

The Critical Features of Abo Al Ala Al Ma'ari's The Epistle of Forgiveness

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Abstract

Abu al Ala Al Ma'ari occupied a high position in criticism due to his critical approach used in his work *The Epistle of Forgiveness* where he employed a group of bases and anchors that shaped the characteristics of his critical study in an era full of erudite critics.

The research deals with the critical personality of Al Ma'ari. This personality was the result of capacious educational and cognitive features along with social ones that had a prominent effect in founding clear criticism enhanced by natural and original subjective features that Al Ma'ari enjoyed.

These critical features that are based on a solemn scientific method worked on four axes which contributed innovatively to defining poetry and identifying its aesthetic elements. They also investigated the variable versions of the poems under research through applied texts mentioned in *The Epistle of Forgiveness*. In addition, the book addressed the issue of spurious poetry and compared the different versions of the poems.

Al Ma'ari also clarified that al Rajaz, "which is a kind of poetry said in colloquial language for special occasions" is not of the same high prestigious position of poetry supporting this argument with convincing

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justification. His view came after a thorough reading of Arabic poetry and tasting it with profound understanding.

He, also, dealt with the poetic music, its rhythm and harmony in relation to maintaining the meter without any stumbling or faulty rhyme.

All the above mentioned defined some of the characteristics and features of the critical approach Abo Al Ala employed in his epistle in forgiveness.