Suspended on a Stake: From Apocalyptic Discourses to Poetics of Siege

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Hegemonic expressions of insecurity have often taken the specific form of an apocalyptic vision closely linked to political power with evocations of inevitable endings and necessary destruction, where humans are subject to immeasurable violence and are unable to intervene. The paper will address 2 questions: How do discourses of apocalypse translate into states of siege? To what extent do poetics of siege, literally under siege, put the "siege under siege," as Mahmoud Darwish would have it, as they call into question distinctions of inside/outside, exposing political and poetic violence, as well as bearing the fragile force of poetry?