

Eras Journal - Alyn Hine

Abstract of "The Influence of Russian Literature in Two Twentieth Century Arabic Periodicals"

Between 1882 and 1914, Russia's Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society established a number of schools in the Levant with the intention of safeguarding the future of Orthodox Christianity in that region. Chief amongst these were the seminaries of Beit Jala and Nazareth, schools designed with the purpose of training Arab teachers to educate the next generation of Orthodox Arabs.

Unintentionally, these schools also had a fundamental effect on the Arabic literary renaissance, instilling a passion for Russian literature amongst a group of Arab writers and journalists who would share their knowledge with the Arab world. This paper looks at two of the literary journals that were created by alumni of the Nazareth Seminary and at how they promoted Russian literature to an Arab audience.