## Abstract

## Functions of Arabic Literary Criticism up to the Eighth Hijri Century

Arabic literary criticism utilizes a number of distinctive critical functions and tools related to the text, the writer, the recipient, the literary and critical movement.

The importance of the subject of critical functions derives from various matters such as, but not limited to, the originality of this critical study that is concerned with criticizing old criticism, showing the functions of old literary criticism to benefit from them and employ their multiple uses, exploring the impact of critical functions in developing the literary and critical movement, in addition to highlighting various critical views on the functions and balancing and assessment of the same.

This critical study aims at achieving some objectives such as: studying the factors affect the formation of old critical functions, recognizing the effective critical functions which the old criticism achieved and exploring the old critical functions.

This critical research is based on the artistic methodology in studying Arabic criticism of criticism. It depends on the historical aspect in tracking and monitoring critics' views, with poetical and critical quotations required for the critical function. I have perused many old and recent resources related to the subject of my thesis. Books of criticism, literature, and rhetoric were my key resources.