IDENTITY POLITICS IN AGAMEMNON’S DAUGHTER: A CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS

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ABSTRACT

The Agamemnon’s daughter is one of the most famous novels written by Ismail Kadare. Same as the antique tragedy, the daughter is sacrificed by her father for his career and to come to power. Kadare is famous for taking artistic motives from the Old and Antic Literature by changing the context where these characters are further developed. His literary works is one of the main references in terms of important historical concepts and cultural phenomena in Albania and as Enis Sulstarova (2013) says, ‘he is the first Albanian author who achieved to create an Albanian identity. The various genres, the richness of treated topics, starting with antiquity and its modern continuity, accompanied with a wide range of characters and geographical areas included in it, create a great chance to trace the problem of feminist identity construction. This paper, aims to bring together theories of communication, literary criticism and feminism, being thus the first different reading approach done to this author’s novels. Based on a poststructuralist approach this paper traces the dynamics of gender roles in this novel. Through discourse analysis, it will analyze how is constructed the feminist identity, looking for main features or functions that are attributed to women, especially in terms of identity politics. I aim to identify and examine the discursive strategies that are embedded in the novels I have selected, not only in their content, but also in their form, style and structure. Having in mind the political importance of the plot of this novel and the time when it was written, it is of special scientific interest to see how identity categories are built and interact among them.

Keywords: Identity, language, women, communism.