

MULTICULTURALISM: A CRITICAL ANALYSIS IN KHALED HOSSEINI'S NOVEL "THE KITE RUNNER"

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Abstract

The multiculturalism perspective has uniquely been reflected in Khaled Hosseini's novel *The Kite Runner*. The novel portrays the multicultural trends that a multifaceted society usually have like Kabul, Afghanistan. The cultural conflicts, relationship, betrayal, redemption, social strata and the like which a culturally diversified ethnic society usually sustain are well knit in Khaled Hossein's novel *The Kite Runner*. The protagonist Amir's emotions and his conflicts with class divisions and the customs of America and Afghanistan have vividly been portrayed in *The Kite Runner*. The dialogue between Amir and his childhood friend Hassan exposes the significance of class and origin in the ethnic diversity of Afghanistan. When Amir betrays Hassan and Rahim Khan, the friend and business partner of Amir's father, Baba, says to Amir that he could become good again if he adopts and saves Hassan's son Sohrab, who being an orphan now, as his parents have lost their lives in a mine blast in the conflict torn Afghanistan. Amir's Pashtoon and Hassan's Hazara heredity have a considerable discriminatory impact on the relation between them that is the feature a multi-ethnic society relies upon like Afghanistan. When the Soviet takes the control of Afghanistan and threatens Amir's anti-communist father into leaving the country, they flee to America and are confronted with both the loss of wealth and social status in the newly adapted society of America. Amir's father desires to return to Afghanistan but unfortunately dies before the chance comes. Amir, however, returns to Afghanistan where he is not warmly welcomes by the Taliban. Amir adopts Hassan's son Sohrab in redemption for his past unsympathetic acts towards Hassan. The tragedies of cultural conflict of immigrant Diaspora and foreign culture is a characteristic feature of multicultural society that has beautifully been woven in Khaled Hosseini's novel *The Kite Runner*.

Keywords: Khaled Hosseini, *The Kite Runner*, multiculturalism, ethnic diversity etc.