

Multiculturalism in a star novel by Kateb Yassine

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Abstract---Algerian society is open to a wide overlap in cultures, and this overlap includes a prominent cultural diversity, and it has been reflected on Algerian literature in general, and on the Algerian novel in particular, and this diversity appears in languages, where Arabic, French and slang overlap in literary texts, and the overlapping culture is manifested in Algerian writing through several aspects, including the inspiration of the interaction between what is authentic and what is imported in Algerian society, and the novelist's search for new methods. The field of comparative literature is an appropriate field for the study of various manifestations of cultural and civilizational contact between peoples, and the resulting multiplicity and convergence of different cultural identities, in order to keep pace with the changes that are in line with the language techniques, styles and visions of the Algerian man, who carries intellectual, social and ideological contradictions fueled by disagreements, disappointments and crises. paper figures represent conflicts, challenges, attitudes and cultural practices. since the Algerian novel was greatly influenced by Arab, Islamic and French culture, the field of Comparative Literature was an appropriate field for studying various manifestations of cultural and civilizational contact between peoples, and the resulting multiplicity and rapprochement between different cultural identities. Therefore, this study aims to investigate the manifestations of cultural diversity in the novel "Najma" by Yassin, and its various relationships in the field of comparative study.

Keywords---identities, multilingualism, cultural diversity, Algerian novel, comparative literature.

Introduction

The French colonizer tightened the noose on the writers of Algeria, and imposed a blockade on the Arabic language, but the Algerian novelist did not stand still, but resorted to the French language to express himself and reality: "the French language was their way to talk to this party under the conditions imposed by this colonizer on the Arabic language as the native language, and because the language is

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considered the most important part of the nation, France used all methods to eliminate the Arabic language, France's invasion of Algeria was a total invasion"¹, but the actual launch of the novel written in French sincerely about the national issue and the concerns of the Algerian people: "The producers of the novel in French had to create a distance to reflect on history, self-criticism and criticism of the other, through this distance and in light of this space, the announcement of a new narrative text began to herald a new man and a new mind, overturning the balance of the novelistic heroism, if the other (French) is the center in the colonial novel, then the "ego" i.e. "native" is the margin, and in the new text a new man was born"², and the French language became a means of broadcasting the creations of Algerian writers.

1-the historical framework of the Algerian novel written in French:

The Algerian novel written in French absorbed the issues of society, and its ultimate goal was to depict reality and the harsh conditions left by colonialism, "the novel can... To express more flexibly than all other literary arts the personality of the intellectual and his basic problems"³, where the emergence of Francophone literature crowned the connection of two cultures together, the reason for which was the French occupation and the settlement of Algeria by al-Muammar, and Naturalization was taken as a way to blur the Algerian and Arab-Islamic identity.

The writer Yassine-for example- An Algerian revolutionary who took the French language as a war booty, and authored his novel *Najma* (1956) in this language, which critics considered the most beautiful text in French by a writer of non-European origin, sincerely expressed a painful period in the lives of Algerians, and "prose is more attached to the land than poetry, because the conditions of Algeria after the first World War helped the emergence of the realist doctrine in which writers of different cultures found room to express the reality of the country"⁴, and the heroes of their novel texts were realists, and their circumstances are similar to literature, "since they did not practice literature until after the experiences they acquired in various crafts, so their literary themes came to express personal experience of problems Thus, we find a writer Yassine who was a professional journalist, working in ports and agriculture before he practiced writing"⁵.

2-terms and concepts:

A-the concept of culture:

The linguistic concept of the word culture is derived from the triple verb "to educate" in the sense of a clever, skilled or discerning person, that is, he became a clever, skilled, intelligent person, he is a cultured person, he has cultured a culture, he has cultured something, he has raised the crooked from it and others, and he has cultured a person with his literature, politeness and knowledge."⁶

The word "Culture" was not used in the French language to denote mental Queens at first, but its use was underway in land farming, which is its original meaning "Culture-cultured agriculture", but its mental use went along with it to later indicate mental production when it increased with the beginning of the Renaissance, and it indicates in its English meaning directly as a synonym for the meaning of civilization"⁷

Culture in general means the total fabric represented by ideas, trends, habits, value system, way of thinking and working, management methods and etiquette governing a group of individuals, as well as language, lifestyle, housing, food and drink, relationships that establish communication between the individual and the individual, and between the individual and the group.

B-the concept of cultural identity:

The linguistic concept of identity is due to the etymological root of the word identity from the pronoun "he", it was developed as a noun defined by "the" and its meaning is the Union itself, and the concept of identity refers to what the thing "he is" is; that is, in terms of diagnosing it, realizing it in itself and distinguishing it from others, it is the vessel of the collective conscience of any human conglomerate, and the content of this conscience at the same time"⁸ .

It is known as Ta.P is defined as: "the set of physical, psychological, moral, judicial, social and cultural characteristics through which an individual can identify himself, present himself and be recognized by people, or through which an individual feels that he exists as a human being with a set of roles and functions, and through which he feels accepted and recognized as he is by others or by his group or culture to which he belongs"⁹.

Anthropological and sociological studies have proved that identity is the sense of belonging to a group or nation that has social, cultural, psychological, living and historical characteristics and features, which expresses a fabric or entity that merges and merges into the crucible of a whole group.

C-the concept of cultural diversity:

Cultural diversity is a multi-semantic concept that gives disparate realities, as the discourse about cultural diversity has become ubiquitous due to its great importance, its effective place in any society, so Cox defines it as: "performance in a certain system of individuals and groups with different cultural affiliation"¹⁰.

In recent and contemporary history, the problem of the modern state has been raised, which in some European countries, due to certain economic conditions and intellectual factors, has moved towards exclusive and total unification (Totalitaire) or the national integration between the state and society into the formula of a nation - state (Etat-Nation), cultural differences within society have begun to surface at the political level in a demands of minorities, ethnicities, linguistic or religious "¹¹.

Culture is a renewable factor related to the process of social and political organization, due to typical demographic changes, such as income, education, religion, ethnicity, and others, which contribute mainly to the process of interpreting ideological and confessional diversity within a single social structure.

3-about the author and the author:**A) - the author:**

He comes from a conservative middle –class Amazigh family, his father was an agent and a judge at the Sharia courts, his family moved in the nineteenth century to settle near Constantine and then expressed- she began to speak Arabic -, and "his father revealed to him that he understands what they say in the shawian dialect, and it seems that this belated discovery of the Amazigh identity of Algeria ... He devotes his life to this goal, and perhaps also the descent of his family from the Urals made him a rebellious person like many Eurasians"¹².

The writer was born in the circle of zygod Youssef in Constantine State on 06 August 1929, he attended the Quranic school in sidrat (Souk ahras) and then moved to the French school in bouqaa, Setif state from (1935) to (1941): "he was greatly impressed by the school of Europeans and the modern teaching method they use, so he compared it with the negatives of the ancient Quranic school, and also compared the European teacher and the teacher of the ancient Quranic school, so he found there is a lot of difference between them in the methods of Education... It seems that these approaches have left

a great influence on the intellectual path of the writer Yassin later"¹³, and he began his secondary education with Latif until the eighth of May 1945-he participated in the demonstrations of May 08, 1945-so he was arrested at the age of no more than 16, and after his arrest "he emigrated to France in search of work, he worked as an agricultural worker and then an electrician, in addition to literary and theatrical"¹⁴.

A year later, he published his first poetry collection "monologue", he entered the world of journalism in 1948, and was published in the Algerian Republican newspaper (Alger républicain), which he founded with Albert Camus, and after joining the Algerian Communist Party, he made a trip to the Soviet Union and then to France in 1951, and held several positions before his death, we mention the position of theater director Sidi Belabbas, and survived an assassination attempt in Tizi Ouzou in (1987), he died in the French city of Grenoble at the age of 60 from leukemia on October 28, 1989, and his body was transported and buried in Algeria.

*** His compositions:**

Monologue (1946), poems of the oppressed Algeria (1948), star (1956), a thousand virgins (1958), the star performer (1966), the circle of retribution (1959), the man with the rubber sole (1970)

B) The author:

In his novel "Najma", the writer Yassin talked about Algeria and the Algerian woman, and gave her an epic war character, she is a symbol that connects the past and the present and connects generations, the star of that beautiful young woman, around whom the wannabes hover, is the same as his homeland Algeria, his star is his first love, the novel raises many questions about the national identity and the plight that the homeland has lived for more than a century.

The novel also conveyed the bloody events of the eighth of May 1945 in various narrative passages, fleeting flashes and reflections, and dense poetic images filled with metaphors, delirium, dreams and recurring nightmares: "Najma is not a work of fiction, enough, not a story waiting for its end, not heroes in the frequent concept, it is a real nebula that leads to something like a chasm extending from the beginning to the end "¹⁵, where the writer deliberately dismantled narrative time and made the reader lost amid the overlap, and it is difficult for him to understand its tense characters, and this calls for the data to be historical epochs, the interweaving of narrative voices, characters and the text appears in a fragmented, scattered and uncoordinated form"¹⁶

4-forms of cultural diversity in the novel "Star":

The French colonialism deepened the idea of bilingualism, because it wanted to blur the features of the Algerian people's national identity, especially language and religion, as the Algerian dialect was influenced by the French lexicon, and "a people may invade a land whose people speak another language, so there is a violent conflict between the invading and conquered languages, and the result is usually either the elimination of one of the two languages almost completely, and that a language derived from the invading and conquered languages will arise from this conflict, including elements of these and other and those "¹⁷. Algerian culture was heavily influenced by French culture, and these influences varied in the novel:

A-religion:

The Islamic conquests spread Islam all over the world, but for the political developments and the fall of Al-Andalus, the fall of Muslims, the Crusader France tried to beat the Muslims of Algeria and eliminate Islam by claiming that Algeria was fighting Christians in cooperation with the Ottomans, and the first project started by the colonizer was to obliterate the features of the Arab and Islamic country, because Arabic was the official language in Algeria.

The writer Yassin tried to spread the idea of attracting Latin Christian France to Algeria through the faith, and the wedding of the Protestant Mr. Ricard and the Catholic miss Suzy is mentioned on the twenty-second page: "and it was fortunate for the master that the Khoury of the region-and he lived in another region did not hear the news, and the pastor was also not alerted, and it did not happen – as many had hoped- What provokes hostility between the Protestant, the contractor and the Catholic of the betrothed, as the party was not attended by priests who cause discord and shorten"¹⁸, but Mr. "Rickard" gets drunk and decides to harm the Catholic congregation: "his joy turned into hostility and lengthened, he was no more, he could not laugh, but the head of the Red Cross received in her chest a large number of dates, and carried Mr. Rickard to his bed, still aware of things around, but unable to control unable to accept what he sees from the very beginning of the feast... Susie, realizing that the wedding night will not come true, accepts and empties the remaining remnants of a bottle of champagne... While the head of the Red Cross took revenge on herself by guarding the couple lying motionless in front of her... Thus, it was not possible to hear the end of the chanting of the main anthem that Mr. Ernst had started in Hamas Fayyad"¹⁹.

The writer Yassine also devoted part of his account to the event about Islamic religious rituals, such as the prayer mentioned in this passage: "the muezzin was calling for prayer, there is no doubt that he had missed the hour, because si Mukhtar –and he was careful in respecting the prayer dates - did not get up to do ablution for the Fajr prayer, but the muezzin prolonged the prayers and prayers, and Dawn really came at his last call, and then I was able to defeat insomnia"²⁰.

B-education of parents:

Rashid entered the Quranic school to please his mother, and because it is the only school that facilitates the teaching of the Arabic language in the city, thanks to SI Mukhtar, who ensured the payment of expenses: "There came a period when he took care of me, day after day, so he paid my debts, but refused to share the room I was living in our house, this happened while I was entering the Quranic School."colonialism was hostile to graduates of Zawiya and mosques, because he believes that they ²¹ are fanatics and hostile to power, that's why the French authorities resorted to the policy of (France) and facilitate the integration of Arabs, he is the French my father is an Arab, today he would have been a marshal, yes, science has reached me to the conditional formulas, an excellent student, this was said about me, I was highlighting all the Frenchmen in the department, and answering The teacher answered the questions and gave me the picture of Marshal "Bitan", I sold the picture to" Dominique"with a sharpener"²², French is the language of the administration and the language of the ruling class, and there is no place for Arabic with it.

C-politics:

French-Algerian political relations were tense for most of its historical career, and France was not keen to establish diplomatic relations with Algeria except for a desire to exploit the country's economic benefits, and monopolize coral investment, and since the establishment of the commercial center in the coast of Galala and Annaba, France has concluded friendship and alliance agreements with Algeria, so Pierre Duval was appointed consul in Algeria in August (1815), and on average, it opened the way for the deviation of the church and the fight against Islam, as Algeria was included in the "Napoleon project Bonaparte", who wished to transform the Mediterranean into a French Lake.

The browser of the novel" Nejme " finds that the crisis of Algeria is related to French colonialism, as if it were "the seat of an earthquake and open discord of every sect and current, from which the earth trembles and to which the invaders come, and in which the resistance continues immortal, entered by "lamorisyar" after ten years of siege in which the Turks succeeded, and then the operations of May 8 were reprisals, ten ten years from Ibn Badis and the Islamic Conference"²³.

The process of storming mosques and turning them into barracks, activity houses, cathedrals and churches began, as happened in Annaba, and the process of infiltration began from "that path at the weapons yard" and from the Turkish roofs and the mosque to the foot of the rugged mountain immersed in water, to the jungle from which the men of "Pogo" were able to take the city"²⁴.

The writer Yassin gives us a picture of the stage of "integration and Naturalization," and this is Rashid muttering about this topic, a hero touring the city of Constantine, "de Gaulle came to grant me the title of citizenship... I hope that no one saw me when I arrived alone, without a suitcase"²⁵, as if he was angry at the situation that the country has become, especially after the continuation of unemployment in it.

The bloody events of repression during the Setif demonstrations (1945) had a great impact on provoking the anger of the protagonists of the novel and igniting the spark of their rebellion, and the expelled student from the Institute "Mustafa" had to answer questions older than his age: "how many were born to Ibn Saud?" Do the Turks have the atomic bomb Or questions related to some of the defeats of the French army, the events of May 8, and the possibility of Arab countries entering the United Nations organization.

The writer also highlighted the founder of the Algerian state, Prince Abdelkader, by saying: "he is the only shadow that could have withdrawn and flooded this vast land, as he was a man of sword and pen, and the only leader capable of gathering the crumbs of tribes to rise to the level of the nation"²⁶, had it not been for the intervention of the French and their destruction of his launch.

D-topography and exclusion:

The French colonization has consolidated its foundations by drawing borders, circles, divisions and districts. the officers of the bureaus have been engaged in the preparation of maps and topographical documents. these officers have also tried to monitor movements and establish an administration capable of controlling the conduct of the country's Affairs to achieve colonial interests, especially the preparation of territories suitable for the settlement of centenarians in the lands from which the people were expelled: "Mr. Rickard's luggage arrived in the village in a cart, in which the first centenarians saw Mr. Rickard... Perhaps his father had stolen or raped him by some soldiers when they passed through a village, and sold him to him at a low price, and Mr. Rickard's mother had died putting him in, while she was moving between settlers, and the husband was unlucky enough to catch up with her, exhausted by effort and lost by work, Mr. Rickard left... ²⁷, and Mr. Rickard was working so hard to make a lot of money that he became "outside the village, where his house, bus depot, workshop, stable, dairy and other accessories that represent an advanced Center on both sides of the road, owns a prosperous, but isolated farm, the exact location of which is known only to a few"²⁸..

The office staff attached importance to the knowledge of the territory, the population and the tribes that they were assigned to manage, as well as to carrying out the census and preparing translations of their lives by employing secret agents, such as the night guard, who was watching the four comrades from his watch: "the muzzle of his rifle was pointed upwards and the bearded man was glad that he did not take the initiative to greet him.

- It's a snake eavesdropping behind the doors, how many young people have been led to prison...
- And who uses such people
- The municipality and they are usually among the old acting Knights, among the retired employees, or among the soldiers who have been discharged from service"²⁹.

The military forces and settlers penetrated into the Algerian territory, and they established a network of roads to be able to tighten control over the administrative bodies, as is the case of the railway

connecting Constantine and Annaba, "the roads are branched and complicated until the pier, where the South connects to the West and the railway lines run parallel, the same train connecting Constantine and Annaba flows rampant like a centaur"³⁰..

E-effects:

France appealed to archeology to be able to see the secrets of society, and uproot the state from its values and history, and sought to revive the ancient history of the Romans, where the spaces of the spread of Roman antiquities were excavated, and follow the Roman roads that cut towards the Oras, its slopes and Northern surfaces such as the cities of "Constantine" and "Annaba", the Romans had two battalions not far from) on the coast of Carthage and the fortress of Sirta, the center of the territory of Numidia which at that time included, the whole of North Africa "³¹.

After the siege of the city of Constantine, the French applied the plan of the Romans after settling in the forts of "Sirta" and "hippona", and looked forward to capturing the area of "melissimo", they sent teams of soldiers for reconnaissance and then changed the names of streets, doors and institutions with Roman and European Christian names.

Conclusion

Based on the foregoing, and through our reading of the novel, Our study concludes with a number of results, which we summarize as follows:

- The coexistence of multiple social groups throughout history has allowed multiculturalism and the tyranny of influence and influence.
- The external circumstances that formed the element of effectiveness and influence result in the acculturation of different manners.
- The text of the novel "Najma" touched on the Algerian colonial better, opening up about the relationship between the ego and the other.
- The writer Yassin narrated the history of the cities of Constantine and Annaba, and returned the reader to a time when the Algerian city opened its arms forcibly to the settler and colonizer with his identity and religion.
- The novel's text was able to absorb the other French, so the historical and realistic elements overlapped and the national identity blended with the French culture.
- Yassin's writer was not isolated from the intellectual, cultural and social momentum mainly related to the culture and civilization of the West, as we have seen a clear trace of the West in his literary work "Najma".

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