

A subjective Study of the Sixth And Seventh Hijjrian Centuries Poetry of Baths

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Abstract

This study has tackled the sixth and seventh century poetry describing baths which were widely spread in the Islamic world cities and attended by the lower and upper classes in societies. It also tackles the issue of whether attending these places is permissible or not from a religious point of view.

The study is comprised of : an introduction, a preface, and six themes: the structure of baths, tools used in baths, bathing specialist, baths' visitors, praising and satiring the baths themselves. As far as I know, this is a pioneering study in this area as I did not find an independent study on this phenomenon in that particular period of time.

It adopted the Historical approach to survey the poetry covering the six themes and the poets' bibliographies and the analytical, descriptive approach to illustrate the nature of the themes.

The study concludes that the baths were used by the lower and the upper classes at that time and that most poetry was realistic, metaphoric and included lively smiles. It reveals that poets described the beauty of baths' visitors, while their satire against the bathing specialist focused on their negative physical appearance, ill-manners and their lack of skills.

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