EDITOR'S NOTE

This issue includes three articles and an interview. Marwa Essam Eldin Fahmy Alkhayat’s “Gothic Politics in Ahmed Saadawi’s *Frankenstein in Baghdad* (2013)” chronicles national disintegration through the use of monstrosity to “dismantle the US political culture in Iraq.” It defies the monstrous horror and fear of through the use of “modern Gothic monsters as an emblem of reverse colonialism.”

Ferial Menaifi’s “How can Social Cohesion Foster State-Building and Confront Tribalism?” is a comparative analysis of the “state-building process” in Tunisia and Libya after the so-called “Arab Spring.” Menaifi focuses on the role of “social cohesion” in Tunisia and Libya to explain the divergence in the efforts of state-building in the two countries.

K. Anjali Sharma and Suparna Naresh’s “Setting Narrative through Instagram Posts: A Study of BBC’s Reportage on Afghanistan” is a study that tries to “understand” the British Broadcasting Corporation’s Orientalist narrative that at times includes and at other times excludes historic facts to make its narrative dominant. The study examines BBC’s Instagram posts as the Taliban took over Afghanistan while the US was pulling out from the country.

Mohamed Salah Eddine Madiou’s “A Necessary Conversation with Rabih Alameddine” focuses on his novel “*An Unnecessary Woman*” a moving, passionate work about a fictitious 72-year-old woman during the Lebanese civil war of 1975–1990. Madiou’s perspicacious questions allow Alameddine to reveal much about the novel and how he came to settle on the character, the one that makes the novel the brilliant and somewhat mysterious work that it is.