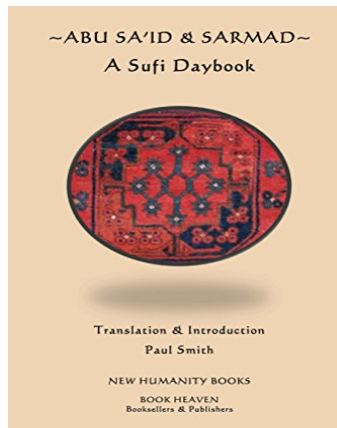


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Translation & Introduction by Paul Smith

Abu Sa'id (968-1049) was a Perfect Master and a poet who lived in Nishapur and composed only ruba'is, over 400 of them. He was a founder of Sufi poetry and a major influence on the ruba'i and most poets that followed, especially Sana'i, Nizami, 'Attar, Rumi and Hafiz. Sarmad (d. 1659) was a famous and infamous Persian dervish poet of Jewish and Armenian origin. As a merchant he gathered his wares and travelled to India to sell them.

In India he renounced Judaism and adopted Islam: he later renounced it in favour of Hinduism which he finally renounced for Sufism. He was known for exposing and ridiculing the major religions and hypocrisy of his day, but he also wrote beautiful mystical poetry in the form of rubai's. He was beheaded in 1659 by Emperor Aurangzeb for his perceived heretical poetry. This Sufi Daybook consists of 366 of their insightful, beautiful & spiritual ruba'is, 188 each. Introduction & Bibliography.