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A semiotic Analysis of body language in the novel “sleeping in the cherry Field” by Azhar Jerjis



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ABSTRACT

Fiction is full of non-verbal cues, including body language cues. Examining stories from the perspective of non-verbal communication, especially body language, which is a chain of extensive cues and messages are received according to the context of communication, can lead to a new reading of the text. Azhar Jerjis in the novel “sleeping in the cherry Field” has used the signs of body language, including the language of the eyes, hands, head, touch, limbs and physical appearance. This research intends to use descriptive-analytical method based on semiotic approach to analyze the role and position of body language and their function in this novel. Research findings show Jerjis messages such as; Astonishment, anxiety, anger and rage, forgetfulness, fear, etc. are conveyed to the audience through body language, the unveiling of which plays an important role in discovering the message hidden in the text. Among the non-linguistic behaviors mentioned in the novel, eye language with (32%) has the most role during message transmission and language of physical appearance (facial hair) with (2%) has the least role and body language in this novel is more, alternative and substitute. It has become verbal communication but in some cases it has emphasized more to complete the verbal message or verbal messages. The use of body language in this novel has increased the theatrical capacity of the story.

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## 1. Introduction

Writers and poets have long paid much attention to the moods and behaviors of people in describing the characters of their stories and poems. To this end, they have used non-verbal behaviors in abundance in their stories and poems, and through this, they have had a great impact on the audience's perception and perception. Many researchers have been able to use their research methods to determine the effective volume of nonverbal behaviors in interpersonal and social relationships. Many of them have succeeded in estimating the relative extent of nonverbal behaviors versus verbal behaviors. One of the pioneers of nonverbal studies, Birdwhistell, has found that only 35% of meaning is conveyed verbally in a particular situation, with the remaining 65% in the nonverbal category. (farhangi, 1373: 272)

Nonverbal cues, in addition to being used in social relationships and communication in everyday life, can be seen in a variety of arts, including theater, cinema, and literature; For example, body language is used as a narrative text in various literary genres such as plays, poetry, and especially novels. "The writer or poet uses this cryptographic system or symbol as a suitable means of conveying the message, which makes it easier to convey the message to the audience." (kort, 1997: 4)

The similarities between the regular structures of kinesiology and linguistics are striking, and the problem of any kinesiologist is the same as that of the linguist: "It is considered a special society." (Birdwhistell, 1970: 192)

Semiotics is one of the interdisciplinary researches that analyzes the signs and understands the meanings hidden in them. Non-verbal communication is also a branch of semiotics. The purpose of this study is to introduce, classify, decipher and analyze body language and their function in the novel "sleeping in the cherry Field" by Azhar Gergis. Examining it from a semiotic perspective is the main necessity of the present study. The author seeks answers to the following questions

What are the goals of Azhar Gergis in using non-verbal communication techniques, especially body language?

What tools and functions have body language been used in this novel?

## 2. Research background

Findings of the research indicate that the novel "sleeping in the cherry Field" by Azhar Gergis has not been studied in any scientific research. This novel in 2019. It has been published for the first time that it was nominated for the best novel of the Arab Booker Prize in 2020. Has been; However, some research has been done on the process of nonverbal communication, some of which are mentioned below.

Daneshgar (2007), in an article entitled "The role of non-verbal communication in Rumi's storytelling" using scientific sources, first the meaning of the term, the principles of non-verbal communication, its features, similarities and differences with verbal communication and then how Rumi uses This communication tool tells in Masnavi, especially in its storytelling.

Afrakhteh (2016) in a study entitled "Non-verbal communication in the narratives of the

history of Bayhaqi" has analyzed, classified and decoded types of non-verbal behaviors such as: movements, body gestures, time, place, artifacts, guards, facial behaviors and physical contact. Studies show that nonverbal communication has been used extensively to complement verbal messages throughout history. Also, among the non-verbal behaviors, most of the organ movements and visual communication are involved in the transmission of the message.

Among the researches that have been done in Arabic literature in the field of non-verbal communication can be; Bavanpour, Gheibi, Hajizadeh and Parvini (1398) in their article "The semiotics of non-verbal communication in the novel" Al-Taliani "by Shukri Al-Makhkhot". The results of the research show that al-Makhboub has benefited the most from different facial expressions and related functions, and this expression is used to express such things as; Fear has taken advantage of the occurrence of something strange, satisfaction, ridicule and humiliation, embarrassment, shame, and so on. In addition to these cases, other states and organs are also involved in conveying the author's messages, and the most functional of these messages is the function of substitution.

Bavanpour (1399) in the article "Semiotics of the function of behaviors and non-verbal communication in the novel Frankenstein in Baghdad by Ahmad Saadawi" from the perspective of non-verbal communication signs of this novel in facial expressions, eye postures, guard, objects, distance, etc. Has set.

Abd al-Ghani Rabia (2010) in his dissertation entitled "Language of the body in

the Holy Qur'an" has dealt with the behavior of the body language of the characters in the Qur'anic stories. And seeks to prove the existence of body language in the Holy Quran.

Abdullah Al-Muharraq (2011) in his research "Language of the body in the simultaneous positions" has analyzed the history of body language and Arabic culture and its relationship with other sciences such as semiotics, physiognomy. And has examined and analyzed examples of body language in Hamedan authorities.

Al-Qadra (2013) in the dissertation "Language of the body in the poems of Sa'alik" has dealt more with the psychological and philosophical aspects of body language and the author has expressed its meaning in the poems of Sa'alik.

Among the Arabic sources in the field of body language can be examples such as: Secrets of the body language by Lily Shahrour (2007), Language body in the Arab heritage by Khalid Abdul Rauf Al-Jabr (2017), Language body by Ahlam Fathi Abd al-Hadi (2015), Alam He referred to the language of the body by Sarah and Hajar Abd al-Rahman (2020). Latin sources for body language include:

1. the power of body language, **reiman Tonya** (2007)/2. Emotions Revealed, **Pual Ekman** (2003)/3. What Every body is saying, **Joe Navarro** (2008) /4. Body language, **Harvey segler** (2016)/5. Body language. How to read others thoughts their Gestures, **Allan pease and Barbara Pease** (2004)/6. Language & body language, **Vijendra pratap singh** (2018). /7. body language in literature, **Mellissa persival &**

others(2000)/8. Rabbinic body language non verbal communication in palestinion Rabbinic literature of late antiquity, **Hazser Catherine** (2017).

### 3. **Introducing the novel**

Azhar Gerjis novel “**sleeping in the cherry Field**” is a summary of the suffering of all Iraqis for forty years and that Arab pain has spread not only to Arab lands but to all foreign countries.

The author tells the story in two places, Iraq and Norway. Saeed "Narrator" was an Iraqi citizen and a student of Arabic language and literature. He lives with his mother, and his father is arrested and imprisoned by Ba'athist forces in Iraq, and his family is never informed. Based on a series of events that took place in Iraq, including unrest and economic problems, Saeed decided to travel to Norway. During the journey, he suffers many hardships and hardships and passes through several countries illegally and through human trafficking machines and reaches Norway. There he seeks refuge and stays in a hotel. He works in the post office and meets a person named "Tuna Yinsin" and decides to marry him and changes his surname to "Yinsin"; But Tuna's death deeply affects Saeed. One day, his Iraqi friend Abir sends him an e-mail asking him to get to Iraq as soon as possible; Because the investigation of the martyrs is over and he must return to get his father's bones. While living in Norway, his father's ghost often appears before his eyes; But he can not see her face clearly. Finally, he decides to return home wearing Lee pants and a white shirt. When Saeed returns, he obtains two fake IDs to be safe, and on the day he carries his father's bones, masked men smash his father's bones

under the wheel of their car and imprison him in a dungeon, where he is severely tortured. And harass. Until he is rescued by one of the masked men. He finally decides to return to Norway for a worthy death, not a worthy life. Before leaving, he makes an appointment with Abeer in a hotel; However, due to the unrest in Iraq, a terrible explosion occurs and drowns everyone in blood. At this time, Saeed sees a person wearing Lee's pants and a white shirt and is burned, and he sees his father nearby; But this time he sees his face clearly. The maid of Saeed Hotel in Norway informs Saeed's anesthetist at the hotel; But before they arrived, Saeed passed away, leaving a note and asking the head of the newspaper (Helena) to publish all his fantasies of returning to Iraq and being deprived of seeing his homeland in the newspaper, and bury his body in the cherry orchard of Mr. Seyyed Yakub. .

### 4. **Conceptology**

#### 4-1. **Signs and semiotics**

A token is a tool by which an individual or group conveys a particular meaning or message to others. Signs are the result of the connection between signifier and signified. "A sign is a unit of meaning as something that stands in front of something (other than itself); It is interpreted ”(Ghaeminia, 1389: 59)

Signs can take many forms, including words, pictures, and even behaviors. Symbols have no intrinsic meaning and become symbols only when users use them against a meaning. The science of semiotics examines signs whose purpose is to convey a message to another. (Giro, 2004: 39) The science of semiotics by examining signs helps people to understand the world around

them through signs and sign systems are encrypted and decoded and enables people to communicate with the world around them through these signs. "Semiotics studies the relations of signs and meanings, and its scope and scope of cognition includes all communication systems such as languages, codes and sign systems, etc." (nabilo, 1390: 82) The use of signs and symbols as a powerful and effective tool in all aspects of life is increasing; As the main function of signs is to convey meaning through the system of messages. On the other hand, one of the most widely used and effective methods in analyzing various types of texts is their semiotic analysis. Non-verbal communication is one of the branches of semiotics. (Pahlavan Nejad, 14: 1386).

Structuralist semiotics seeks to discover the signs within the text, and structuralists seek meaning in the relationships between the components of the text; they seek the signs by creative reading in order to arrive at the meaning of the text. (Khajavi, 1393: 215). Semiotics studies the relationship between signifier and signified and discovers the relationship between the two (ibid .: 216).

#### **4-2. Nonverbal communication and body language**

One of the ways to create communication between us humans is non-verbal communication that "includes all aspects of communication except words" (Wood, 1379: 284). In other words, in this type of communication, the element of speech does not interfere in the transmission of the message. The act of communicating involves verbal, non-verbal, and verbal communication that conveys the content of

the message by selecting and arranging words. In order to communicate effectively, individuals must be able to use the above three areas to convey their message explicitly to others, while being able to accurately receive and understand the messages being sent. (windle&warren, 2011: 2)

Psychologists and communicators define the concept of communication in a general sense as follows: Communication is the technique of transmitting information, human thoughts and behaviors from one person to another, in general, each person to communicate with others and express their needs through the means It uses a variety. (Hakim Ara, 1384: 36) Both verbal and non-verbal communication are interrelated and sometimes occur together; For example, the speaker is communicating with the audience through gestures and gestures. Speaking is also mixed with verbal elements such as tone of voice, silences between sentences, and so on. (Mohsenian Rad, 2006: 247) The roles that non-verbal messages can play in interpersonal communication are:

**1. Completing: Some non-verbal messages are accompanied and coordinated with verbal messages. In addition to completing the verbal message, a non-verbal message reinforces it, makes it clear and transparent, and provides the audience with a "correct" meaning of the verbal message.**

**2. Denial: Some non-verbal messages violate, deny, or contradict the verbal message. When non-verbal and non-verbal messages are contradictory, people are more likely to believe non-verbal messages.**

**3. Repetition: A non-verbal message that repeats a verbal message is a type of message that can act independently if the word does not exist.**

**4. Control: Verbal interactions are organized because of the control and direction they have. These controls work best when combined with non-verbal messages.**

**5. Substitution: When non-verbal messages are sent instead of verbal messages, the substitution phenomenon occurs.**

**6. Emphasis: Non-verbal messages are used to emphasize, reinforce, emphasize or highlight a verbal message. These 6 functions do not always happen separately; It is quite possible for them to happen at the same time. (Richmond and McCroskey, 2009: 91-95)**

Communication in any form includes verbal and non-verbal. Non-verbal communication is also called "body language, gestures or body movements" The message is presented and known primarily with phonetic and linguistic signs. But to a lesser extent, motor cues play an important role in refining meaning. (Ahmadi, 1388: 104) Movement of limbs includes all gestures, head movements, eye behavior, body movements, arms, legs, hands and fingers, which is known as body language. Gestures and gestures clarify and regulate our verbal conversation, through which emotions can be conveyed. Acquiring skills in the use of body language is one of the most effective ways to improve human relationships. Paul Ekman and Wallace Frieson have also done extensive research on nonverbal activities. Their goal was to better understand the

feelings, moods and behaviors of individuals, as well as a better understanding of any interaction between people and awareness of the nature of relationships and the quality of communication during interaction. (Ekman&Friesen, 1972: 353)

Body language in Arabic is called "the language of the body". The following are some definitions of body language:

**1. "Physical signs and gestures that send specific messages in different situations and circumstances, show you the hidden feelings, and bring them to the surface, through which information or ideas about the other person are transmitted so that he cannot hide the thoughts that revolve in his mind" (Bani Younes, 2007: 34)**

**2. "The set of actions and movements that a person makes in order to convey to others the meanings and feelings he wants, such as facial expressions, eye movements, the movement of the head position, the movement of the hands..." (Al-Makawi; Al-Sayed, 1998: 67-68).**

**3. "Part of the non-verbal communication bears an agreed upon meaning between the sender and the receiver" (Munir, 2007: 225).**

**4. This language can communicate information without the knowledge of its owner" (Barghouth, 2005: 31)**

**I.**

**5. Analysis of the signs of body language in the novel "sleeping in the cherry Field"**

#### **5-1. Eye language**

The eye in the human face is an important element that can convey various messages non-verbally. Eye contact is one of the most

common and powerful nonverbal cues. The eyes induce love, boredom, hatred, fear and hostility according to the contextual context. In this way, the eyes play a central role in the non-verbal communication of many interpersonal attitudes and emotions” (Salibi, 2011: 116)

Eye techniques can be used effectively to improve communication skills. The enlargement and shrinking of the pupils of the eyes can convey messages such as astonishment, anger, and so on.

### **Widen the eyes**

In this section, the author speaks with open eyes, which is a sign of a non-verbal message of "wonder and amazement". This message is part of the succession functions.

This is what Alan Pease says: When a person is aroused, the pupil of his eyes widens 4 times its normal size. Conversely, the negative and angry states of their pupils contract. As they are commonly known as "small bead-like eyes" or "blind pair eyes" (Pease, 2010: 113)

(Saeed) is surprised by being in a special situation and hearing Tuna say that he is separated from her. Instead of expressing the word "by widening the eye" in the body language of the eye, which has the function of substitution, it expresses the concept of wonder. No phrase can express surprise as much as opening your eyes.

Her eyelids were withered, embracing tears that would drown the Hamsdal Valley if it rained, but she held back, and began to speak. She said while clenching her palms, and at once: "I want you to know, Saeed, that you watered my life and made it leafy, and that without you, it would have been withered

like a dead fig tree, with nothing but work, reading and the daily routine.. But I can't. Despite that, I can't. "I opened my mouth and eyes like a boy who received news of the death of his parents in a car accident" (Gerjis, 2019: 117).

### **Shine eyes**

The glow of the eyes indicates a kind of happiness and interest in achieving their goal, which is to create an emotional connection and a deep connection. When Saeed makes an appointment with "Tuna", when Tuna arrives, he pulls out a chair for her and stands respectfully in front of her. Tuna is happy with Saeed's move, and this happiness makes his eyes shine. This eye state with a replacement function indicates happiness and joy.

One day I told Tuna that I would be waiting for her at eight o'clock in the café. Arrived two hours early. I was agitated, looking more at the clock, watching the door. The eighth struck, and Tuna arrived. I moved her chair, and stood before her in reverence, as polite waiters do in five-star restaurants. She laughed and her beautiful eyes sparkled, then she wondered what was behind this unusual movement!" (Gerjis, 2019: 115)

### **5-2. Hand language**

All human beings use their hands in some way to convey concepts, and sometimes the movements and gestures of the hands are replaced by words. "Hands have been the most important tool in human development and have more connection with the brain than other parts of the body" (Pace, 1387: 42), hands have a special place in language, pointing as an effective tool. Deaf people use their hands to convey a message to the

audience. "What you think in your mind, you reflect with the movements of your head and hands, in fact you experience a slight rejection of the implicit meaning of what your words do not convey. The movements of your hands can reflect reality, and you may be able to draw what you have seen or heard in the air, to convey it to others" (Quilliam, 1398: 22-23). The following are examples of non-verbal communication by hand language in the novel "Al-Noom Fi Haql Al-Karz"

### **Hitting the forehead indicates forgetfulness**

"He non-verbally shows his forgetfulness by tapping his head or forehead or back of his neck," says Alan Pease. It is as if they are beating themselves symbolically. Although hitting the head is associated with forgetfulness; But with the position they slap on the head, forehead, or neck, it shows how they feel about you and the situation. If he hits you on the forehead, it shows that he is not afraid of forgetting you when you remind him. (Pease, 1389: 81)

I reached into my coat pocket to get the ticket price. But I couldn't find the wallet. I remembered that I had forgotten it as a "ticket" on the comedino in the bedroom, so I hit my forehead at that time and exclaimed: "Go out of the creatures." The driver laughed when he heard this and said, "You must ride." (Gerjis, 2019: 26)

In addition to verbal communication with the audience through the language of the hand, that is, tapping the forehead, which is a non-verbal sign, the author strongly expresses Saeed's message of forgetfulness. In other words, hitting his forehead with a complementary function is a sign that Saeed has forgotten to bring his ticket.

### **Nail biting is a sign of fear and anxiety**

I knew, as soon as I put my feet in that truck, that it would be an arduous journey, in which more sweat and peace of mind would be shed. The interior of the truck was dark, and the sound of breath was loud. I stumbled on someone's leg, so I inadvertently apologized to him in Arabic, but he answered in a low voice and in the same language: It doesn't matter, come sit down, holding the edge of my jacket. He was a young man from Palestine, probably no more than sixteen years old, anxious, biting with his nails and talking between his clenched teeth. He said, after I sat next to him, that the police had arrested him twice before and put him in prison, and that he did not know if the road was safe or not.. (Gerjis, 2019: 67)

Nail biting is a sign of fear and anxiety of a particular situation. The young Palestinian, who wanted to take refuge in Arab countries through human trafficking trucks, is biting his fingernails for fear of being caught by the police. "While smokers express their anxiety by smoking, other non-smokers engage in other behaviors, such as grooming themselves, eating nails, tapping their fingers and toes, etc., and countless other obvious signs that indicate a person's need for reassurance." (Pease, 1389: 126)

### **Finger contact with the lips indicates an invitation to silence**

We carried out orders in a way like the way a flock of sheep does with shepherds. He put his finger to his mouth and said, "Shhhhh." He heard the sound of dogs approaching. A police patrol was searching the place" (Gerjis, 2019: 69 ).

When Saeed decides to cross the border into Norway illegally, he crosses the border



through a person named "Hari". One day, as they cross the border, their leader, Hari, urges them to remain silent so that the migrants do not fall into the hands of the police. In fact, it sends a non-verbal message to immigrants with the body language of the hand (putting a finger on the lips) which indicates silence. And since this hand gesture is accompanied by his six words, it has a complementary accent function. Whenever the index finger comes up vertically for a moment, it means be silent" (Karimi, 1396: 26) (Vadaye, 1399: 150) (Pahlavannejad, 1386: 28)

### **5-3. Head language**

Head movement plays a big role in conveying the message and establishing communication; Because the head is the main organ and commander of the body. Gestures and gestures give clarity to our verbal conversation and regulate it, so that emotions can be conveyed. "Darwin was one of the first to notice that humans, as well as animals, used to move their heads in different directions if they were interested or disgusted with a particular thing. (Piz, 1389: 106) In the novel "Al-Numah Fi Haql Al-Karz" Azhar Georges has used head movements as a kind of non-verbal communication in abundance, including

#### **A sign of happiness**

Ekman has found in his research that the symptoms exchanged by the head and neck indicate how they felt about the person; "Like anger or joy." (Farhangi, 1389: 301)

They say that the president visited a chicken farm one day, and threatened that he would search for eggs, and if he did not find five eggs under it, he would cut off its head and throw it to the dogs. The chickens were

terrified, and each one laid five eggs perfectly. After that, he began searching, as if every time he raised a chicken he would find five eggs under it, shaking his head and saying the famous word: "Afiyat," but in the end he raised one of them, and found that she had ovulated only one egg. He furrowed his thick eyebrows and shouted: Did I say five eggs? The poor woman replied, in a trembling voice: "But I am a rooster, Mr. President." (Gerjis, 2019: 39)

In his novel, the Iraqi writer Georges refers to a tyrannical ruler who forces all hens to lay five eggs a day, and whenever he finds five eggs under each hen, he shakes his head and says, "Peace." This nod, due to its association with the word "comfort" with a complementary accent function, evokes the satisfaction and satisfaction of the ruler.

#### **Expresses approval of the word and saying "yes"**

I asked the driver to take me to Hamza Al-Attar's shop behind Al-Syrian neighborhood If he knew him, the man shook his head, lowering the volume of the radio, and said, "Ride." (Gerjis, 2019: 161)

In response to the passenger's question, the driver confirms his words by moving his head, and the function of this movement is substitution. "Shaking the head is used almost all over the world to indicate 'yes' or confirmation, which is a form of lowering the head," says Peasez (Pease, 2010: 20)

### **5-4. The language of limb movement**

These types of movements include behaviors that are combined with the movement of several body parts. In such behaviors, it is difficult to separate the behavior and assign it to a member, and it is

often considered as a continuous behavior. People can convey their emotions through their body movements, reinforce and emphasize the words spoken, and sometimes even violate what they say. (Richmond, 1388: 159) Goldin Medoff (1999) believes that body movements can represent thoughts and feelings. He also believes that these gestures are very important for understanding oral discourse. (Rashidi, 1399: 756).

### **Hiding behind an obstacle indicates fear**

Hiding behind an obstacle is a natural human reaction to learning to protect oneself in the early stages of life. "Whenever a child finds himself in a frightening situation, he hides behind objects such as a table, chair, sofa and mother's skirt." (Pease, 1389: 83)

I remembered the sound of the first warplane I had ever heard. I was nine years old at the time, playing the ball in the alley with my comrades, and the shriek of sirens made us run in fear towards our homes. hurriedly entered the house and hid under my mother's cloak, waiting for the disaster to happen" (Gerjis, 2019: 28).

Saeed's childhood coincided with the US invasion of Iraq under Saddam. One day Saeed is playing with his friends in the streets of Iraq; But when he saw the war planes, he was very scared and ran away and hid under his mother's tent. "Hiding under the mother's tent" is a kind of non-verbal behavior that expresses Saeed's fear and anxiety about war and destruction, and the function of this movement is emphatic.

### **Lowering body height indicates respect for the other party**

In this regard, Alan Pease points out that: "Throughout history, lowering the height of

the body in front of another person has been used to create superior and subordinate relationships" (Pease, 2010: 179)

The eighth struck, and Tuna arrived. I moved her chair, and stood before her in reverence, as polite waiters do in five-star restaurants. She laughed and her beautiful eyes sparkled, then she wondered what was behind that unusual movement! He said, "Are you ready?" She smiled and pushed her beautiful lips forward, half blinking in a sign of incomprehension. Then I got on my knees and took a ring out of my jacket pocket and presented it to her: "Tuna, will you marry me?" (Gerjis, 2019: 115 .)

When courting Tuna, Saeed bends over on his toes out of respect for her, in other words, he shows himself small in front of her, and this movement of the body is a non-verbal sign that indicates respect for the other party.

### **Closing tightly in a sign of venting anger and rage**

Nonverbal cues not only reflect a person's emotions; "Rather, they often show how he copes with emotions, for example, he may suppress his anger with muscle tension, or he may vent his emotions by tapping his foot on the ground, shaking his hands, locking himself tightly in a room, or the like." (Karimi, 1396: 13)

I left the office without greeting her. I closed the door behind me so hard I felt that the director's side had jumped out of her place and hit her head on the ceiling" (Gerjis, 2019: 130)

Eventually, Saeed decides to return to his homeland and try to find his father's bones, so he goes to the post office in Norway to submit his resignation. He puts the resignation letter in front of the manager and

the manager, who was not happy with Saeed, who was a stranger, signed his resignation with poisonous laughter, and this move of the manager makes Saeed angry. In fact, Saeed vents his anger from his manager's smile by closing the room tightly.

**5-5. Touch and physical contact**

Physical contact is the most fundamental form of communication and is the most effective tool for conveying many feelings and emotions. Physical contact is a sign of interest and acceptance. In other words, refraining from touching conveys a set of emotions such as resentment, hostility, anger, and suspicion. (Richmond, 1388: 298)

"In our culture, gentle touching is usually a sign of intimacy and affection, and it creates a slight stimulus in the person being touched," says Fergus. (Fergus, 1373: 306) Excessive contact is a sign of love, affection and emotional and psychological attachment. (Richmond and McCroskey, 2009: 304)

I squeezed her hands and placed a kiss on her head, so she stuck her mouth to my neck and gave me a long sniff, then I burst into tears like a rain cloud. I embraced her, I wiped her shoulders" (Gerjis, 2019: 44)

Saeed's mother is very sad when she leaves her son's homeland and cries like a rain cloud. Saeed kisses her mother on the head and face to calm her down, touches her shoulders and hugs her. Kissing and hugging are behaviors that carry a non-verbal message of love and affection through the function of substitution.

**5-6. Physical appearance**

Non-verbal messages about physical appearance are just as important as the other non-verbal messages we receive from others.

Facial hair (beard and mustache) is one of the signs of physical appearance that can contain special messages to the audience. "A man with long hair is likely to be considered an adult, good-looking, influential, brave, diligent, self-reliant and open-minded." (Richmond and McCroskey, 2009: 133)

My mother did not tell me that my father was one of those who had long beards." (Gerjis, 2019: 125)

I pulled the blanket off my body and went to the bathroom. It was raining a lot outside, even though it was summer. I pulled my razor out of the drawer and started cutting my beard. It was long, scattered, and ugly" (Gerjis, 2019: 23 ).

Saeed shaving his beard is a sign of confrontation between tradition and modernity. He avoids and the function of this type of message is of the alternative type because it expresses Saeed's non-traditional and modern character who has acted against his father's tradition.

But the author of the narrative introduces Saeed's father to the audience with a long beard because his purpose of this kind of non-verbal sign was to introduce this character as a political, militant, believer, brave and diligent person.

The text and 1. Enter the table of frequency and percentage of language (eyes, hands, head, limbs, touch and facial hair) in the novel **"sleeping in the cherry Field"**

Percentage	Abundance	Component
۳۲,۸۵	۹۱	Eye language
۲۳,۱۰	۶۴	hand language

٥,٧٧	١٦	Head language
٢٩,٩٦	٨٣	Body language
٥,٧٧	١٦	Touch language
٢,٥٢	٧	Language of physical appearance (facial hair)
	٢٧٧	total

### Conclusion

Considering that the development and expansion of different communication systems has caused a wide interaction between people of different countries and today the world is presented as a global village, familiarity and knowledge of the cultures of other societies, including familiarity with the meanings and concepts of their silent language It is inevitable.

Azhar Gergis in the novel **“sleeping in the cherry Field”**, which was nominated for the Booker Arab Prize in 2020. In order to make the events and tragedies of the Iraqi people more noticeable and to express their suffering, he has used non-verbal communication in abundance along with verbal communication and has paid good attention to their types. In addition to influencing the audience, the analysis of non-verbal communication in the mentioned novel has allowed the author to convey his messages concisely but effectively. In this novel, Gergis uses non-verbal cues of the eye (32.85%) such as: "dilation of the pupil of the eye, glow of the eye" for concepts such as "wonder, happiness". He used non-verbal signs of the hand (23.10%) in the situations

of "tapping the forehead, biting the nails, touching the finger with the lips" to induce symbols such as "forgetfulness, fear and anxiety, invitation to silence".

Non-verbal cues of the head (5.77%) in the novel **“sleeping in the cherry Field”** express concepts and meanings such as "happiness and satisfaction, anger and rage and confirmation of the other party's words". Georges uses nonverbal communication through the movement of limbs (29.96%), including: "Hiding behind an obstacle that indicates fear and panic, bending the side of a person that indicates respect and honor, tightening in the sign of venting anger and rage." Has benefited greatly. Touch language (5.77%) in the mentioned novel expresses interest and intimacy between the two parties in the relationship. The language of physical appearance (2.52%) is used to contrast the two religious traditions and modernity in the novel **“sleeping in the cherry Field”**.

Examining the types of non-verbal communication in the mentioned novel, we have found that the eye language states have the most reflection and the physical appearance has the least reflection, and the substitution function has the highest frequency among the six body language functions.

The author expresses his social or political concerns to some extent by using non-verbal features, and depicts the political and social currents of Iraq during the occupation by US allied forces and the suffering of its people, which is the main theme of the novel. The function of nonverbal communication in the novel is more in the realm of negative concepts such as; There is anger, disgust, fear, anxiety, sadness and grief, mourning,

etc. The main reason for this is the social conditions and spirits of the characters in it, and the characters of this novel are more sad and tragic. More than verbal language, people always express their true feelings in silent language (non-verbal cues).

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