

The Image of Man in Abu Tammam's Poems from the Perspective of Cognitive Semantics

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Abstract

The present study, with a descriptive-analytical approach, examines 200 verses from the collection of Abu Tammam's poems from the perspective of cognitive semantics in general and with a focus on diagnostic metaphors in particular, in order to achieve the human image that is processed under the guise of diagnosis. The research data indicates that the diagnostic metaphors in the court of Abu Tammam are divided into two categories: metaphors that are conceptual in nature and metaphors that are purely lexical. Diagnostic ontological metaphors are mainly dedicated to the concept of time and its subset, and they are also based on two conceptual metaphors, life as a precious thing and life as a journey. According to the metaphor of life as a precious thing, there is a thief who steals sometimes by force and sometimes in the clothes of a friend. Abu Tammam has processed the metaphor of al-Dahr the thief on three different levels. And according to the metaphor of life, the passage of time is a travel guide that informs travelers of reaching their destination. Only linguistic diagnostic metaphors are directly related to Abu Tammam's lived experience, life conditions and inherent talent. He invented these metaphors in order to overcome loneliness and isolation, to elevate some concepts and topics, and to highlight the power of his imagination. The conceptual metaphor of long-term kinship is clearly visible in the metaphors that originate from the loneliness of the poet.

Key words: Cognitive semantics, Conceptual metaphors, Diagnostic ontological metaphors, Linguistic metaphors, Abu Tammam.