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## Golden Saudi Literary Figures: Aziz Thiya Readings in his Contributions (2)

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### ABSTRACT

*Aziz Thiya, an influential Saudi literary figure, stands as a pioneering force in the intellectual and cultural evolution of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the broader Arab world. Known for his contributions as a writer, novelist, journalist, and translator, Thiya played a pivotal role in shaping the literary and cultural landscape of his time. This study probes into Thiya's remarkable contributions, focusing on his autobiographical work, *My Life with Hunger, Love, and War*, which chronicles his life from childhood to young adulthood against the backdrop of critical historical events like World War I. The manuscript explores Thiya's literary prowess, his ability to blend personal narratives with historical documentation, and the socio-political implications of his works.*

*By examining his life and writings, this study sheds light on Thiya's enduring legacy as a historian, storyteller, and cultural bridge-builder, emphasizing his unique position among Arab literary figures. The findings position *My Life with Hunger, Love, and War* as a significant historical and literary resource, offering valuable insights into the cultural and intellectual heritage of Saudi Arabia. The study applied a narrative analysis framework to explore the structure, style, and thematic content of Thiya's autobiography, *My Life with Hunger, Love, and War*, with special attention to his portrayal of personal adversity, cultural identity, and intellectual development.*

**KEY WORDS:** Abdul Aziz Thiya Ad-Din Zahid Murad, Golden Figures, literary influence, Saudi literary pioneers, Saudi literature

### Introduction

Aziz Thiya was not only a great writer but also a multifaceted intellectual whose contributions spanned various domains of knowledge and culture. The narrative "is a formation of life, and this formation depends on human habits through the characters" (Dahami, 2024a), so the narrative of Thiya illustrates human habits and reflects deep human experiences. Thiya "represents an important stage in the history of Saudi [literary] art and reflects the

social and cultural changes that society has witnessed" (Dahami, 2024b). As a novelist, he demonstrated a remarkable ability to design compelling narratives that reflected deep human experiences, social transformations, and historical realities. His literary style was marked by a rich linguistic texture, a keen sense of observation, and an intricate exploration of human emotions and societal challenges. His novels and autobiographical works remain a testament to his literary genius, providing insightful reflections on the cultural and historical evolution of the Arabian Peninsula. As a journalist, Thiya

exhibited exceptional skill in articulating pressing social, political, and cultural issues. His journalistic writings were characterized by intellectual depth, analytical precision, and a commitment to truth and justice. Through his thought-provoking articles and editorials, he shaped public opinion and influenced the discourse on key issues in Saudi Arabia and the broader Arab world. His work in television further amplified his role as a public intellectual, as he engaged with audiences on significant topics related to culture, history, and politics.

Literature has social functions that it can only perform by traversing its subject and experiencing the realities of contemporary life in society. This is what gives social experiences their special importance in all modern literature (Dahami, 2023b; As-Sebaei, 2019; Mandour, 2006, p. 78). Beyond his journalistic achievements, Thiya was also a highly skilled translator who played a crucial role in bridging linguistic and cultural gaps between the Arab world and the international community. His translations of significant literary and intellectual works allowed Saudi and Arabic speaking audiences to access ideas while also enabling the world to appreciate the depth and richness of Saudi literature and thought. His efforts in translation contributed to social and cultural exchange and intellectual dialogue, reinforcing his position as a scholar of immense versatility. Thiya's contributions to literature, criticism, and general culture positioned him as one of the most influential intellectual figures in Saudi Arabia. He was instrumental in pioneering the literary and intellectual movement in the kingdom, laying the foundation for modern Saudi literature and thought. His insightful critiques and commentaries enriched literary discussions, providing new perspectives on storytelling, poetry, and cultural identity.

Furthermore, Aziz Thiya was not only an esteemed Saudi intellectual but also a prominent political essayist whose influence extended beyond national borders. In the Arabian Peninsula and the wider Arab world, he was recognized as a leading voice in political and philosophical discourse. His essays tackled issues of governance, social justice, freedom of expression, and the evolving dynamics of Arab societies, earning him widespread respect among intellectuals and policymakers alike. His profound engagement with political and social themes placed him among the most respected Arab and international writers and scholars of his time. Aziz Thiya was one of the pioneers who took it upon themselves to advance the intellectual, cultural, literary, and artistic movements in the Arab world. Through his insightful and influential writings, he contributed to shaping the modern cultural and intellectual landscape of the region. His extensive body of work provided a foundation for contemporary thought, inspiring future generations of writers, scholars, and journalists to engage critically with their social and cultural environments.

Dahami (2023a), states, "Many Saudi literary figures realized at the beginning of the literary renaissance that writers in neighboring Arab countries were writing fictional works"; however, Aziz Thiya is to the contrary of such a notion. He wrote a real narrative picturing his real life. Among his many valuable contributions to literature, one of his most significant works is his autobiography, *My Life with Hunger, Love, and War*, which he published in three parts. This deeply personal and historically rich account offers readers a glimpse into the complexities of his life, the struggles he endured, and the historical transformations that shaped his experiences. *My Life with Hunger, Love, and War* "has great intellectual, cultural, and social importance because of its impact on people through the words that emanate from the mouths of skilled" Aziz Thiya

(Dahami, 2022). The autobiography not only chronicles his personal journey but also serves as a historical document that sheds light on the broader socio-political realities of his time. Through this work, Aziz Thiya cements his legacy as a towering literary figure whose influence continues to resonate in contemporary intellectual and literary circles.

*My Life with Hunger, Love, and War* is a real narrative in which Aziz Thiya talks about his autobiography from his early years until he reached the age of twenty. It is "a social literary product with special features. It is uncontested that the novelist is its designer, with intellectual, imaginative, linguistic, cultural, and social abilities" (Dahami, 2024c). This narrative earned Aziz Thiya a nomination for the King Faisal International Prize in 1418 AH. However, death overtook him before he received it. In fact, it is a collection of his valuable articles that he wrote for "Iqraa" and "Al-Yamamah" magazines. It tells the wonderful and beautiful life story of a young boy full of dreams and hopes. The boy was able to pave his own way to a happy life under harsh conditions with an elegant literary style and dazzling language. He eventually achieves many of his hopes and dreams that he dreamt of in the sunlight and when awake. The narrative also offers many lessons and morals.

He is Aziz Thiya ibn Zahid ibn Sultan ibn Murad, and he was known and famous by the pen name Aziz Thiya. Aziz Thiya's lineage traces back to non-Arab origins. His father, Zahid Murad, was from the town of Orenburg, the capital of the Republic of Chechnya, one of the Islamic republics on the Volga River. His mother was Sayyida Fatima bent Sheikh Ahmed Safa, Sheikh of the pilgrims of the Kazakh region in Russia (Al-Akshmi, 2005, p. 13). His family, like many families in Al-Madinah during that period, was stricken by the war during the siege of Al-Madinah by the army of Sharif Hussein ibn Ali of Makkah and the Arab tribes, which began in 1916. His family was later forced to migrate to the Levant during the historical period known as "Safar Barlik," via the Hejaz Railway, as the people of Al-Madinah called it. The word "Safar berlik" is a Turkish word that means, as they say, "mass deportation." It does not only refer to the mass deportation that happened to the people of Al-Madinah to the Levant but rather to a military campaign carried out by the Ottoman Empire—when the noose tightened around it—in the Levant to exile the youth of the region, weaken the resistance, and compulsorily recruit them to confront the armies hostile to the state (Akram, 2010). Their journey to the Levant ended tragically, as during their stay in the Levant, they lost their aunt, their maternal grandfather, and their younger brother. He returned to Al-Madinah with only his mother following the end of the war and the withdrawal of the Turkish army (Al-Eqtisadiyah, 2014).

After the opening of the Mission Preparatory School in Mecca, he was presented with a valuable opportunity to continue his studies, so he decided to enroll. However, it occurred to him that Thiya could complete the entire four-year secondary school program in one year. To realize this idea, he traveled to Cairo in 1356 AH and enrolled at Khedive Ismail School. He failed the English exam, which he believed he was better at than any other subject was. Thiya says, "I actually went to Cairo and enrolled at Khedive Ismail School. I took the exam at the end of the year, but I was unsuccessful, as I failed the English subject, which I considered myself to be better at than any other subject." (Al-Ithnainiya, 1983). During his stay in Egypt, the Egyptian newspaper Al-Ahram published a general news item stating that the Indian embassy was announcing its need for an Arabic broadcaster and translator to work for its radio station in India. Aziz Thiya applied for this vacant position after consulting his wife. He passed the exam. He then traveled to India accompanied by

his wife, who also worked in our country, India, as the first Saudi broadcaster (Al-Ithnainiya, 1983). Aziz Thiya returned to the Kingdom after residing in India for more than two years, where he was appointed director of the Foreigners Control Office in Mecca. During his tenure, he established a residency system that was approved. He then worked as Undersecretary of Public Security for Investigations, Passports, and Nationality in 1952. During his tenure, he established an amended nationality system that was also approved (Faqandash, 2012).

## Objectives of the study

The study might deal with several points such as analyzing the literary and intellectual contributions of Aziz Thiya to Saudi literature. These objectives aim to shed light on Thiya's narrative, *My Life with Hunger, Love, and War*. It focuses on giving flashes of the Saudi literary figure Aziz Thiya's contributions to Saudi literature through exploring his multifaceted roles as a writer, journalist, translator, and cultural figure. In addition, the narrative might assess his impact on the intellectual and artistic movements in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Another objective is to examine the historical significance of Thiya's autobiography, *My Life with Hunger, Love, and War*, investigating how this narrative serves as a historical document, offering insights into World War I and the socio-cultural conditions of the time. The third objective is to explore Thiya's literary style of writing in the narrative through evaluating his ability to integrate personal experiences with broader historical and cultural narratives and highlighting his storytelling techniques, including his use of simple yet profound language and his depiction of Arab traditions and values. The last objective is to recommend further areas of research, such as future studies on overlooked aspects of Thiya's life and works, particularly his unfinished memoirs and their potential contributions to understanding modern Saudi identity.

## Research Methods

As a literary approach, this study undertakes a comprehensive examination of the literary, historical, and cultural context that shaped and influenced Aziz Thiya's literary career. It explores the sociopolitical and intellectual landscape of his time, analyzing how key historical events, prevailing ideologies, and cultural transformations influenced his writings with special reference to *My Life with Hunger, Love, and War*. Additionally, the study goes through the literary movements and critical-analytical analysis that surrounded his work, shedding light on the ways in which his contributions resonated within and influenced the broader literary and intellectual traditions of his era in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The research methodology is structured to analytically and briefly describe the narrative, *My Life with Hunger, Love, and War*, as a main part of the study focusing on its three parts to extract themes, literary styles, and historical accounts. In addition, the task is meant to elaborate on some existing critical and biographical works on Aziz Thiya by some of his contemporaries. Furthermore, the narrative, *My Life with Hunger, Love, and War*, is a historical literary record, so the study attempts to situate it within the broader social-historical-political and cultural landscape of Saudi Arabia during the early 20th century. It also draws on historical accounts of World War I and the societal transformations in the Arabian Peninsula to contextualize Thiya's experiences.

## Results and Analysis

### His Literary Contributions: Critical Perspectives on "My Life with Hunger, Love, and War"

This literary book is one of the most important works of the creative writer, critic, and poet Aziz Thiya. In this literary work, he records his impressions, feelings, thoughts, and travels following extensive scientific experience and expertise in the fields of science, literature, knowledge, history, autobiographies, rational sciences, theoretical traditions, and so forth. It is one of his beneficial and useful books, influencing readers, students, and researchers who wish to gain insight into Saudi history from the outbreak of World War I until the founding of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. It is the result of several valuable and rare articles, which he first published in numerous magazines and newspapers, including "Iqraa" magazine and "Al-Yamamah" magazine. In it, he discusses his personal, psychological, intellectual, and literary circumstances, as well as his relationships with Saudi and Arab professors and friends. A few years later, in 1985, he began publishing the first part of his autobiography in a series of installments in Iqraa magazine, under the title "My Life with Hunger, Love, and War." The first installment began in issue 534 on November 29, 1405 AH. The final installment ended in issue 555 on May 6, 1416 AH in the same magazine. Later, Dr. Abdullah Mana' insisted on writing the remaining parts of this autobiography, so he began publishing the remaining installments of the first part series. He resumed the second part and some of the third part in the same magazine, starting with issue 572 on September 7, 1406 AH, and continuing through issue 617 on August 25, 1407 AH, where he wrote another thirty-six installments (Al-Akshmi, 2003, p. 261).

### Motives to Write "My Life with Hunger, Love, and War"

This narrative, in which Aziz Thiya chronicles his life's journey, is considered one of the most reliable geographical and historical sources, the effects of which the author has observed and reflected on Arab societies. Therefore, we can say that the narrative is an important historical document from a child who witnessed what he saw and heard and then documented it on paper. Aziz Thiya wrote his autobiography after he was over seventy years old, recalling in his powerful memory the days of his childhood and youth. He saw in this life lessons and morals worthy of being recorded and written down. He began writing this wonderful book, depicting his autobiography in it and shedding a bright light on the political, economic, social, religious, and other harsh and bitter events he experienced with his family in his home in Al-Madinah.

This narrative is replete with extraordinary events and circumstances. It is also filled with anecdotes, stories, anecdotes, conversations, and discussions. The reader will also find in it a depiction of traditional customs, noble morals, and ideal values that were prevalent in Arab society at that time. It is worth noting that Aziz Thiya did not limit his autobiography to merely narrating the political, economic, and social conditions, but rather he portrayed many prominent figures who played an effective role in shaping his unique personality. Perhaps this introduction enables us to ask the important question in the minds of everyone who reads it: Why did the writer Aziz Thiya write such an autobiography? These questions come to our minds as well as to the minds of researchers and those working in Saudi Arabic literature in particular. When we try to answer these questions, we find that Aziz Thiya has said, I tell you frankly, my son, that these questions have been circling in my mind, and the ability to answer them has been locked away in its depths for a long time. Perhaps I should say an age or a lifetime. I felt the urge to write about my life since I finished writing my first short story, which was published in the newspaper Sawt Al-Hijaz. At that time, I was a young man whose feelings and imagination were being toyed with by the touches of a crazy youth, its dreams, and its soaring horizons. Today, after I have turned seventy, I realize how far away, far-flung, and desolate it was. However, how close, specific, and

clear-cut it seemed, it was rich in promising possibilities, favorable opportunities, and paths strewn with roses and basil (Al-Akshmi, 2003, p. 10).

### Important Topics Covered in "My Life with Hunger, Love, and War"

The first part of the narrative begins with a proverb and wisdom that says, "Life is like an onion; a person peels it while crying" (Manna, 2016), followed by a dedication to his loving mother, Fatima bent Ahmed Safa. On the opening page of this part, Thiya says nothing but "To my mother." He then writes a valuable and rare introduction. It is a wonderful, precious letter from him to his son, Thiya Aziz Thiya, entitled "My Son." This valuable introduction spans approximately six pages. In it, he explains the meaning and goal of his autobiography and the fundamental motivations and motives that led him to write his memoirs. He then spoke about his birth, childhood, travels, and displacement with the rest of his family from his home in Al-Madinah to the Levant during the reign of Fakhri Pasha (the Ottoman governor of Al-Madinah during the Ottoman era).

Thiya also recounted his impressions, thoughts, feelings, and travels, which he witnessed with his own eyes and heard with his own ears between many cities in the Levant and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He also wrote about the conditions and circumstances that prevailed during that period, including the deaths of some of his family members in an atmosphere of grief, pain, suffering, fear, poverty, and misery. He also mentioned the difficult conditions, events, and incidents that his family and household were exposed to, beginning with thieves stealing their belongings from his home, followed by the subsequent developments and the experience of fear, hunger, poverty, misery, and suffering. All of this occurred when the siege of Al-Madinah intensified during the Arab Revolt. This detailed and accurate account of the details of his life represents a creative page for Aziz Thiya, a creative writer distinguished by his abundance of information. In addition to the elegance of style and depth of meaning.

The second part of the narrative begins with the title "My Childhood, Which Began with the Winds of World War I." In this part, he discusses the childhood that began with the winds of World War I. He says, "I hardly begin the next part of the story (My Life with Hunger, Love, and War) until I find myself and my childhood, which began with the winds of World War I, facing what I now call a 'battle'" (Thiya, 1990, p. 130). He also discusses his life and his personal biography. Thiya talks about his father, whom he lost during World War I and never saw or heard anything about. He had traveled to Russia during the reign of Sultan Abdul Hamid to raise funds to establish the Islamic University in Al-Madinah but never returned and was most likely killed on the way.

In this second volume, Thiya also discusses the events, facts, and harsh, bitter circumstances that followed his return with his mother to Al-Madinah and his suffering after the house was robbed by thieves, who stole everything in it. He mentions the surprising events that followed at that time. Thiya spoke about his mother's husband, explaining how, after returning from Damascus to Al-Madinah, his compassionate mother married a man who worked as an officer in the Ottoman Empire. Furthermore, he also discussed the changing circumstances that affected this small family, which included Aziz Thiya, his mother, and his new father, who was a senior officer. He discussed the impact of education, learning, and the curriculum of teaching at school and the book, as well as the various and changing events, incidents, and circumstances that befell him. He spoke about his enrollment in the prestigious Hashemite

School and the events and horrors that befell him during that period. The author's memoirs are not devoid of funny stories in his narrative (Part Two). Perhaps the most notable of these is his mischief in preparing and detonating a bomb, which frightened his family and neighbors. He also tells the story of his friend stuffing the skull of a dead man with chickpeas (Ash-Shammari, 2022). Another funny story in this part is about the Living Beetles:

الخنفاص الحية .

والقارئ لا بد أن يتساءل عن علاقة الخنفاص بتمثال العقربية؟؟ وكان هذا هو السؤال الذي همست به في أذن (أبو الفتوح) فضحك ضحكة خافتة وقلب تمثال العقربية - لأراه محفورا، وأخذ يتم العملية.. وضع إحدى الخنفاص في ف الحفرة. أو الفراغ المعد لها في التمثال كانت أصغر مما يجب... فجزب الثانية، واستقرت الثالثة... فطوقها بما حولها من الرفت... ووضعها أمامي على المنضدة؛ فأخذت تمشي (عقربية) بكل شكلها الخطر .

كان الأستاذ قد رفع صوته بكلمة (اقرأ يا ولد) ثم استغرق في النوم كعادته... فإذا (بأبو الفتوح) ينهض عن مقعده وينطلق على رؤوس أصابعه إلى الأستاذ، ويضع العقربية على صدره تقريبا.. الأعبج أن تلاميذ الفصل كانوا يتابعون حركة أبو الفتوح وانتظروا إلى أن عاد إلى مقعده؛ وقد أخذت العقربية تمشي على صدر الأستاذ، ليصرخ أحدهم:

عقربية... عقربية يا أستاذ..

ويتصايح آخرون:

عقربية... عقربية يا أستاذ..

ارتعب الأستاذ طبعاً ولا أدري كيف وقع بصره على صدره والعقربية لا تزال تتسلق أو تسرح عليه فأخذ يصرخ هو أيضاً:

- العقربية... العقربية يا حمزة... يا حمزة...

نهض عن الكرسي الذي يجلس عليه لتسقط العقربية وهو لا يزال يردد (العقربية العقربية يا حمزة).. وقبل ان يسمعه (حمزة سليم) ويدخل الفصل وفي يده (فردة نعاله الثقيلة)، كان الأستاذ قد خرج وهو لا يزال يردد (العقربية... العقربية). (Thiya, 2012, pp. 143-144)

Living beetles. .

The reader must wonder about the relationship between beetles and the scorpion statue? This was the question I whispered in Abo Al-Fotooh's ear. He laughed softly, turned the scorpion statue over, and began to complete the process. He placed one of the beetles in the hole. The space prepared for it in the statue was too small... He tried a second, and a third settled in... He surrounded it with tar... and placed it in front of me on the table; and it began to walk around (a scorpion) in all its dangerous form.

The teacher had raised his voice, saying, "Read, boy," and then fell asleep, as usual... Suddenly, Abo Al-Fotooh got up from his seat and tiptoed over to the teacher, placing the scorpion almost on his chest. The most amazing thing was that the class was following Abo Al-Fotooh's movements and waited until he returned to his seat; The scorpion began to walk on the professor's chest, and one of them shouted:

Scorpion... Scorpion, Professor...

Others shouted:

Scorpion... Scorpion, Professor...

The professor was terrified, of course. I don't know how his eyes fell on his chest, and the scorpion was still climbing or scurrying around. He also began to shout:

"Scorpion... Scorpion, Hamza... Hamza..."

He got up from the chair he was sitting on, and the scorpion fell, still repeating, "Scorpion, scorpion, Hamza." Before Hamza Salim could hear him and enter the classroom, holding his heavy sandal, the professor had already left, still repeating, "Scorpion... Scorpion."

Furthermore, in this second part of his life narrative, we recall important points, talents, and qualities that distinguished the writer Aziz Thiya, including his writing talent, a skill few possess. In addition, he possessed a vast store of vocabulary, primarily literary, narrative, and storytelling. With the distinction of a storyteller, he could elaborate on the sequence of life as if they were historical pages written by a historian, not a writer. That is Aziz Thiya, the novelist, short story writer, and critic.

The third part of this narrative comprises fourteen untitled chapters. Each of these separate chapters covers the circumstances, events, situations, and conditions experienced by the author during that period. This part discusses his youth and his enrollment in the prestigious Hashemite School. Thiya also discusses his enrollment in the School of Health, which enjoyed a strong reputation among scientific and literary circles at the time. The school is located in Makkah and attracts many students from around the world. His family and friends believed it was a medical school, but later it appeared that it was not a medical school but rather a nursing school. This part also includes excerpts from Dr. Khairy Al-Gabbani, one of the most prominent scholars and writers in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, who played a significant role in shaping his character and life. It was Al-Gabbani who provided him with a valuable opportunity, after seeing his talent, excellence, and preoccupation with reading and writing, to take up typing. Thiya became proficient and skilled at it, mastering rapid typing in an ideal time, reaching a typing speed of more than 35 words per minute. Once he had mastered this skill, and when the Public Health Department announced a job post for a clerk, he submitted the necessary paperwork for the vacancy. That same year, a typing competition was held under the auspices of the Public Health Department in Makkah Al-Mukarramah, attended by His Majesty the King's Deputy, His Highness Prince Faisal ibn Abdulaziz Aal Saud. He succeeded and won the competition, placing first. He received a generous prize from His Highness the Prince at the time: three pounds, a watch, and a bicycle.

The remarkable ability to weave intricate narratives, combined with an adept command over a vast lexicon and a sophisticated grasp of linguistic expression, was a defining characteristic of the esteemed novelist Aziz Thiya. His literary prowess was not confined merely to the art of storytelling; rather, it extended into a realm of creative brilliance where language was not just a medium but a living entity, shaped and molded to evoke emotion, provoke thought, and immerse readers in the world of his imagination. Despite his preference for simplicity in articulating events and ensuring accessibility for a diverse readership, his writing never lost its artistic flair. Even the most straightforward of phrases bore the imprint of his literary genius, resonating with readers across various intellectual and cultural backgrounds.

Aziz Thiya's literary vision was not restricted to any single demographic or social stratum. Instead, his works transcended societal classes, embracing readers from all walks of life. His narratives spoke to the common laborer and the working class, offering them reflections on their struggles and aspirations, while simultaneously captivating intellectuals, writers, and esteemed figures in the literary movement of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the broader Arab world. Through his inclusive and universally

appealing storytelling, he built bridges between the different layers of society, ensuring that literature remained a unifying force rather than an exclusive domain for the elite. Thiya's words carried depth for those who sought it and simplicity for those who needed it, proving that great literature is not defined by complexity alone but by its ability to touch the hearts and minds of all who encounter it.

In its three parts, the narrative novel *My Life with Hunger, Love, and War* is widely regarded as one of the finest works by Aziz Thiya. In this deeply personal account, he vividly chronicles his arduous journeys and travels alongside some of his family members from Al-Madinah to various cities across the Levant. This forced migration was a direct consequence of Fakhri Pasha's orders, which compelled them to leave their cherished homeland and seek refuge in unfamiliar lands during the turmoil of the First World War.

Throughout the novel, Thiya provides a detailed recollection of the different phases of his life, painting a comprehensive portrait of his intellectual, scientific, and professional development. He begins by describing the cultural and social environment into which he was born, offering insight into the early influences that shaped his character. He then delves into the story of his education, recounting his experiences as a student and the academic path he pursued with determination. His narrative extends to the various positions and occupations he undertook in his youth, shedding light on the responsibilities and challenges he encountered along the way.

Beyond these biographical details, the novel also explores the harsh realities of his existence, as Thiya candidly discusses the adversity he faced—poverty, deprivation, illness, and the constant specter of death that loomed over his life. He portrays the struggles of daily survival, the gnawing hunger that accompanied him through difficult times, and the broader hardships endured by those around him. What sets *My Life with Hunger, Love, and War* apart is its elegant and refined literary style, which maintains clarity and accessibility without sacrificing depth. Thiya's writing is marked by a graceful simplicity, free from unnecessary embellishments or obscure complexities. His ability to blend personal history with historical context results in a compelling and emotionally resonant narrative, allowing readers to not only witness his journey but to feel the weight of his experiences as if they were their own.

## Conclusion

It can be stated that this narrative is an excellent historical reference from an eyewitness to World War I, offering a unique perspective that captures the complexities and nuances of the time. The author provides firsthand accounts that not only recount personal experiences but also illuminate the broader socio-political dynamics at play. This makes the narrative one of the most reliable geographical and historical sources available today, as it meticulously details not just the events of the war itself, but also its profound impact and long-lasting repercussions on Arab societies. The researcher reflects on the transformative effects of the conflict, illustrating how it reshaped identities, economies, and political landscapes across the region.

Moreover, the researcher expresses a deep sense of longing for the opportunity for the literary figure Aziz Thiya could have the chance to complete his memoirs beyond the first twenty years of his life. He contemplates the richness that additional experiences could have brought to his narrative, especially since he began documenting the pivotal events of his life only when he reached the age of seventy. This late start in writing offers a poignant reminder of the importance of capturing one's story, as it highlights the wisdom and insights that come with age.

Aziz Thiya emerges as a towering figure in the literary and cultural history of Saudi Arabia, seamlessly blending personal narrative with historical and cultural documentation. His autobiography, *My Life with Hunger, Love, and War*, transcends mere personal memoirs, serving as a critical historical record of World War I's impact on Al-Madinah and the Arabian Peninsula. Thiya's ability to articulate the social and political upheavals of his time through a deeply personal lens distinguishes him as a writer of universal appeal. His legacy lies not only in his literary achievements but also in his role as a cultural bridge-builder, connecting diverse audiences through his writings. This study underscores the importance of Thiya's works as invaluable resources for understanding Saudi history, culture, and the enduring human spirit in the face of adversity.

## Recommendations

No matter how significant or well-conducted a study may be, it will always require further research to enhance its scope and deepen its knowledge, ultimately contributing to the intellectual and cultural advancement of society. This study proposes several recommendations for future research that could offer new perspectives on Aziz Thiya's literary and intellectual legacy. One suggested area for further investigation is an in-depth exploration of the potential content and insights that may have been lost due to Thiya's untimely passing before he could complete his autobiography. A meticulous examination of his unpublished works, personal correspondences, and archival materials could provide valuable information about the ideas and experiences he intended to document. Additionally, a comparative analysis of Thiya's works alongside those of his contemporaries could prove insightful. Such a study would not only highlight the distinguishing features of his literary and intellectual contributions but also position his work within the broader landscape of Arab literature and thought. By drawing comparisons between Thiya's writings and those of other prominent authors of his time, researchers could shed light on the unique stylistic and thematic elements that defined his work.

Another promising area of research is the investigation of Thiya's contributions to journalism and translation. Analyzing how his journalistic career and translation efforts shaped his literary style and intellectual discourse could provide a deeper understanding of his role in cultural exchange and public discourse. His engagement in these fields likely played a crucial role in shaping his perspectives and influencing the broader literary movement in the Arab world. Furthermore, a focused study on the cultural and political themes prevalent in Thiya's works could yield valuable insights into his worldview and the historical and societal factors that shaped his writing. Researchers in this area could explore how their literature reflected and responded to political ideologies, social changes, and cultural transformations in the Arabian Peninsula and beyond. By undertaking these further studies, scholars and researchers can ensure that Aziz Thiya's legacy continues to be explored, understood, and appreciated, enriching the fields of literature, journalism, and intellectual history.

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