

## **Dawi's role in Siraj al-Akhbar and Aman Afghan**

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### **Abstract**

Abdul HadiDawi is one of the great celebrities of poetry, literature, politics, media and one of the important figures of the constitutionalism movement.

When he was youth, by observing the state of society and the country, He took part in the country's constitutionalism movement and he is in Mahmoud Tarzi's period, and with his pen, creation and action, he becomes a helper of the freedom seekers.

The fight against colonialism, tyranny and superstition is the most important goal in Siraj Al-Akhbar. This editor of Siraj Al-Akhbar is trying to gain independence by sacrificing his life.

According to Siraj Al-Akhbar and Aman Afghan, Abdul HadiDawi is a journalist committed to awakening and enlightenment. He is an active colleague of Mahmoud Tarzi in Siraj Al-Akhbar. Due to his mastery and familiarity with Urdu, English, Turkish and French languages, he boosts the translation movement. Articles and works translated from foreign languages prove this fact.

After Afghanistan's independence (1919), Siraj Al-Akhbar continues to publish under the name "Aman Afghan". The first responsible director of "Aman Afghan" is Abdul HadiDawi. Aman Afghan is actually the continuation of Siraj Al-Akhbar and the perpetuator of the mission and goals of this important publication.

Since Dawi is a role player in Siraj Al-Akhbar and Aman Afghan and is committed to cultural development; In this article, I try to review Dawi's record as a journalist.

**Keywords:** Tarzi, Siraj Al-Akhbar, Dawi, Aman Afghan.

### **Introduction**

"Siraj Al-Akhbar" reflects the ideal of the constitutionalists and is continuously published until the threshold of independence. Siraj al-Akhbar not only plays a key role in the fight against tyranny and colonialism, but also transforms journalism into a powerful and influential stream and gives new life to literature and journalism.

Tarzi and his colleagues such as Davy, Ludin, etc. take firm steps to place literary realism instead of romanticism. Dealing with social thoughts is the central solution of this political and literary process.

With the achievement of Afghanistan's independence (1919), a very deep and fundamental transformation takes place in various aspects of people's lives - especially in the press sector. At this time, the press reaches an unexpected growth stage in terms of quantity and quality. Freedom of speech is born. Intellectuals support their national government and great steps are taken towards modernism. The first constitution is approved under the name of the (NEZAM NAMA), and the discussion of a law-abiding society and law-based work is the most important achievement of the AMANEYA period.

The most important publication of this period is the weekly government newspaper "Aman Afghan" and its first editor/chief is Abdul HadiDawi. At the top of the goals of Aman Afghan is the promotion of legalism and the expansion of education, knowledge and cultural awareness. The report of Shah Amanullah's trip reflects continuously. At such a time, Aman Afghan is at the forefront of all government and independent publications in the center and provinces. This streaming shows Davy's knowledge and ability in the field of media.

According to such documented facts, the purpose of this research is to find out how Abdul HadiDawi's activity in the field of press, especially in Siraj Al-Akhbar and Aman Afghan. This means that this article is exclusively media-oriented. The basic question of this research text is how Dawi's career is related to the identity of a professional journalist.

The author's research method is of the library type, which evaluates Dawi's career in the field of media with an analytical and descriptive approach. The sources of this research are authentic historical, cultural and literary works.

### **Mahmoud Tarzi**

Mahmoud Tarzi returned to Afghanistan in 1903 after twenty-three years away from his homeland during the reign of Habibullah Khan (1280-1297) - while he was influenced by the thoughts of SayyedJamaluddin Afghan and the patriotic movements of that time.

At the beginning, Mahmoud Tarzi gave some useful advice to Amir to correct some issues, among which is the re-publishing of "Siraj Al-Akhbar" magazine.

With the acceptance and support of the Amir, Mahmoud Tarzi once again published Siraj al-Akhbar with new quality and lofty goals in the year (1290) and establishes the foundation of the modern press in Afghanistan.

From the very beginning, this magazine became the forum of freedom seekers and intellectuals of Afghanistan and created a reformist movement in the country (Mohsani, 67:1395) and spread the culture of fighting against colonialism in neighboring countries. Davi's career as Tarzi's colleague in Siraj Al-Akhbar is decorated with such honors.

### **Siraj Al-Akhbar**

Siraj Al-Akhbar newspaper (1918-1911) continued its publication every fifteen days for seven years and three months (Sakhawarz, 2016:22). Tarzi gets help from two intellectuals, one is Abdul Hadi Davi and the other is Abdul Rahman Ludin in the work of Siraj Al-Akhbar. Davi and Abdul Rahman Ludin's familiarity with several languages makes them translate interesting materials from Urdu, English, Turkish, French into Persian and publish them in Siraj Al-Akhbar.

"Siraj Al-Akhbar" plays an extremely big role in the formation and evolution of the creation of original works of constitutional writers. Afghan intellectuals reflect their social thoughts in this important publication to develop the intellectual revolution among the society.

Mahmoud Tarzi's mission and goals of "Seraj Al-Akhbar" publishing house are based on such axes:

- Making people aware of the country's events and incidents.
- Translation of the works of the authors of the East and the West, in order to familiarize the people of Afghanistan with the thought, culture, new sciences and world thought of the 19th and 20th centuries.
- teaching simple and scientific writing style.
- Creation of the history writing movement.
- Research on the history of Afghan literature.
- Research about the Dari language and its evolution.
- Tracking and compiling research articles in the field of poetry, prose, social, scientific and political issues, promoting a critical attitude. Due to the dark atmosphere, Tarzi along with his colleagues Abdul Hadi Dawi and Abdul Rahman Ludin, with political and cultural tact, keep "Seraj Al-Akhbar" burning. In other words, not only tyranny and thinking combined with petrification oppose the publication of "Siraj Al-Akhbar", but colonialism spares no efforts to extinguish this torch of awakening.

It should be noted that in addition to Tarzi, the great philosopher and thinker of the half-continent, Alama Iqbal was also effective in the formation of Dawi's literary, political and libertarian personality.

One of the parts of social reforms at this time is the role of women and raising children in society. As Mahmoud Tarzi's student and assistant, Davi plays an important role in enlightening people's minds about the presence and role of women and the education of children. Six issues of Siraj al-Akhbar are published under the management of Abdul Hadi Dawi, although it is attached to Siraj al-Akhbar, but its news and goals are completely independent. This publication is mostly sent to schools to polish the minds of children and students.

### **Aman Afghan**

Aman Afghan is a news, political and social magazine in Persian language that was published in Kabul between 1298-1307/1919-1928.

This magazine came into existence in Hamal (April 1919/1298) after the closure of Siraj Al-Akhbar newspaper (Habibi, 1367: 181). Its first responsible director is Abdul Hadi Dawi, who named the newspaper "Aman Afghan" with the inspiration of the Shah's name when Amanullah Khan (1928-1919) took office. The closeness of this newspaper to the government apparatus practically turns it into the official offices of Amanullah Khan.

"This magazine is published in 3 separate periods, in the first period, it is published once every 15 days, and in the following periods, it takes the form of a weekly newspaper." (Habibi, 1367: 184). During the three stages of publication of Aman Afghan, several editors published it in order. The chief editors of Aman Afghan are: Abdul Hadi Dawi, Mohammad Khan Farhat, Abdul Jabar Khan, Mir Syed Qasim Khan, Ghulam Ahmad and Ghulam Nabi Jalalabadi.

"Aman Afghan, in each issue, contains news, editorials, notes, scientific and informative articles, speeches and official statements of government officials, serial stories, short stories and announcements. (Rahin, 243:1387).

Aman Afghan newspaper, deeply influenced by Siraj al-Akhbar Afghanistan, tries to present the same lofty goals and because Siraj al-Akhbar Afghanistan, it presents booklets to its compatriots in the name of the gift of the year in the celebration of Afghanistan's independence.

Finally, in the fall of 1307, following the rebellion and disturbance of the Afghan tribes against Amanullah Khan and his escape to Kandahar, the publication of Aman Afghan also came to an end. The last editor of Aman Afghan is Ghulam Nabi Jalalabadi, who was killed in the power struggle.

### Davy's role as a journalist

One of the characteristics of a professional journalist is the stimulation of public emotions. Journalist and poet, and poet-journalist arouse people's emotions and feelings with such art:

« سنجش از پندار نشناسی هنوز  
خویش را بسیار نشناسی هنوز  
خون چکان ز انگشت‌ها وز سادگی  
فرق گل از خار نشناسی هنوز » (حبیب، ۱۳۶۶: ۱۵۱)

Davi writes in one of his editorials in Aman Afghan:

« آتش به دو دست خویش در خرمن خویش  
چون خود زده ام چه نالم از دشمن خویش »

In all the world, the enemy of home; the snake is the most amazing opponent, which delivers its most deadly blows to the thinnest parts of the body. Until today, to cut down the tree of goodness in the world of Islam, every ax handed over by the hand of ours from our society". (Davi, 1:1299).

The second specialty of a professional journalist is breaking molds and stereotypes. In other words, saying new words and making new plans, breaking norms is the essence of a professional journalist's work. Enlightenment and literary modernity in the first two decades of the 20th century are indicative of this particularity. Undoubtedly, Mahmoud Tarzi is the first person to introduce content poetry in Afghanistan. New poetry is not only accepted by everyone in Afghanistan, but the situation in neighboring countries also provides the conditions to welcome this new alternative. The poets of the region are informed about each other's situation through publications and newspapers. (Sakhavarz, 2006: 100).

One of the pioneers in the field of poetry at the beginning of the 20th century in Afghanistan is Abdul Hadi Dawi. By knowing Turkish, Arabic and English languages, Dawi can optimally use the sources of poetry and literature and foreign politics and present rich poems. Constitutionalist poets can change the intellectual foundation of poetry and move poetry from the romantic environment to the social environment.

The third characteristic of a journalist is to express the unsaid. Due to this characteristic, Davi, like a professional journalist, always wants to reveal the secrets behind the scenes and show the other side of the coin, so to speak. Uncovering, uncovering secrets, finding out the cause of incidents and events are the tools of journalistic work. Dawi is the embodiment of such a characteristic.

In addition to journalistic features, Abdul Hadi Dawi is a pioneer of purposeful poetry. The emphasis of the poem is aimed at gaining knowledge. According to such mission, Dawi's cry is based on awakening, awareness and acquiring knowledge and he even shouted to AMIR:

« در وطن گر معرفت بسیار می‌شد بد نبود  
چاره‌ی این ملت بیمار می‌شد بد نبود  
این شب غفلت که تار و مار می‌شد بد نبود »

چشم پُر خوابت اگر بیدار می‌شد بد نبود

With his journalistic work, in writing and processing events and news, Davi knows no borders and is not afraid of prison, torture and death in carrying out this mission.

Just as Dawi tries to enlighten people's minds in Siraj Al-Akhbar, he continues this effort in Aman Afghan. Davi believes: "The news enlightens the thoughts of the people, wakes up the sleepy eyes, and shows those who have woken up from sleep, those who are trembling on their feet, the way and style of behavior" (Davi, 3: 1299) the way of fighting against tyranny and colonialism, this characteristic is the literature of the Enlightenment.

### Conclusion

The foundation of the modern press in Afghanistan is founded by Mahmoud Tarzi with the publication of Siraj Al-Akhbar magazine, and this magazine quickly becomes the platform of the freedom fighters and intellectuals of Afghanistan and creates the reformist movement in the country.

Abdul Hadi Dawi is one of Tarzi's active colleagues in the work of Siraj Al-Akhbar. They translate interesting content from foreign languages into Persian and publish it.

At that time, "Siraj Al-Akhbar" is the pulpit of the social, political and literary opinions of the constitutionalists. The constitutionalists are trying to ignite the intellectual revolution with sacrifice and cultural and social courage. Siraj al-Akhbar is so clear about gaining independence that it does not need arguments.

After the independence of the country, Aman Afghan newspaper was established in April (1919) after the closure of Siraj Al-Akhbar newspaper. The first manager responsible for it is Abdul Hadi Davi.

"Aman Afghan" magazine pursues the same main and main goals of Siraj Al-Akhbar Afghani, i.e. independence, nationalism, modernism, decolonization, unity and development of Muslim countries. With the difference that Siraj al-Akhbar uses it as a weapon to gain independence, the mission of Aman Afghan is to preserve Afghanistan's independence, progress and development.

The modern press of the Amani period nurtures a generation of freedom-seekers and fighters; The generation that in the following years, when civil liberties are taken away, will sacrifice their lives to regain freedom, rule of law and modernity.

Aman Afghan, like Siraj al-Akhbar, also leaves an important impact in the field of literature and can be the manifestation of the first literary experiences in Afghanistan.

As a professional journalist, Dawi can develop cultural and social awareness with realism by writing articles, poems, editing and promoting as an editor in Siraj Al-Akhbar magazine and editor in chief in Aman Afghan.

Breaking the norms, breaking the mold and creating a new plan, is one of the characteristics of the young journalist Dawi. Davi is one of the pioneers of modern journalism and modern poetry in Dari Persian literature.

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