Strategies of invoking the personality of Jamila Bouhaird in the political discourses of contemporary Arabic poetry

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Abstract

The struggle for belief, striving for freedom, and achieving social justice are among the fundamental themes of contemporary Arab poets' poetry. One way in which poets have depicted their desires and dreams is by using figures involved in the fight as examples in their poetic texts. Among these figures, Jamila Bouhaird, an important and influential figure from Algeria, is considered a suitable model by poets due to her experience fighting against French colonialism and enduring torture and long suffering in prisons. Her presence has been appropriated by many poets in their political discourses, including Nazul Al-Malaika, Abdul Moti Hijazi, Badr Shaker Al-Siyab, Nizar Qabbani, and Abdul Wahab Al-Bayati. Given the prominent presence of this figure in the poetic discourse of these poets and the semantic load it carries, the current research aims to qualitatively explore the strategies used to depict this character, as well as the degree of his presence and how he intervenes in the poem. The goal is to reveal how these poets use this character in their poetic texts and analyze its implications in order to gain a more accurate understanding of contemporary poetry. The results of the research indicate that Jamila Bouhaird has played a role as a role model and active activist in the political discourses related to anti-colonialism and the restoration of lost identity within the poetry of these studied poets. In the conceptualization process, her presence in the poems was central, with her name specified in those texts to reduce emotional distance with her.

Keywords: discourse studies, contemporary Arabic poetry, Algerian revolution, Jameela Bouhaird, expressive strategies.

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