

Badī' al-Zamān al-Hamadānī and his newly discovered Medical Maqama

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Abstract

Literature is a mirror of culture and social relations at all times. Health and medicine, as part of culture and social life, have had a place in literature for a long time. As one of the most popular literary styles, especially in Arabic and Persian literature, the technique of Maqama writing has had many achievements for scholars, including in the representation of social life. Badī al-Zamān al-Hamadānī, who is considered the inventor of this technique, dedicated one of his Maqamat to "medicine". This part has been forgotten throughout history and omitted from most manuscripts and all official publications. Fortunately, the Yale manuscript has preserved this "Medical Maqama" In this article, concerning the technique of writing the Maqamat and its historical and social contexts and goals, we report and analyse this innovative Medical Maqama.

Keywords: Literature; Medicine; Pseudoscience; History of medicine; Badī al-Zamān al-Hamadānī

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