

Analysis of the elements of narrative discourse and its structure in the novel “Hikayat bihar” by Hanna Mina

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Abstract

Narrative literature is a vital component of Arabic literary heritage, often reflecting themes of struggle and resistance against colonialism. One notable example is *Hikayat bihar* (The Sailor's Tale) by Syrian novelist Hanna Mina, a work that gained prominence for its effective use of fictional elements. This study re-examines the novel through a narrative lens, applying a descriptive-analytical approach to identify its key narrative features. The analysis highlights Mina's use of internal and external perspectives, direct and indirect characterization, symbolic and dramatic dialogues, and spatial-temporal limitations. These elements contribute to a style closely aligned with socialist realism, reflecting the author's worldview and ideological concerns. The findings emphasize the novel's structural complexity and its commitment to portraying social realities.

Keywords: Narrative literature, narrative discourse, novel structure, novel “*Hikayat bihar*”, Hanna Mina.