Explaining the ontological and structural metaphors of the concept of "world" in the poems of Saadi and Parvin

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1. INTRODUCTION

According to the cognitive linguistics approach, language acts as a window to the mind. In other words, it is believed that the patterns of conceptualization in the mind can be discovered through the study of language. One of the most important theories in this approach is the Conceptual Metaphor Theory, which asserts that the conceptual system in the human mind has a metaphorical nature, and metaphors are the most important means of conveying abstract concepts. Metaphorical concepts can extend beyond ordinary literal ways of thinking and talking into the realm of figurative, poetic, or fanciful thought and language. Persian literature, as one of the oldest in the world, consists of numerous works in prose and poetry. Studying these works through the Conceptual Metaphor Theory may provide insights into the dominant thinking of their writers and poets.

Sharifi Moghadam and others (2021) conducted research entitled "A Cognitive Analysis of the Concepts of 'Divine Anger and Worldly Punishment' in the Holy Quran." This study investigated the conceptualization of divine anger in the Holy Quran. According to this study, the target domains used in the Quran demonstrate that although divine anger is distinct from human anger, the conceptualization is designed in a way that is easy to understand for human beings. Another study, "A Comparative Study of Metaphor in Massoud Sa'ad and Naser Khosrow's Odes," was conducted by Mobarak and Parsa (2019). This research aims to compare these two poets within intellectual and literary circles by examining the metaphors used by Masood Sa'ad and Nasser Khosrow in their works and exploring their similarities and differences. Through analyzing the meaning, content, application, type, and structure of the metaphors, this study reviews and evaluates one of the important aspects of figurative language in these two works.

One of the abstract concepts that can be observed in the works of great writers and poets is the concept of "world," which is closely related to life and existence. As mentioned, the abstract concept of "world" can be understood through tangible concepts, and investigating its metaphors may provide insights into the attitudes of writers and poets toward life. Therefore, the main focus of this research is to study

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the ontological and structural metaphors of the "world" concept in Saadi's and Parvin's poems. The main objective of this study is to determine their dominant thinking regarding the world. The study aims to answer the following questions: What is the frequency of ontological and structural metaphors of the "world" concept in Saadi's and Parvin's poems? And what are Saadi's and Parvin's dominant perspectives on the world?

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS
The research was conducted using a descriptive-analytic method. To address the research questions, an attempt was made to review the concept of "world" in Saadi's and Parvin's Ghasides and Ghetaas, drawing upon Lakoff's and Johnson's Conceptual Metaphor Theory. Both explicit and contextual metaphors of "world" were extracted and then analyzed quantitatively and qualitatively. For each poet, 800 Ghasides and 400 Ghetaas were randomly selected through a sampling method.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION
The findings reveal that ontological metaphors occur more frequently than structural metaphors in the poems of both poets. Additionally, Saadi predominantly employs the ontological metaphor "world is object," while Parvin tends to use the ontological metaphor "world is human being." Structural metaphors such as "world is building," "world is journey," "world is farm," "world is sea," "world is economy," and "world is war" are observed in the poems of both poets. The source domain of land is only found in Saadi's poems.

Furthermore, Parvin's poems contain source domains such as garden, mine, fiction, magic, mountain, devil, sport, well, tent, fire, food, plain, court, thunder, school, hive, plant, ambush location, and village. Both poets guide readers to understand the concept of "world" through ontological metaphors, which involve objectivity and personification, allowing them to grasp it as a physical existence based on their experiences with physical objects, especially their bodies. They aim to help readers understand their position in the world through structural metaphors, which highlight specific aspects of the world such as mortality and ephemerality.

4. CONCLUSION
Parvin extensively employs metaphors for the "world," indicating her essence as a woman and her sense of motherhood towards her readers. This suggests that she intends to convey life to her readers in a way that makes everything apparent for them, facilitating their path. Overall, despite the different metaphors used in Parvin's poems, her thoughts and attitudes toward the concept of the world align with Saadi's, indicating that she has been influenced by Saadi's perspectives on the world.