## Methodological clarifications (abstract)

All Arabs know the Stories of Juha. Elusive character, multi-faceted, who appears everywhere and at any time. He is not a jester, nor the village idiot. He is innocent or wise, according to the situations. Sometimes irreverent, but at the same time falsely simple minded. He is the ultimate antihero, shifted from his time, from social conventions and from common sense. He is the incarnation of fake ingenuity and subversive absurdity.

The character of Juha is the container for all kinds of unusual stories. From Morocco to China, people know him, even if his name changes sometimes. All cultures of these areas consider him as theirs. They adapt his stories into a local version. Even nowadays, we continue to see texts with Juha appearing by miracle in the modern life. It is a way to invite us to think about our own contradictions. The Syrien novelist Zakariyya Tâmir (زكريا تامر) is particularly successful in this exercise.

