



**AMIR'S ANXIETY AND MOTIVE IN KHALED HOSSEINI'S
*THE KITE RUNNER***

JOURNAL ARTICLE

**Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the degree of *Sarjana Sastra (S.S.)*
in English Language**

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2013

Amir's Anxiety and Motive in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*

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ABSTRACT

This paper discusses Amir's Anxiety and Motive in Khaled Hosseini's "The Kite Runner". Library research method was applied in this research. In analyzing the data, structural approach was used to scrutinize the intrinsic elements such character, conflict, setting and plot, while psychological approach was used to examine extrinsic elements such anxiety and motive of Amir as the main character in "The Kite Runner".

The results show Amir as the main character, is a caring, inferior, coward, optimistic, anxious, selfish, careless, sly and patient person. It also indicates that Amir is a round static character, since he has complex traits but his character as a caring person remains the same from the beginning to the end of the story. In addition, as the main character, Amir experienced both internal and external conflict. The setting of time, social and place show the period in Afghanistan between 1975-2001 and the social stratum Pashtuns and Hazaras in Kabul

Dealing with plot, it starts from Amir's effort to get Baba's recognition and respect, Amir's anxiety after betraying Hassan, Amir's effort to take Sohrab out from Kabul, the liberation Sohrab from Assef, the Sohrab's suicide trial, Amir's effort to get back Sohrab's trust. In addition, Amir's anxiety deals with realistic, neurotic, moral anxiety, while, the motives are safety and security need, belongingness and love need, and self esteem need.

Key words: *anxiety, motive, plot, setting, "The Kite Runner"*

Makalah ini membahas Kecemasan dan Motif Amir di dalam novel "The Kite Runner" karya Khaled Hosseini. Metodologi kajian pustaka digunakan di dalam penelitian ini. Dalam menganalisa data, pendekatan struktur digunakan untuk meneliti elemen-elemen struktur seperti karakter, konflik, latar dan plot, sedangkan pendekatan psikologi digunakan untuk mengkaji kecemasan dan motif yang dimiliki oleh Amir sebagai tokoh utama "The Kite Runner".

Hasil menunjukkan, Amir adalah tokoh yang peduli, rendah hati, penakut, optimis, mudah cemas, suka mementingkan keinginan pribadi, gegabah, licik dan sabar. Karakteristik Amir juga mengindikasikan Amir sebagai tokoh "round static". Karena dia memiliki banyak karakteristik namun karakteristiknya sebagai orang yang peduli tidak berubah dari awal hingga akhir cerita. Selain itu, sebagai tokoh utama, Amir mengalami internal dan eksternal konflik. Latar waktu, sosial dan tempat menunjukkan periode di Kabul antara tahun 1975 hingga 2001, dan strata sosial kelompok Pashtun dan Hazara di Kabul.

Berhubungan dengan plot, plot dimulai dari upaya Amir untuk mendapatkan pengakuan dan penghormatan dari ayahnya, kecemasan Amir

setelah mengkhianati Hassan, upaya Amir untuk membawa Sohrab keluar dari Kabul, pembebasan Sohrab dari Assef, percobaan bunuh diri Sohrab, upaya Amir untuk mendapatkan kembali kepercayaan Sohrab. Selain itu, kecemasan Amir berhubungan dengan kecemasan realistik, neurotik, moral, sedangkan, motifnya adalah kebutuhan akan keselamatan dan keamanan, memiliki dan mengasihi, dan penghargaan terhadap diri.

Kata kunci: kecemasan, motif, plot, latar, “*The Kite Runner*”.

INTRODUCTION

Every human experiences anxiety, moreover if he suffers internal conflict. As stated by Freud in Hejile (1992:102), anxiety is a condition of a man getting an intense feeling of fear toward his impending danger. It means that anxiety will be happened when a person suffered conflict can not handle the source of his anxiety.

In addition, every human also has background or motive to run his life. According to Morris' theory about motive (1999:416), motive is an inner direction forcing a need which direct behavior toward a goal. The goal might be something that a person wants to get, but it can also be a problem, he or she tries to overcome.

The Kite Runner is a novel which tells about Amir's anxiety and motive. Every human has a motive to pursue his goal, so does Amir who shows his motive to get Baba's recognition and respect by joining and winning the kite-fighting tournament. Yet, Amir's big motive to get Baba's recognition, makes him did betrayal toward Hassan. A betrayal Amir did toward Hassan later makes Amir experienced anxiety.

There is no person wants to suffer anxiety in his life. So that, dealing with his anxiety that he can not bear, Amir's motive appears to solve his problem, to overcome his anxiety by sending Hassan out from his home and life. Unfortunately, Amir's anxiety comes to him bigger than the previous, when he knew that Hassan is his illegitimate half brother. Later the fact about Hassan's identity, reveals Amir's motive to redeem his betrayal by taking out Sohrab, Hassan's son, from Kabul.

Dealing with the explanation above, this analysis has aim to analyze what kind of anxiety and motive experienced by Amir as the main character of *The Kite Runner*.

METHOD

Research Design

A qualitative descriptive method is used to analyze the data. The result of this method is description, presenting sentences which give clear and detail information related to the data.

Data and Subjects

Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner* is the object of analysis and primary source of data.

Unit of Analysis

The writer focuses on sentences related to the topic of this research such character, conflict, setting, and anxiety and motive.

Method of Data Collection

In getting the data, there are some steps conducted such as:

Reading to the novel to find all aspect related to intrinsic and extrinsic aspects, coding and transferring the data into data tabulation. After collecting the data, they are analyzed through the following steps such as analyzing the intrinsic elements by applying structural approach. Furthermore, extrinsic elements were analyzed by applying psychological approach to find Amir's anxiety and motive.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The General Description of Amir as the main character

Amir, as the main character, belongs to round and static character. He has complex traits but his appearance as a caring person remains the same from the beginning to end of the story.

Amir is a caring person. Amir's caring can be seen from his effort to calm down Hassan by slunging his arm around Hassan and pulling Hassan close when Hassan was crying. It can be seen by quotation below:

... I reached across my seat, slung my arm around him,
pulled him close.

(Hosseini, 2003:7)

Amir is an inferior person. It can be seen when Amir feels that his passion toward a poetry book just made his Baba ashamed. It can be seen by this following quotation :

Of course, marrying a poet was one thing, but fathering a son who preferred burying his face in poetry books to hunting...well, that wasn't Baba had envisioned it, I suppose.

(Hosseini, 2003:17)

Amir as a coward person can be seen by his confession toward himself that he was too coward for saving Hassan from Assef. So that he preferred to run away from the alley. It can be proved by quotation below:

In the end, I ran.

I ran because I was a coward. I was afraid of Assef and what he would do to me. I was afraid of getting hurt.

(Hosseini, 2003:68)

Amir is an optimistic person. His optimistic appears when he believe in himself that he can win the kite-fighting tournament to get Baba's recognition and respect. It can be proved by this following quotation :

I was going to win, and I was going to run the last kite...
Show him once and for all that his son was worthy.

(Hosseini, 2003:49)

Amir is described as an anxious person. It can be seen by his body response such clenching up, when he saw Assef and his gang trapped Hassan in the alley. It can be seen from the quotation below:

..I felt my body clench up, and something cold rippled up
my spine.

(Hosseini, 2003:62)

Amir is a selfish person. It can be seen by his decision and reason to let Hassan got raped by Assef. Amir stated that Hassan was a fair place to pay, since he was just a Hazara. It can be proved by quotation below:

Assef was right: Nothing was free in this world. Maybe Hassan was the price I had to pay, the lamb I had to slay, to win Baba. ... He was just a Hazara, wasn't he?

(Hosseini, 2003:68)

Amir is as a careless person. It can be seen when he tried to ask Baba whether Baba wanted to change Hassan and his father with the new servant without paying attention that Baba already accounted Hassan and his father as Baba's own family. It can be seen by this following quotation

“ Baba, have you ever thought about getting new servants?”...
“I've never laid a hand on you, Amir, but you ever say that again...” ... “ You bring me shame.”

(Hosseini, 2003:77)

Amir is a sly person. It can be seen by his effort to send Hassan out from his home by putting his money and watch under Hassan mattress. It can be seen by this following quotation :

Then I took a couple of the envelopes of cash from the pile of gifts and my watch,... I lifted Hassan's mattress and planted my new watch and a handful of Afghani bills under it.

(Hosseini, 2003:90-91)

Amir is a patient person. It can be seen by his effort to keep maintaining his conversation with Sohrab although he always met by silent. It can be seen by this following quotation :

“How are you?” I said. He didn't answer. ... Again I was met by silence.

(Hosseini, 2003:307)

Conflict Experienced by Amir

1. Internal Conflict

Amir's internal conflict appears as the result of a clash of emotion within himself. Amir's internal conflict can be seen from his body response

such clenching up when he saw Hassan trapped by Assef and his gang. It can be seen by the quotation below:

...I felt my body clench up, and something cold rippled up my spine.

(Hosseini, 2003:62)

Amir's fear toward Assef, made Amir let Hassan get raped by Assef. This betrayal makes Amir get an internal conflict, which can be seen from insomnia he gets. When he keeps awake, he tries to say to someone that he saw Hassan raped by Assef. Amir confessed to himself that he did not want to live with that kind of lie anymore. It can be seen by the quotation below:

"I watched Hassan get raped," I said to no one. ... A part of me was hoping someone would wake up and hear, so I wouldn't have to live with this lie anymore...

That was the night I became an insomniac.

(Hosseini, 2003:75)

Amir's internal conflict also appears when he finally knew that Hassan, is his illegitimate half brother. It can be seen by the quotation below:

I felt like a man sliding down a steep cliff, ... The room was swooping up and down, swaying side to side.

(Hosseini, 2003:195)

Amir's internal conflict can also be seen when he found Sohrab did suicide because of a broken promise Amir made. Amir's internal conflict can be seen by his response such screaming and falling on his knees. It can be seen by this following quotation:

... Suddenly I was on my knees, screaming.

(Hosseini, 2003:299)

2. External Conflict

Amir's external conflict against Hassan happened as the clash of idea and willing between Hassan and Amir. Hassan came to Amir, asked him the reason both of them never playing together anymore. Amir who experienced internal conflict as a result of his betrayal toward Hassan felt stress when Hassan surrounds him. So that, Amir yelled Hassan to go away from Amir. It can be seen by the quotation below:

... "I don't know why we don't play anymore."...

"...I want you go away," I snapped.

(Hosseini, 2003:77)

The external conflict Amir against Baba can be seen from Baba's anger after Hassan asking him whether he would change Hassan and his father with new servants. Amir's question made Baba ashamed. It can be seen by the quotation below:

"Baba, have you ever thought about getting new servants?"...

"I've never laid a hand on you, Amir, but you ever say that again..." ... "You bring me shame."

(Hosseini, 2003:77)

Amir's external conflict against Rahim Khan appears when Amir finally knew that Hassan was his illegitimate half brother. Amir was angry toward Rahim Khan for keeping that secret for long time. Amir's calsh of emotional towad Rahim Khan can be seen by the word he used to call Rahim Khan, such bastard. It can be proved by the quotation below:

“You bastard,” I muttered. Stood up. “You goddamn bastard!” I screamed. ...

(Hosseini, 2003:195)

Amir's external conflict against Assef happened as Amir's effort to take Sohrab out from Kabul. Assef who appeared as a Taliban leader, wanted Amir defeated him first to take Sohrab from Taliban's house. Amir was not a good fighter. So that Assef gave Amir some physical harassment. It can be seen by this following quotation :

Getting thrown against the wall,... Getting hurled against the wall... Getting kicked.

(Hosseini, 2003:250-252)

Amir's external conflict against Reymond Andrew happened when Amir tried to propose adoption petition toward Sohrab. Unfortunately, Raymond Andrew as an embassy employee suggested Amir to give. Amir disagree toward Raymond's suggestion. So that, he got up to leave the room. It can be proved by the quotation bellow:

“Your petition to adopt this young fellow. Give it up. ...”
“What are you saying, that I should throw him back on the street?” ... I got up.

(Hosseini, 2003:288)

Amir's external conflict against Omar Faisal as an immigration lawyer happened when Omar Faisal suggested Amir to send Sohrab to the orphanage. Amir rejected Omar's suggestion since Amir already promised to Sohrab that will not be sent to any orphanage anymore. It can be proved by this following quotation :

“You could relinquish him to an orphanage here, then file an orphan petition. ...”
“I don't want to do that,” ... “I promised him I wouldn't send him back to an orphanage.”

(Hosseini, 2003:295-296)

The last external conflict happened Amir against Sohrab. It happened when Amir delivered Omar's suggestion to send Sohrab to the orphanage for awhile. Sohrab was sad and cried. It can be seen by this following quotation :

“...if we could ask you to stay in a home for kids for a while.”
“... “Please! Please, no!”

(Hosseini, 2003:297)

Setting

1. Setting of Time

Setting of time refers to the time of the action happens. In Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*, the first proof showing the year as the setting time the story happened is 1075-December 2001. December 2001 is the time when Amir saw a pair of kites. The kite reminded him with his life when he was twelve years old boy in Kabul. The Kite also reminded Amir about betrayal he did toward Hassan in winter 1975. It can be seen by the following quotation :

December 2001

I became what I am today at the age of twelve, on frigid overcast day in the winter of 1975.... I glanced up and saw a pair of kite...San Francisco, the city I now call home.
... I thought about Hassan. Thought about Baba. Ali. Kabul.

(Hosseini, 2003:1-2)

Winter is the setting of time of *The Kite Runner* when Amir did his betrayal toward Hassan. In addition, winter also the setting of time that revealed Amir's internal conflict when he saw Hassan got trapped and raped by Assef. It can be seen by the quotation below:

Every winter, district in Kabul held a kite-fighting tournament. ...

(Hosseini, 2003:43)

...

I felt my body clench up, and something cold rippled up my spine.

(Hosseini, 2003:67)

In the end, I ran.

I ran because I was a coward. I was afraid of Assef and what he would do to me. I was afraid of getting hurt.

(Hosseini, 2003:68)

March 1981 is a setting of time when Amir and his Baba moved to America because of Kabul's unsafe political and economic condition. It can be proved by the quotation below:

March 1981...My innards had been roiling since we'd left Kabul just after two in the morning.

(Hosseini, 2003:96)

June 2001 is the time when Amir finally went to Pakistan to meet Rahim Khan. In this year, Amir knew that Hassan was his illegitimate half brother and later decided to redeem his betrayal he did toward Hassan by taking out Sohrab, Hassan's son from Kabul. It can be proved by these following quotation:

June 2001...

A week later, I sat on a window seat board a Pakistani International Airlines flight,...

(Hosseini, 2003:166-169)

“You bastard,” I muttered. Stood up. “You goddamn bastard!” I screamed. ...

(Hosseini, 2003:195)

...my entire life, ... had been a cycle of lies, betrayals, and secrets. ... There is a way to be good again, ... with a little boy. An orphan. Hassan’s son. Somewhere in Kabul

(Hosseini, 2003:198)

... I found Rahim Khan,...then I told him I was going to Kabul...

(Hosseini, 2003:199)

August 2001 is the time when Amir arrived in San Francisco after spending a big and rude situation in Kabul and Pakistan. In 2001 also, Amir tries to get back Sohrab trust. It can be proved by these following quotation:

We arrived home about seven month ago, on a warm day in August 2001.

(Hosseini, 2003:312)

“Do you want me to run that kite for you?” ... I thought I saw him nod.

“For you, a thousand times over,”

(Hosseini, 2003:323)

2. Setting of Social

Setting of time refers to the society’s condition of the main character live in. In addition, setting of place also describes the main character’s social class.

The Kite Runner describes Amir and Hassan’s social class as the background of the story. Both of them have a different social class although they spent their time together. Amir who belongs to the high class described by his living in mansion with rosebushes. While, Hassan who belongs to the low class described by his living in a mud shack. It can be proofed by the quotation below:

.. Hassan and I parted ways. I went past the rosebushes to Baba’s mansion, Hassan to mud shack... .

(Hosseini, 2003:5)

The Kite Runner describes the difference of the social class between Pashtuns and Hazaras. Hazaras is a group of ethnic people have a different physical appearance than Pashtuns. Moreover, Pashtuns are described as a group of people who had persecuted and oppressed the Hazaras for long time ago. The basic reason of Hazaras’ oppression, is the difference of their group as a Muslim. It can be seen by the following quotation :

They called him “flat-nosed” because of Ali and Hassan’s characteristic Hazara Mongoloid features. ... In it, I read that my people, the Pashtuns had persecuted and oppressed the Hazaras. ... The book said that my people had killed the Hazaras, driven them from their lands, burned their homes, and sold their women. The book said part of the reason Pashtuns had oppressed the Hazaras was that Pashtuns were Sunni Muslim, while Hazaras were

Shi'a. ... It also said some things I did know, like the people called Hazaras *mice-eating, flat-nosed, load carrying donkeys*.

(Hosseini, 2003:8)

Kite-fighting tournament is held annually, every winter in Kabul. It can be said that the kite-fighting is one of Kabul's custom. It can be proved by this following quotation :

Every winter, district in Kabul held a kite-fighting tournament.

(Hosseini, 2003:43)

Amir's betrayal toward Hassan emphasize the Hazaras dignity toward Pashtuns. In a sentences "Maybe Hassan was the price I had to pay, the lamb I had to slay, to win Baba. ... He was just a Hazara, wasn't he?" emphasizes the value of Hazaras toward Pashtuns. It can be seen by this following quotation:

Assef was right: Nothing was free in this world. Maybe Hassan was the price I had to pay, the lamb I had to slay, to win Baba. ... He was just a Hazara, wasn't he?

(Hosseini, 2003:68)

3. Setting of Place

Setting of place is described as place where significant event happened. Kabul, Afghanistan and San Francisco, America are two different countries where Amir live and spent his life. Kabul, Afghanistan is a place where Amir spent his childhood. While, San Francisco, America is a country where Amir spent his adulthood. It can be seen from this following quotation:

I glanced up and saw a pair of kite...San Francisco, the city I now call home.

... I thought about Hassan. Thought about Baba. Ali. Kabul

(Hosseini, 2003:1-2)

Wazir Akhbar Khan is a Kabul's district where Amir spent his childhood in his Baba luxuriance. In Wazir Akhbar Khan, Amir's family known as a rich family who owns the most beautiful house. It can be proved by the quotation below:

Everyone agreed that my father, my Baba, had built the most beautiful house in the Wazir Akhbar Khan district,...

(Hosseini, 2003:4)

Kabul is a city where Wazir Akhbar Khan, a district Amir lives in, belongs. In Kabul, kite-fighting tournament is always held in every winter It can be seen by the quotation below:

Every winter, district in Kabul held a kite-fighting tournament...

(Hosseini, 2003:43)

Alley is a place where Amir betrayed Hassan by letting him got raped by Assef. The reasons Amir let Hassan got raped by Assef are Amir is too coward, and afraid to get punishment from Assef. Moreover, Amir thinks that as a Hazara,

Hassan is a fair price to save his kite to get Baba's respect or recognition. It can be proved by these following quotations:

... Hassan was standing at the blind end of the alley...
(Hosseini, 2003:60-62)

In the end, I ran.

I ran because I was a coward. I was afraid of Assef and what he would do to me. I was afraid of getting hurt.
(Hosseini, 2003:68)

Assef was right: Nothing was free in this world. Maybe Hassan was the price I had to pay, the lamb I had to slay, to win Baba. ... He was just a Hazara, wasn't he?
(Hosseini, 2003:68)

Hassan's home is a setting of place where Amir's general description as a sly person appears. In Hassan's home, Amir put some money and his wristwatch under Hassan's mattress to send Hassan out from Amir's house and life dealing with his guilt and anxiety he experienced after betraying Hassan for his own purpose. It can be seen by the quotation below:

Then I took a couple of the envelopes of cash from the pile of gifts and my watch,... I lifted Hassan's mattress and planted my new watch and a handful of Afghani bills under it.

(Hosseini, 2003:90-91)

Pakistan is a city Amir meets Rahim Khan and knows Hassan's identity as Amir's illegitimate half brother. Later Amir decides to redeem his betrayal by accepting Rahim Khan's request to take Sohrab, out from Kabul then give him a better life. It can be proved by the quotation below:

June 2001...

A week later, I sat on a window seat board a Pakistani,...
(Hosseini, 2003:166-169)

"You bastard," I muttered. Stood up. "You goddamn bastard!" I screamed ..."

(Hosseini, 2003:195)

...my entire life, ... had been a cycle of lies, betrayals, and secrets. ... There is a way to be good again, ... with a little boy. An orphan. Hassan's son. Somewhere in Kabul

(Hosseini, 2003:198)

... I found Rahim Khan,...then I told him I was going to Kabul...

(Hosseini, 2003:199)

Sarak-e-Mehmana is an address where the Taliban house take a place. In this place Amir has external conflict with Assef as a leader of the Taliban, dealing with Amir's effort to take Sohrab out from Kabul. It can be proved by the quotations below:

...on Street 15, Sarak-e-Mehmana, Street of the Guest.

(Hosseini, 2003:239)

Getting thrown against the wall,... Getting hurled against the wall. ... The side of my face slamming against the corner of the television stand. ... Getting kicked.

(Hosseini, 2003:250-252)

America embassy is a setting of place where Amir experiences external conflict against Raymond Andrew as an embassy employee. The conflict appears when Raymond suggests Amir to give up toward Amir's petition to adopt Sohrab, but Amir does not want to give up. It can be proved by the quotation below:

The lawn outside the America embassy in Islamabad was neatly mowed,...

(Hosseini, 2003:284)

"Your petition to adopt this young fellow. Give it up. ..."

"What are you saying, that I should throw him back on the street?" ... I got up.

(Hosseini, 2003:288)

Bathroom hotel is a setting of place where Amir experiences internal conflict by finding Sohrab did suicide trial. The reason of the Sohrab's suicide trial is Amir's broken promise to send Sohrab to an orphanage. It can be seen by the quotation below:

I knocked on the bathroom door. ... I pushed the door open. ... Suddenly I was on my knees, screaming.

(Hosseini, 2003:299)

Lake Elizabeth in Fremont is a place where Amir tries to get back Sohrab trust after he breaking his promise which makes Sohrab committed suicide. Amir effort to get back Sohrab trust is by chasing the kite. It can be seen by the following quotations:

I took Soraya, Khala Jamila, and Sohrab to a gathering of Afghans at Lake Elizabeth Park in Fremont.

(Hosseini, 2003:317)

"Do you want me to run that kite for you?" ... I thought I saw him nod.

"For you, a thousand times over,"

(Hosseini, 2003:323)

Plot

In *The Kite Runner*, the plot is divided into five level namely, exposition, inciting force, rising actio, climax and resolution.

The exposition of *The Kite Runner* shows Amir's effort and reason to get Baba's recognition and respect. Amir wants Baba see that Amir was worthy, Since Amir thinks that his passion toward poetry just makes Baba ashamed and makes him get lack of attention. It can be proved by these following quotations:

I was going to win, and I was going to run the last kite. Then I'd bring it to home and show it to Baba. Show him once and for all that his son was worthy.

(Hosseini, 2003:49)

Then maybe my life as a ghost in this house would finally be over. ... Maybe he'd call me Amir jan like Rahim Khan did.

(Hosseini, 2003:49)

“We won! We won!” was all I could say.

(Hosseini, 2003:58)

The inciting force of *The Kite Runner* shows Amir decision to send out Hassan from Amir's home and life, dealing with anxiety he can not bear after letting Hassan got raped by Assef, by putting his money and watch under Hassan's mattress. It can be seen by these following quotations:

In the end, I ran.

I ran because I was a coward. I was afraid of Assef and what he would do to me. I was afraid of getting hurt.

(Hosseini, 2003:68)

Then I took a couple of the envelopes of cash from the pile of gifts and my watch,... I lifted Hassan's mattress and planted my new watch and a handful of Afghani bills under it.

(Hosseini, 2003:90-91)

While, the rising action of *The Kite Runner* shows Amir's acceptance toward Rahim Khan request, to take out Sohrab from Kabul. It can be proved by the quotations bellow:

...my entire life, ... had been a cycle of lies, betrayals, and secrets. ... There is a way to be good again, ... with a little boy. An orphan. Hassan's son. Somewhere in Kabul.

(Hosseini, 2003:198)

I looked at the round face in the Polaroid again,... My brother face. ... I found Rahim Khan,...then I told him I was going to Kabul...

(Hosseini, 2003:199)

The climax of *The Kite Runner*, shows Amir's effort to take out Sohrab from Assef, a Taliban leader, Amir's shock for finding Sohrab did suicide trial which later makes Amir lose Sohrab's trust. It can be proved by the quotations bellow:

...

Getting thrown against the wall,... Getting hurled against the wall... Getting kicked.

(Hosseini, 2003:250-252)

Well, Mr.Faisal thinks that it would really help if we could...if we could ask you to stay in a home for kids for a while.”

... “Please! Please, no!”

(Hosseini, 2003:297)

... I pushed the door open. ... Suddenly I was on my knees, screaming.

(Hosseini, 2003:299)

“How are you?” I said. He didn’t answer. ... Again I was met by silence.

(Hosseini, 2003:307)

Finally, the resolution of *The Kite Runner* shows Amir and Sohrab arriving in America, and Amir’s effort to get back Sohrab trust. It can be seen by these following quotations:

We arrived home about seven month ago, on a warm day in August 2001.

(Hosseini, 2003:312)

“Do you want me to run that kite for you?” ... I thought I saw him nod.

“For you, a thousand times over,”

(Hosseini, 2003:323)

Anxiety experienced by Amir

Dealing with the source, the reason and the impact of Amir’s anxiety, realistic, neurotic and moral are the anxieties he got as his consequence for a betrayal he did to Hassan.

1. Realistic anxiety

Realistic anxiety is described as an anxiety or emotional response which man produced when he sees a dangerous or unpleasant thing from the external world. In *The Kite Runner*, most of Amir’s source of his realistic anxiety is Assef. Amir’s realistic anxiety toward Assef can be seen when he felt afraid seeing Hassan trapped by Assef in the alley. Amir’s anxiety can be seen by his body’s response such clenching up. It can be proved by the quotation below:

...I felt my body clench up, and something cold rippled up my spine.

(Hosseini, 2003:62)

2. Neurotic anxiety

Neurotic anxiety is described as an emotional response which is derived from a fear of the severe negative consequences that may result from doing something terrible. This anxiety appears when a person is afraid to get any punishment if his ego can not control his id. Amir’s anxiety because of his fear after imagining Assef’s punishment he will get if he saves Hassan, can be seen as neurotic anxiety. It can be proved by the quotation below:

I opened my mouth, almost said something...

(Hosseini, 2003:64)

In the end, I ran.

...I was afraid of Assef and what he would do to me. I was afraid of getting hurt.

(Hosseini, 2003:68)

3. Moral anxiety

Moral anxiety is an anxiety or the emotional response that appears when the ego threatened by punishment from the superego. Later, this anxiety leads the

person experiencing the feelings of shame, guilt or self-condemnation as the superego punishment. Amir's moral anxiety appears as the consequence he gets for letting Hassan get raped by Assef can be seen by insomniac he gets. It can be proved by the quotation below:

“ I watched Hassan get raped,” I said to no one. ... A part of me was hoping someone would wake up and hear, so I wouldn't have to live with this lie anymore...
That was the night I became an insomniac.

(Hosseini, 2003:75)

Motive experienced by Amir

Dealing with Amir's goal to get Baba's recognition, to redeem his betrayal toward Hassan as his illegitimate half brother, safety and security need, belongingness and love need, and self esteem need are the dominant needs that controls his act and effort to get those goals.

1. Safety and Security need

Safety and security need is described as a need of a person who wants to get stability and freedom from such threatening forces as illness, fear, and chaos. Amir who experiences conflict and anxiety, needs to get stability and freedom from threatening, fear and chaos. Amir's safety and security need can be seen when he decided to run away than save Hassan which is caused by his fear toward Assef. Amir's act such run away represents Amir's effort to get freedom from a fear he gets by seeing Hassan trapped by Assef. It can be seen by the quotation below:

In the end, I ran.
I ran because I was a coward. I was afraid of Assef and what he would do to me. I was afraid of getting hurt.

(Hosseini, 2003:68)

2. Belongingness and Love need

Belonging and love need is a need that person has to look for and share attention, affectionate relationship, caring and love with other. Amir's belongingness and love need appears when Amir asked Sohrab to live with Amir and his wife in America. By asking Sohrab to get a new life in America with him, Amir shows his caring toward Sohrab. It can be proved by the quotation below:

... “Would you like to come live in America with me and my wife?”

(Hosseini, 2003:279)

3. Self Esteem Need

Self esteem is divided into two basic types. The first level is a need of self respect. The second level is respect from others. Amir shows his self esteem need by trying to win kite-fighting tournament to show Baba that Amir is worthy dealing with Baba's perception toward Amir's personality as a coward boy. It can be proved by the quotation below:

I was going to win.. Then I'd bring it to home and show it to Baba. Show him once and for all that his son was worthy.

(Hosseini, 2003:49)

Conclusion

This paper discusses Amir's anxiety and motive in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*. Library research method is used to gain the data needed. While the structural and psychological approach are used to analyze the intrinsic and extrinsic elements. The structural approach is used to analyze the character, conflict, setting and plot. While, psychological approach is used to analyze Amir's anxiety and motive.

The result shows Amir as a caring, inferior, coward, optimistic, anxious, selfish, careless, sly and patient person. Amir belongs to round and static character since he has more than one specific trait but his characteristic as a caring person remains the same during the story. Amir experienced both internal and external conflict. Amir's internal conflict caused by a clash of emotional feeling within himself. While, the external conflict experienced by Amir against Hassan, Baba, Rahim Khan, Assef, Raymond Andrew, Omar Faisal, and Sohrab. The setting of time, social and place show the period in Afghanistan between 1975-2001 and the social stratum Pashtuns and Hazaras in Kabul.

Dealing with plot, it starts from Amir's effort to get Baba's recognition and respect, Amir's anxiety after betraying Hassan, Amir's effort to take Sohrab out from Kabul, the liberation Sohrab from Assef, the Sohrab's suicide trial, Amir's effort to get back Sohrab's trust.

Amir's anxiety and motive are the extrinsic element analyzed in *The Kite Runner*. Realistic, neurotic and moral anxiety are experienced by Amir. The sources of Amir's realistic anxiety are Assef. The source of Amir's neurotic anxiety is his imagination toward Assef punishment. The source of Amir's moral anxiety is his super ego which punished his ego for betraying Hassan.

Amir's motive reveals in *The Kite Runner* are safety and security need, belongingness and love need, and self esteem. Amir's safety and security need appears dealing with the betrayal he did toward Hassan as a Hazara. In addition, Amir's belongingness and love need appears dealing with Amir's caring toward Sohrab as a person who already saved him from Assef. Amir's self esteem need appears as his motivation to follow and win the kite-fighting tournament to get Baba's recognition and respect.

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