

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of the introduction of the research. It describes background of the study, previous study, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, research method and research paper organization.

A. Background of the Study

Mario Klarer (1999:1) stated that Literature is referred to as the entirety of written expression, with the restriction that not every written document can be categorized as literature in the more exact sense of the word. Literature is related to somebody feelings. Literature is divided in two of Prose and Poetry, Prose is a literary work that is not bound while the poem is a literary work that is bound by certain rules and regulations. Example of works of Literature Poetry is Poetry, Traditional poetry, and while the poem is an example of literary prose is Novel, Story or Short Story and Drama Literature that can be enjoyed by many people such as, Novel, Poetry, Radio, Music, Drama, Novel, Poetry, painting and short story.

Range of approaches from literary in a novel is Psychology, Psychoanalytic Critism, Sociological Approach, Humanism, Feminist, Marxism, Structuralism, etc. A Feminist Approach is one of many approaches in the literature. The British social scientist Christ Weddon (1987) (in Mandell, 1995: 4) states that feminism is a politics directed at changing

existing power relations between woman and man in the society. Child Bride will be analyzed using a Feminist Approach.

Khaled Hosseini is originally published *A Thousand Splendid Suns* on May 22, 2007 by Rivekhead Books a member of Penguin Group (USA) Inc, New York with ISBN: 1-4295-1460-4. English Language is original language of the book. This novel consists of 51 chapters and 219 pages. Then, it is divided into four parts. The phrase "*A Thousand Splendid Suns*," itself is taken from the poem by Saib-e-Tabrizi. The background of the content novel *A Thousand Splendid Suns* is Afghanistan background.

A Thousand Splendid Suns goes back to press almost daily its first week on sale, in the U.S building to 1,255,000 copies in print. In second week, the book continues to sale of stores, with another 150,000 more copies printed. The paperback of *A Thousand Splendid Suns* has spent seventy five weeks on The New York Times paperback fiction bestseller list.

A Thousand Splendid Suns debuted as the #1 book in the nation and this novel is placed in the top position for 4 straight weeks. In addition to being #1 on The New York Times hardcover fiction list, it was also #1 on nearly every national bestseller list, including USA Today, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, San Francisco Chronicle, Boston Globe, Chicago Tribune, Denver Post, Rocky Mountain News, Publishers Weekly, and Fort-Wayne Journal-Gazette. It was also #1 on the overall Book Sense list as well as #1 on regional Book Sense lists across the nation.

Currently, the novel has sold nearly 8 million copies in the US with many more millions all over the world at about in 40 countries.

The publisher of the novel, Rivekhead Books also gets award. It comes from Belfast Education & Library Board, Northern Ireland, Liverpool Libraries & Information Services, England, Edinburgh City Libraries & Information Service, Scotland, London's Public Libraries, England, Richland County Public Library, Columbia, USA, Pikes Peak Library District, Colorado Springs, USA, and The National Library of Uganda, Kampala.

A Thousand Splendid Suns is the second novel of Khaled Hosseini after *The Kite Runner*. This novel published on May 22, 2007 is divided into four parts. First, the focus is on Mariam. Second, the focus is on Laila. Third, the focus is on Mariam and Laila. Then, last part focus is on Laila. *A Thousand Splendid Suns* tells about the life of women in Afghanistan who are still under patriarchal culture and it happened in late of twentieth century until early of twenty first century. In this story of the novel, Hosseini presents the introducing the major character, Mariam and Laila. Jalil is a rich man in Herat and he has three wives and nine legitimate children. Nana is the housekeeper in Jalil's house Nana and Jalil make love. To cover Jalil's reputation, Nana is sent to Gul Daman.

Nana and Mariam live in kolba. Mariam is born as *harami* girl. She only lives with her mother, she doesn't have friend. Mariam is not well educated child. Her mother never permits her to study in the formal

education, but she has Mullah Faizullah as her teacher. He teaches reading Al Quran.

Jalil always visits her every Thursday. He tells everything about Herat as the great city. He also tells story about Pinocchio. Mariam wants to watch in Jalil Theater. But Jalil and Nana do not permit. When, Mariam birthday, she goes to Herat and arrives in her father house. Mariam has not get respond from Jalil. Jalil's driver delivers her at her house. Then, Mariam finds her mother dead, Nana's neck is hanging of string. After one week she lives in Jalil's house, Jalil makes decision to marry her with Jalil's friend, Rasheed. Rasheed is a successful shoemaker in Kabul. Mariam doesn't meet him yet and love him, so she refuses him. Jalil ignores her and enforces to keep marrying with him. Before she leaves her father's side, Mariam swears she will never again speak to him for not allowing her to stay in his house.

In the beginning of their marriage, Rasheed loves and cares to Mariam. He brings Mariam a gift. He does not allow Mariam to go outside without him, and she must also dress in a burqa whenever they leave Rasheed's house. But when Mariam can not give a son, he changes cruel and brutal. He is very different than before. Mariam is routinely beaten without reason.

Laila is Rasheed and Mariam neighbor. She is beautiful with green eyes and golden hair. Laila is an educated girl and strong girl. When, she is in teenager and falling in love with her boyfriend Tariq, she makes love with him. Tariq does not know about it. Tariq leaves to Pakistan to save his parents. When Laila and her parent get prepared, a bomb is blown. Then her

parent was dead. Laila saved by Rashed and Mariam. Rashed pays someone to bring news that Tariq was died. Rashed wants Laila married with him. Laila thinks if she goes to search Tariq in the war situation, she and her child are not saving. So, she is forced to accept Rashed as her husband.

Mariam is jealous since the arrival of Laila in her house. Because Laila is get different treatment. Rashed loves her very much. After Laila borns a daughter, her name is Aziza, Rashed changes to be cruel and torture. Laila and Mariam becomes closed friend, as if mother and daughter. Laila and Mariam try to leave Rashed house. But, the police deliver them back Rashed's house. Rasheed is so angry and punish both of them. Then, the anger of Rashed more is increased when Zalmai, Rashed and Laila child, inform to Rashed if Tariq visits Laila. Rasheed tries to kill Laila and suddenly Mariam kills Rasheed with a shovel. Mariam asks for Laila to leave Kabul and Mariam herself goes to police in order to save Laila and the children. Mariam accept her punishment, and then Laila and Tariq marry and start a new life in Pakistan. They work for the same hotel at which Tariq worked before, and they live in a shack behind the hotel. Laila, Tariq and their children, Aziza and Zalmai live happily. In the end, after the United States invades Afghanistan, Laila come back in their homeland, Kabul.

The author of *A Thousand Splendid Suns* is Khaled Hossein. Khaled Hossein was born on March 4, 1965 in Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan as the oldest of five children. Khaled Hosseini is an Afghan-born American novelist and physician. He is a citizen of the United States where he has lived

since he was fifteen years old. His 2003 debut novel, *The Kite Runner*, was an international bestseller, with the paperback spending 101 weeks on the bestseller list (#1 for 4 of those weeks). In 2007, it was followed by *A Thousand Splendid Suns* which has spent 21 weeks on *The New York Times* Best Seller list for paperback fiction and 49 weeks on *The New York Times* Best Seller list for hardcover fiction (#1 for 15 of those weeks). The two novels have sold more than 38 million copies internationally.

When Khaled Hosseini was a child, he read a great deal of Persian poetry as well as Persian translations of novels ranging from *Alice in Wonderland* to Mickey Spillane's Mike Hammer series. Hosseini's "very fond memories of [his] childhood" in peaceful pre-Soviet era Afghanistan, as well as his personal experiences with Afghanistan's Hazara people led to the writing of his first novel, *The Kite Runner*. One Hazara man, named Hossein Khan, worked for the Hosseinis when they were living in Iran. When Khaled Hosseini was in third grade, he taught Khan to read and write. Although his relationship with Hossein Khan was brief and rather formal, Hosseini's fond memories of this relationship served as an inspiration for the relationship between Hassan and Amir in *The Kite Runner*. In his 2013 novel, "And The Mountains Echoed" Hosseini draws on influences he gained while his family lived in exile in Paris as well his experiences with children in Afghanistan.

In 2003, Hosseini released his first novel, *The Kite Runner*, the story of a young boy, Amir, struggling to establish a closer rapport with his father and coping with memories of a haunting childhood event. The novel is set in

Afghanistan, from the fall of the monarchy until the collapse of the Taliban regime, and in the San Francisco Bay Area, specifically in Fremont, California. Its many themes include ethnic tensions between the Hazara and the Pashtun in Afghanistan, and the immigrant experiences of Amir and his father in the United States. The novel was the number three best seller for 2005 in the United States, according to Nielsen BookScan. *The Kite Runner* was also produced as an audiobook read by the author. *The Kite Runner* has been adapted into a film of the same name released in December 2007. Hosseini made a cameo appearance towards the end of the movie as a bystander when Amir buys a kite which he later flies with Sohrab.

Hosseini's second novel, *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, was published in 2007, and it also set in Afghanistan. The story addresses many of the same issues as Hosseini's first, but takes a more feminine perspective. It follows the story of two women, Mariam and Laila, whose lives become entwined. The story is set during Afghanistan's tumultuous thirty-year transition from Soviet occupation to Taliban control and post-Taliban rebuilding. The novel was released by Riverhead Books on May 22, 2007, at the same time as the Simon & Schuster audio book. The movie rights have been acquired by producer Scott Rudin and Columbia Pictures.

On October 29, 2012, Riverhead Books confirmed that Hosseini's third novel *And the Mountains Echoed* would be released on May 21, 2013. Hosseini said:

I am forever drawn to family as a recurring central theme of my writing. My earlier novels were at heart tales of fatherhood and motherhood. My new novel is a multi-generational family story as well, this time revolving around brothers and sisters, and the ways in which they love, wound, betray, honor, and sacrifice for each other. I am thrilled at the chance to share this book with my readers.

The study or research of *A Thousand Splendid Suns* is important due to the four reasons:

First, this study is crucial to be conducted due to the pedagogical elements of empowerment in *A Thousand Splendid Suns* (2007) novel. Empowering students are vital factors that will build a better academic atmosphere in respecting life and survive in the facing the bad situation.

Second, investigating the meaning of Woman's that Child Bride. In this study is the key point is the effort of empowering a child woman to survive her life, when war situation and have coarse husband.

Third, the present writer will be a teacher later and this project is necessary to be carried out to widen, enlarge, and insert more knowledge to her/his professional competence as teacher, so in examining a case about a child who tried to survive from his husband that always crude and trying to survive in the war situation. This story is very interesting to study.

Finally, the last reason of the research is to supply theoretical framework in the research of literature in the English Department in order to gain experience, understand, and apply the theory of A Feminist Approach to Analysis about the Child Bride of woman on the bad situation.

In this thesis, the writer is encouraged to entitle the research as the following: “Child Bride reflected in Khaled Hosseini’s *A Thousand Splendid Suns* Novel (2007): A Feminist Approach.”

B. Previous Study

The researcher realizes that this research is not the first research. Hopefully, these studies are going to help the reader to understand the weakness and the greatness of Khaled’s work from different point of view.

To prove the originality of the research, the research will show the previous study dealing with the research.

The first research is review form by Baker entitled *A Brutal but Moving Story of Life in Afghanistan* (2007). He stated that *A Thousand Splendid Suns* is an unforgettable portrait of a wounded country and a deeply moving story of family and friendship. It is a beautiful, heart-wrenching story of an unforgiving time, an unlikely bond and an indestructible love. Mariam is only fifteen when she is sent to Kabul to marry the troubled and bitter Rasheed, who is thirty years, her senior. Nearly two decades later, in a climate of growing unrest, tragedy strikes fifteen-year-old Laila, who must leaves her home and join Mariam unhappy household. Laila and Mariam find consolation in each other, their friendship to grow as deep as the bond between sisters, as strong as the ties between mother and daughter. With the passing of time comes Taliban rule over Afghanistan, the streets of Kabul loud with the sound of gunfire and bombs, life in a desperate struggle against starvation, brutality and

fear, the women endurance tested beyond their worst imagination. Yet love can move a person to act in unexpected ways, lead them to overcome the most daunting obstacles with a startling heroism. In the end it is love that triumphs over death and destruction.

The second research is also review form that was done by Kakutani (2007) entitled *A Woman's Lot in Kabul, Lower Than a House Cat's*. "*A Thousand Splendid Suns*," focuses on mothers and daughters, and friendships between women. Whereas "*Kite Runner*" got off to a gripping start and stumbled into contrivance and sentimentality in its second half, "*Splendid Suns*" starts off programmatically and gains speed and emotional power as it slowly unfurls. In the opening chapters of the book the characters are so one-dimensional that they feel like cartoons. Laila is the great beauty, with a doting father and a protective boyfriend, a lucky girl whose luck abruptly runs out. Mariam is the illegitimate daughter of a bitter woman and a disloyal father, an unlucky girl whose luck turns from bad to worse. And Rasheed is the evil bully, a misogynist intent on debasing his two wives.

Gradually, however, Mr. Hosseini's instinctive storytelling skills take over, mowing down the reader's objections through sheer momentum and will. He succeeds in making the emotional reality of Mariam and Laila's lives tangible to us, and by conjuring their day-to-day routines; he is able to give us a sense of what daily life was like in Kabul, both before and during the harsh reign of the Taliban. He shows us the Taliban's

“beard patrols,” roaming the streets in Toyota trucks “on the lookout for clean-shaven faces to bloody.” He shows us hospitals turning away women in labor because men and women are supposed to be seen at different hospitals. In the end, it is these glimpses of daily life in Afghanistan, country known to most Americans only through news accounts of war and terrorism that make this novel, like “*The Kite Runner*,” so stirring, and that distract attention from its myriad flaws.

The third research is review form that was done by Agustina (2007) entitle *Against Patriarchy in Khaled Hosseini's A Thousand Splendid Suns*. The focus of this study is how against patriarchy is reflected in A Thousand Splendid Suns novel by Khaled Hosseini. The outcome of the study is shown in the following conclusions. First, from the structural analysis of the novel, it shows that Khaled Hosseini wants to illustrate and convey his idea about how women are subordinated and exploited in patriarchal culture and how to speak against patriarchy. Second, based on Feminist Approach, the conclusion is that there is against patriarchy in the Khaled Hosseini’s A Thousand Splendid Suns novel. Hosseini creates that the inner strength of women will be more than the strength of men when they show up. He makes the paradigm that women are not always weak, incapable and depending on men. Women’s character can break the type of women’s position, right, role and participation that are categorized by patriarchal culture. Therefore, the ability of women to speak against patriarchy is categorized as a feminist attitude.

The four researches is review form that was done by Priyanto (2012) entitle *Against The Stereotype Of Being The Second-Class Of The Society In Alexandra Ripley's Scarlett Novel (1991): A Feminist Approach*. He states that in this novel, Alexandra Ripley wants to illustrate how women are subordinate in patriarchal society. Second, in this novel, Alexandra Ripley wants to say that women need to against the stereotype of being the second-class of the society being to get independence in their life and that women's independence is not given but must be struggled for. The last, in this novel Alexandra Ripley wants to assert that in order to get their independence; women should rebel against patriarchal society in the issue of women's independence, position, role, and participation.

The five researches is review form that was done by Darmawanti (2012) entitled *African-American Women's Suffering In Alice Walker's The Color Purple (1982) Novel: A Feminist Approach*. The focus of this study is how African- American women's suffering is reflected in The Color Purple novel by Alice Walker. The outcome of the study is shown in the following conclusions. First, from the structural analysis of the novel, it shows that Alice Walker wants to express her idea about how women are suffered by their society that is caused by the white and black men. Second, based on Feminist Approach, the conclusion is that there is African – American women's suffering in the Alice Walker's The Color Purple novel. Walker creates that unfair treatment will always result

rebellion. Third, this novel presents the social construction of women who have suffering and pains in their lives can.

Considering the five previous studies above, the researcher wants to conduct the close and almost similar research. The similar with the first, second, and third research is about the object (data) of the study, and similar with the fourth and fifth research is about the child bride issue. The difference with the first, second, and third studies is about the type of the study, issue of the study, and objectives of the study, and difference with the fourth and fifth research is about the (data) of the study. That is why this research is crucial to be conducted. So, the writer deals with the research entitled *Child Bride Reflected on Khaled Hosseini's A Thousand Splendid Suns (2007) novel: A Feminist Approach*.

C. Problem Statement

The problem statement of this study is “How Child Bride is reflected in Khaled Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Suns* Novel (2007)?”

D. Limitation of the Study

Based on the research, this paper has limit action to make research easy and clear of what will be analyzed. This paper focus on describing and analyzing reflection of Child Bride in Khaled Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Suns* novel using a feminist approach.

E. Objective of the Study

1. To analyze Khaled Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Suns* (2007) novel based on Structural Elements of the novel.

2. To describe Child Bride in *A Thousand Splendid Suns* (2007) novel based on Feminist Approach.

F. Benefit of the Study

The benefits expected from this study of *A Thousand Splendid Suns* (2007) novel is as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The study is expected to contribute to the development of the body knowledge, especially the literary study in Khaled Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Suns* (2007).

2. Practical Benefit

The study is expected to enrich the knowledge and experience of the writer and other student at UMS or other Universities interested in literary studies on the novel based on Feminist Approach.

The study is expected to enrich the knowledge and experience of the writer and other student at UMS or other Universities interested in literary studies on the novel based on Feminist Approach.

G. Researches Method

The research method of this study will be explained into five parts, namely (1) type of the study, (2) object of the study, (3) type of the data and data source, (4) method of collecting data and (5) method of analyzing data.

1. Type of the Study

In this study, the researcher applies descriptive qualitative research. It only focuses on the analysis of technical data. Based on Moleong (1991: 3) descriptive qualitative is a type of a research, which results the descriptive data in the forms of written or oral from observed people or behaviors.

2. Object of the Study

The object of the research is *A Thousand Splendid Suns* novel by Khaled Hosseini's release in United States May 2007. In this research, the writer is going to analyze it by using feminist approach.

3. Type of the Data and the Data Source

In the study there are two sources of data namely primary and secondary data sources.

a. Primary Data Source

The primary data sources are taken from *A Thousand Splendid Suns* novel that is written by Khaled Hosseini and published on May 22, 2007 by Rivekhead Books, a member of Penguin Group (USA) Inc, New York. It consists of 219 pages with ISBN: 1-4295-1460-4. The original language that used is English.

A Thousand Splendid Suns is divided into 51 chapters and then is divided again into 4 main parts. Second, the focus

is on Laila. Third, the focus is on Mariam and Laila. Then, last part focus on Laila.

b. Secondary Data Sources

The writer takes the secondary data sources, including reference and materials related to the primary data that support the analysis. They are taken from book, internet and virtual reference as documentation.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

In collecting data, the researcher follows such steps, they are:

- a. Reading the Khaled Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Suns* novel in many times to get more understanding.
- b. Browsing to the internet to get several informations and articles related to the object of the study.
- c. Identifying the problem and finding the data. Therefore, research problem statement and objective of the study can be drawn clearly.
- d. Taking the important notes of important data, both primary and secondary data.
- e. Arranging the data into several parts according to its classification.
- f. Occupying the classification into several chapters.
- g. Drawing conclusion and suggestion based on the analysis of the data that is found in the former chapter.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

Technique of the data analysis in this research paper is descriptive analysis. In which the researcher identities of the Child Bride on *A Thousand Splendid Suns* (2007) Novel using Feminist approach.

H. Research Paper Organization

This research paper organization of Child Bride Reflected on Khaled Hosseini's *A Thousand Splendid Suns* (2007) using A Feminist Approach and it is divided into six chapters. Chapter I deals with introduction that covers the background of the study, previous study, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, research method and research paper organization. Chapter II covers with the underlying theory that consists of describing feminism theory, aspect of feminism, issue of child bride, structural element of novel, and theoretical Application. Chapter III concerns with social background of American society in late 20th until the beginning of 21st century. Chapter IV deals with structural analysis containing the structural elements of the novel and discussion. Chapter V presents feminist analysis. Chapter VI is conclusion and suggestion.