



The Feminist Criticism of the Novel “Allati Taodd al-Salalem” based on Elaine Showalter’s Theory

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Abstract

Introduction:

Feminist criticism criticizes the patriarchal society and literature that predominantly features male characters. This review seeks to introduce the cultures and traditions of various ethnic groups while also proposing a remedy for societal misogyny in an effort to spark a movement. This critique seeks to portray men's violence against women and somehow condemns and fights against the superiority of the male sex. The way to understand feminist novels can be considered to depict women who have been oppressed by men in all dimensions.

Feminist criticism theories challenge the notion that criticism of literary works occurs solely subsequent to an aesthetic examination. Indeed, the objective of this critique is to reveal the gendered power structures; consequently, proponents of this critique hold its commitment to heart. Elaine Showalter's theory of four approaches, which examines and analyzes women's literary works from biological, psychological, linguistic, and cultural approaches, is one of the existing feminist theories.

Reflecting the discriminatory situation of women in comparison to men in a significant literary work and by emphasizing the presence of women in society, one can effectively educate the audience. Furthermore, by reviewing and analyzing novels that incorporate feminist and feminine themes, one can contribute to the cause of gender equality and the resolution of discrimination. The novel "Allati Taodd al-Salalem" was written by the Omani writer Hoda Hamed, which includes women's concerns and has taken into account women's problems from various dimensions.

Therefore, it is a need to explain and analyze these concerns, problems, and challenges faced by women in this novel; this is a significant matter. In addition, an analysis of the feminine elements presents in this piece employing the four approaches outlined in Elaine Showalter's theory.

Methodology:

The upcoming research aims to analyze the novel "Allati Taodd al-Salalem" using a descriptive-analytical method and in accordance with the four approaches of feminist criticism as outlined by the American "Elaine Showalter". His theory of four approaches includes biological, psychological, linguistic, and cultural approaches; using these approaches, this research seeks to analyze and investigate the female characters in the aforementioned novel.

Results:

Hoda Hamed has accomplished the most significant objectives of "women's writing" by emphasizing the significance of "women's gender" and pointing to all four dimensions of this gender's role—"psychological, linguistic, biological, and cultural"—which is consistent with Showalter's theory. Hamed has tried to be effective in the form of women's language to create and expand the role and rights of women in psychological, social and cultural dimensions. The author has effectively achieved a reflection of women's writing that highlights the social aspects of women's identity.

Showalter posits that the societal hegemonic culture exerts an effect on three additional approaches: biological, psychoanalytic, and linguistic. This means that the body, mind and language of women are also related to the culture of the society. Reflecting the various

dimensions of women, at the beginning of the novel, Hamed attaches more importance to the biological roles of women such as pregnancy, childbirth, etc. Its vitality has been strengthened and women have achieved success in altering their conditions. Under the influence of his gender, Hamed was able to comprehend the biological, psychoanalytic, and cultural aspects of women, and his language and gender reflected their concerns. Referring to the psychoanalytic dimension of women, Hamed seeks to highlight the concept of "gender" and sexuality.

Prioritizing the expression of women's cultural and social concerns and problems in his language and literature, Hoda Hamed has uncovered issues that reveal serious and profound problems of women, which not only cause them psychological harm but also have an impact on their lives, through the cultural approach of his narrative.

Conclusion:

An examination and analysis of the novel "Allati Taod al-Salalem" using the four approaches of "Elaine Showalter" theory revealed that Hamed effectively imbued women with a sense of identity through the creation of a feminine literary piece, the use of feminine language techniques, and an awareness of women's social and cultural issues. Further it substantiates the feminine nature of Showalter's work through the high frequency of its components. With his feminine language, the author has raised important and deep concerns about women in the form of biological, psychological and cultural issues.

Hoda Hamad has prioritized the expression of women's cultural and social concerns and problems in his language and literature. In the cultural approach of his narrative, he revealed issues that reveal serious and deep problems of women, which in addition to psychological damage to them, also affect their lives.

By scrutinizing and analysing the feminine concepts present in this work, one can take a proactive stride in addressing the challenges faced by women worldwide, as well as within their own society. The examination of these concepts and the sentiments expressed regarding women's concerns in this piece inspire the audience to be both intellectually and practically active in their efforts to resolve them. In addition, the elucidation and evaluation of women's issues in this and other works containing women's concepts may prove beneficial and fruitful in the fight against discrimination against women and in fostering greater social consciousness.

Conflict of Interest:

The authors of this article certify that it is the result of their individual research efforts and has not been previously published in any domestic or international journal. They further affirm that they are fully informed and content with the publication of this work. This research was carried out in adherence to ethical principles and regulations, with no instances of fraud or violation. The responsibility of reporting possible conflicts of interest and financial sponsors of the research rests with the responsible author, and they take responsibility for the aforementioned issues.

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