

## **A SEMIOTIC – CULTURAL INVESTIGATION OF THE BESIEGED HOLY PLACE: THE CHURCH OF NATIVITY SIEGE AS A MODEL**

**Dr. khaleel Qatanani**  
Palestine / Islamic Daawa College  
Khaleela11@hotmail.com

### **ABSTRACT**

This study deals with the image of the Church of Nativity when it was besieged in 2002, which started from April 2 to May10 (Swayyed 2002). Specifically, through questioning, dialoguing and analyzing, the researcher looks closely and detects this sacred place, which look more graceful during the siege, in terms of the cultural, aesthetic and national dimensions. To be a relevant example, the researcher chose the collection of poems called “The Palestinian Odyssey” by the Palestinian poet, Jamal Salsa’a for the textual analyses.

**Keywords:** Church of Nativity, the siege, semiotics, Palestinian Odyssey.