

METRICAL ANALYSIS OF THE POEMS

Tables I-XII (see Appendix) show the use of different types of verses in the poems of the six poets. I have included only those poems which have four or more verses, and in the case of the larger collection of Abū Muḥammad, only those poems which have eight or more verses. As in MSRP I and 2, I have taken only the longest variant into consideration when there have been several variants of the same poem (e.g., al-Qulākh no. 6a and 7a are analyzed, 6b and 7b are not). Note that in the case of Dukayn, only those poems which are attributed to Dukayn ibn Raḡā' (or to Dukayn only, which probably indicates Dukayn ibn Raḡā') are analysed, thus leaving nos. 18 and 25 aside.

The following tables show the ratio of acatalectic and catalectic verses counted in the whole corpus (i.e. including fragments of less than four verses):

| | | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------|--------|-----------------------|--------|
| | Khiṭām ¹⁶⁷ | | Dukayn | |
| | fragments | verses | fragments | verses |
| acatalectic | 1 | 24 | 16 | 110 |
| catalectic | 1 | 16 | 9 | 75 |
| | al-Qulākh | | Abū Muḥammad | |
| | fragments | verses | fragments | verses |
| acatalectic | 5 ¹⁶⁸ | 36 | 23 | 218 |
| catalectic | 6 | 36 | 33 | 184 |
| | Manzūr | | Himyān ¹⁶⁹ | |
| | fragments | verses | fragments | verses |
| acatalectic | 9 | 51 | 12 | 112 |
| catalectic | 17 | 192 | 6 | 29 |

In the following, the acatalectic verses and the catalectic verses are analysed separately. The above table, compared with the respective tables in MSRP I, p. 90, and MSRP II, p. 85, shows that Manzūr seems to have had a relatively strong preference for the catalectic variant of raḡaz even if we take into account the fact that the only two (almost) complete poems of Manzūr are both written in catalectic verse and together comprise 110 verses. Even excluding these poems, Manzūr uses catalectic raḡaz almost twice as often as acatalectic.

¹⁶⁷ The small number of Khiṭām's poems naturally makes the statistics of little use, but I have still included him for the sake of consistency.

¹⁶⁸ I have taken no. 2 as acatalectic, but it could as well be read as catalectic.

¹⁶⁹ The small number of Himyān's catalectic verses makes the statistics a very unreliable basis for any conclusions.

Acatalectic verses

The frequency of the individual foot patterns as the 1st, 2nd and 3rd feet in the poems of Khiṭām are:

| pattern | 1st | % | 2nd | % | 3rd | % | total | % |
|---------|----------|------|----------|------|-----------|------|-----------|------|
| ˘˘˘- | - | - | - | - | 1 | 4.2 | 1 | 1.4 |
| ˘-˘- | 8 | 33.3 | 6 | 25 | 10 | 41.7 | 24 | 33.3 |
| -˘˘- | 8 | 33.3 | 10 | 41.7 | 1 | 4.2 | 19 | 26.4 |
| --˘- | <u>8</u> | 33.3 | <u>8</u> | 33.3 | <u>12</u> | 50 | <u>28</u> | 38.9 |
| total | 24 | | 24 | | 24 | | 72 | |

The frequency of the individual foot patterns as the 1st, 2nd and 3rd feet in the poems of Dukayn are:

| pattern | 1st | % | 2nd | % | 3rd | % | total | % |
|---------|-----------|------|-----------|------|-----------|------|------------|------|
| ˘˘˘- | 3 | 3.2 | 5 | 5.4 | 6 | 6.5 | 14 | 5.0 |
| ˘-˘- | 24 | 25.8 | 17 | 18.3 | 37 | 39.8 | 78 | 28.0 |
| -˘˘- | 21 | 22.6 | 33 | 35.5 | 11 | 11.8 | 65 | 23.3 |
| --˘- | <u>45</u> | 48.4 | <u>38</u> | 40.9 | <u>39</u> | 41.9 | <u>122</u> | 43.7 |
| total | 93 | | 93 | | 93 | | 279 | |

The frequency of the individual foot patterns as the 1st, 2nd and 3rd feet in the poems of al-Qulākh are:

| pattern | 1st | % | 2nd | % | 3rd | % | total | % |
|---------|-----------|------|-----------|------|-----------|------|-----------|------|
| ˘˘˘- | 2 | 5.9 | - | - | 1 | 2.9 | 3 | 2.9 |
| ˘-˘- | 15 | 44.1 | 5 | 14.7 | 12 | 35.3 | 32 | 31.4 |
| -˘˘- | 5 | 14.7 | 16 | 47.1 | 6 | 17.6 | 27 | 26.5 |
| --˘- | <u>12</u> | 35.5 | <u>13</u> | 38.2 | <u>15</u> | 44.1 | <u>40</u> | 39.2 |
| total | 34 | | 34 | | 34 | | 102 | |

The frequency of the individual foot patterns as the 1st, 2nd and 3rd feet in the poems of Abū Muḥammad are:

| pattern | 1st | % | 2nd | % | 3rd | % | total | % |
|---------|-----------|------|-----------|------|-----------|------|------------|------|
| ˘˘˘- | 6 | 3.4 | 4 | 2.2 | 3 | 1.7 | 13 | 2.4 |
| ˘-˘- | 66 | 37.1 | 15 | 8.4 | 77 | 43.3 | 158 | 29.6 |
| -˘˘- | 45 | 25.3 | 75 | 42.1 | 14 | 7.9 | 134 | 25.1 |
| --˘- | <u>61</u> | 34.4 | <u>84</u> | 47.2 | <u>84</u> | 47.2 | <u>229</u> | 42.3 |
| total | 178 | | 178 | | 178 | | 534 | |

The frequency of the individual foot patterns as the 1st, 2nd and 3rd feet in the poems of Manẓūr are:

| pattern | 1st | % | 2nd | % | 3rd | % | total | % |
|---------|-----------|------|-----------|------|-----------|------|-----------|------|
| ˘ ˘ ˘ - | 2 | 4.3 | 1 | 2.2 | 1 | 2.2 | 4 | 2.9 |
| ˘ - ˘ - | 11 | 23.9 | 5 | 10.9 | 20 | 43.5 | 36 | 26.1 |
| - ˘ ˘ - | 6 | 13.0 | 16 | 34.8 | 1 | 2.2 | 23 | 16.7 |
| - - ˘ - | <u>27</u> | 58.7 | <u>24</u> | 52.2 | <u>24</u> | 52.2 | <u>75</u> | 54.3 |
| total | 46 | | 46 | | 46 | | 138 | |

The frequency of the individual foot patterns as the 1st, 2nd and 3rd feet in the poems of Himyān are:

| pattern | 1st | % | 2nd | % | 3rd | % | total | % |
|---------|-----------|------|-----------|------|-------------------|------|-----------|------|
| ˘ ˘ ˘ - | 2 | 2.2 | 4 | 4.3 | 1 | 1.1 | 7 | 2.5 |
| ˘ - ˘ - | 36 | 39.1 | 16 | 17.4 | 67 ¹⁷⁰ | 72.8 | 119 | 43.1 |
| - ˘ ˘ - | 22 | 23.9 | 30 | 32.6 | - | - | 52 | 18.8 |
| - - ˘ - | <u>32</u> | 34.8 | <u>42</u> | 45.7 | <u>24</u> | 26.1 | <u>98</u> | 35.5 |
| total | 92 | | 92 | | 92 | | 276 | |

In the level of syllables, we obtain the following statistics for the six poets (taking into account only the syllables which can be chosen freely, i.e. the first two in the foot):

| | Khiṭām | % | Dukayn | % |
|-------|-----------|-------|------------|------|
| ˘ | 45 | 31.25 | 171 | 30.6 |
| - | <u>99</u> | 68.75 | <u>387</u> | 69.4 |
| total | 144 | | 558 | |

| | al-Qulākh | % | Abū Muḥammad | % |
|-------|------------|------|--------------|------|
| ˘ | 65 | 31.9 | 318 | 29.8 |
| - | <u>139</u> | 68.1 | <u>750</u> | 70.2 |
| total | 204 | | 1068 | |

| | Manẓūr | % | Himyān | % |
|-------|------------|------|------------|------|
| ˘ | 67 | 24.3 | 185 | 33.5 |
| - | <u>209</u> | 75.7 | <u>367</u> | 66.5 |
| total | 276 | | 552 | |

A comparison of the above tables and the tables in MSRP I, p. 91, and MSRP II, p. 85-87, corroborates the preliminary results given in MSRP II, p. 87.

¹⁷⁰ The uncommonly high percentage of this type of foot is due to the long poem no. 6 where the rhyme (-āKiḡā) strongly favours this final foot.

Catalectic verses

The frequency of the individual foot patterns as the 1st, 2nd and 3rd feet in the poems of Khiṭām are:

| pattern | 1st | % | 2nd | % | 3rd | % | total | % |
|---------|-----|------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-------|------|
| ˘ ˘ ˘ - | - | - | 1 | 6.25 | - | - | 1 | 3.1 |
| ˘ - ˘ - | 8 | 50 | 1 | 6.25 | - | - | 9 | 28.1 |
| - ˘ ˘ - | 6 | 37.5 | 5 | 31.25 | - | - | 11 | 34.4 |
| - - ˘ - | 2 | 12.5 | 9 | 56.25 | - | - | 11 | 34.4 |
| ˘ - - | - | - | - | - | 9 | 56.25 | - | - |
| - - - | - | - | - | - | 7 | 43.75 | - | - |
| total | 16 | | 16 | | 16 | | 32 | |

The frequency of the individual foot patterns as the 1st, 2nd and 3rd feet in the poems of Dukayn are:

| pattern | 1st | % | 2nd | % | 3rd | % | total | % |
|---------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-------|------|
| ˘ ˘ ˘ - | 4 | 6.0 | 2 | 3.0 | - | - | 6 | 4.5 |
| ˘ - ˘ - | 20 | 29.9 | 8 | 11.9 | - | - | 28 | 20.9 |
| - ˘ ˘ - | 14 | 20.9 | 33 | 49.3 | - | - | 47 | 35.1 |
| - - ˘ - | 29 | 43.3 | 24 | 35.8 | - | - | 53 | 39.6 |
| ˘ - - | - | - | - | - | 25 | 37.3 | - | - |
| - - - | - | - | - | - | 42 | 62.7 | - | - |
| total | 67 | | 67 | | 67 | | 134 | |

The frequency of the individual foot patterns as the 1st, 2nd and 3rd feet in the poems of al-Qulākh are:

| pattern | 1st | % | 2nd | % | 3rd | % | total | % |
|---------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-------|------|
| ˘ ˘ ˘ - | 1 | 2.9 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1.5 |
| ˘ - ˘ - | 12 | 35.3 | 7 | 20.6 | - | - | 19 | 27.9 |
| - ˘ ˘ - | 10 | 29.4 | 13 | 38.2 | - | - | 23 | 33.8 |
| - - ˘ - | 11 | 32.4 | 14 | 41.2 | - | - | 25 | 36.8 |
| ˘ - - | - | - | - | - | 23 | 67.6 | - | - |
| - - - | - | - | - | - | 11 | 32.4 | - | - |
| total | 34 | | 34 | | 34 | | 68 | |

The frequency of the individual foot patterns as the 1st, 2nd and 3rd feet in the poems of Abū Muḥammad are:

| pattern | 1st | % | 2nd | % | 3rd | % | total | % |
|---------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|---|-------|------|
| ˘ ˘ ˘ - | 2 | 1.9 | 2 | 1.9 | - | - | 4 | 1.9 |
| ˘ - ˘ - | 50 | 46.7 | 11 | 10.3 | - | - | 61 | 28.5 |
| - ˘ ˘ - | 19 | 17.8 | 38 | 35.5 | - | - | 57 | 26.6 |
| - - ˘ - | 36 | 33.6 | 56 | 52.3 | - | - | 92 | 43.0 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-----|---|-----|---|-----------|------|-----|---|
| ˘ - - | - | - | - | - | 66 | 61.7 | - | - |
| - - - | = | - | = | - | <u>41</u> | 38.3 | = | - |
| total | 107 | | 107 | | 107 | | 214 | |

The frequency of the individual foot patterns as the 1st, 2nd and 3rd feet in the poems of Manẓūr are:

| pattern | 1st | % | 2nd | % | 3rd | % | total | % |
|---------|-----|------|-----|------|-----------|------|-------|------|
| ˘ ˘ ˘ - | 5 | 2.9 | 10 | 5.8 | - | - | 15 | 4.4 |
| ˘ - ˘ - | 54 | 31.4 | 30 | 17.4 | - | - | 84 | 24.4 |
| - ˘ ˘ - | 38 | 22.1 | 68 | 39.5 | - | - | 106 | 30.8 |
| - - ˘ - | 75 | 43.6 | 64 | 37.2 | - | - | 139 | 40.4 |
| ˘ - - | - | - | - | - | 79 | 45.9 | - | - |
| - - - | = | - | = | - | <u>93</u> | 54.1 | = | - |
| total | 172 | | 172 | | 172 | | 214 | |

The frequency of the individual foot patterns as the 1st, 2nd and 3rd feet in the poems of Himyān are:

| pattern | 1st | % | 2nd | % | 3rd | % | total | % |
|---------|-----|------|-----|------|-----------|------|-------|------|
| ˘ ˘ ˘ - | 2 | 9.1 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 4.5 |
| ˘ - ˘ - | 7 | 31.8 | 1 | 4.5 | - | - | 8 | 18.2 |
| - ˘ ˘ - | 6 | 27.3 | 9 | 40.9 | - | - | 15 | 34.1 |
| - - ˘ - | 7 | 31.8 | 12 | 54.5 | - | - | 19 | 43.2 |
| ˘ - - | - | - | - | - | 9 | 40.9 | - | - |
| - - - | = | - | = | - | <u>13</u> | 59.1 | = | - |
| total | 22 | | 22 | | 22 | | 44 | |

In the level of syllables, we obtain the following statistics for the six poets (taking into account only the syllables which can be chosen freely, i.e. the first two in the foot):

| | Khiṭām | % | Dukayn | % |
|-------|-----------|-------|------------|------|
| ˘ | 31 | 38.75 | 112 | 33.4 |
| - | <u>49</u> | 61.25 | <u>223</u> | 66.6 |
| total | 80 | | 335 | |

| | al-Qulākh | % | Abū Muḥammad | % |
|-------|------------|------|--------------|------|
| ˘ | 67 | 39.4 | 192 | 35.9 |
| - | <u>103</u> | 60.6 | <u>343</u> | 64.1 |
| total | 170 | | 535 | |

| | Manẓūr | % | Himyān | % |
|-------|------------|------|-----------|------|
| ˘ | 299 | 34.8 | 36 | 32.7 |
| - | <u>561</u> | 65.2 | <u>74</u> | 67.3 |
| total | 860 | | 110 | |