

Intertextuality and Innovation: Mesrop Taghadian's Experimentation with the Novel Genre in Comparative Perspective

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This paper seeks to situate Taghadian's exploration of fiction writing within a wider nexus in different social settings of creating extensive narrative works within the Armenian oikoumene of the 1840s-50s, while contextualizing this movement as a whole within the broader contours of the novelistic enterprise of the turn of the century, diffusing the Romantic ethos in all its varied emphases and forms of expression. In so doing, it attempts to delineate the distinct profile of the author and his immediate readership in the Indo-Armenian community, while at the same time underscoring their participation in and contribution to larger-scale processes of intellectual and cultural exchange.

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