

Ethnic Conflicts of Hazaras in Khaled Hosseini's 'The Kite Runner'

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Ethnic conflict has been one of the social issue that prevails in our society. Ethnic conflict is the clash between two or more ethnic groups in a multi ethnic society. Ethnic group consists of people who share the same cultural heritage, language, religion, race, and who have common feeling of identity with other members of the same group. Ethnic groups always face marginalization in the society. Literature gave voice to this voiceless people in the society. Khaled Hosseini is one of such writer who gives voice to this kind of marginalized people. His work *The Kite Runner* dealt with the issue of ethnic conflicts between Pushtun and Hazaras. Traditionally Pushtuns have dominated the country because they are the presumed majority of the population. They were Sunni

Muslims. And Hazaras were Shia Muslims. Pushtuns has ruled Afghanistan since long time ago; meanwhile Hazaras has received oppression and persecution from Pushtun since long time ago and continue to the 1970s era until early 2000s. Pashtuns and Hazaras differ in terms of religious beliefs, cultural practices, social status, and physical appearances. This paper analyzes the forms of ethnic conflicts and the causes of ethnic conflicts in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*.

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