

The literary narrative of the OAS war in Messaoud Benyoucef's *Colline 3*: between forms and meanings of forms of a deadly event

Jean Boris TENFACK MELAGHO

Abstract. More than half a century ago, Algeria gained independence at the end of violent clashes, the consequences of which will have been disastrous in view of the significant number of losses of human lives and the numerous material damages that resulted. For the needs of sovereignty and autonomy long fought by the colonizing power, this country was tipping over into a highly deadly period in its history which, in turn, contributed to the emergence of a good Algerian novel production. From “the sociology of the text” by Peter V. Zima deployed in her *Sociocritical Textbook*, this article focuses on the OAS war – a major event in the Algerian War – to develop the narrative and syntactic mechanisms of her writing in Messaoud Benyoucef’s *Colline 3*. The reflection therefore examines the putting into words of this war by successively taking a look at its paratextual writing, the way in which it is arranged narratively and syntactically as well as the lexicon that serves as its expression within the fictional edifice. The analyses will immediately note that the aesthetic choices governing the literary representation of this tragic historical event correspond, in reality, to wishes of particular and contextual meanings.

Keywords: OAS, war, death, Algeria, History, narration, syntax, meaning.