

Tunisian Academy of Sciences, Letters and Arts

Beit al-Hikma

Guide to the publications

of Beit al-Hikma

2016-2018

Sheikh Abdel-Aziz Mahdaoui Critical Edition of his Sufi Work

Title: Sheikh Abdel Aziz Mahdaoui.

Critical Edition of his Sufi Work.

Theme: Sufi heritage.

Language: Arabic.

Size: 16 x 24

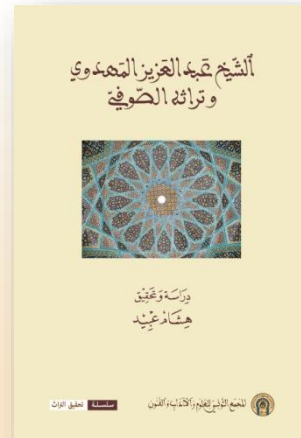
Pages number: 578

Date of publication: 2016

Price: 23 dt

Price abroad: 25 euros

ISBN: 978-9973-49-163-3



Sheikh Abdel-Aziz Mahdaoui was one of the greatest sufi heritage figures by the end of the twelfth and the eve of the thirteenth century in the Christian era.

According to some historians and specialists in the art of critical edition, Sheikh Mahdaoui gave rise to the cognitive spheres of Tunis city. His influential knowledge spread across the Arab world after catching the attention of the field's specialists who thought he was worthy of belonging to the sufi teaching school just like Mohieddine Ibn Arabi. Indeed, the author of «Al-foutouhat al-Makkiyya» thinks that Mahdaoui's writings account for the first cornerstone of sufi heritage in the Islamic Maghreb during the medieval era. Unfortunately, in spite of his fame as being the pioneer in his field in the Maghreb, Mahdaoui did not arouse researchers' interest, according to Hichem Abid who has just published his book. It is for these reasons that Beit al-Hikma decided to do justice to this sufi figure whose knowledge and meditations were references to the great sufi Ibn Arabi. The latter revealed in his letters to Mahdaoui the influence he had on him (see his letter entitled Rouh al-Qoudos, the Holy Spirit). Hichem Abid said that «Mahdaoui was well-known for his varied knowledge and learning, he was also a link between the orient's sufi movement and that of the Maghreb countries and Andalusia».

Incompressible Reflexion on Teaching in Architecture

Title: Incompressible Reflexion on Teaching in Architecture.

Theme: Urban architecture.

Author: Dorra Ismail Dellagi.

Language: French.

Size: 24 x 29

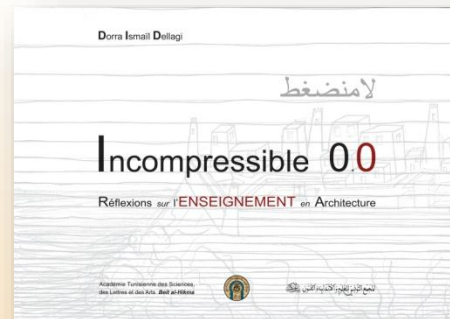
Pages number: 340

Date of publication: 2016

Price: 43 dt

Price abroad: 40 euros

ISBN: 978-9973-49-166-0



This book is interested in the various pedagogic practices and teaching methods in the urban architecture field. Aware of the importance of architecture in its urban, territorial, philosophical and anthropological dimensions the writer, Dorra Ismail Dellagi, made an in-depth analysis of the learning tools as well as the methodological approaches dictated by the teaching systems in a strictly architectural context which links the artistic imagination to the scientific training. She is also interested in the epistemological bases in relation to the field of architecture and its teaching in order to demonstrate through architectural models, drawings and designs the connection established between the innovative aesthetic aspects and scientific knowledge.

Dorra Dellagi's book can be seen as a reference and a new perspective to better know the discipline and to clarify the complementary relationship between architectural art and scientific accuracy.

Symmetry

Reading in the Work of Samir Triki

Title: Symmetry. (Reading in the work of Samir Triki).

Theme: Plastic art.
Collective book.

Language: Arabic.

Size: 16 x 24

Pages number: 115

Date of publication: 2016

Price: 12.500 dt

Price abroad: 15 euros

ISBN: 978-9973-49-165-7



The book compiles the communications presented by Tunisian scholars and critics on the experience of the plastic artist researcher Samir Triki, well-known for his researches on aesthetics.

The one-day meeting was organised by the arts department in the Tunisian Academy of Sciences, Humanities and Arts Beit al-Hikma on May 15th, 2015. The participants highlighted the modernist aspects in the artist's career with regard to his creative capacities which allowed him to combine artistic imagination with scientific spirit. Talking about himself and his desiderata, Triki asserts that «If he wasn't a plastic artist, he would be an architect». This does not prevent him from resorting to algebraic equations in his artistic work.

Researchers and critics agree on thinking that the artist Samir Triki excelled at the achievement of a plastic art corpus mirroring undeniable abilities of innovation. His work could be a reference in the aesthetic field seeing that his themes are diverse and his style is authentic.

The Book of Creed

Title: Creed.

Theme: Reflexion.

Collective book with the contribution of Tunisian and European thinkers.

Language: French.

Size: 24 x 16

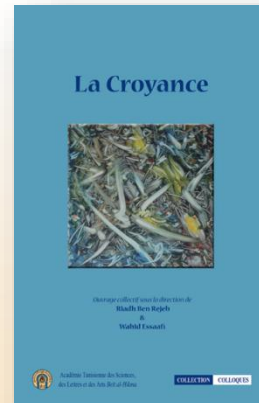
Pages number: 180

Date of publication: 2016

Price: 13 dt

Price abroad: 18 euros

ISBN: 978-9973-49-166-4



This work compiles the communications issued at the seventh symposium organised by the research unit «Clinic Psychopathology» on February 2nd and 3rd, 2007 at the Tunisian Sciences, Humanities and Arts Academy Beit al-Hikma on the theme of «creed».

The participants' aim in this symposium is to highlight the unbiased contexts leading to creeds' emergence and to clarify some belief aspects such as the irrational certainty, fanaticism and obscurantism which characterise some people looking for tranquility and serenity. According to Riadh Ben Rjeb, Wahid Saafi, and Francois Marty respectively clinic psychology professor, Arab islamic civilisation professor and clinic psychology as well as French professor, this multi-factoral phenomenon is based on psychoanalytic motivations in view of the human being urgent need to grant himself premises capable of enriching his psychological void. Furthermore, according to the thinker Abdelmajid Charfi there are no beliefs transcending the economic or the social; which means the historical context. Hence the need to understand them within the very context in which they emerged. In his communication on creed, sacrifice and djihad, Hamadi Sammoud provides several examples picked up from everyday life of violence, alienation and conflict. Eventually, the main idea shared by all communications is that in order to break up with the irrational certainty one has to be endowed with a critical mind and know how to formulate a problematic.

The participants' contributions to this meeting fit into this framework.

Contemporary French Fiction: New Forms, New Relations with History

Title: Contemporary French Fiction: New Forms, New Relations with History.

Theme: Literature.

Collective book coordinated by Emna Belhaj Yahya.

Language: French.

Size: 24 x 16

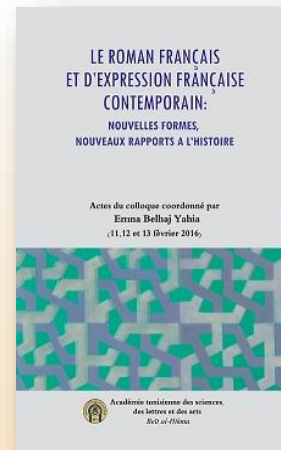
Pages number: 260

Date of publication: 2016

Price: 15 dt

Price abroad: 20 euros

ISBN: 978-9973-49-168-8



This book gathers academic, specialised, critical studies and approaches on the contemporary francophone fiction and forms of expression. In this context, the Tunisian Academy of Sciences, Humanities and Arts Beit al-Hikma organised on February 11th, 12th and 13th an international symposium coordinated by Emna Belhaj Yahya and in which Tunisian as well as foreign writers, researchers and critics participated.

Most researchers insisted on the idea that romanesque work is a «re-reading of an ever-changing world». They asserted that the new schools of thought such as structuralism and analytism suggested a re-reading of artistic and romaneque texts using new critical and analytical tools as well as literary and philosophical references such as «The Pleasure of the Text» of Roland Barthes and «The Archeology of Knowledge» of Michel Foucault. The literary text is for some participants a kind of «writing of history» given that any romanesque experience is the reflection of society and lived events just like the works inspired by the 1968 movement in France. The literary production remains necessarily universal as long as it serves to express human thoughts and to mirror the human being concerns everywhere.

Any reading that takes into consideration the different themes discussed by the writer is «a re-writing of what we have read».

The Book of Earthen Architecture

Title: The Book of Earthen Architecture.

Theme: Urban architecture.

Collective book coordinated by Mehdi Mahmoud Dellagi.

Language: Arabic, French, English.

Size: 20 x 20

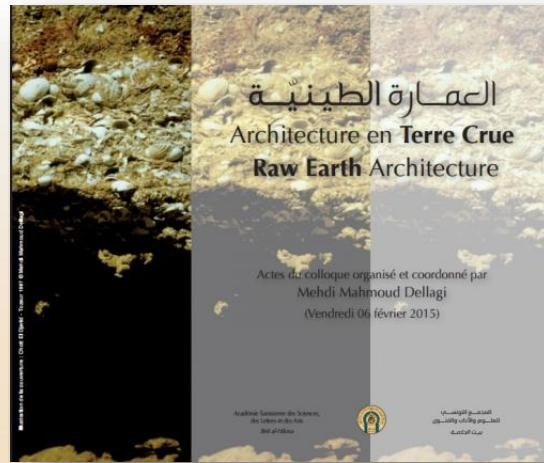
Pages number: 131

Date of publication: 2016

Price: 12 dt

Price abroad: 15 euros

ISBN: 978-9973-49-170-1



This book includes the conference proceedings on earthen architecture, coordinated by Mehdi Mahmoud Dellagi and organised by the Arts department within the Tunisian Academy of Sciences, Humanities and Arts Beit al-Hikma on February 6th, 2015. The meeting, whose main objective is to enrich the wide earthen architecture file, allowed the participants to deal with architecture as geometric forms encompassing scientific and artistic techniques and expressing civilisational specificity. Based on the Unesco's estimations for the world heritage on raw earth, the conference coordinator asserts in his opening address that «this architecture harbours a third of the world population». With respect to the participants they highlighted the transformations that the different types of architecture has gone through across time, hence responding to the dynamic of the economic and social structure, as well as environmental changes. In fact, each era is characterised by the emergence of various aesthetic notions and knowledge structures thus creating a new architectural vision. Not only does the book display knowledge and theories' definitions of earthen architecture around the world, but it is also particularly interested in the different architecture model, its techniques and it draws attention to the practised earthen construction in Tunisia.

This book outlines a consistent content dealing with the cultural, architectural and aesthetic aspects related to this multi-faceted civilisational discipline.

The Conferences of Beït al-Hikma

Title: The Conferences of Beït al-Hikma.

Theme: Literature, art, sciences.
Collective book.

Language: French and Arabic.

Size: 24 x 18

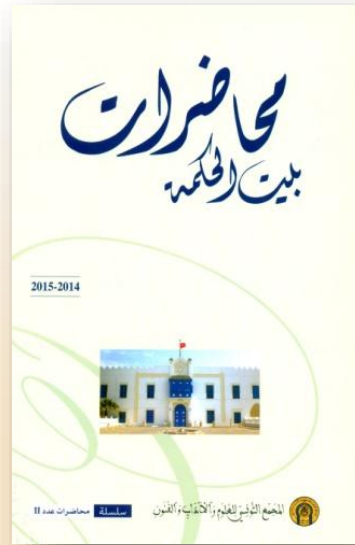
Pages number: 338

Date of publication: 2016

Price: 15 dt

Price abroad: 20 euros

ISBN: 978-9973-49-171-8



This book reports the cultural meetings and researches submitted in the artsfield. It provides information on the literary debates and scientific lectures organised, during two consecutive years, by the Tunisian Academy of Sciences, Humanities and Arts Beït al-Hikma and coordinated by the scientific departments of the academy.

Convinced of these meetings' importance, the heads of the department and many of its members presented communications relating to various scientific, cultural, literary and artistic fields. Open to the public, the meetings attracted a myriad of Tunisian and foreign writers, critics, artists and academics who presented their approaches to literary involvement, aesthetic meditations and the epistemological bases with respect to urban architecture.

The Discovery of the Demonstrative Methods of Religious Dogmas

Title: The Discovery of the Demonstrative Methods of Religious Dogmas.

Theme: Philosophy.

Author: Ibn Rushd (Averroes).

Study and translation by Abdelmajid Ghannouchi.

A work revised and presented by Mokdad Arfa Mansia.

Language: French.

Size: 24 x 16

Pages number: 279

Date of publication: 2016

Price: 17 dt

Price abroad: 20 euros

ISBN: 978-9973-49-172-5



The interpretative reading of the coranic text and the sacred, the coranic arguments in favour of God's existence, islamic theology, religious precepts, God's attributes, the universe creation and sects' conflicts, such are the main issues raised in the work of Ibn Rushd.

In his work the author studies some themes related to Ilm al-kalam and the conflicts of the Mutakallimun on religion core principles. Furthermore, he criticises several sects' demonstrative methods which created «conflicts and wars», caused prejudice to the islamic law and fostered division among muslims; while, according to Ibn Rushd, a certified harmony through a «logical evidence» brings together sharia and philosophy. However, truths related to extremely complex metaphysical themes ought not to be announced to the public.

The Other in the Cinema

Title: The Other in the Cinema.

Theme: Art.

Collective book supervised by
Khouloud Ben Mohamed Gherbi.

Language: Arabic, French.

Size: 16 x 24

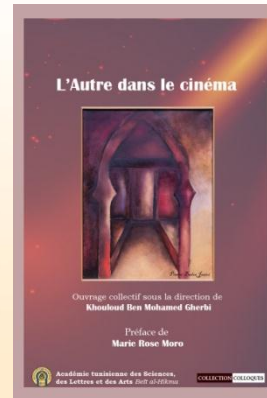
Pages number: 144

Date of publication: 2017

Price: 10 dt

Price abroad: 15 euros

ISBN: 978-9973-49-173-2



In their readings of cinematographic works, experts in psychiatry and psychoanalysis are interested in the psychological and emotional motives as fundamental parts in the understanding of the cinematographic text's structure. As for the sociologist, he grasps the meaning of the cinematographic message as being a hint concisely expressing what happens in a complex society. Hence, the film, made up of symbols, arouses in the receiver particular interpretations mirroring his cultural experience. The understanding of the semantic process of the movie is also related to the psycho-mental condition given that the receiver is «multiple» in views of his mental, psychological and cultural dimensions. These are the major themes of this work entitled *The Other in the Cinema*. The reader finds in it different approaches of physicians, sociologists, Tunisian writers, europeans and arabs, mirroring divergent cultural approaches to bring us closer to the Other, who is also endowed with diverse and multiple experiences.

The work includes as well specific cinematographic examples that provide an overview on the Other's identity which is able, at the same time, to embody « the self and the other ». In this sense, the woman, as a lustful biological being, portrays in some movies several Others; she embodies in others the rebel who is able to give a new drive to the cultural and social fields. Cinema in this book unveils the rich language of both the conscious and the unconscious messages of the Other. We can say that some cinematographic works are the outcome of the unconscious according to Freud's view.

The Cap Bon Peninsula between crises and changes.

Title: The Cap Bon Peninsula between crises and changes.

Author: Collective book supervised by Mongi Bourgou.

Theme: Multidisciplinary (Geographical, historical, sociological and economic studies).

Language: Arabic, French.

Size: 24 x 16

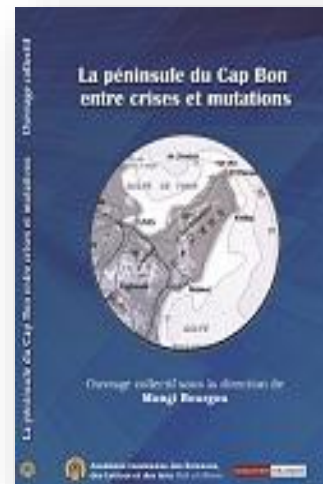
Pages number: 296

Date of publication: 2017

Price: 14 dt

Price abroad: 18 euros

ISBN: 978-9973-49-175-6



Dealing with a single theme, this book reflects the complementary nature of the scientific approaches embraced by the speakers. It encompasses studies on history, geography, economics, anthropology and the socio-cultural field, presented by academic competencies and experts in different disciplines during the scientific symposium held by The Tunisian Academy of Sciences, Humanities and Arts Beit al-Hikma on April 19th and 20th, 2016 on the theme of: The Cap Bon Peninsula between crises and changes.

Some studies focus on the Cap Bon landscape features, which are likely to explain the abundance of economic activities that are related to the diversity of the environment and inhabitants. Others highlight the development and the environmental dynamic. A third series of articles show the importance of the region in terms of cultural diversity knowing that it has indeed hosted within its borders several cultures and civilisations and encouraged foreigners of different nationalities and cultures to come and settle there as if it were a cosmopolitan place.

A Table of Ifriqiya (A study of different kinds of meals)

Title: A table of Ifriqiya (A study of different kinds of meals).

Author: Sihem Dabbabi Missaoui

Theme: Heritage.

Language: Arabic.

Size: 24x 16

Pages number: 331

Date of publication: 2017

Price: 16 dt

Price abroad: 20 euros

ISBN: 978-9973-49-174



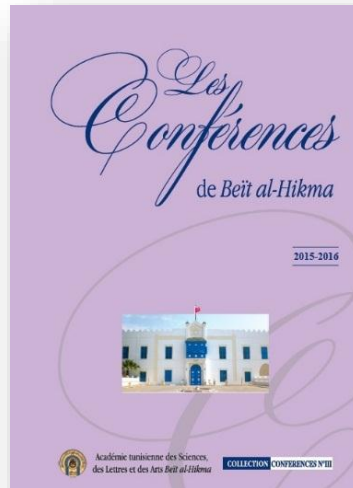
The publication of this book is part of the studies' and researches' series published by the Tunisian Academy of Sciences, Humanities and Arts Beit al-Hikma, on various scientific, literay and artistic themes.

The author is particularly interested in the different delicacies served during meals while trying to know the etymology or even the exact meaning of the vocabulary used in this field. For the author, the culinary art relies on a great deal of knowledge and boasts a certain artistic skill, which makes it pertaining to history and heritage. Through this art, we grasp the peculiarities of societies such as the dimensions of the taste and the collective belonging to the different civilizations.

The author also studies in this book the differences between and similarities shared by people of Ifriqiya, Maghrebeans and Easterners. The author, Sihem Dabbabi used various references including biographies, medicine, history as well as geography books.

The Conferences of Beit al-Hikma

Author: Collective book
Theme: science, literature, free thought
Language: Arabic, French.
Size: 24 x 16
Pages number: 630
Date of publication: 2017
Price: 25 dt
Price abroad: 30 euros
ISBN: 978-9973-49-176-3



This book brings together the themes discussed during the study days and debate meetings. Furthermore, it includes several conferences and conference proceedings organised by the scientific departments within the Academy of Sciences, Humanities and Arts during the two consecutive years 2015 – 2016. The themes of this book give an idea of scientific, literary and all kinds of fields that Beit al-Hikma prides itself on thanks to the collaboration of eminent tunisian and foreign academics such as professor Edgar Morin, invited by Beit al-Hikma for a debate meeting with the tunisian thinker Abdel-Majid Charfi on the theme: «Reflexion with regard to the issue of violence».

The complete poetic work of Ahmed Loghmani

Title: Complete poetic work of
Ahmed Loghmani

Theme: Literature

Language: Arabic

Pages number: 543

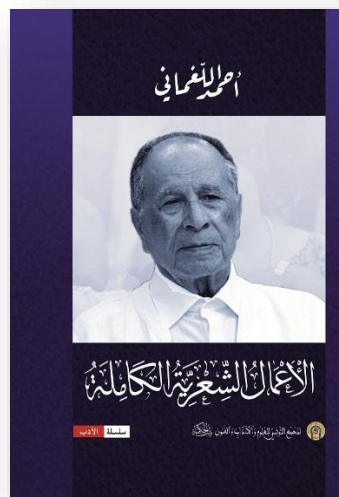
Size: 21 x 27

Date of publication: 2017

Price: 35 dt

Price abroad: 40 euros

ISBN: 978-9973-49-177-0



This book contains the four collections of poems composed by the poet Ahmed Loghmani, namely Heart on a lip, Mister Habib, Pinch of salt, On a wound, Autumn storm and a prose text entitled «Me and my time». Some of Ahmed Loghmani's poems have already been published while others have not. It should be noted in this regard that all the texts in this work have been reviewed and corrected by the poet himself. The president of the Academy of Sciences, Humanities and Arts, Mr. Abdelmajid Charfi, who wrote its preface, clearly states this and also expresses all the honor which Beit al-Hikma owes to the publication of the complete poetic work of a great poet whose scope has been able to spread beyond his country, considering the almost identical artistic peculiarities between the classical and the modern and the richness of the context, which is the outcome of the meditation on certain issues of political, ontological and even cosmological nature.

Academic Speeches

Title: Academic Speeches

Collective book

Theme: speeches made by the president of Beit al-Hikma and a host of university professors during the holding of the exceptional meeting organised by the scientific council on the occasion of the admission of new members within it.

Language: Arabic

Size: 24 x 16

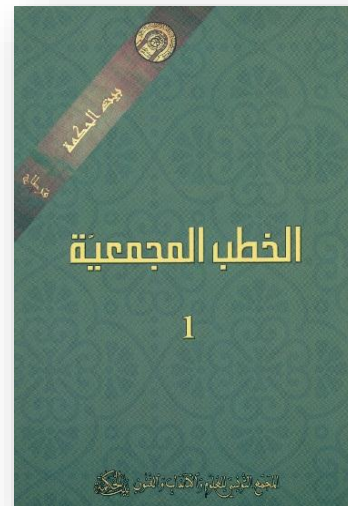
Pages number: 53

Date of publication: 2017

Price: 5 dt

Price abroad: 8 euros

ISBN: 978-9973-49-179-4

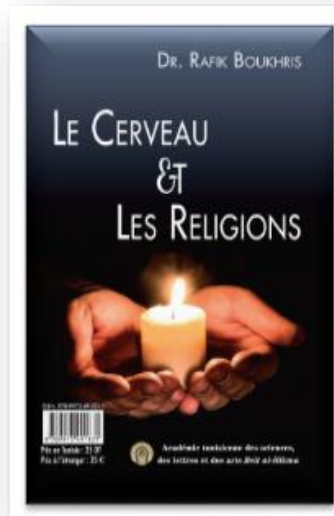


This book contains the different speeches made during the holding of the exceptional meeting organised on April 22nd, 2017 and whose aim is the admission of three new active members within the council.

Considering this kind of discourse as documents relating to Tunisian scientific, intellectual and inventive elites, the president of the academy, Mr. Abdelmajid Charfi, has focused in his opening address on the need to publish all speeches in the future whenever new active members are admitted

Religions and the Brain

Title: Religions and the Brain-
Author: Medical researcher Dr Rafik Boukhris
Subject: Science
Language: Arabic and French (The French original was translated into Arabic by Dr Ahmed Dhiab)
Number of pages: 183
Format: 16x24
Date of Publication 2018.
Price: 25 TND
Price abroad: 25 Euros
ISBN: 1-183-49-9973-978



Can religion be the object of a scientific approach? Does religion have any legitimacy outside of the human brain? What are the differences between persons fond of understanding and beings obsessed with faith? Can religion be a science?

These are the problems tackled by the author to distinguish the concern for seeking a scientific explanation from the peace of belief, starting from Nietzsche's distinction between "those who want to understand and those who wish to believe." Indeed, the human brain, according to those who are concerned with understanding represents in the author's opinion the end result of a very long development of living beings, as attested by all branches of biology, in particular developmental and evolutionary biology, and archaeology. Indeed, the scientific dissection table, in Doctor Boukhris's opinion, permits to clearly see the gradual anatomical changes in the brain, through a review of the chain of brains from the most primitive animals to human beings.

Scientific approaches have been able to sketch in maps of the brain which, in the author's opinion, stress the nature of the electric links and neurotransmitters that govern its various components. Indeed, scientific research permitted to determine the evolutionary functional adaptation of the brain structure, and numerous research teams are making consistent efforts for a precise mapping out of the brain. For this reason, the author makes a distinction between idealistic theories which acknowledge that consciousness is a phenomenon "totally different from the material body" and scientific approaches which realise that thought is the result of the

activity of the nervous cells of the brain and the nature of their physio-chemical interactions, so as to show us the chasm between metaphysical interpretation and scientific understanding.

Literary Studies: Literary topics, forms and figures

Title: Literary Studies: Literary topics, forms and figures

Auhor: Mohamed Ridha Bouguerra

Subject: Literature

Language: French

Number of pages: volume one 254 pages, volume two 262 pages

Format: 16x24

Publication Date: 2018

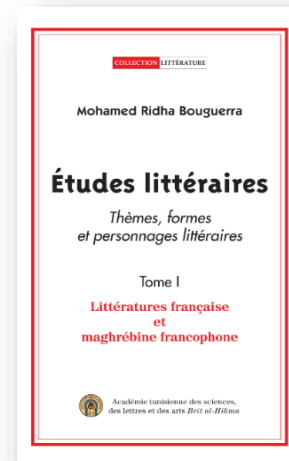
Price: 37 TND

Price abroad: € 40

ISBN:

Volume I 0-180-49-9973-978

Volume II 7-181-49-9973-978



In volume one the author studied French literature and the literary works of francophone authors from the Maghreb, such as Rachid Boujedra, from Algeria and Mohamed Kheireddine from Morocco, and the Tunisian novelist Mustapha Tlili. He depicted the special features of their works which rejected conventionalism under the influence of modernist Western figures as illustrated by texts of the 1970s, when creative works challenged dominant literary conventions. Indeed, in the author's opinion, literature and arts are instruments to defeat the forces seeking to crush men and violating their dignity.

In the context of literary practice, those literary works, according to the author, combated autocracy and the phenomena of extremism and patriarchal behavior, and defended the values of liberty and citizenship. To prove his point, Mr. Bouguerra started out from the Algerian experience in the 1980s and 1990s, when "religious extremism" led to a civil war, and the texts of Rachid Boujedra, Kateb Yacine and Rachid Mimouni rather than being art works designed merely for esthetic pleasure, were instrumental in criticizing economic, political, social and colonial crises.

Volume two is devoted to Proustian studies and literary art. Literary works are so many explorations of masterpieces and their relation to the human comedy, as well as the myth of literary creation and its esthetic dimensions, and the process of the search for lost time in the work of

Marcel Proust, a French novelist of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Al Youssi's Journey

Title: Al Youssi's Journey by
Mohamed Al Ayachi Ibn Al Hassan Al
Youssi

Edited by Ahmed Al Bahi

Subject: History

Language: Arabic

Number of pages: 226

Format: 16x24

Date of Publication: 2018

Price: 20 TND

Price abroad: 25 €

ISBN: 978-9973-49-182-4

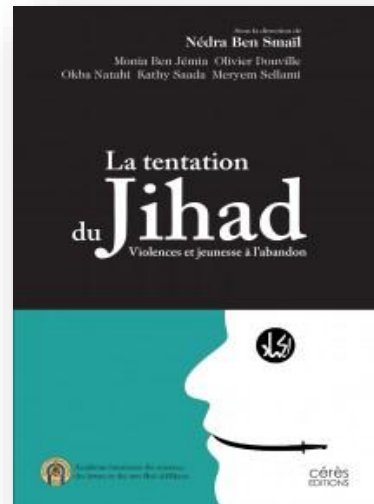


The book is an essential reference in travel literature for it is a creative work which, rather than merely narrating a biography, documents historical events and their political, economic and social dimensions. In this context, the author shows that there was a large number of pilgrimage journeys by land from the Maghreb because of the struggle on the region's coasts between Spain and the Ottoman Empire for control of the Strait of Sicily. For this reason, *Al Youssi's Journey* (1690-1691) is a scholarly historical source for researchers, historians, anthropologists, political scientists, etc. Indeed, it is a document full of facts, bringing together the geographical information that one might find in a tourist guide and historical data, for it documents events. As a result, the editor, Ahmed Al Behi, considers it as illustrative of one of the most important literary forms characteristic of the Maghreb region since the Middle Ages, stating on this count: "this book is an important link in the chain of journeys to Mecca and Al Hijaz documented by people from the Maghreb as they fulfilled their Pilgrimage duty or traveled in pursuit of knowledge."

The Temptation of Jihad

Violence and Neglected Youth

Title: The Temptation of Jihad
Violence and Neglected Youth
Papers edited by Dr Nedra Ben Ismail
(Joint publication with Ceres
Productions)
Subject: Social Science
Language: French
Number of pages: 117
Format: 16x24
Date of Publication: 2018
Price: 12 TND
Price abroad: 15€
ISBN: 978-9973-19-803-7



Psychological predicaments may lead to unexpected behavior and unimaginable violent actions which make it incumbent upon us to ask the following questions:

Why does a young man decide at a given moment to give up everything for the sake of the temptation of Jihad? How do terrorist organizations attract him? How do death-peddling groups manage to confiscate his right to live through the slogans of shahada, the way of God and Jihad? Is there a justification for the psychology of revenge?

The book answers these questions with scientific approaches that diagnose the nature of psychological dilemmas. These consist in frustrated individualities and vacuous minds resulting from lack of education by the family, and a social environment which has marginalized cultural action and failed to provide the bare necessities of decent living to its youth. This situation will naturally facilitate the work of terrorist organizations and help them fulfil their destructive mission, through exploiting social categories that have been let down at political, economic and cultural level. For this reason, the book calls for effectively addressing the phenomenon to save the youth and preserve the world from the crimes of religious fanaticism and transborder terrorism.

