
**CONFLICTING
SITUATIONS OF
PERSONAL AS WELL
AS POLITICAL IN
KHALED HOSSEIN'S
NOVEL *THE KITE
RUNNER***

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The novel *the kite Runner* when first published in 2003, got its commendation as one of the finest novel which depicts the thorough picture of Afghanistan culture, class, tradition, its people, its boundaries and its political administration. Khaled Hosseini who is the author of this novel was born in Afghanistan land and brought up in United States. Being an immigrant Hosseini felt a deep nostalgic about his own nation where he spent his childhood with sugary reminiscences, but by then distorted by the nations degradation of its political turmoil. As a medical Practitioner, Hosseini started his writing in the year 2000 and wrote his first novel *The Kite Runner* with his homeland as its background. Part of the novel is based on Hosseini's childhood and he depicted the dilapidated condition of his land in recent years through this novel.

The Kite Runner is a novel which depicts the Afghanistan's early monarch to the Taliban's regime. It covers the last thirty years of Afghanistan which is been ruled by various invasions from the British to invasion of Soviet Union till the atrocious Taliban regime. Furthermore, the novel presents the complexity of Afghanistan's people conflicts through the characters with that of the conflicts that happen in Afghanistan during political movement.

It can be said that the novel presents the idea of personal conflicts of the Afghan people with that of the external conflict which happens in the political movements in the country. It delves in to the life's of the Afghan people their culture and tradition and their ethnic composition which is been considered as a great draft among the people of Afghanistan.

The novel is written in the first person narrative Amir, who plays the main character in the novel. It is he whose personal conflicts travel along with the nation's conflict in the novel. Amir, who has lost his mother since he was born, is concerned with his fathers care and affection. On the other, Baba who shows parallel love to his servant's son Hassan treats both as equivalent. Amir, who is conflicted by his father's treatment of both, always considers Hassan as an interrupter between him and his father's bond. Even though Amir accepts him as a good friend, a squeeze of conflict affected him to grow strong bond with Hassan. The settings is been made in Kabul, and the early part of the novel shows the vivid picture of the Kabul background precise from the Bazaars, cinema theatres and to the kite fighting which is considered as a great happening in Kabul. With, the backdrops of the environment, the characters blood tie are even more made with intensive feeling. As the novel proceeds, it shows the various invasions of socio-political set up of Afghanistan from the late 1970s to the fundamentalist Taliban government of the 1990s. The characters in the novel who travel along with the various

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invasions into political setup, faces various complexities in their own life. Hassan, who is considered as a servant's son of Amir, belongs to cast down Hazara community. The novel portrays how the Hazara people in the hands of both Pushtan based government and ethnic disparity face conflicts in their living. In the case of Amir's treatment towards Hassan also shows a kind of discrimination beyond their friendship. Khaled Hosseini through these characters interweaves the ethnic discrimination, the detailed history of his nation and the daily struggles of Afghan people. In particular, when it is to show the difference in ethnicity, it reflects the treatment of Hazara people in the hands of Government and also among the people of Afghanistan. Hassan who is considered as a Hazara is been brutally raped by Assef who considered Hassan as his slave. On the other hand the same kind of treatment is given by his own friend Amir, who just wants to get rid of him and named him as a thief. Even though the years rolled on, the same continued in the case of Soraya son of Hassan, being abused by Assef, who is then the Taliban Chief. So it is revealed that through out the novel, the author portrays the inner conflicts of the Hazaras is been shown that how they are been treated in the name of Ethnicity.

While the ethnic discrimination played a major role for the annihilation of Hazara people in Afghanistan, the people of Afghan internally frustrated by the continuous alter of nation's monarchy. During the civil war between the Soviet Union and the Taliban's, the most affected were the Afghan people who lost all of their belongings and even started to migrate to the neighbouring countries. In the novel we can see how Amir and Baba with great difficulty escapes from Kabul to Pakistan and then fled to America. During their immigration it shows that how the people internally suffered for their loss of money and wealth and most of all their relations in the national trauma. Thus the detailed description of Afghanistan's pathetic condition under the trauma is covered in Hassan's letter to Amir in the later part of the novel:

“Amir agha... Alas the Afghanistan of our youth is long dead. Kindness is gone from the land and you cannot escape the killings. Always the killings. In Kabul, fear is everywhere; in the streets, in the stadium, in the markets, it is a part of our lives here, Amir agha. The savages who rule our watan don't care about human decency”. (KR, 189-90)

Another major reflection upon the personal and political conflicts of the characters is when they felt atrocities and sufferings during the regime of Taliban's. When the Taliban's rule came into country, the people of Afghan at first felt happy that their nation has found a sustained administration as these Taliban's followed rigid Islamic regulations. But then these rules and regulations has become a threat to their living. These Taliban's ruled over people by placing firm restrictions like not of using televisions at home, closing of theatres in the cities, men were strictly made to grow bear and of all women of Afghan were the large sufferer that they were treated with great atrocities. In the case of this novel, the treatment of the Hazara community in the hands of Pushtan ruled Taliban's is shown clearly that how the people where discriminated even by the administration but at the same time it ventures the condition of Afghan people how their personal life is been tattered because of the political disorder of the nation.

To conclude in a state of the Afghanistan's true appearance of its development is clearly show through the novel, it portrays that how a social life of the nation will be tattered when it

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lacks a deficient political order. The author also intimidated that countries welfare is based upon the backdrop of the peoples living and harmony. The author has also reflected the same in this novel, the exceptional Afghan people conflicts which been combined with his imagination with the real life facts of the Afghan society. As an Afghan-American writer and a true nationalist Khaled hosseini has multitude through the Afghanistan's commotion which has caused the lives of many Afghan people and the prospect of the change which is in process still now. His state of this conflict upon personal and political of the characters in the novel proves that if a social system of a nation is not established effectively, it reasons great destruction only to its people.

References

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