Use of the character "Meysam Tammar" in contemporary Arabic poetry (Case example: the Poetry of Hassan Ale Hatit al-Amili and Jasim al-Sahayyeh)

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Abstract

In contemporary literature, poets, writers, and artists have shown a special focus on symbols in their literary works, such as poems, stories, and plays. One form of symbolism is the incorporation of various historical, religious, and mythological figures in contemporary Arabic poetry. A modern poet, akin to a historian, does not solely view history through historical data but imbues historical characters with personal experiences and societal context to convey spiritual concepts and dynamic implications to readers. Meysam Tammar, a companion of the Prophet and loyal friend of Imam Ali (AS), holds significant presence in the poetry of some contemporary poets. This article examines the symbolic significance of this character in the works of two Arab poets: "Jasim al-Sahayyeh" from Saudi Arabia and "Hasan AleHatit al-Amili" from Lebanon. Given the lack of prior research on Maysham Temar's portrayal in contemporary Arabic poetry, investigating this theme is crucial. The analysis reveals that Maisham's virtues like righteousness, truthfulness, outspokenness, resilience against oppressors, and martyrdom have led modern poets to center their poems around his character. These two poets have associated themselves with Maitham in their poetry to elucidate societal issues and express their experiences, concerns, and reformist ideas beyond Maitham's persona

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