Poetic Dictionaries in Our Tradition of Language Teaching

Selim Tiryakiol & Asuman Akay-Ahmed
Marmara University/ Istanbul, Turkey

Key words: Language Teaching, Dictionary, Poetry, Poetic Dictionaries, Schools and Madrasahs

ABSTRACT

Dictionary is a reference book which keeps a language’s vocabulary in itself. In historic processes, dictionaries have been written in various categories depending on needs. One of these dictionary categories is poetic dictionaries. Poetic dictionaries have been prepared to teach students vocabulary based on memorability of poetry. Such works, which started to be drafted by Arabian linguists in the XIth century, were also taught in Islamic countries in madrasahs, dervish lodges and schools within instrumental subjects after this century.

Poetic dictionaries begin with a poetic “preface”. After giving the work’s purpose of compilation and construction characteristics, it passes to the dictionary part. Generally it ends with an “epilogue” giving its compilation date.

Studying and revealing of poetic dictionaries, which have been utilized in language education by using the captivating and memorable aspects of poetry throughout the centuries, will shed light on today’s methods as well.