

### **The Legendary forest and the Travelers**

With the development of science and the improvement of communication means between the East and the West, a flow of travelers started fluctuating, basically archeologists, and missionary priests of all nationalities.

These travelers used to suffer substantial hardships to cross the difficult and dangerous roads and paths. It is worth mentioning that a number of them were not able to reach the forest, so they relied on what they saw from afar, what they were told or what they imagined it to be through their readings of the Torah, the epics and legends in order to describe it.

Of the most prominent figures who visited the forest: Lamartine, Ibrahim Pasha, the administrative authority of the Ottoman (Al-Mutessarif – المتصرف) Rustom Pasha, Ameen Rihani, etc...