

## A STUDY OF VIOLENCE IN KHALED HOSSAINI'S NOVEL "THE KITE RUNNER"

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**ABSTRACT:** *This study has been carried out under the Frantz Fanon's theory of violence (1961), focusing on the violent relationship of the colonizer against the colonized. Violence as presented by Fanon (1961) rules over the ordering of the colonial world and causes the destruction of social, economic and cultural chain of the natives. This study is the descriptive qualitative research employing content and textual analysis method. The data is collected by two resources; primary source of data collection is the novel The Kite Runner (2003) by Khaled Hosseini and secondary sources of data collection are some library books, websites and articles which dealt with violence and Afghan conflicts. The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini was published in 2003 by Riverhead books and its story was set against a backdrop of tempestuous events in Afghanistan from the fall of monarchy through the Soviet military intervention. After ten years fight between the Soviet army and Taliban, decolonization has taken place and the native bourgeoisie captured the country and continued same violence on the native as colonizer used. Violence created war like situations in Afghanistan and caused social conflicts, psychological trauma and exploitation of native culture.*

### **1: INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1: Background**

Violence has become a universal challenge and a very sensitive issue in the whole world. It can be observed everywhere in our society, such as; in public life, at homes, on work places, in politics, in public and private institutions etc. WHO (2002) defines violence as: "The intentional use of physical force or power, threatened and actual, against oneself, another person or against a group or community that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm and deprivation"(p. 04). Violence is used by a nation to get power, hold or domination on any other nation. Violence is a complex and multifaceted problem which has spread everywhere in our society. It has created such circumstances which have never seen in human history. Violence has great impact on children and women because it not only influence individuals physically but also mentally. Violence can be controlled by education, national unity, technology and cooperation with one another. Our whole society seems in the grip of violence, it is noteworthy that violence which is so much a subject of hot discussion today had never been taken as a theme for meditation of great thinkers of, neither the western nor the Eastern before the nineteenth century. If we succeed in perceiving the reasons for its emergence and its present upsurge, then we will gain more insight into its true nature. It might also enable us to take an objective view of the violence that surrounds the society to assess the threat it poses to our entire nation in order to seek appropriate and timely remedies.

#### **1.2: Statement Of The Problem**

Violence carried out by colonizer against colonized in order to depress the voice of colonized is underlying theme of this research. The colonizer deprives the natives from their basic human rights and he uses very harsh attitude against natives to maintain his domination. The natives start a freedom movement and resistance against this foreign



domination. They try to get back their land from the colonizer at any cost; they do not take care of bloodshed, death and destruction in this regard. Actually, any colonizer claims that he wants to sustain peace, progress and amnesty on the colonized land, he also wishes to civilize the colonized individual but he pursues his benefits in the guise of a reformer. Frantz Fanon in his book *the wretched of the earth (1961)* mentions that decolonization is the meeting of two forces, opposed to each other by their very nature. The first encounter between colonizer and colonized is marked by violence and their existence together. The colonizer dehumanizes the colonized in order to defend his unjustifiable domination. The colonized has not any other option than resistance against colonizer so colonized starts fight and freedom movement against colonizer.

In his novel *The Kite Runner (2003)*, Khaled Hosseini has depicted the same situation. In 1979, Russian army invaded Afghanistan because all political parties were fighting and a proper government system was not established in Afghanistan. The Pashtuns did not accept the Russian rule in their country, a tragic war between Mujahedeen and Russian army was started. This war continued from 1979 to 1989 and Afghanistan became a field of war during this era. After the exile of Russian army, Taliban (the native bourgeoisie) became the ruler of Afghanistan in 1992, they also practiced same violence against natives.

### **1.3: Author and Text Selected for the study**

Khaled Hosseini was born on 04 March 1965 in Kabul Afghanistan, his mother was a school teacher and father worked as a diplomat for Afghan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He was doctor by profession but he started his career as a writer because of having ability of story writing. Khaled Hosseini in his interview remarks as: "Afghanistan is full of great story teller and I was raised around the people who were very adept at capturing an audience attention with their story telling skills. I have been told that there is an old fashioned senses of story-telling in *The Kite Runner*" (Azad, 2004, p. 2). *The Kite Runner (2003)* is the first novel written by Khaled Hosseini about Afghanistan. It is a post-colonial novel, complete tremendous book which has tragic themes of violence, social conflicts, war culture, bloodshed and ethnicity. It is also called historical novel because it describes history of Afghanistan from 1970 to 2001. As Stuhr (2009) elaborates that Khaled Hosseini's novel *The Kite Runner* provides historical background of Afghanistan to the Western readers. It is full of historical incidents of last thirty years of war, instability and violence in Afghanistan (p. 27). The selected novel *The Kite Runner (2003)* by Khaled Hosseini tells the story of Amir and Hassan. The setting of the novel is in Kabul (Afghanistan) during a period of political upheaval. The main characters of the novel are Amir (protagonist) Hassan (Friend of Amir), Baba (Amir's father) and Ali (Hassan's father). The novel revolves around the themes of guilt, redemption, violence and childhood experiences.

### **1.4: Objectives of the Research**

The objectives of this research are following:

- (i) To study the violent relationship between the colonizer (The Russia and the USA) and the colonized (The Afghan nation) as described by Khaled Hosseini in his novel *The Kite Runner (2003)*.



- (ii) To elaborate with Fanon's point of view the behaviour of local bourgeoisie who replaced the colonizer and thus started the same violence as practiced by the colonizer.

### 1.5: Research Questions

The researcher seeks the answers of following research questions in this research.

- (i) How does Khaled Hosseini's novel *The Kite Runner* (2003) depict situation in accordance with Fanon's theory of violence that in colonial countries violence rule over the ordering of colonial world?
- (ii) How far does Franz Fanon's idea fit in Khaled Hosseini novel *The Kite Runner* (2003) that colonial war leads the natives toward mental disorders or psychological problems?

### 1.6: Significance and Scope of the Research

The selected novel *The Kite Runner* (2003) analyzed with reference to Franz Fanon's theory of violence and discussed colonial practice of the Russian army and the USA in Afghanistan. The colonial practice by local bourgeoisie (Taliban) against women and children in Afghanistan is also discussed by the researcher. There are many researcher who have been conducted research on this novel but nobody had worked on violence which is very hot topic. Literature is a very wide field; it describes not only the works full of imaginations but also depicts picture of society in order to impose attention of great authorities to resolve the problem. The recent study describes the picture of destruction in Afghanistan where houses and buildings are badly destroyed, every family lost its family members and large number of children are orphan and leading a paralyzed life. Many people in Afghanistan have lost their body parts in bomb blasts and leading a life of poverty. On the other hand, the war between Taliban and Russia has created violence in Afghanistan. Moreover, this research will motivate other researchers to find out social problems of the world and highlight them.

### 1.7: Theoretical Framework

The period of colonialism is marked with violence, agony, death and psychological problems for colonized. The colonizer uses military power in order to implement his rules on colonized and by force and trickery he tries to depress resistance of colonized against him. The colonized has no choice but resistance against the colonizer to save his rights. Colonialism as literary theory was emerged in 1960 when many countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America were fighting against colonialism. Colonialism as a literary theory helped the colonized to raise his voice against violence and brutal behaviour of the colonizer. Colonialism as a literary theory also helps colonized to express true mentality of the colonizer and its harmful effects on identity, culture, psyche, language, literature, social and political life. Lary (2006) points out that "the West uses power and poisoned the language, culture, history and literature of the East. The Western considers the culture and language of the East are childish" (p. 04).

Fanon in his book *The Wretche Of The Earth* (1961) remarks: "decolonization is always a violent phenomenon" (p. 33) because violence is used by the colonizer in order to break social structure and economic system of natives. He further emphasizes the naked truth of decolonization is that to replace the settlers in leading toward bloodshed and war between the settlers and natives. Khaled Hosseini expresses same situation in his novel; the Russian and Americans are described as colonizer in Afghanistan and natives

start a freedom movement against them. The civil war between natives and colonizers remained for ten years, all characters in novel genionly influenced by war such: the wife of Ali was used sexual purposes by Russian soldiers. The young girls were kidnapped by soldiers and male natives were badly beaten by them.

Therefore this research covers all aspects of Fanon's theory of violence. The colonizer's practice of violence on colonized and violence shows destructive effects on native's physical and psychological growth. The colonialism also exploits the cultura and social networks of natives. The reaction of colonial violence comes in the form of freedom movement and after a great struggle, the natives become successful to achieve national freedom. After decolonization, the native bourgeoisie continues violence in the state through capturing all resources. The text sellected for this research has been written in the era when violence and terrorism have influenced whole world; especially the great incident of 9/11 occurred in USA. So, the researcher focuses on the issues of terrorism, violence and war culture in the third world countries i.e Afghanistan in colonial and after colonial period.

### **1.8: Delimitations**

The researcher describes his findings and sheds lights on violence, destruction of native culture and suffering of people in Afghanistan. Violence can be perceived in the form of war between Soviet military and Taliban. Violence used by the Russian army, USA and Taliban against the natives can be seen in the form of sexual, physical and psychological violence. This study also describes effects of violence on the psyche of natives. The researcher used the theory of post-colonialism generally to complete it. The study can be conducted according to special refrences of the novel *The Kite Runner* (2003) who is Afghan based American post-colonial novelist.

### **2: LITERATURE REVIEW**

Khaled Hosseini's novel *The Kite Runner* (2003) illustrates violence used by the colonizer i.e; USSR, USA and native bourgeoise (Taliban) against natives accordance with Frantz Fanon's theory of violence. The USSR came into Afghanistan by an agreement in 1978 but Soviet army captured the country in 1979 and sed all types of violence against natives. Taliban also used same violence against natives and selected novel *The Kite Runner* (2003) shows the live picture of violence and anarchy in Afghanistan. The violence has influenced natives'lives in such a way that all social, economical and cultural system was desturbed. This chapter will also be helpful for new researchers to understand the novel and differernt aspects of the novel *The Kite Runner* (2003).

Chishti (2014) in her research focuses in post-colonial analysis of Afghanistan to unmask and interrogate causes of violence. She claims that the West has its own purposes in Afghanistan because the West is not interesting in state construction. Chishti also detects continuity of a colonial world view in modern state building practices in Afghanistan. She also criticises the political, social and economic drawbacks of Afghanistan. Thus, she elaborates: "It can be reasonably discerned that Afghanistan, a country that remains politically unstable and in chronic state of violence and civil unrest, should only expect the continuity of conflict, or worse, greater intensity of war in scramble and competition between state and non-state actors to control resource extration and generate wealth" (p. 210). Chishti also arguably expresses one of the greatest



obstacles to post-conflict intervention in Afghanistan, the continuity of colonial worldviews, specifically racism, ethnocentrism, exploitation of culture. She concludes that Afghanistan is a failed state but economically idle, inefficient and even a cursed land.

Perveen (2015) truly analyzes the importance of novel *The Kite Runner* (2003) that it creates cultural competence and globalization in readers because it is a multicultural novel and information about different cultures is necessary for a competent reader. Perveen believes that “multicultural literature promotes cultural awareness as it is deeply engaging and elicits empathy from readers. It can engage readers in cultural and societal issues for meaningful reflection and application thus building sensitiveness for fostering cultural competence” (p. 160). She badly criticises destruction of culture, terrorism and civil war between the USSR and Taliban which has torn the county into pieces. Perveen has discussed human sufferings, assault on human rights which has become a part and parcel of Afghan nation while she has missed to describe the colonizers (USSR and USA) are actually responsible for violence and terrorism in the country.

Kumar (2015) approaches *The Kite Runner* (2015) in unique manner and wisely uses the reference of Mathew Arnold’s poem “Dover Beach” in his article to represent political mahem in Afghanistan. He claimed that Afghanistan is marked by “Mere anarchy” and “Blood dimed tide” where nobody hopes for love, peace, sympathy and brotherhood. Kumar rightly criticizes the all efforts for a centralized nation by monarchs, social democrates and traditionalist islamist because they not only disturb the normal life of people but also bring havoc on the minority community. Kumaar also shares war experiences in Afghanistan and psychological state of people according to Fanon’s idea that war culture creates mental disorders in colonized. He rightly remarks political fraction and deteriorating situations in Afghanistan as: “For almost three decades from the saur revolution of 1978 to the fall of Taliban in 2003, the country has been in a total mahem affecting not only the political situation but deteriorating the physical and psychological state of the people in lawless, entropic world where fraction in political power mongers ( between insider and outsider modernist and religious traditionalist) took a heavy tool on masses” (p. 239).

Chitra (2013) has discussed novel *The Kite Runner* (2003) with special reference of “Orientalism” which is a postcolonial term used for the subtle and persistent Eurocentric prejudice against Arab-Islamic peoples and their culture. He criticizes the noxious oriental’s stereotypes and inevitable conflict between the West and the middle East. He critically draws light on false thinking of the European that Middle East is senseless and have fake culture, he persumeably providing evidence that Afghan too could be people, just like you and me. Chitra rightly compares novel *The Kite Runner* (2003) with other postcolonial novel *Kim* (1901) both novels are postcolonial fictions in which foreing protagonists work as a powerful internal orientalist. He further asserts that the people in Afghanistan were peace lover befor Russian invasion in 1979 but after Soviet invasion, the environment of Afghanistan became criminal. So, the war culture has deeply influenced Afghans and their ideas became polluted, destructive and criminal.

Cloud (2004) agues that war in Afghanistan is nothing just a “clash of civilizations” which describes a verbal and visual ideograph linked to the idea of “white man’s burden”. He further discusses an idea that the USA and its people face an



incontrovertible conflict with others, particularly islamic others. They consider islam and its civilization is inferior than Western civilization, answering to a question about the clash of civilizations, cloud elaborates the ways that imagery of war on terrorism justifies imperial thrust of the USA foreign policy. He concludes that the USA war in Afghanistan has created an atmosphere of hate and anger in the minds of Afghan nation against the American. He finally comments on the idea of “clash of civilization” in following words: “ The USA war against Afghanistan in 2001-12 veiled the threat of terrorism with explanation irrational hatred between superior and inferior civilizations” (p. 294).

### 2.1: Research Gap

The reviews and researches hinted upon in this paper point out that Khaled Hosseini is one of the popular postcolonial writer of the modern age and the literary texts which he has written have been a subject of much speculation and intellectual reflection. He discusses the themes of violence, war, anarchy, bloodshed, brotherhood, love, psychological trauma, cultural destruction, reality and redemption etc. in selected novel *The Kite Runner*. The themes are explored by many critics but no critic has discussed the theme of violence according Frantz Fanon’s theory of violence. This research further elaborates the conditions of colonial nations after decolonization remains miserable and unstable. The given research also highlights the mental and physical growth of native effected after vilence in Afghanistan. After the exile of colonizers the natives powerful group i.e Taliban also practices of violence which lead the same condition as has been mentioned Frantz Fanon: “Continuation of violence initiated by the colonizer, resulting in unrest and war like situation”. This is the main theme which has not been researched by any researcher before.

### 3: METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

This study is descriptive qualitative research, employing content and textual analysis method. The data is collected by two sources; the primary source of data collection is novel *The Kite Runner (2003)* by Khaled Hosseini and the secondary sources of data collection are some library books, websites and articles which dealt with violence and Afghan conflicts. The researcher used four techniques to collect data; first, the process of reading and re-reading is used in order to access best understanding of novel. Secondly, data is divided into two types: the events full of violence, bloodshed and anarchy. Thirdly, the researcher interprets related data and quotations according to Khaled Hosseini’s point of view, then his own point of view. Fourthly, whole data is sorting in which relevant data is used for writing this research paper and irrelevant data is excluded from the material. Although, the researcher uses post-colonial theory yet focuss of this research is on violence which has faced by colonized in colonial and post-colonial ages with special reference of Frantz Fanon’s theory of violence.

#### 3.1: Recalling Fanon: His Views About Violence

Frantz Fanon (1925-1961) was a Martinique born Afro-Caribbean psychiatrist, philosopher, and famous post-colonial writer. He was born on the Caribbean island of Martinique, which was then a French colony and now a French department. Fanon finally wrote against colonialism and its tragic repercussions on natives. He dedicated his whole life to support decolonization and freedom movement that Algerian people started against France. His works proved very helpful to raise voice against racism, marginalization,



social justice, oppression, savagery and specially violence which is mostly used in colonialism. His last work, *The Wretched Of The Earth (1961)* recommends how the colonizer use different tricks to mold native into salvery. Fanon gives awareness to third world nations about materialistic and voracious nature the West. In the guise of reformer, the Western colonizers becomes the master of weak and backward nations and deprive them from their culture, language, religion, social values because they impose their own values on natives.

Fanon does not satisfy with colonizers' violent treatment with natives; the colonizer uses zoological term for natives and consider them similar to animals because animals don't understand human language. So, the settler uses language of force for natives and army is also used to beat and punish them. Fanon (1961) discusses this situation as: "In the colonies, it is policeman or soldier who are the official, instituted go-between, the spokesmen of the settler and his rule of oppression. In the colonial countries, on the contrary, the policeman and soldier by their immediate presence and their frequent and direct action maintain contact with native and advice him by means of rifle butts and napalm not to budge" (pp. 37-38). When natives fight for their rights, an atmosphere of violence spread in motherland. Fanon (1961) displays this situation as: "The atmosphere of violence and menaces, the rockets brandished by both sides, do not frighten nor deflect colonized peoples. We have seen that all their recent history has prepared them to understand and grasp the situation. Between the violence of colonies and that peaceful violence the world is steeped in, there is a kind of conflict, agreement, a sort of homogeneity" (p. 80). He further suggests that natives should prove that they are not animals, they are actual human beings and have a proper political, social, religious and cultural system. It is possible only through war and severe resistance against the colonizer.

Kortright (2003) discusses basic nature and ideology of colonization that the colonizer uses different techniques to subdue natives and others. The colonialists cease the identity of colonized by subjugation, oppression and power. They use physical punishment, murder, imprisonment and enslavement of natives, atom bombs and gun fires against colonized. The colonizers monopolize on native's markets, products, foods, institutions, culture, society, moral values, language, economy, land and all resources make them paralyze in every field of life. The colonialists reap resources and destroy economy of natives.

### **3.2: The Analysis Of Violence In The Kite Runner**

Khaled Hosseini describes the story of two boys Amir and Hassan in his novel *The Kite Runner (2003)*. This novel helps us to understand Afghan culture, traditions, language, history and acute circumstances in Afghanistan. The characters of Agha Khan, Amir and Asef are pashtunes while the other characters such as; Hassan, Ali, Sanaubar and Farzana belong to Hazara ethnic group. If we study Afghan history, we come to know that pashtunes are dominant class. All other ethnic groups face violence and tough circumstances in Afghanistan. Fanon (1961) mentions that "the colonial world is narrow, full of restrictions and violence" (p. 37). The same situation is expressed by Khaled in his novel *The Kite Runner (2003)*, the colonizers i.e the Russia, USA and Taliban use force, restrictions and violence against natives. Khaled Hosseini (2003) explores the Russian's attack as: suddenly something roared, the sound of gun fires made the atmosphere



mysterious and dreadful at midnight. The sound of bombs and fires made the children psychological sick. The sound of sirens echoed in the streets of Kabul. The streets of Kabul in which children were playing, now these streets become full of Russian military. The Russian tanks were wondering in the whole country like mad dogs. The life had frozen and the whole country seemed like a hell on the earth (pp.31-32). In his novel *The Kite Runner*, Khaled Hosseini further highlights the violent behaviour of the Russian Army with natives. After invasion on Afghanistan, Russian Army blocked roads and created hardships for passengers; they raped young ladies and received heavy taxes. The female character Sanauber was compelled by a soldier to indulge in sexual activity with him (p. 100). Khan (2012) agrees with Hosseini's point of view and mentions the Soviet invasion of country is based on anarchy. The Russian army arrested natives, humiliated them, their limbs amputated and killed them, women were molested, tortured and raped (p. 211).

After exile of the Russian army in 1979, the reign of Taliban started in Afghanistan. The mostly used physical, psychological and sexual violence in Afghanistan, they have made strict rules in the name of Sharia (Islam) and punished those who don't follow these rules. Collin (2011) truly analyzes Taliban that they cannot run the country they are destroying economy and culture of Afghanistan (p. 39). There are also described different incidents of violence by Hosseini (2003) "Talib, looking absurdly like a base ball pitcher on the mound, hurled the stone at the blindfolded man in the hole. It struck the side of his head" (p. 236). Hosseini highlights the result of stoning as: "A mangled mess of blood and shredded rags from the head of blind folded man" (p. 236). The USA captured Afghanistan illegally in 2001 and dropped bombs in its Northern areas and converted big cities such as Kandhar, Herat and Mazar-i- Sharif into hell. Khaled Hosseini mentions in his novel *The Kite Runner* that the USA had also increased violence and death in Afghanistan. William (2011) also agrees with Hosseini's point of view and he emphasizes that the USA invasion on Afghanistan is not a legally right action. Actually, the USA wanted to arrest Al-Qaeda leaders from Afghanistan who accepted the responsibility of 9/11 incident. The USA wrongly justified their attack before the world as self-defence against terrorism. The America badly failed to attain its goals in Afghanistan compelled to run out from Afghanistan (pp. 575-594).

#### **4: ANALYSIS OF DATA**

##### **4.1: The Causes And Effects Of Violence**

Khalid Hosseini is the most appreciated novelist basically belongs to Afghanistan. He writes purely about Afghan culture and explores actual situations of Afghanistan in his works. Afghanistan is the multi-lingual, multi-cultural and multi-ethnic country. The *Kite Runner* (2003) depicts different social-conflicts, war and violence prevailing in Afghan society. Its result comes out in the form of destruction of resources, exploitation of natives and social restlessness in Afghan society. There have been spreading war-culture and life threatening conditions in whole country since last three decades and every person in Afghan society seems worry and painful. It is best struggle by novel *The Kite Runner* (2003) to highlight violence and restore basic human rights of Afghan nation. Afghan women have become silent shadows and they are not allowed to raise voice for their rights. In Afghan culture, women are deprived of their basic rights such as; education, health, property, social status and they are confined into the four walls of





houses. We can observe in the novel *The Kite Runner* (2003), mostly women are beaten by Taliban. Silima (2013) examines that the characters of Mariam and Laila are best representative of Afghan women. Mariam faces the physical violence and dishonour throughout her life.

Colonization is practiced by a powerful nation to deprive a weak and backward nation from its basic rights. The colonizer behaves like a God with colonized and snatches power, resources, basic human rights and economy of natives. It has been observed that war and conflicts have become the destiny of those countries which once remained colonies of other countries. The political instability has also become routine matters, political conflicts among natives lead toward destruction and weak social system. After deep analysis of Afghan culture, the researcher finds out that Afghan nation is doubly colonized such as: the dominant group is Pashtunes or Taliban, they are called native colonizers while the Hazaras and all minorities are colonized. While the Russia and USA are outer colonizers who played a vital role in spreading violence in Afghanistan. If we look back in history of Afghanistan we come to know that the Great British occupied Afghanistan in 1901 and left it in 1933, the political system remained stable since 1933 to 1978. The Russian occupied Afghanistan in 1979 to root up political clashes but failed to establish democratic government system. After Russia, native Pashtunes became masters of Afghanistan since 1992 to 2001. The USA took control of Afghanistan in order to control terrorism in whole world. It was the result of inner as well as outer conflicts in Afghanistan that million refugees migrated to other countries. The manners of the colonizer remain the same everywhere to control over economy and resources of natives. Same is the situation in Afghanistan, the USSR and USA captured the country in the name of reform but no one established democracy, peace and proper government system in Afghanistan.

#### **4.2: Causes Of Violence In Afghanistan**

The result of continuous colonialism came out in the form of terrorism, destruction, violence and Afghanistan has become war field since last three decades. It is true that inner circumstances and clashes between different ethnic groups are responsible of violence and bloodshed but colonialism made it more severe and complicated. Its effects can be seen in whole Asia in the shape of restlessness, terrorism and bomb blasts. There are many factors which are responsible of violence but main factor is colonialism. We discuss the main causes of violence in Afghanistan according to novel *The Kite Runner* (2003) by Khaled Hosseini: Firstly, ethnic inequality and racial clashes are the main causes of violence in Afghanistan. All multi-ethnic societies of the world are facing racial clashes such as; Bosnia, Croatia, Angola, Kashmir, Afghanistan and Iraq etc. The main cause of ethnic and racial clashes in Afghanistan is unbalanced power distribution among different ethnic groups. Mazhar, Khan & Goraya (2012) agree that each ethnic group in Afghanistan tries to get domination and power on other ethnic group. The war culture among different tribes and civil war between the USSR and Taliban are responsible of violence and fatal destruction in Afghanistan (p.105).

The second big cause of violence in Afghanistan is tribal political culture, the political and cultural structures are different from region to region. Each tribe has its own values, language, traditions and leaders. There is a lack of institutional, structural and stable govt. system which is also a big cause of violence. Jirga works as powerful channel



to resolve clashes between different tribes but unfortunately after 1973, it was shattered by Russian Army. The civil war between Russian army and Mujahidin is another cause violence. In order to establish a stable and strong political system, national unity and cooperation are very necessary tools. The Afghan nation should not divided into Tajiks, Pashtunes, Hazaras and Balouchi etc. They should adopt only one identity as Afghani. If Jirga system is revived in Afghanistan, unity and cooperation among people can be established.

Thridly, colonialism is a curse because colonialism is not satisfied merely with holding the peoples in its grip and emptying their brains of all form and context. Colonialism in Afghanistan is a big issue and it causes violence, war culture in whole country. The war culture is very harmful for domestic as well as political stability. The death of one million people was recorded during war between the Russian and Taliban and one third population was migrated from Afghanistan to escape war and bloodshed. Russian army committed very hinous crimes during their invasion i.e. they looted the refugees, insulted and raped the women. Similarly, after terrorist attack against the world trade center and pantagon on 11 september 2001, the USA president announced to attack on Afghanistan to control terrorism in whole world. The most immediate effect of military intervension was a humanitarian disaster that developed at great speed, compounding the suffering already created by the drought and the ongoing conflict. At last, the USA launched a military intervention in Afghanistan and again bloodshed and war create violence.

#### **4.3: The Effects Of Violence Upon Afghanistan**

Colonialism is a cause of conscious alienation in the mind of colonized or natives which is a big hurdle in the way of freedom. The colonized are not allowed participating in any political meeting and they are marginalized by the colonizer. It creates the feelings of inferiority complex and self hatred in native's mind. Freedom is very necessary for human beings because it makes a man true human being. It is in the name of freedom that peoples rise agaist oppression, death, violence and bloodshed. To get freedom from colonizer is not real freedom because some countries had got freedom in past but still they are under colonial influence. The real freedom is existensial freedom which means free in choice, thinking, political decisions, religious matters and social bounds. The colonizer uses violence to depress the freedom movement of colonized which leads toward social conflicts, psychological disorders and cultural destruction of native. According to Fanon's theory of violence, there are found following effects of violence in *The Kite Runner* (2003):

Firstly, the logical conclusion of violence leads natives toward war and terrorism because natives demand for their basic rights and the colonizer refuses to grant them. Hosseini (2003) clearly depicts the cause and big reason of violence in Afghanistan and shares war experiences, terrorism and fear with his readers. He further elaborates that social conflicts have changed life style of Afghanis; the natives remain in fearful environment which has lead them to psychological illness, the families have lost their family members during war. There is lack of food, dress and shelters in Afghanistan. Hosseini (2003) states the effects of war and social conflicts comes in the form of poverty as: " Everywhere I looked, that was what I saw, I rememberd beggars in the old days too-



----- Now, though they squatted at every street corner, dressed in shredded burlap rags, mud caked hands held out for a coin” (pp. 214-215).

Secondly, Afghan nation has been suffering in psychological trauma, including anxiety, chronic depression, tension and mental abuse. Many children and women have suffered in mental problem, the death of civilians by Russian army and Taliban has increased the risk of suicide. Lyk-Jensen, Weatherall & Jepsen (2013) describes the effects of violence that the USA has engaged in two wars in Iraq and Afghanistan since last decade 2.6 million soldiers sent in Iraq and Afghanistan. They are of view that war has deep effects not only in native's mental health but also on soldiers. The retired soldiers cannot survive in public life because of psycho-traumatic effects of war (pp. 31-32). In addition to physical violence, Afghan nation is suffering in extreme mental discomforts, freedom of thought is very necessary for mental health as well as physical health. Violence creates mental problems for the natives because their freedom of thought is snatched by the colonizers. Khaled Hosseini in his novel *The Kite Runner* (2003) explores that the character of Shorab suffers in Post-traumatic stress disorder due to the Taliban's violent behaviour. He tried to commit suicide again and again. Fanon (1961) also satisfied with above idea and remarks: “We cannot be held responsible that in this war psychiatric phenomenon entailing disorders affecting behaviour and thought..... The truth is that colonialism in its essence was already taking on the aspects of a fertile purveyor for psychiatric hospitals” (p. 249). The end of the novel is not good because the USA captured Afghanistan and natives face resistance again.

Thirdly, colonialism effects severely to destroy national culture and language of natives. Afghanistan, which stands at a crossroad of the ancient civilizations in the east and the west, has kept unique treasures in different parts of its land. The researchers have discovered a thousand of unique cultural and historical objects relating to different periods of pre and pro-history. The catastrophe of war annihilated the national culture of Afghanistan badly. After 1979, more than half of Kabul was destroyed and changed into traumatized city and precious historical objects were stolen from National museum of Kabul. In 1992, Taliban banned cultural activities and they destroy hundred of statues in Kabul. They destroyed The Great Buddhist temple which was a master piece of Gandhara Arts. The minaret of Chakari, one of most monuments of the first century A.D was also destroyed by Taliba. Hosseini (2003) disappointed and remarks: “What heritage ? I said. Taliban have destroyed what heritage Afghan had. You saw what they did to the Giant Buddahs in Baymian” (p. 294)

## 5: CONCLUSION

The researcher finds out that Khaled Hosseini's novel *The Kite Runner* (2003) is written according to Fanon's theory of violence (1961), according to it, violence rules over the ordering of the colonial world. Khaled Hosseini expresses different incidents of violence during colonial era in Afghanistan. Finally, the researcher concludes that Khaled Hosseini depicts both kind of situations in Afghanistan i.e. colonial and post-colonial to compare the violent behaviour of colonizers against natives. The natives are badly influenced by violence during colonial as well as post-colonial period because natives were badly crushed not only by foreign invaders but also by native bourgeoisie. The USSR and USA used violence to break social, economic, cultural and political chain of Afghan society while in post-colonial era; the native bourgeoisie use violence to get



subjugation on natives. The colonizers and native bourgeoisie both destroyed most of the infrastructural built over past two centuries. They damaged arabal land, schools, hospitals, roads and factories because the policy of subjugation and domination was based on physical extermination with a totalistic ideology to rapture Afghanistan's economy, social, cultural and religious legacy. The estimates of physical damages are sufficed to prove the comprehensiveness of destruction; ten and thousands of people were killed, injured and mentally sicked in Afghanistan. The ethnic clashes are also another cause of violence, it has removed brotherhood, love and unity of Afghan nation. The behaviour of native bourgeoisie (Taliban) was also violent because their purpose was also to get power and hold in Afghanistan. In the end, I want to say that violence must be stopped in Afghanistan because it is leading Afghan nation toward social, political, cultural and psychological exploitation. If we use force and violence against a nation, it cannot become progressive and disciplined. So, we should share education, technology and skills so that economical and financial problems resolved. If violence is not stopped in Afghanistan it will spread terrorism and restlessness in the whole world.

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