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Unearthing Literature: The Case of Hussein Barghouti

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Unearthing Literature: The Case of Hussein Barghouti

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Propositions:

1. Barghouti's works allow a reading of Palestinian literature that goes beyond the common threads of politicization and representation.
2. Marginalization is not static. Barghouti's case reveals the nuances of social, political, and literary engagements.
3. The body treads between form and formation. The text, the land, and the physical body are constructed through constant movement and change.
4. Beginning, death, and myth are time compartments whose temporality is challenged. Barghouti attests to how even at heightened moments of political distress, illness, and pain literature can function as a producer of meanings and metaphors rather than merely a medium of representation.
5. Creativity is constituent upon acts of continuities and breakages.
6. Reading one author's works is not an isolated endeavor. Acts of inspiration, departure from, and engagement with other literary works are always at play in the literary text.
7. The body has never failed to be a stage for somatic, political, and intellectual processes. Its study, which has been central throughout time, can always bring new insights onto the changeability of life.
8. The dynamics between literary criticism and literary creativity should be reconsidered. Both exercises influence each other and should thus be studied as inseparable.
9. While covering the most canonical and representative texts has its benefits, teaching non-canonical texts can also have its value. It introduces students to unfamiliar figures, allows for a study of uncommon ways of writing, and questions the rules that

lead to the inclusion/exclusion of certain texts. Most importantly, it attests to the variety of human experiences, histories, and beliefs, and thus, of human expressions.

This is something that I would like to focus on in my teaching in the future.

10. Writing a structured dissertation on a case study that aims to break the familiarity of structure is in itself an exercise in creativity and in the consolidation of form and content.