



Woman in Culture and Arts

The Role of Paralanguage in the Reflection of Woman's Citizenship Rights (Case Study: The Novel *Night of Madness* by Mona Shafei)

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ABSTRACT

Introduction

Regarding that paralanguage is among the most tangible narrative phenomena in Mona Al-Shafei's works that elucidates the role and social status of women, it is crucial to focus on this phenomenon in her writings. This issue has not yet been addressed. Although language is the most critical tool for establishing a connection with others, in the context of expressing inner emotions, description, image, paralanguage or body language can reveal unsayables better and more clearly than physical speech acts. Mona Al-Shafei, a Kuwaiti writer, has utilized non-linguistic tools to reflect the prohibited emotions of women and has reflected phenomena related to Kuwaiti or Eastern women in the majority of her fiction. This has resulted in it being relegated to one of the stylistic characteristics of her writing. In spite of achieving some of her political and social citizenship rights, *Night of Madness* reflects a phase of a girl's life that is incompatible with Eastern traditions and struggles to articulate her emotional emotions.

Qasemian et al. (2003) have characterized women's rights as human rights and have shown that the isolation of women worldwide and their inability to express themselves have led to the increased prevalence of illiteracy among women in comparison to men. The natural and evident privilege of women during the menstrual cycle is referred to by Javid, Ashrafi, & Shahmoradi (2014). Mohammadzadeh (2017) has focused on the various components of citizenship rights, such as the right to health, security, and shelter, as well as the right to decision-making in personal and social allotment, citizenship, and economic rights.

The subsequent inquiries are addressed by the current investigation:

What is the most canonical right of women's citizenship in this novel?

In this novel, what is the most canonical privilege of women's citizenship?

The hypothesis is that Mona Al-Shafei employs non-linguistic communication more frequently than verbal acts. The women in her narratives employ this form of communication as a result of the social, conventional, and religious constraints that exist in the Eastern and Islamic societies.

Methodology

The present essay has concentrated on the inner emotions of women that are most prevalent in the novel. This highlights the psychological and ideological state of women in Kuwaiti society, which is why they undoubtedly employ metalanguage to express themselves. Consequently, the current investigation is divided into two sections: the first section pertains to the right to express one's "Feelings" in a free, precise, and unambiguous manner, which is the initial and potentially most significant right of women's citizenship. Conversely, we observe that women employ indirect or metalanguage methods to articulate these emotions. The numerous reflections of states such as distress or anxiety, wandering, embarrassment, heart and hand trembling, and occasionally ardency, fearlessness, and hope, serve as

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evidence that they have been denied the aforementioned right.

Results

What is known as women's citizenship rights in Mona Shafei's novel *Night of Madness* is more linked to the right of equal and free expression of inner or emotional emotions, and she pays lesser about more formal rights such civil, political and social ones.

Mona Shafei's primary use of non-linguistic communication in *Night of Madness* is to elucidate the physical appearance and emotions of the characters in the narrative, as well as to illustrate the movements of various body parts such as the head, lips, face, etc.

The novel's protagonist and other female characters' state of confusion and wandering is more apparent and conspicuous than any other situation. Nawal Saadawi (1971: 293) posits that "the suppression and control of women in society causes them to be worry and anxious, which in turn, derives from their fear of expressing their thoughts." Additionally, the frequency of women's states of humiliation, depression, and silence is higher.

Conclusion

The objective of this study is to examine the reasons behind the use of body language by female characters in the novel to reflect their citizenship rights and to illustrate the most significant emotions that they experience when expressing them.

Non-linguistic tools are more effective in disclosing the emotional states of women in *Night of Madness*, as Shefei primarily reflects their emotions.

Although the women in the narrative have attained fundamental citizenship rights, the constraints and impediments imposed by the conventions and traditions of Eastern society continue to prevent them from openly expressing their true citizenship rights (expressing inner feelings). Consequently, they resort to non-linguistic tools to communicate their emotions.

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