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Spatial space and its significance in the novel "memory of water" is an applied study

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Abstract:

It occupies a large and important place in the Arabic novel, because neither events nor characters can play their roles in a vacuum and without a place, hence the importance of the place, not only as a background of events, but as a stand-alone narrative element, along with other artistic elements that make up the novel .

The place has an essential role in the narrative and an effective element in IT, events can only be imagined within a spatial framework, it is he who establishes the narrative because he makes the story imagined with an appearance similar to the appearance of reality, and this is what made most critics see everything in the novel work, and in this context this study labeled "spatial space and its significance in the novel "memory of water" is an applied study .

Keywords : The Algerian novel, Wasini Laaradj , the memory of water, spatial space.

1- INTRODUCTION:

The place in the Algerian novel had a large space, in addition to its effective role in its construction and the installation of its events, and it is clear to us through the novel "memory of water" that the novelist "Wasini the lame" relied on a variety of places, through which he presents to us the world of his characters and highlights their movement in the place, and helps to portray the events and their development, and as a result, the novelist's place had this step and this attention from critics and scholars divided it into two open and closed places .

Hassan bahrawi divided the novel's place on the basis of oppositional dualities, it has between places of residence and places of transition, so the places of transition have become a theater for the movement of characters and their movements, representing the spaces in which the characters find themselves whenever they leave their fixed places of residence such as streets, neighborhoods, shops, places to meet people and outside their homes such as shops and cafes... "1 This type of space is also called open spaces, because it is not bounded by narrow boundaries and is usually characterized by openness and liberation, and this type of space cannot be understood and show its value and importance only by meeting its opposite from closed spaces, and the interaction of these places among themselves with their pros, cons and manifestations.

In the same context, Hamid al-Hamdani distinguishes between places, where he says, "in addition to their differences in nature and the quality of the things in which they are located, they are also subject in their formations to another measure, related to the breadth, narrowness, openness and closeness, the house is not the square, the cell is not the room, because the cell is not always open to the outside world other than the room, it is always open to the House"2.

A closed place is a place with spatial boundaries that isolates it from the outside world, such as a prison, cafes, and they, in turn, are divided into places of optional residence and places of house arrest, which is why the places in the novel "Water Memory" differed between a closed place and an open place, which will be discussed in this chapter by studying and analyzing the set of places included in it is as follows :

2.1 Indoor spaces :

1.1.2 .The House :

The house is a shelter and a dwelling to which all beings and creatures turn for comfort and stability, it occupies a space in life and cannot be dispensed with, in which the values of love and tenderness arise between its walls because "houses and houses are a basic model for studying the values of intimacy and the manifestations of the inner life lived by the characters." However, the house is not always a refuge for comfort and tranquility, but sometimes expresses the misery and unhappiness of the personality.

The house was embodied in the novel "memory of water" as a place of apprehension, fear, panic and suppression of dreams and ambitions, especially after the spread of murders in the city, and all the houses became unsafe, especially the House of the professor...) And then the existence of this housing inside this triangle, which is like all the triangles of fear and death,"⁴ and for this reason the house is not necessarily a source of security and protection for the character of the Hero, which is what makes this character escape from him, looking for another place is an optional and alternative place represented by the House of his girlfriend Fatima located near the sea, because in it a new outlet says "when I woke up in this early silence, I saw only the whiteness of the room and the darkness of this dawn(...) Nothing but Rima and I, the sea, the heavy wall clock, the Seagulls' horns and this pile of old papers." ⁵(... The hero is sometimes forced to migrate from his house to the House of his girlfriend "Fatima" with his daughter R" Yama "and describes it as" the grave where nothing works except facing the sea"⁶, all the houses in this city, even if it seems optional, it isolates him from his outside world, where he likened him to the grave, and tried to get out of it by listening to the radio and enjoying reading such as reading letters and press clippings, which allows by distancing himself from his problems by meditating, feeling lost and retrieving past memories.

The house still retained a negative anti-personal value, as its sense of security and comfort was not endemic, and if it were not for the view of the sea from the window sill, it would have turned into a house arrest or a closed prison that adds to its isolation pain and permanent body confusion "will I stay again, inside this wasteland called home?" Or will I go out"⁷ ? The hero was overcome by feelings of sadness and melancholy whenever his needs inhabited the house, albeit from time to time with resistance and a desire to communicate with the outside world, either by standing in front of the window and overlooking the sea view, or by doing his usual tasks by going through the university or the printing press.

The novel also presented images that carry the state of panic, fear due to the conditions that the hero lived in that period, where death has become something ordinary for them, and he sees that he is present in every time and place, as he says, " we distribute each one heading to his burial to enjoy the daily death, the news bulletin that is not heavy with the number of dead and blood, a weak and insignificant bulletin that's how people became, and that's how we became."⁸ (... Perhaps the most important incident among the ugliness of the house and determined its semantic value was the murder of Yusuf inside his house, because the situations carried out by the unidentified armed group" opened the door and his neighbor was pushed hard by two armed people who were behind, then two more people joined them a second later, they shouldered Nawara, then his brother, then he and put wet lumps of cotton in their mouths, then two of them took out two military knives"⁹ the raids were mostly subjected to educated figures, and this is evident in the novel, where the poet" Yusuf "and the professor's girlfriend were assassinated .

1.2.2 Imprisonment :

If the latter is a symbol of security and peace that has not been achieved for the hero, then the character can move in it with ease, but in prison he becomes a prisoner of his thoughts, actions and even words, because he is always subject to the orders and authority of the jailer, which is: "he multiplies the human structure and rewrites it according to its laws and regulations,"¹⁰ this is evidenced by the visit of the hero's wife Mary to her friend in prison "every day Sunday and Wednesday, I carried my belongings and went down to the central prison for five years without missing a single day from my ritual, and in the early days it was joy, despite the cruelty of the detainee,"¹¹ he said .

Despite the fact that prison is an anti-personal place, it carries with it a kind of life, joy and happiness for her, as evidenced by her saying, "he was happy now to be in this place, meaning that it occupies part of the memory of the confused authority,"¹² and despite its negative connotation in Fatima's eyes, prison remains a place that carries for the hero a kind of love, joy, fortitude and strength, challenging the suppression of the authority that was imposed on him, and the prisoner also retains a negative image, considering that "novel characters do not choose their destiny in this medium, but are forced to live in it"¹³ .

As for the character of "Maryam", she was feeling constantly frustrated as a result of the negative practices that were established against her, when she saw one of the men from whose hearts Mercy was extracted, preying on human bodies in order to listen and entertain, when she saw him from afar, she felt frustrated and confused and said, " You know, he is the man who interrogated me, here he is turning into a member of the committee for the defense of the rights of the detainee,"¹⁴ this video shows a clear picture of the violent practices committed by the authorities in prison against the people, so the prisoner feels lonely inside that dark and lonely place .

Therefore, the image of prison in the novel embodied the most severe moments of punishment imposed on the character, robbing her of her humanity, stripping her of her freedom and violating her dignity .the years of imprisonment make the prisoner "how to be meek, he sold his friends one by one, exposing all their secret organization and then began to enjoy their torment."¹⁵ the narrative shows us that when the character is isolated from the outside world which makes him sell all his friends and reveal all their organizations.

1.2.3 the mosque :

The mosque is one of the public places of transition to which a group of people resort to perform prayer, worship and obey Allah, and it is also a place of awareness, guidance and spreading of good. From a structural point of view, it is "a space that contributes to the construction of the narrative and forms, along with other places, the construction of the public place of speech, open to people as a place of worship where they gather to perform the obligatory and supply in order to face difficult life¹⁶ circumstances." the mosque carries a religious connotation in which a person feels comfortable, calm and peaceful.

He attends the mosque in the novel as a counterpart or equivalent to the church, and this is shown through the story that happened to the hero with his daughter and the marble lady, saying, " we wandered a little and in Great Silence inside the corridors of the arches, in the Church of Our Lady of Africa, which embraces all the beauty of the city that was breaking at the feet of the sea, " ¹⁷ through this teacher, Rima conjured up several questions about the whereabouts of this teacher (Christianity and Judaism) and what is their fate?" He replied that a person cannot live in a homeland where he is daily exposed to murder, insults and threats, and at the same time the hero conjures up the story of the demolition of the marble woman, she was converted into a mosque by the mayor, he says, "the mayor began to pull down the curtains on the top of the roundabout church, the story became clear, the church was turned into a large mosque in the city¹⁸ .

Its parts have disappeared in the middle of the street, through the removal of the mayor of the copper Cross Church schools, and falling to the ground under the cheers of the municipality workers, but this conversion did not interest people because in their view the church remained a church, as evidenced by his saying "in the days after the destruction, people began to pray inside the old church to discover What is inside it, but whoever visits it once never returns to it, " ¹⁹ even though these monuments have been deformed and transformed into other monuments however, we find that the narrator in the novel remains attached to it 'from his point of view, it remains a religious landmark like other Islamic landmarks, and this indicates respect for the culture of the other.

2.2. Open spaces :

1.2.2. The cafe :

The cafe is one of the special places of transition, as it opens up to the outside world, which made it a permanent open place, it provides the character with the opportunity to meet with others, talk about herself, exchange worries and various preoccupations, as it has become "the place where people socialize outside the family, and within this social formation the cafe becomes part of the composition of small towns (..)" ²⁰.

The cafe has become the microcosm of the human world, as it has become his only refuge, which he goes to whenever he feels empty, hopeless and lost, through which he can get out of his closed space to his open space.

The narrative in the novel "memory of water" shows us the hero's condition as a result of the conditions he was living in that period, he no longer tasted anything, even the coffee he was sipping was no longer indifferent to her, but was drinking it "to please Fatima so that she would not drink it alone, as it is no longer important for me to eat it first, you eat it, no longer contraband", it is assumed that the cafe is associated with drinking coffee and enjoying it, as it gives him a sense of intimacy and tranquility and helps him understand life and enjoy the moment he is living, but the importance of the cafe in this clip is no longer the same as before, today he no longer drinks it except as a compliment and satisfaction to his friend" Fatima", a resident of her house.

In the same context, he talks about the University Cafe "Andalusia" and "Lotus", the latter of which was a meeting place for many professors and researchers, the hero regrets the situation that this place has become affiliated with the University's property, he believes that it has become today a headquarters for the sale of contraband ²¹ and therefore he loses his job and therefore his connotation is negative.

Sometimes the cafe allows the character to retrieve past memories, so that he leaves with his owner to the world of memories, and this is what he referred to when he said, " I remembered inside the tragedy of meditation the image of the cafe Le d'ART in Saint-Michel, my questions that always baffle me, is it just a coincidence of the Association of this cafe ?" There is nothing in it but the feeling of permanent departure. Why did these lost artists choose him inside this city that has turned into poverty²² " .

We find a cafe in the Arab world (Algeria) different from the cafe in exile (Paris), where we find the professor's wife reliving the memories she spent with her husband during their vacation, but her feeling of her husband's departure made her feel sad and tragic, as she remembered him through the places they frequented.

The cafe was not their only refuge, but it included many Arabs, he says, "when Mary and I entered, I thought myself that I would be alone with Mary, enjoying the passing moments, and a glass of beer, suddenly it was filled with faces that I know, I remembered the bartenders lost in this country and others... Here they come in, taking turns on chairs, enjoying lousy beer and cheap coffee²³, which is why the cafe is of great importance in the characters ' lives, because through it they exchange news of the homeland, death, unemployment and racism in exile, like saying, "Rakom Lhiha ? ²⁴

2.2. Streets, roads or transit places :

The street is one of the open places of transition, as an integral part of the city "(...) Which quotes the movement of the characters and forms a stage for their tomorrow and their souls when they leave their places of residence or work»²⁵.

It is one of the public places that is characterized by breadth and openness to the outside world, the street has become a link between different places and cities, as it can only be reached by passing through the street, and that is why the street in the Arabic novel after what was a symbol of freedom and openness, has become today a symbol of fear and

panic, and this is manifested in the novel "memory of water", the hero shows us the danger of this place, as a result of the conditions he has reached, he sees that it has become a source of fear and anxiety and a space for chaos and mess, so we find that the street in the city has become a center of looting and control by the authority "the whole neighborhood has become worrisome through the entire extensions of didoush Murad, passing through the University, the university publications Bureau, the Student Canteen, Abdel Rahim, and the entire college cafeteria, which have quietly eroded into shops selling contraband and privately owned destinations, and roofs that still belong to the University²⁶

The narrator shows us the way the streets turned out, saying, " Whenever an official wants to get his hands on a big shop on a street important one closes, then opens, then closes, and each time it stays longer until people forget it completely"²⁷ .

As a result of the pressure and the existing threat, the owners of the shops closed frequently and without warning, and after a while it becomes forgotten, and this is what caught the professor's attention, so that he showed the way in which the streets of the city

are controlled, which have become dark and insecure, as he says, "there is only the University left on university Street"²⁸.

The streets of the city are no longer just a place to cross, but have become places where the character relives her painful and partisan memories of the Black decade period he also lists the most important streets where his friends were assassinated ,where he says, " the Arab bin Mehidi street with its wide opening was not far away, I thought I would cross it and stop occasionally at the stamp seller, whom Yassin would find when he got down in front of Thursday with me...(This is a beautiful and peaceful street where many crimes and assassinations were committed in broad daylight)... The murderers see that they have done it, they blend in among the people."²⁹

When the hero arrives at Sharas Street, which was characterized by wide openness and picturesque manifestations, today he misses its splendor and beauty because of the dirt that has accumulated in it, where he says, "I crossed the bazizia bakery and the roundabout to find myself on Sharas Street, the city has not changed, however, the hair that many corners have lost their splendor, because of the dirt accumulated through the gates, the open sewers here and there without anyone paying attention to them, and the smell of mold that occupies the place"³⁰ So he feels very strongly about the physical condition of the city streets .

He believes that it has become a retreat for all kinds of life, so we find the hero using the car to pass through the streets of the city, which in his opinion was a source of death and surprises, as he says, "the car straightened up again and returned to its normal balance after I had to slow down, and when I got off the bridge and finally entered the highway with a feeling of fear quietly leaking out."³¹

As a result of moving along this empty road, where there is a lot of waste that disturbs the elite of the city, and it becomes a disturbing sight in the soul, he says, "the dustbin of the valley of Samar has begun to announce its existence with its unpleasant odors, daily fires and smoke Ashes, which almost closes the entire airport, its highway and a dark cloud."³²

So this road became a source of unpleasant odors that were repelled by passers-by, "the unpleasant odors are unbearable, however, I could not close the glass, I needed a little air, so as not to explode, even if this air was stained by the last."³³ As a result of the impending fear and the unpleasant smells emanating from the valley of Samar, the professor pushed for an increase in speed, he says: "the car was sliding across the highway like a profit, I only hear the tearing of the air or the collision of the many insects sticking to the windshield of the car(... From time to time a car follows me, but it quickly passes before the Lightning in front of me. I don't know who was afraid of the other, me or his driver. It's both of us."³⁴ However, this path is a source of reassurance and comfort for the professor, through which he can move and maneuver widely, so he felt great pleasure in driving and retrieving memories or moments that were taken away from him, he says, "I feel great pleasure driving in it and retrieving all the Lost faces that were stolen at the moment of falling asleep."³⁵

Despite the dangers that were following the professor on the roads, but for him it was a source of Stolen Dreams and memories.

3.2.2. The sea :

The sea has a strong presence in the construction of the narrative narrative, it has come to embody the ambitions and dreams of its heroes because for them it was their only bridge to breathe and escape from worries, and for this it is a symbol of calm and tranquility, it is an infinite space, it has come to take multiple forms and diverse connotations, it is a source of livelihood, giving and life for Man.

The hero in the " water novel " deliberately goes out to sea despite the dangers surrounding him because he feels a state of independence for his existence, but he no longer hears the breaking of the waves as it used to be, he says: "I am brave most of the time alone, and I go out in search of him and The Lost Waves and the rare occurrence of night gulls"³⁶

However, we find the hero regretting the departure of everything beautiful in the city, but in the end he thanks God for the continued grace of the sea and says, "Thank God the sea is still here !! The sea is not dead"

The sea made him feel a sense of belonging and being present, the hero feels lost as a result of the isolation he suffered, but his great attachment to the sea to the point of insanity pushed him to adventure and go down to the beach

with his daughter "Rima", the courage of nature makes a person feel lonely, and this is what he said, "the sea is big and beautiful and gives a sense of isolation and loneliness"³⁸, it is his only refuge after the world has narrowed, as a result of the pressure of this city, we find the professor the sadness and pain that hit them about the general situation of the country "the country has alienated us, imash, so that we died as if we should have died."³⁹

The sea has become a repository of worries and a symbol of life and expansion, with its blue and clarity, it gives its heroes hope and life despite the harshness and deterioration of the situation.

4.2.2. The market :

The market is one of the places where people go to achieve their needs, it is the place where sellers of goods meet with buyers, whether in small or large places, village or urban, so that there is a lot of movement and where different age groups meet, he lives "always a continuous movement that performs an important function, it is a way to solve their needs"⁴⁰.

Through it, man seeks to gain his strength whether through buying and selling or through acquisition, the hero in the novel we find him regretting the state of the market, from which all the atmosphere of intimacy and love has disappeared and people have changed until the Arab market is no longer the same ·he says: "the market was once a popular Arab market filled with Love, need and spontaneity, when we enter it, the smells of hot iron and popular perfumes greet us at its wide doors open to the air..."⁴¹.

After all, the market was a commercial center that included various needs, but on the day its function disappeared, and it lost all those smells and various beautiful things, especially traditional goods, and this is shown by the request of his son, Mr. Rima, sweet Al-shabakiya, but the latter remained with its owner, she contented herself: "Rima with the chocolate that the educators were selling at the entrance to the market." after what was a commercial center that included various needs, however, on the day its function faded, and it lost all those smells and various beautiful things, especially traditional goods, and this is shown by the request of his son, Mr. Rima, his job faded, and he lost all those smells and various beautiful things, especially traditional goods, and this is shown by the request of his son, Mr. Rima, his job faded, and he lost all those smells and various beautiful things, especially traditional goods, and this is shown by the request of his son, Mr. Rima, his job faded, and he lost all those smells and various beautiful things, especially traditional goods, and this is shown by the request of his son, Mr. Rima however, the latter was still with her owner, and she contented herself with: "Rima with the chocolate that the Breeders were selling at the entrance to the market."⁴²

5.2.2. The cemetery :

The cemetery is one of the places of house arrest where a person is placed after his death, it is an inevitable end at which one ends after a long life filled with sadness, pain, joy and happiness,"

The cemetery is not always a symbol of death, suffering, loss of loved ones and separation, but also a symbol of life,"⁴³.

The cemetery had a strong presence in the novel "memory of water", as we can see this through the professor's frequent trips to the village, after he intended it to spend the holidays and celebrate spring and summer, today he resorts to it to hold a funeral every time, Rima says, " we entered the village only to bury the dead."⁴⁴

Since the funeral is performed by men, unlike women, when the professor and his daughter Rima were forbidden to celebrate the funeral of his aunt, "Al-qaima", Rima was forbidden to enter, but she confronted the imam and shouted at him, saying, "This is my aunt Al-qaima, what are we going to enter the cemetery, they said women are forbidden to enter and mingle with men, but I shouted at the top of my voice at the imam's grandfather(... I'm a walking woman, I'm a pure child."⁴⁵

The narrator did not stand at the limits of the Customs and traditions prevailing in the village, but went beyond that to highlight a fundamental point, which is death from the inside on non-old people who were more tolerant. "In front of the funeral scene, people used to tremble with reverence and respect for people, but today in a duplicate ceremony there is no sense at all, people died from the inside."⁴⁶

the cemetery was a symbol of death and mortality, and every person feels his dead brother in it, but today they have lost that feeling, the narrator returns and gives us a picture of the crowds that flocked to the cemetery - Al - Aaliyah- to celebrate the funeral of the poet "Yusuf", describing it as having two large entrances, saying, "I stopped at the entrance to the cemetery of Al-Aaliyah was huge and its extension exceeds the sight of the eye, I saw many friends, some of whom I knew and did not know me (... Then people began to quietly and silently leak out under the eyes of the security men, who suddenly filled the entire perimeter of the cemetery and their two large entrances,"⁴⁷ and the cemetery as a sacred place was associated in the novel with cases of sorrow and deep sadness, so the hero feels lost and alienated and a scene of sad memories .

6.2.2. The city :

The city is one of the open spaces, it is the center of" large and heterogeneous population concentrations living on a relatively limited plot of land and spreading the effects of civilizational life, and its people work in industry and commerce or both, and it is characterized by specialization and political and social multifunctionality"⁴⁸.

The city was manifested in the novel in a large way, you find that this novel took place in more than one city, and the latter as a spatial framework became a ground in which the characters move and move from one place to another.

We note that the narrative in the novel "memory of water" relates to the place to the degree of integration into it, through the description he gave of his hometown Algiers, describing it as "delicious in the early mornings when we contemplate Martha from inside the cafe "labras" facing the university, or we are in its streets and corridors leading to the University and its alleys(...) We look with amazement at the discoverer for the first time at the architecture of her compositional and European buildings and the high statues of the Lost Angels"49

y describing it, the city's geometric features seem mysterious, its features were simply distorted and closed with concrete blocks carried out by the municipality as part of a civilizing campaign, this was in order to strengthen historical and archaeological monuments under the pretext of defending Islam, but on the contrary, they wanted to erase everything that is historically beautiful.

If the city expresses the identity of the character, but the hero sees that he misses it and has become a Westerner in it, it has transformed all its streets and buildings and changed with foreign shops that have opened their doors, so it has become a strange space in which he feels that everything dissolves and ends, he says: "here is the same city that fills me to the heart, wakes up strangely like a small child who dreamed a lot, when he opened his eyes and found all his lost surroundings standing at his head."50

After the city was a symbol of life for the hero, today it carries the meanings of drought, he says, "here is my city, which began to desertify without warning, and he ends up that the city was not the same as before, it is for him an unknown precedent,"51 and the city turned into a space of fear and ghosts.

3. Conclusion :

This study culminated in a number of the results that have already been presented as problems and hypotheses based on this study, we list them as follows :

- ✓ The novel has become a prominent place for celebrating issues that reflect the reality of peoples and individuals and embodying them in an artistic mold.
- ✓ It also helps the novelist to embody his thoughts and pains, and also helps him to move from one space to another in a distinctive artistic way, which prompts the recipient to highlight its dimensions and connotations by revealing them and highlighting their content.
- ✓ However, critics have launched several terms synonymous with the element of place, including space and space, some of them see that they are close, while others see the judiciary as broader than the place, more comprehensive than it.
- ✓ The place is the focus of the narrative process, it serves to embody the space of the characters, revealing their attitudes and reactions.
- ✓ However, the place and the other components of the narrative work (time - language - event) are closely related, so one cannot be done in isolation from the other.
- ✓ The novelist proved his worth in choosing the title of his novel "memory of water", through which he was able to employ a great degree of awareness about his novel and that his choice of the nature of the title was not arbitrary, but imposed by the strategy of building awareness .
- ✓ The novel "memory of water" contributed to the balance of the patterns of the place and its manifestations in order to show the mechanisms of formation taken by the novelist in transforming the place into an artistic material .
- ✓ It also helps in drawing their dimensions, reflecting their reality and interpreting their behaviors, and that these places employed by the writer spare in their folds symbols and connotations that refer to the occupation of the place social issues reflecting a conflict according to a different strategy.
- ✓ In his novel "memory of water", the novelist "Wasini" shaped the place on the opposite polarities to reveal the various relationships that the place system carries and through which the semantics of places and their symbolism vary.

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