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Suite 3.17, Universal Square Business Centre,

Devonshire street, Manchester, M12 6JH, UK

Telephone: +44(0)79 1623 8487

Email: [bjtll@ukbrighthorizons.co.uk](mailto:bjtll@ukbrighthorizons.co.uk)

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**A Classroom Ethnographic Study on Silence among EFL Graduate Students:  
A Case Study**

**Awwad Othman Abdelaziz Ahmed,**  
**Professor of Applied Linguistics**  
**Department of Foreign Languages**  
**College of Arts, Taif University, Saudi Arabia**  
**Corresponding email: [drawwad.ahmed@gmail.com](mailto:drawwad.ahmed@gmail.com)**

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**ABSTRACT**

Miscellaneous investigations have been implemented to investigate the factor of silence among Asian students in the ESL and EFL contexts and has generated huge literature most of which is related to ESL/EFL students' silence because of several cultural and social factors. The study in hand reports on an ethnographic investigation of silence attitudes among Sudanese graduate learners in the EFL graduate linguistics environments with their academic staff in Gezira University, Sudan. The study has exploited a previously developed ethnographic interview protocol as well as observations with EFL graduate students and teachers in the MA linguistics. The researcher has investigated the probable patterns of silence among Sudanese EFL learners, explored the reasons behind this phenomenon and has attempted to trace the cultural interpretations among Sudanese silence. The participants of the study were eleven first-year graduates of English (all 26-38 years old) and 6 professors. The whole sample of the study was from Gezira University situated in the central region of Sudan. Another important factor is that the participants of this study came from different parts of Sudan including Khartoum, Darfur, and Gezira State etc. All the participants have BA and BEd in English language enrolling in Gezira University MA Program. The results of the study representing sufficient empirical proof highlight/emphasize that the Face Negotiation Model (Ting-Toomey 1994; West and Turner 2010; Wang and Yang 2005) indicates that Sudanese students' silence behaviors are reported to be determined Sudanese cultural factors including its notions of face, sense of impact and infrequent social interactions.

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**1. Introduction:**

Language has its recognized features on ethnography and vice versa. As a matter of fact, silence causes breaks in communication but this does not mean that it can cause failure of exchanging roles between

participants in a conversation. This study attempts to identify the occurrences of silence as a communication feature of language from a cross-cultural point of view. Sudanese context will be taken as a setting for this study.

## 2. Literature review

Silence in classrooms among EFL language learners can result from lacking the understanding of the target language. However, several studies reflect culturally related explanation for silence in EFL classrooms. For example, Tannen & Saville-Troike (1985) have attempted to pose the relevant survey on silence from various perspectives emphasizing the fact that this construct has a very complicated context as a cultural trend. Samovar & Porter (1991) has adopted a cross-cultural facet of the construct of 'Silence'. Jaworski (1997) approached silence from different dimensions, including sociological, anthropological, aesthetical and ethnographical perspectives. Furthermore, Nakane (2006) has conducted ethnographical surveys on silence models as well as their cultural perspective in the EFL classes in the Mainland China in particular. Each of the mentioned research involves certain types or aspects of silence. Some studies approach silence from pragmatic and ethnographic angles such as Zuo Yan (1996); Xueyan, (2003) and Liu & Zhong (2005). EFL classrooms learners need to be provided with knowledge and understanding of silence. It is important to investigate and analyze activate negotiation process between learners and the teachers from various perspectives. The way in which students express themselves needs to be taken care of and respected in a culturally sensitive way. It is suggested that the contexts for communication should be investigated and presented within specific social relations, interactional histories and to be grasped ethnographically. This means that linguistic ethnography may be applied widely in its empirical scope, investigating communication within social processes that involve (Rampton, 2007).

As mentioned above silence can occur in classroom and can inhibit effects on both teaching and learning processes (Vrettos, 2003; Collins, 1996). These investigations provide insufficient view into instructors' conceptions of what are the causes of silencing in their classrooms. Ollin (2008) identified different types of silence and reported how they have implemented and executed various silences during their teaching sessions, which seems to suggest that various kinds of silence can be used effectively in teaching and learning.

There has been a growing mass of research available to investigate silence phenomenon among Asian EFL students that has been conducted in the ESL contexts of the US, UK and Australia as well in some EFL contexts (Liu, 2000; Jackson, 2002; Chen, 2003; Nakane, 2006). Among several studies, Song (2005) has investigated East Asian students in American universities and stated that learners felt

discomfort and stressed when they were involved in group discussions and when they were asked questions in classes, they resorted to silence. He suggested that that their respective culture and past learning experiences might be the possible factors to be blamed for their silence. A study that has involved Asian graduate students and attempted to found out their communication model in class at university level in the mid-western area of the United States, Liu (2000) has reported that this phenomenon is quite common among Asian students and their silence has been caused by multiple factors including cognitive, educational, affective and socio-cultural factors as well as the English language proficiency of Asian students. Chen (2003) has exploited natural observations and interviews to find out the communication patterns among Asian students studying at university level in an ESL context of the USA and reported that Asian students were found passive in class activities and keep silence because of their past learning experiences as well their culture. Nakane (2006) has investigated Japanese students who were studying in an Australian university and exploited observations and interviews and has stated that silence was rather a technique that has been used by majority of Japanese students as a face-saving method. Several studies have been conducted in the EFL context in South-east Asian countries and majority of them have partially confirmed the studies which have been done in the ESL context as the results of these studies have revealed that the major causes for silence among Asian students have been teaching practices, attitudes of Asian students towards their teachers and classroom activities, anxiety, English language proficiency and several other factors related to socio-cultural paradigms (Flowerdew and Miller, 1995; Tsui, 1996; Liu and Littlewood, 1997; Cheng, 2000; Li and Jia, 2006).

It is the paper's potential of carrying out the study to get some knowledge about the engagement of MA linguistics students' in our own EFL setting in the Sudanese region of Gezira, i.e., Gezira University. To achieve that prospective objective, the researcher resorts to Cortazzi and Jin's (1996) methodology which explored the silence phenomenon from the view point of the faculty, their personal experiences. It is also important to understand that they ignored students' own perceptions as well as the context of the teaching/learning process. The researcher has applied an ethnographical study that bears the benefit of tackling the social and institutional factors in the teaching/learning context in a comprehensive prospect (Gegeo, 1988). Moreover, the present investigation is an ethnographical investigation about silencing attitude that is present between Sudanese EFL learners with their teachers.

### 3. Research Method

#### *Scope and Participants*

The researcher followed and noted all the courses given to the graduate students of English Linguistics on a weekly basis. Moreover, as MA and PhD theses supervisor in Gezira University, I know the learners as well as the teachers therefore; it is quite probable to get honest and clear answers from the participants of this survey. In addition, I focused on how students interact fully with their peers and instructors. It is my belief that without interact; no learning of language can be successful.

The participants in the research were eleven first-year graduates of English and their professors have been working in Gezira University in the Central region of Sudan. The participants in this university ranged between twenty six to thirty eight years old, of whom eight were born (and grew up) in different regions and graduated from varied schools in Sudan. Two participants came from the Darfur area where they were born, grew up, and earned their BAs from institutions there. One participant was born, grew up and got his BA in North Kordfan State in the west of Sudan. Five of the participants taught as intermediate school and college levels before pursuing their graduate programme, and four were secondary school teachers. These graduates chose to enroll in the MA in linguistics after passing the university test and interview. Therefore, the subjects in the experiment revealed an acceptable, overall proficiency level in the target language particularly the oral English proficiency. All the experiences of the participants may have influenced their answers in the interviews during the experiment.

### 4. Collecting data to analyze

#### **Observation**

The participants had academic schedule in the second term of the academic year 2020-2021. The researcher had followed and observed these classes carefully. The majority of these linguistics courses were recorded and transcribed. Furthermore, note summaries were written down in the meantime of delivering these classes. Finally, the results of the observing were analyzed in line with the interviews.

#### **Interview**

Eleven learners were the participants of this survey who attended the Linguistics & Culture in the fall semester of the year 2020, among whom seven attended Language & the Human Mind in the spring semester of 2020. Altogether, the eleven participants were interviewed by using the interview protocol which developed by Liu & Mou (2008). All learners' names were not mentioned in the study context, the participants were given enough time to express themselves over the questions. The interviews have been done in Arabic so that the effect of the foreign language competency may be minimized. Each interview,

extended from twenty-five to fifty minutes. All these interviews have been recorded, later on transcribed and then translated. The researcher has also used analytic memos as well as the sheets of interview material have been noted down to keep them as a record.

In the classroom, the researcher interviewed the participants with particular reference to their attitudes towards keep themselves silent. Through his observation to his students, it is found that their answers in the interview contrasted to a large extent with what had been observed in the classroom.

## **5. Results**

### **Results of the observations**

The researcher has presented the results from the interviews and observations in this part and the discussion has been done to understand why these students prefer to keep silent in their classroom. It has been observed that the majority prefer to be quiet, do not participate in class activities and even not raising their hands when teacher asks some questions. The researcher has coded these interviews and observations as ‘characteristics’ that are related to various speech acts such as the settings of the teaching, the level of the participants, the goals, act sequences, keys, perspectives and genres.

#### **Classroom moment (1)**

MA students were silent in a class entitled "Linguistics & Culture".

**Setting:** a well-equipped classroom accommodates comfortably the eleven students, a green board facing the students.

**Participants:** There are two kinds of participants. The first is a Sudanese professor and the second are eleven first-year English linguistics graduate learners.

**Ending:** To hand over and initiating the topic of discussion

**Scene event:** The instructor got into the classroom greeting his students. They were busy with taking notes from their classmates. The notes were of the previous class. They were given some minutes to finish them. As feedback he asked them a question related to their previous lecture and connected with their current lecture and they did not respond actively. They even avoid eye contacts with their professor. The professor started demonstrating the answer after long absence from the students.

**Key:** Serious but hesitant to take part

**Instrumentalities:** The professor used different teaching techniques that is a "Power Point presentation " to promote interaction. An easy lecture topic. Open the floor. Elicit answers. Give their own views but the norms of interaction were as follows:

- + students- students (silence)
- + students- teachers (silence)
- + teacher - students (try to break up silence)

**Genre:** lecture introduction

### **Classroom moment (2)**

The professor presented some topics on the green board to warm them up towards selecting their graduation projects. The professor and the students had meetings on a weekly basis to follow their projects progress.

**Setting:** MA classroom equipped with modern teaching aids

**Participants:** A female professor and eleven first –year English Linguistics graduate students.

**Ending:** Share and initiating the topic for presentation

**Norms of speech strategies:** (Students in groups)

- + students- students (do not appear to want to speak)
- + students- teachers (not reluctant speakers)
- + teacher - students (lack of confidence, telling his own experience)

**Genre:** lecture on Linguistics & culture

## **6. Findings of Interviews**

The main purpose of this research was to identify the phenomenon of silence in EFL classes in the context of Sudan and to identify the existence of silence with illocutionary force and without illocutionary force through using the technique of interviewing from the cohort of this research study. It is also important to mention that the overall findings of the interview of the participants of this research are in line with the results of what has been gathered through the technique of observation. It is reported that silence is a ‘background’ to verbal communication and that it comprises of various acts and shapes of human communication (Nakane 2006). It is argued that Silence may without illocutionary force, which falls into the category of non-propositional silence whereas the opposite to it carries illocutionary force (Troike, 2003). Troike (2003) further explains that silence with illocutionary force can be involved in the communication interaction, which can give more emphasis on sentence types, which form the fundamental unit of linguistics communication. One can ask if she or he says something without delivering a word. On the other hand, silence without illocutionary force may be result of ultimate apprehension, distress and hesitant (Kurzon, 1997 cited in Nakane, 2006).

While responding for interview question, a vast majority of the respondents stated that, they are usually in the habit of asking anything from their teachers or even they feel hesitant to reply to the teachers' questions. Thus, what transpires is that majority of Sudanese EFL learners neither actively participate in the proceedings of the teaching sessions nor do they communicate with their teachers or class fellows.

One of the students responded in these words: "I feel comfortable not to speak or ask questions from my professors because I do not like that my friends may feel that my questions are not important". Another responded that "my class fellows do not help me to speak more in class, I mean, um... they are not very helpful ..... frankly sometimes they make fun in front of the teachers or after the classes". Another important aspect has been highlighted by third participant who stated that "if you ask me, some teachers also smile when I ask a question which is stupid, ah...not very smart. And this also makes us shy".

The responses of the participants of this study may be summarized as follows:

Majority of the students prefer to keep silent during the classroom proceedings and most of the times, it is one-way traffic with the teachers lecturing while the students are busy taking notes without any active participation in the process of classroom interactions. Most of the times, majority of the students prefer to ask the questions about the points they do not understand after the classroom proceedings which highlight the previous research that a great number of Sudanese students feel embarrassed and shy to speak in the target language in front of their peers because they are afraid of they may make fun of them.

### **Reported Causes behind Silence in Classes**

The data generated through the intervention of the researcher through observations and interviews has revealed several causes and reasons behind making it difficult for Sudanese EFL learners actively communicate in classes with their peers and professors. The following are some of the participants' answers, which reveal the causes behind their silence.

#### **Preference for using Arabic**

Several students have mentioned that their mother tongue plays an important role in their habit of being hesitant to communicate in the target language. One participant responded as follows:

*"We Arabs love our language Arabic you know. Many of us feel that Arabic language is superior to others and may be why we use more Arabic language in discussion in our classes"*

#### **Problems with the Target Language**

It has also been revealed that majority of students are not very proficient in English language even at post-graduate level and this lack of confidence in the target language somehow force them to stick to Arabic language. Furthermore, it is also probable that they do it so that they understand each other better.

*“If I have to ask something from my teacher, I like to ask in Arabic and when teacher force me to speak English, sometimes I do not ask my questions. I do not want my friends laugh because of my poor language”*

*“When I speak or ask question in English language, my teachers do not understand exactly what my question is. I do not ask in class. I ask after class”*

### **Lack of Confidence**

Some students lack of confidence is another major cause as identified by interviews.

*“My English not very good. If I speak I am worry and feel shame when my fellows smile or look at me. I like to keep silent. Or I ask in Arabic language. In my opinion, my class fellows should help. If they do not smile, may be I speak and ask more questions.”*

### **Large Classes**

*“Now we are not many friends in class now. But we have big classes in schools and also in university. All were not my friends. It is difficult for me to speak in front of many students. I ask questions from my teachers when I finish classes.”*

It transpires that presence of many students around them and especially the one who are not much familiar to them make them shy and force them not to interact in the target language so that they do not lose face in front of their peers.

### **Cultural Inhibition**

#### **Role of the teachers**

Four students out of the total eleven has stated that sometimes the roles of the teachers are not very encouraging that inculcates inhibition and deter them to use the target language inside classrooms while talking to their teachers or even their peers. One of the responses has been:

*“Some teachers also smile when I make a mistake ...may be in grammar or even in pronunciation. And one more bad thing is when any teacher does that, the other students also make fun. I sometimes feel afraid to ask questions”*

### **Fear of Peer Responses**

One such response is as follows:

*“Your peers will laugh if you make a stupid mistake....I mean sometimes my friends feel that when I ask a question I am showing off. That makes me not to ask more questions.”*

**Nature of Activities** *"Sometimes we do participate and speak to each other you know ....., we were active... In the Linguistics & Culture course, we spoke to each other more and actively when the teacher gave us work to finish in group work."*

**Past experiences**

*"Now the teachers are more helpful and sometimes they talk about to other students.....I mean they stop students to smile or make fun and that encourage us to use English language..... but actually in schools we had this problem so much. All students laughed when we even tried to speak and teachers also with them. Our past experience is also a cause which make us silent"*

**Influence of Peers**

A vast majority has expressed a strong concern about the behavior of their peers and friends because their negative behavior and comments have been identified one of the major causes behind the shyness and inhibition. They prefer to be silent in class to avoid being laughed at. It is also informed that as all other students keep silent, I also prefer to be silent as well.

*"Your peers will laugh if you make a stupid mistake....I mean sometimes my friends feel that when I ask a question I am showing off. That makes me not to ask more questions."*

**7. Comparison of Contradicting Results from Observations and Interviews**

There seems an apparent contradiction in the data generated from observations and interviews as some of the students are shy by nature and that makes them keep silent indicating that are not external reasons but only because that some students are not social by nature. Rather some students have been quoted as being introvert who prefer to keep silent. But the researcher has found out that there was no denying the facts that some students were very silent and they preferred not to respond to any type of questions and not to interact with any types of replies. However, there were differences in their attitudes as most of them did answer some of the questions in a seminar room whereas their behavior was strictly opposite when they were in big classrooms. Another important finding has been that most of the students, who preferred not to participate in any class activity, were rather very active in talking to their friends in corridors after the classes. But certainly, they were not interacting in the target language but resorted to use Arabic language. This seems to suggest that it is not their personalities in terms of extroverts or introverts but their fears of using English language for some reasons.

## 8. Discussion (Silence Pattern)

The data generated from both data collection sources seemed to suggest that the silence pattern among the participants of this study has important propositional communicative component created most probably by illocutionary forces and culture inhibition that usually students prefer to keep silent. The data has reported that the main reasons behind their preference to keep silent include their past experiences, large classes, negative attitudes of the students as well as the teachers towards encouraging them to speak, their negative remarks, some classroom activities, silence of other students in classroom, lack of confidence, fear of adverse comments, cultural inhibitions to use English language in front of their peers and teachers.

The pattern of students' silence in the MA linguistics classes resembles significantly with the 'face model' presented by researchers in the field (Zhou & Ho, 1992; Wang & Yang, 2005). 'Face negotiation' is a construct that is related to psychology and bears social implications. As far the psychological implications are concerned, face aspect is identified by Zhou and Ho (1992) as a construct that is closely corresponded to social appreciation and self-assessment as well as morality/other evaluation. As for the social implications re concerned, 'face negotiation' is defined as a process to discuss the appropriate place in the system of relationship, executing the suitable roles, and behaving in a manner that is acceptable in the given cultural parameters of the group one belongs to (for example Sudanese EFL students) so that a person ensures acceptance and respect in the society. Therefore, we can conclude that a person is supposed to have 'face' if they are behaving in a manner, which is according to the expectations and standards of a society. It has also been reported that both psychological and social constructs bear a complex relationship and cannot be separated from one another and to some extent are indispensable. This seems to conclude that this complicated construct is an outcome of certain social and psychological factors (Zhou, 1992). Chen (2003) posits that a dynamic context is instrumental in providing a base where these psychological and social factors interplay which largely depends on the number of people involved, their abilities, level of acquaintance among the audience and to a large extent the level of formality of the situation concerned.

The results produced by the data analyses of the observations and interviews have indicated a strong association of 'face model' presented by the researchers in this social and psychological field (Zhou & Ho, 1992; Wang & Yang, 2005). The models of silencing of the learners in the MA linguistics classes seem to suggest that during their teaching sessions the students prefer to be silent to keep face so that they ensure harmony and close association with the group they belong. They do not want to behave in a manner which is not expected of an EFL learner or what other people feel foreign or not appropriate. This finding is in line with the proposition that the construct of face is not related to individual personalities but face negotiation is closely bound to the social factors of context and the situation concerned (Zhou & Ho, 1992).

The results also offer valuable insights into the fact that ‘face negotiation’ is to some extent influenced by the personality of the students but largely it depends on external factors such as their past experiences, large classes, negative attitudes of the students as well as the teachers towards encouraging them to speak, their negative remarks, some classroom activities, silence of other students in classroom, lack of confidence, fear of adverse comments, cultural inhibitions to use English language in front of their peers and teachers.

The results partially confirm the findings of the previous research that has been conducted in the same academic context. For example Ahmed (2018) has stated that large classes the main cause behind ineffective English language teaching in Saudi universities because this factor hinders them to take an active part in classroom discussions as well culturally they seem hesitant to communicate in English language with their classmates. A study conducted by Al-Seghayer (2011) also bears strong affinity with the findings of the study in hand. He has reported that among the various other factors that negatively affect English language teaching process in the KSA, the Saudi EFL learners’ cultural inhibition and their inability to take an active part in classroom proceedings and activities is the main reason. He has further mentioned that another factor is related to less qualified English language teachers who unknowingly enhance their students’ confidence to speak in front of their class fellows. Al-Jarf (2008) has investigated the situation of English language teaching and reported that lack of encouragement from their peers is a main reason of Saudi students’ silence.

Al-Zahrani (2008) has investigated Saudi university undergraduates from King Saud university and concluded that they lack the required level of proficiency in the target language because of their negative attitudes towards various important learning techniques such as taking active part in classroom discussion, having enough practice through mutual discussion and utilizing the modern internet facility to enhance their oral skills. The findings of this study also confirm the results of Educational Testing Services (2009) which suggest that the results of Saudi students in international text seems to suggest that they are far behind their counterparts from other Asian countries because of their cultural inhibitions. Ahmed (2020) has also reported lack of integrative motivation is the reason that they do not want to learn English as a mean to communicate; therefore, lack a genuine urge to take part in class discussions and improve their oral skills. The same findings have been reported by Rababah (2003) who has investigated communication Problems among Jordanian EFL learners and concluded that they are unable to achieve the required proficiency in the oral skills in English language because of lack of the required support from their peers, teachers and the society in general. A growing mass of investigations made in Arab context seem to suggest that students’ inability to actively participate in class discussion, lack of practice in the target language, large classes,

cultural inhibitions, lack of support from peers and society, etc. are the main reason behind low proficiency level among Arab learners (AlFadly, 2003, Al-Hazmi, 2004, Ministry of Education, 2006, ).

Results also indicate that usually there are mixed ability groups and the students with high English language proficiency dominate the classes and frequently ask questions from their teachers; thus, leaving little space for weaker students to take part in classroom discussions. Furthermore, the weaker students also feel that if they speak and make mistakes, the students with higher proficiency will make fun of them and consequently, the weaker students are caught in the vicious circle and remain rather weaker because of their lack of active participation. The social feature of the process of face is another strong reason behind this situation as because of the well-accepted rules and frames mentioned above to ensure harmony with the society as well as to keep the hierarchical relationship intact also force the students to keep silent in classes. Some participants emphasize that it is feature- lengthen tendency one keeps silent in these types of classes and unfortunately, it has become a part of negative practices. Similarly, the following comments also show that some students prefer to keep silent but they do not want to give impression to their peers that are showing off, *“Your peers will laugh if you make a stupid mistake....I mean sometimes my friends fee that when I ask a question I am showing off. That makes me not to ask more questions.”*

## 9. Conclusion and Recommendations

This section contains the main conclusions based on the results generated through the data analyses of the observations and interviews conducted with the participants of this study. It has been reflected that the informants of this paper prefer to keep silent during teaching sessions for various reasons. The first reason is that they do not want to lose face and want to keep harmonious relationships. Their efforts to main ‘face negotiation’ is reported to have been influenced by various factors such as large groups, unfriendly classroom seating plan, level of familiarity with their peers, kinds of classroom activities, social relationships, cultural inhibitions, their lack of confidence on their own abilities and fear of negative evaluation by their peers and teachers.

The data analyses suggest that EFL postgraduate learners represented by the participants of this study bear strong inhibitions towards taking an active part in various classroom activities because of fear of negative responses from their class fellows in general and sometimes from their teachers as well. It is also reported that usually the situation is not as bad at university level as it is there in Sudanese schools. However, some postgraduate students bear these fears because of their previous unpleasant experiences and incidents they encountered when they used to be at schools. These unpleasant memories have entrenched deep in the psychology that make it rather difficult at university level as well to interact with their teachers and peers during their teaching sessions. Likewise, it is also reported that due to the presence of some better

students in classes who usually dominate the classes, relatively weaker students find it rather difficult to overcome their fears, come forward, and participate actively in discussions. Low proficiency level is yet another reason that force the students not to communicate in the target language with their teachers and peers. The paper, hence, posits that the in-class concealment of face, as a matter of general practice as well as a religious bodily practice, is identified as a strong marker of local culture that creates strong reactions which often, if not always, inculcates an emotional repertoire that create strong fear causing silence in classes.

Based on the conclusions presented above, it is recommended that for better English language teaching process it is important that these psychological and social inhibitions be tackled professionally and on urgent bases so that postgraduate students are able to get maximum academic benefit from the teaching sessions. It seems important that English language teachers should discuss these issues candidly and frankly with their postgraduate students. There will be no denying of the fact that as the students are adults and because of their mature attitudes, they will be able to understand that their fears are unfound and baseless. Once this is established, then it will become extremely easy to motivate them to start interacting with their teachers as well as peers to discuss various academic topics in classes. It is also imperative that the teachers should encourage them by providing positive reinforcement when they ask any question or comment on any academic discussion. It is also suggested that the students should be encouraged to help each other in asking questions and becoming active participants of classroom proceedings. Inclusion of frequent group work and pair work will be an effective technique to provide them with an opportunity to overcome their fear of speaking in front of the whole class.

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**Exploring the Intertextual Webs: A Comparative Study of Sophocles' *Antigone* and Bertold Brecht's *The Antigone of Sophocles* (1948)**

**Dalia Saad M. Mansour,**  
Associate Professor, Faculty of Language Studies,  
Arab Open University, Egypt  
Corresponding email: [dalia.saad@aou.edu.eg](mailto:dalia.saad@aou.edu.eg)

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**ABSTRACT**

As a matter of fact, it has always been claimed that there are voices embedded in any literary text. In other words, any literary text involves different layers of voices: that of the author and those to which the author reacts in his/ her text. This claim suggests the matter of textual influence which started in the mid of the 18th century with the growing interest in originality and genius asserted by Bloom's theory as stated by the art historian Michael Baxandall (1985). Therefore, 'influence' has to do with the author and the historical / socio-political context of the text, and studying it requires studying the context of the text. The study of 'influence' has proceeded anonymously and was neither able to accommodate for different analysis such as psychological, feminist, Marxist, and others, nor for studying two texts regardless of their historical priority. Hence, it lacks the benefits of implementing an interdisciplinary approach. This narrow form of 'influence' considering authors as agents and questioning their originality has begun to be obsolete as it shaped authors as authoritative disregarding the reader's role and promoting outworn humanism. Shifting the focus to the reader encouraged the procedure of 'intertextuality'. In fact, Julia Kristeva was the first to coin the term 'intertextuality' based on Bakhtin's dialogism which suggests multiple meanings in each text and even in each word and the continual dialogue with works of literature and authors. "Every word," Bakhtin wrote, "is directed toward an answer and cannot escape the profound influence of the answering word that it anticipates". (18) This study aims at comparing Sophocles' *Antigone* and Bertolt Brecht's *The Antigone of Sophocles* highlighting the significance of the intertexts resulting from the different contexts in which these plays and adaptations were made, in addition to explaining the political and social dimensions in the adapted discourse. The study, therefore, highlights the intertextual webs in the examined texts, denoting the infinity of meanings in the adaptations of Sophocles' *Antigone*.

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Kristeva's intertextuality signifies focus on the text, the author, the reader, and correspondence with other works as well. For her, the meaning is mediated through by codes introduced to the writer and the reader by other texts rather than being directly transferred from the writer to the reader. In other words, the

meaning of a text is produced by the readers in relation to the text as well as the complex network of texts invoked in the reading process creating the reader's knowledge web. It can, thus, be suggested that according to Kristeva, the existence of any text is only in its relation with other texts; it is not the simple juxtaposition of texts, but as argued by Bloome and Hong (2012) in *Reading and Intertextuality* is "the deconstruction and reconstruction of dominant theories of semiotics, linguistics, hermeneutics, language, reasoning, and related topics including reading, composition, literary theory, and how a text is defined" (1). The suggestion that a text is constructed of a variety of other texts was anticipated by Roland Barthes (1977) in his *The Death of The Author* where he argues that the text is a "tissue of quotations drawn from the innumerable centers of cultures" (146). McGann (1991), as well, argued that "[a]ll texts are socially and historically relative including all Meta-texts such as scholarly commentaries and editions" (93). Therefore, intertextuality can be taken as a general term or a broad definition of 'influence' encompassing context, allusion, and tradition.

According to Linda Hutcheon (2006), adaptation is not a replication to the original text; it is kind of re-invention, and it involves the adapted product, the process of invention as well as the process of reception. Meanwhile, Julie Sanders in her *Adaptation and Appropriation* (2006) argued that any adapted text can be compared to other adaptations as well as to the original text highlighting that 'intertextuality' is the big umbrella for adaptation and appropriation. As a matter of fact, though adaptation keeps the relation with the original text, it is controlled by various factors: the target audience, the culture to which it is adapted and reasons for adaptations.

The political nature of adaptation and appropriation has become plainly obvious. Accordingly, postcolonial writers employed adaptations to express their political views. Almost any modification of historical cultural works is considered adaptation, which fits into the broader process of cultural recreation. The dominant class's voice tends to be the only one that is preserved by the cultural works and monuments that have survived. This cannot be done unless through reconstructing the dialogue and marginalizing the voices of the silenced and oppressed. Linda Hutcheon maintains in her book *A Theory of Adaptation* that "adaptation is a form of intertextuality" as readers interpret them through the "memory of other works that resonate through repetition with variation" (Hutcheon 8). Julia Kristeva asserts in her book *Desire in Language* that "Bakhtin situates the text within history and society, which are then seen as texts read by the writer, and into which he inserts himself by rewriting them" (Kristeva 65).

Bakhtin postulates the need for what he calls a translinguistic science, which, developed from the dialogism of language, would allow readers to understand intertextual relations; relationships that in the

19th century were labeled as social values or the moral message of literature. An adaptation, like the work it adapts, is always framed in a time and place, society, and culture. The narrative is both different and the same when the setting, either in terms of time or location, changes. Readers repeatedly recount, demonstrate, and engage with stories; in the process, they alter with each telling while remaining recognizable as the same, as Hutcheon maintains that “[A]daptation, like evolution, is a transgenerational phenomenon” (Hutcheon 32). Kristeva further maintains that any text is a trans-linguistic tool that is an intertext in its nature which is a set of utterances “taken from other texts, intersect and neutralize one another” (Kristeva 36). The earliest form of intertextuality was ‘influence’ which was replaced as it doesn’t provide a more comprehensive political understanding of texts. Jay Clayton and Eric Rothstein maintain in their article “Figures in the Corpus: Theories of Influence and Intertextuality” that:

[A]lthough every text possesses countless points of intersection with other texts, these connections situate a work within existing networks of power, simultaneously creating and disciplining the text’s ability to signify. Foucault insists that we analyze the role of power in the production of textuality and of textuality in the production of power. This entails looking closely at those social and political institutions by which subjects are subjected, enabled and regulated in forming textual meaning (Clayton & Rothstein 25).

All these initiatives attempt to raise awareness of how intertextual networks influence not just how we perceive language but also how we live as social and political beings. Clayton and Rothstein added, “[f]or either the earlier or the later author, such influence as counts is likely to be a nonliterary, nonintellectual influence from infancy (let the Oedipus complex be its token), which in later life emerges in recognizably sublimated form or unrecognizably, when it remains concealed behind acts of rhetoric or ideological funneling” (Clayton & Rothstein 15).

Intertextuality becomes an activity focused on embodied and gendered agents rather than shifting reference fields, thus examining how a text's intertextual links evolve over time to record historical development is important. The concept includes principles of action which are part of a political and historical project. These matters can recover their original urgency for readers only if they are retold within the unity of a single great collective story. In *The Political Unconscious*, Frederic Jameson states that in order to free one’s self from any constriction, one must recognize that everything is socially and historically rooted and that everything is in the end political. Jameson affirms that the political resonance of literary texts is important as he states that “[I]t conceives of the political perspective not as some supplementary method, not as an optional auxiliary to other interpretive methods current today—the psychoanalytic or the mythcritical, the stylistic, the ethical, the structural—but rather as the absolute horizon of all reading and all interpretation” (Jameson 1). He adds that “only a genuine philosophy of history is capable of respecting the specificity and radical difference of the social and cultural past while disclosing the solidarity of its politics

and passions, its forms, structures, experiences, and struggles, with those of the present day” (Jameson 2). He maintains that only Marxism offers a philosophically coherent and ideologically compelling solution to the above historicist dilemma and can adequately explain the essential mystery of the cultural past.

This study aims at comparing Sophocles’ *Antigone* and Bertolt Brecht’s *The Antigone of Sophocles* highlighting the significance of the intertexts resulting from the different contexts in which these plays and adaptations were made, in addition to explaining the political and social dimensions in the adapted discourse. The study, therefore, highlights the intertextual webs in the examined texts, denoting the infinity of meanings in the adaptations of Sophocles’ *Antigone*.

*Antigone* is perhaps the only play, classical or contemporary, that has been re-performed around the world and a vast number of these performances have reconsidered and redesigned the play for the modern era. It incorporates local and sometimes international and global concerns, which makes it universal. The story of *Antigone*, premiered by Sophocles, is so "timeless" or "universal" in its narrative, structure, or narrative that it seems as if the play existed outside of time or transcended its own history as if it has nothing to do with the present. *Antigone* is retold because certain human and social struggles repeat themselves in history, and the complex and rich structure of *Antigone's* narrative is, unfortunately, the terror of the unburied dead, and becomes repetitively meaningful to represent the casualties and wreckage of the civil war. History is shortened by the recurring injustices that cause human pain as well as the injustices that ultimately lead to that suffering in addition to the atrocities and the labor of survivors, often women, who come to bury the dead. Not only has it become thematically appropriate again, but this particular tragic form seems to have the ability to express the essence of catastrophe at every moment. In fact, understanding the world’s phenomenon of the "Antigone Fever" refers to the fascination and influence of the tragic figure of *Antigone* from Greek mythology in literature. This phenomenon has captivated authors and readers alike, inspiring numerous adaptations and reinterpretations of *Antigone's* story across different time periods and cultures. As a symbol of defiance against authority and a champion of individual moral duty, *Antigone* has resonated with audiences seeking to explore themes of justice, morality, and personal agency.

In a country where ritual mourning and public burials are living central traditions, *Antigone* has served as the embodiment of women's resistance to colonial oppression and patriarchy. The play featured an oppressive dictator who prioritizes economic development. In Sophocles' play, Antigone openly defies Creon's laws; this creates a difference between the laws of the land and a higher moral imperative that many see as a distinction. Antigone is often portrayed as a heroine because she opposes injustice and takes steps to overthrow oppressive regimes such as those represented by Creon. Antigone and Creon's family ties in

the play become an overwhelming metaphor between the old reformers now in power and those who remain dissidents appalled by the brutality of power for a close but painfully strained relationship.

The analyses and evocations of myths and variants of Sophocles that have been drawn over the centuries show no signs of breaking. An adaptation of Sophocles' *Antigone* evokes the political issues raised by the play. These very powerful works provide examples of *Antigone* being used to challenge oppressive governments and individual dictators. In Eastern Europe, Brecht's 1948 version of *Antigone* (which identified Creon with Adolf Hitler) was a clear paradigm. Playwrights and directors saw it as a safe means of exploring forbidden ideas closer to home, often turned to Greek tragedy. In 1948, Bertolt Brecht staged a German version of Sophocles' *Antigone* where the setting of the play politicized the play for the political turmoil at the time as the play had many significations related to Nazism and Hitler. Brecht's version of Sophocles, which emphasizes human greed and atrocity, addresses the issue of Sophocles' conflicting views of leadership. Brecht adds a prologue which prepares the audience to associate this version with 1945 Germany where two sisters discover that their brother, who deserted Hitler's army, has been hung. Creon was called "Führer" all through, and the chorus wore Nazi uniforms. These events are related to what happened in Nazi occupied areas, as soldiers were hung from Berlin lampposts and any attempt to release their bodies would be immediately executed. Also, in December 1943, German forces invaded the village of Kalavrita and gathered all the men and killed them. Defying their orders, the women of the village escaped from the schools in which they were imprisoned, risking their lives to mourn and bury those who had been murdered. These events were the outset of Brecht's adaptation of Sophocles' *Antigone*. Brecht was always against dictatorship and never missed an opportunity to criticize Hitler in his works. In an interview, he says:

Question: Did you show how the individual should act toward the state?

Answer: Only how Antigone acts toward the state of Creon and the elders,

Question: Nothing else?

Answer: Other things.

Not surprisingly, parallels can be drawn between Creon and Adolf Hitler, as Brecht's adaptation depicts Creon as a tyrant modeled after Hitler who only wants power. Creon was portrayed in Sophocles' play as a ruler who wanted to ensure the security of Thebes and saw himself as a protector of Thebes who considered it his duty to work for the best interests of the state. This is evident in the following lines:

Creon: So there's no war?

Antigone: Yes, yours.

Creon: Not for the country? (Brecht 22)

Contrary to Sophocles' Creon, Brecht's Creon waged a war to obtain the metal of Argos, and represented imperialism, as he admits that his motives for attacking Argos are financial. The play can be considered a discourse on imperialism with references to Hitler. One can clearly see his motives for his war with Argos are economic as he repeatedly mentions Argos as "rich". By revealing a materialistic Creon, Brecht confirmed that Antigone was a clashing figure who was for peace and stood for the people.

In Sophocles' version, he was accused by Antigone for his disregard for the gods and favoring the laws of the land to the laws of the gods; however, Brecht emphasizes Creon's inhumanity in his adaptation. But both playwrights reach the same conclusion that justice is part of the way things work. The difference is that Sophocles' basis is God and Brecht's is humanity as in Sophocles, Creon disregards religion and family and in the Brechtian version the law and the people are ignored. In Brecht's version, she feuds with Creon for being humane rather than pious:

Creon: The state's order, that is from God, you do not see.

Antigone: From God it may be but I'd rather have it human and humane." (Brecht 25)

This was an attempt from Brecht to modernize the discourse. This is what Julie Sanders maintained in her book *Adaptation and Appropriation* stating that adaptations "can also constitute a simpler attempt to make texts 'relevant' or easily comprehensible to new audiences and readerships via the processes of proximation and updating" (Sanders 19). According to Clayton & Rothstein, "[a] text is made of multiple writings, drawn from many cultures and entering into mutual relations of dialogue, parody, contestation, but there is one place where this multiplicity is focused and that place is the reader, not... the author" (Clayton and Rothstein 20). Brecht's concern was how to make Antigone attainable to modern audiences. This is perceived by him to be done through alternating the myth into politics and eliminating the element of fate.

The result of Brecht's plan is his alienation effect which discards the tragic effect that would bring about sympathy for any of the characters as he was against any kind of emotional engagement with the audience. Brecht attempted to do this through making the chorus have a neutral viewpoint and leaving out Eurydice's death. This is in addition to the scene when Creon grieves for his son and more for his doomed Thebes:

Creon: So now Thebes falls. And let it fall, let it with me, let it be finished (Brecht 50).

Brecht's method has a policy as it interprets the world as unstable and therefore changeable. Such a position suggests that situations or behaviors do not represent an eternal state but are subject to human influence. He foregrounds the argument that a man is accountable for his personal situations. This leads the audience to ponder over Creon's actions, concluding that it was his own action and not the work of fate.

This insight seems very important, because Brecht thought that audiences would relate the same rationale to their condition outside the theater and try to act upon it, as he is concerned with dealing with individuals as part of dynamic systems. By alluding to instability, Brecht meant to indicate that changes can be made. This has greatly influenced Brecht's understanding of theater and politics, as he directly linked the type of theatre which gives rise to emotions to the rise of fascism which silences masses. Brecht set himself the task of countering this sentimentality in his theater. He developed his alienation effect to avert audiences from empathizing with the characters and to force them to think rationally. David Barnett maintains in his book *Brecht in Practice: Theatre, Theory and Performance* that:

[M]arxism is a political philosophy with a long history and a complex set of principles. Its most important features for Brecht were: Marxism addresses inequalities in society and proposes ways of overcoming them. These ways are not based on reforming an already flawed system (capitalism), but fashioning a new and better one (socialism). The hope for change is based on the instability of any social system and is brought about by an unchanging methodology: dialectics" (Barnett 19).

Brecht was a Marxist following the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe in the early 1990s. Marxism itself was downplayed and dismissed as a set of unworkable and unworkable ideas. If "Brechtian" has become synonymous with "Marxist," then such an association may entrench Brecht in a discredited politics that many see as superfluous or superfluous. Conversely, a successful Brechtian staging might well help rehabilitate the tenets of Marxism, at least for some in the auditorium.

These changes go a long way toward keeping the public from feeling sorry for Brecht's Creon. He states:

Question: This, surely, is the point at which the public at large can sympathize with Antigone, for it will feel what she feels, and share her arguments?

Answer: It is more important that here Antigone feels what the public at large feels, and shares its arguments.

For Brecht, this was the type of theatre that Hitler used to be in control. In Gustave Le Bon's book *The Crowd: A Study of the Popular Mind*, he states:

[T]he evolution of the present age—The great changes in civilisation are the consequence of changes in National thought—Modern belief in the power of crowds—It transforms the traditional policy of the European states—How the rise of the popular classes comes about, and the manner in which they exercise their power—The necessary consequences of the power of the crowd (Le Bon ix).

He adds that “[T]he progressive growth of the power of the masses took place at first by the propagation of certain ideas, which have slowly implanted themselves in men's minds, and afterwards by the gradual association of individuals bent on bringing about the realisation of theoretical conceptions” (Le Bon xi). Adolf Hitler used theatre of empathy for mass mobilization and propaganda purposes, as crowd theory paved the way for Nazism. His aim was to exploit the crowds as a means of commanding masses which mobilize them for his own interest and bring him to power in addition to manipulating the masses for dictatorial political ends. Hitler recognizes the importance of political propaganda during World War I; so, he had to think carefully about what message to spread and how. The importance of propaganda and maneuvering was only a part of Hitler's plan and Brecht's purpose through the play is to apply theatre as a means for enlightening people.

To conclude, since the first production of Sophocles' *Antigone*, each production has been a dynamic enactment of comprehension. In performance, drama is born and reborn, as art reveals a specific practice crystallized into modes of production with highly diversified and multiplied manifestations. The Antigones that have been retold for years are, in large, part of the re-creations of different political contexts. This discourse invariably strikes a raw nerve exposed in all cultures and regimes at some point. This nerve appears to be inextricably linked with the ethics of personal and political responsibility; however, these are interpreted in different places and times. As a result, the play's primary pulse has a strong tendency to deconstruct whatever set of contingent categories we decide to impose on it. If there is anything 'universal' about *Antigone*, it is in the way both the play and the characters are mobilized, as it has been shown to exceed inventory. The play's transhistorical, transcultural, translingual elements paved the way for its assimilation and alteration. The relationship of *Antigone* and Creon and the myths in which they appear are considered universal and they change over the centuries. Named or implied, the two figures and the deadly dispute between them illustrate fundamental elements of the discourse on man and society. In addition, productions of *Antigone* have been used to fight for the legitimacy and recognition of local cultures in contradistinction to hegemonic national, colonial, and global cultures. Even more pervasive was the role of the 'Antigone' in the real lives of individuals and communities. It has become a vehicle for articulating the problems of modern nations as it belongs to many nations. *Antigone's* narrative is global in response to specific historical, cultural, and artistic needs, as an adaptation can be used to respond to broader social or cultural criticism. In every way, Brecht's version is free of tragic overtones, as what is presented to the spectator is not an emotional experience of events, but rather a more intellectual kind of experience, as what he wanted to do was to save the work from the label of tragedy. He wanted to make it clear that tragedy leads to catharsis, leaving the audience unable to think critically about the situations being enacted. His

adaptation of Sophocles' *Antigone* presents an interesting combination of ancient and contemporary elements. This production represented a first step in examining the question of complicity through a play which is distant in time and place from the present of Germany, this transhistorical element was crucial.

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**Feminist Dystopia: A Study of the 2019 Ballet Adaptation of Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale* (1985)**

Nouran Tarek Hassan,<sup>1</sup>

MA holder,

Faculty of Language Studies, Arab Open University, Egypt.

Corresponding email: [dalia.saad@aou.edu.eg](mailto:dalia.saad@aou.edu.eg)

Dalia Saad Mansour <sup>2</sup>

Associate Professor,

Faculty of Language Studies, Arab Open University, Egypt.

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**ABSTRACT**

Dystopian narrative has come to be the focus of academic studies in the 20th century mirroring hunger, terror, violence, and repression. It gradually eliminated the fictive utopian imagination by showing the long-neglected side of the coin. People's constant need to live in a perfect utopian world is best manifested in Thomas More's description of this world in his masterpiece *Utopia*. Since More's *Utopia*, fictitious countries- mostly islands- have been dreamt of and created in literature. The construction of a utopian world is thoroughly affected by the current events in societies, aiming at changing the circumstances for the better by pinpointing them.

In fact, this study attempts to examine the ballet adaptation of Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale* (1985). The ballet was performed in 2019 and presented by Ecole De Dance Anick Macconnel at Fever International Dance Championships. The paper adopts a feminist dystopia perspective and attempts to highlight the significant inevitable changes that occur when adapting a novel to a ballet performance – a six-minute-performance in this case. Furthermore, the study capitalizes on the amount of dehumanization female figures had to undergo with much attention given to Offred who is the main protagonist of the novel as well as in the adaptation. The adaptation is going to be tackled in the study through pointing out the significance of the medium specific features of the selected ballet performance such as the significance of ballet movements, the choice of music, and lights displaying the ramification of brutal authoritative governments and attempts of resistance. This is going to be analysed in light of feminist dystopian fiction.

*I am not free while any woman is unfree, even when her shackles are very different from my own*

(Audre Lord)

Dystopian narrative has come to be the focus of academic studies in the 20th century, mirroring hunger, terror, violence, and repression. It gradually eliminated the fictive utopian imagination by showing the long-neglected side of the coin. People's constant need to live in a perfect utopian world is best manifested in Thomas More's description of this world in his masterpiece *Utopia* (1516). Since More's *Utopia*, fictitious countries- mostly islands- have been dreamt of and created in literature. The construction

of a utopian world is thoroughly affected by the current events in societies, aiming at changing the circumstances for the better by pinpointing them.

According to Henry Lewis in 1747, the term “dystopia” has been coined and spelt “dustopia”. In fact, the term has been used as well in John Stuart Mill’s 1868 speech in parliament. Gregory Claeys states that the word “dystopia” has been derived from two Greek words, *dus* and *topos*, which denotes an ailing, a deficient or a faulty place. In *Dystopia: An Earlier Eighteenth Century Use*, the term “dystopia” that was coined by Henry Lewis in 1747, was defined as “an unhappy country”. It probably appeared in the mid-eighteenth century, but the usage of the word “dystopia” has taken a different-more meaningful turn in the late 20th century basically in literature. Since “dystopia” has been lately related to literature, Sargent defines it in his *In Defense of Utopia* (2006), as “a non-existent society described in considerable detail and normally located in time and space that the author intended a contemporaneous reader to view as considerably worse than the society in which the reader lived” (15).

Tom Moylan (2000) encapsulates the backdrops against which this type of narrative was written maintaining that

[D]ystopian narrative is largely the product of the terrors of the twentieth century. A hundred years of exploitation, repression, state violence, war, genocide, disease, famine, ecocide, depression, debt, and the steady depletion of humanity through the buying and selling of everyday life provided more than enough fertile ground for this fictive underside of the utopian imagination (12).

In light of that argument, it can be implied that dystopia predicts a fearful future and emerges from a set of problems. This refers to the fact that a dystopian text is characterized by some features which cannot be overlooked such as the militarized or war-centered societies, tyranny, slavery, extreme brutality, beating as a punishment of disobedience to authority, and diseased spaces. Furthermore, sexuality usually looms large in the incidents of a dystopian text. It is a taboo that is linked to disobeying God and is considered the epitome of sin. However, a glimpse of hope takes place in the text when the crowd decides to revolt and to act against the oppressive authorities.

Since this century has been a time of growing doubts, increasing uncertainty, alarming incidences, and looming crises, it became triggering to document this pessimistic state in literature. Apocalyptic literature has made this possible by reflecting the awaited prophetic destruction of the world. According to the *Oxford English Dictionary* (2010), the word apocalypse is translated from Greek and means “uncovering” and in religious contexts it usually refers to something hidden. Hence, one comes to understand that apocalypse is considered a feature of dystopian discourse, as it highlights the prophecies

related to demolition and chaos. In an apocalyptic patriarchal society, it seems to be normal that the dystopian genre has been dominated by male writers, and which has triggered female writers to document the possible amount of transgressions and humility faced by women in the coming future. Sarah Lefanu asserts that the dystopian genre is not only identified by “a male bias” but is also reinforced by “a cultural and political male hegemony” (187). As a result, female writers have aimed at opposing and undermining the dominant ideology which has been long outlined by men. Lefanu adds that such literature, created by women is usually “subversive, satirical and iconoclastic” (187). Furthermore, the amount of inequality witnessed by women – and projected in feminist dystopias has been expressed by Simone De Beauvoir (1949):

Now, woman has always been man's dependent, if not his slave; the two sexes have never shared the world in equality. And even today woman is heavily handicapped, though her situation is beginning to change. Almost nowhere is her legal status the same as man's, and frequently it is much to her disadvantage...In the economic sphere men and women can almost be said to make up two castes; other things being equal, the former hold the better jobs, get higher wages, and have more opportunity for success than their new competitors. In industry and politics men have a great many more positions and they monopolize the most important posts. (680)

Hence, it can be understood that the features of feminist dystopia are dedicated to bringing justice to women by highlighting the atrocities faced by them and neglected by most male writers.

As a matter of fact, this concept of feminist dystopia has been manifested variously in different mediums of narratives are being susceptible to a study of the adaptation theory. According to Harvey R. Greenberg (1998), adaptation is “repetition, but repetition without replication. And there are manifestly many different possible intentions behind the act of adaptation: the urge to consume and erase the memory of the adapted text or to call it into question is as likely as the desire to pay tribute by copying” (115). Arguably, adaptation as a phenomenon can be defined by relying on three definite but interrelated interpretations. In Linda Hutcheon’s *A Theory of Adaptation*, she stated that one way of defining “adaptation” is by regarding it as formal entity or product; it is a substantial transposition of a specific work or works. The process of adaptation would, definitely, involve an action of “transcoding” that may include a shift of medium – a short story to a film or performance- or genre generally resulting in a context narrating the exact story but from a different perspective. According to Mbye Cham, adaptation is a process of creation as it always involves “both (re-) interpretation and then (re-) creation; this has been called both

appropriation and salvaging, depending on your perspective” (300). Moreover, Hutcheon regards adaptation as a process of reception explaining that it is a form of intertextuality, saying that “we experience adaptations (as adaptations) as palimpsests through our memory of other works that resonate through repetition with variation” (8).

Since adaptation can involve a shift of medium, it is essential to highlight performance theory as a possible transposition of an adapted text. In Herman Rapaport’s *The Literary Theory Toolkit: A Compendium of Concepts and Methods*, he stated that “[p]erformance has become a field of study that is interdisciplinary in scope, including anthropology, sociology, psychology, philosophy, communication studies, literary study, visual art, and the performing arts (theatre, music, dance)” (135). This understanding of performance studies has also been agreed upon by Richard Schechner – who is recognized as the pioneer in this field- as he has asserted that this field must be constructed and regarded as a “broad spectrum” of human actions fluctuating from different genres and arts (15). It can be advocated that this field has a massive appetite for inviting and inventing recent kinds of performance. On this regard, Richard Schechner - one of the main founders of performance theory - asserted that “[a]s a field, performance studies is sympathetic to the avant-garde, the marginal, the offbeat, the minoritarian, the subversive, the twisted, the queer, people of color, and the formerly colonized” (17). It is worth noting that this history of performance studies will be studied in detail below with a special reference to the examined Ballet performance.

In fact, this study attempts to examine the ballet adaptation of Margaret Atwood’s *The Handmaid’s Tale* (1985). The ballet was performed in 2019 and presented by Ecole De Dance Anick Macconnel at Fever International Dance Championships. The paper adopts a feminist dystopia perspective and attempts to highlight the significant inevitable changes that occur when adapting a novel to a ballet performance – a six-minute-performance in this case. Furthermore, the study capitalizes on the amount of dehumanization female figures had to undergo with much attention given to Offred who is the main protagonist of the novel as well as in the adaptation. The adaptation is going to be tackled in the study through pointing out the significance of the medium specific features of the selected ballet performance such as the significance of ballet movements, the choice of music, and lights displaying the ramification of brutal authoritative governments and attempts of resistance. This is going to be analysed in light of feminist dystopian fiction.

In fact, one can strongly argue that Margaret Atwood’s *The Handmaid’s Tale* portrayed a dystopian society where the dominant minority has enslaved the subservient majority. Freedom is only enjoyed by men whereas women have been burdened with roles in the society that they cannot deviate from. Arguably, freedom -and the lack of it- is one of the predominant features in dystopian discourses which can easily be found in most of them. Typically as a dystopian text, human beings were underprivileged by depriving them

of their individualism and conditioning them to behave as per their social status. *The Handmaid's Tale* dealt with several issues of positioning women in society and their sexual equality which mainly stem from the second wave of feminism. Struggles and obstacles women had to undergo were highlighted to underline the fact that they should remain steadfast and fight for their freedom. *The Handmaids' Tale* is still open to infinite interpretations and female identity will always be put in question.

Performance studies and dance studies have been utilized as modern methods of expression that serve a higher purpose. Movement is considered an expressive and a functional form of language leading to coding messages in performances with an attempt to involve spectators in the act of decoding them. The spectators are expected to scrutinize movements, facial expressions, and costumes to apprehend the main plot and the climax that eventually unravel layers of meanings in the performance. Performance studies' roots were in theatre and have evolved thereof. In fact, the rise of performance studies is profoundly indebted to the work and efforts of Richard Schechner. However, defining performance studies is problematic as it is subjected to multiple and on-going alternations. Schechner argues that “[t]his area/field/discipline often plays at what it is not, tricking those who want to fix it, alarming some, amusing others, astounding a few as it side-winds its way across the deserts of academia” (357).

Consequently, it can be argued that performance symbolizes identities, reshapes minds, and tells stories. According to Marvin Carlson's *Performance: A Critical Introduction*, performance can be understood as “a central metaphor and critical tool for a bewildering variety of studies, covering almost every aspect of human activity. Performance discourse and its close theoretical partner, ‘performativity’, today dominate critical discourse” (9). Having clear-cut definitions and distinctions between the notions of “performance” and “performativity” is unattained; however terminologically, performativity underlines the idea of executing, and by far accomplishing an action. This performativity occurs to all actions whether verbal, physical, or even written. In her book *Bodies That Matter*, Judith Butler elaborates on the same subject, saying that performativity can be acknowledged as “the reiterative and citational practice by which discourse produces the effects that it names” (2), which sheds intensive light on the capacity of language and expressive actions to function as types of social action or to have reformative functions. Thus, it can be stated that though performance establishes performativity itself as the object of inquiry, pinning the terms down is extremely challenging.

The physical embodiment of written texts reflected in the utilization of choreography that has effaced the misconception of the existence of dichotomy between written discourses and kinesthetic ones. Choreography cannot be defined directly for its complex connotations. As a term, it appeared in the 1950s and has been long defined as the formation of movements in various times and spaces. However, the

definition goes beyond such a simple notion. Based on Jonathan Burrows' *A Choreographer's Handbook*, "Choreography is about making a choice, including the choice to make no choice" (40), choices that include having a recurrent movement in the performance, or wanting some degree of spontaneity. This physical embodiment of texts can be reflected in dance performances which eventually suggest depending on ethnography as a methodology of research.

As stated by Theresa Jill Buckland in her essay "Dance, History, and Ethnography", ethnography helps in investigating "the customary dance practices of an aggregate of people, such as an ethnic or cultural group" (16). However, there is "no consensus about the meaning of the term "ethnography," even within its home disciplinary bases of the social sciences" (17). Based on this, it can be argued that observing and highlighting human interactions in dance performances allows insights into social settings in which these performances take place. Along with this comes the usage of praxeology to facilitate the understanding of human conducts. It can be claimed that there is an interrelation between knowledge of various occurrences in society and actions done towards them. As explained by Clare Rigg, praxeology is the theory of practical knowledge where knowledge "should serve practice and a core value that the point of understanding a situation is to change it" (2). One cannot help but notice that values and ethics as well are being molded by the society, and thus comes the benefit of praxeology. Setting the foundation to this, one then denotes that rationalizing dance movements can happen within the scope of feminist theories as layers of misogyny and patriarchy may be detected.

In general, dance can be described as being a mirror to the ideologies and beliefs societies embody. In other words, the gender-divisions established by societies can be traced in it. In his essay "Dance, Gender, and Culture", Ted Polhemus states, "[w]hen I was a teenager growing up in an American suburb in the late 1950s and early 1960s, I was taught to dance at school, against my will, I might add. Whether 'slow' or 'fast' these dance steps and the macho behavioural activities which framed dance movement per se had one thing in common: the male led" (12). This emphasizes the fact that male domination has even reached arts. When examining ballet performances as a type of dance that mirrors societies, it can be denoted that gender differences find fertile soil in it. It has been contended that ballet could strongly be regarded as misogynistic in nature.

Resting on Ann Daly's article "The Balanchine Woman: Of Hummingbirds and Channel Swimmers", it can be stated that ballerinas are being portrayed in an angelic way, setting unfeasible standards for women. Daly argues that ballet provides "a powerful but regressive model in a social milieu where women are struggling to claim their own voices" (9). Additionally, one can indicate that in ballet women are usually physically maneuvered by the men and are positioned in an attempt to be subjected to

and analyzed by the male gazes. On stage, men are perceived as the physically muscular, and more balanced of the two. On the other hand, women are physically fragile, and need the aid of the male dancers to finish movement. Hence, leading roles are given to male dancers, while female ones perform the roles decided upon by males. Conceivably, such performances have been set up by male choreographers and, thus, women bodies have been objectified, controlled, and seen through males' perspectives. Daly asserts that "[n]o matter what the specific steps, no matter when the choreographic style, the interaction structure, pointe work (Pointe work is a part of classical ballet technique resulting from a desire for female ballet dancers to appear weightless and light footed), and movement style of classical ballet portrays women as objects of male desire rather than as agents of their own desire" (17). Being provocative in nature, dance and feminism have collided to challenge authority and, in turn, innovative choreography has opted to give voice to the silenced. It could be noted that the socially constructed barriers which women must abide by have been greatly questioned by dance, though not completely abolished. In context, where speech is largely forbidden, body language comes into service.

Exploring the representations of women on stage is one of the fundamental concerns of dance studies when collided with feminism. In her *In the Margins: Dance Studies, Feminist Theories and the Public Performance of Identity* (1999), Julia Zdrojewski states, "the use of feminist theories in dance studies can be seen specifically during early American Modern Dance and the 1920s and 30s" (33). This proves that the objectification of women on stage didn't go unnoticed. Several physical features were imposed on female dancers which can be claimed as being part of the objectification. The size of their bodies dictates the proper level of femininity a female dancer should have and generally a female in such a patriarchal society. Arguably, diminutive figures indicate expected submissiveness and fragile nature. Such demands in dance – ballet in particular- are mere reflection of cultural and social standards about women. In Jennifer Clement's *Reforming Dance Pedagogy: A Feminist Perspective on the Art of Performance and Dance Education*, it has been postulated that

Dancers are not born, they are made. Movements are performed in a manner that reaffirms patriarchal notions about women's and men's positions in the world and dance classes actually construct the desired bodies that are considered appropriate based on an individual's anatomy. Women adhere to strict regimes, which minimize overall size, builds [*sic*] flexibility and leg strength while men build stamina and speed (24).

In ballet, male and female dancers' relationship often depends on "support", male dancers are frequently encouraged to strengthen their arms and legs' muscles to support the female dancers when they lift them. However, since feminism – the second wave in particular- has been characterized by combating

gender inequality, challenging authorities has been the ultimate aim of feminist choreographers. Those feminist choreographers, who are all women, have taken the responsibility of awakening the minds of their spectators by creating performances that include movements which transcend and empower female dancers. As maintained by Hannah McCarthy in *Women on the Floor: A Study of Feminism in Modern Dance History*, “the early 1960s brought a period of unrest in the dance sphere as well as the political. It was a time of great experimentation and rebellion from the “technical” modern dance to which Graham, Humphrey, and many others had contributed. This is the movement now referred to as “post-modern dance” (22). Hence, this signifies that efforts have been exerted by feminists to alter the misrepresentation of women on stage.

Due to all the aforementioned techniques of ballet performance and its being an entirely different medium of familiar narrative, putting a magnifying glass on the performance in quest is an essential need when trying to unravel the threads and knots in it, supported by a set of movements, colours, and music. As mentioned above, the ballet adaptation of Margaret Atwood’s text has been presented in 2019 by Ecole De Dance Anick Macconnell at Fever International Dance Championships. Fever IDC is a Canadian dance competition covering various locations across Ontario and Quebec and it is directed by Jerome Bobb. The ballet performance presented here is a sort of a non-verbal contemporary adaptation to the text written by Atwood and it tackles the same issues through classical ballet movements set as infrastructures to the whole performance. Scrutinizing *The Handmaid’s Tale* ballet performance will be based on the assumptions that codes are sent to the audience by resorting to physical movements. In six minutes and twenty-six seconds – which is the duration of the performance- multiple methods have been utilized to defend the rights of the dehumanized women presented in Atwood’s text.

The examined ballet performance has been chosen particularly depending on the fact that ballet – as an art empowers women. In an interview with Prof. Nevine El-Kilany – the Dean of The Higher Institute of Art Criticism in Cairo- she has strongly refuted the on-going misconceptions that ballet demeans and degrades women. Moreover, El-Kilany continues to assert that most ballet performances are led by ballerinas while having male dancers as their supporters; they lead, and male dancers follow. Consequently, one can infer from El-Kilany’s words that claims such as those being set by Jennifer Clement in her *Reforming Dance Pedagogy: A Feminist Perspective on the Art of Performance and Dance Education* are mere accusations that need to be addressed through on-stage pro-feminism performances. Clement states that “movements are performed in a manner that reaffirms patriarchal notions about women’s and men’s positions in the world and dance classes actually construct the desired bodies that are considered appropriate based on an individual’s anatomy” (24).

Veering from that, the choreography created in this adaptation is meant to help the audience question the aim behind the whole performance. For instance, one finds that the performance is initiated by utterances and quotes from the text. In fact, it is supported by several extracts. Introducing the setting and the main protagonist to the audience has been done through a few words, “a chair, a table, a lamp, and a window with white curtains, and a glass that is shatterproof. But it isn’t running away they’re afraid of; a handmaid wouldn’t get far. My name is Offred, I had another name, but it is forbidden now, so many things are forbidden now.” Those are several extracts mainly collected and combined from chapter two in the written text. It is worth mentioning that the narrator has been replaced by the voiceover in this ballet performance, indicating a literal adaptation of the text itself. The voiceover has probably been inserted to create and communicate a range of sensations. It usually helps in delivering messages that resonate with the audience. To clarify, some of the messages that could be understood here are: women are not only captivated by men but by their own gender as well, women shouldn’t throw up their hands in defeat, and that fighting back is essential when dealing with a misogynistic society.



Figure 1.1 The Handmaid’s Tale performance at Fever IDC, 0:29

Since the ballet performance adaptation is a different medium of narrative where all traditional narrative techniques are re-contextualized, it’s noticeable that oppression is manifested in the movements of the performers. For instance, the ballet movement known as Frappé which is described by Lee Winston Campbell in his *Recognizing Classical Ballet Steps Using Phase Space Constrains* as “raising the working foot vertically by bending the knee and hip until the hip makes a 45\* angle, then rapidly straightening the knee and ankle to kick to the side” (15) along with the circulation of the ballerina’s hand – who plays the central role in the performance- around her neck could be indicative of an attempt on the choreographers’ part to draw an image in the minds of a female being suffocated after a rope has been tied.

Moreover, the performance aims to reflect the different types of oppression witnessed by women as being presented in the text. One infers that not only the government oppresses women but also women themselves are complicit in such actions; the wives and the aunts act as jailers. One finds that Aunt Lydia in various scenes correlates with the patriarchal government in threatening and tying down fundamental freedoms of women. To elaborate, Aunt Lydia has taken the protagonist by the neck as a means of preventing her from escaping this so-called “holy” mission. In addition, she has used a whip as a way of punishing the handmaid after her attempt to escape. This gives a vivid and unsubtle notion of the amount of physical and emotional suffering women must endure (Figure 1.2).



Figure 1.2 Fever IDC, 1:14

It can be argued that emotional suffering is by far greater than the physical one. Being dehumanized by one’s own gender and not having any support from those who presumably should share and be acquainted with one’s pain is a kind of an embedded defeat. Feeling betrayed and stabbed in the back leave scars more than a whip can ever leave.

Furthermore, ranks even among women were preserved and the mobility between the categories established by the government were forbidden. The wives were subjugated by the patriarchy and though presented as powerless trophies; they still manifest their slight control by projecting their authority over the handmaids. In the performance, *plié*, described by Performing Arts Special Interest Group in 1998 as “a bend of the knees while the torso is held upright. The action relies on varying degrees of hip and knee flexion, with ankle and MTP dorsiflexion, depending on whether the *plié* is demi- or grand” (5), has been used as a transition movement to shift our gazes from the unjust practices done by the aunts to those of the

wives. The bending of their bodies could indicate a hierarchical doctrine where the fertile breeding women - the handmaids- are submissive to the barren ones.



Figure 1.3 Fever IDC, 0:52

To shed more light on the atrocities of the wives, it is glaring that a state of apocalypse overshadows the whole performance as one cannot hide his shock when seeing children being ripped away from their birth mothers. Blatant as it could be part of Gilead's terror stems from usurping women from their rights to nurture their own children, the wives take part in implementing this to serve their own agendas.



Figure 1.4 Fever IDC, 5:06

Since forced obedience is often resisted, one infers that -unlike Atwood's text- the protagonist in the performance tries to combat the oppression practiced upon her by almost all segments of society. The protagonist's resistance is an epitome of the rest of the handmaids' desired resistance who share the same miseries and aspirations. In figure 1.5 below, the handmaids' facial expressions reflect the suffering and horror they must tolerate to bypass being hung on the walls. In the aforementioned interview with Prof. El-

Kilany on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2021, she strongly highlighted that when attempting to analyze performers' movements, one should put in mind their facial expressions as they have fundamental implications that are expected not to be neglected by the audience. In this respect, one can decode the performers' expressions by inferring that the witnessed resistance has been lacking from the text and glorified in the performance.



Figure 1.5 Fever IDC, 4:57

Thus, it can be claimed that the choreography in the ballet adaptation has conveyed the handmaids' feelings of distress and agony into movements. The brutal treatment practiced upon women by both genders and the misogynistic attitudes of men have been exuded through the male dancers. It can be affirmed that the ballet movements have given the same patriarchal nature of the setting found in Atwood's text.

Concerning the other techniques used in the ballet adaptation, colours and lighting were used to reflect the state of apocalypse the handmaids are living in. In Heinrich Zollinger's *Color: A Multidisciplinary Approach*, he has strongly asserted that there is a direct connection between colour and human consciousness, frequently they "give visual representation of the message" (163) needed to be delivered to the audience. In addition to this, every colour chosen in an art has "a specific purpose, religious or otherwise. The main aim would be to give the observer an impression of intense luminosity" (163). In fact, Atwood has classified women in her text to mirror the hierarchal society they're trapped in through attires. Likewise, the ballet adaptation has covered this fundamental aspect by classifying dancers/ballerinas through their coloured costumes. Red and blue are the most dominant colours in the performance as being worn by the handmaids and the wives respectively. The use of both colours could significantly be anticipated as a means to engrave definite depictions in the minds. Zollinger states that "red" is frequently used in various forms of arts to present luminosity and brightness, "most probably because of its relationship to the brilliance of fire" (163). Presumably, Atwood has tried to show the distinction in attitudes and treatments of the handmaids and wives through their clothes' colours. To further emphasize this, Zollinger has stated that red and blue are two opposites as they are usually being utilized to "draw a distinction

between light and darkness” (164). Resting on this, the lighting in the performance is probably used to add more depth to the apocalyptic setting. Accordingly, one can realize that the merging of darkness and brightness from the first scene is meant for a reason. The lighting has prepared the audience to witness violence and legalized rape reformed to appear as heroic actions. Hence, it can be claimed that colours and lighting were main assets in the performance for creating an intense mood and atmosphere for the audience to enhance the understanding of the handmaids’ suffering as shown in the below figure.

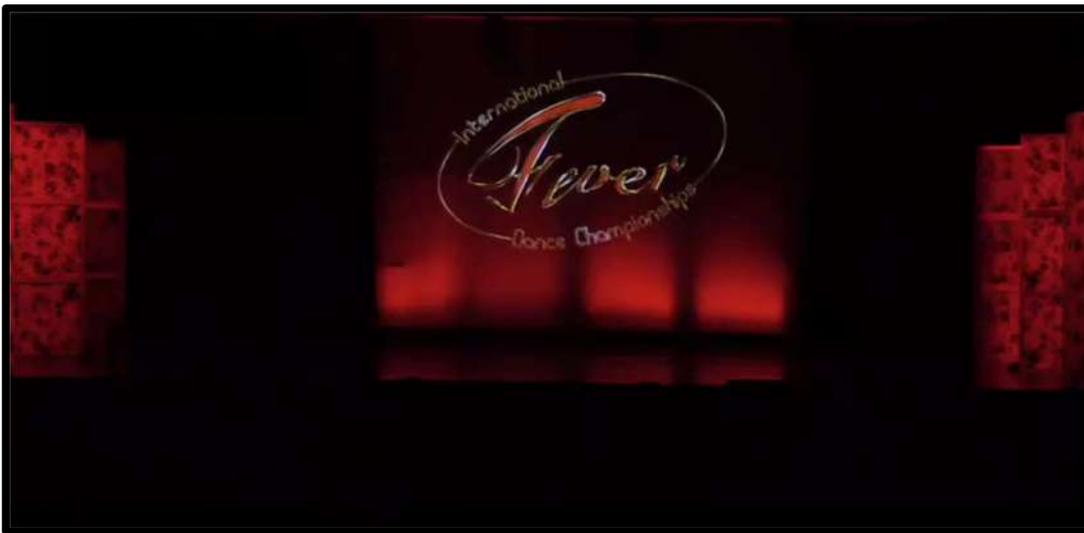


Figure 1.6 Fever IDC, 0:02

Colours and lighting are not the only integral parts of ballet performances as music plays a great role in delivering meaning to the spectator and filling in some gaps that were not fully covered by the ballet movements or colours or lights. Music also helps in the reinforcement of meaning. Music theatre is essential in ballet performances as it can help in reflecting social issues and acts as a hook that attempts to play on the feelings of the audience, moving those feelings to be in favor of the protagonist of the show. In Ryan Thomas Green’s *Music Theatre: Concepts, Theories, and Practices*, he asserted that “music theatre can be used as an umbrella term to describe any theatre driven by music such as opera, musicals, ballet, cabaret and some contemporary music” (5). Resting on this, one could assume that implementing music in *The Handmaid’s Tale* ballet adaptation has to do with setting an apocalyptic mood aligning it with the dystopian theme of the performance. Since the theme of the performance determines the tempo used in it, the soundtrack *Dance For Me Wallis* was chosen to mirror the conflicting emotions present in the plot. The soundtrack was composed by Abel Korzeniowski for Madonna’s 2011 movie *W.E.* The reason behind choosing this soundtrack suggests the prevailing sense of puzzlement in the original movie itself, which by

far the exact intensified emotions in the adaptation. The tempo of the soundtrack starts with a slow pace and then it speeds up, the lack of fixation could be interpreted as an echo to the erratic incidents of the text which were preserved in the adaptation as well. Moreover, the manifestation of the combating trials from the side of the handmaids has been vivid in the ballet performance through *This Woman's Work* song. This suggests that the lyrics of the song embody empowering words to women and an insight to their feelings which they were forced to conceal. In the performance, the song has been played from the minute 4 min till the minute 5:35 min in an attempt to provoke the feelings of the audience and strongly play on their subconscious minds. Kate Bush's 1989 released song was written by her with a melody that opted for creating feelings of crises and struggles being encountered. The song invites feelings of resilience and resistance to tyrannical practices of men, "I know you have a little life in you yet, I know you have a lot of strength left" (4:30). It can be argued that in the written text the presence of the narrator is equivalent to the presence of music in the performance as both play on the feelings. One can easily share the painful feelings and thoughts of the narrator through reading and can easily acknowledge the same suffering through listening to the embedded music. Thus, defying the monolithic attempts of male figures has been accomplished in the performance by using soundtracks and music.

To conclude, one can argue that the existence of hidden/unsaid language in art has played a vital role in exploring long-neglected female issues. Performance and dance studies have proven to be essential modern methods of expression employed to narrate stories. Written texts were re-created and physically embodied through choreography. It was also proven that ethnography and praxeology are -more or less- integral parts of the scrutinization of performances. It can be detected that social settings and human actions are both found in the background of dance performances to serve as justifications for actions that have been performed. To further clarify this, one can state that choreographers have designed several ballet performances to support marginalized females and unravel much suffering they are experiencing. The ballet adaptation of Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale* performed by Ecole De Dance Anick Macconnell has helped in the incarnation of females' agony present in the written text. As a form of a dystopian narrative, the examined ballet performance reflected extreme measures of horror, violence, oppression, and resistance. It becomes clear that utopia is an unattainable aspiration and thus, due to the restriction of establishing it, critical utopia has emerged thereof. Having witnessed several imperfections embedded in any so-called utopian society, a critical dystopia has stood on equal footing with it but includes a pessimistic outlook on life. Through critical dystopia, multiple warnings have been given to defy conspicuous destruction. As explained above, the ballet adaptation represents the second wave of feminism when challenging the patriarchal and inhumane practices against women. Moreover, the storyline in the

performance tracks the humiliation of women such as lack of personal freedom and being oppressed by both genders. The ballet performance fully reflected the suffering and agony witnessed by the handmaids; the ballerinas' facial expressions and body language were nonverbal signals to establish direct connections with the spectators. Feelings of puzzlement and fear were expressed by Offred in the performance through tempo where the soundtracks start with slow pace and then they rapidly speed up as stated above.

Finally, the previously mentioned findings can be refuted, subjected to more scrutiny using different approaches, and can also suggest a future digging into women's rights in general. The recommended research could be done specifically on the aptness of utilizing varied mediums of narrative to reflect the sufferings of women and the harmful practices that can later cause traumas. Regarding recommended further research in the same topic, it could be conducted on the representations of femininities and masculinities in digital media, the politics of masculinity and femininity, agency, the intersection of gender, race and social class and its influence on identity expression.

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## Interpreting the Concept of Money by Sheikh Shaltout and Amin Al-Khouly (Tradition vs. Innovation)

تفسير مفهوم المال عند الشيخ شلتوت وأمين الخولي (بين التقليد والتجديد)

Ahmed Ismail Abdelrazaq,  
Assistant Lecturer, Faculty of Arts, Helwan University, Egypt.  
Corresponding email: [ahmed124esmail@gmail.com](mailto:ahmed124esmail@gmail.com)

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### ABSTRACT

This text explores the significance of money within the Islamic legal framework. It highlights how Islamic law addresses financial matters across various chapters, including worship (through zakat) and personal status (through inheritance rulings). Referencing Sheikh Shaltut's perspective, the text emphasizes Islam's practical approach, aiming to balance spiritual and material well-being. Drawing upon the Quran's description of money as a "source of livelihood" and "an ornament of life," the text underscores its crucial role in achieving a purposeful existence.

إن المتتبع للشريعة الإسلامية يجد أنها قد تناولت شؤون الأموال بالتنظيم والتوجيه في أبواب مختلفة: تناولتها في باب العبادات حين فرضت الزكاة، وتناولتها في باب ما يُسمى بـ(الأحوال الشخصية) حين قررت الميراث، كما أن المتتبع لتعاليم هذا الدين - في قرآنه وسنة رسوله - كما يرى الشيخ شلتوت - "يخرج بنتيجة واضحة: هي أنه (دين الحياة). فلا عجب أن يكون للمال في النظام الإسلامي قيمة كبيرة، ومكان مرموق. وليس من ريب في أن كل ما تتوقف عليه الحياة في أصلها وكمالها، وسعادتها وعزها، من علم وصحة وقوة، واتساع عمران وسلطان - لا سبيل إليه إلا بالمال"<sup>(1)</sup>.

ولما كان الإسلام دينًا عمليًا، ينظم بأحكامه - على أساس من الواقع - مقتضيات الحياة، ويزاوج في الوقت نفسه بين مطالب الروح والجسم بميزان العدل والاستقامة، كان لا بد أن يرسم للمادة طريق سعادتها كما فعل مع الروح؛ فكان لا بد أن ينظر القرآن الكريم إلى الأموال هذه النظرة الواقعية؛ حيث "وصفها بأنها زينة الحياة، وسوى في ذلك بينها وبين الأبناء، ووصفها بأنها قوام للناس، وقوام الشيء ما به يُحفظ ويستقيم"<sup>(2)</sup>، وهي - كما يرى الشيخ شلتوت - قوام المعاش والمصالح الخاصة والعامة.

وفي قول الله تعالى: ﴿وَلَا تُؤْتُوا السُّفَهَاءَ أَمْوَالَكُمُ الَّتِي جَعَلَ اللَّهُ لَكُمْ قِيَامًا وَارْزُقُوهُمْ فِيهَا وَاكْسُوهُمْ﴾ [سورة النساء: الآية 5] - دليل على حرص الإسلام على المال كونه قوام حياة الناس، وبه تحقيق مصالحهم؛ حيث جاء أمر الله لأوليائه المال أن لا يعطوا المال إلى السفهاء حفاظًا عليه منهم.

(1) الإسلام عقيدة وشريعة، شلتوت، ص250.  
(2) المرجع السابق نفسه.

وفيما رواه «الطبري» عن «ابن عباس» في قوله تعالى: ﴿وَلَا تُؤْتُوا السُّفَهَاءَ أَمْوَالَكُمُ الَّتِي جَعَلَ اللَّهُ لَكُمْ قِيَامًا﴾ أنه قال: "يقول الله سبحانه: لا تعتمد إلى مالك وما حوّلك الله وجعله لك معيشة، فتعطيه امرأتك أو بنيك، ثم تنظر إلى ما في أيديهم. ولكن أمسك مالك وأصلحه، وكن أنت الذي تنفق عليهم في كسوتهم ورزقهم ومؤنتهم. قال: وقوله: "قيامًا"، بمعنى: قوامكم في معاشكم" (3). وفيما رواه عن «السدي» في قوله تعالى: ﴿وَلَا تُؤْتُوا السُّفَهَاءَ أَمْوَالَكُمُ الَّتِي جَعَلَ اللَّهُ لَكُمْ قِيَامًا﴾ أنه قال: "فإن «المال» هو قوام الناس، قوام معاشهم" (4).

وهذا يبين فهم السلف لحقيقة المال، وأنه قوام معاش الناس، وبدونه لن يقوم معاش لهم. وهذا ما دفع بعضهم إلى الاحتراز من تضييع المال، والقول بأن في عدم الاستجابة لهذا المنهج الرباني في المحافظة على المال تفريط لا يقبل معه عذر؛ وكما روي الطبري عن «أبي موسى الأشعري» أنه قال: "ثلاثة يدعون الله فلا يستجيب لهم: رجل كانت له امرأة سيئة الخلق فلم يطلّقها، ورجل أعطى ماله سفيهاً وقد قال الله: "ولا تؤتوا السفهاء أموالكم"، ورجل كان له على رجل دين فلم يُشهد عليه" (5).

ف«الإسلام» جاء داعياً إلى (حفظ الأموال) لا إلى تضييعها، والدليل على ذلك قوله تعالى بعد ذلك مباشرة: ﴿وَابْتَلُوا الْيَتَامَى حَتَّىٰ إِذَا بَلَغُوا النِّكَاحَ فَإِنْ آنَسْتُمْ مِنْهُمْ رُشْدًا فَادْفَعُوا إِلَيْهِمْ أَمْوَالَهُمْ وَلَا تَأْكُلُوهَا إِسْرَافًا وَبِدَارًا أَنْ يَكْبَرُوا وَمَنْ كَانَ غَنِيًّا فَلْيَسْتَعْفِفْ وَمَنْ كَانَ فَقِيرًا فَلْيَأْكُلْ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ فَإِذَا دَفَعْتُمْ إِلَيْهِمْ أَمْوَالَهُمْ فَأَشْهِدُوا عَلَيْهِمْ وَكَفَىٰ بِاللَّهِ حَسِيبًا﴾ [سورة النساء: الآية 6]؛ فكما دعا القرآن من خلال الآية السابقة أولياء المال إلى عدم تضييعهم المال بإعطائه للسفهاء، فإنه من خلال هذه الآية حمى أموال السفهاء من جشع أولياء المال. حيث دعا الإسلام إلى حفظ مال اليتيم وعدم الدفع به إليه إلا بعد أن يبلغ الرشد، (والرشد) - كما قال «البغوي» - : "هو أن يكون مصلحا في دينه وماله، فالصلاح في الدين هو أن يكون مجتنباً عن الفواحش والمعاصي التي تسقط العدالة، والصلاح في المال هو أن لا يكون مبدراً، والتبذير: هو أن ينفق ماله فيما لا يكون فيه محمداً دنيوية ولا مثوبة أخروية، أو لا يحسن التصرف فيها، فيغيب في البيوع فإذا بلغ الصبي وهو مفسد في دينه وغير مصلح لماله، دام الحجر عليه، ولا يدفع إليه ماله ولا ينفذ تصرفه" (6).

وعند «أبي حنيفة» (رضي الله عنه): "إذا كان مصلحاً لماله زال الحجر عنه وإن كان مفسداً في دينه، وإذا كان مفسداً لماله قال: لا يدفع إليه المال حتى يبلغ خمساً وعشرين سنة، غير أن تصرفه يكون نافذاً قبله. والقرآن حجة لمن استدام الحجر عليه، لأن الله تعالى قال: ﴿حَتَّىٰ إِذَا بَلَغُوا النِّكَاحَ فَإِنْ آنَسْتُمْ مِنْهُمْ رُشْدًا فَادْفَعُوا إِلَيْهِمْ أَمْوَالَهُمْ﴾ أمر بدفع المال إليهم بعد البلوغ وإيناس الرشد، والفاسق لا يكون رشيداً وبعد بلوغه خمساً وعشرين سنة، وهو مفسد لماله بالاتفاق غير رشيد، فوجب أن لا يجوز دفع المال إليه كما قيل بلوغ هذا السن. وإذا بلغ وأونس منه الرشد، زال الحجر عنه، ودفع إليه المال رجلاً كان أو امرأة تزوج أو لم يتزوج" (7).

وعند «مالك» (رحمه الله تعالى): "إن كانت امرأة لا يدفع المال إليها ما لم تتزوج، فإذا تزوجت دفع إليها، ولكن لا ينفذ تصرفها إلا بإذن الزوج، ما لم تكبر وتجرب. فإذا بلغ الصبي رشيداً وزال الحجر عنه ثم عاد سفيهاً، نظر: فإن عاد مبدراً لماله حجر عليه، وإن عاد مفسداً في دينه فعلى وجهين: أحدهما: يعاد الحجر عليه كما يستدام الحجر عليه إذا بلغ بهذه الصفة، والثاني: لا يعاد لأن حكم الدوام أقوى من حكم الابتداء" (8).

ثم قال تعالى: ﴿وَلَا تَأْكُلُوهَا إِسْرَافًا وَبِدَارًا أَنْ يَكْبَرُوا وَمَنْ كَانَ غَنِيًّا فَلْيَسْتَعْفِفْ وَمَنْ كَانَ فَقِيرًا فَلْيَأْكُلْ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ﴾ قال «البغوي» في تفسير هذه الآية: "قوله تعالى: ﴿وَلَا تَأْكُلُوهَا﴾ يا معشر الأولياء ﴿إِسْرَافًا﴾ { بغير حق، ﴿وَبِدَارًا﴾ أي مبادرة ﴿أَنْ يَكْبَرُوا﴾ (أن) في محل

(3) جامع البيان في تأويل القرآن، لأبي جعفر محمد بن جرير بن يزيد بن كثير بن غالب الأملي الطبري (ت310هـ)، 570/7، تحقيق: أحمد محمد شاكر، طبعة مؤسسة الرسالة، بيروت - لبنان، الطبعة الأولى، 1420هـ - 2000م.

(4) جامع البيان، الطبري، 569/7.

(5) جامع البيان، الطبري، 564/7.

(6) معالم التنزيل في تفسير القرآن، لأبي محمد الحسين بن مسعود البغوي (ت510هـ)، 166/2. حققه وخرج أحاديثه: محمد عبد الله النمر - عثمان جمعة ضميرية - سليمان مسلم الحرش، الطبعة الرابعة، دار طيبة للنشر والتوزيع، 1417هـ - 1997م.

(7) المرجع السابق، 167/2.

(8) معالم التنزيل، البغوي، 167/2.

النصب، يعني: لا تبادروا كبارهم ورشدهم حذرا من أن يبلغوا فيلزمكم تسليمها إليهم، ثم بين ما يحل لهم من مالهم، فقال: ﴿وَمَنْ كَانَ غَنِيًّا فَلْيَسْتَعْفِفْ﴾ أي: ليمتنع من مال اليتيم فلا يرزأه قليلا ولا كثيرا، والعفة: الامتناع مما لا يحل ﴿وَمَنْ كَانَ فَقِيرًا﴾ محتاجا إلى مال اليتيم وهو يحفظه ويتعهد به ﴿فَلْيَأْكُلْ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ﴾<sup>(9)</sup>.

ثم قال: "اختلفوا - يقصد السلف - في كيفية هذا الأكل بالمعروف، فقال «عطاء» و«عكرمة»: يأكل بأطراف أصابعه، ولا يسرف ولا يكتسي منه، ولا يلبس الكتان ولا الحلل، ولكن ما سد الجوعة ووارى العورة. وقال «الحسن» وجماعة: يأكل من ثمر نخيله ولبن مواشيه بالمعروف ولا قضاء عليه، فأما الذهب والفضة فلا؛ فإن أخذ شيئا منه رده. وقال «الكلبي»: المعروف ركوب الدابة وخدمة الخادم، وليس له أن يأكل من ماله شيئا.. وقال بعضهم: والمعروف أن يأخذ من جميع ماله بقدر قيامه وأجرة عمله، ولا قضاء عليه، وهو قول عائشة وجماعة من أهل العلم"<sup>(10)</sup>.

وذهب بعضهم إلى أنه " ... يقضي إذا أيسر، وهو المراد من قوله ﴿فَلْيَأْكُلْ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ﴾ فالمعروف القرض، أي: يستقرض من مال اليتيم إذا احتاج إليه، فإذا أيسر قضاءه، وهو قول مجاهد وسعيد بن جبير، قال عمر بن الخطاب رضي الله عنه: إنني أنزلت نفسي من مال الله تعالى بمنزلة مال اليتيم: إن استغنيت استعفت وإن افتقرت أكلت بالمعروف، فإذا أيسرت قضيت. وقال الشعبي: لا يأكله إلا أن يضطر إليه كما يضطر إلى الميتة. وقال قوم: لا قضاء عليه"<sup>(11)</sup>.

وروى «البيهقي» ضمن ما روى رواية عن يحيى بن سعيد، أنه قال سمعت القاسم بن محمد يقول: جاء رجل إلى ابن عباس رضي الله عنهما قال: إن لي يتيما وإن له إبلا أفأشرب من لبن إبله؟ فقال: إن كنت تبغي ضالة إبله وتهنأ جرباها وتليط حوضها وتسقيها يوم وردها فاشرب غير مضر بنسل ولا ناهيك في الحلب"<sup>(12)</sup>.

وروى - أيضا - حديثا عن النبي (صلى الله عليه وسلم)؛ حيث قال: "أخبرنا محمد بن الحسن المروزي، أخبرنا أبو سهل محمد بن عمر السجزي، أخبرنا الإمام أبو سليمان الخطابي، أخبرنا أبو بكر بن داسة التمار، أخبرنا أبو داود السجستاني، أخبرنا حميد بن مسعدة، أن خالد بن الحارث حدثهم أخبرنا حسين يعني المعلم عن عمرو بن شعيب عن أبيه عن جده رضي الله عنه أن رجلا أتى رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم فقال: إنني فقير وليس لي شيء ولي يتيم؟ فقال: {كل من مال يتيمك غير مسرف ولا مبادر ولا متائل}<sup>(13)</sup>"<sup>(14)</sup>.

وهذا كله يكشف عن مدى حرص الإسلام على الأموال من خلال دعوته إلى الحفاظ عليها؛ لأن في اتلافها تلف العيش وتضييع المصالح التي لا قيام لها إلا بالمال. وتحقيقا لهذه المصالح واستقامة لهذا المعاش كانت دعوة القرآن إلى تحصيل الأموال من طرق مشروعة، فأمر بتحصيلها عن طريق التجارة، وأمر بتحصيلها عن طريق الزراعة التي بها حياة الأرض واستثمارها، وأمر بتحصيلها عن طريق الصناعة، والصناعة أقوى العمد التي تقوم عليها الحضارات. "أمر القرآن بتحصيل الأموال عن هذه الطرق الثلاثة، وسَمَّى طلبها (ابتغاءً من فضل الله)"<sup>(15)</sup> كما قال الشيخ شلتوت، وفي المقابل نهى القرآن عن تحصيلها بالطرق التي لا خير للناس فيها، وفيها الشر والفساد؛ حيث "نهى عن تحصيلها بطريق الربا الذي يؤخذ استغلالا لحاجة الضعيف المحتاج، وبطريق السرقة والانتهاك والتسول التي تزعزع الأمن والاستقرار، وبطريق التجارة فيما يفسد العقل والصحة كالخمر والخنزير، وبطريق الميسر والرقص، وبيع الأعراس، من

<sup>(9)</sup> المرجع السابق، 167/2.

<sup>(10)</sup> المرجع السابق، 168/2-169.

<sup>(11)</sup> المرجع السابق، 168/2.

<sup>(12)</sup> المرجع السابق، 168/2.

<sup>(13)</sup> الحديث: أخرجه أبو داود في كتاب الوصايا، باب ما لولي اليتيم أن ينال من مال اليتيم: 4 / 151 - 152، والنسائي في الوصايا، باب ما للوصي من مال اليتيم إذا قام عليه: 6 / 256، وابن ماجه في الوصايا، باب قوله: ومن كان فقيرا فليأكل بالمعروف، برقم (2718): 2 / 907. والمصنف في شرح السنة: 8 / 305. وزاد الحافظ ابن حجر نسبه لابن خزيمة وابن الجارود وابن أبي حاتم، وقال: إسناده قوي. انظر فتح الباري: 8 / 241.

<sup>(14)</sup> معالم التنزيل، البيهقي، 168-167/2.

<sup>(15)</sup> الإسلام عقيدة وشريعة، ص251.

كل ما يفسد الأخلاق، ويعبث بالإنسانية، وبطريق الرشوة التي تذهب بالحقوق والكفايات، وفي هذا وأمثاله يقول القرآن الكريم: ﴿وَلَا تَأْكُلُوا أَمْوَالَكُمْ بَيْنَكُمْ بِالْبَاطِلِ وَتُدْأُوا بِهَا إِلَى الْحُكَّامِ لِتَأْكُلُوا فَرِيقًا مِنْ أَمْوَالِ النَّاسِ بِالْإِثْمِ وَأَنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ﴾ [البقرة:188] (16).  
كما ربط بين أداء العبادة وأداء مطالب الحياة، ومن ثم بلغت عناية القرآن بالأموال - كما يرى الشيخ شلتوت - "أن طلب السعي في تحصيلها بمجرد الفراغ من أداء العبادة الأسبوعية المفروضة، وأنه لم يأمر بالانصراف عن تحصيلها إلا لخصوص هذه العبادة، فهو يقول: ﴿يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا إِذَا نُودِيَ لِلصَّلَاةِ مِنْ يَوْمِ الْجُمُعَةِ فَاسْعَوْا إِلَى ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ وَذَرُوا الْبَيْعَ﴾ [الجمعة:9]، ثم يقول: ﴿فَإِذَا قُضِيَتِ الصَّلَاةُ فَانْتَشِرُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ وَابْتَغُوا مِنْ فَضْلِ اللَّهِ﴾ [الجمعة:10]، ويقول في تحصيله على وجه عام: ﴿هُوَ الَّذِي جَعَلَ لَكُمْ الْأَرْضَ ذُلُولًا فَامشُوا فِي مَنَاكِبِهَا وَكُلُوا مِنْ رِزْقِهِ وَإِلَيْهِ النُّشُورُ﴾ [الملك:15] (17).

والقرآن كما طلب السعي في تحصيل الأموال طلب الاعتدال في صرفها، حيث ضبط ذلك بضابطين؛ حيث جعل الاعتدال في صرفها من صفات المقربين من عباد الرحمن؛ قال تعالى: ﴿وَالَّذِينَ إِذَا أَنْفَقُوا لَمْ يُسْرِفُوا وَلَمْ يَقْتُرُوا وَكَانَ بَيْنَ ذَلِكَ قَوَامًا﴾ [الفرقان:67]، وفي المقابل جعل الإسراف فيها والضنُّ بها عن الحقوق والواجبات مما يوقع في الحسرة والملامة؛ قال تعالى: ﴿وَلَا تَجْعَلْ يَدَكَ مَغْلُولَةً إِلَى عُنُقِكَ وَلَا تَبْسُطْهَا كُلَّ الْبَسْطِ فَتَقْعُدَ مَلُومًا مَحْسُورًا﴾ [الإسراء:29].

وفي قوله تعالى: ﴿يَسْأَلُونَكَ مَاذَا يُنْفِقُونَ﴾ قال أبو حيان الأندلسي: "نزلت في عمرو بن الجموح، كان شيخا كبيرا ذا مال كثير، سأل بماذا أتصدق؟ وعلى من أنفق؟ قاله أبو صالح عن ابن عباس. وفي رواية عطاء نزلت في رجل قال: إن لي ديناراً. قال النبي (صلى الله عليه وسلم): «أنفقه على نفسك» فقال إن لي دينارين. فقال: «أنفقهما على أهلك». فقال: إن لي ثلاثة. فقال: «أنفقها على خادمك». فقال: إن لي أربعة. فقال: «أنفقها على والديك». فقال: إن لي خمسة. فقال: «أنفقها على قرابتك». فقال: إن لي ستة. فقال: «أنفقها في سبيل الله، وهو أحسنها». وينبغي أن يفهم من هذا الترتيب على معنى أن ما أخبر به فاضل عما قبله. ومناسبة هذه الآية لما قبلها أن الصبر على النفقة وبذل المال هو من أعظم ما تحلى به المؤمن، وهو من أقوى الأسباب الموصلة إلى الجنة، حتى لقد ورد: الصدقة تطفي غضب الرب (18).

وهل كانت عناية الله بالأموال أمر خص الله به هذا الدين أم أنه شرع شرعه الله للأمم السابقة على هذه الأمة، وفي محاولة منه الإجابة على هذا التساؤل؛ ويتفق مع ما ذهب إليه الشيخ شلتوت بقوله: "وعناية الله بالأموال شرعة قديمة لم يخص بها جيلاً دون جيل، ولا رسالة دون رسالة، وقد قص علينا القرآن أن الله عاقب بعض خلقه الذين عتوا عن أمره فيها، وأكلوا أموال الناس بالباطل ﴿فَبِظُلْمٍ مِنَ الَّذِينَ هَادُوا حَرَّمْنَا عَلَيْهِمْ طَيِّبَاتٍ أُحِلَّتْ لَهُمْ وَبِصَدِّهِمْ عَنْ سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ كَثِيرًا \* وَأَخْذِهِمُ الرِّبَا وَقَدْ نُهُوا عَنْهُ وَأَكْلِهِمْ أَمْوَالِ النَّاسِ بِالْبَاطِلِ﴾ [النساء:160-161] (19).

والمال في مفهومه عند الشيخ شلتوت منسوب لله، فهو يرى أن "المال مال الله"، وهذه النسبة التي بنى عليها الشيخ شلتوت تصوره لمفهوم المال كان لها أكبر الأثر في توجيه مفهومه تجاه ما عرف باسم الاشتراكية التي عاصرها ذلك الشيخ، وفي هذا دليل على ما يمكن أن يكون لثقافة المفسر المرتبطة بعصره وبالبيئة التي يعيش فيها - من أثر على تصورات ومفاهيمه، ومن ثم تفسيره لألفاظ القرآن وبيانه لتركيبه، ومما يعد دليلاً على هذا التأثير الذي حدث للشيخ شلتوت بمفهوم الاشتراكية في تصوره لمفهوم المال قوله: "وإذا كان المال مال الله، وكان الناس جميعاً عباد الله، وكانت الحياة التي يعملون فيها ويعمرونها بمال الله، هي الله - كان من الضروري أن يكون المال - وإن رُبطَ باسم شخص معين - لجميع عباد الله، يحافظ عليه الجميع، وينتفع به الجميع، وقد أرشد إلى ذلك قوله تعالى: ﴿هُوَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ لَكُمْ

(16) المرجع السابق، ص253.

(17) المرجع السابق، ص251-252.

(18) تفسير البحر المحیط، لأبي حيان محمد بن يوسف الأندلسي، 376/2، تحقيق: صدقي محمد جميل، طبعة دار الفكر، بيروت - لبنان، 1420هـ.

(19) الإسلام عقيدة وشریعة، ص253.

مَا فِي الْأَرْضِ جَمِيعًا) [البقرة:29]، ومن هنا أضاف القرآن الأموال إلى الجماعة، وجعلها قواما لمعاشهم ﴿وَلَا تَأْكُلُوا أَمْوَالَكُمْ بَيْنَكُمْ بِالْبَاطِلِ﴾ [البقرة:188]، ﴿وَلَا تُؤْتُوا السُّفَهَاءَ أَمْوَالَكُمُ الَّتِي جَعَلَ اللَّهُ لَكُمْ قِيَامًا﴾ [النساء:5] (20).

وكذلك قوله: "وتحقيقا لانتفاع الجميع بها، وتطهيرا للنفوس من بواعث (الأثرة) فيها - حارب الإسلام في المالين لها والقائمين عليها خُلِقَ (الشَّحُّ) الذي يمنع من البذل والإنفاق، كما حارب (السفه) الذي يؤدي بالمال في غير وجه النفع، وإقامة المصالح، يقول الله سبحانه: ﴿وَمَنْ يُوقِ شُحَّ نَفْسِهِ فَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ﴾ [التغابن:16]. وفي (البخل) وهو وليد (الشح) يقول: ﴿وَلَا يَحْسَبَنَّ الَّذِينَ يَبْخُلُونَ بِمَا آتَاهُمُ اللَّهُ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ هُوَ خَيْرًا لَّهُمْ بَلْ هُوَ شَرٌّ لَّهُمْ سَيُطَوَّقُونَ مَا بَخُلُوا بِهِ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ وَلِلَّهِ مِيرَاثُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ﴾ [آل عمران:180]، ويقول: ﴿الَّذِينَ يَبْخُلُونَ وَيَأْمُرُونَ النَّاسَ بِالْبُخْلِ وَيَكْتُمُونَ مَا آتَاهُمُ اللَّهُ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ﴾ [النساء:37]، ويقول: ﴿وَالَّذِينَ يَخْتِزُونَ الذَّهَبَ وَالْفِضَّةَ وَلَا يُنْفِقُونَهَا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ فَبَشِّرْهُم بِعَذَابٍ أَلِيمٍ \* يَوْمَ يُحْمَى عَلَيْهَا فِي نَارِ جَهَنَّمَ فَتُكْوَى بِهَا جِبَاهُهُمْ وَجُنُوبُهُمْ وَظُهُورُهُمْ هَذَا مَا كَنَزْتُمْ لِأَنْفُسِكُمْ فَذُوقُوا مَا كُنْتُمْ تَكْتُمُونَ﴾ [التوبة:34،35]. ثم أرشد إلى أن الضنَّ بالأموال عن أداء الواجبات، وإقامة المصالح - إلقاء بالنفس في التهلكة ﴿وَأَنْفِقُوا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ وَلَا تُلْقُوا بِأَيْدِيكُمْ إِلَى التَّهْلُكَةِ وَأَحْسِنُوا إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُحِبُّ الْمُحْسِنِينَ﴾ [البقرة:195]. ويقول الرسول (صلى الله عليه وسلم) في التحذير من (الشح): ﴿إِيَّاكُمْ وَالشَّحَّ فَإِنَّمَا هَلَكَ مَنْ كَانَ قَبْلَكُمْ بِالشَّحِّ أَمْرُهُم بِالْبُخْلِ فَبَخَلُوا وَأَمْرُهُم بِالْفِطْيَةِ فَفَقَطَعُوا وَأَمْرُهُم بِالْفُجُورِ فَفَجَزُوا﴾ (21)، ويقول: ﴿اتَّقُوا الشَّحَّ، فَإِنَّ الشَّحَّ أَهْلَكَ مَنْ كَانَ قَبْلَكُمْ، حَمَلَهُمْ عَلَى أَنْ يَسْفِكُوا دِمَاءَهُمْ، وَيَسْتَحِلُّوا مَحَارِمَهُمْ﴾ (22). ولست بواجد أقوى من هذا التعبير في تصوير الخطر الاجتماعي الذي ينبعث من الشح، ولا ريب أنه من أكبر الأفات التي تفرق المجتمعات وتقضي على حياة الأمم وصلاح العمران.

والقرآن كما وقف - وبجانبه أقوال الرسول - من الشح بالأموال هذا الموقف كما بين الشيخ شلتوت، وقف - أيضا - الموقف عينه من التبذير فيها، وإضاعتها فيما لا يعود بخير على الأمة ﴿إِنَّ الْمُبَذِّرِينَ كَانُوا إِخْوَانَ الشَّيَاطِينِ وَكَانَ الشَّيْطَانُ لِرَبِّهِ كَفُورًا﴾ [الإسراء:27]، وبعد أن أفرد القرآن كلا من الضن والتبذير بما يصور سوء عاقبته، جمعهما في إطار واحد، وأرشد إلى الطريق السوي الذي يسلكه أرباب الأموال في أموالهم، فيحفظ عليهم حياتهم، ويمكنهم من إقامتها على عُمْدٍ قوية ثابتة ﴿وَلَا تَجْعَلْ يَدَكَ مَغْلُولَةً إِلَى عُنُقِكَ وَلَا تَبْسُطْهَا كُلَّ الْبَسْطِ فَتَقْعُدَ مَلُومًا مَحْسُورًا﴾ [الإسراء:29].

لذا نرى أن شلتوت يقصد بمفهوم المال عنده أنه: دين الحياة وزينتها، وقوام المعاش والمصالح الخاصة والعامة، وأن المال مال الله، والناس جميعهم مسخرون من أجل الانتفاع به في الحياة الدنيا والآخرة، كما عني شلتوت أيضا بدور المال في التكافل الاجتماعي وكيفية الانفاق في وجه الحياة، ومن الملاحظ يري الباحث أن تفسير مفهوم المال عند المفسرين هو نفس تفسير شلتوت له.

هذا عن مفهوم المال عند الشيخ شلتوت من خلال ما قدمه هو وما قدمه المفسرون من قبله، ولم يخرج شلتوت كما نرى في مفهومه عما طرحه المفسرون من قبله. أما مفهوم المال عند أمين الخولي فقد اتخذ شكلاً مغايراً عن مفهومه عند الشيخ شلتوت وكذلك عند

(20) المرجع السابق، ص257.

(21) الحديث: أخرجه الإمام «أبو داود» في «السنن» بهذا اللفظ، وقال «الألباني»: صحيح. (انظر: سنن أبي داود؛ تأليف: سليمان بن الأشعث أبي داود السجستاني الأزدي، 530/1، رقم1698، تحقيق: محمد محيي الدين عبد الحميد، دار الفكر، دط، دت، ج4. مع الكتاب: تعليقات كمال يوسف الحوت، والأحاديث مزيلة بأحكام الألباني عليها).

(22) الحديث: أخرجه الإمام «أحمد» في «مسنده» - من حديث «جابر بن عبد الله» (رضي الله عنه)، قال: قال رسول الله (صلى الله عليه وسلم): ﴿إِيَّاكُمْ وَالظُّلْمَ، فَإِنَّ الظُّلْمَ ظُلُمَاتٌ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ، وَاتَّقُوا الشَّحَّ، فَإِنَّ الشَّحَّ أَهْلَكَ مَنْ كَانَ قَبْلَكُمْ، حَمَلَهُمْ عَلَى أَنْ سَفَكُوا دِمَاءَهُمْ، وَاسْتَحَلُّوا = مَحَارِمَهُمْ﴾. قال «محققه» (هامش2): "إسناده صحيح على «شرط مسلم»، رجاله ثقات «رجال الشيخين» غير «داود بن قيس» - وهو «أبو سليمان الفراء» -، فمن «رجال مسلم» "أ.ه. (انظر: مسند الإمام أحمد بن حنبل، تأليف: أبو عبد الله أحمد بن محمد بن حنبل بن هلال بن أسد الشيباني (ت241هـ)، ج22، ص352، رقم14461، تحقيق: شعيب الأرنؤوط - عادل مرشد - وآخرين، إشراف: د. عبد الله بن عبد المحسن التركي، الطبعة الأولى، مؤسسة الرسالة، 1421هـ - 2001م، ج45).

المفسرين من قبله .. نعم يلتقى المفهومان عند نقطة، لكنهما يفترقان في نقاط على ما سيأتي بيانه، وللوقوف على مفهوم المال عند أمين الخولي نبدأ بذكر هذه الآيات الثلاث التي بنى عليها ومن خلالها مفهومه حول المال:

1. الآية الأولى: قوله تعالى: ﴿وَأَتَوْهُم مِّن مَّالِ اللَّهِ الَّذِي آتَاكُمْ﴾ [النور:33].
2. الآية الثانية: قوله تعالى: ﴿آمَنُوا بِاللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ وَأَنْفَقُوا مِمَّا جَعَلَكُمْ مُسْتَخْلِفِينَ فِيهِ فَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مِنْكُمْ وَأَنْفَقُوا لَهُمْ أَجْرٌ كَبِيرٌ﴾ [الحديد:7].
3. الآية الثالثة: قوله تعالى: ﴿يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَنْفِقُوا مِمَّا رَزَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ قَبْلِ أَنْ يَأْتِيَ يَوْمٌ لَا بِنِعِّ فِيهِ وَلَا خُلَّةٌ وَلَا شَفَاعَةٌ وَالْكَافِرُونَ هُمُ الظَّالِمُونَ﴾ [البقرة:254].

من خلال هذه الآيات الثلاث بنى أمين الخولي تصوره عن المال من حيث أنه (مال الله) الذي رزق عبده به في موضع الاستخلاف ليرى ماذا هو صانع فيه؟ ومن خلال فهمه هذا كانت محاولته الوقوف على معنى **القرض الحسن** لغة واصطلاحاً؛ حيث قال: "نريد لنتذكر ما يشف به **الحس القرآني الكريم** في ذكر **القرض الحسن**، إذ يُسمَّى هذا الإعطاء والنضال في سبيل الخير العام قرضاً حسناً، وقرضاً لله تعالى؛ فلا يُسمِّيهِ منحاً ولا تفضلاً، أو ما يُشبهه هذا. وقد رأينا اللغة العربية تبدأ معنى مادة (ق/ر/ض) من القطع .. ثم تنتقل منه إلى مطلق العمل .. ثم تخصصه بما يُجازى عليه، فنقول: أقرضه قطع له قطعة يُجازى عليها .. والقرض: ما يُعطيه الإنسان، أو يفعله ليجازى عليه؛ فنفهم اللغة من القطع والفعل والإعطاء معنى المجاوزة والترك، وإذا ما استعملت اللغة القرض في إعطاء المال أحست الفرق بينه وبين المداينة والدين؛ فجعلت الدين ما له أجل .. والقرض ما لا أجل له .. "وكانما شعرت اللغة بمعنى المعاوضة والمبادلة في الدين، ولم تتمثل ذلك في معنى القرض، بل شعرت فيه بمعنى خير .. إذ جعلت القرض حقيقة في كل ما يُفعل ليجازى عليه. وقالت العرب لكل من فعل لها خيراً: قد أحسنت قرضي، وقد أقرضتني قرضاً حسناً"<sup>(23)</sup>.

والواضح عند الخولي أنه لم يقف عند حد التنظير والتفسير لـ(مفهوم المال)، بل انتقل من هذا التصور النظري إلى البيان العملي في محاولة منه لفهم رياضة القرآن للنفس البشرية في تعاملها مع المال؛ فقال: "ولفهم رياضة القرآن للنفس البشرية نقدر أن هذا الإنسان يحيى في الدنيا، وفي كيانه دوافع قوية تدفعه إلى إحراز الأشياء واقتنائها؛ وادخار الموارد وحفظها، وتملك الثابت والمنقول منها واستخلاصه لنفسه، يشب على ذلك بطبعه، منذ الطفولة المبكرة، ويستمر حرصه عليه وينمو. حتى الشيخوخة المتأخرة؛ ما يفتر فيه ذلك أثناء حياته، بل يتجدد له فيها ما يستهويه، في مختلف أدوارها، فهو متجدد الرغبة في اقتناء الطريف النادر حيناً، وإحراز الجديد المستحدث حيناً. على تنوع رغبته، وتعدد هواياته، وغلبة شهواته، وإحاح حاجاته .. وهو في كل ذلك إنما يرضى تلك الدوافع القوية التي تحثه على الاقتناء والامتلاك، على صورة من الصور وفي وضع من الأوضاع". وهذه الدوافع هي التي يعدها القدماء لونا من الإلهام في فطرتهم، أو بسميه المحدثون غريزة في جبلتهم، فيعدون منها: الادخار والاقتناء، ثم يعدون التملك"<sup>(24)</sup>.

وعن رغبة التملك وما لها من أثر حسن أو سيء تكلم الخولي؛ فقال: "وقد كان لرغبة التملك هذه أثرها الحسن في الحياة البشرية، فردية واجتماعية بما بعثت من نشاط، وأثارت من همم، وأزكت من منافسة، أسعفت الفرد والمجتمع بنتائج جليلة، في الأعمال والعلوم والفنون، خطت بالمدينة خطوات تقدمية .. لكن كان لتلك الرغبة في التملك، حين تلح وتشجع أثر سيء، بل أثار قبيحة، بفعل الظروف المختلفة؛ من طبيعة فطرية فرقت بين الناس؛ أو ظروف وضعية مصنوعة، هيأت لبعضهم من فرص التملك وأسبابه ما لم تهيئه لآخرين غيرهم؛ فأصاب هؤلاء، وخاب أولئك، واغتنى هؤلاء، وافقر أولئك، فكانت رغبة التملك في الأولين جداً ماضياً؛ كما كانت تلك الرغبة في الآخرين حسرةً

<sup>(23)</sup> من هدي القرآن في أمولهم، أمين الخولي، ص24.

<sup>(24)</sup> المرجع السابق، ص25.

موجعةً، زادت إفساد العلاقة بين الفريقين. بل نفثت العداوة والبغضاء فيهما، وأحالت التعاون بينهما؛ فشقوا بذلك جميعاً، وشقى المجتمع المؤلف منهما، بما دفعتهم إليه تلك الرغبة في التملك، من شرور ومآثم، من الغضب والسطو والسرقة والنهب، وأشباهها من التحايل تارة والقهر أخرى، وكان ما كان في الحياة من جرائم وآثام وآفات، وفوضى أفضت مضاجع الأفراد والأمم، فكانت بين الأولين صراعا مختلف المدى والضرر كما كانت بين الأمم حروبا مدمرة مشقبة، عانت منها الدنيا، ولا تزال حتى الساعة تعاني المبيد المهلك" (25).

ولعظيم خطر هذه الرغبة عنيت العناصر الخيرة في هذه البشرية "منذ قديم الدهر بهذه المشكلة، وراحت تلتمس علاجها، أو تحاول أن تجد – على الأقل – ما يخفف من بلواها، ويهون من وقعها، ويقلل من شرها، فكانت المشكلة موضع بحث المصلحين من مبينين متدينين، أو فلاسفة متحررين" (26).

وقد نظر الخولي نظرة شاملة ولم يفسر الآيات كما فعل ثلثوت والمفسرين القدامي، ولم يرتبط بتفسير الآية كلمة كلمة ولكنه اعتمد على السياق العام للآية، وهذا يعد صورة من صور التفسير الموضوعي عند الخولي.

هذا وقد بنى الخولي تصوره من خلال هذه الكلمات في إطار من الجمع بين (الدين، والفلسفة، والعلم) لكنه عاد سريعا ليوقف حول النموذج القرآني في محاولة منه لتبيين مسلكه في توجيه الحياة العملية؛ فكان أول ما ارتآه " ... أن هذا القرآن يحرص أول ما يحرص، على أن يترك للعقل حريته كلها، في مواجهة مشكلات الحياة وواقعها .. وذلك بأنه يترك للمصلحة الواقعية الكلمة كلها ويدع للتجربة الفرصة كلها .. وأساس ذلك كله أنه لا يقدم تفصيلا جزئيا لمشكلة من المشكلات، كمشكلة التملك أو غيرها .. على حين لا يرفض من قول التجربة الصادقة وما تقضي به المصلحة الحقبة رأيا، بل يتلقى ذلك كله، في رحابة صدر، تقدر التطور، وتقدر ما يجد للناس من شئون تتغير على الأيام وتختلف باختلاف الزمان والمكان فلا يحدها تفكير عصر معين، ولا يوقفها تحديد عقل بذاته؛ في مستوى محدود، ولا يعوقها ألا يكون السابقون ممن فسروا الدين أو مارسوا التشريع لم يشعروا بها، ولم تحتج إليهم حياتهم في عصرهم .. لأن ذلك كله من عمل الناس لا يحتكم في الأصل الأول والأساس الأكبر، من هدي القرآن، الذي اجتنب هذه الجزئيات المتغيرة، ومس تلك الكليات الواسعة الشاملة، فالذي يمكن أن يعرض – هنا – من هدي القرآن في أموالهم إنما هو النظر في الأسس البعيدة، والأصول الأولى من حيث ارتباطها بالفطرة البشرية .. والقرآن في الكلام عن هذه الفطرة على ما رأينا – وسنرى – نفساني دقيق يمس هذه الفطرة مساسا خبيراً رشيداً .. ويحسن كل الإحسان في أن يجعل التدين والتأليه، والمسئولية الآخرة عوامل فعالة في إحياء الضمير وتقوية الإحساس بالخير والكرامة وتأسيس الشعور بالمسئولية على المراقبة الداخلية، والرضى النفسي، وعلى هذا الأساس يتقدم البشر للاختبار العملي والعلمي الذي يدع القرآن بابه مفتوحا فسيحا، ومداه طلقا غير محدود ليس فيه شيء من المناطق ممنوعة، أو المجالات الموصدة، ويعرض مع هذا الصنيع إلى الأهداف العليا، والغايات الكبرى لهذه الحياة الإنسانية، يدفع البشرية منها إلى أكرم ما تجود به طاقتها، ويحلق إليه طموحها، لا يقفها من ذلك عند حد، ولا يلزمها أفقا دون آخر، بل يغريها بأفضل المثل، وأسعد الغايات لتتال من ذلك ما تسعفها عليه قدرتها في كل عصر وبيئة" (27).

وبعد هذا التصور حاول الخولي أن يجمل خطة الهدي القرآني في تصوير مشكلة المال وغيرها من مشكلات الحياة، حيث ردها إلى معنيين هما:

1. تجربة دقيقة دائبة للحياة، لمعرفة واقعها، بعقل طليق، ودرس دقيق مستفيد من كل ما يعرف في الدنيا.

(25) المرجع السابق، ص 26.

(26) المرجع السابق، ص 26، 27.

(27) المرجع السابق، ص 28، 29.

2. شعور إنساني عميق رقيق، يثيره وجدان متدين حساس يجد ما تحسه البشرية في أقصى أرجاء الكون" (28).

وقد كان الخولي حريصا كل الحرص وهو يبين الخطة القرآنية أن يبين أنها قامت على أساس من "... النظر إلى الأسس البعيدة، والأصول الأولى، دون تفيد بالجزئيات الصغرى، والمفردات المفضلة، من نظم الحياة – حماية لبعده النظر، ورحابة الأفق، واستعدادا للتطور الزمني، والاختلاف المكاني، بين البيئات المتغيرة" (29).

وعلى أضواء تلك الخطة القرآنية – كما يرى الخولي – رسمت الفكرة القرآنية الكاملة عن الأموال والملكية، ولكن هل تلاقى بها القرآن ما لاقت الإنسانية وتلاقي بسبب هذه المشكلة الاجتماعية القديمة الحديثة؟. هذا ما حاول الإجابة عنه من خلال قوله: "وسنرى أن القرآن لم يعمد من ذلك إلى تجاهل أو كبت يصادم الواقع، من قوة هذه الرغبة في البشر، وفي قوله تعالى: ﴿وَتَأْكُلُونَ التَّرَاثَ أَكْلًا لَمَّا \* وَتُحِبُّونَ أَمْالَ حُبًّا جَمًّا﴾ [الفجر:19 و20]" (30).

وقد بين الخولي – قبل بيان رؤيته لمفهوم المال من خلال هذه الآية – فهم المفسرون لها؛ فقال: "في فهم هذه الآية يقول المفسرون: إن وصف حب المال بالجم يدل على أن حب المال وتعلق القلب بتحصيل ما يسد الخلة منه غير مكروه، بل مندوب إليه لبقاء نظام العالم .. ثم ما يلبثون أن يهزوا ذلك بما يتجهون إليه من تعقيب على ذلك بمثل قولهم ما معناه: كل السلامة وجل الفراغ في الترك، كما هو دأب المتكلمين، وينشدون قول الشاعر:

إن السلامة من ليلى وجارتها ألا تمر على حال بواديها

وهكذا يُنقل مثل هذا القول من المفسرين عن بقاء نظام العالم، ثم يُعقَّبون عليه بما يهدم هذا النظام، كما ترى في هذه العبارة الأخيرة، فهل هذه هي خطة القرآن عند الحديث في أموالهم؟" (31).

وكذلك في محاولة منه الوقوف على فهم المفسرين لمفهوم المال في قول الله تعالى: ﴿لَيْسَ الْبِرُّ أَنْ تُولُوا وَجُوهَكُمْ قَبْلَ الْمَشْرِقِ وَالْمَغْرِبِ وَلَكِنَّ الْبِرَّ مَنْ آمَنَ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ وَالْمَلَائِكَةِ وَالْكِتَابِ وَالنَّبِيِّينَ وَآتَى الْمَالَ عَلَى حُبِّهِ ذَوِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَالْيَتَامَىٰ وَالْمَسَاكِينَ وَابْنَ السَّبِيلِ وَالسَّائِلِينَ وَفِي الرِّقَابِ﴾ [البقرة:177] – قال الخولي: "وهذا القول عن الإيتاء على حب في الإبانة عن أفضل البر، يرى بعض المفسرين فيه أن الإيتاء على حب الله، وإليه مرجع الضمير في (حبه)، وصاحب هذا القول معجب به ويراه أحسن ما قيل في الآية .. مع أنك تشعر أن المرجع بعيد، وإنما يعود الضمير على أقرب مذكور، وهو في الآية (المال). أما لفظ الجلالة فبعيد الموقع، والمعنى غير متبادر، ولا يقوى به الغرض كثيرا في الاعتبار النفسي، ثم هو ليس رأيهم الأخير في الآية؛ فمنهم من أرجع الضمير – كما هو المتبادر – إلى (المال)، أي: على حب المعطي المال، ولما أرادوا زيادة البيان لجأوا إلى الحديث وقالوا: إن ما في الآية – هنا – كما في الحديث: {وَأَنْ تَصَدَّقَ وَأَنْتَ صَاحِبٌ صَاحِحٌ شَاحِحٌ، تَأْمَلُ الْغَنَى، وَتَخْشَى الْفَقْرَ} والأمر لا يحتاج إلى الاستظهار بالحديث والتنظير به، وإنما الشأن أن يترك القرآن يفسر بعضه بعضا، ويلتمس مثل هذا التعبير من الإيعاء على الحب من استعمال القرآن نفسه في مثل قوله:

﴿وَيُطْعَمُونَ الطَّعَامَ عَلَىٰ حُبِّهِ مِسْكِينًا وَيَتِيمًا وَأَسِيرًا﴾ [الإنسان:8]

فالتعبير في هذه الآية من وادي التعبير في الآية الأخرى. يقدر فيه النوازع البشرية والرغبات النفسية ويريد مع هذا التقدير للفطرة كبح جماحها ووقاية تطرفها؛ بما يطلب من إيتاء المال .. والإيتاء في اللغة هو الإيعاء السهل اليسير الذي يفهم من معنى مادة (أتى) و(أتى)" (32). بناء على هذا التوجيه القرآني يتبين – على نحو ما يرى الخولي – " أن القرآن لا ينكر في الناس هذه الفطرية، ولا يقول مع هؤلاء

(28) المرجع السابق، ص29.

(29) المرجع السابق، ص31.

(30) المرجع السابق، ص32.

(31) المرجع السابق، ص33.

(32) المرجع السابق، ص33، 34.

الذين زعموا أن المتوكلين يبتغون السلامة من ليلى وجارتها، بالترك والفراغ التام منها ومن جارتها .. فهي رياضة اللطيف الخبير بالنفس الإنسانية، يقرر واقعا ويقدره، ثم يروضها مع هذا على أن تؤتي المال ذوي القربى واليتامى والمساكين مع حبه الجم .. ولو قد أنكروا هذا من شأنها لما اطمأنت النفس إلى ما تسمعه من رياضتها"<sup>(33)</sup>.

من هنا يتبين أن "الهدى القرآني نفساني دقيق حين يصف هذه النفوس التي يروضها ويديرها لا يلقاها بما يخالف فطرتها، ولذا تطمئن إلى ما تسمعه منه، ولا تشبیه في توجيهها لها، وتدبيره إياها؛ لأنه يحدثها حديث الواقع الذي تعانیه وتجربه وتجد صدقه فيما تجد من الغلبة والدولة، فإذا ما حدثها أن خيرها في الحد من هذا الحب، أو البذل السهل لهذا المحبوب لم تحسبه يخالف بها عن المجرب الصادق"<sup>(34)</sup>. ومما يزيد الأمر وضوحا في مسألة ارتباط الهدى القرآني بالفطرة البشرية ما يزيد الأمر وضوحا؛ قول الله تعالى: ﴿الْمَالُ وَالْبَنُونَ زِينَةُ الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَالْبَاقِيَاتُ الصَّالِحَاتُ خَيْرٌ عِنْدَ رَبِّكَ ثَوَابًا وَخَيْرٌ أَمَلًا﴾ [الكهف:46]. وكذلك قوله: ﴿رُئِينَ لِلنَّاسِ حُبُّ الشَّهَوَاتِ مِنَ النِّسَاءِ وَالْبَنِينَ وَالْقَنَاطِيرِ الْمُقَنْطَرَةِ مِنَ الذَّهَبِ وَالْفِضَّةِ وَالْخَيْلِ الْمُسَوَّمَةِ وَالْأَنْعَامِ وَالْحَرْثِ ذَلِكَ مَتَاعُ الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَاللَّهُ عِنْدَهُ حُسْنُ الْمَآبِ﴾ [آل عمران:14]. يقول الخولي - تعليقا على هذه الآيات - : "فأصحاب القرآن بهذا كله يدركون أن هذا الهدى الخالد قد عرف للبشرية حياها للتملك، فأرضاهما لونا من الإرضاء، يوفر ثقتهما بما يوجهها إليه في تعليقه هذه الغريزة، ولا تحس معه بشك فيما يُلقى إليها؛ لأنها قد عرفته مقدرًا للواقع خبيرًا به لطيفا في تناوله .. فلتصغ إلى ما سيُلقى إليها من حديث عن هذه الرغبة في التملك، وما يحسن أن تكون عليه، وما ينبغي أن تقف عنده لتتحقق لها الغلبة، وتستقيم الدولة التي هي من نعمه التي امتن عليها بها"<sup>(35)</sup>.

والقرآن بهذا لم يصطدم البتة مع تلك الغريزة، بل التفت التفاتا قويا إلى هذا الشأن للغريزة، في القصد والجور، والتهديب والتعليق، والحاجة إلى ذلك فيما نسميه تقريبا للفهم، غريزة التملك والاقتناء<sup>(36)</sup>. ولكن ما ينبغي تصوره ألا يفهم هذا البيان القرآني في جهة إعلاء شأن تلك الغريزة - كما يرى الخولي - في معزل عن حديث القرآن عن تهذيبها وتقويمها؛ يقول الخولي: "وبين أن القرآن، بعد الذي سمعنا من اعترافه بها وتقديره لحسن آثارها يقدر مع ذلك أنها قد تنحرف عن الجادة، وتجنح إلى غير الرشد، ولعله في هذا يقول: ﴿وَاعْلَمُوا أَنَّمَا أَمْوَالُكُمْ وَأَوْلَادُكُمْ فِتْنَةٌ وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ عِنْدَهُ أَجْرٌ عَظِيمٌ﴾ (الأنفال:28)، كما يقول: ﴿إِنَّمَا أَمْوَالُكُمْ وَأَوْلَادُكُمْ فِتْنَةٌ وَاللَّهُ عِنْدَهُ أَجْرٌ عَظِيمٌ﴾ (التغابن:15)، وهو يحد من شرها عند هذا الجموح، في مثل قوله: ﴿يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تُلْهِكُمْ أَمْوَالُكُمْ وَلَا أَوْلَادُكُمْ عَنْ ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ وَمَنْ يَفْعَلْ ذَلِكَ فَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْخَاسِرُونَ﴾ (المنافقون:9)، كما يسوق للعبارة حال من أفسد أمره ماله وولده في قول نوح - عليه السلام - ﴿رَبِّ إِنَّهُمْ عَصَوْنِي وَاتَّبَعُوا مَنْ لَمْ يَزِدْهُ مَالَهُ وَوَلَدَهُ إِلَّا خَسَارًا﴾ (نوح:21)، يمثل هذه الحالة من فساد الحال بجموح نزعة التملك والتمول، وكذلك ينفي القرآن أن يكون المال والولد وسيلة إلى القربى والزلفى عند الله؛ فيقول: ﴿وَمَا أَمْوَالُكُمْ وَلَا أَوْلَادُكُمْ بِالَّتِي تُقَرَّبُكُمْ عِنْدَنَا رُلْفَى إِلَّا مَنْ آمَنَ وَعَمِلَ صَالِحًا﴾ (سبأ:37)، وأن هذه الأموال والأولاد لا تغني ولا تنفع.. ﴿إِنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا لَنْ تُغْنِي عَنْهُمْ أَمْوَالُهُمْ وَلَا أَوْلَادُهُمْ مِنَ اللَّهِ شَيْئًا وَأُولَئِكَ أَصْحَابُ النَّارِ هُمْ فِيهَا خَالِدُونَ﴾ [آل عمران:116]. وبهذا القصد والاعتدال ينهى القرآن عن الإعجاب والاعتزاز بالأموال والأولاد، وأن النزعة بذلك تصير إلى غير المصير الخير فلا تكون شيئا ذا قيمة في أصحابها. يقول القرآن: ﴿فَلَا تُعْجِبْكَ أَمْوَالُهُمْ وَلَا أَوْلَادُهُمْ إِنَّمَا يُرِيدُ اللَّهُ لِيُعَذِّبَهُمْ بِهَا فِي الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَتَرْهَقَ أَنْفُسُهُمْ وَهُمْ كَافِرُونَ﴾ [التوبة:55]"<sup>(37)</sup>.

يقول الخولي - تعليقا على مجموع هذه الآيات - : "ففي كل هذه الآيات - وما إليها - لفت واضح إلى حال هذه النزعة البشرية للتملك والاقتناء إذا جنحت إلى الشر، وأدت إلى غير ما ذكر الله في غير هذه المواطن، من عد الأموال نعمة عليهم، وسبيل عزهم ودولتهم .. وكذلك يحدث القرآن عن مختلف أحوال النفس البشرية التي يعمد إلى تربيتها، ويوجهها في ذلك توجيه اللطيف في رياضتها، الخبير

<sup>(33)</sup> المرجع السابق، ص34.

<sup>(34)</sup> المرجع السابق، ص35.

<sup>(35)</sup> المرجع السابق، ص36.

<sup>(36)</sup> المرجع السابق، ص35.

<sup>(37)</sup> المرجع السابق، ص38، 40.

بخلاجاتها"<sup>(38)</sup>.

وقد حاول الخولي أن يبين بعد بيان هذا التصور السليم أن تصور المفسرين كان مرتبطاً بالبيئة التي عاشوها؛ يقول: "وعلي هذا الأساس السليم ننظر فيما قال المفسرون في تفسير هذه الآيات التي تبين انحراف النزوع الإنساني إلي حب المال، وتحذر منه، فنري أن تفسير آية كآية: (وَاعْلَمُوا أَنَّمَا أَمْوَالُكُمْ وَأَوْلَادُكُمْ فِتْنَةٌ) [الأنفال:28] مما يعطينا مثلاً، من صلة فهم المفسرين للقرآن بما حولهم من طابع غالب في ممارسة الحياة، إقبالا أو نفورا، وزهدا أو جادا؛ ففري مفسرا كالتطيري يقول: "واعلموا، أيها المؤمنون، أنما أموالكم التي حوّلتموها الله، وأولادكم التي وهبها الله لكم، اختبارٌ وبلاء، أعطاكموها ليختبركم بها وبيبتلكم، لينظر كيف أنتم عاملون من أداء حق الله عليكم فيها، والانتهاه إلى أمره ونهيها فيها." وأن الله عنده أجر عظيم"، يقول: واعلموا أن الله عنده خيرٌ وثواب عظيم، على طاعتكم إياه فيما أمركم ونهاكم، في أموالكم وأولادكم التي اختبركم بها في الدنيا. وأطيعوا الله فيما كلفكم فيها، تنالوا به الجزيل من ثوابه في معادكم"<sup>(39)</sup> كما وضح ذلك الزمخشري بقوله أنه: "جعل الأموال والأولاد فتنة، لأنهم سبب الوقوع في الفتنة وهي الإثم أو العذاب. أو محنة من الله ليلبوكم كيف تحافظون فيهم على حدوده وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ عِنْدَهُ أَجْرٌ عَظِيمٌ فعليكم أن تتوطوا بطلبه وبما تؤدي إليه هممكم، وتزهدوا في الدنيا، ولا تحرصوا على جمع المال وحب الولد، حتى تورطوا أنفسكم من أجلهما، كقوله أَلْمَالُ وَالْبَنُونَ آيَةٌ. وقيل: هي من جملة ما نزل في أبي لبابة وما فرط منه لأجل ماله وولده"<sup>(40)</sup>.

وكذلك النيسابوري أراد أن يوضح قوله: "فقال أَنَّمَا أَمْوَالُكُمْ وَأَوْلَادُكُمْ فِتْنَةٌ أي أنها سبب الوقوع في الفتنة وهي الإثم أو العذاب أو هي محنة من الله ليلبوكم كيف تحافظون على حدوده في ذلك الباب وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ عِنْدَهُ أَجْرٌ عَظِيمٌ فعليكم أن تزهدوا في الدنيا وما يتعلق بها وتتوطوا هممكم بما يفضي إلى السعادات الروحانية الباقية. ويمكن أن يتمسك بالآية في بيان أن الاشتغال بالنوافل لكونه مفضيا إلى الأجر العظيم عند الله هو أفضل من الاشتغال بالنكاح لأدائه إلى الفتنة. ثم رغب في التقوى التي توجب الإعراض عن محبة الأموال والأولاد وعن التهاك في شأنهم فقال يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا إِنَّ تَتَّقُوا اللَّهَ فِي ارتكاب الكبائر والإصرار على الصغائر وَيَجْعَلْ لَكُمْ فُرْقَانًا فارقا بينكم وبين الكفار في الأحوال الباطنة الاختصاص بالمعرفة والهداية وانسراح الصدر وإزالة الغل والحسد والمكر وسائر الأخلاق الذميمة والأوصاف السبعية والبهيمية، وفي الأحوال الظاهرة بإعلاء الكلمة والإظهار على أهل الأديان كلهم، وفي أحوال الآخرة بالثواب الجزيل والمنافع الدائمة والتعظيم من الله والملائكة. وَيُكَفِّرْ عَنْكُمْ سَيِّئَاتِكُمْ يستر عليكم في الدنيا صغائركم إن فرطت منكم وَيَعْفُزْ لَكُمْ فِي دار الجزاء وَاللَّهُ ذُو الْفَضْلِ الْعَظِيمِ فإذا وعد بشيء وفي به أحسن الإيفاء"<sup>(41)</sup>.

ثم يوجز الخولي ما قاله هؤلاء المفسرين: إن الفتنة في الآية هي الوقوع في الإثم والعذاب، وإذا ما أوردنا الابتلاء الذي ذكره المفسر السابق بأنه اختبار لامثال ما أمرهم به ونهاهم عنه، في هذا المال لينفقوه في الخير، لم يلبثوا أن يتقدموا منه إلي أن عليكم أن تزهدوا في الدنيا وما يتعلق بها، وتتوطوا اهتمامكم بما يفضي إلي السعادة الروحانية الباقية، ولا تحرصوا علي جمع المال وحب الولد، حتى تورطوا أنفسكم من أجلها. وكذلك تشعر بالفرق الواضح بين الجوين المختلفين لتفسير الآية، إذ يذهب الثاني منهما إلي التنفير من الأموال، والنصح بالزهد في الدنيا وما يتعلق بها، وهو ما كان فساد الحياة لعهد مفسريه قد روجه"<sup>(42)</sup>.

لكنه في الوقت نفسه بيّن أن منهج التطيري من بين المفسرين هو الأقرب إلى التصور القرآني: "ويفصل بين الاتجاهين فوق وجهة الحياة، أن أحدهما وهو التطيري لا يؤدي تفسيره إلي إخلال بالمنهج النفساني للقرآن في تقدير البشرية، وحديثه عنها وإليها، حديث الخبير

<sup>(38)</sup> المرجع السابق، ص 40.

<sup>(39)</sup> جامع البيان، للطبري، 486/13.

<sup>(40)</sup> الكشاف، للزمخشري، 214/2.

<sup>(41)</sup> غرائب القرآن و رغائب الفرقان، للنيسابوري، تحقيق الشيخ زكريا عميرات، دار الكتب العلمية – بيروت، الطبعة الأولى – 1416هـ، 392/3.

<sup>(42)</sup> في أموالهم، الشيخ الخولي، ص 40-41.

بها، اللطيف في تدبيرها، العليم بما يصلحها، الحكيم في تناول ذلك من طرقه النفسية، ووسائله الفطرية"<sup>(43)</sup>. لكنه مع ذلك أضاف من خلال السياق القرآني ما يزيد هذا التصور بيانا بقوله: "وقد يكون أقرب ما تستشرف له النفوس المشرقة من الإشارة إلي ملاحظة ذات قيمة في تفسير آية: ﴿وَاعْلَمُوا أَنَّمَا أَمْوَالُكُمْ وَأَوْلَادُكُمْ فِتْنَةٌ﴾ (الأنفال:28)، هو مكان الآية وسياقها، وموضعها من سورتها؛ وهي سورة الأنفال أي الغنائم؛ وجو السورة وما احتوته من المعاني عابق بإيحاءات قوية تقضي بسلامة التفسير الأول الحيوي للآية المذكورة، بما يصلحها به من الحياة المجاهدة المناضلة، وليس من اليسير أن تتصل آية في سورة الأنفال، التي هي غنائم الحرب بجو ينضح بالزهد في الدنيا وما يتعلق بها؛ والبعد عن ليلي وجارتها، كما سمعنا من قبل؟!"<sup>(44)</sup>. وهكذا يظهر الفرق بين الرجلين في تصور مفهوم المال، فبينما وقف شلتوت عند تفسير المال عند ما قدمه المفسرون من قبله - راح الخولي يبحث عن مواطن التجديد في تصوره، فانطلق من القرآن ثم من فهم المفسرين له وصولا إلى تصوره الذي انحاز إلى هداية القرآن في مواجهة أي فهم جاء مغايرا لتلك الهداية .. وهذا عين التجديد. ولم يقف تجديده عند مناهضة فهم المفسرين من قبله بل تجاوزه إلى مفسري عصره، وقد بدا ذلك واضحا من خلال إصراره على تكرار مصطلح (التملك) أثناء عرضه لمفهوم المال في محاولة منه الرد على نقيضها من (الاشتراكية) عند الشيخ شلتوت التي تقر الملكية، لكن (الملكية الجماعية) دون (الملكية الفردية) التي أصرَّ الخولي على التأكيد عليها مع عدم إنكاره للأولى. وهكذا يظهر كيف استطاع الخولي أن يخرج خارج دائرة عصره في تصوره لمفهوم المال كاسرا بذلك القاعدة التي أقرها هو وحاول أن يفهم فهم المفسرين لقضية المال من خلالها، وهي ارتباط مفهوم كل مفسر بالعصر الذي يعيش فيه والظروف التي تحيط به.

<sup>(43)</sup> المرجع السابق، ص42.

<sup>(44)</sup> المرجع السابق، ص42.

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## Synthesizing the Views of Exegetes regarding *Shadhah* (Rare) and *Mutawatirah* (Reliable) Qur'anic Lections

أوجه الجمع بين أقوال المفسرين فيما يتعلق بالقراءات القرآنية الشاذة مع المتواترة

Amr Farouq Mahmoud,  
Assistant Professor, Faculty of Arts, Helwan University, Egypt.  
Corresponding email: [amr\\_osman@arts.helwan.edu.eg](mailto:amr_osman@arts.helwan.edu.eg)

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### ABSTRACT

This paper explores the ways in which scholars have reconciled the different interpretations of the variant lections/readings of the Quran with the *mutawatir*. The *mutawatir* refers to the readings that have been transmitted by a large number of reliable narrators in each generation, making it highly probable that they are correct.

The variant readings, on the other hand, are those that have been transmitted by a smaller number of narrators or that have some other element of doubt surrounding them. The paper begins by defining the terms "*qira'ah*" (reading/lection), "*mutawatir*" (reliable), and "*shadh*" (rare). It then discusses the different methods that scholars have used to reconcile the different interpretations of the variant readings with the *mutawatir*. These methods include: Interpreting the variant readings in a way that is consistent with the *mutawatir*; explaining the variant readings as being due to differences in dialect or pronunciation; and attributing the variant readings to different contexts or situations. The paper concludes by arguing that the different interpretations of the variant readings can be reconciled with the *mutawatir* by using a combination of these methods.

### KEYWORDS

Qur'an, *qira'ah* (lection/reading), *Mutawatir* (reliable), *shadh* (rare), interpretation, dialect, context, situation.

القراءات جمع قراءة، وهي في اللغة مصدر سماعي لقرأ، وفي الاصطلاح: مذهب يذهب إليه إمام من أئمة القراء مخالفاً به غيره في النطق بالقرآن الكريم، مع اتفاق الروايات والطرق عنه، سواء أكانت هذه المخالفة في نطق الحروف أم في نطق هيئاتها.<sup>(1)</sup> وتنقسم القراءات إلى قسمين: متواترة، وشاذة.

تعريف القراءة المتواترة:

فالتواتر في اللغة يعنى التتابع، يقال (تواترت الخيل) إذا جاءت يتبع بعضها بعضاً، ومنه جاءوا (تتري) أي متتابعين وتراً بعد وتر.<sup>(2)</sup>

وفي اصطلاح القراء:

(1) مناهل العرفان للزرقاني ج 1/ ص 343 .

(2) المصباح المنير للفيومي - ط المكتبة العلمية بيروت لبنان (د.ت) ج 2/ ص 647 .

هي القراءة التي نقلها جمع لا يمكن تواطؤهم على الكذب عن مثلهم إلى منتهاه، وهذا هو الغالب في القراءات (3).

ولا بد هنا من التذكير بقاعدة وجوب إعمال القراءات المتواترة جميعاً، وأن تعدد القراءات ينزل منزلة تعدد الآيات، وينبغي القول بأن هذه الاختلافات ليست متناقضة بمعنى أن المفسر يلجأ إلى هدر أحد الوجهين إذا اعتمد الآخر، بل هي ذات معان متضامنة يكمل بعضها بعضاً، وقد يدل الوجه على ما لا يدل عليه أخوه ولكنه لا ينافره، ولا يضاده، بل يمنحك معنيًا جديدًا يضيء لك سبيل التفسير (4).

#### تعريف القراءة الشاذة:

(الشذوذ) في اللغة: مصدر الفعل "شَذَّ، يَشُدُّ، يَشُدُّ" بكسر الشين وضمها في المضارع، ومعناه الانفراد عن الجمهور. يقال شذ الرجل إذا انفرد عن أصحابه، وكذلك كل شيء منفرد فهو شاذ وكلمة شاذة (1).

#### وفي اصطلاح القراء:

القراءة الشاذة هي: كل قراءة اختلف فيها ركن من أركان القراءة الصحيحة. يقول الشيخ عبد الفتاح القاضي: ذكر علماء القراءات قاعدة تعرف بها القراءات المقبولة، وتميز عن غيرها من القراءات الشاذة المرذودة، وهذه القاعدة هي: كل قراءة وافقت اللغة العربية، ووافقت رسم أحد المصاحف العثمانية، وثبتت بطريق التواتر \_ نقول كل قراءة اجتمعت فيها هذه الأركان الثلاثة: موافقة اللغة، وموافقة أحد المصاحف، وثبوتها بطريق التواتر هي القراءة التي يجب قبولها، ولا يحل جردها وإنكارها، وهي من جملة الأحرف السبعة التي نزل بها القرآن الكريم، ومتى لم تتحقق هذه الأركان كلها أو بعضها في قراءة فهي قراءة شاذة مرذودة، وينبغي أن يُعلم أن أهم هذه الأركان هو الركن الثالث، والركنان الأولان لزمان له إذ إنه متى تحقق تواتر القراءة لزم أن تكون موافقة للغة العرب ولأحد المصاحف العثمانية، فالعمدة هو التواتر (2).

#### أما عن أنواع القراءات الشاذة:

القراءات الشاذة ثلاثة أنواع:

النوع الأول: القراءة الشاذة المشهورة، وهي القراءة التي وافقت العربية والرسم وصح سندها، ولكنه لم يبلغ درجة التواتر كقراءة (غَلَبَتْ الروم) (بالبناء للفاعل)، (سَيُعْلَبُونَ) (بالبناء للمفعول).

النوع الثاني: قراءة الأحاد، وتحتها قسمان:

القسم الأول: كل قراءة وافقت العربية والرسم، ولم يصح سندها.

القسم الثاني: كل قراءة وافقت العربية وخالفت الرسم، سواء صح سندها أو لم يصح.

هذا وأما القراءة التي تخالف العربية بكل لهجاتها فلا تُوصف بأنها قراءة، بل تُعد ضرباً من ضروب الوضع والاختلاق.

(3) الإتيان للسيوطي ج1/ص221، ومناهل العرفان للزرقاني ج1/ص357.

(4) القراءات المتواترة وأثرها في الرسم القرآني والأحكام الشرعية - د/محمد الحبش - دار الفكر دمشق، ط1 (1419هـ-1999م) ص121.

(1) لسان العرب لابن منظور - مادة (شذذ) - ج3 / ص494.

(2) القراءات الشاذة وتوجيهها من لغة العرب للشيخ عبد الفتاح القاضي - ط دار الكتاب العربي بيروت (لبنان) - ط1 (1401هـ - 1981م) - ص7.

النوع الثالث: القراءة المدرجة ، وهذا النوع من شواذ القراءات هو الذي زيد في الآية على وجه التفسير ، كقراءة سعد بن أبي وقاص ( ولهُ أَخٌ أَوْ أُخْتٌ مِنْ أُمِّ ) .<sup>(1)</sup>

#### نص الوجه:

الجمع بالنظر إلى تحمل النص القرآني لجميع المعاني التي ذكرها المفسرون فيه ، والتي تنوعت تبعاً لتنوع القراءات الواردة فيه بين التواتر والشذوذ .

#### صورة هذا الوجه :

إذا اختلفت أقوال المفسرين في تفسير نص قرآني ، وكان اختلافهم راجعاً إلى تنوع القراءات الواردة في هذا النص بين التواتر والشذوذ ، فالأولى الجمع بين هذه الأقوال ، وقبولها جميعاً طالما أنها لا تتناقض ولا تتنافر .

#### أصحاب القراءات الشاذة : (2)

بعد أن توحد رسم المصاحف في عهد عثمان بن عفان رضي الله عنه التزم شيوخ الإقراء من الصحابة والتابعين ، القراءة التي توافق الرسم ، وتواتر سندها من حيث الضبط .

ومع هذا ظل العلماء والمتعلمون بعلوم القرآن يتناقلون فيما بينهم المواضيع التي كان فيها تعدد قراءات قبل الرسم الموحد . ولما جاء عصر تأليف الكتب في نواحي العلوم الإسلامية المختلفة ، ألف علماء القراءات كتباً في القراءات المتواترة ، وأخرى في القراءات الشاذة ، ومرجعهم في الأخيرة ما ظلت تتناقله ذواكر الحفظة ، وانتقلت الفكرة إلى المفسرين أيضاً ، فرأى كثير منهم أن يشير إلى القراءة الشاذة حيثما وجدت ، تكملة لفائدة القارئ ، ولأنها تُعين على توضيح معنى في القراءة المتواترة ، وقد تدل على معنى صحيح لا تؤديه القراءة المتواترة . وقد كثرت الإشارة في هذه المصادر إلى قراء الشواذ من الصحابة والتابعين ، فتردد من أسماء الصحابة ذُكر: عبد الله بن مسعود ، وأبي بن كعب ، وعبد الله بن عباس ، وسعد بن أبي وقاص ، وعبد الله ابن الزبير وغيرهم .

وعندما ظهر أئمة القراءات العشر وتحدت أشخاصهم ، ظهر أيضاً إلى جانبهم عدد كبير من قراء الشواذ ، وهم درجات في الشهرة وأكثرهم شهرة أربعة وهم :

- (1) ابن محيصن ، واسمه : محمد بن عبد الرحمن المكي ، تُوفي بمكة سنة (123هـ) وله راويان : البيهقي ، وابن شنيوذ .
- (2) اليزيدي : واسمه يحيى بن المبارك ، تُوفي بمرور سنة (202 هـ) وله راويان : سليمان بن الحكيم ، وأحمد بن فرح ( بالحاء المهملة ) .
- (3) الحسن البصري : تُوفي سنة (110 هـ) ، وله راويان : شجاع بن أبي نصر البلخي ، والدّوري .
- (4) الأعمش : واسمه سليمان بن مهران (ت : 148هـ) ، وله راويان : الحسن بن سعيد المطوعي ، وأبو الفرج الشنوبذي الشطوي . وقراءات هؤلاء الأربعة شاذة باتفاق ، وقد حدد علماء القراءات المواضيع التي خالف فيها هؤلاء الأئمة العشرة ، وقد تناولتها بالتفصيل الكتب الخاصة بشواذ القراءات ، كما أشارت إلى كثير منها بعض كتب التفسير .

(1) الاختلاف بين القراءات - د/ أحمد البيهقي - ط دار الجيل بيروت (لبنان) ، ط1 (1408هـ-1988م) - ص110 وما بعدها (بتصرف).

(2) المرجع السابق - ص111 وما بعدها .















فقص عليهم ما رأى وسألهم عن تأويلها، فلم يعرفوا ذلك، واعتذروا إليه بأنها أضغاث أحلام اقتضته رؤياك هذه وما نحن بتأويل الأحلام بعالمين أي لو كانت رؤيا صحيحة من أحلام لما كان لنا معرفة بتأويلها، وهو تعبيرها، فعند ذلك تذكر الذي نجا من هذين الفئتين اللذين كانا في السجن مع يوسف، وكان الشيطان قد أنساه ما وصاه به يوسف من ذكر أمره للملك، فعند ذلك تذكر بعد أمه، أي مدة، وقرأ بعضهم بعد أمه أي بعد نسيان". (39)

وإذا معنا النظر في معنى القراءتين الواردتين عن المفسرين، نجد أنه يمكن الجمع بينهما، فالمعنى القرآني يشير إلى أن الذي كان مع يوسف عليه السلام في السجن، ونجا منه تذكر يوسف عليه السلام بعد رؤيا ملك مصر، لعلمه بمقدرته على تفسير الرؤى والأحلام، أنه تذكره بعد مدة طويلة، وبعد نسيان، وبعد نعمة أنعمها الله عليه بالنجاة من القتل، فلا تنافر بين هذه المعاني، وإنما تتكامل معاً.

وكذلك قوله جلّ وعلا في حادثة الإفك :

رُؤِيَ لَنَا مَا كَانَتْ رُؤْيَا صَاحِبِهِ مِنْ أَحْلَامٍ لَمَّا كَانَ لَنَا مَعْرِفَةٌ بِتَأْوِيلِهَا، وَهُوَ تَعْبِيرُهَا، فَعِنْدَ ذَلِكَ تَذَكَّرَ الَّذِي نَجَا مِنْ هَذَيْنِ الْفَتْنَيْنِ اللَّذَيْنِ كَانَا فِي السِّجْنِ مَعَ يُوسُفَ، وَكَانَ الشَّيْطَانُ قَدْ أَنْسَاهُ مَا وَصَّاهُ بِهِ يُوسُفُ مِنْ ذِكْرِ أَمْرِهِ لِلْمَلِكِ، فَعِنْدَ ذَلِكَ تَذَكَّرَ بَعْدَ أُمَّةٍ، أَيْ مُدَّةٍ، وَقَرَأَ بَعْضُهُمْ بَعْدَ أُمَّةٍ أَيْ بَعْدَ نَسْيَانٍ". (39)

يقول الإمام أبو حيان: " وَقَرَأَ الْجُمُوهُورُ تَلَقُّوْنَهُ بِفَتْحِ التَّلَاثِ وَشَدِّ الْقَافِ وَشَدِّ النَّاءِ أَيْ يَأْخُذُهُ بَعْضُكُمْ مِنْ بَعْضٍ، يُقَالُ: تَلَقَّى الْقَوْلَ وَتَلَقَّنَهُ وَتَلَقَّفَهُ وَالْأَصْلُ تَتَلَقَّفُوهُ وَهِيَ قِرَاءَةُ أَبِي. وَقَرَأَ ابْنُ السَّمِيعِ تَلَقَّفُوهُ بِضَمِّ النَّاءِ وَالْقَافِ وَسُكُونِ اللَّامِ مُضَارِعٌ أَلْقَى وَعَنْهُ تَلَقَّفُوهُ بِفَتْحِ النَّاءِ وَالْقَافِ وَسُكُونِ اللَّامِ مُضَارِعٌ لَقِيَ. وَقَرَأَتْ عَائِشَةُ وَابْنُ عَبَّاسٍ وَعِيسَى وَابْنُ يَعْمَرَ وَزَيْدُ بْنُ عَلِيٍّ بِفَتْحِ النَّاءِ وَكَسْرِ اللَّامِ وَضَمِّ الْقَافِ مِنْ قَوْلِ الْعَرَبِ: وَلَقِيَ الرَّجُلُ كَذِبًا، حَكَاهُ أَهْلُ اللُّغَةِ". (41)

ويؤكد هذا المعنى الإمام ابن كثير في تفسيره بقوله: " إِذْ تَلَقَّفُوهُ بِالسُّنْتِكُمْ قَالَ مُجَاهِدٌ وَسَعِيدُ بْنُ جَبْرِ: أَيْ يَرْوِيهِ بَعْضُكُمْ عَنْ بَعْضٍ، يُقُولُ هَذَا سَمِعْتُهُ مِنْ فُلَانٍ، وَقَالَ فُلَانٌ كَذَا، وَذَكَرَ بَعْضُهُمْ كَذَا، وَقَرَأَ آخَرُونَ إِذْ تَلَقَّفُوهُ بِالسُّنْتِكُمْ وَفِي صَحِيحِ الْبُخَارِيِّ عَنْ عَائِشَةَ أَنَّهَا كَانَتْ تَقْرُؤُهَا كَذَلِكَ، وَتَقُولُ: هُوَ مِنْ لَقِيَ اللِّسَانَ يَعْني الكَذِبَ الَّذِي يَسْتَمِرُّ صَاحِبُهُ عَلَيْهِ، تَقُولُ الْعَرَبُ: وَلَقِيَ فُلَانٌ فِي السَّيْرِ إِذَا اسْتَمَرَ فِيهِ، وَالْقِرَاءَةُ الْأُولَى أَشْهَرُ وَعَلَيْهَا الْجُمُوهُورُ، وَلَكِنَّ التَّانِيَةَ مَرْوِيَةٌ عَنْ أُمِّ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ عَائِشَةَ. قَالَ ابْنُ أَبِي حَاتِمٍ: حَدَّثَنَا أَبُو سَعِيدٍ الْأَشْجِيُّ، حَدَّثَنَا أَبُو أُسَامَةَ عَنْ نَافِعٍ عَنِ ابْنِ عُمَرَ عَنِ ابْنِ أَبِي مُلَيْكَةَ عَنْ عَائِشَةَ أَنَّهَا كَانَتْ تَقْرَأُ إِذْ تَلَقَّفُوهُ وَتَقُولُ: إِنَّمَا هُوَ وَلَقِيَ الْقَوْلَ- وَالْوَلَقُ الكَذِبُ- قَالَ ابْنُ أَبِي مُلَيْكَةَ: هِيَ أَعْلَمُ بِهِ مِنْ غَيْرِهَا". (42)

وبالنظر في هاتين القراءتين، نجد أنه يمكن أن نجمع بينهما باستخدام وجه الجمع الذي معنا، فالنص القرآني يتحمل كلا القولين نظراً لعدم تنافيهما، إذ لا مانع من اجتماع هذين الوصفين، فبعض المسلمين تلقوا قول حديث الإفك في حادثة السيدة عائشة رضي الله عنها وقالوه وقبلوه، وأخذوا يتناقفونه فيما بينهم، وهو كذب وافتراء، فلا تنافر بين المعنيين.

(39) تفسير القرآن العظيم لابن كثير، ج4/ص335 وما بعدها.

(40) سورة النور - آية (15).

(41) تفسير البحر المحيط لأبي حيان الأندلسي، ج8/ص22.

(42) تفسير القرآن العظيم لابن كثير، ج6/ص26.

وكما في قوله عز من قائل :

ثُجَّجُكُجُّ سَسَّسُ ثُثُّهُ (43)

يقول الإمام أبو حيان : " وَقَرَأَ الْجُمُحُورُ: فَأَعَشَيْنَاهُمْ بِالْعَيْنِ مَنْقُوطَةً ، وَابْنُ عَبَّاسٍ ، وَعُمَرُ بْنُ عَبْدِ الْعَزِيزِ ، وَابْنُ يَعْمَرَ ، وَعِكْرَمَةُ ، وَالنَّخَعِيُّ ، وَابْنُ سَبْرِينَ ، وَالْحَسَنُ ، وَأَبُو رَجَاءٍ ، وَزَيْدُ بْنُ عَلِيٍّ ، وَزَيْدُ الْبَرْبَرِيُّ ، وَابْنُ الْمُهَلَّبِ ، وَأَبُو حَنِيْفَةَ ، وَابْنُ مِقْسَمٍ: فَأَعَشَيْنَاهُمْ بِالْعَيْنِ مِنَ الْعَشَا ، وَهُوَ ضَعْفُ الْبَصَرِ ، جَعَلْنَا عَلَيْهَا عِشَاوَةً " . (44)

ويؤكد هذا المعنى الإمام ابن كثير في تفسيره بقوله : " وقوله تعالى: فَأَعَشَيْنَاهُمْ أَي أَعَشَيْنَا أَبْصَارَهُمْ عَنِ الْحَقِّ فَهُمْ لَا يُبْصِرُونَ أَي لَا يَنْتَفِعُونَ بِخَيْرٍ وَلَا يَهْتَدُونَ إِلَيْهِ. قَالَ ابْنُ جَرِيرٍ الطَّبْرِيُّ: وَرَوَى عَنِ ابْنِ عَبَّاسٍ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا أَنَّهُ كَانَ يَقْرَأُ «فَأَعَشَيْنَاهُمْ» بِالْعَيْنِ الْمُهْمَلَةِ مِنَ الْعَشَا ، وَهُوَ دَاءٌ فِي الْعَيْنِ " . (45)

وإذا تأملنا في معني هاتين القراءتين الواردتين عن المفسرين نجد أنه يمكن الجمع بينهما ، فالنص يتحمل كلا القولين ، حيث إن بينهما تقارباً وليس تنافياً ، فالله تعالى غطى أبصار الكافرين ، وأضعفها حتى لا تُبصر بالليل ، ويمر الرسول ﷺ سالماً من أمام أعينهم ليستكمل رسالة ربه ، فلا يرونه ، فلا تتافر بين المعنيين .

ومن ذلك أيضاً قوله سبحانه :

ثُثُّ (46)

يقول الإمام الخازن (ت:741هـ) في تفسيره لهذه الآية الكريمة : " (فَذَلِكَ الَّذِي يَدْعُ الْبَيْتِيمَ) ولفظ رأيت استفهام، والمراد به المبالغة في التّعجب من حال هذا المكذب بالدين وهو خطاب للنبي صلى الله عليه وسلم، وقيل هو خطاب لكل واحد، والمعنى: رأيت يا أيها الإنسان أو يا أيها العاقل هذا الذي يكذب بالدين بعد ظهور دلائله، ووضوح بيانه، فكيف يليق به ذلك الذي يدع البيتيم، أي يقهره، ويدفعه عن حقه، والدع الدفع بعنف وجفوة، والمعنى أنه يدفعه عن حقه، وماله بالظلم، وقيل يترك المواساة له وإن لم تكن المواساة واجبة، وقيل يزره، ويضربه، ويستخف به، وقرئ "يَدْعُ" بالتخفيف، أي يدعو ليعتصمه قهراً واستطالة. وَلَا يُخْضُّ عَلَى طَعَامِ الْمُسْكِينِ أَي لَا يَطْعَمُهُ وَلَا يَأْمُرُ بِاطْعَامِهِ لِأَنَّهُ يَكْذِبُ بِالْجَزَاءِ ، وَهَذَا غَايَةُ الْبُخْلِ ، لِأَنَّهُ يَبْخُلُ بِمَالِهِ وَبِمَالِ غَيْرِهِ بِالْإِطْعَامِ " . (47)

ويؤكد هذا المعنى الإمام أبو حيان في تفسيره بقوله : " وَقَرَأَ الْجُمُحُورُ: يَدْعُ بِضَمِّ الدَّالِ وَشَدِّ الْعَيْنِ ، وَعَلِيٌّ وَالْحَسَنُ وَأَبُو رَجَاءٍ وَالْيَمَانِيُّ: يَفْتَحُ الدَّالَ وَخَفَّ الْعَيْنَ ، أَي يَبْرُكُهُ بِمَعْنَى لَا يُحْسِنُ إِلَيْهِ وَيَجْفُوهُ ... وَقَالَ إِبْرَاهِيمُ بْنُ عَرَفَةَ: يَدْعُ الْبَيْتِيمَ: يَدْفَعُهُ عَنِ حَقِّهِ. وَقَالَ مُجَاهِدٌ: يَدْفَعُهُ عَنِ حَقِّهِ وَلَا يُطْعِمُهُ " . (48)

(43) سورة يس – آية (9) .

(44) تفسير البحر المحيط لأبي حيان الأندلسي ، ج9/ ص51 .

(45) تفسير القرآن العظيم لابن كثير ، ج6/ ص501 .

(46) سورة الماعون – الأيتان (1-2) .

(47) لباب التأويل في معاني التنزيل للخازن ، ج4/ ص478 .

(48) تفسير البحر المحيط لأبي حيان الأندلسي ، ج10/ ص552 .

وبالنظر في هاتين القراءتين ، نجد أنه يمكن أن نجمع بينهما باستخدام وجه الجمع الذي معنا ، فالنص القرآني يتحمل كلا القولين نظرًا لعدم تنافيهما ، إذ لا مانع من اجتماع هذين الوصفين ، فالإنسان الذي يُكذَّب بالدين ، هو الذي يقهر ويدفع اليتيم عن حقه بعنف وجفوة ، كما أنه في غاية البخل، لأنه يبخل بماله وبمال غيره لإطعامه ، فلا تناقض بين المعنيين .

وبعد ؛ فمن خلال هذه النماذج التطبيقية يتضح لنا أن مفسري القرن الثامن الهجري قد سلكوا سبيل الجمع بين أقوال المفسرين في الجمع المتعلق بالقراءات الشاذة مع القراءات المتواترة في تفاسيرهم على اختلاف أنواعها وألوانها ، لبيان أن الاختلاف الواقع بينها حقيقة إنما هو اختلاف تنوع وليس اختلاف تناقض وتضاد ، مما يصب في إثراء التفاسير بكثير من الأقوال التفسيرية التي يتحملها النص القرآني ، مما يؤكد لنا أن القرآن الكريم كتاب الله تعالى يتسع لكل ما هو حق إذا كان لا يتعارض مع مراد الله تبارك وتعالى .

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