Psychological Motives of Creative Abilities in the Omani Musical Intelligence

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Abstract

The Sultanate of Oman is characterized by a huge musical heritage that remains mostly preserved. 142 different traditional musical genres and styles (*funun*) have been registered in the Sultanate. This large number is a unique phenomenon worthy of attention and study. These genres and styles are different from others in their origins, rhythms, melodies, poetry, dance movements, etc. Although Oman is exposed to other cultures and there is a variety of ethnicities in the Sultanate, however this musical diversity is mostly an Omani product. This paper investigates the psychological motives behind the Omani musical creativity. This qualitative study is based on relevant documents, as well as analysis of Omani performance of those genres through documentary films, and direct observations. Musical arts are performed in social events such as weddings and celebrations. However, research has shown psychological motives that motivated Omani people to create these various genres, such as provocation of enthusiasm, meditation, religious motivations, poetic competition and emotional motivation. For each motivation a musical genre has been presented.

Keywords: Traditional musical genres, creativity, musical intelligence, Motives, Sultanate of Oman