



University Abderrahmane Mira of Bejaia
Faculty of Arts and Languages

Call for Papers

The Study Day on

“The 400th Anniversary of William Shakespeare’s Death, a year later to not forget”

May 8th, 2017

Yearly on the 24th of April, many world countries and cities, and in the vanguard, Stratford upon Avon, commemorate the anniversary death of the English Renaissance bard, William Shakespeare, to pay homage and reverence to the artist’s literary erudition and to avow his commendable contribution to the history of English language, literature and art as a whole. 401 years since his death on 23th April in the year of 1616, festivities, entertainments shows and literary tributes are held annually all around the world to credit Shakespeare’s genius in poetic and theatrical creation by staging his famous plays, reciting his memorable verse and debating his literary legacy in academic and literary circles. The Faculty of Arts and Languages of Bejaia University, Algeria, has the honor to host a scholarly study day on the 27th of April, 2017 under the title “*The 400th Anniversary of William Shakespeare’s Death, a year later to not forget*” to celebrate the legend’s 401centennial death.

William Shakespeare, the son of Stratford upon Avon and a contemporaneous of Elizabethan age, is one of the worthy literary jewels in the history of English literature whose works enriched England’s literary tradition and illuminated generations of writers in world literature. As both playwright and poet, Shakespeare fascinated the masses’ literary and erudite perusal with unforgettable characters (as Hamlet, Macbeth, Othello, among others), impressive expressions and phrases as well as a bulk of words in English still in vogue today. During the 401 years since his death, his works have been translated and read in many world languages, investigated and re-fashioned by writers in different literary traditions and, still, adapted in fields other than literature including film industry and media, children entertainments and cartoons, on-line documentaries and advertisement.

William Shakespeare’s literary carrier can be described as being inexhaustible in range, contributing with 38 plays and 132 poetic compositions, ground-breaking in terms of poetic

and dramatic techniques, inventive and idiosyncratic in terms of language's use. Shakespeare's theatrical works amount to a mastery of story-telling characteristics, a careful handling of conversations and dialogues and a use of complex characterization that drive and animate the narrative's plotline—all of which still dominate contemporary literary productions and theatrical performances. In poetry, Shakespeare's crafted deployment of rhetorical expressions that mesmerize the soul and the mind, his dexterous use of nature imagery, and his wide range making up of new words brought English language from the dust, draped it in new robe and carried out its coronation, against the shade of Latin and French, as a dominant and relevant language for theatre and poetry.

In drama as in poetry, Shakespeare, unlike his medieval predecessors and even some of his contemporaries, delights in universal human themes such as love, revenge, war, power, time and death and appeals to the sympathy and the feelings of common people. Yet, underlying these universal themes and audience is the fifteenth century literary revival of classical artistry shown in his theatrical tragedies and comedies which dress an Aristotelian genre as in *Romeo and Juliette* (1597), *Hamlet* (1602), *Macbeth* (1606), *The Tempest* (1610), *Much Ado About Nothing* (1623), the fifteenth century English people mundane belief in superstitions and black magic as it is evident in *The Tempest*, and the politics of power, the usurpation of authority and political intrigues typical of English renaissance royal kings clearly shown in his histories such as *Richard II* (1595), *Henry IV* (1596) and *Henry V* (1599).

In the light of some of the ideas mentioned above on Shakespeare's creativity in language, his ethical concern with the notion of power and its abuse, his dramatic techniques and poetic characteristics' weight and relevance in today literary aesthetics in theatre, poetry and novel writing, and, ultimately, his crafting of universal themes and human feelings and emotions, we invite professionals in literature and readers in Shakespeare to cast light on the following themes in William Shakespeare's works, both poetry and drama:

1. Shakespeare's Creativity and Contribution to the English Language.
2. Shakespeare on Morals and Ethics.
3. Racial and Gender Issues in the Works of William Shakespeare.
4. The Relevance of Shakespeare in Contemporary Literature, Art, Cinema and Media.
5. The Notion of History in Shakespeare's Understanding .
6. Shakespeare's Influence on Culture worldwide.
7. The Impact of Shakespeare's Writings on Algerian Literature and Culture.
8. Shakespeare's writings in Modern ELT Classes

The Chair of the Study Day:

- Dr. Nadia Ahouari-Idri – Department of English - University of Bejaia.

The Scientific Committee of the Study Day:

- Dr. Nadia Idri – Department of English - University of Bejaia.
- Dr. Salima Maouche– Department of English - University of Bejaia
- Dr. Nacera Senhadji– Department of English - University of Bejaia
- Dr. Rachid Mehdi– Department of English - University of Bejaia

The Organizing Committee of the Study Day:

- Mrs. Fadela Kaci, Head of the Department of English- University of Bejaia
- Mr. Sofiane Mammeri– Department of English - University of Bejaia.
- Ms. Assia Mohdeb– Department of English - University of Bejaia.
- Ms. Soumia Kherzi– Department of English - University of Bejaia.
- Ms. Ounissa Chioukh– Department of English - University of Bejaia.
- Mrs. Ourida Idres– Department of English - University of Bejaia.

Proposals Submissions:

- Please send Abstracts (≈ 300 words) with a Short Bio Data to: nadiaidri@gmail.com or emicobbejaia@gmail.com with “Shakespeare” as the subject (of the email).
- The first page of the document should contain the author’s full name, affiliation, e-mail and phone number.

Important Dates:

- Deadline for Receipt of Proposals: **March 30th, 2017.**
- Deadline for Notification of Acceptance: **April 10th, 2017.**

The event does not charge authors to pay a fee but accommodation is not covered by the organizers.

The event will host 15 speakers and five workshops.

Thank You!