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Father of Persian Verse

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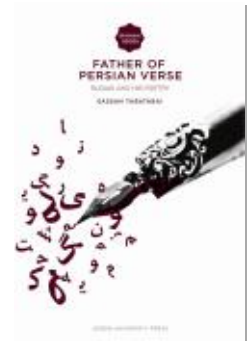
Published by Leiden University Press

Tabatabai, Sassan.

Father of Persian Verse: Rudaki and his Poetry.

first ed. Leiden University Press, 0.

Project MUSE.muse.jhu.edu/book/46350.



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Access provided at 1 Apr 2020 16:44 GMT with no institutional affiliation



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The poet's change of fortune

I was always intoxicated in this house.
Like the Amir and nobles, my place was secure.
Now, I am the same, the house and town are the same.
Then tell me, how has happiness turned to sorrow?

The poet in old age

The black mountain is now covered with snow.
The cypress in the garden is bent like a bow.
What used to taste good no longer does.
What used to be harmless now quickly harms.

بسا که مست درین خانه بودم و شادان
چنانک جاه من افزون بد از امیر و ملوک
کنون همانم و خانه همان و شهر همان
مرا نگویی کز چه شده است شادی سوک

سپید برف برآمد به کوهسار سیاه
و چون درون شد آن سرو بوستان آرای
و آن کجا بگوارید ناگوار شد دست
وان کجا نگز ایست گشت زود گزای