

Tribhuvan University

Dislocated Identity: Repatriation and Desire for Homeland in SusanAbulhawa's

Mornings in Jenin

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By

Meg Raj GhartiMagar

Symbol No: 553

Reg. No: 9-2-810-32-2010

Central Department of English

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

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Meg Raj Gharti Magar

Abstract

This research analyzes Susan Abulhawa's Mornings in Jenin from the view point of Palestinian repatriation and desire for homeland. After the formation of Israel in 1948, the EinHod villagers in the novel not only confine to the refugee camps within their homeland, but also compel to set their journey to neighboring Arab countries. The Abulheja family creates imaginary homeland in their mindset as they suffer a lot moving from refugee camps to another for their survival. Amal feels stateless and rootless in the foreign land. Her constant longing for a lost homeland and strong attachment to Palestine shows how the dispersed Palestinians have strong connection to the country. The way Palestinian people scattered in the different refugee camps become united and raise their voice for their returnings shows the unification of dispersed networks of people having the same sentiment. The characters in the novel recall their past and want to be attached with by gone days. Drawing from the scholarly ideas from Helen Lindholm Schultz, Juliane Hammer and other scholarly critics, the researchers attempts to analyze Abulhawa's Mornings in Jenin as the text containing the issues of Palestinian dislocated identity and their dream for repatriation more than assimilation and settlement in their homeland.

Key Words: Homeland, displacement, nostalgia, imaginary homeland, diaspora and repatriation.