Ibrahim M. Mansour

Prof. of Modern Arabic Lit.

Damietta University – Egypt

Email: Ibrahimansour@du.edu.eg

Poetry and war

The invasion of Iraq in the contemporary Arabic poetry (in Arabic)

<u>Abstract</u>

Arabic poetry has been always connected with war since the *pre-Islamic era* that's why Mohammed Ibn Salam (139 -231 A.H.) accounted for the accumulation of poetry in certain regions, that there were lots of wars among the tribes in those places.

The *Anglo American* war against *Iraq* and the occupation of *Baghdad* in 2003 has had such bad impact on *Arab* and *Muslims*, to be characterized in Iraqi poetry during the aggressive war and even before the Iraq siege, and when it became pretty clear that they had prearranged plans to invade Iraq.

Then, the *Iraqi Poets* as well as the *Arab* and *non-Arab Poets* set off describing the lies and faked stories transmitted by U.S.A. and U.K. to justify the invasion. Hence, the uprising of poets was just to disclose and condemn the invaders. The tragedy of war and its affliction has been illustrated in *Arabic poetry*.

When the confrontation between the American invaders and the Iraqi expanded for six years, there appeared elegies which elegized the Arab dignity and glory that was wasted in Iraqi land.

Keywords: War, Siege, Iraq, Oil, George W. Bush, Alienation, Elegy, Irony.

Published (in Arabic) in: Dirasat, Human and Social sciences, Vol.38, No 2, June 2011, University of Jordan.