

Contents

Foreword	XI
CHAPTER ONE	
Introduction	1
I. The Lightning-Scene: Definition and Modern Criticism	1
Definition of the Term "Lightning-Scene"	1
Rain and Lightning as a Multi-Dimensional Theme in Ancient Arabic Poetry	3
The Lightning-Scene in Modern Research	6
II. Corpus of the Study	13
Appendix 1: Compilations Used in this Study	17
Appendix 2: Short Excerpts Containing Descriptions of Lightning, Clouds, or Rain	18
CHAPTER TWO	
Division of the Ancient Arabic Poem: From <i>Gharāḍ Shiʿrī</i> to Functional Unit ..	21
I. Division of the Poetry into Thematic Sections	22
Division of Individual Poems	24
II. Towards a New Division of the Ancient Arabic Poem:	
Function and Functional Unit	31
"Function": Definition of the Term	31
Function in the Ancient Arabic Poem	34
The Lightning-Scene in the light of this Division	36
CHAPTER THREE	
Lightning as an Expression of Longing for a Distant Beloved or an Expression of Self-Consolation	37
I. Lightning as an Expression of Longing for a Distant Beloved	37
ʿAbīd b. al-ʿAbraḥ	39
Imruʿ al-Qays	42
Al-Muraqqish al-Aṣghar	51
Abū Qilāba l-Hudhālī	53
An-Nābigha dh-Dhubyānī	55
Al-Aʿshā l-Kabīr	59
Al-Muzarrid b. ʿDirār	62

Khufāf b. Nudba	64
Ash-Shammākh b. Dirār	68
Al-Mutanakhhil al-Hudhalī	71
Sā'ida b. Ju'ayya	73
Abū Dhu'ayb al-Hudhalī	78
Ṣakhr al-Ghayy al-Hudhalī	83
Labīd b. Rabī'a	86
Hudba b. Khashram or al-Khashram	88
Ḥumayd b. Thawr	90
Mulayḥ b. al-Ḥakam	93
Al-Kumayt al-Awsaṭ	94
II. Lightning as a Means of Self-Consolation for a Gloomy Lover	
Al-A'ashā l-Kabīr	97
CHAPTER FOUR	
Variations on the Function of the Lightning-Scene	101
I. Lightning as an Expression of Longing for the Divorced Wife	101
°Urwa b. al-Ward	102
Aws b. Ḥajar	105
Khufāf b. Nudba	107
Tamīm b. Ubayy b. Muqbil	111
II. Lightning as an Expression of Longing for the Tribe, Family, and Home	114
°Āmir b. Juwayn	115
Imru' al-Qays	118
Ṭufayl al-Ghanawī	121
Abū Qurdūda ṭ-Ṭā'ī	126
°Adī b. Zayd	129
°Iyād b. Kunayz ad-Dabbī	132
°Amr b. Ma'dikarib	135
Labīd b. Rabī'a	137
Nahshal b. Ḥarrī n-Nahshalī	140
Tamīm b. Ubayy b. Muqbil	143
An-Nābigha l-Ja'dī	146
III. Lightning as a Means of Displaying Skill at Composing Poetry	
°Abīd b. al-Abraṣ	151
CHAPTER FIVE	
Thematic, Functional and Narrative Idiosyncrasy in the Pre-Islamic and Early Islamic Arabic Poem	155
Thematic Idiosyncrasy	155

Functional Idiosyncrasy	170
Narrative Idiosyncrasy	172
CHAPTER SIX	
Internal Idiosyncrasy in Lightning-Scenes	177
The Lightning	177
The Clouds	190
The Rain	211
The Thunder	223
The Wind	224
The Protagonist's Wish/Prayer	227
The Protagonist's Psychological State	231
Conclusion	235
Appendix: Motifs According to the Seven Secondary Paragraphs in the Lightning-Scenes.	241
Conclusions	259
Appendix	263
References	283
Lexical Index	295