

**MAWLAWI HAMIDULLAH HAMIDI BALKHI AS A SCHOLAR, POET, AND
WRITER: A LOOK AT THE MULTIFACETED PERSONALITY OF HAMIDI BALKHI**

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Abstract. *Mawlawi Hamidullah Hamidi Balkhi is one of the distinguished and multifaceted contemporary figures of Afghanistan who has played a prominent role in teaching Islamic sciences, promoting Islamic literature, and writing. This article seeks to analyze and examine the various dimensions of his personality—as a religious scholar, a poet committed to Islamic literature, and a thoughtful writer. Drawing upon his published works, poems, and writings, the study highlights the connection between religious commitment, scholarly expertise, and literary expression in his thought and writing. The findings of this research reveal that Hamidi Balkhi, by combining profound religious knowledge with high literary capacity, has had a significant impact on promoting Islamic values, awakening intellectual consciousness, and preserving the language and religious literature within Afghan society.*

His poetic style reflects his religious thoughts, lofty human values, and patriotic sentiments, while also maintaining a gentle, contemporary tone that observes appropriate social decency. One of the most notable characteristics of Mawlawi Hamidi Balkhi is his active role in educating the new generation through teaching, authorship, public speaking, and composing educational and moral poetry. Utilizing eloquent and articulate language, sound Islamic thinking, and rich didactic content, he has strived to transmit authentic Islamic, human, and cultural values to the younger generation and to stand against the global intellectual and cultural challenges of his time.

His works demonstrate a deep connection between knowledge and literature, religion and culture, Islam and contemporary needs. This article aims to highlight the importance of revisiting and recognizing the educational and cultural personality of Hamidi Balkhi in the context of contemporary Afghan society. The author of this paper strongly believes that for the youth—who are the architects of the future—studying such figures and their works is essential for understanding the intellectual and cultural landscape of modern Afghanistan.

Keywords: *Educating the New Generation, Hamidi Balkhi, Poetry and Writing.*

Introduction

Throughout every era of history, lands blessed with the presence of knowledge and literature have sustained themselves upon the foundations laid by the teachings of scholars and the eloquent expressions of poets and writers. Our beautiful country, Afghanistan—despite its many wounds—has continued to nurture wise and enlightened individuals who have spread the fragrance of religious knowledge through teaching and preaching, and who have used the freshness of poetry and the beauty of prose to awaken human conscience. One of the most distinguished and rare personalities of this land is Mawlawi Hamidullah Hamidi Balkhi—a profound scholar, a sensitive poet, and a conscious writer—who dedicated his life to the service

of religion, the promotion of authentic Islamic culture, and the education and moral upbringing of the new generation.

He is among the few who combined the charm of eloquence with the light of knowledge, standing against ignorance and deviation through his pen and speech. His writings echo not only Islamic and moral teachings but also reflect the pains of the time and the concerns of society. His prose—simple, accessible, fluent, and thoughtful—invites the youth toward reflection, ethics, and Islamic action.

This article seeks to examine, with depth and analysis, the diverse dimensions of Mawlawi Hamidi Balkhi's scholarly, literary, and cultural personality. It also aims to highlight his contributions to preserving religious identity, strengthening the language and literature, and educating future generations. Recognizing such figures is not merely a tribute to past achievements but also a guiding light for a brighter future.

Indeed, personalities like Hamidi Balkhi are not just religious or literary figures—they are bearers of a historical mission, a mission in which knowledge, faith, culture, and the written word are deeply intertwined. He belongs to the generation of thinkers who have had a profound influence not only from the pulpits of mosques and the teaching platforms of religious schools but also through their writings and poetry, shaping the intellectual landscape of society in a positive way.

At a time when identity crises, cultural invasions, polluted digital spaces, and the confusion of youth amidst an overwhelming flood of rootless information and ideas have reached their peak, turning to such personalities and their invaluable works can offer deeply rooted and inspiring answers to the questions of today's youth.

Problem Statement

Contemporary Afghan society is facing numerous cultural, intellectual, and educational challenges—many of which stem from the weaknesses of educational institutions, generational disconnects, and the diminishing role of scholars and intellectuals in guiding public thought. In such a context, revisiting and studying the lives of individuals who simultaneously served as religious scholars, thoughtful poets, and responsible writers becomes an academic and cultural necessity.

One of the most luminous figures in this regard is Hamidi Balkhi, who has played an active and influential role in Afghanistan's religious and intellectual landscape over the past four decades. Therefore, the central question of this research is: How can the scholarly, literary, and educational character of Mawlawi Hamidullah Hamidi Balkhi be examined—as a scholar, poet, and writer—and how can his role in strengthening cultural identity and educating the new generation be analyzed and articulated?

Literature Review

Despite Mawlawi Hamidullah Hamidi Balkhi's wide-ranging influence in the fields of teaching, ethics, dissemination of Islamic knowledge, and preservation of Arabic and Dari Persian language and literature, no comprehensive research has yet been conducted on his life, works, and intellectual legacy. In particular, the interconnection between his scholarly, literary, and educational roles has not been properly explored by others, and his prominent position in the religious and contemporary literature of Afghanistan remains largely overlooked

Significance of the Study

At a time when contemporary Afghan society is confronted with intellectual, cultural, and ideological crises, studying figures who have played an active role in guiding public thought, reviving Islamic values, and fostering cultural development holds particular importance. Hamidi Balkhi is one of the distinguished contemporary personalities who, through his religious knowledge, poetic artistry, and writing skills, has influenced multiple generations and made a significant contribution to preserving Afghanistan's religious and literary identity.

Moreover, the lack of scholarly and comprehensive research on Hamidi Balkhi—especially from an interdisciplinary perspective that integrates his scholarly, literary, and educational roles—represents a major gap in the fields of contemporary literature and cultural studies in Afghanistan. This study aims to address that gap to some extent and lay the groundwork for more extensive future research on this important figure

Research Questions

- What is the status and position of Mawlawi Hamidullah Hamidi Balkhi among contemporary Afghan scholars?
- How are his sense of patriotism and pursuit of independence reflected in his writings?
- What are the distinctive features of Hamidi Balkhi's poetic and literary style?
- In what ways has he conveyed religious and educational concepts through his poetry and prose?
- To what extent has he been effective in educating the new generation and awakening society?
- What elements of religious and social commitment and expertise are evident in his scholarly and literary works?
- How influential have his works been in the landscape of contemporary Afghan literature?

Research Methodology

This study employs a descriptive-analytical approach aimed at exploring the scholarly, literary, and educational dimensions of Mawlawi Hamidullah Hamidi Balkhi's personality. The researcher seeks to analyze his published works, poetry, educational prose, and the perspectives of various scholars and intellectuals in order to examine his position in three key roles: as a scholar, a poet, and a writer.

Discussion:

The Life and Education of Mawlawi Hamidullah Hamidi Balkhi

At the dawn of the solar year 1352 (1973 AD), in the ancient and knowledge-rich land of Balkh—a region that has birthed many luminaries in religion, politics, and literature—a shining star rose from the horizon of the village of Chakaneh, located in the Kishendeh district of Balkh province. This newborn would later be known as Mawlawi Abu Hamid Hamidullah Hamidi Balkhi, a prominent scholar who would shine brightly in the firmament of knowledge and piety, earning a distinguished place in the annals of Afghanistan's contemporary scholars. He was born into a pious and scholarly family. His respected father, Mullah Shah Zaman, himself a revered elder and sincere spiritual guide in Balkh, nurtured in his son's heart the breeze of guidance and the light of faith from the earliest days of his life. Thus, Mawlawi Hamidi Balkhi took his first steps in the valley of knowledge alongside his esteemed father, and in an atmosphere full of love

and reverence, he began studying the foundational principles of Islamic and Arabic sciences, deeply attached to the Quran and Hadith.

However, his lofty spirit and high ambition did not settle for initial learnings alone. In pursuit of academic advancement, he traveled to various cities across Afghanistan and studied at renowned religious schools of the time, learning sciences such as Fiqh (Islamic jurisprudence), Hadith, Sarf and Nahw (Arabic grammar and morphology), Rhetoric, Tafsir (Quranic exegesis), Tajwid (Quranic recitation), and other traditional religious disciplines. In 1371 (solar calendar), his insatiable thirst for knowledge took him beyond the borders to Pakistan, where he pursued advanced studies in the prestigious centers of Islamic sciences. There, he specialized in the fields of Hadith and Tafsir, striving with great determination to complete his education. Upon graduating from that institution and after the official evaluation of its certificates, he successfully obtained a formal bachelor's degree equivalency from the Ministry of Higher Education of Afghanistan. This achievement not only testified to his tireless academic efforts but also paved the way for him to serve his country's religious and cultural communities. Mawlawi Hamidi Balkhi is not merely a scholar and graduate of Islamic sciences. He is a true spiritual seeker on the path of closeness to God. Alongside his academic pursuits, teaching, and research, he was deeply devoted to acts of worship. He was blessed with the opportunity to perform Hajj and Umrah three times, and in 1398 (solar year), he was officially appointed by the Ministry of Hajj and Religious Affairs as a guide for Afghan pilgrims to the Two Holy Mosques—an honor that reflects the trust and recognition of the country's religious authorities in him. In addition to his deep interest in the biographies and spiritual journeys of great men in history, he also has a passion for traveling and visiting major academic centers and historical sites of the Islamic world. Driven by this interest, in 1398, he joined a delegation of scholars from northern Afghanistan and traveled to Transoxiana (Central Asia). During this journey, he visited the shrines of prominent scholars, including the tomb of Qutham ibn Abbas, cousin of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), buried in Samarkand. He also visited the resting places of Imam Muhammad ibn Ismail Bukhari, Imam Abu Mansur al-Maturidi, and others in Samarkand, as well as the shrine of another star of Hadith science, Imam Muhammad ibn Isa al-Tirmidhi, and the great mystic Hakim Tirmidhi in Termez, Surkhandarya province. He also explored historical Timurid sites in Shahrisabz, Qashqadarya region of Uzbekistan, and later compiled his travel memoirs into a work titled "From Balkh to Samarkand." In 1399 (solar year), he traveled to India, where he visited historical sites and religious schools in Delhi, including the shrines of Shah Waliullah Dehlawi, Shah Abdul Aziz Dehlawi, Maulana Muhammad Ilyas Kandhlawi (founder of the global Tablighi Jamaat movement), and Maulana Muhammad Yusuf Kandhlawi, among others. To further deepen his knowledge, he went to Darul Uloom Deoband, where he had the honor of attending Hadith classes, particularly in Musalsal traditions, and studied under senior scholars such as Bahr al-Uloom Maulana Nematullah Azami, Maulana Abu al-Qasim Numani, and Maulana Qamruddin, from whom he received formal Hadith certification (Ijazah). During this scholarly journey, he also visited Thanabhawani, Nanota, Saharanpur, Gangoh, and other places to revisit the memories of legendary scholars such as Allama Rashid Ahmad Gangohi, Imam Maulana Qasim Nanotwi, Hakim al-Ummah Maulana Ashraf Ali Thanwi, Maulana Zakariya Kandhlawi, and others.

His experiences during this rich journey were captured in a travelogue titled "From Balkh to Deoband." He also composed a beautiful poem about the great scholars of Darul Uloom Deoband, which is now displayed in the guesthouse of the institution and admired by its many visitors.

From the eloquent pen of this distinguished scholar, numerous works in various fields—educational, religious, jurisprudential, literary, and pedagogical—have remained as a legacy. Some of his most valuable and widely used works, many of which have been printed and reprinted, and are studied by seekers of knowledge, include:

- ✓ Biography of the Four Great Imams of Ahl al-Sunnah wa al-Jama'ah
- ✓ Biography of the Six Great Imams of Hadith
- ✓ Child Upbringing Throughout the Year (in Persian and Pashto)
- ✓ Easy Tajwid
- ✓ Fuyudh al-Rahman fi Tajwid al-Qur'an
- ✓ Tuhfat al-Bariyyah: Commentary on al-Muqaddimah al-Jazariyyah
- ✓ Al-Bayan al-Wafi fi Halli 'Ibarat Matn al-Kafi fi 'Ilmay al-'Arud wa al-Qawafi
- ✓ Insights into the Afterlife
- ✓ Al-Zubdah: Commentary on al-Burdah
- ✓ Clear Prayer Guide
- ✓ Islamic Studies (Part 1)
- ✓ Islamic Studies (Part 2)
- ✓ Gift for Children (Part 1)
- ✓ Gift for Children (Part 2)
- ✓ Biography of Imam Abu Hanifa (may Allah have mercy on him)
- ✓ Comprehensive Guide to Hajj and Umrah
- ✓ Forty Noble Hadiths
- ✓ What is Knowledge and Who is the Scholar?
- ✓ A Brief History of Afghanistan
- ✓ Collection of Poems (Diwan Ash'ar)
- ✓ Various educational series for children, including "Gift for Children"
- ✓ Establishment of Salman Fars Publications

Some of these works are written in Arabic, while others are in the beautiful languages of Persian and Pashto, reflecting Mawlawi Hamidi Balkhi's remarkable ability to convey profound religious concepts to various segments of society. From children and teenagers to university students, scholars, and professors, all have benefited from his contributions. Among his most notable academic achievements is the establishment of a grand and prestigious educational institution named Dar al-Uloom Hazrat Salman Fars (may Allah be pleased with him) in the heart of Mazar-e-Sharif. Today, this institution is recognized as one of the most important centers for Islamic and literary education in northern Afghanistan.

In addition, he served for many years as a teacher and mentor at one of the oldest official academic institutions of Balkh—Dar al-Uloom 'Aliyah Asadiyah—located in the provincial capital. At present, alongside his teaching duties at Dar al-Uloom Hazrat Salman Fars, and ongoing research on various academic and literary subjects, he also holds the official position of

Imam and Friday preacher at one of the mosques overseen by the Department of Guidance, Hajj, and Religious Affairs of Balkh Province. It is worth mentioning that he possesses exceptional expertise in the theoretical and practical rules of Quranic recitation (Tarteel and Tajwid). With the golden voice bestowed upon him by God, he recites the Quran in a remarkably beautiful and captivating manner, bringing profound joy to anyone who hears his melodious recitation. Mawlawi Hamidi Balkhi can truly be regarded as a symbol of a God-conscious scholar, a Qur'anic educator, and a wise man of his time. With a deep understanding of contemporary needs, he has dedicated both his speech and his pen to the education and moral upbringing of the younger generation. He has constantly strived to keep the flame of religion, knowledge, and Islamic culture alive in the hearts of the people. Undoubtedly, his name will remain a shining beacon in the field of Islamic and cultural awakening in Afghanistan. His works and services will continue to inspire generations who are fully committed to the path of light and truth, considering it the key to success in both this world and the hereafter.

A Brief Introduction and Outstanding Features of the Scholarly, Literary, and Educational Works of Hamidi Balkhi (Independent Publications)

1. Biography of the Four Great Imams of Ahl al-Sunnah wa al-Jama'ah

This is a research-based and educational book about the great Imams of the four Sunni schools of thought: Imam Abu Hanifa, Imam Malik, Imam Shafi'i, and Imam Ahmad ibn Hanbal — may Allah have mercy on them. The author, with eloquent writing, introduces the scholarly, jurisprudential, ethical, and social lives of these eminent figures in a way that acquaints the present generation with the authentic tradition of Sunni Islam. In the preface to this valuable book, the author writes about the importance of the status of these Imams: “It was these great Mujtahids who, with their sincere efforts, interpreted and analyzed the concepts of the Qur'an and the Sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) with utmost integrity for humanity, and erected a great barrier against the biased and the hostile. They laid out the correct path and method for reflection and contemplation on Islamic texts before every qualified scholar, so that as long as time allows, people can benefit from the sound methodologies they established.”

2. Biography of the Six Great Hadith Imams

This remarkable work introduces the six great Imams of Hadith: Imams Bukhari, Muslim, Tirmidhi, Nasa'i, Abu Dawud, and Ibn Majah — may Allah have mercy on them. Alongside historical analysis, the book also discusses their scientific methods for recording, compiling, and authenticating hadiths.

3. Healthy Child Upbringing (in Persian and Pashto)

This is a comprehensive guide for parents, educators, and school teachers, presented with an Islamic and religious-psychological approach. The book is available in the two widely spoken languages of the country (Persian and Pashto), and has been well received by families and educational institutions.

In the introduction to this valuable book, the author describes the result of proper upbringing as follows:

“For years, I have been thinking and studying — like those concerned about the fate of the Ummah — about what must be done for our noble nation to be rescued from the pit of

destruction and miserable conditions. Eventually, by relying on Islamic teachings, the views of scholars, and the lessons of time, I came to the conclusion that: raising children in a healthy and principled manner and presenting them to society as lawmakers, rulers, teachers, educators, merchants, managers — or at the very least, good and conscientious citizens — is the only path to salvation from disgrace and backwardness, and the ladder to ascend toward honor and dignity.

How beautiful it would be if we all join hands and make the necessary efforts to fulfill this common need, so that — God willing — with good children in the future, we will have good and progressive governments and nations, and fulfill the responsibility we bear before God and our children.”

4. Easy Tajweed

A simple, fluent, and instructional text designed for beginners in the science of Tajweed (rules of Qur'anic recitation). This book is one of the most frequently used resources in schools and educational centers for children, as well as in general Tajweed classes. It has been reprinted multiple times and warmly welcomed by teachers and students across various provinces of Afghanistan. The work is available in both official national languages (Dari Persian and Pashto).

5. Fuyūḍ al-Raḥmān fī Tajwīd al-Qur’ān

A more scholarly and in-depth book in the field of Tajweed, tailored for intermediate and advanced students. It includes precise Tajweed rules along with practical examples from the Qur'an. It is used by instructors, university students, memorization classes, and Qur'anic circles throughout the country.

6. Tuhfat al-Bariyyah: Commentary on Al-Muqaddimah al-Jazariyyah

A detailed and precise commentary on the famous didactic poem of Ibn al-Jazari in the science of Tajweed. This work combines both theoretical and practical aspects and is highly beneficial for advanced-level students.

7. Al-Bayān al-Wāfī fī Ḥall ‘Ibārāt Matn al-Kāfī fī ‘Ilm al-‘Arūḍ wa al-Qawāfī

A rare and comprehensive work analyzing and explaining a key text in the sciences of prosody and rhyme. Written in clear and accessible prose, this book guides young people interested in poetry, eloquence, and classical metrics toward the aesthetic dimensions of literature.

8. Insights into the Hereafter

An instructive book with a powerful tone that covers topics such as death, the Barzakh (intermediate realm), the Day of Judgment, Paradise, and Hell. The author strives to present a clear and faith-inspiring image of the afterlife using authentic verses and Hadiths. It describes the state of death in light of religious texts and life experiences, interprets the nature and stages of Barzakh (the interval between this world and the Day of Judgment), and systematically explains the phases of the Day of Resurrection according to revealed texts. The book vividly portrays the horrors and hardships of Hell in a didactic and thought-provoking manner, and concludes with eloquent depictions of the astonishing beauty and eternal bliss of Paradise.

9. Al-Zubdah: Commentary on Al-Burdah

A delicate and mystical commentary on Al-Burdah, the famed ode by Imam al-Busiri in praise of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). This work is poetic, devotional, and spiritually rich — satisfying both literary taste and spiritual yearning in the minds of readers.

10. Clear Guide to Prayer

A practical book with illustrations and explanations for teaching prayer (Salah) to children, teenagers, and adults — especially women unfamiliar with religious rulings. It is highly effective and useful for beginners and Islamic preachers.

11. Islamic Studies (Volumes 1 and 2)

Among the most effective textbooks for teaching the basics of religion in formal and informal schools, educational centers, and children's learning institutions in Afghanistan. These concise books follow a standard educational structure and include exercises and relevant questions for learners.

12. Gift for Children (Volumes 1 and 2)

Two volumes of educational books for children, containing Hadiths, stories, poems, the Prophet's biography, and Islamic ethics. The main goal is to nurture children with gentle language and inspiring Islamic values and motivation.

13. Biography of Imam Abu Hanifa (May Allah Have Mercy on Him)

A brief yet impactful presentation of the life, thoughts, and scholarly conduct of the Great Imam — aimed at young readers and beginners. This book is effective in fostering love for the Imam and encouraging emulation of his jurisprudence.

14. Complete Guide to Hajj and Umrah

A comprehensive, accurate, and practical manual for pilgrims to the Holy Mosque. It includes the rulings, etiquettes, obligations, and recommended practices of Hajj and Umrah, along with travel tips and essential information for the guests of Allah.

15. Forty Noble Hadiths

A collection of short, educational, and ethical sayings of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), with Persian translation and commentary. A valuable resource for memorization, promoting the Sunnah, and use in schools and mosques.

16. What Is Knowledge and Who Is a Scholar?

An insightful treatise on the essence of knowledge, the true status of a genuine scholar, and the distinction between real scholars and those who merely claim knowledge. The book offers a general-level analysis of the philosophy of religious knowledge.

17. A Brief History of Afghanistan

A concise and coherent overview of the historical developments of Afghanistan from religious, cultural, and political perspectives. The contemporary poet of Balkh, Ustadh Muhammad Khordmand, has said about this book:

18. "Though brief in form, this work is an awakening masterpiece."

It was recently published with the approval of Afghanistan's Ministry of Information and Culture and is considered beneficial for the public with its national-Islamic perspective.

19. Collection of Poems (Dīwān-e Ash'ār)

A compilation of epic, ethical, social, and religious poems in various literary styles. Its fluent language, committed themes, and message-driven content are distinctive features. One poem from this collection addresses the youth of the Ummah, saying:

نیست گردد از طفیل سعی تان ظلم و فساد تاب از باطل رباید برق چشمان شما
ملت و خاک از شما خواهان رشد و خدمت اند تابش خورشید دارد نور ایمان شما
روح بخشد در ضمیر مرده نوع بشر درک و تحلیل و توان و علم و عرفان شما
می زداید رنج و غم از قلب محرومان قرن یک پیام صلح از لبهای خندان شما
پیشرفت و انکشاف دین و دنیا، علم و فن می تراود از مضامین دبستان شما
بی سوادی ختم گردد، علم و فن حاکم شود گر بکار افتد خلوص قلب و وجدان شما
مملکت زار است بهر خدمتش همت کنید "ای جوانان وطن جان من و جان شما"

Translated from Persian

The palace of ignorance shall fall by your shining thought,
With your strong hands, the castle of faith shall be wrought.
Through your striving, tyranny and corruption shall cease,
The lightning in your eyes will strip falsehood of peace.
Your nation and land seek growth through your care,
The light of your faith holds the sun's radiant glare.
Your insight, your science, your wisdom so deep,
Shall awaken the hearts that long lay asleep.
Your smiling lips, with one peaceful word,
Shall ease the sorrow of the voiceless and unheard.
Religion and progress, science and art,
Shine forth from the schoolbooks you help to impart.
Ignorance will vanish, knowledge shall reign,
If your hearts and minds in truth remain.
Your homeland is ailing — rise to its need!
"O young souls of my country — you're my life indeed!"

20. The Biography of the Prophet (Sīrat al-Nabī)

A highly effective and educational book designed to familiarize children and teenagers with the pure life of the Prophet of Islam (peace be upon him) and his loyal companions. It is structured in a question-and-answer format to facilitate easier memorization and learning.

21. Salmān Fārsī Publications (May Allah Be Pleased with Him)

This was Mawlawi Hamidī's first step toward institutionalizing the publication of Islamic works in a regular, independent, and scholarly manner. Dozens of books have been distributed through this publishing house in Balkh and other regions of the country, benefiting book-loving youth.

Samples of Hamidī Balkhī's Poetry

Here is a patriotic and epic poem by Mawlawi Hamidullah Hamidī Balkhī in praise of the beautiful country of Afghanistan and its noble, spirited people.

این جهان اقلیم پر شور و صدا است
ملت افغان در آن صوت رسا است

کوه و کوهسارش نماد غیرت است
پیر و برنایش نشان عزت است
هرکه سویش با دو چشم بدید
شیر مردانش سرش از تن برید
بشکند دندان غول و اهریمن
مشت سخت قهرمانان وطن
سر زمینی کبک او شاهین مزاج
آهوی او گیرد از شیران خراج
انگلیس و روس را جایش نشاند
امریکا را خوار از خاکش براند
گل زمینی پاک و شیرین است این
مرکز آمل و تمکین است این
دوست از مهرش به کام دل رسید
دشمن از وی روز خوش هرگز ندید
تا که ایمان در دل این ملت است
سر زمینش مهد عز و شوکت است

This World Is a Realm of Noise and Strife

By Mawlawi Hamidullah Hamidi Balkhi

Translated into English (poetic form)

This world is a realm of noise and sound,
Among its nations, Afghans' voice is proud and loud.
Its mountains and peaks stand for honor and pride,
From elder to youth, dignity is their guide.
Whoever casts on it a hostile gaze,
Its lion-hearted men shall end his days.
The tyrant's teeth are shattered and torn,
By the hero's fist — fierce and sworn.
A land where the partridge soars like a hawk,
Even the deer pays tribute to its lion's walk.
It humbled the British and the Russian bear,
And cast out America with fierce Afghan glare.
A flowered land, so pure and sweet,
A center of dreams and strength complete.
Its friends taste joy from its warm embrace,
But foes find sorrow, never grace.
As long as faith lives in this nation's soul,
Its land shall reign with honor whole.

Analysis of Poetic Style and the Verbal and Semantic Features in This Patriotic and Epic Poem:

Theme and Content: The poet describes national pride, religious zeal, and patriotism.

The central themes of this style are national heroes, majestic mountains, the struggle against colonialists, and the victory of the Afghan nation. These themes are prominent

characteristics of epic poetry, which is usually composed to portray heroism, bravery, warfare, and resistance.

Elevated Language and Eloquent Expression of the Poet: The language is strong, rhythmic, and resonant. Powerful and eloquent words such as "zeal," "hero," "lion-hearted man," "firm fist," "defeat of the demon," and "submission" are all hallmarks of epic language. Our esteemed poet has used inspiring expressions and powerful metaphors to evoke a sense of strength and pride.

Imagery and Imaginative Expression

Evocative and imaginative images such as:

- «آهوی او گیرد از شیران خراج»
- «مشت سخت قهرمانان وطن»
- «بشکند دندان غول و اهریمن»
- «کوه کوهسارش نماد غیرت است»

- "The deer collects tribute from the lions,"
- "The firm fist of the homeland's heroes,"
- "Breaks the teeth of giants and demons,"
- "The mountains are symbols of valor,"

These expressions reflect the poet's powerful imagination and use of metaphor. They paint vivid mental pictures and emphasize the themes of heroism, strength, and national pride.

This imagery adds a sense of epic grandeur and powerful imagination to the poem, in which the poet has truly excelled and shined brilliantly.

1. Poetic Structure and Meter:

The poem is written in the *masnavi* form, which is the most common form for expressing epic narratives and themes. It seems to follow the meter *fa'ūlun fa'ūlun fa'ūlun fa'ūl*, or a similar pattern, which is characteristic of classical Persian epic poetry—most notably seen in Ferdowsi's *Shahnameh*.

2. Use of Suitable Contrasts:

The poet skillfully uses both verbal and conceptual contrasts in this patriotic epic poem. For example: "The friend attained joy through his love / The enemy never saw a happy day from him." This highlights the clarity and richness of the poet's expressive power.

3. Historical–Political Perspective:

The poem also refers to historical and political themes, such as foreign enemies (Britain, Russia, America) and the historical victories of Afghans over them. Here, the poet presents the glorious history of this heroic nation as a foundation of national pride.

4. Patriotic or Nationalist Approach:

With great passion, the poet describes the beauty of the homeland, the courage of its people, and the honor of its soil. Expressions like “*Afghan nation*,” “*heroes of the homeland*,” and “*center of hopes and submission*” clearly reflect this patriotic orientation.

5. Spirit of Resistance and Struggle:

The poet emphasizes standing up against colonialism and both internal and external enemies. He presents the nation’s history as full of struggles against invaders such as Britain, Russia, and America.

"He drove America in disgrace from his land / With the firm fist of the homeland's heroes."

6. Collective Spirit:

The poet emphasizes ethnic and religious solidarity and shared values among the people as the foundation of strength and victory. These are all hallmark features of national epics.

7. Religious and Faith-Based Perspective:

Toward the end of the poem, there is a reference to the people’s faith: “*As long as faith lives in this nation’s heart / Her land will remain a cradle of honor and glory.*” This reflects the poet’s view of the deep connection between religion and homeland. According to the poet, the main factor behind the nation’s endurance and success is its strong faith and unwavering belief.

Conclusion

In light of what has been presented in the preceding sections of this article, it is clear that Mawlawi Abu Hamed Hamidullah Hamidi Balkhi is among the prominent contemporary figures in the fields of knowledge, education, writing, and Islamic poetry. He is a compassionate scholar who, relying on his religious commitment, academic sincerity, and literary taste, has left behind valuable works that address the intellectual, moral, and educational needs of today’s generation. In his writings, he has successfully integrated the scholarly traditions of the righteous predecessors with the educational needs of modern society. Using a simple yet profound style, he presents the pure teachings of Islam in various formats—from children's books to specialized texts, and from poetry to jurisprudence and hadith—catering to a wide range of audiences. His works are not only a scientific treasure for schools and educational institutions but also a moral reference for families, teachers, and preachers of the Islamic Ummah. Mawlawi Hamidi's personality is a synthesis of a devout scholar, a conscious educator, a prolific author, and a committed poet—someone who has not remained on the margins but has engaged directly in the heart of society through writing, teaching, nurturing, and striving for the moral reform of generations. In times of moral instability and intellectual confusion, such personalities can serve as reliable anchors for the cultural reconstruction of the Islamic Ummah, especially in countries in need of living and active role models. Based on this study, it is necessary for academic, cultural, educational, and media institutions to adopt a deeper and more strategic approach to benefit from his intellectual, scientific, and educational potential—whether through teaching, publishing his works, offering educational consultancy, or involving him in the structure of the country’s education system. Undoubtedly, if today’s Afghan society can correctly benefit from the personality and works of authors like Mawlawi Hamidi Balkhi, the youth of tomorrow will be adorned with the light of knowledge, piety, ethics, and Islamic dignity.

Suggestions and Recommendations

Utilizing the scholarly personality of Mawlawi Abu Hamed Hamidullah Hamidi Balkhi—who possesses valuable experience in academic, moral, educational, and cultural fields—is an important opportunity for society, especially for the younger generation and educational and religious institutions. Furthermore, Hamidi Balkhi's academic and literary works are not written merely to decorate bookshelves or elite libraries; rather, they should become an active part of the intellectual, ethical, educational, and religious life of the youth and society as a whole.

Therefore, to benefit from his contributions, the following strategic suggestions can be offered in scientific, educational, cultural, and media domains:

Organizing Educational Circles and Direct Dialogues with Youth and Educational Institutions:

His presence can be utilized in organizing weekly or monthly gatherings for youth, university students, and seminary students. Additionally, he could serve as an advisor in the development of an effective Islamic curriculum for the Ministries of Education and Higher Education in Afghanistan.

Integrating His Educational Works into School and Religious Curricula:

His works such as “Islamiyat (1 & 2),” “Clear Prayer,” “Easy Tajweed,” “Fuyūdh al-Rahmān fī Tajweed al-Qur’an” and others can be included as supplementary learning resources in primary schools and Islamic institutions.

Creating Educational and Literary Circles Centered Around His Works and Poetry:

Using his “Divan of Poems” and educational texts, seasonal or semester-based reading circles can be organized for students, teenagers, and even university youth.

Translation and Reprinting of His Popular Works in Regional Countries and in Multiple Languages:

By translating selected works of his into Arabic, Urdu, and English, they can be introduced to Islamic centers, religious schools, and cultural institutions in various countries around the world.

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