



Psychological Exploration of Identity in the “Al-Noam Fi Haghl Al-Karz” Novel by Azhar Jerjis Using James Marcia theory

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Introduction

Achieving a reliable, detailed and scalable cognition of human being and his identity has always been among fundamental concerns of cognitive sciences. Today, identity exploration has been turned into a comprehensive issue in anthropology through mental and behavioral complexities of the modern man; so that different approaches have been emerged under the title of “identity and its types”. Although, the identity has never been in the center of our thoughts and had remained just as an issue in the philosophical thought, it has been transformed into a significant topic which exists in the mind and mouth of all around. Since, in the recent social world, the identity has been emerged as a challenge and concern. This concern has led James Marcia, a psychologist, to introduce an attitude which transforms the identity into a detectable, applicable and scalable issue following the efforts of Erickson. An approach that categorized individuals in one of four levels of “scattered”, “early”, “incomplete” and “successful” identity based on the presence or lack of characteristics like, “responsibility”, “crisis”, and “endeavor” which together form a system as “identity status”. Thus, the current research tries to identify the novel of “Sleep in the Cherry Orchard” according to the attitude of Marcia in a practical and behavioral way.

Methodology

The present study uses the library research method to collect the required data from written sources and classify it based on content notes. Then, by referring to the descriptive-analytical method, it identifies and describes the effective elements in the content of the article, and at the end, it analyzes the obtained data qualitatively.

Results and Discussion

Contrary to the previous views introduced around identity, the approach of Marcia for recognizing the identity is a practical and measurable method which goes beyond the mere theoretical realm and identifies individuals position in behavioral level in one of four levels

through elements like exploration, criticalness and commitment. What presents this view as a tool and method for realizing the identity is existence of specific categories and scalability criteria and experience of crisis and search. Actually, the study and research about literary works using this psychological method of identity could help to reach into a perfect scientific, accurate and partial knowledge from today novel characters. In the novel of “ Sleep in the cherry orchard” , for example. As this study suggested, it was realized that how the identity path of characters like” Saeed ansen” annd/or main and secondary characters of every real or fictional story could be followed in one of well-known categories of Marcia, i.e. successful, incomplete, early and scattered identity.

Conclusion

In the novel of “ Sleep in the Cherry Orchard’, using a traumatic humour and symbolism, Azhar Jirjees Iraqi evaluates the identity in personal level with a character named Saeed and and in other high level with “ Baghdad”. In his narrative, it is realized that the identity is an internal and challenging journey which as long as it does not begin in the individual, the adopted identities tranform into lables which have no end but stagnation and regression. Thus, acquiring a perfect identity in the base of Marcia relies primarily on the individual decision while reciprocity with external variables. This research clearly shows how much the homeland as a "place" can play a significant role in Marcia's view by paving the way for the acquisition of identity and the possibility of scrolling to high positions; an issue in which the author discovered the reciprocal relation well with different position of Saeed in Oslo with Baghdad and Amman. Saeed's escape from Baghdad and his asylum in Norway, which gave him a common language, true love, and career, revealed the main motivation of immigrants like him, who seek a union between personality and identity and a unified representation of themselves. Domination of narrative” Sleep the in the cherry orchard” which corresponding to four bases of Marcia identity activates the audience in four nested narrative lines, has revealed the epistemological content of this novel in the narrative structure of the story as well; a harmony that has further strengthened the author’s voluntary attention to Marcia’s identity in addition to the visual delight of the readers.

Keywords: *Identity Status Theory, James Marcia, Azhar Jirjees, The Novel of Sleep in the Cherry*

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