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**THE ANALYSIS OF THE NAGUIB MAHFOUZ'
INTELLECTUAL WORKS ON THE EXAMPLE OF THE NOVELS
«THE THIEF AND THE DOG» AND «THE SEARCH»**

Last decades, the number of literary studies related to the deep analysis of works of literature has significantly increased. It is known that Naguib Mahfouz novel series of the 60s initiated a major restructuring of the entire aesthetic system of Arabic prose. Many author's stylistic and poetic innovations have been reflected in the works of novelists of a younger generation in different ways. The first novelistic experiments of so-called new wave of authors appeared in 60s. Thus, the mentioned above cycle deserves a special attention.

The detailed analysis of the novels "The Thief and the Dogs" (1961) and "The Search" (1964) shows how a new socio-historical situation formed in Egypt affects the nature and the development of problems which were traditional in Mahfouz's works. Such socio-historical situation results in significant changes in his novelistic poetics and causes reorientation of the relations with the western literary tradition.

Setting the research task to make a comprehensive study of two novels "The Thief and the Dogs" and "The Search" we consider a well-known opinion of N.N. Bakhtin that the author's outlook on the history of literature exists only as a principle of particular literary structure and it is the only form it can be objectively investigated on the basis of empirical material of definite literary works.

The main role of the research is to identify the characteristics of the intellectual Naguib Mahfouz' novel which are related to the stable, traditional elements of his worldview and artistic thinking, as well as to the new elements that led to the creation of a completely different, compared to the previous one, type of the novel. "The Thief and the Dogs" and "The Search", which, respectively, are the first and the third novels of the Mahfouz' intellectual cycle, were selected as the subject of research based on the fact that they are the key to the relationship problems of "Man and Society", and "Man and the Absolute". In addition, both novels are characterized by multiplicity of meanings, which have caused different and conflicting critical interpretations of these works by researchers.

The research implies that the analysis of these novels should begin with a review of previous works of Naguib Mahfouz in terms of basic ideological and metaphysical problems, which were both the focus of the writer's artistic thought at different times, and the methods of artistic expression.

A sufficient number of papers, books and articles, which studied Mahfouz' works didn't perform a comparative analysis of writer's works of intellectual and earlier periods. This is why, the research is determined by the scientific novelty.