

Memory, History, and Reality(ies) in *Le Palais des deux collines* by Karim Kattan

Mihaela Gabriela STĂNICĂ

Abstract. *Le Palais des deux collines* explores literary expression within a context shaped by colonial violence, territorial loss, and fragmented identity. Employing postcolonial theory, historicizing perspectives, and an archaeological approach to memory, this article examines the mechanisms of classification, museification, and exoticization that Karim Kattan employs to interrogate the relationship between intimate memory and collective history, as well as an aesthetic of reweaving. Amid ongoing social, cultural and identity-related tensions, literature restores a fragile coherence to a world fractured by History while resisting the subjection of Palestine to macrohistory, orientalist stereotypes, and normative discourses. Thus, we analyse how, through its polyphony and layered narrative structure, this novel reconfigures the relationship between Self and Other.

Keywords: Karim Kattan, Palestine, postcolonialism, memory studies, exoticization, museification, polyphony, identity taxonomies, Self-Other relations, stereotyped representations.