

Islamic social communication: A Comparative Study of Muslims believes and Credence patterns in Iranian Taziyeh

By

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Abstract

Taziyeh is the religious performance from practiced in Iran. Origin The word Tazieh is from Arabic language and its root word is Azaa The word Taziyeh literally means mourning and consolation after death. "The word Taziyeh literally means expressions of sympathy, mourning and consolation. As a dramatic form it has its origins in the Muharram procession commemorating Hussein's martyrdom and throughout its evolution the representation of the siege and carnage at Kerbela has remained its center point. In Farsi, the word refers to mystic plays dating back to the tragic beginnings of Shiite history, with all its rudeness and bloodshed at Karbala 14 centuries ago. Another name for Taziyeh is Shabiyeh Gardani (portrait turn round) and Shabiyeh Khani (portrait sing) it is on the basis of story and fiction and narrative of life and tragically and event and hardship of Imam Hussein and hard time he had in Muharram (first month of Arabic calendar).

Keywords: Muharram, Taziyeh, expressions of sympathy, Iran

1. Introduction

After Imam Hussein and his family suffer martyrdom in Muharram all of his adherent and favor his opinion every Muharram make one special occasion including mourning ceremonies. One of the famous is Taziyeh and it is in Iran traditional and folk dramas performance for mourning. Every night, after pray in the common place like Midan and mosque or Taziyeh everybody has well voice is come and select one small rule for itself in Taziyeh. In Iran and more Arabic countries everybody wants to come for mourning ceremony he should to wear black dress and black cloth. That is mean he is very sad and feeling sorry. In Taziyeh also everybody is sad and all audience wear black. Taziyeh is very near to classical theatre in the world for example Taziyeh has costume, make up, rule, text, scene, stage, time, space, director, actor... But one of important difference is there that is people and audience before performed Taziyeh, they know about full story and they come only for sea and mourning and clean his inside Taziyeh Is ten night performance and every night different story is performed but each night we be closer than to suffer martyrdom Imam Hussein and last night is that top of mourning and cry for him. Imam Hussein with 72 of his closed friend and his family is the base of story of Taziyeh.

Taziyeh is the condolence drama and folk theatre that performed with sad communication and voice of mourning of audience for this event and this is most important tragedy for one way of Muslim name is Shiite. Taziyeh has religious symbolic epic like Aboulfazel. He is cousin of Imam Hussein he bring water for Imam Hussein family with his teeth because his enemy was cutting his hands in the fight. (Husouri, 2008:105),

Ta'zieh or Shabih-Khani is one of the oldest and most authentic traditions of theater in Iran. It is a kind of theater is based on agonizing life stories and fables of Shiite Imam Hussein. Although religious theatrics is at its inception, Ta'zieh soon thereafter encompassed other forms of Folklore, thus assuming an entertaining characteristic." When communication is performed? After Imam Hussein and his family suffer martyrdom in Muharram all of Shiite will be angrier from another group of Muslims (Sunni) that way they are sad he martyrdom in unlawful time and this is mistake of Yazid (enemy of Imam Hussein) that he starts war in this month.

Best time for performed Taziyeh is 1st Muharram till 10th but this is depend on which area and which kind of Shiite wants to performed it for example Indian Shiite in Kashmir 2 days before Muharram is come started to performed and till 7 days after Imam Hussein martyrdom that is mean 17 Muharram every years and in Rasht North of Iran they performed Taziyeh from one day before Muharram till to only 2 days after Imam Hussein martyrdom.

"Each of the first ten days of Muharram is the occasion for the staging of different performances depicting the death of each of the relatives and supporters of Imam Hussein? Typically on the day of Āshurā a synoptic performance is given where all of the martyrs' deaths are presented in a single recounting. Usually first night they performed Taziyeh of begin of Imam Hussein journey to Karabala. Gabriel and another angles from god is come and they want to he will be martyrdom in Ashura. This small story introduces love of god to Imam Hussein. (Zukerman,1994:213).

Muharram in Arabic calendar is changed to season by season on the year. that mean is one year for example Muharaam is 10th December and next year 10 days is moving and is come 20th December. This fact of circling of Muharaam in the year it is set Muharaam one year is summer and another year is winter and Taziyeh has different situation for established especially in Iran.

Every Taziyeh has time between two or three hours in the night and every 45 minute one Ruzeh khan (who sing sad communication) sing a mourning song about that night story and suffering of Imam Hussein and his family.

One week before the Muharram every shop and market has a block flog in his wall and somebody wear block cloth but this is depend on state in Iran and a few suttee wear block dress from first day in Muharram.

In Muharram not only Taziyeh some many ceremony of Ashura starts with big drums, horns, banners, portraits of Hussein, large paintings, actors with costumes and the whole shebang to capture the mobs hearts and in every street they established one big Takiyeh.

Muharaam is the holy month for Shiite because in Muharram Imam Hussein and his party were ambushed by Yazid's troops and forced to swear an oath of allegiance to the Sunni leader as the price of their freedom.

Tradition has it that this took place on the first day of the month of Muharram. For ten days, Hussein's company was cut off from water in the scorching desert of Karbala. Despite the knowledge that his supporters in Kufa had abandoned him after being terrorized by Yazid's army, Hussein refused to take the oath. On the tenth day, after an intense battle, all the male members but one of Hussein's parties was savagely killed. Their heads were cut off and taken as trophies to Yazid in Damascus, while the female members of the party were taken hostage. The battle at Karbala and its aftermath precipitated the definitive schism of the Sunni and Shiite Islamic branches.

In Muharram those days is important first day, 9th all male of Imam Hussein family martyrdom, 10th Imam Hussein martyrdom and his female family was sent to shaam (capital of Sunny in that time) 13th Zinab sister of Imam Hussein addressing for all of Muslim in sham, 17th is seven days after Imam Hussein is martyrdom and is holy day for Shiite.

Time for performed Taziyeh mostly is Muharaam but in depend on situation of group suppose in Muharram of people of all of level is come for performed Taziyeh and this is spiritual reward but we have professional Taziyeh group that they live and they performed for money.

Professional Taziyeh group doesn't have certain time and they performed for invitation in people house or in grave for make happy death spirit. Usually in Iran we have 3 time ceremony after die 3rd, 7th, and 40th. People believe it if performed on the grave his or her soul will be happy.

In the 19 century after influence western Theater in Iran few group established for Happy Taziyeh that means they wants to show religious happy story of Shiite to audience. They select happy story from Prophet Muhammad life and his family for example wedding of daughter of Prophet Muhammad with Imam Ali in Taziyeh.

Taziyeh is a ceremony held in the month of Muharaam, every performed between 2-3 hours and to mourn the tragedy of Ashura, which took place on the 10th day of Muharaam when Imam Hussein, the third Imam of Prophet Mohammad infallible household was martyred in Karbala along with his 72 companions in an unequal battle with the ruler of the time.

"Performances may be long or short, but they often take place all day, particularly on the ninth and tenth days of the Islamic month of Muharram, called Tasuâ and Âshurâ respectively, the latter being the day of the martyrdom of Imam Hussein.

Research method

Everybody can performed Taziyeh because this is such as pray for God and his prophet Muhammad and his grandson Imam Hussein and suppose all of members live in the villages it depend on his face or his size director select that who also is one of elder of members of village.

Female rule is forbidden to give to women's because in Islam and exclusively in Shiite women cannot sing song and it has sin for them.

"Performers in women's parts wear baggy black garments which cover them from head to toe. Since female roles are played by men, the voluminous robes and veils also provide concealment. Women rule performing with men and they play such dramas, once dispersed throughout the Iran, has been paid attention since the 150 years ago.

Those men (women) have been well thought of by people although they have sometimes been banned from performing any plays during these years due to religious reasons.

Imam Hussein rule or another character is not fixed for anybody and my be director change it for next year but director chose everybody with his ability and actors were chosen for their physical attributes. Protagonists playing Hussein for example, were expected to be tall with broad shoulders and fine beards for people. (Vermeiren, R., schwab, S.,2005:243)

In Taziyeh who is writer in Persian language called Maghtal Nevis he has to be emotion and fundamental person and he show so many scenes that doesn't have any real background. He wants to cry and touched audience more.\

In Taziyeh who is director in Persian language called Nazem al Boka he is also stage director and he has to manage all of rules and time space and costume and make up or rhythm of song in dialogues.

Taziyeh performed 150 years back with government helping for established for people and they pay money for custom and all tools on the stage.

Argues the resistance of the clerical is class to Ta'ziyeh performances may have been more professional than ideological. The Ta'ziyeh provided an outlet that, though religious, was more [popularly] favorable than the religious instruction Given by the religious person. The first famous judgment was given by Mirza Abul-Qasem ibn Hassan Gilani who died in 1815-16 CE. He was one of the most important religious authorities of the Qajar period and well respected by the Shah and his ministers. In answer to the

question of whether it is "lawful on the days of Ashura to play the roles of the Imam or the enemies of the Family of the Prophet in order to induce the people to weep?" he issued a fatwa (religious order) for Taziyeh."

Children rule is available in Taziyeh because Imam Hussein has a son is six month years old that who martyrdom in karbala named is Ali Ashghar and he has nephew and niece. Usually 4 or 16 kid play those rule almost that time Imam Hussein family after Ashura went to shaam(Syria).For example hundred years back in Rasht (north of Iran) a Taziyeh group name is Samsaam. It use 16 kid for all children rules for performance one the stage for that scene they are captive. Usually children between 12 to 14 years old performed female rules in Taziyeh because they have body like women and his voice is such as ladies. They used Borgheh(face covered) to hidden his face for audience. (Storey, J., & Billingham, J.2001:67)

"This could and did cause casting problems, however, since a fine singing voice was necessary to complement the pleasing physique of a hero. Young boys with good vocal skills who began by playing girl's roles in the Taziyeh khaani or Shabiyeh khaani, often assumed the parts of young men after their voices changed. If a young actor did not attain the stature deemed compatible with a heroic part or if his voice retained a feminine quality, he would continue to play female characters. Baani is the producer for Taziyeh. He is a rich of shopkeeper in that area and he is very well-known for people and he has to never time used drink and any of evil work in this street or locality.

He has to come before starting or begin of Taziyeh and say some word about this group and he swear in front of people all of things in this Taziyeh is for him and nothing is unlawful and he has to bless for members and people is come and curse to Imam Hussein enemies. Every night he has to come on the stage and say some word and addressing for people and curse to Yazid and bless for Imam Hussein family and everybody following him this word name is Hadis kardan. (Galanter,2006:137)

Nosekkeh khan is name of everyone wants to be actor and everybody wants to performed but they have to say some dialogue if not and only on the stage sit or walking same friend of Zinab they call him Nash. He is only mere numbers and noses on stage. Zan khan is that one play female actor like Zinab and mother of Ghasem, bride, Huriyeh...Bache khan is somebody is kid and children only for show that Yazid soldiers are very cruel and they killed kids on war.

Discussion

Mazlum khan is somebody of Imam Hussein friend and his following in Karbala and they wear green color on the stage. Ashghiaa is those actor they performed on the stage rule of enemy for Imam Hussein and evil personality for fight but one things is wonderful before Taziyeh has been started .they come on the stage and curse to him because they are sad and apologize from god ,they performed this rule.

Everybody is performed has to sing song all of his dialogue because they have to be well voce for delivery dialogue. Everybody play some rule of Imam Hussein friend has to sing some song very sad and sorrow and worry but for Imam Hussein enemy this is very happy communication and more laughing and his voice is very strong,

In Muharram every avenue or street has Takiyeh two or three sometime more than this. This place is not need to help from government in till history. Somebody in the year has vow or oblation.

He or she keeps it in his pocket till to Muharram after that pay for Takiyeh (small house and temporary for mourning).Every Takiyeh has two ways has for organized Taziyeh for mourning in this avenue or street: First way it chosen that his mangier select somebody they like performed Taziyeh and teach grammar of singing or delivery dialogue.

More Taziyeh in Muharaam in Iran is like it and we call itself determined group. Second way is that Takiyeh invite a professional group from another famous Takiyeh. This way is more expensive for people live on this street but in the high class area maybe is happened.

Taziyeh help to remember all happen in Muharram because somebody believes it history is repeat in during the time. That is means they says every time maybe Ashura event and myrmidon for Islam come back again and for all the time New Yazid is there and we need new Imam Hussein for fight with somebody in darkness.

Religious leader try to remember it for people. They want every year people cry for Imam Hussein and curse to his killer for example Yazid and Umma.

"Taziyeh became a vehicle for expressing this vital and important concept of free will. As we had mentioned earlier, public Taziyeh originated in the efforts of Shiites to assert their political rights and draw a connection between the tyranny and oppression suffered by Imam Hussein and that suffered by them. Having a similar situation requires acting in a similar manner.

So, out of the Taziyeh (mourning) movement arouse a theatrical representation of the events at Karbala, called Taziyeh Khani(a drama for mourning). This has been one of the greatest weapons of the Shia throughout the years for inspiring resistance against the oppressors and renewing our bonds of faith and faithfulness to Islam.

The justice of Allah has always been one of the pillars of belief in Shiite Islam. Allah is just and no injustice can be attributed to him. The opinion of many of our great Islamic scholars has likewise supported the Taziyeh performances for Allah.

Another benefit and answer for why performed Taziyeh of Imam Hussein also creates a continuity of experience between the Muslims and their leaders, making each generation feel as if they were with the Imams and the Prophet Mohammad.

Taziyeh teach to all of Muslim and Shiite that the central theme of these plays is the conflict between good and evil, or right and wrong, persevering for the belief of Heavenly Justice. The protagonist of a Taziyeh prefers death over life lived under oppression.

Ashura today consists of the remembrance and performance of this bloody day's events, and the details around it. Hussein is seen as a symbol of bravery and ultimate martyrdom in the face of injustice, a powerful theme which re-presents itself in various forms, through the epochs.

The tragedy was back the death of Imam Hussein and his male children and companions in a brutal massacre on the plain of Karbala, (about 60 miles south of modern day Baghdad in Iraq) in the year 680 AD.

In every Taziyeh we have religious myth and narrative is in the poem language and audience has background knowledge about religious stories if not they cannot understand more of allusion and element and symbolic sentences. (Folkman& Lazarus,1984:65).

Taziyeh doesn't show only a religious story and pivot for tazyeh is continue of life in war between divine by counting beads at random that is means good and evil.

Main rule in Taziyeh prefers to death in under sovereignty of oppressor in life but all of champion in Taziyeh doesn't show this image in power. They do cry more for sympathy. Paradise is most important for Taziyeh champions they show it value in war between good and evil and they try to respect for human moral distinction and major rules can decided.

"Ancient Iranian rituals and ceremonies are at the root of Taziyeh, specifically Soog-e-Syavash (a sacred theatrical mourning ritual). Syavash was an Iranian mythological hero whose destiny was marked by tragedy and destitution.

Upon his death, a mesmerizing hymn commemorated Syavash's sad tale. The hymn maintained its importance up to the 3rd century (Hejri), apparently from the All-e-Booyeh Dynasty and on. As a result of the growth of the Shi'ite movement it became a part of the Shiite Persian ritual.

During the Safavi-yeh Dynasty (10th century), Taziyeh's popularity grew tremendously as it took a more theatrical form; by the end of the Zandi-yeh Dynasty (11th century) it taken on a form approximate to its contemporary one."(Peter Chelkowski, *Taziyeh: The Total Drama*, Moscow Publish, Moscow, 1987, p131)

In Taziyeh we have big glorious portrait of the loving those Myth like Abolfazl Hazrat Abbas (Hussein's right hand and his uncle). These portraits are pure fictional and far from historical realities Abbas had his both hands cut off by Yazid in battle yet still was fighting with his teeth.

More tradition has it that this took place on the first day of the month of Muharram. For ten days, Hussein's company was cut off from water in the scorching desert of Karbala.

2. Conclusion and Results

We can see despite the knowledge that his supporters in Kufa had abandoned him after being terrorized by Yazid's army; Hussein refused to take the oath. On the tenth day, after an intense battle, all the male members but one of Hussein's parties was savagely killed.

In karbala his head were cut off and taken as trophies to Yazid in Damascus, while the female members of the party were taken hostage. The battle at Karbala and its aftermath precipitated the definitive schism of the Sunni and Shiite Islamic branches.

The Prince of Martyrs (Hussein) death does not always conclude the essential Taziyeh repertory.

Performances may continue after Ashura to depict the sorrowful destiny of the female members of Hussein's family who were taken as captives to Damascus. Yazid and Shemr killing all of Shiite myth this is show to us he is most evil person for Shiite all and he kill Seyeds (Descendants of Prophet Mohammed).

After Shemr was beheading Hussein and killed his young son Yazidis capturing Hussein's family to shaam Zeynab myth the women and Seyedehs fighting with evils, covered with chadors on their heads and Neqabs (cover) on their faces in Taziyeh and she is Mythical Shiite Bull Shiite stories.

All element of Taziyeh did develop political and cultural themes but all performances hark back to the martyrdoms at Karbala, especially of Hussein, the grandson of Prophet Mohammad. Because Shiites revere Hussein's death as redemption and consider participation in Taziyeh, either as actors or spectators, as pious acts that would gain them intercession on the Day of Judgment, the dramas remain magnetic. (Collins,2008:12).

Taziyeh in History has different event for example during Second World War and for many years thereafter, the political and social conditions did not allow for public recitation. Hence, the devout Shiite held private ceremony.

The first Taziyeh so many religious leader thinking was held by Imam Hussein's sister, Seyyeda Zainab and his son, the fourth Imam, Zainul Abideen.

Taziyeh can be found in the stories of pre-Islamic heroes, Rostam and Siavash. Stories which are, at heart, legends from Zoroastrian times handed down through Ferdosi's Shahnameh.

Perhaps the habit of eulogizing heroes simply got transferred. Another sign of non-Islamic influence is the imagery – fantasy portraits of the Imam Hussein full-bearded but with glowing almond eyes, almost feminine – an unquestionably Persian beauty."

3. Conclusions

So at last, many my non Iranian friend ask me that what the purpose of crying for people who lived and died 1200 years ago? Suggesting we forget all about it and move on. To do this would be to forget about Islam. In fact, crying for Imam Hussein is so desirable, that it equated with the rewards of worship of Allah.

Never time Taziyeh has divorce any element of religion from itself:

"Taziyeh has never lost its religious implications. Because early Shiites viewed Hussein's death as a sacred redemptive act, the performance of the Muharram ceremonies was believed to be an aid to salvation; later they also believed that participation, both by actors and spectators, in the Taziyeh dramas would gain them Hussein's intercession on the day of the Last Judgment.(Bandura,1999:34)

Imam Hussein is one of the intermediary and communicating between Allah and people. They wants to resort with Taziyeh to be clear his any sin but if they mourning for Imam Hussein, Allah forgive them. Taziyeh with sorrow song and some sad sentence can do it.

Islam is the world's second largest religion with a world following of one billion people but we don't have more kind of Islamic drama in the world. Taziyeh is the first Theatrical religious drama with all of tools.

Taziyeh is a belief performance and all of things for preparer it is come from people and everybody with love has bring food and all the things performer need on the stage. Some time who has any good voice who has any instrument in the year for accepted and granted between people is come and help to Taziyeh group and they has to be participating.

After Islamic republic revolution in Iran all of Taziyeh performer had been very happy because in past time any government doesn't like religious performance and this revolution had changed his life. But after revolution so many of Iranian religious leader does give any permeation to Taziyeh group for performing because they thinking Taziyeh is disrespect and dishonor to Islamic heroes.

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