

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter focuses on introduction. It is divided into eight parts, namely, background of the study, literature review, 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

Usually a family consists of a father, a mother, and a child or more. However, this condition is not always like that. There are some families that consist of single parents who keep striving in raising their child or children. There are some causes that single parenthood can be happened in some families. Entry into single parenthood primarily results from divorce, widowhood, or abandonment (Pickhardt 1996: 1).

So, single parent family can be referred as a parent who has responsibility to raise his or her child or more. Single parent family is a family in which one parent is solely responsible for the care of a biological or adopted child or children (Gamble and Gamble 2014: 392). The generally accepted definition of a single parent home is a household in which one biological or adoptive parent raises at least one child under 18 years of age without the presence of a second adult (Lee 2005: 505).

Being a single parent is not as easy as imagined. There are some challenges that must be faced of being single parenthood economically and psychologically. Challenges for single parent households often include economic vulnerability, isolation, and feelings of guilt (Caselman and Hill 2014: 20). Besides that, the role of being single parenthood had suddenly changed. Immediately, his or her role can become dramatically altered as a host of demands, as caretaker and supporter (Pickhardt 1996: 1).

Single parenthood is not always happened in the real life but also in some literary works. One of the literary works is novel. Novel has developed as the times goes on. In eighteenth century, it was considered a new literary form and it was a new text-based experience but nowadays, it is considered as both textual form and a cultural experience (Nixon 2009: 15-16). Novel usually describes about life, especially human life and their problems. Chase (1978: 12-13) states:

“The novel renders reality closely and its comprehensive detail. It takes a group of people and sets them going about the business life.... The group of people means characters and each of them have their matter or problem according to their own character.”

One of the famous novels among the Afghan-American writers is *The Kite Runner* written by Khaled Hosseini. It was first published in 2003 by Riverhead Books, and republished in 2013 by Bloomsbury as the tenth anniversary edition. It became an international bestseller and beloved classic, sold in at least seventy countries, and spending more than a hundred weeks on

the *New York Times* bestseller list. It was adapted into an American drama film with the same title and directed by Marc Foster in 2007. The outline of the novel tells about family, friendship, betrayal, love, and redemption.

This novel gets some good comments from the readers, newspaper and magazine companies. One of the newspaper companies, *New York Times*, says, “Khaled Hosseini gives us a vivid and engaging story that reminds us how long his people have been struggling to triumph over the forces of violence – forces that continue to threaten them even today.” One of the magazines companies, *New Statesman*, says, “A sweeping novel of love, betrayal, loss, and violence set in Kabul and San Francisco.” One of the readers, Joanna Trollope, says, “My top fiction book, marvelous!”

Khaled Hosseini also wrote other novel beside *The Kite Runner* which published in 2003. He wrote *A Thousand Splendid Suns* as his second novel, published in 2007 and became bestseller novel too. His third novel entitled *And the Mountain Echoed* published in 2013.

Baba, a respected Pashtun and a successful businessman, had to raise his son, Amir, by himself. His wife, Sofia Akrami, had died after giving Amir birth because of hemorrhage. He had two loyal Hazara servants named Ali and Hassan. Hassan was Ali’s son and Amir’s playmate. However, Amir never considered Hassan as his friend at all because of their ethnically difference. Baba was always busy with his business and he often did business trip with his close friend, Rahim Khan. This condition made him did not know about Amir’s want

and talent. Amir liked reading and writing stories or poems but Baba disliked it. For him, a boy should do boy's activities. That differences led the distance separated them.

Actually, Baba was a kind person. He always gave some presents to Amir and Hassan's birthday. Otherwise, Amir disliked it because he envied to Hassan. In 1974, Baba gave Hassan a plastic surgery to repair his harelip as the birthday present. Ironically, Hassan stopped smiling the following year after Amir won the kite fighting tournament, an old Afghan tradition in the winter. He was raped by Assef, a psychopathic boy who was well-known with his brass-knuckles. At that time, Amir saw it but he did not help Hassan. He was hiding because he was coward and afraid of Assef. The distant between Baba and Amir became close but it is opposite with the relationship between Amir and Hassan. Amir was ashamed and guilty of Hassan.

One day, he asked Baba to look for a new servant. Of course, Baba did not agree because he had considered Ali and Hassan as his family. Because of that, the relationship between them became distant. However, as a father, Baba still held a lavish party to celebrate Amir's thirteenth birthday. After the party, Amir managed a plan to get rid of Ali and Hassan from Baba's house. He accused Hassan had stolen some of his birthday presents. Finally, they left the house to Hazarajat. Baba drove them to the bus station with tears and it was the first time for Amir seeing Baba crying loudly. Baba and Amir fled Afghanistan in March 1981. Russian army had taken over Kabul and it became an insecure

place anymore. Shortly, they could live at America in 1980s. For Amir, America was a place to start his new life but for Baba, it was a place to mourn his life because of he had to work at a gas station.

Amir married a girl named Soraya Taheri, the daughter of General Iqbal and Jamila Taheri, after they met in a local flea market. Around that time, Baba was sick of an advanced and inoperable lung cancer. Finally, he died after a month of their marriage. In June 2001, Amir got a call from Rahim Khan. He was at Peshawar and wanted Amir to come to see him. Finally, Amir went there and met Rahim Khan. He told everything about Ali, Hassan, and Sohrab, Hassan's son. He told a secret that Amir had not ever known it at all, actually, Hassan was Baba's son from Sanaubar. Because of it, he wanted Amir to pick up Sohrab from an orphanage somewhere in Kabul as his last request before he died and as the redemption of Amir and Baba's sin.

Amir finally went to Kabul and accompanied by Farid, a truck driver. The condition of Kabul had changed because of at that time, Taliban had taken over Afghanistan. His search of Sohrab led him met Assef. He had been a pedophile Talib. They fought violently to save Sohrab. Finally, Amir won it after Sohrab had helped him by shooting a hard and round shaped things aimed to Assef's eyes but Amir got some serious injuries and needed to be hospitalized. Amir wanted to adopt Sohrab but international adoption was not easy. Shortly, Sohrab could live in America with Amir and Soraya after through some the tiring adoption processes.

There are three reasons which make the writer choose this novel to be analyzed. The first reason is this novel has good moral values. It directly or indirectly tells us about how we have to respect and appreciate one and other, how we have to keep striving toward situation and reality, and how we have to keep our identity and culture wherever we are.

The second reason is the struggle of Afghan people. Many of Afghan people live in poverty and suffering because of their homes, schools, and other buildings have destroyed because of war against Russian and Taliban. However, they never give up toward their lives.

The last reason is the struggle of being single parenthood. In this novel, Baba as a single-parent gives some examples not to giving up toward life although it is not easy of being a single-father in raising his son.

The last reason becomes the reason for the writer to analyze this novel. The writer uses individual psychology approach to analyze it. This approach is suitable to describe Baba's single-parenthood. So, the writer gives title to this study: **SINGLEPARENTHOOD REFLECTED AT *THE KITE RUNNER* NOVEL BY KHALED HOSSEINI (2003): AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH**

B. Literature Review

The writer finds some researches which relates to *The Kite Runner* novel written by Khaled Hosseini. It can be found at some universities including in

Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta (UMS). It has the same subject but it is different in using object of the study, method, approach, and theory.

The first research entitles “The Issue of Cultural Identity in Khaled Hosseini’s *The Kite Runner*” written by Nina Farlina from State Islamic University “SyarifHidayatullah” Jakarta, published in 2008. It uses qualitative descriptive method and the concept of cultural identity theory proposed by Stuart Hall. The conclusions of the research are firstly, Amir, a Pashtun and Sunni Muslim, the majority ethnic group in Afghanistan, believes he is a better class than the Hazaras, the minority ethnic group in Afghanistan who follow Shia sect of Islam. Secondly, the different ethnics and inter-religions create civil war, ethnic conflict, and inter-religion conflict.

The second research entitles “Social and Moral Responsibility in Khaled Hosseini’s *The Kite Runner: Sociological Approach*” written by Anis Kurilah from Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta, published in 2009. It uses qualitative method and sociological approach proposed by Tom Burns and Elizabeth (1973). The conclusions of the research are firstly, Amir was afraid to be Hassan’s true friend because he was jealous of his father’s affection for Hassan. Secondly, Hassan was a person Amir hoped to be one day.

The third research entitles “An Analysis of Main Characters in Khaled Hosseini’s Novel: *The Kite Runner*” written by Lidyawati Sinambela from University of North Sumatera, published in 2009. It uses library research method and literature theory proposed by Rene Wellek and Austin Warren. The

conclusion of the research is the characteristic of the major characters are various because of influenced by some factors.

The fourth research entitles “The Psychological Factors of The Disharmony between Amir and Hassan as Portrayed in Khaled Hosseini’s *The Kite Runner*” written by Yudi Fatriawan from Ahmad Dahlan University, published in 2009. It uses descriptive qualitative method and psychological approach proposed by Abraham Maslow and theory of psychology of literature proposed by Subhan (2003). The conclusions of the research are firstly, revealing the characterization of Amir and Hassan. Secondly, concerning a conflict between them. Thirdly, finding the psychological factors cause the disharmony between them.

The fifth research entitles “Amir’s Redemption in The Kite Runner Movie Directed by Marc Foster: A Human Psychological Approach” written by Ahmad Muhsin from Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta, published in 2010. It uses qualitative method and humanistic psychology theory proposed by Maslow. The conclusion of the research is Amir redeems to his close friend, Hassan. Particularly the person’s bad character and experience can open the way to transform the idea of redemption.

The sixth research entitles “Amir’s Personality Development in Khaled Hosseini’s *The Kite Runner* (2003): A Psychological Approach” written by Sentot Joko Mulyono from Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta, published in 2010. It uses qualitative method and psychological theory proposed by Erik

Hamburger Erikson. The conclusion of the research is Amir's personality development is influenced by two factors, internal and external. Internal means the crisis he faced in stages from infancy period to adulthood period. External factors mean family, ethnic and culture, gender, and intimacy.

The seventh research entitles "A Study of Amir's Disloyalty to Friendship with Hassan as Seen in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*" written by Robertus Vembry Mahartantyo from Sanata Dharma University, published in 2010. It uses library research method and psychological approach proposed by Sigmund Freud. The conclusions of the research are firstly, the relationship between Amir and Hassan can be categorized into three, the first is between a master and a servant, the second is between a Pashtun and a Hazara, the last is between friends. Secondly, there are two factors which trigger Amir to be disloyal. These are family and social factors. The family factors reveal Hassan's true position in Amir's family and Baba's treatment to Amir and Hassan. The social factors discuss how the general traits of the Pashtuns and the Hazaras are, how the Sunni and Shi'a in Afghanistan like, and how the socialization among the Pashtuns and the Hazaras happened.

The eighth research entitles "The Context of Situation Analysis on Khaled Hosseini's Novel *The Kite Runner*" written by Endah Kumalasari from State Islamic Studies Institute (STAIN) Salatiga, published in 2010. It uses qualitative method and the nature of the social action (field, tenor, and mode) theory proposed by Halliday and Hassan (1985). The conclusions of the research

are firstly, the field of the book was about humanity including brotherhood, love, friendship, treason, loyalty, expiation of sin, and suffering. Secondly, the tenor was between the boss and the servant, which had unequal power, frequent contact, and high affective involvement. Thirdly, the mode was in written form, using informal language with same characteristics of it.

The ninth research entitles “An Analysis of Intrinsic Elements in Khaled Hosseini’s *The Kite Runner*” written by Khalid Mawardi Sarigih, published in 2011. It uses qualitative method and the intrinsic elements theory proposed by Harper Lee. The conclusion of the research is the writer finds racism is one of the dominant themes of the novel. It can be analyzed and supported by other intrinsic elements such as character, plot, setting, style, and point of view.

The tenth research entitles “The Impact of Conflicts as Reflected in *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini” written by Tomi Wardana from Andalas University, published in 2011. It uses qualitative method and theory of literature sociology proposed by Alan Swingwood. The conclusions of the research are firstly, Afghanistan people lost their family members either because of separated or killed in conflict. Secondly, they lived in poverty because of their properties and homes have destroyed during conflict. Thirdly, trauma caused by depressed for conflict. Fourthly, the occurrence of alteration of culture after or during the conflict. The last is the evacuation of refugees to neighboring countries as an effort to find more secure places.

The eleventh research entitles “The Concept of Masculinity Based on Pashtunwali Revealed in the Character of Baba and the Setting in Khaled Hosseini’s *The Kite Runner*” written by Grace Melia Kristanto from Sanata Dharma University, published in 2011. It uses library research method and socio-cultural historical approach proposed by Barbara Rogoff (1990). The conclusions of the research are firstly, the results of analysis show that the character of Baba and the setting reveal the concept of masculinity based on Pashtunwali that Baba’s characteristics which are determined, success-oriented, courageous, hospitable, and generous. Secondly, the setting reveals *torah*, *melmastya*, *ghayrat*, and *namus*. It also reveals the codes in Pashtunwali and the concept of masculinity believed among the Afghans.

The twelfth research entitles “Hazara’s Discrimination Reflected in Khaled Hosseini’s *The Kite Runner* Novel (2003): A Sociological Approach” written by Nur Syifa’ Fuadina from Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta, published in 2013. It uses qualitative method and sociological approach proposed by Tom Burns and Elizabeth (1973). The conclusions of the research are firstly, Khaled Hosseini wants to express his idea about ethnic discrimination. It can be seen from Pashtun as a respected person by Afghanistan people but Hazara gets the bad treatment or discrimination in their life. Secondly, there are differences between Pashtun and Hazara in getting equality in many social aspects based on sociological analysis. Khaled Hosseini wants to show that the ethnic

discrimination is shown by the Pashtuns who become the boss and Hazaras as a Pashtun's servant.

The thirteenth research entitles "A Study of the Main Character's Personality Leading to His Betrayal in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*" written by Dwi Umi Rosatin from University of Jember, published in 2013. It uses inductive method and personality theory (Id, Ego, and Superego) proposed by Sigmund Freud. The conclusions of the research are firstly Amir's betrayal is caused by his jealousy because it has close relation with personality theory especially *Id* and *Superego*. Secondly, he ignores his *Ego* because he tries to fulfill his ambition to get his father's love and attention. The last is he sacrifices Hassan based on his *Id* because he tries to fulfill his *Id* and *Superego* to get his ambitions and erase his guilt.

The fourteenth research entitles "Amir's Anxiety and Motive in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*" written by Ajeng Pancar Tamara from Dian Nuswantoro University, published in 2013. It uses library research method and psychological approach proposed by Sigmund Freud. The result of the research shows Amir as a caring, inferior, coward, optimistic, anxious, selfish, careless, sly, and patient person after Amir experiencing both internal and external conflict.

The fifteenth research entitles "An Analysis of Textual Equivalence in Indonesian Translated Version of Khaled Hosseini's Novel *The Kite Runner*" written by Nur Rohmawati Waji from Halu Oleo University, published in 2015.

It uses descriptive method and uses theory of translation cohesion proposed by Mona Baker (1992) and supported by theory of English Cohesion by Halliday and Hassan (1976). The conclusion of the research is in some types of cohesion there are similarities in both English and Indonesian, and the cohesion devices are relating the unity of the text.

The last research entitles “Foreignisation and Domestication Ideologies in Bahasa Indonesia Translation of the Culture-Specific Items in Hosseini’s *The Kite Runner*” written by Deni Rikwanto from State University of Yogyakarta, published in 2015. It uses descriptive qualitative method and uses CSI theory proposed by Baker, types of CSI proposed by Newmark, and the translation strategies proposed by Davies (2003). The conclusions of the research are firstly, the qualities of the CSI translation, in term of the accuracy of the CSIs translation as many as 76 data (98.7%) are accurate, 1 datum (1.3%) is less accurate, and there are not found inaccurate data. Secondly, in terms of acceptability, 15 data (19.5%) are acceptable, 12 data (15.6%) are less acceptable, and 50 data (64.9%) are unacceptable. The last is in terms of readability, 15 data (19.5%) are readable, 40 data (51.9%) are less readable, and 22 data (28.6%) are unreadable.

Beside from some universities in Indonesia, the researcher finds the research from ProQuest too. The first research entitles “The Afghan Experience: An Exploratory Study of Societal Realities through the Lenses of Afghan Diasporic Literary Works” written by Mir Hekmatullah Sadat from Claremont Graduate University and San Diego University and published in 2006. It uses

conductive method and sociological literature theory proposed by Echo (2004), Bree (1964), Hall (1979), and Inglis (1938). The conclusions of that research are firstly, Afghan Diasporic writers serve as proxies for Afghan writers who lived in Afghanistan during the dark period of Afghanistan history (1992-2002). The primary sources used in the study included *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini and three collections of short stories, *Dar Goriz Gom Mishawin* (In Flight We Disappear), *Faqat Dar Kabul Ba Safa Ast* (New Year's is Only Genuine in Kabul), and *Inak Danmark* (This is Denmark) by Muhammad Asef Soultanzadeh. Secondly, Viewd collectively, Khaled Hosseini and Muhammad Asef Soultanzadeh cover the range of pre-war (April 1978) and war-time (1978-2001) Afghanistan, immigrant and refugee experiences, and diasporic life in Europe, Iran, Pakistan, and the United States. Thirdly, Khaled Hosseini's work mostly reflects pre-war Afghan-society, Afghan immigrant issues in the U.S. and focuses mostly on Afghan sociocultural issue. Fourthly, Soultanzadeh's work deals with a war-time Afghan society, Afghan refugee issues in Iran, Afghan immigrant issues in Europe, and focuces mostly on sociopolitical issues such as war, poverty, and ethnic hate crimes. Fifthly, both authors are of Afghan-origin, have lived in Afghanistan, and migrated in their youth during the 1980s. Both authors write as immigrants in the Afghan Diaspora. Sixthly, In the Hosseini's case, *The Kite Runner*, unveils the real face and deep-rooted issues of Afghanistan through personal experience, historical facts, and fiction. The last is In writing the novel, Hosseini broke the sociocultural taboo by explicitly

addressing the specific historical truth concerning gender and ethnic realities in the Afghan experience, resulting mainly from repressive rules and norms.

The second research entitles “Multicultural Ways of Knowing: Reading *THE KITE RUNNER* in A Grade 11 Class” written by Mary Mallik from Lakehead University and published in 2010. It uses qualitative method and multicultural education theory proposed by Banks (2008), Diaz (1992), Gosh (2002), and Nieto (2005). The conclusions of that research are firstly, Students’ experiential modes of engagement and respons evoked intertextual connections that contributed to an empathized understanding of the lives of the characters embedded in the textual world of *THE KITE RUNNER*, and, in the process, made them aware of their own culture and tradition. Secondly, The role of the teacher as facilitator was critical in scaffolding students’ understanding. Her role as a co-learner along with the dialectical relation between the curriculum as plan and curriculum-in-use (Aoki, 2005), and promoted understanding of complex ethnic issues in a multi-cultural text and enabled students to make self-world connections.

The third research entitles “Looking for Home in the Islamic Diaspora of Ayaan Hirsi Ali, Azar Nafisi, and Khaled Hosseini” written by Rachel Blumental from Northwestern University and published in 2012. Theory and method which are used in that research do not be mentioned. The conclusions of that research are firstly, Hirsi Ali queries the status of women within Islam in the film *Submission*, her book, *The Cage Virgin*, and her autobiography, *Infidel*.

Secondly, Nafisi and Hosseini trouble the notion of "homeland" as it relates to female Arab and Muslim Diaspora.

The last research from ProQuest entitles “In the Wake of Pure Farsi-Muslim Culture and Ideology through Translating Anthems in THE KITE RUNNER” written by Amin Amir Dabbaghian and Sanaz Solmany from Islamic Azad University published in 2015. It uses descriptive-analytical method and the theory of model for poetry translation at both textual and extra-textual proposed by Vahid Dastjerdi’s (2008). The conclusion of that research is about stanza and alliteration in poems and anthems.

Based on the some literature reviews above, there is no research which relates with single parenthood concerned with individual psychological approach. So, the writer is able to analyze Baba’s character by using individual psychological approach proposed by Alfred Adler.

C. Problem Statement

The writer proposes problem statement based on background of the study as below:

1. How is single parenthood reflected in *The Kite Runner* novel (2003) written by Khaled Hosseini based on individual psychological approach?
2. How is single parenthood reflected in *The Kite Runner* novel (2003) written by Khaled Hosseini based on structural elements of the novel?

D. Limitation of the Study

The writer focuses on the analysis of single parenthood reflected at *The Kite Runner* novel (2003) written by Khaled Hosseini.

E. Objective of the Study

In analyzing this novel, the writer formulates objective of the study as follow:

1. To analyze single parenthood reflected in *The Kite Runner* novel (2003) written by Khaled Hosseini based on individual psychological approach.
2. To analyze single parenthood reflected in *The Kite Runner* novel (2003) written by Khaled Hosseini based on structural elements of the novel.

F. Benefit of the Study

Benefit of the study is divided into two, theoretical and practical benefit.

Those are:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The result of the study is expected to be able to give information and contribution to develop knowledge, and this study is able to be researched further by other researchers which relates to *The Kite Runner* novel.

2. Practical Benefit

This study is expected to be able to add information and knowledge for the writer and readers. It is also expected to be able to give an inspiration mainly to students of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta and other

university who have interest to the literary study by using individual psychological approach.

G. Research Method

Research method makes the writer easy to analyze this research by using individual psychological approach. The writer elaborates this method into five steps: (1) type of the study, (2) object of the study, (3) data and data source, (4) technique of collecting data, and (5) technique of analyzing data.

1. Type of the Study

In this research, the writer uses a qualitative research. It is a library research while data sources use literary data. The purpose of this research is to analyze the novel by using individual psychological approach. The steps to conduct this research are (1) determining type of the study, (2) determining the object of the study, (3) determining data and data sources, (4) determining technique of collecting data, and (5) determining technique of analyzing data.

2. Object of the Study

The object of the study is single parenthood reflected at *The Kite Runner* novel by Khaled Hosseini (2003). It will be analyzed by using individual psychological approach.

3. Type of Data and Data Sources

There are two data sources which are used in this research. The first is primary data source and the second is secondary data source.

a. Primary Data Source

The primary data source in this research is *The Kite Runner* novel (2003) written by Khaled Hosseini.

b. Secondary Data Source

The secondary data source is acquired from other sources which relate and support in this research. The secondary data sources are got from dictionary, some books, and websites.

4. Technique of Collecting Data

The method of collecting data in this research is note-taking from *The Kite Runner* novel (2003) written by Khaled Hosseini. So, the writer has some techniques of collecting data:

- a. Reading *The Kite Runner* novel to get more understanding,
- b. Reading some related books and websites which relates with the novel and theory is used,
- c. Determining the character will be analyzed,
- d. Taking notes of important things both of primary and secondary data sources,
- e. Selecting particular parts which are considered as a important and relevant for the analysis,
- f. Drawing conclusion and formulating its pedagogical suggestion.

5. Technique of Analyzing Data

The technique is used for analyzing the data is descriptive analysis. It concerns with the structural elements of the novel and individual psychological approach.

H. Paper Organization

The research paper organization is used in analyzing this novel consists of six chapters as follows:

Chapter I consists of introduction, which concerns with background of the study, literature review, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, research method, and research paper organization. Chapter II deals with underlying theory, which explains of notion of individual psychology, basic assumptions of individual psychology, notion of single parenthood, and structural elements of the novel. Chapter III deals with structural analysis of the novel, it consists of three parts, the first part is structural elements of the novel which included character and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, theme, style; the second part is life of the author; the last part is discussion. Chapter IV deals with the analysis of individual psychology. Chapter V deals with conclusion and suggestion.