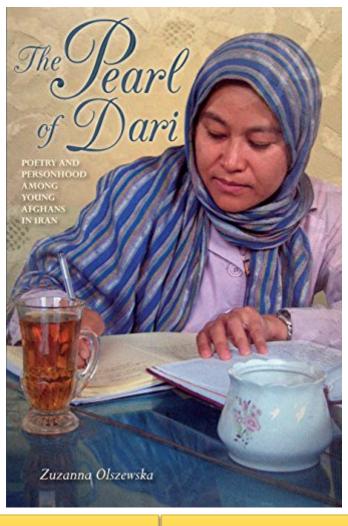
The Pearl of Dari: Poetry and Personhood among Young Afghans in Iran (Public Cultures of the Middle East and North Africa) PDF



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The Pearl of Dari: Poetry and Personhood among Young Afghans in Iran (Public Cultures of the Middle East and North Africa) by Zuzanna Olszewska ISBN 0253017602

The Pearl of Dari takes us into the heart of Afghan refugee life in the Islamic Republic of Iran through a rich ethnographic portrait of the circle of poets and intellectuals who make up the "Pearl of Dari" cultural organization. Dari is the name by which the Persian language is known in Afghanistan. Afghan immigrants in Iran, refugees from the Soviet war in Afghanistan, are

marginalized and restricted to menial jobs and lower-income neighborhoods. Ambitious and creative refugee youth have taken to writing poetry to tell their story as a group and to improve their prospects for a better life. At the same time, they are altering the ancient tradition of Persian love poetry by promoting greater individualism in realms such as gender and marriage. Zuzanna Olszewska offers compelling insights into the social life of poetry in an urban, Middle Eastern setting largely unknown in the West.

The Pearl of Dari: Poetry and Personhood among Young Afghans in Iran (Public Cultures of the Middle East and North Africa) Review

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