

The purpose of this doctoral thesis is to outline the main trends in the contemporary Tunisian poetry, present it in its variety and colour, and testify to its parity with larger Arabic national literatures.

Making use of different theoretical frameworks offered by the modern literary science, the major part of the thesis is given to interpretation of selected poetry collections written by different authors over the period from the early 1990s to the present day. The interpretation is divided into five “currents” reflecting five distinctive sources of inspiration, which, nevertheless, often merge and overlap. The first chapter of the analytical part is interested in collections responding in one way or another to the political situation in Tunisia or other Arabic countries. The second chapter focuses on collections that link the classical Sufi poetry heritage with modern poetic trends.

The third chapter is given to surrealism.

Covered by the fourth chapter, another “current” of the contemporary Tunisian poetry is fed by fairy tales, legends and myths of both Arabic and other origin.

The final analytical chapter follows the current of lyrical love poetry.