

Analysis of the Four-fold Relationships (God, Self, Other, and Creation) in the Poetry of Qeysar Aminpour

Fatemeh Karimi Damneh¹ -  Hamed Mousavi Jarokani² -  Mohammad Ebrahim Irajapour³ 

1. Master's degree, Department of Persian Language and Literature, Faculty of Literature and Humanities, Payam Noor University, Tehran Center, Iran. (Responsible author) Email: fff.karimi@gmail.com
2. Assistant Professor, Department of Persian Language and Literature, Faculty of Literature and Humanities, Payam Noor University, Tehran Center, Iran.
3. Associate Professor, Department of Persian Language and Literature, Faculty of Literature and Humanities, Payam Noor University, Tehran Center, Iran.

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ABSTRACT

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Human beings, as the chosen creatures of God, share various needs with other beings. To fulfill these needs, one must establish connections with the Creator and other elements of creation. Every individual is inevitably bound to enhance their relationships with God, creation, fellow human beings, and themselves for the continuation of life. Indeed, no person can escape these four essential connections. The relationship with God is seen in servitude and lordship, lover and beloved. A person's connection with oneself is the recognition of the soul and the understanding of existential dimensions, capabilities, and life goals. The relationship with fellow human beings can be manifested in acts of kindness, good manners, and helping others. The relationship with nature is reflected in peaceful coexistence with animals and respect for the rights of living and non-living entities. The most crucial of these relationships is the relationship between the Creator and the created, and the other three relationships aim to achieve this. Naturally, critical human issues influence literary and artistic works. Examining these aspects from the perspective of Gheisar Aminpour, a contemporary poet, can bring valuable results for modern humanity. Therefore, by exploring the quadruple relationships in this poet's poems, we can take a small step towards better understanding Gheisar and his poetry. Also, the author focuses on understanding humanity and, at a higher level, understanding the Creator and approaching Him and considering that Aminpour's poems are not devoid of mystic overtones.

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Introduction

Humanity, as the chosen creation of God, possesses innate needs that necessitate establishing and maintaining healthy relationships with the Creator and the surrounding world. Within the framework of Islamic mysticism and ethical teachings, these essential human interactions are categorized into four domains: relationship with the Creator (God), relationship with the Self (self-knowledge), relationship with Others (fellow humans), and relationship with Creation (nature). Qeysar Aminpour, a prominent contemporary Iranian poet, reflects these multifaceted human concerns in his work. As modern human life becomes increasingly characterized by materialism and existential confusion, analyzing these relationships through the lens of Aminpour's poetry offers valuable insights. This study aims to explore how Aminpour portrays these four relationships, examining whether his poetic corpus can guide the modern reader toward a deeper understanding of God, the self, and the world, thereby helping to mitigate the anxieties of contemporary life.

Method

This research employs a descriptive-analytical methodology to perform a qualitative content analysis of Qeysar Aminpour's poetic works. The study systematically examines the poet's themes, metaphors, and imagery, categorizing them according to the four-fold classification of human relationships: (1) Relationship with the Creator (faith, worship, love), (2) Relationship with the Self (self-knowledge, existence, life's purpose), (3) Relationship with Others (family, society, social justice, ethics), and (4) Relationship with Creation (nature, environment). By analyzing key verses, the authors identify the poet's underlying philosophical and mystical perspectives.

Results

The analysis reveals that Aminpour's poetry is deeply rooted in these four pillars, providing a roadmap for spiritual and emotional growth:

- **Relationship with the Creator:** Aminpour portrays this as the foundational relationship. He oscillates between the states of the

“Servant/Master” (characterized by obedience and humility) and the “Lover/Beloved” (characterized by passionate intimacy). His work emphasizes that true worship transcends habitual rituals and must be grounded in love. He interprets God’s “wrath” not as cruelty, but as a nurturing force akin to a mother’s discipline, leading ultimately to divine love. Key outcomes of this relationship include martyrdom-seeking (as a form of perfection), immortality, and finding inner peace.

- **Relationship with the Self:** Aminpour advocates for self-knowledge as a prerequisite for knowing the Creator. He views human life through various prisms: fear, hesitation, waiting, pain, and joy. His work acknowledges the inherent suffering in human existence but posits that this suffering is meaningful. He portrays life as a journey toward maturity, where the self is refined through introspection, helping the poet transcend the “wandering” of contemporary life.
- **Relationship with Others:** Aminpour treats the social dimension with profound humanism. He emphasizes the family unit, empathy, and social responsibility. His poetry reflects on the loss of traditional communal warmth in the modern era, advocating for sincerity, kindness, and moral integrity. His works on social justice, resistance, and leadership (particularly during the Iran-Iraq war) highlight the importance of altruism, patience, and anti-oppression.
- **Relationship with Creation (Nature):** Aminpour demonstrates a deep reverence for nature, viewing it as a manifestation of divine signs. Elements such as trees, birds, and the sky serve as mirrors for the poet’s interiority—capturing his nostalgia, pain, and hope. He suggests that nature acts as a bridge; by contemplating the natural world, one can arrive at a deeper recognition of the Creator, turning the physical world into a path for spiritual elevation.

Conclusion

Qeysar Aminpour’s poetry transcends mere aesthetic expression; it serves as a philosophical and spiritual guide for the modern individual. The study concludes that the poet posits the relationship with the Creator as the primary focus, while the other three relationships—with the self, others, and creation—function as essential mechanisms to achieve this ultimate union. Aminpour’s vision suggests that the modern human, often lost in

existential turmoil, can attain tranquility by aligning these four dimensions. By practicing self-knowledge, fostering empathetic relationships with others based on ethical and religious precepts, and contemplating nature as a signifier of the divine, the individual can evolve from the station of a “servant” to that of a “lover” of God. Aminpour effectively integrates traditional mystical concepts with contemporary realities, providing a poetic framework that remains profoundly relevant for navigating the complexities of human existence.