

Manifestations of the Place of Sufism in Abd al-Elah ibn Arafa's Novel *Jabal Qaf* by based on the Opinions of Muhyi al-Din Ibn Arabi



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Abstract

The readout of the mystical heritage has emerged clearly in literature, especially in a number of contemporary novels. This reveals spiritual developments among the story writers; those who seek to create knowledge based on abstract foundations. Some Arab novelists, specifically in the West, have employed the knowledge and mystical heritage in the resurrection of the modern Arab novel. The novel *Jabal Qaf* written Abd al-Elah ibn Arafa is a new novelistic experience that contains mystical dimensions from the title to its end, as the mystical vision has been mixed with the cognitive material on the one hand and linked to the symbolic and aesthetic connotations on the other hand. Taking a semiotic approach, this research sought mystical place as an epistemological concept in the thoughts Muhyi al-Din Ibn Arabi, through exploring the mystical spatial scenes in *Jabal Qaf*, which shows his ideas about the place and the mystical connotations manifested especially in the descriptive scenes of the market of Murcia city, the bookcase of the Sultan, and mosques such as Al-Aqsa Mosque as well as other situations like scenes conquest or in his talk about the East and the West. The study concluded that religious and mystical spaces and places dominated the *Jabal Qaf* novel, and gave it a spiritual character. The narrator has been able to imbue it with mystical connotations that he borrowed from the idea of the great philosopher Ibn Arabi. The study revealed that this refers to the religious background adopted by the narrator.

Keywords: Contemporary Novel, Arabic West, Place, Sufism, Abd al-Elah ibn Arafa.

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