



1 of 1

Download
 Print
 Save to PDF
 Add to List
 Create bibliography

Critique - Studies in Contemporary Fiction • Volume 65, Issue 3, Pages 463 - 474 • 2024

Document type

Article

Source type

Journal

ISSN

00111619

DOI

10.1080/00111619.2023.2199914

View more

African and Islamic: Doris Lessing's Notion of Writerly Commitment in "The Small Personal Voice"

Hasan, Md. Mahmudul

Save all to author list

^a Department of English Language and Literature, International Islamic University Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Full text options Export

Abstract

Author keywords

SciVal Topics

Metrics

Abstract

Doris Lessing celebrates the realist, committed novel and laments its absence in much of modern literature. Her theory of literature emanates from an understanding of good and evil and has an instructive function. Accordingly, she admires nineteenth-century realist novelists and commends their efforts to document and question unjust social practices. Based on Lessing's literary credo titled "The Small Personal Voice," in this paper I shall explicate her notion of literary commitment and regard it as a counter to literary aestheticism, relating her idea of committedness to her African past and evaluating her theory of art articulated in the essay from the Islamic viewpoint. © 2023 Taylor & Francis Group, LLC.

Author keywords

Asia; feminist literary theory; feminist themes; postcolonial

Cited by 0 documents

Inform me when this document is cited in Scopus:

[Set citation alert >](#)

Related documents

Doris Lessing's Under My Skin: The Autobiography of a Cosmopolitan 'Third Culture Kid'

Ridout, A.
(2009) *Doris Lessing: Border Crossings*

Bound to matter: The father's pen and mother tongues

Ward, C.
(2005) *The Politics of (M)Othering: Womanhood, Identity and Resistance in African Literature*

Research and Publication: A Muslim Perspective

Hasan, Md.M.
(2021) *Asiatic*

View all related documents based on references

Find more related documents in Scopus based on:

Author > Keywords >



References (49)

[View in search results format >](#) All[Export](#) [Print](#) [E-mail](#) [Save to PDF](#) [Create bibliography](#)

-
- 1 Abubakar, M.A.
Sayyid Qutb's Interpretation of the Islam[i]c View of Literature
(1984) *Islamic Studies*, 23 (2), pp. 57-65. Cited 3 times.
-
- 2 Achebe, C.
The Black Writer's Burden
(1966) *Presence Africaine (Eng Ed)*, 31 (59), pp. 135-140. Cited 6 times.
-
- 3 Thoughts on the African Novel
(1974) *The Dalhousie Review*, pp. 631-637. Cited 4 times.
-
- 4 Ahura, T.
The Playwright, the Play and the Revolutionary African Aesthetics
(1985) *Ufahamu: A Journal of African Studies*, 14 (3), pp. 93-103. Cited 2 times.
-
- 5 Ashraf, S.A.
Islamic Principles and Methods in the Teaching of Literature

(1978) *British Journal of Religious Education*, 1 (2), pp. 52-61. Cited 3 times.
doi: 10.1080/0141620780010204

[View at Publisher](#)
-
- 6 Literary Education and Religious Values: The Islamic Approach
(1984) *Muslim Education Quarterly*, 1 (4), pp. 3-11. Cited 2 times.
-
- 7 Asad, M.
(1984) *The Message of the Qur'an*. Cited 430 times.
Dar al-Andalus
-
- 8 Badawi, M.
Islamic Literature Between Theory and Practice
(1993) *Intellectual Discourse*, 1 (1), pp. 46-69. Cited 2 times.
-

- 9 Bazin, V.
Commodifying the past: Doris Lessing's The Golden Notebook as nostalgic narrative

(2008) *Journal of Commonwealth Literature*, 43 (2), pp. 117-131. Cited 6 times.
<https://journals.sagepub.com/home/JCL>
doi: 10.1177/0021989408091235

View at Publisher
-
- 10 Bell-Villada, G.H.
(1996) *Art for Art's Sake & Literary Life: How Politics and Markets Helped Shape the Ideology & Culture of Aestheticism, 1790-1990*, 5.
U of Nebraska Press
-
- 11 Bertelsen, E.
Doris Lessing

(1986) *The Journal of Commonwealth Literature*, 21 (1), pp. 134-161. Cited 2 times.
doi: 10.1177/002198948602100117

View at Publisher
-
- 12 Review of Doris Lessing by Mona Knapp
Research in African Literatures
19:2 (1988): 261–264
-
- 13 Burns, M.C.
(2005) *The influence of Eliot's modernism in two early novels and autobiographies of Doris Lessing*
PhD thesis, Florida Atlantic University
-
- 14 Casement, W.
Literature and Didacticism: Examining Some Popularly Held Ideas
(1987) *The Journal of Aesthetic Education*, 21 (1), pp. 101-111. Cited 4 times.
-
- 15 Chinweizu, J.O., Madubuike, I.
(1983) *Toward the Decolonization of African Literature*. Cited 294 times.
Howard University Press
-
- 16 De Mul, S.
Doris lessing, feminism and the representation of Zimbabwe

(2009) *European Journal of Women's Studies*, 16 (1), pp. 33-51. Cited 6 times.
doi: 10.1177/1350506808098533

View at Publisher
-

-
- 17 Dooley, G.
The post-war novel in crisis: Three perspectives

(2005) *AUMLA-Journal of the Australasian Universities Language and Literature Association*, 104, pp. 91-105.
<http://aumla.aulla.com.au/pages/current-issue.php>
doi: 10.1179/000127905805260447

View at Publisher
-
- 18 Egudu, R.N.
African Literature and Social Problems
(1975) *Canadian Journal of African Studies/La Revue canadienne des études africaines*, 9 (3), pp. 421-447. Cited 2 times.
-
- 19 Farrell, J.
What is authorial intention?

(2021) *Philosophy and Literature*, 45 (1), pp. 55-70.
<https://muse.jhu.edu/article/796829/pdf>
doi: 10.1353/phl.2021.0004

View at Publisher
-
- 20 Feigel, L.
Doris Lessing's MI5 File: Was She a Threat to the State?
The Guardian
13Nov. 2015
<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2015/nov/13/doris-lessings-mi5-file-threat-state>
-
- 21 Frye, N.
(1990) *Anatomy of Criticism*. Cited 3520 times.
Princeton University Press
-
- 22 Gardam, J.
Angels and Daemons: The Anatomy of a Novel
(1993) *The Agony and the Ego: The Art and Strategy of Fiction Writing Explored*, pp. 7-19. Cited 2 times.
Boylan C., (ed), Penguin, edited by
-
- 23 Ghafsi, A.
Dickens in Arabia: The influence of dickens on Algerian literature and culture

(2019) *Dickensian*, Part 3 115, pp. 236-245.
<http://www.dickensfellowship.org/dickensian>
-

-
- 24 Gindin, J.
Doris Lessing's Intense Commitment
(2003) *Doris Lessing*, pp. 9-26. Cited 3 times.
Bloom H., (ed), Chelsea House, edited by
-
- 25 Haas, J.
Doris Lessing: Chronicler of the Cataclysm
Chicago Daily News, p. 5.
14Jun. 1969
-
- 26 Hasan, M.M.
The Islamization of English Literary Studies: A Postcolonial Approach
(2013) *The American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences*, 30 (2), pp. 21-41. Cited 2 times.
-
- 27 Discovering Doris Lessing: Convergences between Islam and Her Thoughts
The American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences
33, 2, 2016, 25-48
-
- 28 Hazelton, L.H.
Doris Lessing on Feminism, Communism, and 'Space Fiction'
New York Times. Cited 2 times.
25July. 1982
https://archive.nytimes.com/www.nytimes.com/books/99/01/10/specials/lessing-space.html?_r=1
-
- 29 Iqbal, M.
(2013) *The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam*. Cited 689 times.
Stanford University Press
-
- 30 Klemm, V.
Different Notions of Commitment (Iltizam) and Committed Literature (Al-adab al-multazim) in the Literary Circles of the Mashriq
(2000) *Arabic & Middle Eastern Literature*, 3 (1), pp. 51-62. Cited 52 times.
-
- 31 Lessing, D.
(1987) *Prisons We Choose to Live Inside*. Cited 50 times.
Harper-Collins
-
- 32 The Small Personal Voice
A Small Personal Voice: Essays, Reviews, Interviews. Cited 37 times.
Doris Lessing, edited by Paul Schlueter. London: Flamingo, 1994/1957, 7-25
-

- 33 (1995) *Under My Skin*. Cited 137 times.
Flamingo,. London
-
- 34 (2007) *On Not Winning the Nobel Prize*. Cited 16 times.
NobelPrize.org. Retrieved on April 28, 2021 from <
<https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/literature/2007/lessing/25434-doris-lessing-nobel-lecture-2007/>
-
- 35 Melillo, W.
(2013) *How McGruff and the Crying Indian Changed America: A History of Iconic Ad Council Campaigns*. Cited 13 times.
Smithsonian Books
-
- 36 Ojo-Ade, F.
Of Culture, Commitment, and Construction: Reflections on African Literature
(1991) *Transition*, 30 (53), pp. 4-24. Cited 6 times.
-
- 37 Osborne, J.
They Call it Cricket
(1959) *Declaration*, pp. 61-84. Cited 16 times.
Maschler T., (ed), MacGibbon and Kee, edited by
-
- 38 Peel, E.
The Self Is Always an Other: Going the Long Way Home to Autobiography
(1989) *Twentieth Century Literature*, 35 (1), pp. 1-16. Cited 6 times.
-
- 39 Pickthall, M.
(1927) *The Cultural Side of Islam*. Cited 11 times.
Kitab Bhaban
-
- 40 Repp, C.
What's wrong with didacticism?
(2012) *British Journal of Aesthetics*, 52 (3), pp. 271-285. Cited 13 times.
-
- 41 Said, E.
(1994) *Representations of the Intellectual*. Cited 1616 times.
Vintage
-
- 42 Shukri, M.A.M.
Towards an Islamic theory of literature
(1992) *Islamic studies*, 31 (4), pp. 411-421. Cited 2 times.
-

□ 43 Sperlinger, T.
Radical Pedagogy in Doris Lessing's *Mara and Dann*
(2017) *Critique - Studies in Contemporary Fiction*, 58 (3), pp. 300-311. Cited 6 times.
<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/08828032.1988.10388530>
doi: 10.1080/00111619.2016.1242473
View at Publisher

□ 44 Taniyan, B.
Golden Mobius Strip: Lessing's 'The Golden Notebook' as a Fragmented Narrative
(2009) *Ankara Üniversitesi Dil ve Tarih-Coğrafya Fakültesi Dergisi*, 49 (1), pp. 1-17. Cited 12 times.

□ 45 (2021) *NobelPrize.org*. Cited 3 times.
29, Apr
<https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/literature/2007/summary/>

□ 46 Tindall, W.Y.
(1956) *Forces in Modern British Literature: 1885-1956*. Cited 20 times.
Vintage Books

□ 47 Tsang, P.
(2021) *The Obsolete Empire: Untimely Belonging in Twentieth-Century British Literature*. Cited 2 times.
JHU Press

□ 48 Wa Thiong'o, N.
(1986) *Decolonising the Mind: The Politics of Language in African Literature*. Cited 3303 times.
James Currey

□ 49 Wilde, O.
(2001) *The Picture of Dorian Gray*. Cited 1491 times.
Giunti

🔗 Hasan, M.M.; Department of English Language and Literature, International Islamic University Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; email:mmhasan@iiu.edu.my
© Copyright 2024 Elsevier B.V., All rights reserved.

About Scopus

[What is Scopus](#)

[Content coverage](#)

[Scopus blog](#)

[Scopus API](#)

[Privacy matters](#)

Language

[日本語版を表示する](#)

[查看简体中文版本](#)

[查看繁體中文版本](#)

[Просмотр версии на русском языке](#)

Customer Service

[Help](#)

[Tutorials](#)

[Contact us](#)

ELSEVIER

[Terms and conditions](#) ↗ [Privacy policy](#) ↗

All content on this site: Copyright © 2024 Elsevier B.V. ↗, its licensors, and contributors. All rights are reserved, including those for text and data mining, AI training, and similar technologies. For all open access content, the Creative Commons licensing terms apply.

We use cookies to help provide and enhance our service and tailor content. By continuing, you agree to the use of cookies ↗.

