

Social and Political Power in Ibrahim Nasrallah's *Time of White Horses* and Susan Abulhawa's *Mornings in Jenin*: A Critical Study from a Postcolonial Perspective

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Abstract

This thesis studies the social and political power from a postcolonial perspective in Susan Abulhawa's *Mornings in Jenin* (2010) and Ibrahim Nasrallah's *Time of White Horses* (2012). This study depicts the reality of the social and political power in those two novels and how Palestine passes through several colonial powers which prevent the Palestinians from practicing their social and political rights. This study also shows how Susan Abulhawa and Ibrahim Nasrallah achieve the idea that each of their novels is written for: Abulhawa's novel is a message to the West. She sheds the light on the continued repression and violations that are practiced by three different colonial powers on Palestine and its political power. She asserts the idea that Israel also takes away the Palestinians' lives. Nasrallah masters the depiction of the Palestinian social life in a tragicomedy that proves that Palestinians are unaware of the reality of the new political world that divides the Arab countries and facilitates the entry of the Zionists into their land while they are occupied by their horses, lands and families. *Time of White Horses* historicizes the social life of the Palestinians before and after colonization and before

the emergence of modern states to the inauguration of Israel state. *Mornings in Jenin* historicizes a greater period of time from the late 1930s to the beginning of the twenty-first century. The study also explains that both of their novels show how the social power develops to form a political one to resist the Zionist occupier. It also shows how the conflict between the Palestinian and the social and political force that he faces will be resolved, especially with the Zionist occupier, who is still practicing persecution and violence against the Palestinian people. Through postcolonial concepts, such as stereotyping, mimicry, hybridity and objectification, the study will make use of them to show how the two writers employ them in portraying the nature of the social and political power in each of the two novels. In the end, this thesis concludes that awareness and education are the most prominent tools that make the individual conscious or absent, socially and politically. It also indicates that understanding the past makes it easier to anticipate and understand the future. It also affirms that there can be no solution to reconcile between a brutal and racist colonial power that wants to erase the other and the colonized other which is trying to preserve at least its right to live.

Key Words: racism, postcolonial theory, Zionism, diaspora, identity

