

The Nightingale of Kurdistan

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Hasan Zirak the legend (01 Dec. 1921- 25 June 1972)

Hasan Zirak, the immortal and legendary artist of Kurdish music in Sorani dialect, died in 1972 on a hot summer day like today, June 25, in Bukan, a city in Kurdistan-Iran.

His father's name is Abdullah and his mother's name is Amina.

His father is from Markhuz a village belong to Saqez.

He had previously migrated to Bukan, a city between Saqez and Mahabad, where he got married and Hasan and his other children were born in Bukan.

Hasan Zirak had a strong, bass and manly voice and his talent in making songs with music ,at the same time, is a unique gift.

A Kurdish Jewish singer named "Shanga/شه‌نگه" who was from Bukan played a role in the awakening and flourishing of Hasan Zirak talent.

Other people who taught him the art of Kurdish music were Sheikh Jafar i Zambil (Nourani) and Hama-Hsen i Khaat Safia.

The elders of the Nourani family who resided in the village of Zambil Bukan had many followers of the Kurdish Naqshbandi tariqat (Method).

Zambil is a bread basket made from thin branches of the willow tree. The willow and the self-shaking of its branches were sacred in ancient Kurdish mysticism, symbolizing the manifestation and dance of the soul for the worship of God the Creator.

Until now, in some parts of Kurdistan, they put bread on these baskets and call it "Naana Shaan نانە شان" in the Kurdish language. Naana Shaan was a symbol of "begging" in the ancient Kurdish mystical culture, which was common since before the great storm and in Kur-Dilmun culture.

In one of the Sumerian stone sculptures discovered in Iraq, you see the Izad Enki, the father of Izad Mardukh, with a Naana Shaan on his head.

The beggars were ascetics and naturalists(Khuzaayi, Elikhasi) and preached poverty, contentment and purity of soul. They were going to people's doors and asked them for bread.

Therefore, they were called Daroza.

Prophet Zoroaster introduces himself as a Daroza in the Gatha book.

This custom still exists in Kurdistan, and mosque attendants go to people's homes and ask for Friday bread.

In Kurdish mysticism, bread is a physical symbol of God's creation and blessing. This bread is manifested in "def" which is made from cow skin.

This bread was a symbol of the need of a گەدا-Gadaa or "beggar" or a seeker of God's wisdom in the Godani or Goth mysticism of ancient Kurdistan. This religious culture was heavily present in the Sumerian, Akkadian, Gutian, and Anshanian Diyuki(Medes) civilizations and other ancient Kurdish civilizations such as Mittani, Kashitt, Hittite, Chaldean, Assyrian, Urartian, Mannaeen, Parthian, and Sasanid.

The cow is the concept of sacrifice and sacrifice in the way of life, and the white cow was sacrificed by Mardukh to create material life and nature.

Mardukh(Michael), the great angel of God, was a spark of stone light (Eli Khas or Khshatara) in the water.

These were the great ideological issues of the Kurds from thousands of years ago, and when Islam entered Kurdistan, in order to continue living in this ancient and holy land, had to adapt itself to these ancient Kurdish beliefs.

Therefore, Qaderi and Naqshbandi Tariqats(Methods) among Sunnis and Ali Shahi Tariqat among Shiites were created in Kurdistan, and music became the main part of the foundations of these Islamic mystical tariqats.

Mardukh's birth in water was accompanied by the disintegration of light, which symbolized the birth of the rainbow. The rainbow was a symbol of material nature. Nature in Kurdish is the word Khuza.

In the old days, this word was pronounced Khosha, Khusha, Hosha, Khusa, Khaasa and Khaas, Khaat.

The Flame of Light in the water was equal to the word Ara-Khsha.

Flame or Ara was called "Ili" in Hittite pronunciation, Eli in Kashi pronunciation, Eri in Gutian pronunciation, Hurra in Hurri pronunciation, and Tara in Akkadi-Dahyuki pronuonciation and Ardi in Urartian pronunciation.

This word was introduced to "Il" by the Hebrews after leaving Egypt (Moses civilization). Il was the source of the manifestation of the invisible God (Jehovah) was in light.

Muhammad, the prophet of Islam, called "Il" in Arabic language as Allah. He introduced Ari, Il or Allah as the manifestation of the flame of truth.

In fact, this material manifestation of God on earth, which was in the form of light, was created from the stone of wisdom together with pure water, and

Mardukh was born after it, and the rainbow was the "Pair/ Placenta" of Mardukh, so Khuza or nature is the origin of everything, and Khuza is the physical/material manifestation of particle of creation that is separated from the body of God the creator.

The symbol of Khuza is the number five, and in the incarnation, the hand with five fingers is the manifestation of Khuza or nature, which is also the manifestation of Huwa-Khshatara or the particle of creation, which is a part of God's spirit.

Huwa-Khshatara or Tushtara or Zaratustara is the Holy Spirit that flows in Ili or Allah or Ari.

Therefore, this holy science is called the science of Ari.

Ari or Ili, it is not a symbol of race, it is a symbol of the knowledge of the first Holy Spirit, who was separated from God and became the foundation of creation. These are ancient Kurdish mysticism.

This is the science of the soul.

Hasan Zirak has shown his love and respect for Kurdish mysticism in the song "Dear Nourani", and Sheikh Jafar Nourani Zambil. You can listen to this song in this link.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yfpfHwNVVmk>

Hasan Zirak has performed more than 1,500 songs on Tehran, Baghdad, Kermanshah, Tabriz, and Sanandaj radios and has also had a program on Urmia TV.

He has collaborated with Kurdish composer Mojtaba Mirzadeh and Syriac composer Francis David, as well as with Turkish-Azari and Persian artists and composers, all of whom are famous in their national music.

For example, in the song that you can see the link below, he collaborates with Moshir Homayoun Shahrदार, the legendary pianist of Persian music.

I have translated this song into English myself. This is a great honor for me.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f2siqPGPU20>

With this orchestra, great Persian singers such as Marzieh, Banan, Elahe, Delkash, Dariush Rafiei, Gol Naraghi have performed with this orchestra.

Hasan Zirak died of stomach cancer in Bukan Hospital.

He is married to Mrs. Media Zandi from Mahabad and has two daughters named Mahtaab and Arazou.

He later married Mrs. Raabe'a Saranjaam from Saqez and lived with her until the end of his life.

The night Hasan Zirak passed away, there was an eclipse and the people of Kurdistan said that the moon became blood due to Hasan Zirak's death.

Undoubtedly, a legend like Hasan Zirak will never be born again. He was a gift from God for the culture of Kurdistan people. But he did not benefit from the world and his whole life was full of sadness, pain, deprivation, failure and poverty. However, he was a kind, loyal, generous and personable man.

He is the most favorite singer in my life because he is the voice of my soul.

He performs Kurdistan and kind people, beautiful nature and history, culture and beautiful- rooted and original language (Kurdish) for me and millions of Kurds all over the world with his male voice in an astonishing and magical way like a imagetional book.

He is alive and as long as Kurds and Kurdistan are alive in time and space, he is also alive. Because he is the voice of Kurdistan. He is the nightingale of Kurdistan.

Rest in peace!

Amen!



Advice for lovers

Lyrics and music by Hasan Zirak

Arranged for orchestra by Moshir Homayun Shahrदार

Performance : 1958, Tehran Kurdish Radio.

This is an advice for love

Do not fall in love temporarily (fleeting feelings)

Because the lover's heart is injured

He kills himself out of despair

All the lovers heart are burning with love

That is why they are displaced and wandering

Their faces are yellow and they are worried

and he loves the beautiful eye girl.

Lovers come, you can see them from afar

with a pale face and wounded lips

Don't blame them, because they are trapped

They love doe-eyed beauty girls.

Lovers are tender-hearted and sensitive people

Their mistresses are beautiful like gazelles

She flapped her wings and flew like a swift bird

Her lover's heart ran after her like a young dog!