

An Analysis of the main character of the novel "Kawabis Beirut" based on Jacques Lacan's psychological theory

Payman Salehi*, Abdolvahid Navidi**, Kalthoom Bagheri***

Abstract

DOI: [10.22075/lasem.2022.25928.1321](https://doi.org/10.22075/lasem.2022.25928.1321)

Researchers have shown great interest in the psychoanalysis of literary works, and in this regard, many theories and schools, including the theory of Jacques Lacan, have attracted their attention. Lacan believes that the unconscious mind of man has three imaginary, symbolic and real areas, which must be examined in order to understand it. In this article, the authors intend to analyze the novel *Kawabis Beirut* with a descriptive-analytical approach based on Lacan's psychological theory in order to achieve a new reading of the underlying layers of the text as well as a psychological analysis of the novel's main character. One of the most important findings of the article is that the novel is completely consistent with the fields that Lacan stated for the unconscious mind, and the field where the narrator is located - that is, the battlefield - is consistent with the characteristics that Lacan described for the field symbolically mentioned. The incompatibility of the narrator with the environment, the people of the house, the region and the values in the society all confirm this claim. In addition, the narrator is a psychotic person who enters the imaginary realm with the memories of his wife, but in the end, he loses the patience of the existing situation and escapes from the symbolic realm and decides to build a new life, and this new life represents the true character that he wished for.

Keywords: Jacques Lacan's psychological theory, imaginary field, symbolic field, real field, *Kawabis Beirut*, Ghada Al-Samman.

How to cite: Salehi, P., Navidi, A. V., Bagheri, K. Analysis of the main character of the novel "Kawabis Beirut" based on Jacques Lacan's psychological theory. *Studies on Arabic Language and Literature*, 2022; 13(35): 57-78. DOI: 10.22075/lasem.2022.25928.1321

* - Associate Professor, Department of Arabic Language and Literature, Ilam University, Ilam, Iran. (Corresponding Author.) Email: p.salehi@ilam.ac.ir

** - Assistant Professor of Arabic Language and Literature, Shahid Chamran University of Ahvaz, Ahvaz, Iran. A.v.navidi@scu.ac.ir .

*** - MA in Department of Arabic Language and Literature, Ilam University, Ilam, Iran.

The Sources and references

A- Books:

- 1- Al-Samman, Ghada, **Nightmares, Beirut**, first edition, Lebanon: Ghada Al-Samman Publications, 1976.
- 2- Bottie, Richard, **Freud as a Philosopher**, translated by Soheil Sami, Tehran: Phoenix, 2005.
- 3- Homer, Shoon, **Jacques Lacan**, Mohammad Ali Jafari and Mohammad Ebrahim Tahaei, Tehran: Phoenix, 2009.
- 4- Zakaria, Ibrahim, **The Problem of Structure**, Cairo: Egypt Press, 1976 AD.
- 5- Lacan, Jean, **Seduction of Psychoanalysis**, translated by Abdel Maqsood Abdel Karim, Egypt: House of the Supreme Council of Culture, 1998 AD.
- 6- Adnan, Hoballah, **Psychological Analysis of Masculinity and Femininity from Freud to Lacan**, Algeria: Dar Al-Farabi, 2004 AD.
- 7- Irani, Nasser, **Novel Art**, First Edition, Tehran: Abangah, 2001.
- 8- Istop, Anthony, **The Unconscious**, Translation: Shiva Roygaran, Tehran: Center, 2004.

B- Articles:

- 9- Ahmadzadeh, Shideh, "Another Theory in the Critique of Lacan Psychoanalysis", **Conference on Comparative Literature from Another Perspective**, Faculty of Foreign Languages, University of Tehran, Volume 4, 2006, pp. 7-16.
- 10- Boornan, Khaira, **The Linguistic Depth of Psychoanalysis from the Perspective of Jacques Lacan**, Psychological and Educational Studies, Volume 13, Number 2, Page 12-26, 2020.
- 11- Farzi, Sara and Mahdokht Pourkhaleghi Chatroudi, "Interpretation of the story of two ascetics from the history of Bayhaqi based on Jacques Lacan's theory", **Literary Essays**, Volume 42, Number 1, 2009, pp. 115-142.
- 12- Farshid, Sima and Bita Darabi, "Lacan's three systems in the play Long Day and Night by Lugin O'Neill", **Critique of Foreign Language and Literature**, Volume 5, Number 9, 2012, pp. 135-150.
- 13- Fink, Bruce, **The lacanian subject**, Princeton university press, 1996.

- 14- Haji Agha Babaei, Mohammad Reza, "Reading the Story of Pirchangi from the Perspective of Lacan Theory", **Quarterly Journal of Islamic Mysticism**, Fourth Year, No. 55, 1397, pp. 53-70.
- 15- Homer, Sean, **Jacques Lacan. Tarjome: Mohammad-AliJafari and Seyyed Mohammad Ebrahim Tahaei**, Tehran: Ghoghnoos Publications, (1390/2011)
- 16- Keltman, Catherine, Jacques Lacan, **Moroccan House of Wisdom Magazine**, Humanities, Morocco, No. 8, 1988.
- 17- Lacan, J Ecris, **A Selection, trans**, Bruce Fink. NewYork, W. W. Norton & Company, 2002.
- 18- Melal, Iman, "Jacques Lacan and the Structure of the Unconscious: **Turath Journal**, University of Djelfa, Volume 7, Issue 1, 2017 AD
- 19- Nowruzi, Zeinab and Mohaddeseh Hashemi, "Comparative study of the effects of wonderful literature in the novel Fig Tree of Temples and Cowboys of Beirut", **Journal of Comparative Literature**, Shahid Bahonar University of Kerman, Volume 6, Number 11, 2014, pp. 423-445.
- 20- Mohseni, Mohammad Reza, "Jacques Lacan, Language and the Unconscious", **Foreign Languages Research**, No. 38, 2007, pp. 85-98.
- 21- Saberi, Fatemeh Nisa, Mostafa Sedighi and Faramarz Khojasteh, "Lacanian reading of Parichehr's popular novel", **Literary Criticism and Theory**, Third Year, Second Volume, 1397, pp. 121-141.
- 22- Yazdkhasti, Hamed Vafad Moloudi, "Lacanian reading of Prince Golshiri Ehtejab", **Literary Research**, No. 21, 2012, pp. 111-139.
- 23- Mansour Shehata Ahmed Abdullah, Manal, **The structure of the symbolic system of foundlings, an exploratory study in the light of the concepts of Lakani psychoanalysis**, Master's thesis, Zagazig University, Faculty of Arts, Department of Psychology, 2004 AD.