

Oral Poetry and Narratives from Central Arabia: The Poetry of Ad-Dindan : A Bedouin Bard in Southern Najd (Studies in Arabic Literature, Vol 17)

Marcel Kurpershoek

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This work presents the complete collection of oral poetry by ad-Dind n, a bedouin poet of the Duw sir tribe in southern Najd, transcribed and translated on the basis of taped recordings. The text is representative of a poetic tradition which has remained remarkably close to the desert poetry of the early classical age. An extensive glossary, including detailed cross-references to the classical Arabic vocabulary, completes this edition. The introduction describes Dind n's somewhat anomalous position in local society as a result of his stubborn attachment to nomadism, his fierce artistic temper, and his unreconstructed bedouin ethos. It also discusses the composition of oral poetry, the d w n's themes and its place in the Najdi tradition, the impact of literacy on the poet's oral work, and the prosodic and linguistic features of the text."



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