

ABSTRACT

This thesis is an attempt to analyse the life and works of the Lebanese-Egyptian writer Farah 'Antōn, who was considered as one of the pioneers in the modern Arab Renaissance.

The introduction commences with an initiation into the art of novel and drama in the Levant and Egypt, noting particularly the French and English literary works which were translated into Arabic. There is also a discussion of the political, literary and social issues of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Chapter 1 is devoted to 'Antōn's biography and cultural background. It is concerned with his life in Lebanon, Egypt and the U.S.A. The chapter assesses in general terms his self-education and his openness to the new life he encountered in New York.

Chapter 2 traces Anton's critical concepts concerning the novel and drama such as imagination, unity and disunity of the subject, and technique.

Further, we draw attention to his works in which he made a commitment to his society.

Chapter 3 discusses the motivations which made 'Antōn devote himself to the Arabization of Western literary works.

To examine his approach to Arabization, we find that he depended on two major devices: summarization, and the adoption of ideas re-expressed in his own words.

Chapters 4 and 5 deal with the content of 'Antōn's works and shed more lights on his social, philosophical and historical tendencies.

Particular attention is given to his lyric dramas, his short stories and his creativity in these fields.

Chapter 6 points out artistic features that mark all 'Antōn's works. It analyses, in particular, characters, events, plots, language and style.