1. Utility of Study of the Subject:

The present research work entitled ‘A Critical Study of the Contribution of Dr. Taha Husayn to Modern Arabic Prose Literature’ is indeed a fruitful and uphill study on the creative writings of Dr. Taha Husayn in various literary spheres like prose, poetry, drama, novel and short stories. His Contribution towards the enrichment and diversification of Modern Arabic Literature so profound that he can be termed as an Architect of critical writings in Arabic. He was certainly the all acknowledged dictator of literature with a towering personality and with command over all spheres of literature, old and new. His Contribution to literary research, social, autobiographical and historical studies in Arabic is invaluable.

Despite being a blind, his life was devoted much to the amelioration of Arabic language and literature. His undulating as well as melodious Prose writing is enriched with the correctness of language, rhetoric, sweet and suitable phrases, canorous style and sonorous words and diction. The importance of the present study lies in the fact through which it has been sought to show Dr. Taha Husayn as the modern Prose writer in Arabic literature on the basis of a thorough going assessment and analysis of his Prose works. In fact one of the major aims of the Study is to show Dr. Taha Husayn as one of the Pioneers in the field of Criticism of Arabic literature. We have tried to prove that Dr. Taha Husayn has developed a new style and applied Scientific method selecting them from a wide range of the World literature. For instance, he draws attention of the Orientalists and European scholars namely, Descartes, Taine, Carlo Nallino, Margoliouth, Nallino, Guido Santalana, Sainte Beave and so forth.

Another importance of the Present Study lies in its review of Arabic literature so as to find the exact place for Dr. Taha Husayn’s Prose works in it. He may
rightly be considered as prose and qasida writer applying new style in the writing. His Prose works are distinguished by their realistic presentation of Social problems, facilitating the trend for modern prose writings. In his Prose works, he has been found to blend the romantic and the modern applause of writing despite the Poetic style. Both his creative and critical Prose works have a unique place in Arabic literature as they anticipate the modern age by their humanistic bend of mind. Dr. Taha Husayn, by dint of his valuable writings, courage of conviction and his inimitable style in writing has a true succession on the Arab Writers and the Scholars as well, while he matures with time in such a way that he could develop the nation, true thought and feeling in Arabic like any great Writer of international repute.

2. Subject matter and Source:

The Present Study is related to Dr. Taha Husayn's Prose works while showing his commendable Contributions to the field of story, novel and drama. For the sake of convenience of Study, all his Works may be divided into four Categories:

A. Literary book
B. Social book.
C. Autobiographical book.
D. Historical book.

Therefore, all his literary, social, autobiographical and historical works are assessed and studied thoroughly, which are mentioned as:

A. Literary book.
1. Dhikhra Abi al-Ala, Dar al-Ma'arif, Cairo, 1914.
2. Ma Abi al-Ala fi Sijnih, Dar al-Ma'arif, Cairo, 1935
5. Suhuf mukhtarat min al-She'ir al-Tamthali indal Eunan, Cairo, 1920.
6. Min Hadith al-She'ir wal-Nathr (1934), Dar al-Ma'arif, Cairo, 1934.

B. Social book.
8. Ma wara al-Nahr, Dar al-Ma'arif, Cairo
9. Al-Muaddabuna fil Ard, Dar al-Ma'arif, Cairo, 1952
10. Dua al-Karawan, Cairo, 1942.
11. Shaharat al-Bus, Dar al-Ma'arif, Cairo, 1944
15. Mustaqbal al-Thaqafa fi Misr, Matbat al-Ma'arif, Cairo, 1944.

C. Autobiographical book:
16. Al-Ayyam, Part-I, Dar al-Ma'arif, Cairo, 1927
17. Al-Ayyam, Part-II, Dar al-Ma'arif, Cairo, 1939
18. Adib, Dar al-Ma'arif, Cairo, 1930.

D. Historical book:
19. Qadat al-Fikr, Dar al-Ma'arif, Cairo, 1925
21. Ala-Hamish al-Sira, Dar al-Ma'arif, Cairo,
   This book consists of three Volumes. 1st vol. and Vol.-II published in 1953
   and the Vol.-III in 1943.

22. Al-Fitnat al-Kubra consists of two Volumes.
   Vol.-I, pub. at Dar al-Ma'arif, Cairo, between 1909-47 and Vol.-II, pub. at Dar
   al-Ma'arif, Cairo, between 1953-61.

23. Al-Wad al-Haq, Dar al-Ma'arif, Cairo between 1954-60
In addition to these, we have gone through various publications, research articles dealing with different aspects of Prose works of Dr. Taha Husayn over and above some Prominent Dictionaries and Encyclopaedia.

3. Methodology:

The main aim of the Present work is to critically study the Prose writings of Dr. Taha Husayn. The method used in this research work had been critical, descriptive and biographical comparison. We have adopted the mixed method because it can neither be completely critical nor descriptive. The Social novels, Literary books, Autobiographical and Historical stories are studied on the basis of analytical and critical arts. The method applied in the books is Scientific and Comparative besides the new style. Therefore, it is confirmed that the method followed in the Present study is a mixture of all.

A close study of his Prose literature shows that it is Poetic prose reflecting the true picture of the Society. It is not correct to say that Dr Taha Husayn is simply guided by imagination in his autobiography rather it consists of truth which may be revealed only to imagination or intuition.

4. Works done on Dr. Taha Husayn:

1. Al-wasi, Jamaluddin, Taha Husayn baina ansarihi wa khusumihi.
8. Ismail, Dr. Aj Uddin, Dhikhra Taha Husayn, Cairo, 1979.
Chapter I: Life and Creative Personality of Dr. Taha Husayn.

In this Chapter, the early life of Dr. Taha Husayn and his innovative creations are discussed. His academic development, source of inspiration and moulding of his creative personality, the European life in general and the Azharite life in particular are also focussed through this Chapter.

Chapter II: A Study of the Literary Criticism of Dr. Taha Husayn.

In this Chapter, the contribution of Dr. Taha Husayn in the field of modern literary criticism and his great impact on the same by the Orientalists are discussed. His literary old as well as new method and the assessment of the criticism along with various causes for literary development are highlighted. It has been felt necessary to mention that the Poetry of different poets of varied periods with proper assessment by Dr. Taha Husayn, is stressed.

Chapter III: A Study of the Prose Works of Dr. Taha Husayn and the Contemporary Literary Trend:

In this Chapter, the Prose works of Dr. Taha Husayn and his commendable contribution to the field of story, novel and drama are described through Literary Social, Autobigraphical and Historical arena. In addition to that, there is a grand description of Dr. Taha Husayn's contemporary litterateurs and their valuable contributions to the field of Modern Arabic Literature.
Chapter IV : Dr. Taha Husayn's Prose-Style :
In this Chapter, his literary self Style with melodious character, uses of phrases, rhymes, repetition and the holy Quran based writing are included in details.

Chapter V : A brief Critical study of the Prose works of Dr. Taha Husayn :
In this Chapter, Some Prominent books of Dr. Taha Husayn are critically discussed while showing the new direction applied by his literary as well as critical appreciation in modern Arabic literature.

Chapter VI : Conclusion :
In this Chapter, we have given an idea of modernism in Arabic literature while Stressing on the whole literary previous discussion with the literary creativity, criticism, method, style and literary beauty of Dr. Taha Husayn and on the Contemporary literary trend.