

The Study Of Supernatural Elements In The “Hezaro Yek Shab”

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Abstract Humans have the power of mental creation and imagination which makes a distinction between humans and other creatures. This power helps them to make a nonrealistic argument and reason for anything which does not have a rational and logical reason. Each element and action which is out of the human and natural areas is placed in the supernatural area and many of these elements have been created by the human mind and transferred the folklore to the area of literature during the time. Different features of supernatural elements and actions can be seen in stories, heroes and epics. One of the ancient and valuable books in the Persian Literature is “One Thousand and One Nights” which is highly connected to the Iranian culture and folklore. Therefore, in this research, the supernatural elements in the stories of this book were addressed and some main classifications were obtained, including the magic, transformation, angel, objects and places, as well as supernatural creatures and animals. The research results showed that most narrators of stories of this book emphasized the supernatural creatures and animals and meanwhile, fairies, goblins, demons and monsters were most frequent. Also, it was determined that these supernatural elements often had positive actions and functions. Although elements such as negative magic and presence of evil creatures such as monsters and demons were seen, there were positive forces which neutralized the negative actions of this class. Overall, it can be said that supernatural elements in the book “One Thousand and One Nights” were generally used to teach a lesson in the heart of story consistent with Iranian beliefs.

Keywords : Keywords: Literary fiction, hero, supernatural elements, One Thousand and One Nights.

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