

4^e

CONGRESS

Middle East and Muslim Worlds
Studies

28 June - 2 July 2021



Panel 37

Literature: a mirror of reality in the Middle East

The literature aims to give a descriptive discourse of reality. The problems and catastrophes from which the Middle East suffers are reflected in all literary productions of modern society.

Our interdisciplinary workshop aims to initiate an exploration of French literary works and to study the representations they convey. Identity, culture, conflicts, emigration, extremism, war... are subjects that deserve to be studied to focus attention on a reality that continues to reign over our region in order to find ways to get rid of it.

What impact has current events in the Middle East had on the novels of French-speaking writers during the last twenty years? What ideas and beliefs do they want to convey to us? How are contemporary events experienced and seen by the characters in the novels?

In particular, we will try to highlight the points of view that francophone novelists want to expose through their novels.

Person in charge: Hussein Hayame (Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University, Faculty of Languages & Suez Canal University, Faculty of Arts)

Discussant: Hussein Hayame (Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University, Faculty of Languages & Suez Canal University, Faculty of Arts)

Program

Bedjaoui Wafa (University of Algiers 2 Abou El Kacem Saad Allah, Cognitive Neuroscience Research Unit)

Malouf's hermeneutics of the shipwreck metaphor

This contribution is a study of the apocalyptic discourse of Amin Maalouf in his essay «The Shipwreck of Civilisations» published in 2019. The Middle East, or as he so aptly calls the Levant or the Levantine universe, is represented by the author as the cradle of civilizations. Throughout history, this area has undergone impressive upheavals that have affected the whole world. This tale of alarmist cries bitterly describes the situation in the countries of the Levant, which are sinking into darkness after having been the source of Enlightenment for centuries. «My Levantine universe was the first to sink; (...) 'my' Arab nation was the one whose suicidal distress dragged the entire planet into the destructive spiral» (Malouf, 2019: 9).

It will thus be a question of going back over the upheavals that led this region of the world to the fall that seems to have no return. What interests us more particularly is how the Arab-Israeli conflict was approached in this historical essay, since we read the personal history of the author, that of his family, that of his native Lebanon and that of his adopted country, Egypt. With subtlety and insight, Malouf remarkably retraces the tragic history of a generation that has known defeat.

Halabi Malak (Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University, Faculty of Languages)

Mediterranean Sea / Wall, Literary approach to immigration

The sinking of a boat of illegal migrants, bodies floating on the surface of the sea, dead children carried by the waves on unknown beaches... A real human catastrophe deserving to be described told and felt again. The Mediterranean Sea, which symbolizes openness, is transformed into a place of partitioning for migrants. It has become the place of transformation, of human decadence; a place where dreams of ascension turn into plummet. *Mur Méditerranée* by Louis-Philippe DALAMBERT, written in 2019, is inspired by the real tragedy of an illegal boat to confront us with the human condition in a broad representation of migration and exile. Our study aims at the imaginary representation of immigration. The analytical approach adopted is based on the anthropological structures of Gilbert Durand's imagination, in order to study how the trauma of populations in exodus (rise vs. fall) unfolds through the recurrence of haunting images in discourse).

Hassan Zeinab (Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University & Faculty of Languages, University of Al-Azhar, Faculty of Human Sciences)

Exile, violence and memory in the French translation of Hoda Barakat's novel: Courrier de nuit

Torments, exile, dispossession are themes marking the physical and moral wandering of the refugees in the novel *Courrier de nuit* written by the Lebanese writer Hoda Barakat in 2017 (Beirut Publishing House) and translated into French by Philippe Vigreux in 2018 (South Acts / Sindbad). They get lost and find themselves unable to return to their native land or be accepted into exile. In this novel, Barakat portrays human beings, countries of cultures, societies, religions and anonymous regions; lost characters, broken, morbid, sick marginalized people, victims of a cruel society that refuses to accept them.

Our study is interested in the literary realism of this novel which reveals everything without masking anything, without lying, without justifying itself, without reproaching itself and which exposes, with the help of long descriptions or spun metaphors, the misfortune of these characters. lost. The present work focuses more on the analysis and criticism of the translation of this novel, thus showing to what degree the translator succeeded in conveying to the French-speaking readers burning emotions addressed in the original language, such as the exile, violence, wandering, loss, anguish and marginality in which thousands of contemporary people live.

Mahmoud Marwa (Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University, Faculty of Languages & University of Beni-Suef, Faculty of Arts)

The Arab of the Future by Riad Sattouf: a graphic novel, a life trajectory.

Comics are a language, a way to lead a story. *The Arab of the Future* written by Riad Sattouf is a graphic novel in four volumes, we choose the first two volumes (published by Allary Editions in 2014 and 2015) which tell the political history from 1967 until the Arab Spring nowadays.

Riad Sattouf born in Paris to a Syrian father and a French mother, spent his childhood in Libya and Syria where he received a Muslim education in a village school. At the age of 12, he returned to France with his parents where he continued his studies. *The Arab of the Future* relates his childhood in Libya, then in Syria. Riad Sattouf explained that this book aims to delight the craze in the Arab countries. He chose the title *The Arab of the Future* about the Arab his father dreamed of.

This study proposes to examine this interdisciplinary encounter between "literature - graphic design" We study how a graphic novel can develop a story by exploiting the narrative possibilities of the graphic novel techniques. Our study relies on the «stripology», the scientific discipline elaborated by Harry Morgan in his book *Principes des littératures dessinées* (Editions de l'An2, 2003).