

Abstract

The constraints and limitations in dictatorial society of Bayhaqi's age appear in his historical text as semantic complexities and contradictions that have made it full of mysterious intentions and ambiguities. Comprehending the true meaning of the text without analyzing these complexities is nearly impossible. Being a historian who tries to write and express the truth and on the other hand, feeling possible risks of his work, resulted in these complexities and ambiguities used in Bayhaqi's special language for his historiography. Conflicts and contradictions between Bayhaqi's scientific and logical attitude toward the historiography and the society's dictatorial conditions in that period-that we call it the "Context"-appears in his work as semantic complexities and narrative contradictions. This makes his readers to face problems with comprehending the true meaning of the context and hence they inevitably look for other's interpretations and analyses. Through this research, Bayhaqi's historical context was analyzed using hermeneutical techniques in order to explore and show some hidden facts and his special method of historiography. Moreover, this research actually is offering the benefits of using hermeneutic techniques to comprehend the true meaning of context and hidden historical facts of Bayhaqi's historiography. In fact, knowing these complexities within the context of Bayhaqi's work in larger is recognizing the existent complexities in Persian culture; complexities caused by dictatorial culture which has made people of this culture to speak and write through its dictatorial framework.

Keywords: Tarikh-i Bayhaqi, interpretation, critical text, dictatorial context, Sultan Mas'ud.



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