



**Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
University of Mohamed Boudiaf - M'sila -
Faculty of Letters and Languages
Department of Letters and English Language
The Laboratory of Algerian Poetics**



**PRFU Team :The Continuous Conflicting Discourses between Eurocentric Literature and
African and Eastern Postcolonial Literature**

Organize the National Conference

Otherness and Dialogism in Postcolonial Literature

on February 6, 2023



The concepts of Eastern and Western cultures are arbitrarily .The origin of and differences between Eastern and Western cultures have been extensively studied in anthropology, philosophy, archeology, and psychology .The major focus in the present national conference will be attempting to give a comprehensive idea about how each culture others the other one. Undoubtedly, literature has constituted a major field for expressing otherness in both parts of the globe .In reality, the culture of othering can be the natural result of the deep difference in the origins of the two cultures.

There is almost an agreement among critics that Orientalism refers to the Orient, in reference and opposition to the Occident. The term *Occidentalism* is often used to refer to the negative views about the Western world .This term is often used to describe the way Eastern societies think about the West and is usually related to the sense of nationalism that spread in reaction to colonialism. Edward Said has been accused of falsely characterizing the West. In the same way, he accuses Western scholars of falsely characterizing the East.

In discussing the features of both cultures: the Western and the Eastern, it is important to examine a common feature which is othering the different other. In addition, it is worth emphasizing that the action of othering cultures occurs when peoples are labeled or popularized as different due to characteristics that distinguish them from the perceived norm. Edward Said, in his famous book *Orientalism*, argued that Western powers and influential individuals such as social scientists and artists othered "the Orient." The evolution of ideologies is often initially embedded in the language, and continues to ripple through the fabric of society by taking over the culture, economy and political sphere

As a matter of fact, Occidentalism might refer to and identify representations of the Western world (the Occident) in two ways: (i) as dehumanizing stereotypes of the Western world, and (ii) as ideological representations of the West, as applied in the works: *Occidentalism: A Theory of Counter-Discourse in Post-Mao China* (1995), by Chen Xiaomei; *Occidentalism: Images of the West* (1995), by James G. Carrier; and *Occidentalism: The West in the Eyes of its Enemies* (2004), by Ian Buruma and Avishai Margalit. Occidentalism, then, is often believed to act as the counterpart to the term *Orientalism* as used by Edward Said in his book of that title, which refers to and identifies Western stereotypes of the Eastern world, the Orient.

Important is the idea that in their seminal book, *Occidentalism: The West in the Eyes of its Enemies* (2004), Buruma and Margalit argued and supported the idea that the nationalist and nativist resistance to the West replicates Eastern-world responses against the socio-economic forces of modernization, which originated in Western culture.

Some indicative themes:

- The origin of the differences between Eastern and Western cultures
- The definition of otherness and its presence in Western and non-Western Literature
- The definition of Orientalism and its intellectual projects
- The definition of Occidentalism and its intellectual projects
- Dialogism in postcolonial literature
- Western scholars' commitment to falsely characterizing the East and Africa.
- Orientalism in the eyes of Edward Said and his accusation of falsely characterizing the West
- Orientalism in Western literature and the politics of othering the East
- Occidentalism in Eastern and African literature and the politics of othering the West
- Globalization and the development of the dialogue of civilizations
- Globalization and the emergence of Multicultural literature

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Important Dates

Deadline for sending full papers and a brief biographical note: **25/01/2023.**

Notification of acceptance: **30/01/2023.**

Conference date : **06/02/2023.**

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