

## A Critical Study of Othering through the Characters in the Novel The Kite Runner: A Perspective of Orientalism

### Gul Aizaz

Lecturer, Department of English,  
Abdul Wali Khan University  
Mardan, KP, Pakistan.

Email: [gul\\_aizaz@awkum.edu.pk](mailto:gul_aizaz@awkum.edu.pk)

(Corresponding Author)

### Mahrang

M.A English, Sardar Bahadur  
Khan Womens' University Sub  
Campus Nushki, Balochistan,  
Pakistan.

### Abstract:

*The current study investigated the role conflicts of othering within the lens of Said's theory of Orientalism (1978). The current study examined the effect of othering in self-transformation and concluded that the impact of othering had affected not only the present relations of the people but also the past relationships among each other as well as faded identities and the way their self-transformation they had to experience several difficulties within a dominant country. The present study has been operated in a qualitative approach, for it is subjective in nature and analyzed within textual analysis. The present study concluded that the conflicts experienced by the people had affected their lives from several angles through which they suffered physically and mentally. The research significantly explored the identification of othering impacts on societies and also paid consideration to the conflicts experienced in the novel that affected an individual's identity.*

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### Introduction

Orientalism is a form of knowledge that highlights and discriminates the East from the Western world in parts of its language, culture, tradition, and people. Generally, it is a style designed by the West means of dominating and intensely showing authority towards the East. It also deals with the Western justification which built the Eastern world as particularly lower and unlikeness (Said, 1978).

Orientalism is a discovery of Western teachings that builds the ideas of others for the East. It is essentially the mode of

describing and uncovering the position of others in the West. Above all, the result of this is the construction of disagreement among the West and East (Ashcroft, 1995). The concept of orientalism is a device of colonialism, which is designed within the portion of the 3rd world, as a means for encouraging the idea of domination and reduction of independence (Malik, 1963).

Essentially, Orientalism is a pattern for an explanation of the principles and the ideologies applied by the West which are particularly destroying the East within extreme parts by means of its regional characteristics, financial conditions, and so

on (Turner, 1978). The term Orientalism is generally a procedure of innermost consideration and thought by way of logical anxieties, suspicions, and as well the requirements of the Western which go to see on the created entity through the resolution known as the oriental, which stands for the unstable and unclear object, which is recognized through viewers the way they demand it currently (Ziauddin, 1999).

The Kite Runner is one of the masterpiece works of Hosseini, published in (2003). It is a successful novel which was sold 3 million copies all around the world. The Kite Runner is a historical fiction novel, which deals with the events from the 1960s and 2000s when Afghanistan was under the conflicts of civil wars and Taliban rule. The story deals with the events that took place in Afghanistan, with a glance at its social and mental values and its impact on the relationship of people with each other. The novel deals with the issues of cultural identities as otherness, for the idea of other is used in terms of differences in political, social, ethnic, and religious perspectives. Hosseini in his novel represents the idea of otherness between the different ethnic cultures as the Sunni and the Shia. The story deals with the friendship between Amir, (a Pushton) and Hassan (a Hazara), who belong to different races, and deals with the sufferings they face throughout the novel.

Raj (2018) has stated that Hosseini is an Afghan-American writer, and his novels are mostly based on the situations of Afghanistan, which deal with a mixture of social, political, and human conflicts. The researcher has used the theory of Raymond Schwab's oriental renaissance in her work, defining the Orient as the eastern countries, which are totally different from the Western others. There are several differences regarding the terms of social and political affairs. His novel has shown the connection between East and West and he has also examined that the West is a peaceful place for

someone to repair his life, the result is that Hosseini has brought two different worlds to form oneself.

The present study aims to investigate the idea of otherness, through the characters and how it has affected their lives in part of the conflicts faced by them as social, ethnic, and religious. The study focused on Said's "The Theory of Orientalism" (1978), which is an idea used by him to analyze the difference between the west and east world. The present study aims to fill the gap of otherness in the work. The research has been analyzed through contextual analysis. The researcher has used a qualitative approach, for it is subjective in nature.

### **Statement of the Problem**

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The study examined the idea of othering as faced by the characters and thus how it has affected them in different angles of their lives in the light of Kite Runner (2003). The study will also deal with the conflicts such as the social, ethnic, and religion experienced by them.

### **Objectives of the Study**

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- To explore the role conflicts in the light of othering in the novel
- To examine the influence of othering in self-transformation

### **Research Questions**

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1. What are the conflicts experienced by the characters in the light of othering in the novel?
2. What are the impacts of other things in self-transformation?

### **Significance of Study**

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The significance of the present study is to identify the impact of othering on marginalized communities, it also draws attention to role conflicts that influence the reformation of self as an individual identity.

Furthermore, the current study constructed alertness for almost all other researchers who can access and examine the novel through different perspectives.

## **Theoretical Framework**

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The study took guidance from Said's "The Theory of Orientalism" (1978).

The theory states that orientalism is an idea to analyze the past relation between the Orient and the Occident. The term orient has been used for the Eastern world which is totally different from the Western world in part of culture, social, and political affairs. Said has used the term orient to construct the difference between the self and other, the self is the one who is the colonialist, and the other is the colonized. He has used the term other to describe the Western fascination with the Eastern world. He has argued that the occidentals are the superior authority, while the orientals are the conservatives.

## **Research Methodology**

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### **Mode of Inquiry**

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The researcher used a qualitative approach, for the study is subjective in nature.

### **Data Collection**

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The researcher used secondary resources, such as reading books, articles, and journals, and getting data from websites, for the research is based on contextual analysis.

### **Data Analysis**

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The researcher investigated the role conflicts through the idea of otherness, how it has affected their lives, and the impacts of it in the means of social reform based on Orientalism.

## **Chapter Breakdown**

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The current study is distributed among five chapters. The first chapter covers a momentary overview of the introduction of

the study, statement of problem, significance, objectives, research questions, and research designs. The second chapter is a reflection of the review of literature recently based on the "influence of otherness on the characters in the novel *The Kite Runner* within a glance on Orientalism". The third chapter is concerned with the research methodology and instruments practiced by the researcher designed for collecting data. The fourth chapter covers the explanation of the data completely within textual analysis. Hence, the fifth and last chapters consider the findings, recommendations, and conclusion of the present study.

## **Othering**

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It is a term designed to examine an individual's identity by separating it from others by means of being superior to them and at the majority authority over them in parts of its differences from the social class, race, and religion.

## **Orientalism**

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It is an idea of the Western world that visualizes and reveals the organization of the Eastern world in place of its dissimilarities among each other. Frequently, it views the East by means of being a strange, far-off, and even once in a while unsafe and uncivilized world.

## **Role Conflicts**

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The people are surrounded by conflicts, for they are longing for achievements and such burden and stress is imposed on a person that makes the opposition of him in contrast to the other. It arises in an individual at the moment he discovers himself dragged within several cases and attempts to react to the various positions he is in, which can be for a little or lengthy period.

## **Self-Transformation**

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It is mainly a procedure, an action, or an effect that an individual applies in order to convert and change his personal point of view, feelings, deeds, and acts. It is basically a form of changing one totally from what he was previously.

## Literature Review

Orientalism is a technique of perceiving that visualizes, highlights as well and stresses dissimilarities of Eastern citizens along with values in place of linking them by means of Europe and the United States. Usually, it comprises observing the values of the East by means of inaccessible and once in danger. The word "Orient" is generally a replacement in place of the culture, people as well as properties belonging to the Eastern part of Asia (Said, [1978](#)).

Similarly in the reflection of Orientalism, the term otherness has been defined by means of society's fundamental forces. It is an idea of classifying people from each other on the basis of their dissimilarities in culture, race, and ethnicity how such individual is considered to be higher than others by means of their classes. Meanwhile, it also builds up the circumstances of supremacy and reduction (Lee, 2015). Moreover, Kelthoum ([2014](#)) argues that Hosseini also presents the critical importance of Islam and the Western perception of Islam as the other. He represents Islam firstly as the religion used by those who made use of it as a weapon for their terrorism and secondly as a religion based on belief. Overall, Hosseini tried to show the relationship of god with his creatures that although they committed several sins but were given many turns to find redemption. The researcher has focused on the events in Afghanistan that happened in the past in order to identify the people's previous experiences. The study concentrates on the social identities of people including religion, appearance, and race that had an impact on history and also discusses the

otherness through different perspectives on the part of the characters, for the issue of otherness had an impact on the lives of Afghan people.

Furthermore, Runda (2015) views that, the novel deals with social identities based on the differences between the self and others. It contributes opinion in the direction of which is completely not "self" or other, however somewhat an idea of the center. The novel also links the East as well as the West, to recognize the worldwide ideas despite the fact that as well struggling by means of the civilization degrees which might possibly be generally dissimilar themselves. Through these ideas, Hosseini exposes his capacity in the direction of criticizing situations of the Afghan people, the Taliban regime, and religious perspectives. However, Runda (2015) also states that in the meantime, America was known as a country quite difficult as well as symbolizes the clashes, that when Amir emerged to America as a means to live a sustainable life, had to give up the manner of their lifestyle. Thus the effect of America was on Baba's life that he faced difficulty in starting a new life in America, for the country was totally different from his homeland. Whereas for Amir, America was represented as a place to run away from his past and a chance to repair his life. In the novel he generally connects two different worlds together to form one.

Furthermore, Rosyida ([2018](#)) argues that Hosseini's novel *The Kite Runner* is a historical fiction novel that expresses nearly the subject of companionship and recovery. The main location of the novel is situated in Afghanistan. The researcher emphasizes the historical actions between the 1970s to 2000s, which have been portrayed in the novel, and also uses the theory of imitative to border the facts on historical actions, which were seen throughout the novel. The researcher applies qualitative techniques on the way to investigate plus clarify the past actions established in the novel that actually

occurred in Afghanistan for instance the civil wars, the downfall of the empire, ethnic conflicts, and the rule of terrorism. Moreover, the researcher determines that there are several past actions that are varied with the fancy of the writer. The way Hosseini exposed that actual actions were based on the account of dialogues and the tale among the people throughout the novel.

Additionally, the work of Fatma (2016) views that, the *Kite Runner* is a novel dealing with the civilization of Afghanistan, which consists of several groups and classes. The groups were divided among the Taliban and civilized people, while the classes were divided among the higher and lower ranks. Additionally, the story covers a number of ideas that somehow affect both angles. The higher rank was the majority authority in Afghanistan, while the lower rank was the minority authority.

Additionally, Rekha (2013) in her work states that through the novel Hosseini has bridged the connection between Western and Eastern societies. The entire plot of the novel deals with circumstances that Afghan people grieved in the middle of the late 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> century, by means of the orientalist angle and clashes of West versus East. The novel gives a picture of a strong and problematic Afghan-American traditional uniqueness. The novel deals with events that Afghanistan grieved such as the attack of Russians which was the calamity of the novel and also the Taliban's organization that tried to control all of Afghanistan. The story of the novel deals with the companionship between Amir and Hassan, who belong to dissimilar ethnic and religious cultures. However, Smita (2018) views Hosseini as an Afghan-American writer, whose novels are mostly based on the situation of Afghanistan, which shows its clear tradition and way of life in part due to the mixture of social, political, and human conflicts. The researcher has used the theory of Raymond Schwab's "Oriental Renaissance" in her work that defines the Orient as the

eastern countries, that were totally different from the Western as the otherness. There are several differences regarding the terms of culture, and social and political affairs.

Additionally, the work of Nisa (2014) views that the kite has played a symbolic role in the novel, as it represents the different ethnic groups in Afghanistan, and such groups have affected the lives of people over there. The novel is a historical fiction that examines the conflicts that affected the lives of Afghan people from the late 19s till the early 20s. The story deals with two different ethnic and religious groups, the Pashtun and the Hazara. The conflicts that occurred throughout the novel among both groups were in part due to their differences in appearance, belief, race, nationality, and way of life. Similarly, the study of Nisa (2014) states that for a lengthy period, the Pashtun governed Afghanistan and due to their high rank in society they tortured the Hazara physically and mentally. The main result lies in the conflict of the idea among the Sunni and Shias that the Pashtuns wanted to rule over the Hazara by destroying them in many ways.

Furthermore, Farlina (2008) in her work argues that Afghanistan has been unsettled in excess of the historical centuries by Russian attacks as well as terrorism regimes that have mostly ruined the values of the nation, relations, and ethnic associations. It is a historical country which has been living on one or the other part of its existing Values or else in the part of several dialects. Hosseini in his novel reveals the situation of Afghan civilization which turns out to be the chief subjects of separation, refinement, racism, and self which have been experienced by Amir and Hassan throughout the course of the novel.

In addition to that, Farlina (2008) states that the two main characters Amir, a Pashtun, and Hassan, a Hazara, and the novel also deal with the way that the cultural identity has affected their lives. As Hassan

belonged to a lower rank, Amir had internal clashes towards him as well as also tried to separate him from his life. The Pashtun were considered the majority level in Afghanistan and followed Sunni belief whereas, the Hazara's were at the minority level and were Shia belief. The Pashtuns were considered as the higher class, respectful, and businessmen. Meanwhile, the Hazara were a low class, unfortunate, and mostly worked as servants; as a result, such differences caused ethnic and religious conflicts. Amir's conflicts make him feel guilty and sinful near Hassan.

Additionally, Saraswat (2014) in her work claims that the novel is strongly well-known for its truthful universal themes such as individuality, disloyalty, and exploitation. Attractively it is constructed in a nation that has been oppressed by terrorism and wars. It also aims to investigate the influence of it on the relationship in parts of their losses and falsehood. Basically, it is about the amount of disloyalty and recovery that revolves around the story of Amir, who punished himself through repentance due to the fact of his previous troubled period within the faults that he committed in his youth. Although he observed the physical attack of sexual harassment on Hassan but unsuccessful in stopping the violence.

However, Akram and Esmail (2016) in their work argue that racialism and ethnical are generally similar ideas despite the fact that ethnicity is a type of racialism. Every single state, nearby has several ethnic groups with similar foundations and duties, that somehow might not be judged as equal through the superior authority of tribal classes. Racialism stands for a universal problem which is built as going on the person's bodily features controlled by some people based on their ethnicity as well as race in addition to that marks a number of people as higher as well lower. Afghanistan is a model of such a nation, which is strictly a nation that consists of several groups. And so,

it is a country that consists of several classes by means of conflicting social behaviors, counting in parts of its dialectal, religious beliefs, physical look in addition outfit, as well as traditions.

Additionally, Handayani (2016) in her work argues that racialism is the most awful social difficulties that survive currently. It takes place in rising nations that consume varieties in relation to society, tribal, traditional as well as religious belief experiences. Afghanistan is a nation that for the period of its olden times is grieving due to the clashes as well as the civil battles. Even if it's a Muslim republic that maintains the links of association, additionally the clashes plus the discrimination often occur in the state. It is a nation that consists of multiple cultures as well as civilizations. It also consists of several classes in addition tribes that have been surviving in the same state. The novel may possibly express the racist discrimination in what way the one-sided and negative might be effective for humanity along with the social orders. Handayani (2016) further argues that Amir is the protagonist for the reason that the whole story turns around his lifecycle. Likewise, he was racially prejudiced on the way to Hassan, and with the intention to fulfill his egotistic desires, he made use of his identity in order to govern and operate Hassan. Meanwhile, to get the affection and care of his father, he betrayed his friend, Hassan, for he considered the Hazara were alive to assist the Pashtuns. As a fact, both Amir and Hassan were raised with dissimilar societies, beliefs, and values. Whereas, Hassan was Amir's friend in addition to a servant's son. He was a Hazara, belonged to the lower authority in the state, and even due to his physical appearance, he was teased by the Pashtun. He was a boy, who had the qualities of being very faithful, honest, and patient. He was aware of his lowest class and position in society, and while he came to be the target of racialism, he not once stood for himself. In

the novel he does not exist in place of a significant share; however, he plays a central part in mounting the clashes throughout the course of the novel.

### Mode of Inquiry

The current study applied a qualitative approach which is a method to discover problems based on the interpretation and explanation of data. According to Denzin and Lincoln (1994), qualitative approach is a type of method that emphasizes the clarification and analysis of the situation in means of the ideas people convey about the background. It consists of a collection of data in way of particular involvement, self-examination, observation, discussions, and texts that are important to the life of an individual. Additionally, it is a kind of technique that improves the ideologies and models that support individuals in order to recognize the usual societal facts based on providing stress in the way to significance, personal understanding, meanings as well as the observer's opinions (Pope & Mays, 1995).

The present study is text-based research that critically studies the influence of othering within the secondary resources which is the novel by Hosseini "The Kite Runner" (2003). The current research applied a qualitative approach, for it is subjective in nature.

### Design of Study

In addition, the research design is a construction, idea, and scheme of the exploration as a result regard to achieving solutions to the particular problems of the research (Kerlinger, 1986). It is an idea that is the whole structure of the research that considers the framework of whatever the researcher has to resolve after the suggestion scripts and its effects on the overall investigation of the data. Meanwhile, according to (Thyer, 1993) it is technically an idea that the investigator takes on in order to

solve the research problems perfectly, genuinely, and cautiously. Furthermore, Creswell (2008) claimed that it is a technique that investigates the duration of data along the methods measured in the collection of data. It involves techniques for inquiry and approaches for analyzing data.

The present study is a descriptive design that aims to solve the specific problems regarding the research difficulties and inquiries. The present study examined the role conflicts of othering in Hosseini's novel "The Kite Runner" (2003), how they had suffered and struggled through it within a dominant nation, and likewise, explored the effect of othering in self-transformation within the light of orientalism perceptive. The researcher concluded her study with the qualitative approach of inquiry. The current study is an inductive method.

### Methodological Framework

The present study has been examined through the primary source novel "The Kite Runner" (2003) which has an appropriate agreement within the light of Said's "The Theory of Orientalism" (1978) that verified the impact of othering is caused by means of discriminate along race, social and political affairs that similarly reflect in the present study.

### Data Collection

The current study collected data from Hosseini's novel "The Kite Runner" (2003). The researcher read the lines of the novel that reflected the objectives of the current study in the light of Said's "Orientalism" (1978).

### Data Analysis

The data has been analyzed within the framework of Said's Orientalism (1978) thematically with the intention to solve the research questions of the present study.

In addition, in Orientalism (1978)

otherness was a major issue in way of racism that generated conflicts among human beings in order to discriminate against them within a nation, by which an individual suffered physically and mentally. Furthermore, Orientalism (1978) argued that the idea of being othering had affected the past relationships of human beings among themselves and in search of their self-transformation they have to face several issues within a supremacy nation. The theory stated that political and religious ideologies were a form of realism that strongly dealt with the relation of supremacy and dominance, which differentiate the people for being weak and inferior, similarly, the influence of othering is reflected in the novel "The Kite Runner" (2003). The current study used secondary sources such as articles, journals, and data from websites which have been textually analyzed regarding the objectives of the current study.

### **Theoretical Framework**

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The current study selected a primary source as Hosseini's novel "The Kite Runner" (2003), which concentrated on content analysis within the light of Said's "Orientalism" (1978) generally paid attention to the past relationship of self and others, in place of superior and inferior authorities that is discriminated by means of social, political and cultural perceptive.

### **Data Analysis**

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The aim of the researcher is to reveal the conflicts of Afghan people in part of their sufferings during the events from the 1970s to the 2000s. The peoples of Afghanistan were divided among two major groups and how the lower were oppressed and tortured by the higher authority and couldn't get any equal rights as the superior class achieved. It was the basic reason for their sufferings and struggles by means of their identities in part of their race and religion in the society of

Afghanistan.

The current study will be analyzed with contextual analysis and through reading the novel "The Kite Runner" (2003) lines, which will be related to the objectives of the study and will explain how the people of Afghanistan had suffered in part of their discrimination in racism and ethnicity, even though they belonged from one nation (Afghanistan).

### **Analysis of Data**

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"I became what I am today at the age of twelve, on a frigid overcast day in the winter of 1975. I remember the precise moment, crouching behind a crumbling mud wall, peeking into the alley near the frozen creek. That was a long time ago, but it's wrong what they say about the past, I've learned about how you can bury it" (p.1).

Basically, Orientalism states that to get free of the logical history that controls the mind, an individual should account for his sufferings as well as injustices in part of his reality, similarly in the above statement Amir the narrator and the protagonist of the novel recalls his past memories when he was of twelve years during the period 1975 in winter, for it was the time that changed his life. At the present moment although he is in America, but is suffering through inner conflicts for betraying Hassan in his childhood. He reminds the event that occurred in the alley after the kite fighting tournament, that even though he witnessed Assef and his friends attack and raped Hassan in the alley behind the wall, instead of protecting him, he ran away from there leaving him to suffer and for the act of his evil dong he has been suffering rest of his life.

"Hey Babalu, who did you eat today? They barked to a chorus of laughter. Who did you eat, you flat-nosed Babalu? They called him flat-nosed because of Ali and Hassan's characteristics hazara monogoloid features. For years, that was all I knew about the



Hazaras, that they were Mogul descendants, and that they looked a little like Chinese people" (p. 8).

It has been strongly shown that race and religion play an important role in Afghan society. As part of their identity difference, the Hazara were tortured by the Pashtun's and were treated with opposition and even they teased and made fun of them by means of their appearance and caste. Furthermore, racial discrimination is produced by orientalism which plays a significant part on the way to differentiating humans by means of their race, ethnic group as well as values.

"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 Pushtuns had oppressed the Hazaras was that Pushtuns were Sunni Muslims, while Hazaras were Shias" (p. 8).

Orientalism argues that in part of its relation the connection between self and other is of strength and dominance. Furthermore, in the above lines, Amir argues that in part of Afghanistan's history, how the Pashtuns have been controlling the Hazara by means of their difference in race and religion. At that period due to their higher rank, the Pashtuns tortured the Hazara in different ways in order to have control and rule over Afghanistan. They destroyed their lands as well as their families. "He spoke in Russian to Karim without taking his eyes off her. Karim gave a curt reply in Russian, which the soldier returned with an even curter retort. The Afghan soldier said something too in a low, reasoning voice. But the Russian soldier shouted something that made the other two flinch. I could feel Baba tightening up next to me. Karim cleared his throat and dropped his head. Said the soldier wanted a half hour with the lady in the back of the truck" (p.100).

Basically, Orientalism is a style used by the West for reorganization, power, and

supremacy as well as control over the weak Eastern. Similarly, in the following lines it has been shown that the Russians have controlled and treated Afghan people in such a way that while the Russian attacks many of the people emigrated to other countries, and during their journey, a Russian soldier desired for raping a woman among them as a price for living them to pass the border safely.

"I want you to ask this man something, Baba said. He said to Karim but looked directly at the Russian officer. Ask him where his shame is. They spoke, He said this is war. There is no shame in war. Tell him he's wrong. War doesn't negate decency. It demands it, even more in times of peace"(p. 100).

Since the Western culture has praised the Eastern, orientalism states that the Western culture plays a significant role by means of its ideology and the way how it treats others, and in parts of being colonized it is impossible for the people to reach the organized culture dominance on them and on other. Similarly, it is strongly shown that in part of their authority, the Russians tortured the Afghan people and desired from them anything for their satisfaction. Meanwhile, Baba was a man who took a stand against the soldier for his moral beliefs and argued that in parts of war being the higher authority doesn't mean to disapprove politeness and manners.

"It turned out that Baba had no cash on him for the oranges. He'd written Mr. Nguyen a check and Mr. Nguyen had asked for an ID. He wants to see my license. Baba bellowed in Farsi" (p. 111).

Orientalism states that the appearance an individual makes of his language and culture by means of other cultures mostly moves around to be false. Similarly, Baba was a person who was known for his pride and honor. While he was in America he was not as powerful as he was in his country, but also tried to show his power and authority when

he had when the grocery asked for his ID he became furious about how he asked me about my ID, although it was common in foreign nations.

"Six days a week, Baba pulled twelve-hour shifts pumping gas, running the register, changing oil, and washing windshields" (113).

It has been strongly shown that when Amir and his father emerged to America to find peace in their lives, Baba began to work in a gas station that even if when he was in Kabul he used to be a respected and well-to-do businessman who owned many shops of his own, but while he traveled to America, he lost his status and power that he had in Afghanistan. In the foreign, he worked as the lower class people used to do. Furthermore, Orientalism in part of its history has an unchanging connection that expresses various relations with the dominant and powerful culture that is encircling it, by means of its supremacy and authority.

"He opened the door. Turned back to me. And one more thing. No one found out about this, you hear me? No one. I don't want anybody's sympathy. Then he disappeared into the dim lobby. He chain-smoked the rest of that day in front of the TV" (p. 137).

It has been strongly shown that Baba was a man known for his pride that while he was at the last stage of cancer in spite of taking any medicine, he refused to share it with anyone for he couldn't bear the people looking at him with pity eyes. However, Orientalism argues that Orientalism is a major form of realism by means of its discourse, ideology, and styles.

"The Taliban's moved into the house, Rahim Khan said, the pretext was that they had evicted a trespasser. Hassan's and Farzan's murders were dismissed as a case of self-defense. No one said a word about it. Most of it was fear of the Taliban I think. But no one was going to risk anything for a pair of Hazara servants" (pp. 192-193)

In the following lines, Rahim Khan

argues that the condition of Afghanistan had been under the Taliban regime and that there were no rules or laws followed. The only issue that matters is race and ethnicity when Hassan and his wife were murdered by the Taliban, they discharged the case as a security of themselves. The basic fact was that no one stood for them as they belonged to the Hazara tribe and in such a way they were dishonoured by the superior authority. However, Orientalism argues that the Orient is a style that deals with the reflection of history by means of supremacy and dominance performed in the West.

"This place is better than the streets, but not that much better. This building was never meant to be lived in-it used to be a storage ware-house for a carpet manufacturer. So there's no water heater and they've let the well go dry. He dropped his voice. I've asked the Taliban for money to dig a new well more times than I remember and they just twirl their rosaries and tell me there is no money. No money. He snickered" (p. 222).

Orientalism is a style of political realism that discriminates people among themselves and others by means of different civilizations, values, and beliefs. In the following lines, the owner of the orphanage states that the building had no such facilities but in spite of being a place for the children, it was quieter well than the streets. Meanwhile, Afghanistan was under the rule of terrorism that in order to survive the people had to beg in front of the Taliban.

"I saw a dead body near a restaurant. There had been a hanging. A young man dangled from the end of a rope tied to a beam, his face puffy and blue, the clothes he'd worn on the last day of his life shredded bloody. Hardly anyone seemed to notice him" (p. 226).

Since Amir was on his way to Ghazi stadium, he found that the condition of Afghanistan had totally changed. The building of the restaurant where he usually

went with his father was destroyed in such a way that only the walls of it remained without doors and windows. The people were murdered in large numbers, while a few dead bodies were on the floor, some were hanged. Meanwhile, Orientalism argues that the people who were colonized fear and have difficulty in achieving the complex organization of cultural dominance over others as well as themselves.

"We left the bodies in the streets and if their families tried to sneak out to drag them back into their homes, we shot them too. We left them in the streets for days. We left them for the dogs. Dogs meat for dogs" (p. 243).

Additionally, Orientalism argues that racism and ethnicity are the major issues that deal within cultures which differentiate humans in parts of colour, appearance as well and trends and make their lives difficult to survive. Since Afghanistan was under the control of Terrorism, the Taliban treated human beings by means of their race. Usually, they tortured the Hazara in part of their lower class, they treated them as animals and killed them in front of the public in the streets in a very harsh way and left their bodies there to be torn by the wild animals.

"Assefs brow twitched. Like pride in your people, your custom, your language. Afghanistan is like a beautiful mansion littered with garbage, and someone has to take out the garbage" (p. 249).

Since, Assef is the villain of the novel, in part due to his powerful authority he has too much hatred towards the Hazara people that he compares them with a sort of dust that is polluting their homeland and argues that they must be moved away from there in order to clean their land. Similarly, orientalism argues that the racial is a true factor that plays a major role in part in differentiating people between colors, appearances, beliefs, and classes.

## Findings

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The present study found out what are the role conflicts of othering in the novel *The Kite Runner* (2003), similarly, it explored that the basic reason for the conflict that occurred with Afghanistan was social and religious classes that were discriminated against among race and ethnicity. The way it has affected the lives of Afghan people and their relationships with others. The major fact was that the Pashtuns were the dominant and superior authority among the Hazara that by means of their power suppressed and oppressed the inferior authorities.

The present study revealed that the major cause of role conflict was means of discrimination that played a significant role within the society in part of racism which differentiated human beings among others in place of their classes, religion, castes, and so on. It is a basic form that apart human beings along their values and customs makes their life quite difficult to survive. Moreover, the current study also resolved to explore the influence of othering that has affected the past relations of an individual and his identity has moved towards decline on the way to self-transformation an individual has to face cultural endangerment, self-realization, and his identity also does not remain original, similarly an individual accounts for his sufferings which he had experienced in the past reality.

## Conclusion

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The present study revealed the conflicts experienced by the Afghan people and how they had suffered through sexual, physical, and mental issues due to their identities within a nation, by means of racialism that discriminated them among religion, color, facial look, and so on. Meanwhile, in the case of the Hazara, they were regarded as the inferior class for they were less in power and strength and they were totally oppressed by means of their looks, beliefs, and status which was the basic reason for them to be victimized within the dominant society. The

current study concluded that otherness was a major issue in a state that was caused due to discrimination in part of racial and ethnic dissimilation within a nation. It had a negative effect on human beings and their rights likewise in place of domination and inequality within a society. The superior classes were so powerful and wealthy that they were greedy to rule over all nations and oppressed the inferior classes in the way they wished. The study also revealed that how much otherness is suppressed, it would create many difficulties in the future for the societies for no families or cultures would survive there and in case such issues are also presented in the current scenarios and societies that have a presence effect on the people and their relations and values.

## **Recommendation**

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The novel "The Kite Runner" can be analyzed from different angles for further studies. Researchers in the future can analyze the novel from the angles of psychological and sociological perceptive. The researchers can also study the historical events that occurred in the novel and can contrast it with any other historical novel based on different eras. The researcher can also critically study the novel in the light of "Historicism". The researchers can analyze the novel from an angle based on the influence of warfare and political affairs in Afghanistan. The researcher can also study the literary elements used by Hosseini in the novel.

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