

## **A Reading of the Myth of Icarus and its Structural Use in *Onitsha* written by Jean-Marie Gustave Le Clézio Based on the Views of Claude Lévi-Strauss**

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### **Abstract**

Le Clézio, the 20<sup>th</sup> century French novelist, highlights the mythical nature of his works through narration. For Le Clézio, Icarus emerges as a social figure to present historical and chronological changes as reversible concept. In *Onitsha*, temporal and spatial elements are in such order that a dream, the past, and a missing identity are reconstructed through societal events and natural elements. Creating a myth in *Onitsha* accompanies structural rules. Connections between mythical concepts reflect linguistic constancy. Therefore, the mythical nature of Icarus is considered as a linguistic and semantic structure, expressing temporal and spatial realities owing to a general structure. This mythical language consisted of incoherent elements shapes historical events. In *Onitsha*, temporal and spatial elements are in such order of a dream.

**Keywords:** myth, Icarus, *Onitsha*, Le Clézio, Lévi-Strauss

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