



## Forbidden Love In Nizami Ganzavi’S *Layla Majnun* And William Shakespeare’S *Romeo Juliet*-A Comparative Literature

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### ABSTRACT

This thesis is entitled -Forbidden Love in Nizami Ganzavi’s *Layla Majnun* and William Shakespeare’s *Romeo Juliet*-A Comparative Literature. This thesis concern with study of comparative literature from two literary works with different nations, different culture, and different background but with similar motifs, which is Forbidden Love. This study is aiming to find out and discuss about Forbidden Love in the social context in Nizami Ganzavi’s *Layla Majnun* and William Shakespeare’s *Romeo Juliet*, to find out how each of the character in the two literary works dealing with Forbidden Love. The researcher take two questions that could support the statement which are: How are the nature of forbidden love in *Layla and Majnun* and *Romeo and Juliet* in the social context? And what are the similarities and differences in the two literary? In order to answer the questions, the researcher uses descriptive and qualitative research. The researcher using library research as the research method that makes the main data are novel and play which are the novel Nizami Ganjavi’s *Layla Majnun* and the play William Shakespeare’s *Romeo Juliet*. From this analysis the researcher expects to gathered the data with two conclusion can be clarified the problem of study in this research. The first is the researcher discovered the nature of forbidden love in the two literary works and the second is similarities and differences in the two literary works.

### Keywords

*Forbidden Love, Nizami Ganzavi’s, William Shakespeare’s, Nature Of Forbidden Love, Similarity And Differences, A Comparative Literature*

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## INTRODUCTION

Living love relationships seems to be more comfortable if the people around us are giving their blessing. It is more serious the relationship, if each one definitely needs support from the family so that all what thus plans can run smoothly. However, there are so many things when a love relationship is not always run smoothly. Although it seemed so beautiful at the first time and so on, each couple will be tested how strength their love with various trials including blessings. Indeed, it is not so good if a relationship is opposed by one's parents or the partner's parents. This problem is often found as the biggest problem in human relationship.

People who do not can get a blessing from their relationship called forbidden love. Forbidden love is something that is still familiar in society.

They can not get the blessing of relationship due to opposition by certain group such as giving rise or likely to disagreement. They are also still encountered today. According to the journal Sociology and Love, the conflict in the case of love today is sometimes indicating the existence of social status differences between them. In other words, someone who has a study background likes someone who doesn't have university degree background, this can trigger a conflict for their relationship if they are to proceed in a more serious direction. Parent who feel that they have sent their children to college degree, will be inappropriate if their child falls in love with someone who is not the same with him. This is an example in today's society about forbidden love. Parental disapproval can be an external factor that can shake up a relationship. In many cases, couples decide to separate because of the lack of consent from parents. Parents can show their disapproval of the child's chosen candidate, both subtly and openly. However, we don't want to feel like we're being forced to choose between two equally important parties.

Forbidden love in old times is still the same as now. Goode (1977) stated that, In fact, forbidden love in old times also resulted in family disagreements about their children's relationship. Family honor, with a family background that has wealth and high position of a person or we can call it as the power of the person, is still the most prioritized thing to establish a romantic relationship.

Therefore, the researcher interested in this topic due to forbidden love is still happening now and the situations have never been separated from the past until now. The concept of thinking of ancient people and now is still the same. Their perspective on things can have an impact on the relationships their children. The researcher will look at these situations and conditions in two classic literary works especially in novel Nizami Ganzavi entitled *Layla Majnun* and in play William Shakespeare entitled *Romeo Juliet*.

Nizami Ganzavi is the poet behind the very famous story of Layla and Manjun in Islamic history. He was born in 1141 in the city of Ganja which was part of the Seljuk Sultanate, now known as the state of Azerbaijan. Since childhood he had been an orphan so he was raised by his uncle, Khwaja Umar. Umar did not just raise Nizami, since childhood he provided a quality education to his nephew. That's what makes Nizami's insight very broad, ranging from psychology, astronomy, astrology, mathematics, to music. Over time, Nizami, who spent his life in Ganja, pursued literature. He learned and was inspired by Muslim writers from Persia.

Romeo Juliet is a tragedy by William Shakespeare written early in his career. This tragedy tells the story of a young couple and groom who fall in love with each other, but are hindered because their two families are hostile to each other. Romeo Juliet was originally a tragic romance in ancient times. The story of Romeo Juliet is based on a story in Italy. Shakespeare uses a dramatic structure. Effects such as the shift between comedy and tragedy to heightened suspense, the expansion of minor characters, and the use of sub-plots to spice up the story, have been hailed as one of the earliest signs of Shakespeare's dramatic talent. This drama stems from various forms of poetry, and characters, which sometimes change the path of character development.

From the previous explanations, forbidden love as a motif appeared and presented again and again in many literary works such as in the novel entitled *Layla Majnun*. This story begins with a feeling of crazed love from a handsome, dashing and authoritative young man who is famous in the tribe of Bani Amir, Arabian Peninsula named Qays. He loves a woman from another tribe who is no less famous, a woman who has moonlight, her name is Layla. Likewise, Layla loves Qays very much. They had a secret love story, because at that time it was not the time for them to loving each other due to very young. But over time, their love story finally could not be hidden anymore. Everyone knows their love story, including Layla's parents. In the end they could not meet again. They had not seen each other for a long time, Qays couldn't hold back the burning love. And not long after, Qays heard that layla would be betrothed to a rich and handsome man named Amar. Qays became obsessed with her. He secluded himself to a forest because he could not stand to see Layla side by side with other man and he lived alone with his poems that he wrote to layla. His tribe Banu 'Amir and the community gave him the epithet of Majnūn (مجنون "crazy"). He became crazy. He acts and looks strange, until people laugh and ridicule him, everyone calls Qays as Majnun whose laughter is always accompanied by singing love for his lover Layla. An incident occurred where Majnun heard the news of Layla's death due to her illness. Majnun immediately went to visit Layla's grave. Then cry and scream. He hugged Layla's grave until Majnun breathed his last. He died hugging Layla's grave.

In the case of forbidden love, differences in location and circumstances may have different backgrounds. However, it is possible to learn in other stories, such as portrait in play entitled *Romeo Juliet*. This story comes from Italy which tells about Romeo and Juliet fall in love at a party. But they come from families who hate each other. They are sure they will not be allowed to marry. Nevertheless, helped by Friar Laurence, they marry in secret

instead. Unfortunately, before their wedding night Romeo kills Juliet's cousin in a duel, and in the morning he is forced to leave her. If he ever returns to the city, he will be put to death. Juliet's parents told her she must marry Paris. Her parents do not know she is already married. She refuses in the beginning, but later agrees because she plans to fake her death and escape to be with Romeo forever; again with the help of Friar Laurence. Friar Laurence designs the plan. She gives Juliet a sleeping potion. She appears to be dead and was put in a tomb. However, Romeo does not know about the plan, visits her grave, thinks she is dead, and kills himself. When Juliet finally wakes up, she discovers that Romeo is dead and then kills her-self.

In conclusion of the background of the study, the researcher is interested to analyze these two literary works because the researcher found a phenomenon in analyzing the main characters to seek the natures of forbidden love and to know the differences and similarities of forbidden love in each literary works.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

Talking about creative writing needs to use qualitative and descriptive research due to related ideas, opinions, perceptions, and beliefs. In doing this thesis, the researcher uses qualitative and descriptive research. All data in creative writing is based on theory that sentences in which are analyzed. The researcher uses the literary book to find the theory. Later, the next step is called library research. According to Moleong (2007:6) "a qualitative method is used as a research method that resulted in descriptive data containing speech, writing words, and observed behaviour."

A library research is used in this study. The researcher gathers knowledge from many books, journals and several other tools relating to the topic under study. The researcher uses qualitative research to analyze this study. Qualitative research is a research method which takes explanation and description into consideration and proves data in the analysis of the study are the most important elements. We can track and understand the flow of events chronologically with qualitative data, analyze triggers in the sense of people in the region and obtain a lot of useful information.

Miles and Huberman in Sugiyono (2008:237) argued that activities in qualitative data analysis must be carried out continuously until complete, so that the data is saturated. For example, at the time of the interview, the researcher has conducted an analysis of these answers interviewed. If the answer is submitted by a person who interviewed or the informant after being analyzed was deemed unsatisfactory. Then, the researcher will continue the

question again, up to a certain stage so that more credible data or information is obtained.

### Data Analysis

After reading the primary data or two of literary works, about novel and play, the researcher then collected and read the secondary data. The data will be combined and analyzed related to the problem of this study. In analyzing the data, the researcher use library research and applied the qualitative descriptive method.

According to Miles & Huberman (1992: 16) data analysis consists of four stages of activities that occur, which are: data collection, data reduction, data display, and conclusion. More details about four stages will be described as follow:

#### - Data Collection

The researcher will re-read the data. The first data is data source, the two literary works, novel entitled *Layla Majnun* and the play entitled *Romeo Juliet* and the second is the data from books, journals and other internet website which is taken related to comparative literature and forbidden love case.

#### - Data Reduction

The researcher will interpret the data in both literary works *Layla Majnun* and *Romeo Juliet* based on their motifs. Both of the literary works have a similar motif indicating forbidden love to be examined based on the theory of the knowledge collected from Nizami Ganzavi's *Layla Majnun* and William Shakespeare's *Romeo Juliet*. The data can be collected in quotation form, such as word, phrase, clause, or sentences of dialogue, in which the issue in the forbidden love is analyzed and interpreted.

#### - Data Display

The researcher will analyze and compare the data. The researcher analyzes the nature of forbidden love and the differences and similarities of both literary works *Layla Majnun* and *Romeo Juliet*. After analyzing the data, the researcher compares what the natures of forbidden love found and the similarities and differences portrayed in the two literary works.

#### - Conclusion

In the last stage, the researcher will conclude the data and suggesting the reader give hope and knowledge in their real life, which are the similarities and differences of the natures of forbidden love in two literary works of *Layla Majnun* and *Romeo Juliet*.

## RESEARCH RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### The Nature Of Forbidden Love In The Social Context

In this chapter, there are some important points to analyze such as the nature of forbidden love in Romeo Juliet and Layla Majnun. The analyses related to the social context and the similarities between Romeo Juliet and Layla Majnun. The difference between the two literary works dealing with forbidden love refers to Italy and Arab literature. Shakespeare's Romeo Juliet and Ganzavi's Layla Majnun are talking about the forbidden love of the two couples who love each other. In the novel Layla Majnun, Ganzavi talks about the nature forbidden love **family honor**, **power**, and **occupation**. While in Romeo Juliet's play, Shakespeare talks about the forbidden love of **family honor** and **power**, too.

### The Nature of Forbidden Love in Layla Majnun Family Honor

The relationship between Layla and Majnun can not be agreed because of Layla's father dislike Majnun. Layla's father does not approve of Majnun with his daughter. He feels that Majnun is not suitable for Layla. Majnun, who has been famous for being insane is too obsessed with Layla. So he should have bitter experience when his relationship with Layla is not approved. Not only from Layla's parents who do not agree his relationship Layla, even from the Layla's tribe also do the same. It seems they do reject all the plans. Majnun seems to be embarrassed by honor of Layla's family, and her tribe. As what has been stated in this following quotation:

-It became too much for Layla's people. Was not the girl's honor also that her family? More, that of her whole tribe? Was it right that this mad fellow, this Qays of the Banu Amir, should play around with her until name become a laughing stock! (Ganzavi, 1996:23)

Majnun's treatment seems to make people know that he is very infatuated with Layla. He is singing poems for Layla along the way as the embarrassment to the honor of Layla's family. Then, man like Majnun is not really to a match of Layla. Layla's family honor has been humiliated. Layla is an object of ridicule by other tribes who hear Majnun's poems. That's why Majnun is not accepted among Layla's people, especially her father. Thus, they are not willing to give way to force and they prefer to die rather than to be ashamed as what this following quotation stated:

-Nevertheless the brave defenders did not lose heart. They were still not willing to give way to force, determined not to hand over Layla to the madman. They preferred to die rather than live under such a shameful yoke. (Ganzavi, 1996:85)

When the honor of Layla's family has been humiliated by Majnun, Layla's father takes action to keep his daughter away from Majnun. Layla's father no longer allows Layla to go to school and even go anywhere because she will later be able to meet Majnun. Here we can see that Majnun has been stressed because he is separated from Layla. Let's see this following quotation to be a proof:

Based on the social life that used to be embraced by the Arab community, it can be concluded that there is a relationship or situation experienced by Layla's father with the previous mindset. Layla's father is still influenced by the thoughts of the previous Arabs, where they feared that his daughter could not live well and could not provide for her child's needs. Because of that, Layla's father, who is still attached to his old principles, ensures that his daughter will be with the right person. In addition to maintaining the honor of the family, Layla's father also does not believe in Majnun to be his son-in-law because Majnun's appearance alone cannot promise that Majnun will be able to guarantee the life of his daughter. That is why Layla's father continues to oppose Majnun's relationship with his daughter.

### **The Nature of Forbidden Love in Romeo Juliet Family Honor**

The nature of forbidden love in this story is revealed through honor. As social beings, People must get status in society, this is called honor. Family honor will come naturally in society. Every family wants to be respected by society, even so for Romeo and Juliet Family. Moreover, Romeo and Juliet are in forbidden love and they have to keep up the honor of a family since their parents have dignity. The disharmony that exists between Capulet and Montague makes them unable to show their relationship openly. This anyhow prevents them from having a relationship. The disharmony between them can be seen from this following quotation:

-CAPULET: what noise is this? Give me my long sword ho. LADY  
CAPULET: a crutch, a crutch, why call you for a sword?  
CAPULET: my sword I say, old Montague is come, and flourishes his  
blade in spite of me. (Enter old Montague and his wife). MONTAGUE:

thou villain Capulet, hold me not, let me go. LADY MONTAGUE: thou shalt not stir one foot to seek a foe. (Shakespeare, Act 1, Scene 1:34)

From the above quotations, the nature of forbidden love is **family honor**. It can be seen that there is disharmony between the Capulet and Montague families. The dispute between the two families of Capulet and Montague has a bad impact on the relationship forgotten by Romeo and Juliet. When Romeo and Juliet have fallen in love with each other, they must conceal their relationship from both sides of the family so that their respective families do not know about it. They must keep up the honor of a family. Their family conditions don't give them the opportunity for their parents' blessing. We can see another quotation indicating Capulet and Montague still the cold war when Romeo tried to sneak at the party hosted by Capulet.

-TYBLAT: uncle, this is a Montague our foe: a villain that is hither come in spite, to scorn at our solemnity this night. CAPULET: young Romeo, is it? TYBLAT: tis he, that villain Romeo.

CAPULET: content thee gentle coz, let him alone, a bears him like a portly gentleman: and to say truth, Verona brags of him, to be a virtuous and well-governed youth: I would not for the wealth of all this town, here in my house do him disparagement. Therefore be patient, take no note of him, it is my will, the which if you respect, show a fair presence. (Shakespeare, Act 1, Scene 5:53)

Even though Capulet's family knew that Romeo was at their party, Capulet does not want to be careless. He will not show a bad attitude at the party. The show of attitude by kicking Romeo can affect the bad actions that have been done later it could put the honor of the family at stake. That's why Capulet doesn't take a bad action even though he already knows that Romeo was in their party.

On the other hand, every couple who loves each other wants to stay their love in the marriage. Romeo and Juliet are forbidden to love because Romeo's family and Juliet's family are enemies. Enemies even discord between Montague and the Capulet family. Over time, it is difficult to reconcile. The enmity between the two families disturbs the citizens of Verona for a while and then the prince of Verona said that if the dispute continues, punishment would be threatened, as what has been stated in this following quotation:

-Prince: Canker'd with peace, to part your canker'd hate: If ever you disturb our street again, Your lives shall pay the forfeit of the peace. For



this time, all the rest depart away. You, Capulet, shall go along With me and Montague, come you this afternoon. To know our Farther pleasure in this case, to old free town, our common judgement-place. Once more, on pain of death, all men depart.¶ (Ganzavi, 1996:35)

Capulet and Montague continued to disagree and refused to take action for peace. Therefore the prince of Verona warned them not to make a fuss and disturb the people's peace in Verona. The honor of the family that is upheld by each Capulet and Montague do not seem to end because they are both selfish to each other. They feel that make peace will reduce the honor of their respective families.

According to William J Goode in his book sociology of the family, falling in love is what is often thought, and is common in the US where people date like Hollywood movie stars. The importance of the element of love in the US says in disagreement that with love is a weak basis for marriage, and it does not take into account the extent to which the selection process leads to matchmaking between people of the same background. It means that people in the US generally don't mind the background in choosing a partner. The main relationship between love and other social structures in industrialized Western countries is that the family unit is relatively independent of the order of the larger family group, so that husband and wife are free to love each other without competition.

But the condition of Romeo and Juliet is not because of their different backgrounds, they are both from respectable and respected families. Because of one previous unresolved problem, the enemy between the Capulet family, Juliet and Montague, Romeo. It causes both the Montague and Juliet families to not accept that their children fall in love with each other. They felt the need to defend their family's honor by staying out of contact with their enemies. It has nothing to do with Romeo's impropriety. However, Romeo's family had previously been hostile to Juliet's family, therefore their relationship should not happen let alone love each other.

### **The Nature of Forbidden Love in Both of the Ganzavi's novel Layla Majnun and Shakespeare's play Romeo Juliet**

1. Forbidden love in case of family honor is found in the novel Ganzavi's Layla Majnun and Shakespeare's play Romeo Juliet. In the Ganzavi's, forbidden love derives from Layla's father, who opposes their relationship due to Majnun. He looked like a mad man who is

not suitable for his daughter. In the Shakespear's play, forbidden love come from both Romeo and Juliet's Parent. Juliet is banned to marry with Romeo because she should keep her family honor. To get married with her family's enemy will make her family become ashamed and reduce his great name in the society.

2. Occupation is found in the Ganzavi's Layla Majnun when Ibn Salam who is a warrior and feels pride of the Arabs. He is accepted to be Layla's husband because he is wealth. Wherever he goes, his honor is without a flaw. It seems very contrast to Majnun who is famous for his madness who and write poetry only.
3. Power is found in Ganzavi's novel Layla Majnun and Layla's father has a power to force Layla to get married with Ibn Salam. The same power in the story of Romeo Juliet is that Juliet's parent asks her daughter to get married with Paris.

No.	The Nature of Forbidden Love	Layla Majnun	Romeo Juliet
1.	Family honor	□	□
2.	Occupation	□	×
3.	Estate	×	×
4.	Power	□	□

**Tabel 5:** The Nature of Forbidden Love

### **The Similarities And Differences Of Forbidden Love In Layla Majnun And Romeo Juliet**

In this section, there are some important things that the researcher will analyze is to look for the similarities and differences in the two literary works, Layla Majnun and Romeo Juliet. The researcher will analyze the elements of the two literary works in this section. Taylor says that there are four elements in a story, novel or prose in a book Literature: Introductory Material (2016: 8), namely the setting, plot, character and conflict. Throughout the analysis, the elements of the two literary works the researcher finds in both literary works that according to the elements, surely the similarities and differences are also listed below:

- A. Both literary works providing a similar plot. Layla Majnun and Romeo Juliet have same plot, they are linear plot.
- B. Both literary works have a different setting of time and place. Layla Majnun takes place in Persia, Arab on the 7<sup>th</sup> century 1188. On the opposite, Romeo Juliet takes in Verona, Italy in the 1585. Nizami

Ganzavi's Layla Majnun is Middle Eastern culture and Persian literature. On the other hand, William Shakespeare's Romeo Juliet is Western culture and European literature.

- C. Both literary works have similarities in the main characters. The main characters in Layla Majnun are Layla and Majnun. Layla is look like a growing perfect jewel, and shines like the moon because of her beauty. She loves Majnun too much, either Majnun too. But it contrast with Layla's character, he is also the main character of this story, Majnun was seen as the unfortunate one who was never suitable to Layla. While in Romeo Juliet, the main character as drawn as Romeo who loves Juliet so much even though Juliet comes from her enemy. This is also not much different from Juliet who loves Romeo very much. She also the main character in the story. Even though Romeo is from the sworn enemy of her family, this does not make Juliet hesitate to fall in love with Romeo. So the two main characters in these two literary works have similarities where the two main characters fall in love and love each other.
- D. Both of literary works have a little different conflict, but still similar too. Story of Layla Majnun start from the relationship which is forbid by certain groups, especially Layla's father and Layla's tribe. Majnun was not suitable to Layla. In impact they can not unite their love because opposed by certain groups. In this still the same as the story in Romeo Juliet. They can not unite their love due to their family was enemies each other. E. Both literary works have the same motif that is forbidden love.
- F. The nature of forbidden love comes from family honor, occupation, estate and power. In the novel of Layla Majnun, the characters do forbidden love that come from family honor, power and occupation. The fact can be seen when layla's father was ashamed of his daughter who was loved by someone like Majnun, a mad man. It can be concluded that Layla's father keeps their family honor. The power also came when Layla's father did not allow Layla to unite with Majnun and marry her daughter to the man he chose, namely Ibn Salam. He is famous person, pride of the Arabs and master of art. The view of Ibn Salam's occupation is also part of Layla's father's choice of being compared to Majnun which is nothing. On the other hand, Romeo Juliet's forbidden love comes from Family honor and power, where Romeo and Juliet's family opposes their relationship. The Dignifying of parents and disharmony family relations. This makes them worthy

to guard the honor of their family. Romeo and Juliet must protect the honor of the family, because of getting married with their enemy and this will make their family be ashamed besides having lower honor in the societies.

Romeo Juliet and Layla Majnun represent a kind of cultural union and cross-cultural cooperation. According to Palmer, an inveterate Shakespeare nerd that MO involves plunging deeply into historical and dramaturgical research started investigating the play's provenance. He and learned that one of the most famous plays in Western literature was actually based on a 12th century epic poem by one of the most famous Muslim writers in history. He got a translation of Layla and Majnun by Persian poet Nizami (1141-1209). But Palmer quickly realized that couldn't do it alone. -It's the greatest epic piece of Muslim literature he said. He immediately realized he was in over his head, Palmer recalls. -I had no clue about 12th century Persian culture. He needed help.

Most of Shakespeare's plays were adapted from earlier stories. While tracing the steps of an educated classical playwright through several possible early sources, Palmer discovers Nizami Ganjavi's Shakespearean Poems of his own construction, dating from early Persian and Arabic folklore, at least a thousand years before Bud wrote the story of the quarrel between Capulet and Montague – many European writers have detailed it. -There is no conclusive evidence, Palmer explains, -but we do know that he read Italian material, which was heavily influenced by Persian masterpieces of the 11th and 12th centuries. There is no doubt that Layla and Majnun had a strong influence on Romeo and Juliet but indirect impact."

He also found some big differences. "Layla is more modern, more feminist, more fickle and independent than Juliet," she said, threatening to use violence to deny her husband's courtship arranged by her family. "I'll die before I let you touch me," he said. This is simply a discovery that upsets Palmer's own prejudices about Islamic culture and history, which played a significant role in the work of the Sunni Muslim poet Nizami. He admits: "I've never had a show that portrays my own ignorance better than the last few months." "A large part of this process has challenged my own assumptions and preconceptions that prevent me from truly understanding the relationship between all people."

He sought advice throughout the project from knowledgeable sources, including feedback from -every Muslim theater company in America and scholars at Columbia University and at the University of Oregon. -No Aladdin! cautioned UO prof Michael Malek-Najjar, professor of theatre

arts at the University of Oregon who is a director, playwright, and scholar of Arab American drama and who had earlier written about the dangers of cultural appropriation in a recent play produced by Portland Center Stage. No flying carpets, belly dancers or genie lamps appear. But appropriate to the 12th century Persian style and setting, it's the high-status Roman woman, not the Muslims, who wear headscarves. Palmer found more help even closer to home. He'd worked with Melory Mirashrafi, a Persian-American student at Linfield College and a graduate of Hillsboro High School, in an earlier B&B production. He hired her as assistant director to help with, among other things, translation, pronunciation, insight into Persian culture and the role of Islamic faith in the characters' lives. Layla and Majnun meet for the last time before their deaths. Late 16th-century illustration. They also helped Palmer -bring together the poetic, lush, expressive blank verse of Nizami and the iambic pentameter of Shakespeare, he says. All together,

-what we have is NOT Romeo and Juliet, and it is NOT Layla and Majnun, but rather an amalgamation of the two. Palmer, who will direct Bag & Baggage's outdoor production, believes his new adaptation is the first such attempt to merge Shakespeare's play about the Montagues and Capulets with one of its main inspirations, and to frame the story as a conflict not just between feuding families but also between two religions. Collaborating Across Cultures

The process of conjoining the two stories also produced something equally valuable: a creative cross-cultural collaboration. -We wanted to start first season in new home with a bang, Palmer says. -It is a convenient piece of great luck that Layla and Majnun is not only so beautiful and epic and perfectly suited to our Shakespeare production, but also that it gave us chance to do something that's never been done in Washington County theater before: to focus on the connections between the Muslim and Christian worlds. He quotes one of Romeo and Juliet's signature lines: -A rose, by any other name, would smell as sweet.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis and findings of Forbidden Love Layla Majnun and Romeo Juliet can be summarized as the nature of forbidden love experienced by the two main characters of the two literary works. The conclusion of the nature of forbidden love and the similarities and differences has been found as follows:

1. The nature of forbidden love comes from family honor, occupation, estate and power. In the novel of Layla Majnun, the characters are involved in forbidden love that comes, from family honor, power and occupation. In the play Romeo Juliet the forbidden love also comes from family honor and power.
2. The similarities and differences between Ganzavi's Layla Majnun and Shakespeare's Romeo

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