

Algerian Literature Written in English: A Comparative Analysis of Four Novels and Their Historical, Cultural, and Identity Themes

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Abstract : This study compares four novels written in English by Algerian writers: Donkey Heart Monkey Mind by Djaffar Chetouane, Pebble in the River by Noufel Bouzeboudja, Sophia in the White City by Belkacem Mezghouchene, and The Inner Light of Darkness by Iheb Kharab. It applies comparative research methods and cultural studies as the literary theory to analyze how these novels depict Algeria's culture, history, and identity through their genre, style, tone, perspective, and structure. It identifies some common themes shared by them, such as the quest for freedom and dignity in a context of oppression and colonialism and the use of storytelling, imagination, and creativity as coping mechanisms for trauma and adversity. It also highlights their differences in terms of style, genre, setting, period, and perspectives. It concludes that these novels offer rich and diverse insights into Algeria and its multifaceted reality. It also discusses some limitations and challenges related to Algerian literature in English and suggests some directions for future research.

Keywords : Algerian literature in English, comparative research methods, cultural studies, diversity and complexity

Conference Title : ICLLL 2023 : International Conference on Languages, Literature and Linguistics

Conference Location : Prague, Czechia

Conference Dates : July 03-04, 2023