

A Case Study of Iliya Abu Madi's Works on Modern Arabic Poetry

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Abstract

In this paper an attempt has been made to study of Iliya Abu Madi's works on modern Arabic Poetry. The present paper is an exploratory one which aims at studying the role of indigenous knowledge for during the time when Arab countries, especially Lebanon experienced political and economic problems, a group of literary writers wanted to emigrate to other countries such as America, Brazil, Canada in order to enhance the living better than before. Part of this group of literary writers is Iliya Abu Madi who is considered the best poet. Besides, his poetry was taken as the starting point for poems of the modern era. He was affected by political and economic problems therefore immigrated to America and produced many works of exile literature during the time when living abroad, e.g. poetry, short stories, etc. So, Arabic literature has played an important role in revealing the status of environmental awareness in our society. A case study or survey method was adopted for conducting the paper, by the investigator especially for this purpose. The principal aim is to examine the effect of the impact of Iliya Abu Madi's works on modern Arabic Poetry. Lastly, self taught, Iliya Abu Madi is perhaps the most famous poet as well as an outstanding litterateur of the literary period known as Mahjar in Modern Arabic literature. There have been numerous dedicated studies on the life and works of Iliya Abu Madi's on modern Arabic poetry.

Keywords: Modern, Arabic, Poetry, Literature.

Introduction:

Arabic poetry was and still is an essential part of Arab identity. Poetry dated back to the 6th century before Islam came to be a religion. Early Arab writers in America adopted fictional romance and romantic poetry as their literary vehicles. They transformed Arabic literature to a space where rebellious characters and calls for reform could live. Writers, both men and women, used Arabic books and poetry to affect social change and challenge traditional social, cultural, and religious issues dealing with oppressive societies, corrupt churches, gender, and women's role in Arab and American society. Between the beginning of World War I in 1914 and World War II in 1939, Arab writers in the United States ushered in the Romantic era of Arabic literature. Mahjari writers escaped the constraints of classical Arabic prose and poetry and remained their language even as they remained their own identities. They were influenced by romanticism and transcendentalism which featured escapism from the present into a fantastic, mystical world, and a tendency toward nihilism. Arab American poets introduced radical stylistic and thematic innovations including the use of simpler language, looser metrical arrangements, abandonment of classical imagery and themes, and greater freedom for the writer, who was now seen as a visionary or prophet leading the way to social and political reform. Arabic literature has played an important role in revealing the status of environmental awareness in our society.

Iliya Abu Madi was born in 1889 in the Lebanese village of al-Muhayditha, and died in New York in 1957 of a heart failure. He dived into the wreck, as Adrienne Rich said in her landmark poem; *Diving into the Wreck*, very early on; and it was a real wreck, not a metaphor. His first book of poems appeared when he was about twenty. He titled it 'Tithkar al-madi' (remembering the past), as if he had already grown old and was looking across the chasm of time and space. And, indeed, by that age much had happened to and for him.

As a young boy in Alexandria, Abu Madi worked at a tobacco and cigarette store owned by his uncle who, like many Lebanese and Syrians, had immigrated to Egypt. Meanwhile, he taught himself to write poetry. He delved into classical Arabic poetry, the Bible, and the Qur'an, and imitated their styles and vocabulary. Two of his favorite poets stood on two opposite poles, the stoic Abu al- Alaa'al-Maari (973-1057) and the free-spirited, wine poet, Abu Nuwas (762-813). This contradictory stance was to remain a characteristic of his writing, which he explicitly stated in a poem considered by some one of his major compositions, Al-Talasin, (Riddles).

Iliya Abu Madi is the most famous poet of al-Rabita, and the most widely read Mahjari author. His poetry is widely regarded as the beginning of modern Arabic poetry. Unlike all other members of al-Rabita, Abu Madi was trained in traditional Arabic poetry and his first publication (Tadhakar al-Madi, 1911) betrayed that classical approach to poetry. However, after emigration to the U.S. in 1916 he quickly began to combine traditional affinities and new sensibilities. He reached the height of his poetic creativity in the 1920s with his very popular poem 'al-Masa' that was widely circulated and memorized in the Arab world because of its fluid style and gentle melancholy. He followed this with his third collection, " al-Jadawil", where he experimented with form and content, used allegory and pictorial images, and displayed a "superior and highly adaptable talent." Literature is a part of folk culture that not only enriches a particular society.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE:

Review of related literature is an indispensable and important part of research process. Through the review of related literature, researcher can avoid unintentional duplication of well-established findings. It is no use to replicate a study when the stability and validity of its results have been clearly established. A careful review of the research journals, books, dissertations and other sources of information on the problems to be investigated is one of the important steps in the planning of any research study. It can never be undertaken in isolation of the work that has already been done on the problems, which are directly or indirectly related to study proposed by a researcher. Ansary (2015) conclusion, at last but not the least, we can opine on the above mentioned studies that Jibran and Nu,,aima are overlapped and so to between Mary Huskel and Gibran. It is clear from Jibrans letters sent to Nuaima that really he loved him from the core of his heart. Ismat (1938) found Abu Madi's free flowing (prose and poem) style was highly appealing to the common people in the Arab world. Moreover, he successfully introduced the western cultural values in to the Arabic literature. The style he introduced infused a new essence particularly in Arabic romantic poetry. Abu Madhi is a great interpreter of nature in Arabic poetry. To him, nature is often a source of moral teaching in a Wordsworthian fashion. He also believes that nature was the embodiment of the Divine Spirit, which means that the spiritual communion is possible between the dwelling soul of the universe and the soul of man. His emphasis is everywhere thrown upon those spiritual forces within us which give us power and the ability to lift ourselves through conscious and patient effort, above the reach of circumstances and the flux of external things (Ahmad, 2016).

Significance of the Present Study:

From the very earliest stages in the Arabic literary tradition, poetry has reflected the deepest sense of Arab self-identity, of communal history, and of aspirations for the future. Within this tradition the role of the poet has been of major significance of modern Arabic poetry. The early twentieth century was a time of great intellectual and political ferment in Egypt and in the region, a time of battle against Western colonialism and late authoritarian Ottoman rule, although Egypt was ruled by a dynasty of its own and under British occupation, its allegiance was to the Ottoman Empire. Iliya Abu Madi got enmeshed in all of this, and penned patriotic poems for a wounded land and in praise of freedom. So, we can say

that his years in Alexandria were his formative period, when he came of age, physically and poetically. The definition of indigenous is something or someone who is native to an area or who naturally belongs there or originating or occurring naturally in a particular place, native. Therefore, Arabic literature includes extensive vicinity counting within its periphery as traditional stories, tales, narratives, faiths and beliefs. As already mentioned that the main ethnic groups of Iliya Abu Madi's works on modern Arabic poetry the results of analysis showed that Iliya Abu Madi's played a major role in the evolution of exile poetry published to the public through a variety of writing methods in order for the readers to get poetic flavor from imagination at the same time combining language and style, analogy, comparison, metaphor, the use of words with opposite meanings, the use of the same words but different meanings so that the content there of becomes clear, represents the power of life. The readers can feel the difference and see imagery that comes out of the mind, thoughts and hope, the use of life philosophy in poetry, imagination of life with purity and well-being. . In the light of the above discussion of the origin as well as significant of the study, the title of the present study has been fixed as, "A Case Study of Iliya Abu Madi's Works on Modern Arabic Poetry". In this context, it becomes necessary to explore this field. Hence, Poetry can be a powerful teaching tool, helping students improve their literacy. It can also allow writers to express their emotions and allow readers to connect to those emotions. Poetry is also connected to aesthetics, or the exploration of what is beautiful in the world.

Statement of the Problem:

The problem under investigation entitled is, "A Case Study of Iliya Abu Madi's Works on Modern Arabic Poetry".

Objectives of the Present Study:

The main objectives of the present study investigation are as follows:

- (i).To analyze the Iliya Abu Madi's works.
- (ii).To identifies the involvement on modern Arabic poetry.
- (iii) To assess the colonial and post-colonial to the emergence the history of Arabic poetry.

Methodology:

The Normative Survey method is chosen for the present study. The primary and secondary sources have been collected in this paper.

Sources of Data:

For the present study both primary and secondary sources of data are used. The primary data has been collected by field survey based and the secondary sources of data have been collected by the thesis, Dissertations, library, Research Articles, Journal, Government reports, documents, officials records, Newspapers, Internet etc.

Delimitations:

The present study has been carried out some limitations as following:

- (i) The study has been delimited to the Iliya Abu Madi's only.
- (ii) The areas of has been restricted in modern Arabic poetry only.
- (iii) The study has been confined- involvement of works of Iliya Abu Madi only.

Analysis and Discussions:

Analysis of data is identifying the research problems which are need to be researchable and can be generated from practice, but must be grounded in the existing literature. They may be local, national or international problems that need addressing in order to develop the existing evidence base. A few elements of Iliya Abu Madi's Works on Modern Arabic Poetry are briefly explanation and outcome of analysis and discussed below:

In 1911, Iliya Abu Madi published his first collection of poems, Tazkar al-Madi. Shortly after, he was exiled by the Ottoman authorities and he left Egypt for the United States, where he settled in Cincinnati, Ohio. Following then is the presentation of the life and

works of our man, Iliya Abu Madi while his contribution to the field of Modern Arabic literature concludes the work. In this paper an attempt has been made to study some Iliya Abu Madi main frequent poem. Iliyawas constantly seeking to know where he comes from. Although in some cases the lyrics are like that of Khayyam. Abu Madi's view at the nature is another prominent factor in his poem, which is following Thomistic Thought, his romantic poems, though not much different from other poets exhibit properties. This article is an attempt to study parts of the subjects to open a window onto enthusiasts. Thus, Arabic literature, the body of written works produced in the Arabic language.

The study deals with the image of nature and the human relationship with it in light of the knowledge of the relationship with women and the homeland. The study seeks to analyze the relationship between nature and man, in which the poet's vision was manifested. The study highlighted, through its topics related to women and the homeland, the depth of the connection between the poet and nature. The study confirms the importance of nature in Abu Madi's poetry as an idea that expresses the intellectual and psychological dimensions with which his poems were mixed and expressed.

This study his life and works bear testimony to this because virtually none of his contemporaries could be said to have surpassed his achievement in the fields of Modern Arabic literature i.e. prose and poetry, especially the Mahjar category. This work therefore presents Abu Madi's life and works as well as his contributions to the development of Mahjar branch of the Modern Arabic literature. The works begins by giving the definition of the word Mahjar as it affects Modern Arabic literature and followed by the factors that led to emigration of poets and literary figures to the 'new worlds'. The objective of this research is to analyze Elia Abu Madi's Arab exile literature about the role and concept of Elia Abu Madi as well as poetry in the form of writing, literature and invention that appear in poetry. Thus we may say that Madi's work has an extra dimension of imaginative power which on occasion takes it beyond the limits of the romantic experience and lends it a permanent value which transcends the style of his immediate generation.

Major Finding and Conclusion:

The findings of the paper are as follows:

Iliya Abu Madi was one of the most famous and interesting poets of modern Arabic literature. Who was known as romantic poet, a poet of moods. His poetry has been termed as the beginning of modern verse. Iliya Abu Madi played very important role in Pen Association-Rabita al Qalamia and also did a lot for its all round development. Iliya Abu Madi is a great interpreter of nature in Arabic poetry. His emphasis is everywhere thrown upon those spiritual forces within us which give us power and the ability to lift ourselves through conscious and patient effort, above the reach of circumstances and the flux of external things. In this topic, we touched upon an attempt to limit the rhythm as a sticky concept that refuses to control. And we deliberately associated it with a kind of poetry, which was considered a revolution in the poetry of the early ones as an art and life. We were given a confusing poem for readers who used to have typical poems based on a well-known and fenced structure in order to define their dictionaries, their meanings and their pictures. Interestingly, it enabled us to have great rhythmic potentials, so the illusion of the minds that shows were killed in the rhythm of its fertility was removed, as it allowed us to rotate and creeping in frequency. And we tested the ability of grammar compassionately; a condition and a synthesis to give rhythmic peculiarity to the poetry of the romantics by reviving rhythms that were marginalized by the typical poem of the first. Among these pioneers was Iliya Abu Madi, whose poems are renowned in the Arabic literary world. Mahjari poems thus constitute a transitory body of work: one that triggered the break away from classic conventions, paving the way for the eventual emergence of Arabic free verse (Al-Shir Al-

Hurr). This paper is interested in a particular poem titled “Tholasim”, variously translated as 'The Enigmas' or 'The Riddles'. This paper aims to discuss the challenges and losses of meaning that occurs in developing an English translation of “Tholasim” that appropriately reflects the forms that emerge in this transitory phase. Last but not the least; Abu Madi is a great interpreter of nature in Arabic poetry. To him nature is often a source of moral teaching in a Wordsworthian fashion. In the field of romanticism, Iliya Abu Madi’s established him as one of the famous poets of romanticism. He transmitted the message of nature through his poems at different levels. In Fact, there is a great significance in the poetry produced by Iliya Abu Madi; his poems bear the trend of romanticism, expressed in the narrative style with a message of suffering tales, poverty, treachery, death heroism, devotion and noble deeds which fill the diverse stories of the human being. Iliya Abu Madi’s poetry often shows strength of spirit and an optimism greatly needed by a frustrated nation needing to muster all its spiritual resources. In conclusion therefore, researcher ardently hopes that this important field of investigation would be continued and carried over with the passage of time

Remedial Measures:

Following remedial measures or suggestion may guide in making fields more authentic. The focus in this issue is on putting education in values and for character building on the national agenda. A study may be conducted on vast area sample may be large in size and other author or prose or other poets may be taken.

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