.

Although these two poets lived in different historical periods and cultural contexts, their works address universal philosophical themes related to life, destiny, and human purpose. Khayyam's poetry reflects a philosophical awareness of life's uncertainty and the inevitability of time, while Ogahiy's writings emphasize moral consciousness and the importance of contributing positively to society.

The purpose of this article is to examine the philosophical interpretations of life in the poetry of Omar Khayyam and Ogahiy through a comparative analysis. By analyzing themes such as fate, temporality, and the search for meaning, this study seeks to highlight both the similarities and differences in their philosophical perspectives. Such a comparison helps to deepen our understanding of the intellectual richness of Eastern classical literature and its continuing relevance to discussions about human existence and ethical values.

Main Part

The poetry of Ogahiy and Omar Khayyam reflects deep philosophical reflections on life, morality, and human existence. Although they lived in different historical contexts and expressed their ideas through different poetic styles, both poets explored universal themes such as the transience of life, the search for meaning, and the relationship between human beings and fate. A comparative analysis of their works reveals both similarities and differences in their understanding of life and human values.

One of the central philosophical ideas in the poetry of Omar Khayyam is the awareness of the fleeting nature of human life. In his famous *Rubaiyat*, Khayyam often emphasizes the inevitability of death and the uncertainty of the future. This perspective leads him to encourage people to appreciate the present moment. Khayyam's philosophy is frequently interpreted as a form of existential reflection, where the individual is confronted with the limits of knowledge and the unpredictability of destiny. Through symbolic imagery such as wine, gardens, and springtime, he conveys the idea that life should be enjoyed while it lasts. These symbols are not merely literal but also philosophical metaphors representing freedom from rigid dogma and the embrace of life's temporary beauty.

In contrast, Ogahiy's poetry presents a more ethically oriented philosophy of life. As a prominent representative of Uzbek classical literature, Ogahiy emphasized moral values, wisdom, and social responsibility. His works often highlight the importance of justice, knowledge, and spiritual purity. While he also acknowledges the transient nature of life, Ogahiy does not advocate simple enjoyment of the moment. Instead, he stresses the necessity of living a virtuous life guided by ethical principles. His poems encourage individuals to seek knowledge, respect social harmony, and cultivate moral character.

Another important philosophical dimension in both poets' works is their attitude toward fate and human agency. Khayyam frequently expresses skepticism toward predetermined destiny and questions the fairness of the universe. His poetic voice sometimes challenges religious orthodoxy and raises philosophical doubts about divine justice. This questioning attitude reflects the intellectual spirit of the medieval Persian scientific and philosophical tradition, in which rational inquiry played an important role.

Ogahiy, however, approaches the concept of fate with a more balanced and traditional worldview. Influenced by classical Eastern ethical and literary traditions, he emphasizes patience, humility, and faith. In his poetry, fate is often portrayed as a divine order that humans must accept while striving to live honorably within it. This perspective promotes harmony between human actions and spiritual values.

Despite these differences, both poets share a deep concern with the human condition. Their poetry reflects a universal search for meaning and truth. Khayyam's reflections highlight the philosophical uncertainty of existence, while Ogahiy's works offer moral guidance for living a meaningful life. Together, their poetic philosophies illustrate two complementary perspectives within Eastern literary thought: one emphasizing existential reflection and the other focusing on ethical responsibility.

Thus, the comparative study of Ogahiy and Omar Khayyam reveals how classical poetry can serve as a medium for exploring fundamental questions about life, morality, and destiny. Their works continue to resonate with modern readers because they address timeless philosophical issues that remain relevant across cultures and historical periods.

Conclusion

The poetry of Omar Khayyam and Muhammad Rizo Ogahiy reflects two significant philosophical perspectives within the broader tradition of Eastern classical literature. Both poets address universal questions about human existence, the meaning of life, and the relationship between fate and human responsibility. However, their interpretations of these themes differ in emphasis and philosophical orientation.

Omar Khayyam's poetry is characterized by deep existential reflection and a questioning attitude toward certainty in matters of fate and the afterlife. His verses frequently highlight the transient nature of human life and encourage individuals to appreciate the present moment. Through symbolic imagery and philosophical contemplation, Khayyam presents life as a brief and uncertain journey that invites reflection on the limits of human knowledge.

In contrast, Ogahiy's poetry reflects a more ethically oriented philosophy of life. His works emphasize the importance of moral integrity, justice, knowledge, and social responsibility. While acknowledging the temporary nature of life, Ogahiy views human existence as an opportunity for moral development and service to society. His poetry encourages individuals to cultivate wisdom and contribute positively to the spiritual and social well-being of their communities.

A comparative analysis of these two poets demonstrates that although their philosophical approaches differ, both contribute valuable insights into the understanding of human life and destiny. Khayyam's contemplative reflections and Ogahiy's ethical vision together illustrate the richness and diversity of philosophical thought in Eastern classical poetry. Their works continue to remain relevant, offering timeless perspectives on the complexities of human existence and the pursuit of meaningful life.

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