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Golden Saudi Literary Figures: Aziz Thiya Readings in his Contributions (1)

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Abstract

Undoubtedly, the seamless continuity of literary generations stands as a remarkable achievement, a testament to the dedication and perseverance of the pioneers who laid the foundation for Saudi Arabia's literary and cultural renaissance. These trailblazers devoted immense effort, exercised unwavering patience, and made significant sacrifices to cultivate an intellectual and artistic environment in which future writers, poets, and scholars could thrive. "Saudi philosophers, scholars, writers, and critics [such as Aziz Thiya] are inspired by the magazines and newspapers, which revealed ways for books from abroad" (Dahami, 2022b). Their contributions are nothing short of monumental, and their legacy deserves to be immortalized—written in letters of light—as a tribute to their enduring influence. Not forgetting that Aziz Thiya is one of them.

However, the reverence owed to these literary pioneers does not place their works beyond the realm of constructive critique. The true vitality and longevity of creative works stem from rigorous literary analysis, open dialogue, and thoughtful criticism. Criticism, when approached with insight and scholarly depth, serves not as a tool for diminishing the value of an author's work but rather as a means of ensuring its continued relevance, evolution, and impact. It is through critical engagement that literature remains dynamic, adapting to new cultural, philosophical, and intellectual landscapes. This study, which seeks to explore Aziz Thiya's legacy as a literary figure, aspires to provide an opportunity for academics, researchers, and literary enthusiasts to examine his contributions through a scholarly lens. By delving into his works, themes, stylistic choices, and intellectual influence, this discussion aims to illuminate his role in shaping Saudi Arabia's literary heritage. Through the gateway of academic discourse, his impact can be better understood, contextualized, and appreciated, ensuring that his creative vision continues to inspire and guide future generations.

Keywords: Abdul Aziz Thiya Ad-Din Zahid Murad, Golden Figures, literary influence, Saudi literary pioneers, Saudi literature

1. Introduction

Aziz Thiya is a prominent Saudi literary figure who greatly contributed to Saudi literature. His full name is Abdul Aziz Thiya Ad-Din Zahid Murad. He is a writer, a poet, a novelist, a translator, and a critic. He was a proficient writer, a discerning critic, and a well-versed scholar of the humanities and sciences. Not only that, but he was one of the prominent writers in Al-Hijaz who combined poetry with prose fiction and literary articles. "Through poetic images, critics [and poets] might say that the homeland is a treasure that cannot be valued" (Dahami, 2022c). Thiya translated numerous literary works from English into Arabic, sang of his homeland, and expressed his hopes and aspirations in prose passages resembling modern poetry. He developed a romantic tendency in his poetry.

Aziz Thiya was born in Al-Madinah (January 22, 1914). He received his early education at Al-Kuttab of Sheikh Muhammad ibn Salem. Then moved to the prestigious Hashemite School. Among his teachers, to whom he owes a great debt of gratitude, were teachers Sayyid Husein Taha, Sayyid Muhammad Saqr, Sayyid Ahmad Saqr, and Sayyid Majid Eshqi. See more at (Al-Ithnainiya Library, n.d.). Furthermore, Abdul Maqsood Mohammad Saeed Khojah, publisher of Aziz Thiya's works, describes Thiya, saying, Among these pioneers is our great professor Abdul Aziz Thiya Zahid Murad, who is known both literary and socially as Aziz Thiya. He is from the generation of creative giants who formed the first generation of men of the literary renaissance in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (Khojah, 2005). Furthermore, Aziz Thiya is one of the most prominent Saudi writers and authors. He is widely active in the fields of journalistic and literary writing, translation, and especially short stories. His prolific output is published in most Saudi newspapers and magazines (Zaid, 2003, p. 182; 1989, p. 65).

Almost in 1446, the General Health Directorate announced a job opening for a "document clerk," so he traveled to Mecca and applied for the position. They held a test for applicants, and he was the top candidate. He was appointed to the position. While working as a paper cutter at the Public Health Directorate, he practiced his typing, reaching a speed of over 50 words per minute. He entered a typing competition held by the Public Health Directorate and attended by His Majesty the King's Deputy, His Royal Highness Prince Faisal ibn Abdulaziz Al Saud. Thiya won first place in the competition and was rewarded by His Highness the Prince with three pounds, a Zenith watch, and a bicycle.

He was born in Al-Madinah and received his education at the Advanced Hashimite School (Al Madrasa Al-Hashimiyyah Ar-Ragqiyah). He then enrolled at the School of Sanitation and, later, at the American University of Beirut. He worked at the Najah School in Al-Madinah, then in various government positions. He issued the newspaper Okath in the city of Jeddah in 1960 and headed its editorial staff. He then became editor-in-chief of the newspaper Al-Madinah Al Munawwarah. He was a founding member of the Cultural Literary Club in the city of Jeddah. His works include a collection of stories, Mamma Zubaida 1984; The Stories of Somerset Maugham, translated into Arabic (1981); other translations: The Age of Youth in the Desert ('ahd al-siba fi 'l-badiya), 1980; and Stories from Taghur (qisas min Taghur), 1983; and Hamza Shibata, a Peak that Was Known but Not Discovered, 1977 (Al-Hāzimī et al., 2006, p. 520; Al-Faisal, 1998, p. 114; Ibn Salim, 1992, p. 203).

Critic Nabeel N'aoum, describing Thiya Aziz's artistic efforts, says, He is the world; he is the world. He is the art that gathers all the vocabulary in his net. Therefore, it is Thiya Aziz's net, filled with vocabulary, that will lead us closer to this complex world filled with themes, sensations, and ideas. Lead us to the tangible world that resembles the real world but in fact reflects it without imitating it and creates it without mimicking it. It is an unprecedented world, crafted by the artist with skill, mastering the basic tools of creation, such as color and light, and knowing the details of bodies, whether human, animal, or plant. Aziz Thiya's insight tends toward embodying the imagination more than reconstructing similarities. Here, the artist's true desire shifts, not to freeze the forms on the surface of the painting, but to free them to cross the barriers of time that has been or that is to come (Mulit, 2022). In addition, Aziz Thiya believes that a creative artist doesn't need to pursue international recognition, because his art and creativity will attract international recognition (Al-Attam Magazine, n.d.).

2. Objectives of the Study

The study might deal with several points such as, analyzing the literary and intellectual contributions of Aziz Thiya to Saudi literature. This objective aims to shed light on Thiya's body of work, including his novels, poetry, essays, and translations. It focuses on giving flashes on the key themes, and styles present in his writing. Additionally, this analysis looks at how his contributions have influenced Saudi literature and other writers, establishing his significance within the literary principle of the kingdom. Another objective is to examine the thematic and stylistic elements present in Thiya's works, including his use of romanticism and his engagement with philosophy. This objective seeks to explore the specific themes Thiya often addressed in his writing, such as identity, belonging, and the human experience. The study will delve into his stylistic choices, including his use of poetic language and romantic imagery, to understand how these elements enhance the emotional and philosophical depth of his works. By connecting his writing to existential philosophy, the study will highlight how Thiya grappled with questions of existence, purpose, and the human condition.

The third objective is to assess Thiya's impact as a translator, exploring how his translations facilitated cultural exchange and enriched Arabic literature. In this objective, the focus will be on Thiya's role as a translator of important literary works from English to Arabic. The study will evaluate the significance of these translations in introducing diverse literary voices and ideas to Arabic-speaking audiences. It will also explore how Thiya's translations contributed to a broader cultural exchange, helping to shape modern Arabic literature and providing insights into the interplay between Western and Arabic literary traditions.

The next objective is attempting to highlight the significance of literary club and institutions in promoting Thiya's legacy and nurturing future generations of writers and intellectuals in Saudi Arabia. This objective aims to examine the literary clubs that Thiya helped establish and their role in the literary community. The study will investigate how these clubs served as platforms for writers to share their work, engage in critical discussions, and foster creativity. By focusing on the impact of these institutions, the research will shed light on how they have contributed to the development of Saudi literature and the cultivation of new literary talent, ensuring that Thiya's influence continues to resonate.

3. Methodology of the Study

As a literary approach, the study applies an examination of the historical and cultural context surrounding Aziz Thiya's literary career. This includes analyzing the social landscape of Saudi Arabia during the early to mid-20th century, the establishment of literary institutions, and the emergence of new literary movements. In addition to utilizing primary sources such as letters, interviews, and unpublished manuscripts related to Thiya might provide insights into his literary experiences, motivations, and the intellectual environment of his time. Furthermore, the study examines several content analysis of media Contributions and systematic analysis of Thiya's contributions to newspapers, magazines, radio, and television is followed to assess his role in shaping literary criticism in Saudi Arabia. In addition to evaluating the reach and influence of Thiya's work across various media platforms will provide insights into how his literary contributions transcended the written word.

There might be a thematic analysis of literary clubs owing to his notions of the importance of literary clubs in the literary movement of Saudi literature and culture underlining the contribution of Thiya in establishing them. The analysis focus on club activities, and the impact on local literary culture. This methodology aims to provide a general understanding of Aziz Thiya's contributions and legacy, adopting a deeper appreciation for his role in Saudi Arabia's literary and cultural renaissance. By employing critical-analytical research techniques, this study not only honors Thiya's memory but also encourages critical engagement with his works among future scholars and literary enthusiasts.

4. Results and Analysis

4.1. Media Contributions

Aziz Thiya's passion for writing began when he was a paper-clerk at the Public Health Directorate. He was one of the first to write for the Sawt Al-Hijaz newspaper when it first appeared. After a period, he devoted himself to writing, composing, and translating. He wrote for the radio as a daily political commentator for more than fifteen years, and has written for the press since the publication of Sawt Al-Hijaz. Aziz Thiya's literature is based on prose, specifically essays in all their forms: literary, political, social, economic, and other forms of writing, which he excelled in. Aziz Thiya practiced narrative in all its branches (story, novel, play, biography, children's literature, and screenwriting). In each of these forms, he excelled and earned the trust of his readers. You can view his article output to witness his early presence in Saudi journalism. He wrote for the newspapers Umm Al-Gura, Sawt Al-Hijaz, Al-Bilad Al-Saudi, Al-Madinah, Okath, Al-Riyadh, Al-Manhal, Iqra, Al-Yamamah, and others (Bawazir, 2023).

Several Saudi journals and newspapers contributed to widening the writing circle to broaden the kingdom's literary movement. Al-Manhal magazine, Umm Al-Gura newspaper, The Voice of (Sawt) Al-Hejaz, Al-Madinah Al-Munawarah were some of the early journals that were launched with the commencement of the new vigorous reign called Saudi Arabia to publish different articles, critical essays, stories, poems, contemplative thoughts and literary reports (Dahami, 2020). Aziz Thiya has taken part and contributed his literary skill and creative talent to the majority of such Saudi journals, newspapers, and magazines.

Aziz Thiya contributed to television writing, presenting numerous programs and writing several television series. Al-G'ashami, Mohammad declares that Thiya devoted himself to writing,

authoring, and translating. He wrote for radio and television and was the first to publish the weekly newspaper Okath (Al-G'ashami, 2018; Husein, 1994, pp. 343-344). He also practiced journalism in other fields. Likewise, he was editor-in-chief of Al-Madinah Al-Munawwarah newspaper, successfully turning it into a daily newspaper with no weekly break, until he was removed from the position after three months. Furthermore, he then published Okath newspaper, whose owner was Ahmed Abdul Ghafoor 'Attar. Furthermore, he then headed its editorship for a period before being removed from the editorship.

Aziz Thiya also contributed to a project to revitalize Saudi Arabian Radio in 1971, at the request of Ibrahim Al-Angari, the Minister of Information at the time. The project consists of nine articles, including presenting political programs on Zionist plots against the Islamic world, with the aim of spreading Islamic and administrative awareness. It also includes providing entertainment programs, disseminating Islamic culture, calling for Islamic solidarity, and highlighting the element of constant support for Islamic peoples in their rights. This is in addition to contributing daily and weekly articles to a number of newspapers and magazines, such as Al-Riyadh, Al-Madinah, Okath, Al-Bilad, and Al-Nadwa. Similar articles also appear in the magazines Iqra, Al-Yamamah, Al-Haras Al-Watani, and Al-Jeel. "All such cultural and educational elements significantly contributed to Saudi literature's revival" (Dahami, 2021).

The writer Aziz Thiya has given numerous lectures on literature, politics, education, and the media. He has also written for newspapers, radio, and television and compiled selections of what has been published in newspapers and magazines. Consequently, describing him as a literary giant here is not limited to his being a distinguished novelist. He deserves the title doubly, as he is a skilled journalist, a creative artist, and a professional broadcaster. His radio taste extends from recitation to directing, selecting world music and spending it like precious bullion. He also writes variety shows commentaries under his real name or pseudonym (Al-Shabili, 2019).

4.2. Literature Contributions

Aziz Thiya is widely regarded as one of the towering figures of creativity who played a foundational role in shaping the literary and intellectual landscape of Saudi Arabia. As a pioneering member of the first generation of men who spearheaded the literary renaissance in the kingdom, he made significant contributions to the development of modern Saudi literature, influencing both his contemporaries and the generations that followed. Such "development continues to reach a symbolic signification that bears the concept of the desire to belong. The evolution continued to move from the specific to the general and from the individual to the group through the fusion of feelings and the succession of experiences imposed by the factors of history and the development of life" (Dahami, 2024). Therefore, through his profound writings, insightful critiques, and dedication to the promotion of literature and culture, Thiya helped lay the groundwork for a flourishing literary movement that continues to inspire writers and thinkers today.

Moreover, "as the foundation and source of civilization, knowledge, and wisdom, the kingdom took great care of its people. 'Several papers opened their gates to intellectuals and writers to contribute to the literary movement's progress. Many writers, critics, and literary figures availed [themselves] of such an excellent opportunity to bring inert notions into the public'"

(Dahami, 2022a; 2020). Such benefits were like the torch for Aziz Thiya, guiding him to contribute to the progress and development of Saudi literature and cultural heritage. Aziz Thiya is one of the pioneers of the renaissance of literature, thought, poetry, and prose in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. By the end of his life's journey, his work made him one of the most prominent Arab writers to have worked in translation throughout the Arab world. He has translated nearly thirty literary works by the world's greatest and most brilliant writers (Mann'a, 2005).

In his youth, Aziz Thiya emerged as a multifaceted literary figure, distinguishing himself as a storyteller, critic, and writer who actively contributed to the intellectual and cultural discourse of his time. His early works found a platform in prominent newspapers and literary journals, where he engaged with themes of literature and criticism, publishing extensively in esteemed periodicals such as *Umm Al-Gura* and *Sawt Al-Hijaz*. These publications served as significant arenas for literary expression and debate, allowing Thiya to cultivate his voice and establish himself as a formidable presence within the burgeoning literary movement of the Kingdom.

Thiya's prose is deeply infused with the hallmarks of romantic literature, a defining characteristic of his era. Like many of his contemporaries, he was drawn to the poetic and philosophical underpinnings of romanticism, designing evocative and emotionally charged narratives. His scattered poetry bears the imprint of this literary movement, and he, along with his peers, found inspiration in the pioneering works of influential Arab literary figures such as Amin Ar-Rihani. Through his writings, Thiya wove themes of longing, existential contemplation, and the pursuit of artistic and intellectual freedom, positioning himself within the broader literary currents that shaped the Arab world during the early 20th century.

A literary craftsman in every sense, Thiya excelled across multiple domains—whether in original creative writing, rigorous literary criticism, or the art of Arabization. His intellectual pursuits extended beyond storytelling, as he played a pivotal role in translating and adapting global literary works into Arabic, enriching the cultural fabric of Saudi Arabia with diverse perspectives. His literary biography is distinguished by its remarkable breadth, spanning various fields of literary expression. As a pioneering writer, he demonstrated an exceptional ability to engage with multiple genres, and as a translator, he introduced Arabic readers to a vast array of philosophical and artistic traditions. Over the course of his career, he translated more than 30 works in the realms of both the novel and theatre, significantly contributing to the cross-cultural exchange of ideas.

Beyond his literary achievements, Aziz Thiya was also a profound thinker who engaged with existentialist philosophy, a perspective that permeated his works and intellectual reflections. He was deeply influenced by the currents of migration, renewal, and modernist thought, which played a crucial role in shaping his worldview. His engagement with these intellectual movements allowed him to construct narratives that not only reflected the cultural and historical shifts of his time but also posed profound questions about identity, existence, and human experience.

Aziz Thiya's legacy, therefore, is one of intellectual versatility and creative innovation. His contributions to literature, criticism, and translation solidify his place among the foremost literary figures of Saudi Arabia, and his works continue to inspire scholars, writers, and readers alike. He contributed to presenting various programs

and drama series on Radio Jeddah. He was one of the first to translate English literary works into Arabic in the Kingdom, and he benefited from his studies at the American University in Beirut, translating international fiction and theatrical works by elite writers such as Tagore, Oscar Wilde, Somerset Maugham, Tolstoy, George Orwell, and Bernard Shaw. Some of these works were printed and published by Tihama Foundation, while others were published on the pages of newspapers and magazines.

Aziz Thiya played a pivotal role in shaping the modern cultural and literary landscape of Saudi Arabia. His deep passion for literature, arts, and intellectual discourse positioned him as a leading figure in the Kingdom's literary renaissance during the mid-20th century. Recognizing the need for institutional support to cultivate and sustain the country's literary and artistic movements, Thiya was appointed as a member of the Saudi Supreme Council for Culture, Arts, and Literature when it was first established in the mid-1970s. This council, formed as part of broader national efforts to promote cultural development, sought to provide structure and encouragement for writers, poets, and artists, ensuring that creative expression flourished within a rapidly modernizing Saudi society.

Since the establishment of literary clubs in 1975, these institutions have played a pivotal role in shaping and enriching the cultural landscape for over four decades. Their impact has been deeply intertwined with national and nationalist objectives, as they have consistently worked toward strengthening cultural identity and fostering intellectual growth. Through an array of literary and cultural activities, these clubs have significantly influenced the cultural scene, leaving a lasting imprint on the intellectual and artistic community.

By organizing literary events, discussion forums, and artistic exhibitions, these clubs have provided a dynamic space for dialogue and creativity. They have been instrumental in shaping public discourse, stimulating cultural awareness, and nurturing a generation of writers, poets, and thinkers. Through their dedicated efforts, they have contributed to the crystallization of cultural consciousness, encouraging critical thinking and intellectual exchange. Moreover, these clubs have played an essential role in promoting and supporting literary production. They have offered platforms for emerging and established writers to share their works, receive recognition, and engage with audiences. By organizing book launches, poetry readings, and literary competitions, they have cultivated an environment where literature thrives and creativity is celebrated.

In addition to their support for individual creators, these clubs have actively contributed to broader cultural development initiatives. They have collaborated with educational institutions, cultural organizations, and governmental bodies to enhance literary engagement and encourage the appreciation of literature and the arts. Their efforts have not only enriched the literary scene but also reinforced the cultural identity of the kingdom, aligning with national objectives of preserving heritage and fostering intellectual progress. These literary clubs stand as true indicators of cultural and literary growth. Their contributions can be measured not only by their achievements in supporting writers and artists but also by their role in advancing a broader renaissance project that serves both the national cultural heritage and the wider Arab cultural sphere. By championing literature and the arts, these clubs continue to serve as beacons of knowledge, creativity, and cultural enrichment, playing an indispensable role in the intellectual and artistic evolution of the kingdom.

One of Thiya's most significant contributions during his tenure on the council was his advocacy for the establishment of literary clubs across the Kingdom. The literary figure Aziz Thiya proposed the idea of establishing literary clubs, which was immediately approved, and their number became 16 clubs in a quick time in the life of the nation. See more at (Al-Qahtani, 2024; Al-Ittihad, 2018; Al-Qahtani, 2001). He was among the pioneering intellectuals who recognized the urgent need for dedicated spaces where writers, scholars, and literary enthusiasts could come together to exchange ideas, analyze works, and engage in intellectual discussions. His vision was to create platforms that would preserve and evolve Arabic literary traditions while simultaneously embracing new literary forms and global influences. This vision materialized with the creation of Saudi Arabia's first official literary clubs, which have since played a crucial role in fostering a vibrant literary culture.

Among these clubs, the Jeddah Literary Club holds particular significance, as it was one of the earliest and most influential. In 1975, Aziz Thiya collaborated with the esteemed writer and intellectual Muhammad Hassan Awwad to establish this club, providing a much-needed forum for literary dialogue and artistic expression in Jeddah, a city long known for its cultural and intellectual dynamism. Their efforts marked a turning point in the history of Saudi literature, offering a structured, institutional space for literary production, critique, and engagement.

Thiya's contributions to the Jeddah Literary Club extended beyond its founding; he was actively involved in shaping its direction and leadership. In the club's first board of directors' elections, he was elected as its vice president, a testament to the respect and recognition he commanded among his peers. As vice president, he played a crucial role in setting the club's agenda, organizing events, and fostering collaborations with writers and intellectuals across the Arab world. Under his leadership, the club became a beacon of literary thought, hosting discussions, poetry readings, book launches, and academic panels that enriched the literary scene in Saudi Arabia.

Beyond his administrative and leadership roles, Aziz Thiya was a prolific speaker and cultural advocate, contributing to literary and intellectual discourse in and outside the club. He delivered numerous lectures and talks on literature, media, and social issues, addressing a wide range of topics that resonated with both scholars and the public. His influence was not confined to Jeddah; he actively engaged with academic institutions, cultural organizations, and literary festivals across the Kingdom, reinforcing his status as a key intellectual force. Through his lectures and writings, he sought to bridge the gap between traditional Arabic literary heritage and modern global literary currents, advocating for a literary culture that embraced both authenticity and progress.

Among what he has published, is *Bridges to the Summit*. This book was built by the author to allow the reader to cross over to the summits and lofty figures of men of science, literature and art from different eras. These figures are men from the East and the West. They are men from everywhere, about their lives and achievements that contributed to building human civilization. It is a concise encyclopedia of some famous scientists, writers, artists, and artistic and literary schools, eliminating the need to search through its scattered sources, which may be difficult for the average reader to track down (Ibn Salim, 1999, p. 13; Ibn Salim, 1992, p. 203).

Aziz Thiya's legacy as a visionary literary figure and institution builder continues to shape Saudi Arabia's literary and cultural landscape today. His contributions to the Saudi Supreme Council for Culture, Arts, and Literature, his role in establishing literary clubs, and his intellectual endeavors as a writer, critic, and speaker cement his place as a foundational figure in the Kingdom's literary history. His work not only paved the way for future generations of writers and scholars but also ensured that literary and intellectual pursuits remained integral to the fabric of Saudi society. The establishment of literary clubs in Saudi Arabia, championed by pioneers like Aziz Thiya, has had a profound and lasting impact on younger generations of writers, poets, critics, and intellectuals. These clubs became more than just venues for literary discussion; they evolved into catalysts for cultural development, creative expression, and intellectual empowerment.

For young writers and aspiring intellectuals, the Saudi literary clubs provided a welcoming space to nurture their talent. Many budding authors, poets, and journalists found their first opportunities to present their work within the supportive environment of these clubs. Through poetry readings, literary debates, and creative writing workshops, young voices were amplified, encouraged, and refined. These clubs also democratized literary participation, allowing young talents to interact with established authors and critics, such as Aziz Thiya himself. Mentorship flourished, as senior writers provided guidance and constructive criticism, helping young creatives sharpen their skills, refine their storytelling techniques, and develop their literary perspectives. Thiya was an amateur short story writer and is considered a pioneer in the art of the short story in Saudi Arabia. His story "The Disobedient Son" was the first artistic short story in Saudi Arabia and was published in the newspaper *Sawt Al-Hijaz* in 1932. His knowledge of English literature also contributed to his approach, which differed from that of most critical writings in the Saudi press (Darat Almalik Abdulaziz, 2013; Saudipedia, n.d.).

One of the most significant contributions of literary clubs has been their role in fostering critical thinking and intellectual discourse. Through organized board discussions, book reviews, and literary critiques, younger generations were encouraged to engage with literature beyond passive reading. By analyzing classical and contemporary works, debating literary styles, and exploring philosophical and social themes in literature, young members were challenged to think deeply, form independent opinions, and articulate their thoughts effectively. This process not only strengthened their literary acumen but also instilled a culture of open dialogue and intellectual curiosity, which extended beyond the clubs into society.

The literary renaissance that Thiya and his contemporaries helped shape introduced young writers to both traditional Arabic literary heritage and modern literary trends. Literary clubs played a crucial role in balancing respect for classical Arabic literature with openness to global influences, allowing younger generations to engage with works from the Arab world, the West, and beyond. As a result, many young Saudi writers were inspired to experiment with new literary forms, genres, and narrative techniques, leading to a more diverse and innovative literary scene. From historical novels that reimagined Saudi Arabia's past to modern poetry infused with existential and philosophical themes, literary clubs became incubators for literary evolution.

For many aspiring authors, literary clubs served as stepping-stones to wider recognition. By highlighting their work within these

communities, young writers often caught the attention of publishers, literary critics, and media outlets. Several notable contemporary Saudi authors had their literary careers launched through connections and exposure gained in literary clubs. These clubs also played a vital role in preserving and documenting emerging literary movements, archiving discussions, essays, and creative works that would later be recognized as integral to Saudi Arabia's literary heritage. Over time, literary clubs expanded their scope, fostering collaborations with international literary circles, universities, and cultural organizations. Writers were exposed to a global literary network, attending literary festivals, exchange programs, and cross-cultural dialogues, broadening their perspectives on storytelling and artistic expression.

The literary clubs that Aziz Thiya helped establish have left a profound and enduring legacy. They have not only nurtured generations of writers and critics but have also played a role in shaping Saudi Arabia's literary and intellectual identity. Through these clubs, literature continues to serve as a bridge between the past and the future, between tradition and innovation, and between local voices and global narratives. Even today, the influence of these clubs remains strong, as they continue to inspire, educate, and empower new waves of literary talent, ensuring that the spirit of creativity and intellectual exploration remains alive in Saudi Arabia.

5. Recommendations

Whatever a study is great, still in need of further studies to enrich its scope and widen its knowledge that add to the welfare of the society. The study recommends several suggestions for Further Studies such as conducting comparative studies of Aziz Thiya's works with those of other contemporary Saudi writers to contextualize his literary influence. This recommendation suggests that researchers should analyze Thiya's writings alongside those of his contemporaries to better understand his unique contributions and influence. By comparing themes, styles, and literary techniques, scholars can uncover how Thiya's work intersects with or diverges from that of other writers in the same era. This comparison can help highlight the literary landscape of Saudi Arabia during Thiya's time and illustrate the dynamics of influence among writers. Another suggestion is exploring the reception of Thiya's translations in the Arab world and their impact on the perception of Western literature within Arabic-speaking communities. It might encourage researchers to investigate how Thiya's translations were received by Arabic-speaking audiences. Analyzing reviews, critiques, and reader responses can provide insights into the cultural impact of his translations. It would be valuable to examine how his work helped shape perceptions of Western literature and ideas, and whether it contributed to a broader understanding and appreciation of diverse literary traditions within Arabic-speaking societies.

The third recommendation is an attempt to investigate the role of the literary club established by Thiya and his contemporaries in fostering critical thought and creative expression among young writers in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This recommendation focuses on examining the literary clubs that Thiya helped establish and their significance in the literary community. Researchers could analyze how these clubs provided mentorship, networking opportunities, and platforms for young writers to present their work. By investigating the activities, discussions, and events held within these clubs, scholars could assess their contributions to the development of a vibrant literary culture and their role in nurturing

the next generation of Saudi writers. A next suggestion shall try examining the intersection of Thiya's literary works with broader social-political-cultural themes within the context of mid-20th century Saudi Arabia. This recommendation invites researchers to explore how Thiya's writings reflect and engage with the social landscape of Saudi Arabia during the mid-20th century. By analyzing his works in relation to historical events, cultural shifts, and socio-political movements, scholars can uncover how his literature responded to and influenced contemporary issues. This examination can lead to a deeper understanding of the ways literature can serve as a commentary on societal change. Such recommendations aim to inspire further exploration and scholarship surrounding Aziz Thiya's contributions, ensuring that his legacy continues to be engaged with and appreciated in diverse academic and cultural contexts.

6. Conclusion

The enduring legacy of Aziz Thiya serves as a profound testament to the intricate and multifaceted nature of Saudi literature, underscoring the essential role that creative expression plays in shaping and enriching cultural development. His vast and diverse contributions—as a writer, translator, and passionate cultural advocate—have left an indelible mark on the literary landscape of Saudi Arabia, fostering a thriving intellectual environment and laying a solid foundation for future generations of writers, scholars, and literary enthusiasts. Through an in-depth and critical engagement with Thiya's works, the study not only affirms the enduring significance of his literary achievements but also highlights the dynamic and ever-evolving nature of literature as a powerful medium of cultural dialogue and intellectual discourse. His writings, characterized by their depth, linguistic richness, and cultural resonance, continue to inspire critical thought, artistic innovation, and scholarly inquiry, reinforcing their relevance across different eras and literary movements. Furthermore, the continued exploration and scholarly examination of Thiya's contributions will not only serve to honor and preserve his remarkable legacy but will also play a crucial role in ensuring that the values he championed—creativity, intellectual curiosity, and the pursuit of knowledge—remain integral to the Kingdom's literary and cultural heritage. By fostering ongoing discussions about his works and their impact, scholars and literary enthusiasts alike can contribute to the enduring vitality of Saudi literature, ensuring that Thiya's influence extends far beyond his time and continues to shape the cultural and intellectual fabric of the nation.

Aziz Thiya's contributions to Saudi literature and culture represent a rich tapestry woven from his passion for writing, critical engagement, and commitment to fostering literary discourse. As a pioneering figure in the literary renaissance of Saudi Arabia, Thiya's works not only reflect the complexities of his era but also serve as a bridge connecting past traditions with contemporary narratives. His enduring legacy continues to inspire scholars, writers, and readers, ensuring that his vision of a vibrant literary culture remains a vital part of Saudi Arabia's intellectual landscape. By encouraging further exploration of his contributions, the study aims to honor Thiya's role as a foundational figure in the evolution of Saudi literature and to advocate for the continued relevance of his works in academic and cultural discussions.

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