Ḥayyām-nāme: rūzegār, falsafe va še'r-e Ḥayyām.
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Édition électronique

URL : <http://journals.openedition.org/abstractairanica/21031>

DOI : 10.4000/abstractairanica.21031

ISSN : 1961-960X

Éditeur :

CNRS (UMR 7528 Mondes iraniens et indiens), Éditions de l'IFRI

Édition imprimée

Date de publication : 15 mai 2007

ISSN : 0240-8910

Référence électronique

Franklin Lewis, « *Ḥayyām-nāme: rūzegār, falsafe va še'r-e Ḥayyām*. Tehrān, Entešārāt-e Zavvār, 1384/2005, 653 p. », *Abstracta Iranica* [En ligne], Volume 28 | 2007, document 348, mis en ligne le 18 septembre 2007, consulté le 25 septembre 2020. URL : <http://journals.openedition.org/abstractairanica/21031> ; DOI : <https://doi.org/10.4000/abstractairanica.21031>

Ce document a été généré automatiquement le 25 septembre 2020.

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- 1 Kudos to the publisher, Zavvār, for its detailed attention to the layout of this book, which among other things includes a photograph and short biography of the author on the cover flap. From this we learn that Professor Qanbarī has taught Civil Law for two decades in various universities in Iran, including the College of Law at the University of Tehrān. He currently practices law and has published on that topic, as well as on classical Persian poets (see the abstract on his book about Ṭāleb-e Āmolī), in addition to his own poetry.
- 2 *Ḥayyām-nāme* is divided into twenty-five chapters, ranging over Ḥayyām's life and the historical figures and circumstances of his era; Ḥayyām as mathematician and philosopher; the *robā'i* as a literary form; Ḥayyām's relation to: Sufism, agnosticism, reincarnation, the Brethren of Purity, the Ismailis, epicurean thought, materialism, and Zurvanism; Ḥayyām's views on wine, etc. Other chapters explore his works (including a separate chapter devoted to the *Nowrūz-nāme* and its attribution), the influences on Ḥayyām, his influences on others, and his reception in the West. The extensive endnote section (pp. 370-465) goes well beyond citation of source titles and page numbers (which are mostly found within the main text), but is unfortunately printed in a smaller font that is rather difficult to read for extended passages. A long section of (not especially well re-produced) images – including photographs of scholars, facsimiles of ms. folios and book title pages, drawings and photographs (pp. 473-535) – is followed by detailed indices (pp. 539-92). An extensive bibliography (pp. 597-631) neatly presents works in Arabic and Persian, graphically sectioned for easy reference, with each new letter of the alphabet boxed in its own rubric. A much shorter bibliography of works in western languages (pp. 631-3), and an interpretive English summary of the contents of the book, translated by the author's son, Ḥamid-Reḏā, round out the collection. *Ḥayyām-nāme* does not add anything new to our knowledge of Ḥayyām, but rather

attempts to distill for an educated general readership the vast amount written about Ḥayyām into a unified narrative.

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Thèmes : 11.1.1. Littérature persane classique

AUTEURS

FRANKLIN LEWIS

University of Chicago