

The Dynamics of Hybridity in Diana Abu Jaber's *The Language of Baklava* and *Life without a Recipe*.

By

Salsabil Jamal Jaber

Supervised By

Dr. Muna Abd-Rabbo

Abstract

This thesis explores the portrayal of hybridity in Diana Abu Jaber's two memoirs, *The Language of Baklava* (2005) and *Life without a Recipe* (2016). Many researchers have dealt with the cultural issues that are portrayed in Diana Abu Jaber's novels, especially *Crescent* (2003) and *Arabian Jazz* (1993). This study is distinguished from previous studies by focusing on the cultural aspects that are portrayed in Abu Jaber's two memoirs. The main concern of this study is to shed light on Diana Abu Jaber's contributions to the exploration of the concept of hybridity in her memoirs from many aspects, such as the hybridity of identity and culture. Furthermore, it highlights the basic differences between the memoirs in portraying the influences of the mixed culture and identity in Diana Abu Jaber's life. Moreover, the study expands the analysis of the cultural issues in Abu Jaber's two memoirs within the theoretical frameworks of post-colonial theory, namely Homi Bhabha's *The Location of Culture* (1994) and Edward Said's *Orientalism* (1978).