

**DISTRESS OF WOMEN IN KHALED HOSSEINI'S "A THOUSAND
SPLENDID SUNS"**

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ABSTRACT

Psychological distress is described as the maladaptive behavior observed in relationships, which is caused by unsatisfactory relationships of the past or present. The existence of psychological distress has been recognized for thousands of years. Afghanistan has a variety of issues, including terrorism, politics, and religion. The patriarchal nature of society may be a major source of hardship and violence. Terrorist acts, forced marriages, reproductive guilt, male possession, economic reliance, and gender violence affect women more than men. In this study, Khaled Hosseini's female characters from the realm of trauma and anguish are examined for their psychological distress.

Keywords: Psychological Distress, Afghanistan, Hosseini, Terrorism, and Violence.

Khaled Hosseini wrote his novel with pangs of Countrymen and women and their suffering, which pushes them to hell. He not wrote only about the suffering but also a breathtaking canvas, so he believes in making this Afghanistan to once it was by removing all sorts of problems like Religion, Politics, and Terrorism. He wrote three novels so far, including *The Kite Runner*, *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, and *And the Mountains Echoed*. The primary purpose of this study is to look at however Afghan girls are depicted in the well-known Afghan novel, specifically *The Kite Runner* and *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. To the current finish, it is vital to supply a quick summary of the overall scenario of Afghan girls in four important historical periods during which women's scenario was perpetually and considerably modified.

The patriarchic structure of the society may be a dominant supply of violence and suffering inside the novel. Forced wedding is one in every one of them (Borer, 2009). Having lost her mother, Mariam yields to her father's needs and marries a person who is twenty-five years older than her. Likewise, Laila is obligated to marry Rashid as a result of the patriarchic structure of the society doesn't enable her in-tuned a baby out of the union. She is well privy that her girl as a bastard can suffer from the scolding glimpse of society as Mariam went through constant adversity throughout her life.

Another product of the patriarchic structure of the society is patriarchic act of terrorism (Piispa, 2002). The term patriarchic act of terrorism, planned by Johnson (1995), is that the terrorist management of wives by husbands that involves the systematic use of not solely violence however conjointly monetary subordination, threats, isolation, and different management ways. Because of the patriarchic structure of society, the heroines of the novel fall victim to the patriarchic act of terrorism. In their everyday lives, Mariam and Laila expertise divergent varieties of violence like scold, scorn, threatening, and physical violence. In one instance, Mariam wears very little make-up for the primary time in her life, however her husband's antipathy watch her face makes her disparately feel contrite. In another instance, Rashid lots scorn on Mariam in calls her an illegitimate village lady whose hefty quality is to be "a sensible employee while not pretensions" (Hosseini, P. 222). He typically throws the food at Mariam once it is not been ready precisely to his style. One night, he forces her to place a couple of pebbles into her mouth as a penalty for not making ready the food to his taste: "He shoved two fingers into her mouth and pried it open, then forced the cold, arduous pebbles into it, urged her to chew it" (Hosseini, P. 104).

The burden of reproductive blame embodies another feature of structure (Inhorn, 1996). In a very patriarchic society, girls gain respect and power by manufacturing a son for the family. In light-weight of constant ideology, girls expertise reproductive blame for generative failing or manufacturing solely daughters (Inhorn, 1996; Mann 1986). Once Mariam fails to own a baby, her husband grows a lot of bitter. He forever finds an excuse to mistreat her. Despite how completely she submits to his desires and demands, she is not any quite a "house cat" for Rashid (Hosseini, 2007, P. 98). Laila, whose first kid may be a girl, experiences constant sick treatment. Rashid overtly expresses his anger of getting a girl whereas related her to the house from the hospital, He let the gate go untimely, and it nearly hit the lady on the face.

He crossed the yard in a very few, fast steps, the front entrance to the house opened. From the corridor, Mariam saw the lady, a swaddled bundle within the hook of her left arm. She had one foot outside, the opposite within, against the door, to forestall it from springing shut. She was round-backed over and was unarticulate, attempting to succeed in for the bag of belongings that she had place down so as to open the door. Her face was grimacing with effort. (Hosseini, P. 236)

When Rashid talks regarding Laila's girl, he calls her a thing: "sometimes, I swear, typically i need to place that factor in a very box and let her float down national capital watercourse. Like baby Moses" (Hosseini, 2007, P. 237). Different instances inside the novel powerfully represent the lady as unwanted being in a very robust patriarchic society. As an example, one day, Mariam, attempting to persuade Laila that the burden of her sterility which of Laila's bearing lady is that the same within the eyes of Rashid, says to Laila that her sin is even less venial than that of Laila as a result of she gave him a girl. In another instance, talking regarding their kid, Rashid mulishly insists that his kid may be a boy and he can name him Zalmai, and at last he says to Mariam that "if It is a woman, and it isn't, but, if It is a woman, then you'll be able to opt for no matter name you want" (Hosseini, 2007, P. 87).

Sense of male possession embodies another facet of the structure (Piispa, 2002). The role of Rashid as a someone and therefore the corresponding role of Mariam and Laila as possession is dominant inside the novel. In one scene wherever Rashid talks regarding trendy men and

their treatment of their wives, he appraises Mariam that seeing the boys who don't have any management over their wives is embarrassing for him. He forewarns her that wherever he comes from, a woman's face is simply her husband's business. Sense of male possession any receives a lot of stress throughout the novel. In another instance, Rashid tries to create Laila conscious of his responsibility for guarding her honor as a husband, and reciprocally, he warns her to avoid deed the house while not his company. By constant token, once Rashid and Mariam withdraw, Rashid greets his friend, whereas Mariam stands some feet away. Rashid doesn't introduce her to his friends. Male management and limiting of the women's way, as Piispa (2002) claims, area unit distinguished within the patterns of a patriarchic society.

Not solely economic dependence, however conjointly unsafe outside world ensuing from war and structure don't enable the heroes to depart the violent relationship. The patriarchic structure of the society permits Rashid to require up the role of offender and successively, renders Mariam and Laila victim. As became evident throughout the discussion of fantasy theme of sufferance, girl's area unit degraded and brutalized in a very patriarchic society, whereas male perpetrators aren't control answerable for victimizing. They're not infernal as a result of the authorities of the society isn't committed to preventing it (Hunnicut, 2009). In one instance,

Rashid provides warning to Laila that if, one day, he goes to the religious movement and tells them of his suspicions regarding her, they're going to unquestionably believe him and administer severe penalty for her. Mariam and Laila area unit well apprised that within the eyes of the religious movement, Najibullah, as a communist and therefore the leader of the frightening KHAD, is "only slightly a lot of contemptible than a woman (Hosseini, 2007, P. 279).

Hence, not solely war begets violence and brutality inside the planet outside, however it conjointly reinforces the violence within the menage. Mariam and Laila hear of men "who, within the name of honor, would kill their wives or daughters if they'd been raped by the militia" (Hosseini, 2007, P. 253). The worry of being raped and tortured at the hands of the mujahideen and therefore the religious movement severely limits Mariam and Laila's movement. Hence, at home, Rashid exercises his male dominance and power, and, outdoors, Mariam and Laila area unit barely visible.

Against such a scene, the anti-feminine side of war and completely different aspects of structure together with forced wedding, patriarchic act of terrorism, the burden of reproductive blame, and therefore the sense of male possession represent gender violence and domination over girls (Borer, 2009; Hunnicut, 2009; Inhorn, 1996; Johnson, 1995; Piispa, 2002). Acceptance, because the dominant brick response of the heroes, conveys the heroes' passivity. As such, they're not perceived as acting heroically after they settle for their fate and taste it. Rather, their victim age is extremely strengthened as a result of the villains coalesce to render them a lot of invisible within the context of Afghan society and cause them to be a lot of burdened and dependent within the personal sphere of the family. On the opposite hand, their heroic action is discovered after they resist to domination. However, their resistance is most frequently galvanized by their devotion and compassion.

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