The complex relationship between translation of and commentary upon the Qur'an is explored in depth in Travis Zadeh’s magisterial and far-ranging study, *The Vernacular Qur’an: Translation and the Rise of Persian Exegesis* (Oxford University Press in association with the Institute of Ismaili Studies, 2012), which specifically examines the phenomenon of translation as it lies at the foundation of both Persian literary and Iranian Islamic religious tradition. The significance of this study cannot be overstated. Iran was most likely the first region or culture area outside of Arabia proper to achieve independence from Arabic poetic and philosophical traditions. The Vernacular Qur’an: Translation and the Rise of Persian Exegesis

Abstract

Examines the debates surrounding the translatability of the Qur'an in early Islamic intellectual history and explores early practices of translating the Qur'an into Persian and the development of vernacular exegetical literature in Khurasan and Central Asia from tenth to thirteenth centuries. --author-supplied description

This paper has been withdrawn.

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