



**Functional review of Iranian poetry and fiction literary awards since 1996; a grounded
theory study**

Seyyed Ali Seraj*, Seyyed Zakarya Mahmoudiraja, Hossein Rahad

1. associate professor in Persian language and literature, Neyshabur university, Neyshabur, Iran.
2. Assistant Professor of Political Science, Department of Political Science, Faculty of Law and Political Science, Shahid Chamran University of Ahvaz, Khuzestan, Iran.
3. M.A in Persian language and literature, neyshabur university, neyshabur, Iran.

1. Introduction

Literary award is an honor given by institutions, literary associations, academies and institutes at the international or national level to the winners of different fields of literature (poets, story writers, playwrights and literary critics). The tradition of holding literary awards in the world reaches more than a century. Literary awards have been held in Iran for nearly sixty years. But the growth and expansion of these awards is after the Islamic Revolution and especially in the eighties. In the last two decades in Iran, under the influence of political-social developments, we witnessed the ups and downs of literary awards and fluctuations in this field. The process of holding literary awards has been such that some of the awards have continued for the past years and some have not been able to continue their existence due to various reasons and have not been part of the literary atmosphere of the country. In addition, over the past years, critics inside and outside the university have always commented on the way literary awards are held, the judging process, the validity of the awarded award, the impact of the award on the quality of the winners' subsequent works, the boom in the publishing market, and the level of audience attraction.

Considering the impact of literary awards on the dynamics of the country's literary scene and motivating writers, poets and audiences of literary works; Examining the way of conducting, pathology and providing solutions in this field doubles its effectiveness in the field of society and culture. Based on the mentioned cases and according to the amount of criticism and comments that have been raised so far about literary awards, the main issue of this article is, first, the pathology of the way literary awards are held, then an effort is made to examine the existing issues and problems, the factors affecting the efficiency of literary awards and quality it be checked

2. Methodology

In this research, parallel to the goals and research questions, several sources have been used to collect information. The first part was researchers and academic and executive experts who are the owners of articles and research works in this field and have been among the organizers of literary awards in the past years; This group is the primary and main source of information collection regarding the recognition of components. The second part of the research community in the qualitative phase is the documents and written works written about the theoretical foundations, by studying them, the desired components were discovered. In fact, library, internet, document and virtual space resources work in the direction of deepening and completing the information of the society of the first part (elite and knowledgeable people).

In qualitative research, the researcher's sampling type is different from quantitative research. In the grounded theory analysis technique, theoretical sampling is important; The researcher continues the sampling until theoretical saturation is achieved and the sample is sufficient for case analysis. Also, the sampling method is theoretical. In this research, interviews were conducted with more than 30 professors and activists in this field, and theoretical saturation was achieved in the tenth interview.

3. Discussion and Results

In order to reach the valid axes to answer the research questions, in-depth interviews were conducted with researchers and experts and their concerns, suggestions and solutions were collected and their key points were extracted and used in the coding process. According to the process of qualitative method and grounded theory strategy, the basis of the work was "theoretical saturation". So that after the implementation and coding of the conversations of these people, no attention is paid to duplicate data. In this framework, we reached theoretical saturation in the 10th person; But for more strength and more favorable, the views of 30 of these people have been cited in the form of open and initial coding. With the general study of the interviews conducted in open coding, the important axes that determine the different angles and dimensions of the problem and the purpose of the research were evaluated and formulated.

By taking into account the theoretical foundations and models proposed in the analysis of the function of literary awards in the scientific and cultural structure of society, it was found that literary awards can have different cultural, social, scientific and political functions that provide in a good way at the community level systematically promote scientific and cultural socialization. Therefore, it is necessary to give more dignity and status to these awards in the field of policy, executive, scientific and other quantitative and qualitative measures. By considering various factors, the following components can be considered in the quality of these awards at the community level.

3-1. Executive, managerial and macro and micro policies

In all festivals, the role of agents and implementation and policy fields has been important and key. Almost all the interviewees acknowledged that the attitude of executive agents plays an important role in the quantity and quality of works, which can be a double-edged sword of opportunities and threats for literary awards in the future.

3-2. Scientific and research-literary

In this dimension, which overlaps with the executive and policy-making dimension, they have a specialized attitude towards literary awards and have considered this component to be very important and key in realizing or not the function and special features of literary awards. In this regard, indicators such as: criteria and specialized mechanisms of awards, specialization and diversity in the selection of judges, scientific and specialized standards of selected works and selected people, perspective and program-oriented, categorization and genre of works, etc., are important in the review and analysis of literary awards and vital.

3-3. Cultural and social factors

This component, which deals with the interrelationship between the country's cultural-social situation and the publishing and study industry, points to the effect of literary festivals on the current state of society and its effectiveness. Things like dignity and social dignity; communications; social-individual interactions and dialogue; cultural-social dynamics; identity crisis and confusion of different generations of society, especially the youth; their irresponsibility and the decrease in the culture of reading and writing literary works.

3-4. Economic-political

The economic and political category has a direct and indirect effect on various topics. This category has also been effective in holding literary awards or not, the quantity and quality of selected works and works sent to festivals. Things like the quantity and quality of awards, selected people and works, economic stability and instability and resilience of society, publishing and printing industry, independence or dependence of literary awards were among the things that are important in this dimension.

3-5. Media-psychological

Psychological, perceptual and media topics have also been effective in literary festivals, directly and indirectly. In this regard, the interviewees have considered various things important in order to hold high-quality literary awards. persuasion of public opinion; The perception that the judging process and results are predetermined; Not having a real impact on the scientific and literary process of the country, etc. It is a part of the cases that can be mentioned in the political-cognitive form in the pathology of literary awards.

4. Conclusion

The results of the current research indicate that the most important issues and harms of holding literary awards for poetry and fiction are categorized in different areas of implementation, organization, evaluation and finance. Although literary awards have a great impact on society, they have always faced challenges such as non-continuity, selectiveness, lack of independence, weak financial resources, lack of transparency, etc. for various reasons. If these awards are held with the right policy, at different levels of society it can raise awareness and socialize the culture of reading and promote literary creativity and To be effective in promoting the publishing industry. Literary awards protect the identity and culture, promote the study culture, boost the publishing market and strengthen the individual and social self-esteem of people.

The practical solutions of the present research for the promotion and efficiency of literary awards in various policy, executive, economic-political and cultural-social fields are presented as follows:

1. enhancing the material and spiritual status of literary awards and selected people;
2. Making literary awards and their topics more competitive;
3. Solving the financial and livelihood concerns of writers and selected individuals;
4. Ensuring The material-spiritual independence of literary awards from the non-specialized political-social structure;
5. Highlighting and introducing selected works and people in literary festivals;
6. Financial support for the publishing and printing industry of selected works;
7. Strengthening competitive mechanisms and meritocracy of awards and the way of selecting people and best works;
8. Promoting and institutionalizing critical thinking and culture of rading at the community level in the educational and media environment of the country;
9. Designing and compiling strategic vision in the field of literary awards;
10. Compilation and promotion of specialized and standard judging criteria to discover effective and high-quality works;
11. Considering diverse intellectual interests and tastes in the field of selected works and judges through dialogue and a constructive critical space;
12. Reducing the shortcomings and weaknesses of past works and judging mechanisms and improving the quality of future works;

13. Continuous and dynamic holding of literary awards and the use of experts, elites and academic and concerned people in the body of executive agents and judges of works;
14. Genre classification of submitted works and contents;
15. The transparency of the mechanisms for holding awards, the judging process and accountability for performance;
16. Field survey of experts regarding the consolidation of awards or their diversification at the national and local level;
17. Maintaining continuous dialogue between the governance structure and the citizens.

Keywords: literary awards, literary genre, knowledge enhancement, creative thinking, grounded theory.