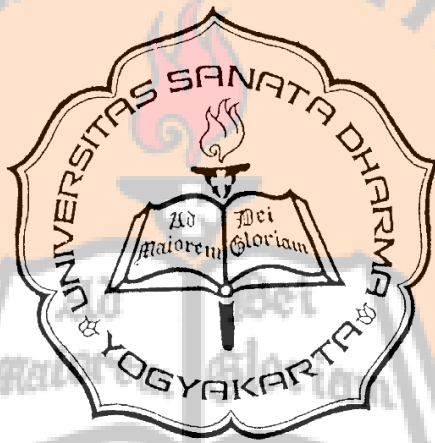


**CULTURAL CONTEXTS OF SINGLE PARENTING
IN KHALED HOSSEINI'S *THE KITE RUNNER***

AN UNDERGRADUATE THESIS

Presented as Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the Degree of *Sarjana Sastra*
in English Letters



By

SULISTYO YUDA ATMAMARTA

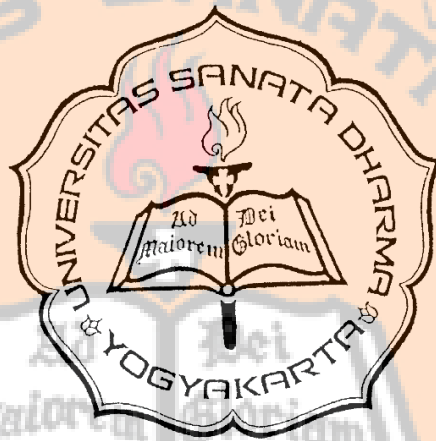
Student Number: 134214061

**ENGLISH LETTERS STUDY PROGRAM
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LETTERS
FACULTY OF LETTERS
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By
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




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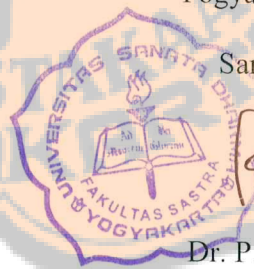
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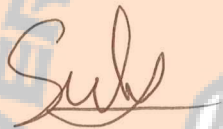



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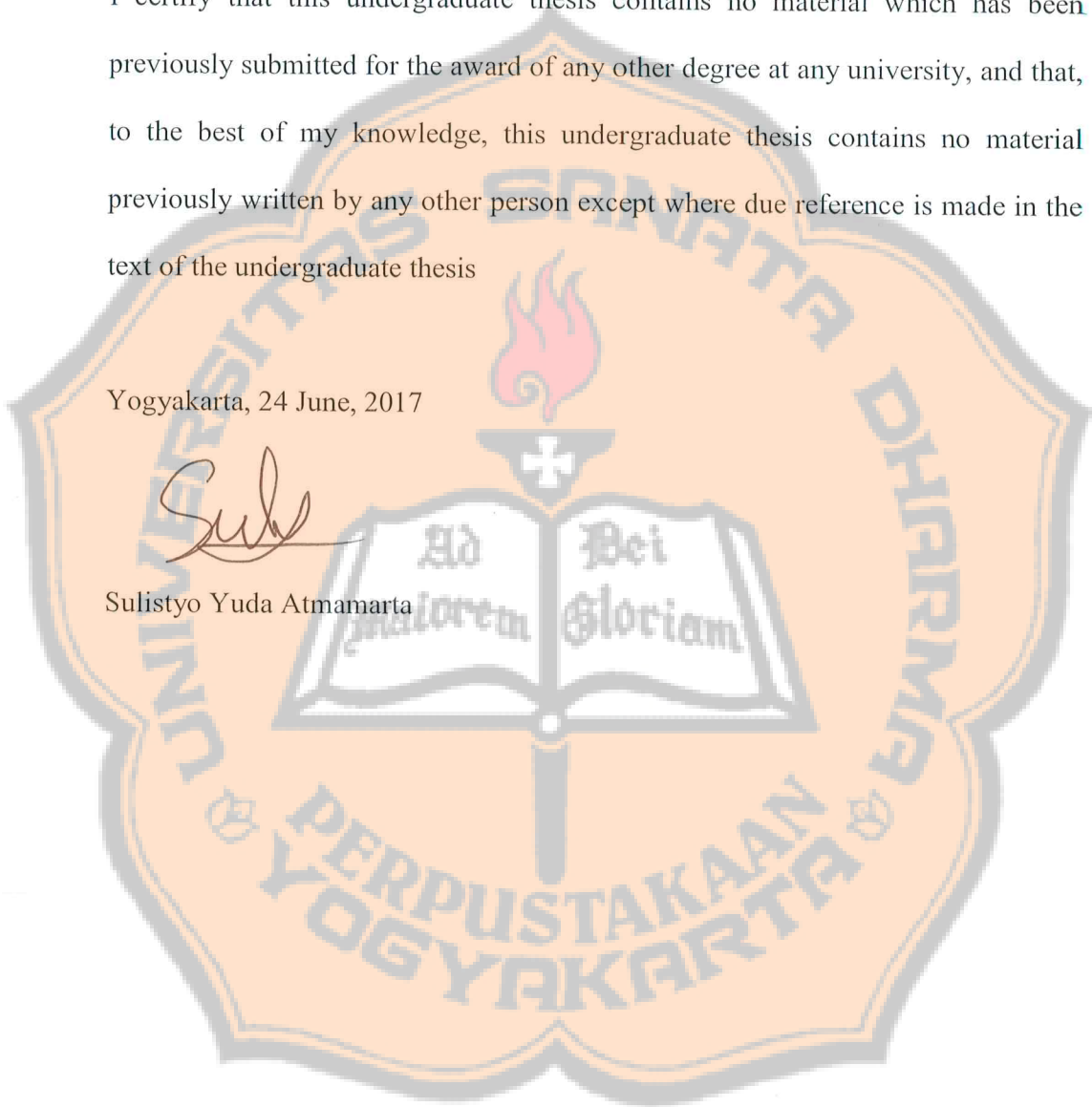
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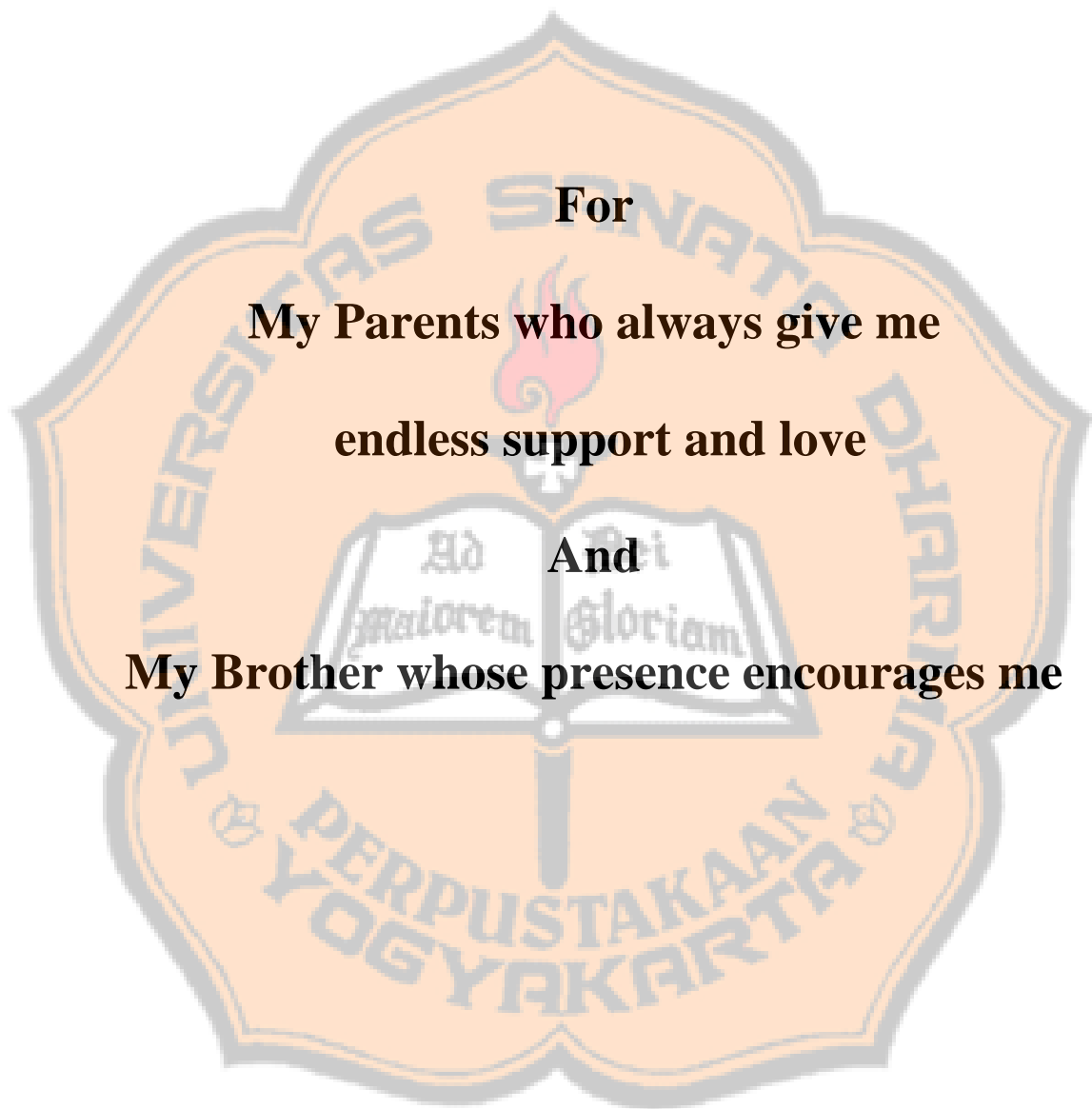
Sulistyo Yuda Atmamarta

THERE IS A WAY TO BE

GOOD AGAIN

-Khaled Hosseini-





For

**My Parents who always give me
endless support and love**

And

My Brother whose presence encourages me

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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ABSTRACT

ATMAMARTA, SULISTYO YUDA. **Cultural Contexts of Single Parenting in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner***. Yogyakarta: Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Sanata Dharma University, 2017.

This research is conducted to analyze the cultural contexts of single parenting experienced in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*. The analysis shows the cultural context of single parenting in Afghanistan and The United States. Therefore, sociocultural study is applied to analyze the cultural context in *The Kite Runner*.

There are also historical and cultural approaches that helped in analyzing the novel. The three main objectives in this research are to analyze the social setting, the cultural context, and the social values of single parenting in *The Kite Runner*. The objective of this study is to show the cultural context in *The Kite Runner*. The setting in Afghanistan and The United States are analyzed to show the difference of the cultural context.

In attaining those objectives, library research applied to collect primary and secondary data from books and websites. The researcher conducts close reading method on the novel and does a research for supporting theories, approaches, and related studies. At the end, the researcher conducts critical analysis to answer the problem formulation and conducts the conclusion on the analysis.

The result of the first problem formulation shows the strong of Afghan cultural background of Baba and Amir who are from Afghanistan coming to the The United States and not affected by the foreign culture. The result of the second problem shows that the social values in Afghanistan are influenced by the religion and tribe while in the The United States the social values are influenced by the social class and wealth.

ABSTRAK

ATMAMARTA, SULISTYO YUDA. **Cultural Context of Single Parenting in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner***. Yogyakarta: Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Sastra, Universitas Sanata Dharma, 2017.

Penelitian ini dilaksanakan untuk menganalisis konteks budaya dari orang tua tunggal di buku Khaled Hosseini berjudul *The Kite Runner*. Analisis ini menunjukkan konteks budaya dari orang tua tunggal di Afganistan dan Amerika Serikat. Maka dari itu, pendekatan ilmu sosial budaya diaplikasikan untuk menganalisis konteks budaya di *The Kite Runner*.

Ada juga pendekatan historikal dan ilmu budaya untuk membantu menganalisa novel ini. Tiga tujuan utama dalam penelitian ini digunakan untuk menganalisa kondisi sosial, konteks budaya, dan nilai sosial orang tua tunggal dalam *The Kite Runner*. Tujuan dalam penelitian ini digunakan untuk menunjukkan konteks budaya dalam *The Kite Runner*. Kondisi di Afganistan dan di Amerika Serikat dianalisis untuk menunjukkan perbedaan konteks budaya.

Untuk mencapai tujuan-tujuan tersebut, penelitian pustaka digunakan untuk mengumpulkan data primer dan sekunder dari buku-buku dan situs internet. Kemudian, peneliti membaca secara mendalam buku novel dan mencari teori pendukung, pendekatan, dan studi yang berkaitan. Terakhir, peneliti melakukan analisis kritis untuk menjawab tiga perumusan masalah yang ditemukan dan membuat kesimpulan dari penelitian yang dilaksanakan.

Hasil dari perumusan masalah pertama menunjukan latar belakang budaya Baba dan Amir yang cukup kuat di Afganistan, sedangkan di Amerika tidak begitu berdampak pada mereka. Hasil perumusan kedua menunjukan bahwa nilai sosial di Afganistan dipengaruhi oleh agama dan suku sedangkan di Amerika oleh dipengaruhi oleh kelas sosial dan kekayaan.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Society is an important aspect in human life. Through society, people learn about history, culture, and custom. These aspects shape the attitude and the way people think in a society. People tend to behave as what their culture or custom taught them. All of these aspects are evidences that people try to show their existence in life.

Family is where children learned all of these aspects from parents. The parents taught what society had taught them before and they share what is good to their children. The problem in a family is that parental control is limited by time and children learned what the parents do not taught directly from the society without knowing what is good for them. Another issue is when children wanted to learn things from their parents but the parents does not have time to spend with their children or even worse, they refuse to do it.

The story of *The Kite Runner* tells about friendship, family, and society that happens in Afghanistan and United States in the 20th century. This story unveils the history of Afghanistan when Russia invades Afghanistan. Besides the history of the country, the society also shows the custom in Afghanistan.

The main character in *The Kite Runner* is Amir who wants to be like his father, Baba, who is a respected man in Kabul, Afghanistan. Besides that, Baba

wants Amir to be like his friend, Hassan, who is brave, strong, and humble. This issue is related with the culture and social setting in Afghanistan.

Afghanistan has many tribes, and the most well-known is Pashtun and Hazara. The two tribes are well known but they are contradictory. Pashtun is a tribe which is respected than other tribes and in the other hand Hazara is the tribe which is ignored and disregard by other tribes.

The problem regarding culture happens in *The Kite Runner* to show the existence of culture and social. The existence of different tribes and social classes are stronger when children do not learn about the diversity of society which is common and the ignorance of the lower tribes or class should be removed.

In this situation, parents have an important role in family to teach children about diversity. As Vygotsky stated about sociocultural started from children:

Every function in the child's cultural development appears twice: first, on the social level, and later, on the individual level; first, between people (interpsychological) and then inside the child (intrapsychological). This applies equally to voluntary attention, to logical memory, and to the formation of concepts. All the higher functions originate as actual relationships between individuals (Vygotsky, 1978: 57).

Society constructs the idea of tribes and it creates the idea into a culture. Parents do not control the idea of culture to their children; the children will take the information from the society by themselves even if it is bad for them.

The Kite Runner has the same issues about sociocultural development. The decent example is when Baba, as a father, does not tell many things to his son but he shows how to deal with other tribes though Baba is from Pashtun, wealthy, and a respected man. Baba shows Amir that he can befriend with the Hazaras even

though they are the lowest tribe in Afghanistan. Baba has Hazaras servants and he treated Ali, his servant, well.

Amir learned his father's behavior and try to imitate him. His father teaches Amir to be a brave man. Amir has a Hazara friend named Hassan, Ali's son. Even though Hassan and Amir born in different classes, they have a good relationship. Amir did not care about the people shouting at Hassan because he is a Hazara.

The same thing happens to Ali. Baba treated him well even though he is just a servant. This makes him to decide that he will dedicated himself in giving services to Baba's family. Hassan does the same thing as well. He is a loyal servant and even though Amir is his friend, he knows when he treats Amir as a friend and as a master.

The story proves that sociocultural is shown around the world. In Afghanistan and The United States where the setting in *The Kite Runner* are held displays the existence of sociocultural. The novel shows how the condition of sociocultural in Afghanistan and The United States occurred.

B. Problem Formulation

1. What are the cultural contexts of single parenting portrayed in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*?
2. How do the social values influence single parenting in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*?

C. Objective of the Study

The main objective of this research is to answer the problem formulation in the previous part. First, the researcher attained the answer by knowing the context of single parenting represented in *The Kite Runner* by finding the context in the

novel and relates it with the background of people as Pashtun, Hazara, Muslim, and single parents in Afghanistan and The United States. Second, to know how the social values influence single parenting in *The Kite Runner*.

D. Definition of Terms

In this section, the researcher explains the most important terms which are used to study the novel. There are three terms that are used by the researcher to help the study. The terms are important to understand for further analysis. These brief definitions needed to be explained to give a better comprehension for this study.

The first is the term culture. According to Edward Tylor, culture in literature is “that complex whole which includes knowledge, belief, art, law, morals, custom, and any other capabilities and habits acquired by man as a member of society.” (Tylor, 1920: 1). It means that culture is a wholly aspects of life that is acquired by man as a member of society.

The second term is single parent. According *Keys to Single Parenting*, single parent is a caretaker or supporter to his or her children.

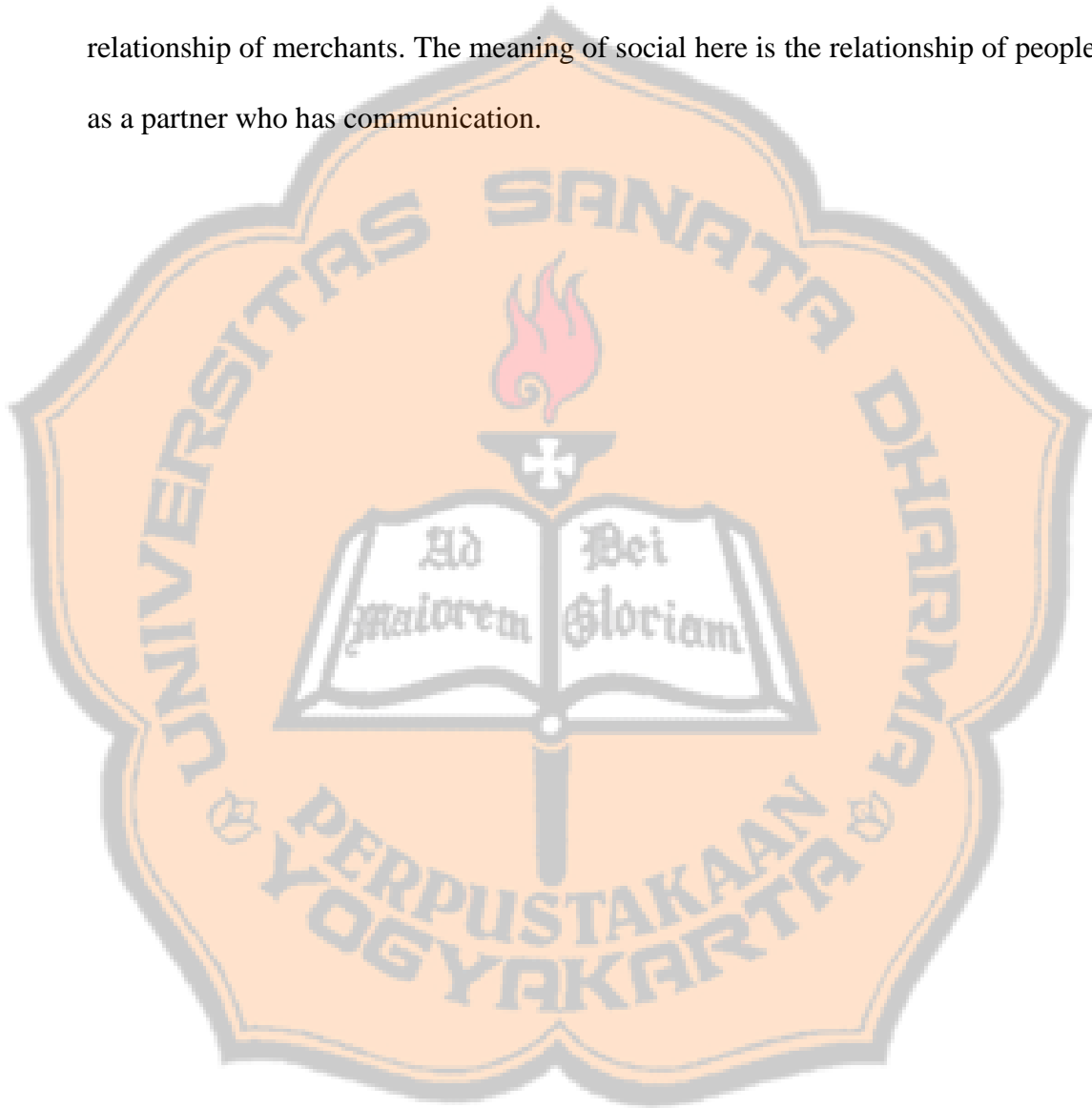
Entry into single parenthood primarily results from divorce, widowhood, or abandonment. In consequence of these changes, a mother or father is left in a position of sole parenting responsibility. Immediately, his or her role can become dramatically altered as a host of new demands, as caretaker and supporter, are suddenly created (Pickhardt, 1996: 1).

Pickhardt also mentioned the reason of being a single parent. The new role of single parent is a caretaker or supporter to his or her children. It means that single parenting does not only take care of his or her children but also supports them.

The third term is social. Austin Harrington in his book entitled *Modern Social Theory*, defines “social” into:

Our word 'social' and 'society' derive from the Latin word *socius* and *societas*. For the Romans, a *socius* was a member of a trading partnership. A *socius* was a merchant cooperating with other merchants as a partner, fellow, of 'associate' (Harrington, 2005: 2).

Harrington explains that the word "social" is from Latin which means the relationship of merchants. The meaning of social here is the relationship of people as a partner who has communication.



CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

This chapter discusses the reviews of related studies, related theories, and theoretical framework. The aim in this chapter is to review the previous study of the novel and the related theories. This chapter helps the researcher to study the novel intensively. In this chapter, the researcher delivers any ideas brought by other previous studies to show the differences with the researcher's discussion.

A. Review of Related Studies

The researcher reviewed the related studies on the topic and object of the study that were discussed by other researchers. The purpose of this review is to show the difference between this study and other researchers' study. The studies are from an undergraduate thesis from Sanata Dharma University and journals.

The first is a study done by Mikhail Guntur Guritno (2012) entitled "Amir's Characteristics as The Effect of Baba's Parenting Style in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*". Guritno studied the characteristic of Amir from Baba's parenting style. In his research, Guritno focused on the main character and its development in the novel. Guritno is interested with the characteristic of Amir who is changing from the beginning until the end of the story. Guritno discussed how the characteristic of Amir is affected by his father, Baba, who raises Amir as a single father. Guritno focuses on the main character who has different characteristics from beginning of the story until the end. The characteristics of the

characters are important in Guritno's research because he concerns about the characteristics of the Amir and Baba in *The Kite Runner*.

The theories used by Guritno to study *The Kite Runner* are character and characterization, single parenting, and single parental influences. The character and characterization theory discussed the characterization of the characters in *The Kite Runner*. Parenting theory discussed the character of Baba as a parent towards his son, Amir. Parental influences theory discussed the influences of Baba as a parent towards his son.

The researcher and Guritno almost have the same study. Both of them analyze the parent in the novel. The researcher studied the sociocultural context of single parenting while Guritno studied the characteristics of Amir affected by Baba's parenting style. The researcher and Mikhail also studied parenting in *The Kite Runner*, but they have different theories to analyze the novel. Guritno studied the characteristics of single parent and characteristics of the main character to show the effect of the relation whereas the researcher studied single parenting experience through sociocultural in which the researcher uses the theory of sociocultural. Even though they almost have the same study, the theories and the objectives of the study are different.

The second is a study done by Tyas Wahyukirana (2016) entitled "Configuring the Identity of Amir and Baba in the Context of Diasporic Discourse in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*." Wahytukirana studied the context of diasporic discourse in the character of Amir and Baba. Wahyukirana studied the

context of diasporic discourse in the main characters because Amir and Baba are moving from their homeland to The United States as refugees.

Wahyukirana studied the feelings of the main characters as refugees in the The United States. The study is focused on the construction of Amir's and Baba's identity as diasporic discourse. Wahyukirana studied the identity of Amir and Baba who are from Afghanistan moving to the The United States. As Afghans, Amir and Baba have their own cultural identity, and when they moved to The United States they bring their cultural identity. Wahyukirana also studied the impact of moving out to The United States with their cultural identities as Afghans.

The study shows that the characteristics of the main character is changing in occasional event. A study which is done by Wahyukirana suggested that Amir and Baba, who migrate to The United States, have their own perspectives about their hometown. Amir easily adapted with the setting in the The United States, but for Baba it is a difficult thing. At that point, Wahyukirana studies Amir's and Baba's characteristics especially their feelings when they live in the The United States.

The third is a study done by Vanessa May (2006) entitled "Lone Motherhood Context." May discussed the lone motherhood context in real life. Parenthood is the main objective in May's studies. May studies the parenthood's way of context in which May's discussion is about the material and cultural of motherhood. May and the researcher wrote the same study about single parenting but the researcher focused on the single parenting done by men. Lone motherhood is a social construction by a community of people to a female who already

married and left by the husband. The focus of the study is lone motherhood in which May understood lone motherhood as a social construction. May studies how lone motherhood constructed, the context of it, and the impact of it to female single parenting. To help her study, May also studied gender and the geographical of lone motherhood.

Both May and the researcher examined single parenting but they have different perspective towards it. May studied lone motherhood which is famous in society and the researcher studied single father. While May studied the geography of lone motherhood, the researcher studied the cultural context of single father in *The Kite Runner*. The focus of the both studies is that the researcher and May are almost the same but they have their own perspective in analyzing single parenting. Even though they have similarities, the theories used by May and the researcher are different.

Similarities are common things in a study. To prevent plagiarism, the researcher mentions some of the studies which have similarities with the current study. To enrich the researcher's study, references from other researchers are cited. In literature, it is a common thing to take references from other studies. The focus might be the same but they have their own perspectives in analyzing a literary work.

B. Review of Related Theories

In this part, the researcher displays the approach or theories in analyzing *The Kite Runner*. Since the study discusses society and history, sociocultural-historical theory is used.

Literature, history, and society are the base of the study to understand the work. The definition of literature by Rees (1973) is a "writing which expresses and communicates thought, feelings and attitudes towards life". Society is a group of people living together. While history is a past event especially related to human. Those three bases of study are related to each other because literature influenced history and society, thus enables people to create literary works with the knowledge of history and influence from society. Rees mentions that through writing people can express their thought, feeling, and attitudes in their life. It means that people can express everything in their mind or from their heart through literature. Literature has no limit to express thought and it can be in any kind of literature to express it. In *The Kite Runner*, literature takes a big part in the story. The main character, Amir, tends to express his feelings and thoughts through writing. Little Amir showed that through literature he makes something that he cannot do in reality but he can make it possible with the story that he made in *The Kite Runner*.

1. Theory of Setting

Setting takes big part in a novel. Actions in a novel or plot should be take place somewhere and at a certain time. As we do in the real world, the characters in the novel need social circumstances, places, and time to visualize the story (Van De Larr, 1963: 172). Van De Larr also mentions that scene has function in the novel. He added that scene and character are almost the same because they must be drawn somehow from the real life. Scene is completely imitated while

characters utterly invented. Something that should keep in mind is every scene cannot be straightly taken from the reality but it must in some way be organized.

In *A Handbook to Literature*, there are four elements that forms a setting.

They are:

(1) The actual geographical location, its topography, scenery and such physical arrangements as the location of the windows and doors in a room; (2) the occupations and daily manner of living of the character; (3) the time or period in which the action takes places, for example, epoch in history or season of the year; (4) the general environment of the characters, for example, religious, mental moral, social, and emotional conditions through which the people in the narrative move (Harmon and Holman, 1986: 465).

They are important to form the logical setting in a novel. It is mandatory to put the elements to draw the imagination of the reader into the story of the novel. Through the elements of setting, reader will be easily to imagine the situation of the story in a novel. That's the reason the elements of setting are important. These are the further explanation of elements of setting by Harmon and Holman:

a. Place

The setting of place refers to the place where the action in the novel occurs. It refers the actual place or the name of the place created by the author. To make the setting realistically, the accuracy of the description and the relation with the other elements of the novel must be obtained.

b. Occupational

The setting of occupational and manner is the setting which the author put the description of what the characters occupational and their daily manner of living.

c. Time

The setting of time shows the events in the novel happened. The setting of time divided into two meaning which the one refers to the time when the author wrote the story and the second is the time sequence of the event.

d. Society

The setting of society refers to the people in the novel. The social behavior of the people in the novel. It shows the habitual, tradition, beliefs, moral values, and social status of the characters.

Setting can be categorized into two categories, the first is typical setting and the second is neutral setting. Typical setting describes the special characters of the setting place, time, and society. It means that typical setting describes the details of the setting. Neutral setting does not describe the special characters of the setting. It is more general rather than typical setting. The setting place and time are categorized as the typical setting, while society categorized both typical and neutral setting because it is a broad element.

2. Theory of Society

Society takes big part in life. Society is important in human life because human being is a social being. In *Personality and Problems of Adjustment* society is defined as:

A society is the broadest association of people who possess a certain common set of habits, attitudes, and ideas, sufficient to hold them together, who live in a definite territory, and who are often set off from other societies by attitudes and habits of difference or antagonism (Young, 1995: 125).

It is clear that the meaning of society is a set of habits, attitudes, and ideas which are hold together in a certain territory. Society is made by human or a group

of humans that has their own habits, attitudes, and ideas. Those elements create an identity to a certain of group or society.

While discussing about society, something that needed to be understand is cultural context. Cultural contexts can't be changed easily by showing the idea or images of activities, yet these are formed by ongoing flow of everyday activities of society (Beck, 2012: 128). It is clear that cultural context is shaped by everyday activities from a group of people. These activities formed an identity of a certain society. Communication is a re-cognition of what one interprets the other person to mean, and in the process, creates a person's own meaning in term of what is most relevant to the person and the broader cultural context (Hall, 2010: 145). According to Hall, communication is a method to recognize certain society with its cultural context.

Young mentioned in his book that human personalities developed because of the influence of society and culture.

The individual is always born into group (or a society made up of various smaller groups) which has a culture. In this sense society and culture are always antecedent to any particular individual. All the references of psychologists to Robinson Crusoe and to feral man to the contrary, actually we know of no human personalities which have developed outside the matrix of society and culture (Young, 1945: 124).

Young explained that the condition of society and culture have the influence to shape someone's personality. Society and culture influence someone's personality which changes of habits, attitudes, even ideas of someone. He added that:

Every activity or function or what we shall call *role* leads to some social *status*, or degree of prestige, for the individual in his relations with his fellows. The *role* and *status* of a person are fundamental to his development (1945: 187-188).

Society influences a person by the role and status of an individual. An individual wants to be accepted in a group or in society and therefore he or she tries to be accepted in a society. When a society makes role and status, the person got influenced and wants to be part of the society by getting attention status. This rule affects the individual personality because he or she wants to get attention or be accepted as a part of the society.

3. Theory of Parenting

In order to understand single parent in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*, the researcher studies the theory of parenting. According to Holden in his book *Parenting: A Dynamic Perspective* mentions about the parenting styles based on Baumrind who explains that parenting styles divided into three board patterns, which are authoritative, authoritarian, and permissive parents.

Authoritative parents are warmth and open communication but also firm limits. They usually say "do it for reason." The children under authoritative parents are usually more competent, social responsibility including cooperative behavior and friendliness toward peers and also independence (2010: 90)

It explains about the style of parent which the parents give the freedom to their children but the parents give the limit in order to prevent the children to do something bad. The parents give the reasons to the children why the children should do or not do something. Through this pattern, the children know how to face live and they have good social interactions.

The authoritarian parents display the affection and when children are misbehaved, authoritarian parents tended to resort to harsh punishment. They expected their children to stay out of trouble and to accept, "do it because I say so." The children who have the authoritarian parents are usually less independent, less assertive and less achievement-oriented than were authoritative parents (2010: 90)

The children under authoritarian parents are less independent. The parents give so many limitations to their children without the reasons why. This will affect the children's ability because the parents want the children do as the parents say. This will make the children find the difficulty in their successfulness on what they are doing.

The last style of parenting is permissive who are warm and loving. They usually say "do whatever you want." As the result, children become neither independent nor achievement-oriented (2010: 90)

This style of parents gives the freedom to their children to do anything the children want if it is a good achievement for them. This pattern happens when parents expect their children to have mature behavior.

Being single parent is not easy, the single parent will take the role of the other partner to raise the single parent's children.

For many children, when their parent is widowed, divorced, or abandoned, the changes have just begun. Freed from old constraints of the marriage and faced with new demands, the single parent begins to grow and change as an individual. Sometimes these changes can be quite dramatic. (Pickhardt, 1996:25)

As a single parent who lost his/her partner the single parent will feel that he wants to do the things that he can't do while he had partner. As the effect of the single parent to the children is the children will feel that they are not quite close to their parent. As a single parent, he/she will decide everything by himself, he will take care everything by himself.

C. Review of Related Background

The background knowledge to understand *The Kite Runner* is to know the history of Afghans immigrant in the The United States and the background of the author. The setting of this novel is in 20th century when Afghanistan was invaded by Soviet Union and some Afghans flee to the The United States to safe their own life. Early immigrants from Afghanistan who came to The United States were from people who are highly educated and upper social classes. They came to the The United States alone or with their family because it was difficult to flee from Afghanistan. Though they were from upper classes, in the The United States, most of them worked as trader and some lower-class jobs. Several years after, they were designated as refugees by the The United States government.

1. Afghanistan in 1980s

Before studying the social setting in *The Kite Runner*, the researcher studied the setting of Afghanistan in real life and setting of Afghanistan in *The Kite Runner*. The comparison is to prove whether the setting of time that is used by the author of *The Kite Runner* between reality and the novel are the same. In *The Kite Runner*, the author wrote the setting in 1980s and shows political transition to the Soviet communism.

In 1980s, the invasion of Soviet Union cracked Afghanistan. In a book entitled *The History of Afghanistan*, it is said that:

By January 1, 1980, more than 50,000 Soviet troops and 1,000 military vehicles had been deployed into Afghanistan, and over the next month the Soviet troops increased to 85,000. Simultaneously, an increasing number of Afghan troops were deserting because of low morale brought on by their inability to subdue the revolting tribes, with numbers depleting from 90,000

troops to an unreliable force of only 30,000 by 1980 (Runion, 2007: 110-111).

The book explained that in 1980 the Soviet Union attacked Afghanistan. It is coherent with the real Afghanistan at that time. Because of the invasion, many of the people in Afghanistan moves to Pakistan and Iran. The reason why Soviet Union attacked Afghanistan is to make Afghanistan a communist country.

Political issues are also the main reason for the invasion from Soviet Union. The real event in Afghanistan is complicated because there are some countries taking part in the event. This event continues for some years and people in Afghanistan tend to move from warzones to warzones.

Ethnicity is one of the element of society. In Afghanistan, there are some ethnicity which define the class of people. The highest class among the other is Pashtun which believe in Sunni Islam. Pashtuns are physically similar to Arab people. They have big eyes, pointed nose, and fair skin. Most of Pashtuns are strong and tall. While the lowest class in Afghanistan is Hazara which believe in Shi'a Islam. Compared to Pashtuns, Hazaras are completely different with Pashtun, physically are contrasted with Pashtun (1898:26).

2. The United States

To compare the two countries in which the character is involved, the researcher studies the setting in The United States in real life and in *The Kite Runner*. The United States is the country which Baba and Amir moved in when the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan. Afghanistan and The United States are completely different; from its ethnicity, religion, and culture. As Muslim, Baba and Amir needed to adapt with this new environment.

The place, time, and society are different in the The United States. People tend to be more independent than in Afghanistan. Muslim is a new thing for them and it makes the Afghans tend to create their own community rather than blending in with its host. In *When Islam and Democracy Meet: Muslims in Europe and in the The United States*, it is stated that:

The absence of communication between ethnic groups and the local political community, particularly on delicate questions of culture, race, and religion, serves only to exacerbate the situation. For many Muslims, the proper response to such ghettoization is to form their own associations based on an ethnic identity linked to Islam (Cesari, 2004: 23-24).

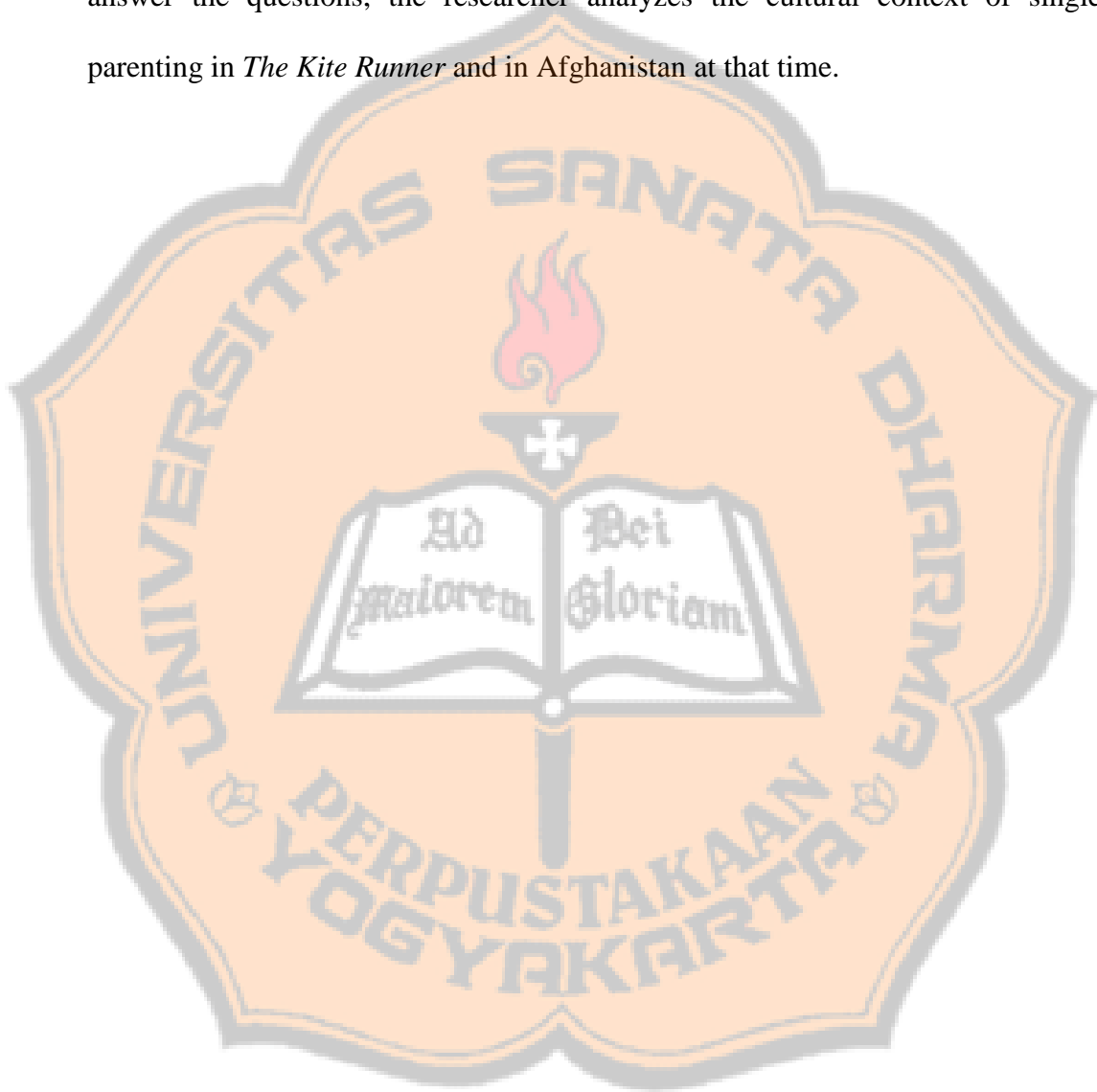
This is evidence that the absence of communication between different communities are affected from society. People make their own community because they feel more comfortable with someone who shares similar identity rather than blending in with other community which they do not really know about. It goes for ethnicity as well, people favor themselves to feel the comfort of being belong in their own group rather than finding new and diverse culture.

Hosseini's background affects the story in *The Kite Runner*. Hosseini is much alike with Amir in *The Kite Runner*. Hosseini comes from a wealthy family and was born in Kabul on March, 1965. He was a refugee like Amir who came from Afghanistan and went to United Stated. He lived in Kabul and he is a part of Pashtun because his mother comes from the Pashtun tribe. He made the novel based on his experience as an Afghanistan and as a refugee.

D. Theoretical Framework

The focus of this research is on the cultural context of single father in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*. To study the work, the researcher provides the problem

formulation. The first problem what are cultural context of single parenting portrayed in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*. The second problem is how do social values influence single parenting in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*. To answer the questions, the researcher analyzes the cultural context of single parenting in *The Kite Runner* and in Afghanistan at that time.



CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

A. Object of the Study

The object of the study is a novel called *The Kite Runner* made by Khaled Hosseini, an Afghan writer. Hosseini moved to Paris in 1976 and was ready to come back to his homeland Kabul in 1980. However, the Uni Soviet invaded Kabul at that time and made him and his family moved to the The United States. In March 2001, when Hosseini worked as a doctor, he started writing novel. In his limited pleasure of time, he made two other famous books beside *The Kite Runner*. The books entitled *A Thousand Splendid Suns* (2007) and *The Mountain Echoed* (2013) that shares the same background in Afghanistan as *The Kite Runner* (2003) does. Hosseini receives some awards for his books; one of them is a Pushcart Prize for *The Kite Runner*.

This novel is divided into 25 chapters which have 401 pages published by Penguin Group (USA) in 2003. The *Kite Runner* is known as the first novel that is written in English by an Afghan writer. The setting of the novel is divided in two parts; the first is in Afghanistan from late 1970s to 1981 and the start of Russian colonialization. The second part is in California from late 1980s to early 2000. The novel is quite popular and sold over 38 million copies in overseas.

According to the review, *The Kite Runner* is a story that tells about a relationship between a father and a son, between two brothers, how they deal with guilt and forgiveness, and how they face the political and social transformations

of Afghanistan from the 1970s to 2001. The story in *The Kite Runner* is divided into two parts, one is before the colonialization by Russia and the second is during the colonialization and after the colonialization.

B. Approach of the Study

The researcher uses historical and cultural approaches to study *The Kite Runner*. The approaches are relevant with the focus of cultural context of single parenting in *The Kite Runner*. The first approach is historical approach. Keith Jenkins states that history is:

As the various accounts constructed about the past by historians and those acting as if they were historians (1995: 16)

From his statement, the meaning of history is action that occurred in the past and studied by historians or experienced by certain people. History is something that already happen in the past, people cannot change the past but they can write their own history by experiencing life.

The second approach is cultural approach. Conny Roggeband states that:

Culture, as I shall use the term, consists of shared mental worlds and their perceived embodiments. The latter may include words, artifacts, artworks, rituals, events, individuals, and any other action or creation that carries symbolic meaning. Yet culture is located both within individuals and outside them, the most robust methodologies usually examine both sources (2007: 60).

Roggeband mentioned that culture is a word that has many meanings or symbols. According to Roggeband, culture comes from the person itself and that person who makes activities or events as culture. The habit to do those activities or events becomes a culture. Society spreads culture around the world to show its

existence. Culture is something important in life; through culture, people can learn about attitude, behavior, and events in places they lived.

The Kite Runner is about the relationship of father and son in Afghanistan as well as about single parenting and as an immigrant in the The United States. The researcher studies the cultural context of single parenting in *The Kite Runner* and in real life in Afghanistan as the setting. These approaches help the researcher to define the cultural context of single parenting with the history of society in Afghanistan at that time.

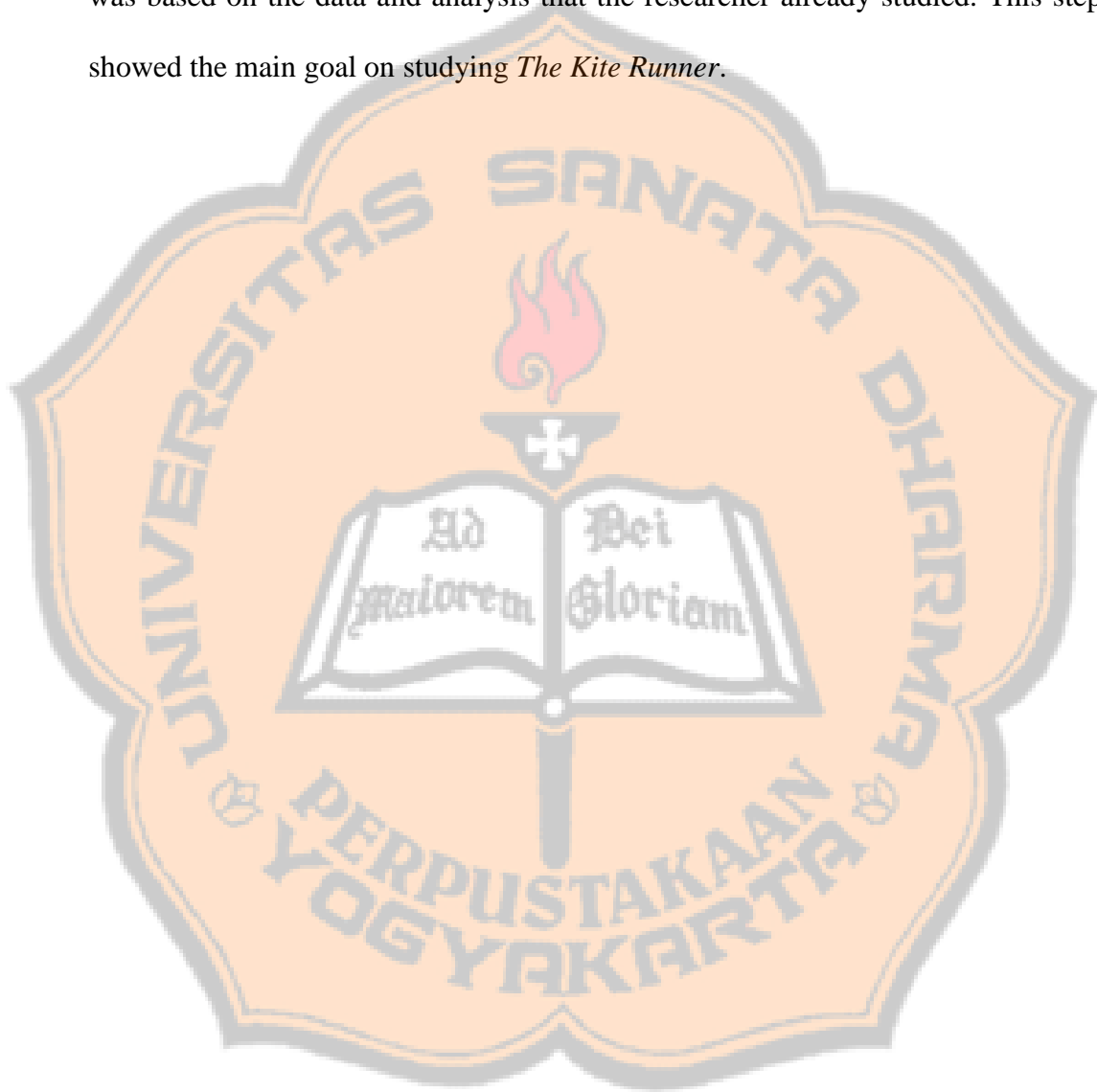
A big part in this story concerns the issues of society. Through sociocultural-historical approach, the researcher studies the society and the history in the story and in Afghanistan. Baba, as the single parent in the story, is the focus for the researcher to study cultural context of single parenting style.

C. Method of the Study

This thesis is a library research. The researcher's references are collected from books to find related theories and studies. The primary source of this study is *The Kite Runner*. The secondary sources of the study are references from books to obtain the theories and information, internet articles, journals, and many others.

The researcher conducted several steps to study the research. To have a better comprehension towards the study, the researcher used close-reading method in reading *The Kite Runner*. The researcher read the book and took notes from the book. Then, the researcher decided the topic and approaches that suits with the book. The second step was searching supporting data through articles in the library or internet. The researcher obtained the supporting data and theories then analyze it

with sociocultural-historical theory. The third step was finding the answers from the problem formulation through the approaches that the researcher used to study the research. The last step was to draw conclusions of the study. The conclusion was based on the data and analysis that the researcher already studied. This step showed the main goal on studying *The Kite Runner*.



CHAPTER IV

ANALYSIS

In this chapter, the researcher answers the questions in the problem formulation. The method and theories mentioned earlier are used in this chapter. In order to know the cultural context of single parenting experiences in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*, the analysis is segmented into three parts. The first part is finding out how the social settings are depicted in *The Kite Runner*. The second is how the cultural context of single parenting experiences are depicted in *The Kite Runner*. The last part is how the social values influence single parenting experiences in *The Kite Runner*.

A. The Cultural Context portrayed in *The Kite Runner*

1. The Depiction of Social Setting in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*

In this subchapter, the theory of setting is used to analyze the social setting in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*. There are two settings in the novel. The first part of the novel sets in Afghanistan. In this part, the researcher studies the culture and social setting in Afghanistan. The second part of the novel sets in The United States. In this part, the researcher studies the culture and social setting in The United States. The researcher provides evidences regarding setting by citing several personal thoughts and conversations between characters.

a. The Setting in Afghanistan

The setting of place and time in *The Kite Runner* is in Afghanistan at the year 1980s. The author of *The Kite Runner* mentioned an event where Soviet Union

invades Afghanistan. The invasion is not merely soldiers from Soviet Union came and attacked Afghanistan. The incident of the *The Kite Runner* is the invasion of Soviet Union in 1980s which the causes are political issues.

They weren't shooting ducks after all. As it turned out they hadn't shot much of anything that night of July 17, 1973. Kabul awoke the next morning to find that the monarchy was a thing of the past. The king, Zahir Shah, was away in Italy. In his absence, his cousin Daud Khan had ended the king's forty-year reign with a bloodless coup.

The political issues are the main reason of the transition of the reign in Afghanistan. Years after the transition the Soviet Union started to attack Afghanistan. In *The Kite Runner*, Amir and Baba flee to The United States to avoid the war between Soviet Union and Afghanistan. They saved their own lives because the invasion is getting closer to their house.

Kabul was taken by Soviet Union, some of Afghans tried to move to The United States because the situation in Kabul. In *The Kite Runner*, the author didn't mention the movement of Afghans to Pakistan or Iran. The author mentions some of refugees who struggling to move from Afghanistan to The United States. The refugees had difficulties when they moved to The United States. The most difficult thing to move from Afghanistan to The United States is because the Soviet Union soldiers who are easily kill people if recognized as enemies.

b. The Social Setting in Afghanistan

In order to know the social setting in Afghanistan, dissecting the way of society's thinking among others in the novel is important. The customs, society thoughts and conversations are best way to make it as evidence to show about social

setting in Afghanistan. In this novel, the setting of the first part in the story is in Kabul, Afghanistan.

The main character in the novel is Amir, who comes from the upper class of the society in Afghanistan. He is the son of a wealthy and respected man in Kabul. His father, Baba is a successful businessman in Kabul.

They told Baba that running a business wasn't in his blood and he should study law like his father. So, Baba proved them all wrong by not only running his own business but becoming one of the richest merchants in Kabul. Baba and Rahim Khan built a wildly successful carpet-exporting business, two pharmacies, and a restaurant. (2007: 16).

The society respects Baba because of his achievement in business. Baba works hard to achieve all of their investment. It took years for him to be the richest merchant in Kabul. As the richest merchant, he doesn't merely forget others. He built an orphanage with the money he has.

Instead of the economical achievement, there are some tribes which defines the classes of society. Amir and Baba are Pashtun which is the highest tribe in Afghanistan. The other famous tribe in Afghanistan is Hazara. It is the lowest tribe in Afghanistan. Hassan and Ali the servants of Baba, are from Hazara. Hazaras are the least respected tribe in Afghanistan. People insult Hazaras even children chased them and insult a person who is older than the children because he is a Hazara.

The society affects the characters in the novel, but Amir as the main character tries to unveil the truth that society creates about tribes. Even when Amir does not have friends to ask about tribes in Afghanistan, he keeps trying to find out about the difference of tribes in Afghanistan. The truth behind all of the oppressed tribe in Afghanistan is incredible. Amir found out a history book about Hazara, in

school the teachers are not explaining the reasons why people should insult Hazaras. In *The Kite Runner*, the society takes a big part to the characters. There are a group of people who are copying the daily activity of others in order to be the same. People are copying others not because they need to, but because they want to be considered as an existing human being. Even though the activity is not a positive one, if it fulfills the beliefs of existence by copying people will do it.

They called him “flat-nosed” because of Ali and Hassan’s characteristic Hazara Mongoloid features. For years, that was all I knew about Hazaras, that they were Mogul descendants, and that they looked a little like Chinese people. School text books barely mentioned them and referred to their ancestry only in passing. Then one day, I was in Baba’s study, looking through his stuff, when I found one of my mother’s old history books. It was written by an Iranian named Khorami. I blew the dust off it, sneaked it into bed with me that night, and was stunned to find an entire chapter on Hazara history. An entire chapter dedicated to Hassan’s people! In it, I read that my people, the Pashtuns, had persecuted and oppressed the Hazaras (2007: 9).

After Amir reading the book, the most shocking part is that Hazara tries to fight against Pashtun but it never wins. From the book that Amir reads it’s mentioned that Pashtun assumes that Hazaras are lowest human being on earth. Pashtuns even kill Hazaras, burn the house, and sold Hazaras’ wife. Pashtuns even started to call Hazara as “mice-eating, flat-nosed, and load-carrying donkeys” The father of Amir, Baba, even never mentioned the true history of Hazara to his own children

It said the Hazaras had tried to rise against the Pashtuns in the nineteenth century, but the Pashtuns had “quelled them with unspeakable violence.” 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 Pashtun had oppressed the Hazaras was that Pashtuns were Sunni Muslims, while Hazaras were Shi’a. The book said a lot of things I didn’t know things my teacher hadn’t mentioned. Things Baba hadn’t mentioned either, flat-nosed,load-carrying donkeys. I had heard some of the kids in the neighborhood yell those names to Hassan (2007: 10).

Those evidences above are proved that the oppressed of Pashtuns to Hazaras already started from long time ago. Hazaras tries to fight against them but they never win and they were killed by Pashtuns. It is written in a history book that people ignored. Amir tries to speak with his teacher about the book to show that Hazara is not the lowest tribe or even lowest class of human being. He tries to convince his teacher about history of Hazaras. That evidence is the proof that what history writes the people in present follow it. The present people of Pashtun still follow that Pashtun is the highest tribe and Hazara is the lowest. They are allowed to do anything to hazara even though it is the bad things. No matter what happens to the Hazara, Pashtun will follow what their ancestor gave to them. Pashtun insults Hazaras to fulfill their feeling of pleasure.

The following week, after class, I showed the book to my teacher and pointed to the chapter on the Hazaras. He skimmed through a couple of pages snickered, handed the book back. "That's the one thing Shi'a people do well," he said, picking up his papers, "passing themselves as martyrs." He wrinkled his nose when he said the word Shi'a, like it was some kind of disease (2007:10).

The person who is a teacher in Afghanistan does not even care about the history from the book that Amir shows to him. He even supports the society who insults Hazaras. A teacher who should tell about the knowledge of history about tribes to children in Afghanistan chooses to silent about the truth of Hazara. This society affect the personality of Hazaras as human living in Afghanistan. Even children from Afghanistan that are not Hazaras chases and mock Hazaras even though they are older than the children.

Ali's face and his walk frightened some of the younger children in the neighborhood. But the real trouble was with the older kids. They chased him

on the street and mocked him when he hobbled by. Some had taken to calling him Babalu or Boogeyman (2007: 9).

The children as the future society always assume that Hazaras are the lowest class of human being on earth. If society keep the believe that Pashtun is the highest tribe and Hazara is the lowest tribe or even Hazaras decent to mock or bullied this will affect to the personality of the Hazaras. This creates the society that hurt each other until someone succeed to show the equality of tribes.

As the theory of society and approach of mimetics, people are copying the others because when they are copying the habitual or the activity of the others, people will feel that they are part of society. In this case Pashtuns are insulting the Hazaras because this is what Pashtuns used to do. Pashtun are the highest tribe makes them feel that they are powerful than Hazara. It draws the idea of a society that Pashtun can do everything they want to Hazaras. Some people especially Pashtuns are copying the habitual of insulting Hazaras in order to show that they are part of Pashtun the most respected tribe.

It shows the social setting in Afghanistan which people are copying what society used to do. Pashtuns insult, and chase Hazaras. The teacher as the person who should thought about knowledge even ignore about the oppressed of Hazara. Even people who should tell to the children about peace, choose to be silent and follow the others who believe that the oppression is the right thing and allowed to do. The parent that should watch their children from home, they should tell their children about good thing even don't tell the truth of Hazara's history. If this condition still exists in the future not just the personality of the Hazara that would be affected but also the number of Hazaras would be less and lesser because of the

oppressed. The oppression by the other tribes are common thing in this story. Hazaras can't do anything of this incident because they are the lowest tribe.

c. The Setting in The United States

The author in *The Kite Runner* is using the setting in The United States that Baba and Amir moved. The author chooses California as the city where Amir and Baba lived. The author wrote the setting as natural as possible to draw the imagination of the reader of his book. The setting of The United States in *The Kite Runner* shows there are so many people from out of the country live in The United States. They choose to The United States because The United States free of colonialization from the other countries.

I watched him jaywalk across Fremont Boulevard and enter Fast & Easy, a little grocery store run by an elderly Vietnamese couple, Mr. and Mrs. Nguyen (2007: 138).

There are some people come from Vietnam who live in The United States. The author put the history of The United States to support his natural story. In The United States people are more independent than in Afghanistan. People in The United States tend to make everything clearly by stated directly the problem, and if they don't solve the problem they will call the police to simply clear the problem.

"Does he think I'm a thief?" Baba said, his voice rising. People had gathered outside. They were staring. "What kind of a country is this? No one trusts anybody!" "I call police," Mrs. Nguyen said, poking out her face. "You get out or I call police." "Please, Mrs. Nguyen, don't call the police. I'll take him home. Just don't call the police, okay? Please?" (2007:139)

Even people do not trust anybody as easily as in Afghanistan. People in The United States are less care to the others rather than in Afghanistan. In this story, The United States is a big place with so many people come to The United States,

but when they are in The United States they should adapted to the daily life and culture in The United States. The setting in The United States supports the story of *The Kite Runner* very well.

d. The Social Setting in The United States

Social setting is about the background of the society. The background of the society is about the geographical place where the society lives, the culture, the behavior, and etc. The second part of the story in the novel tells about setting in The United States. Amir and Baba are refugees from Afghanistan to The United States. In 1981, the invasion of Soviet Union started. All of people in Afghanistan frightened with the invasion of Soviet Union, the sound of guns everywhere, the clatter sound of grenades. Baba decided to move to The United States with Amir because of the invasion of the Soviet Union. Not all of people can move to the other country while the war continues. The price to move from Kabul to The United States is cost of leg. Baba as the wealthy and successful business man decided move to The United States with Amir to save their lives.

A new home a new life with new society and culture. Baba and Amir have a new life in The United States. The first-time Baba and Amir moved to The United States they are not rich anymore. Baba can't continue his business because he left all of them behind. The new place means that there are a lot of new things for Baba and Amir. Culture is one thing that they can't easily accept it especially for Baba.

Individualism is a common thing for society in The United States. They can't trust people easily, especially trusting refugees for Americans are something difficult to do. Baba who is not willing to left all of his money behind has difficulty

to face the reality in The United States. He blames everything even people that he meets in The United States especially Americans. He thinks that in The United States is like in Afghanistan who were people know each other and trust each other easily. In the story, he blames the boss he is working with, he has forgotten that he is not in Afghanistan anymore and Afghanistan tribes are nothing in The United States. He feels he is dumped from his work and he thinks that he is still the respected Baba in Afghanistan.

“Does he think I’m a thief?” Baba said, his voice rising. People had gathered outside. They were staring. “What Kind of a country is this? No one trusts anybody!” (2007: 139)

For Amir, The United States is a place to move forward from his past life, leave the problem with Hassan behind. For Baba, The United States is a place to mourn his loss, leave everything that he had behind. It’s is the most difficult thing for Baba to left everything from his works before. “For me, America was a place to bury my memories. For Baba, a place to mourn his.” (2007:140)

Baba and Amir have different excitement to live in The United States. When Baba is unhappy with the society in The United States, Amir thinks that it is the new journey of his life to forget what happened in Afghanistan. Baba has difficulty to communicate with the people in The United States because in Afghanistan Baba had so many friends and he was respected. In The United States, it turns upside down because people in The United States are more individualistic.

There are some of Afghanistan refugees that take apart in the story. Baba and Amir also meet refugees from Afghanistan that have the same condition with them. General Taheri and family are refugees from Afghanistan that moved to The

United States. General Taheri's family and Baba's family have the same activity which is selling stuffs in flea market. Even General Tahir and family are refugees they easily adjusted with the society in The United States.

General Taheri managed a simultaneously sad and polite smile, heaved a sigh, and gently patted Baba's shoulder. "*Zendagi migzara*," he said. Life goes on. He turned his eyes to me. "We Afghans are prone to a considerable degree of exaggeration, *bachem*, and I have heard many men foolishly labeled great. But your father has the distinction of belonging to the minority who truly deserves the label." (2007:152)

As refugees, they still bring their beliefs from Afghanistan. First time Baba mourn his loss but eventually he can manage it. Afghans who moved to The United States adjusted their behavior in The United States, but they still bring their own culture, their own habitual, and their own social to The United States. First time Amir comes to The United States he is happy because he left his memories behind, but eventually he learns that Afghanistan is the place where he born and the place where he learned about Afghanistan.

The social setting of refugees in The United States are a bit changing, but they still bring their identity of Afghanistan in Unites States. Therefore, they adjust their behavior with people they face with, if they face Americans they know how to face Americans, if they face Afghans it looks like they bring their memories from Afghanistan back and nostalgia with people from Afghanistan. The society in Afghanistan and in The United States are totally different. Individualism is a strong in The United States, People less care to each other. This incident force the refugees to make their own community. When they make their own community, they feel safe and comfortable rather than blending with the people in The United States. Socialization with others rarely in The United States because Americans think that

they can do everything by themselves. It is the most contrary culture between The United States and Afghanistan.

2. The Depiction of Cultural Context in Single Parenting

In this subchapter, the researcher uses theory of society to analyze the cultural context in single parenting. The researcher wants to answer the problem formulation about what is the cultural contexts in single parenting depicted in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*. In this part, the researcher studies the context of culture in both Afghanistan and The United States. The researcher discusses the context of single parenting to answer the problem formulation.

To define the cultural contexts in *The Kite Runner*, the researcher uses the theory of society. Cultural contexts are part of the society and it is formed by everyday activity of society itself. This is the reason that cultural contexts are not easily to change because society do the activity every day. The activity society does every day formed the identity of the society. In short cultural context is the development of culture in certain society. In *The Kite Runner* there are two major identities in Afghanistan which is Pashtun and Hazara. While in The United States there is one identity of society which shows the cultural context in The United States. The researcher shows the society in the Afghanistan and The United States to show the cultural contexts of the countries. The researcher divided the answer of the problem formulations into two parts. The first part is the cultural contexts in Afghanistan, and the second part is the cultural context in The United States. As the main characters are refugees to The United States the researcher compares the cultural contexts both in Afghanistan and in The United States.

a. The Cultural Context of Afghanistan

This first part discusses the cultural context of single parenting experiences in Afghanistan. In this part, Baba and Ali are the single parents who have son and both family come from different tribes. Baba as the successful and wealthy businessman while Ali is the servant of Baba. Baba comes from Pashtun which is the most respected tribe in Afghanistan while Ali is from Hazara which known as the lowest tribe in Afghanistan.

They are from different tribes and they have their own way to raise their son. Social classes or tribe classes are the main reason why they have different way to raise their son. Baba as Pashtun is a high social and tribe class which he wants the best thing for his son, while Ali as a Hazara is grateful when people see him as a human being not a monster. Baba raise his son with discipline. Baba spoils his son because he can buy everything that he and his son wanted. Even Baba spoil his son, he always thought Amir to be a good boy, never to lie, never to steal something from someone.

“Now no matter what the mullah teaches, there is only one sin, only one. And that is theft. Every other sin is a variation of theft. Do you understand that?”

“No, Baba jan,” I said, desperately wishing I did. I didn’t want to disappoint him again.

“When you kill a man, you steal a life,” Baba said. “You steal his wife’s right to a husband, rob his children of a father. When you tell a lie, you steal someone’s right to the truth. When you cheat, you steal the right to fairness. Do you see?” (2007:19-20)

Baba tries to make his children to always to tell the truth no matter what. His disciplines make his son afraid to make Baba disappoint. Baba also shows to Amir that the difference tribe is not a matter, even Baba don’t tell the truth about

history of Hazara Baba always treat Hazaras as a person not a monster. "Hassan," Baba said, smiling coyly, "meet your birthday present." (2007:48) this act is to show that Baba as a wealthy man even a Pashtun treats Hazara well.

Ali from Hazara raises his son Hassan as servants of Baba and Amir. As Hazaras in Afghanistan whose mocked by people even children Ali shows to Hassan to ignore everything what people say to them.

Ali's face and his walk frightened some of the younger children in the neighborhood. But the real trouble was with the older kids. They chased him on the street and mocked him when he hobbled by. Some had taken to calling him Babalu or Boogeyman. (2007:9)

The problem that always faced by Ali and Hassan are the society. Ali and Hassan are always mocked by people around but they used to it, even they sometimes frightened with people who mock them they try to be a normal. Hassan also mocked by people when he plays with Amir, even the person who mocked Hassan is a soldier.

"You Hazara! Look at me when I'm talking with you!" the soldier barked. He handed his cigarette to the guy next to him, made a circle with thumb and index finger of one hand. Poked the middle finger of his other hand through the circle. Poked it in and out. "I knew your mother, did you know that? I knew her real good. I took her from behind by that creek over there." (2007:7-8)

Ali as a father shows to his son to be always loyal to their master. But when Ali face a problem sometimes he just escapes from the problem without clarifying the real condition. As when Amir put his presents into Hassan's house and Baba thinks that Hassan stole the present from Amir, Ali escaped from the trouble and he wants to move from Baba's house. When Hassan know the act of his father he does the same way, he says that he stole Amir present even he is not. The action of the parent affects their children. "We are leaving, Agha sahib," "We can't live here

anymore,” Ali said (2007;115) Even Baba refused to agree Ali’s decision Ali still left Baba and Amir. Hassan as the son of Ali, follows what Ali does.

Children sometimes copied what their parents do to society. Hassan tends to follow what his father, but Amir tries to follow his father but he lies and he put his own present to Hassan’s house. What the parents do sometimes back to their own children. The habitual that the parents show to their children become the culture in their family. This is the culture that exist in the family.

b. Cultural Context of The United States

Baba and Amir moved to The United States during the invasion of Soviet Union. The most difficult thing for Baba is adjusting the culture in The United States with the culture from Afghanistan. As a father, Baba has responsibility to his son. Amir as Baba’s son easily to adjust the culture from The United States with Afghanistan because he feels that in The United States he started a new life and left all of the bad memories behind. Amir and Baba don’t know where is Ali and Hassan, even they know where are Ali and Hassan they can’t stay together because of the invasion of Soviet Union.

The life in The United States is totally different when Baba and Amir in Afghanistan. They trust less people than before and know people less than in Afghanistan. Even it is totally different they have friends from Afghanistan. The new life affects their habitual and cultural to see the world. The difficulties are adjusting the habitual from Afghanistan into The United States. Baba who is tough man from Afghanistan, in The United States he works very hard to regain his economic changes. Amir easily adapted with the new culture and society in The

United States. Even though Baba moved to The United States he still brings his cultural belief from Afghanistan. He does not stop to acknowledge Amir that Amir is from Pashtun and Amir should remember where did he come from. Baba tells to Amir his belief about Pashtun.

“Remember this,” Baba said, pointing at me, “The man is a Pashtun to the root. He has nang and namoos.” Nang.Namoos. Honor and pride. The tenets of Pashtun men. Especially when it came to the chastity of a wife. Or a daughter (2007:157).

Before Amir marry to Soraya, Baba always tells the belief about Pashtun. The beliefs are about men of Pashtun. Baba never loosen his belief of Pashtun even he life in The United States for years.

Baba as parent who shows Amir about Pashtun beliefs and culture in Pashtun drives Amir as a man that he beliefs about Pashtun. The young Amir always doubt about tribes in Afghanistan. He finds the history of tribes of Afghanistan and makes him believe that tribes are equal. When he is getting older he starts to understand that every tribe has its own culture.

I remembered something Baba had said about Pashtuns once, *we may be hardheaded and I know we're far too proud, but in the hour of need, believe me that there's no one you'd rather have at your side than a Pashtun* (2007:173).

Baba as a single parent, he shows that whenever they go they are still Pashtun. He is proud to be Pashtun and he shows to his son about Pashtun men. Even in The United States his beliefs of Pashtun are not disappear. He beliefs that being a Pashtun is not about pride to be the highest tribe, but being a brave man and help each other. Even though Baba and Amir are in The United States or whenever they are, Baba taught to Amir, Pashtun is not about the pride when you are the

highest tribe, but whenever you are when you were born as Pashtun you will be a brave man.

The researcher is not only shows the cultural context of both places in *The Kite Runner* but also shows how cultural context applied in daily life of the characters especially the single parent in *The Kite Runner*. In Afghanistan, the cultural contexts are based on tribes and religion. In The United States, the cultural context is based on the social classes or the wealthy of a family. Society approved people to be part of the society if they fulfilled the rules of social classes. The higher of the social classes the more respected a person to the society.

B. The Influences of Social Values in Single Parenting

In this sub-chapter, the researcher discusses about the influences of Social Values in Single Parenting experience. The second sub-chapter talks about the single parent as the society for the children, in this section the researcher discusses about the society who influences single parenting experiences in the novel.

The researcher uses the theory of society to study *The Kite Runner*. The social value is discussing about how society acts among others. The societies sometime have their own rules among others. Even if the rules are not officially created but people obey the rules.

As the theory by Young (1945: 188), society and culture are influence the personality of someone, social values are the same. In a group of human or in a society, ideas and culture are gathered. When society and ideas gathered, the possibility of a new idea or culture is rising. When a society meet new idea and culture they can be influenced by the new idea and culture. Through

communication, the idea and culture from a certain society can be shares to the others.

1. Social condition in Afghanistan

In Afghanistan Baba is the single parent that hardheaded to his own son, Amir. Even though he is a hardheaded he spoils his own son because he can buy anything he wants. In Afghanistan Baba is a respected businessman. Baba shows to Amir that he is a Pashtun and Pashtun men should have courage to face the world. Amir as a Pashtun tries to understand the difference of tribes in Afghanistan until he found the history book about Hazara. He tries to show the book to the teacher but the teacher says that what people do is what we have to do. Baba as a father never thought Amir about history of Afghanistan. The thing that Baba thought to Amir is to be a brave man.

At the end of the study about history of tribes in Afghanistan Amir found that He is a Pashtun and Hassan in Hazara, no more no less. Amir found out that to change the perspective of people by showing that Hazara is not that bad, they are still a human being not a monster that society can mock them.

Never mind any of those things. Because history isn't easy to overcome. Neither is religion, In the end, I was a Pashtun and he was a Hazara, I was Sunni and he was Shi'a, and nothing was ever going to change that, nothing (2007: 27).

Nothing crossed in Baba's mind about changing the perspective of society about tribes. Even Baba treat Ali and Hassan well, he never shows that to society because society in Afghanistan thought that Hazaras are monster. Baba always treat Ali and Hassan well, even Baba gives birthday present for Hassan. "Hassan," Baba said, smiling coyly, "meet your birthday present." (2007:48). It is a prove that Baba

always kind to Ali and Hassan who are Hazara, and Amir does the same thing for what his father did. What the parent taught to the children even if it is directly to the children or not the children follow the path of the parent. At this story, Amir follow what his father do to the others, because his father is well behaved with the others, Amir do the same.

Religion and culture are two aspects of life which is easy to influences. In *The Kite Runner*, religion and culture are dominating the story. People are easily influences by others because the setting of place proves that religion and culture are the main aspect in the life of the characters.

Hassan's favorite book by far was the *shahnamah*, the tenth-century epic of ancient Persian heroes. He liked all the chapters, the shashes of old, Feridoun, Zal, and Rudabeh. But his favorite story, and mine, was "Rostam and Sohrab," the tale of the great warrior Rostam and his fleet-footed horse, Rakhs. (2007: 31)

The place society life influences the social, culture, and ideas. In *The Kite Runner*, Amir and Hassan favorite book is "Rostam and Sohrab" which is the story of Persian warrior. It proves that the society in certain area influences the member of the society with the idea and culture they gathered. When the idea and culture gathered by the society, they spread it through different media such as story, history, or even educational lesson.

In Afghanistan, popular by the culture and religion which certain society spread the ideas and cultures through story, history, and even educational lesson. Instead of the changing the ideas the society refuses to get the new culture from outside of the country, they choose to be silent or some of them spread those ideas to the other who doesn't know about the fact.

Those evidences prove that Baba is authoritarian parent who expect Amir to be what Baba expected. Baba expects Amir to be a Pashtun who is brave and smart, he wants all of those because Amir is a Muslim, a male, and a Pashtun in a respected family. This expectation leads Amir to be a child who wants a love from his parent because authoritarian parent gives less love to the children. It makes Amir find the difficulty to be a writer, because Baba never gives any attention to the story wrote by his Amir. It makes Amir want to be as he father expectation, even if he betrays his own best friends.

Single parent in Afghanistan influenced by religion and culture. Religion and culture are the base of the way single parent educated his children. Baba as a Single parent belief at the Pashtun code. It is an honor to a Pashtun especially as a man. Baba beliefs that man should be brave and disciplines. In Afghanistan Baba taught Amir to be a brave, smart, and discipline man. That's the reason why Baba dislike the way Amir shows his hobby in writing stories. As the theory of society and mimetics, Baba wants to be a respected Pashtun, that's why Baba wants Amir to be like him. That's how society influences a single parent, Baba as a Pashtun never forget the Pashtun code that exists in society even before he born and he taught the same thing to his son.

2. Social condition in The United States

Everything has changes in The United States. Baba adjusting his style of life and Amir happy with his new life. While adjusting his life, Baba learns that The United States is totally different from Afghanistan. People are not easily trust others and Baba that comes from respected man in Kabul, here in The United States he

becomes nothing but a refugee. The thing that Baba learned from The United States to raise his son is his support to his son is important. When Baba and Amir live in Afghanistan Baba barely to support Amir writes a story.

I probably stood there for under a minute, but, to this day, it was one of the longest minutes of my life. Seconds plodded by, each separated from the next by an eternity. Air grew heavy damp, almost solid. I was breathing bricks. Baba went on staring me down, and didn't offer to read (2007:34).

This scene happens when Amir wants Baba to write the story that Amir creates. Baba even didn't offer to read Amir's story. Baba thinks that writer will not make Amir rich, and society in Afghanistan trusts that become businessman will make someone rich and respected.

The society which Baba lives is the society a group of businessmen. When Amir wants to be a writer, Baba thinks that a writer will not make him rich. Baba thought that building a career is having his own business. Baba never learns about art or reading novels, those are the reason Baba doesn't care with the story that Amir writes. While Rahim Khan knows about the art of novels or short stories. Rahim Khan reads what Amir writes and he likes it. Rahim Khan wrote a message for Amir.

I enjoyed your story very much. *Mashallah*, God has granted you a special talent. It is now your duty to hone that talent, because a person who wastes his God-given talents is a donkey. You have written your story with sound grammar and interesting style. But the most impressive thing about your story is that it has irony. You may not even know what that word means. But you will someday. It is something that some writers reach for their entire careers and never attain. You have achieved it with your first story. (2007: 35)

It proves that Rahim Khan know about literature. Rahim Khan also knows about writers who success through writing stories. This message is to give Amir

support to write more stories because Rahim Khan thinks that Amir has a talent to be a writer. Rahim Khan influences Amir to be a writer.

Buoyed by Rahim Khan's note, I grabbed the story and hurried downstairs to the foyer where Ali and Hassan were sleeping on a mattress. That was the only time they slept in the house, when Baba was away and Ali had to watch over me. I shook Hassan awake and asked him if he wanted to hear a story. (2007: 35-36)

Amir is influenced by Rahim Khan who is part of the society in Afghanistan. After read the message by Rahim Khan, Amir feels like he succeeds to write his first story. This is a prove that social values influence a person.

When Baba and Amir moved to The United States they have to meet new people in their daily life. But the societies are different between Afghanistan and The United States. Baba has nothing to show to his friends, he has no one to share story. All he has is Amir, Amir who is already graduated from high school has a dream to be a writer. When Baba hear Amir's dream he turns out to support Amir and tells to his friends that Amir will be a great writer

"Amir is going to be a great writer," baba said. I did a double take at this. "He has finished his first year of college and earned A's in all of his courses." (2007:151)

The individualism thinking of The United States' society takes Baba to be more open minded. Baba who thinks that success is all about business, now he belief that chasing a dream is a process to be a successful man. It means by the time flies, Baba experienced the new idea of success. The society in The United States influences Baba to be more open minded.

Baba finished his beer in three gulps and ordered another. He had three before I forced myself to drink a quarter of mine. (2007: 144)

Society also influence Amir to drink the beer. He is a person who dislike the beer and cigarette. Amir never drank alcohol before, but because the society does that he tries to drink the beer even though he drinks it by forcing himself.

In The United States, everything changed. The culture, the activities, even the society. Baba as a single parent changes the way of thinking about success from businessman into success about chasing the dreams.

Those evidences prove that Baba changes to be an authoritative parent who supports Amir to chase his dream. Baba starts to understand that in The United States religion and tribes are nothing matters, and he only has Amir that already grow up into adult. Baba started to support Amir to be a writer. Baba gives so many attentions to Amir because Amir is the only thing he has in The United States. The new style of parenting by Baba makes Amir to be more confident and more independent.

In The United States, social classes are the main reasons people influenced by society. As a single parent who beliefs in tribe and religion, Baba didn't show his privilege as a Pashtun in The United States, because religion and tribe are not matters in The United States. That condition changed the way of single parent taught his son. At first Baba taught his son to be brave, smart, and discipline. In The United States Baba almost forget those but he changed the way he taught his son by make him as respected by having much money and Baba gives Amir a car to prove that he has money to afford a car. Wealthy is a thing that people can show to the society in order to get reputation from the society. This role changes the way of Baba's mind about tribe and religion are not everything.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

The research aims to know how the social settings are depicted, what are the cultural context of single parenting experiences, and the influences of social values to single parenting in *The Kite Runner*. In this chapter, the researcher concludes the discussion by answering two objectives. The first is the result of cultural context in single parenting. The two characters are analyzed through their Afghan cultural background, American background, and their religion belief. Both Baba and Amir have strong Afghanistan cultural background. In this research, the researcher compared the social setting in Afghanistan and The United States. Because of the strong Afghan cultural background, both of the characters bring their cultural background to The United States.

Baba as a parent has his own way to raise his child. The society and culture affected the way Baba raises his child. Baba is not the same compare to the other Pashtun people. Even though people insult Hazara, Baba never does that, he believes that helping each other is way more important than insulting. In Afghanistan, Baba raises Amir as a man, follow how real man is. Baba raises his son to be a man even they are rich family. Baba never taught his son to be Pashtun like the other people who insult another. Baba wants Amir to be the real Pashtun who is brave and never insult with other people like the society do. At the end of his life, Baba always taught Amir to be the real Pashtun even when they are in The United States. In The United States, Baba believes that Pashtun is their identity to

show that Afghanistan is not weak, he taught Amir to follow the Pashtun-role. Pashtun-role is the beliefs by Baba which is show the identity of the real Afghanistan who never insults another.

The second is the influences of social values to the single parenting in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*. In Afghanistan, Baba as a single parent taught Amir to be a brave man and discipline. Those ideas come from the tribe as a Pashtun and from Sunni Muslim. Society influence Baba to be a single parent who believes on tribe and religion, he beliefs that Pashtun is a respected tribe in Afghanistan.

The United States is a country that the people are individualistic. Social class is the main reason people will be respected in The United States, the more people have money the more society respected them. This way of thinking influenced Baba as a single parent to educate Amir to be a wealthy person. In Afghanistan, Baba disagree with Amir's dream to be a writer, but in The United States become a writer is an achievement for Amir and Baba supports him.

As a single parent who undergoes the shifting of situation, different context and influences of social values, he has to face the changes in his own way. As a social human being, he will easily get influenced by others, but he never takes the disadvantageous influence. Even though Baba fails to adapt the new culture, Baba never takes the disadvantageous influences of culture and social values.

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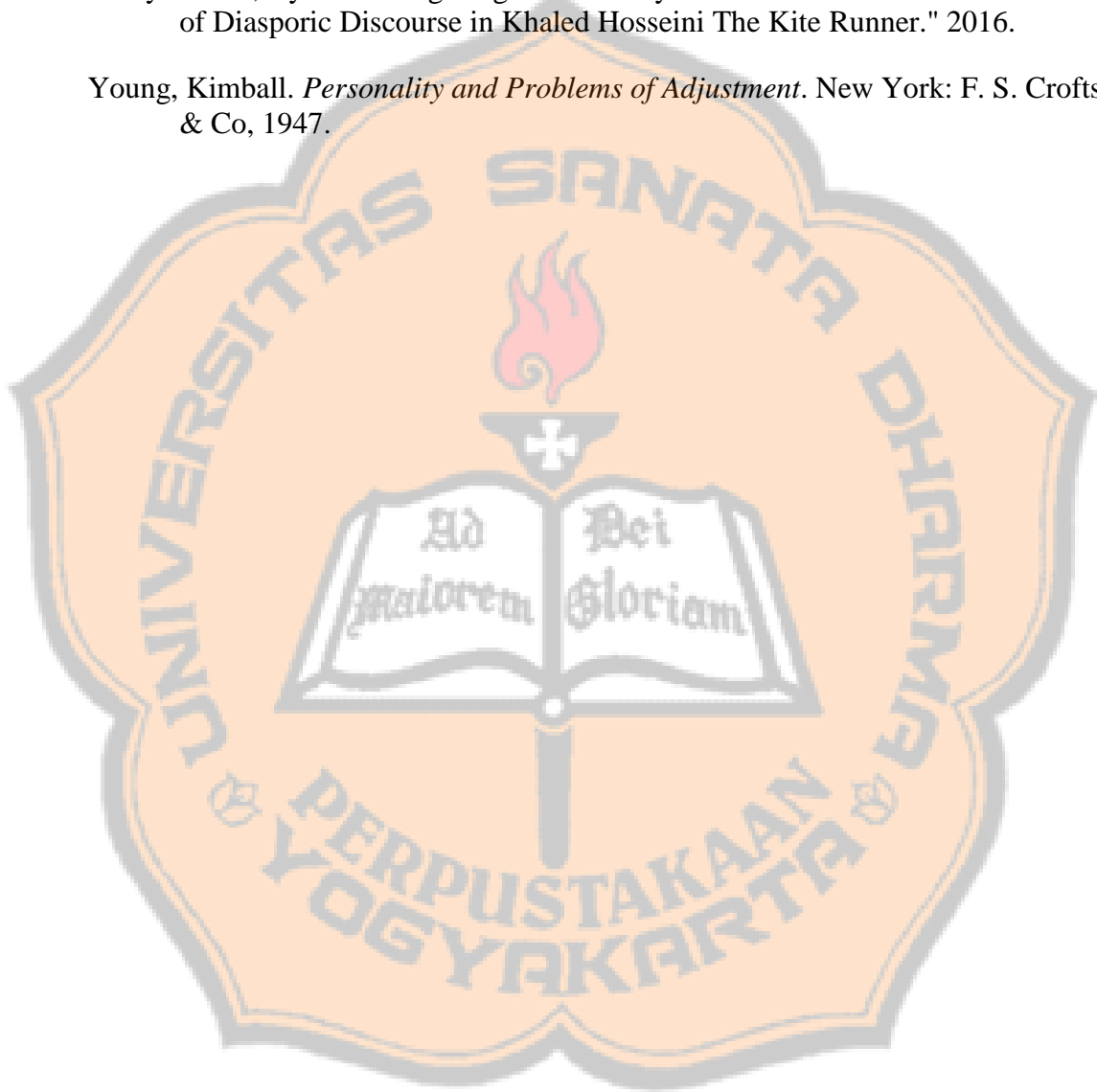
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APPENDIX

Summary of Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*

The Kite Runner is a book by Khaled Hosseini's, the story is about life of a boy called Amir. It starts from the Amir's childhood life. Amir lives in Kabul, Afghanistan where it has different tribes and social classes. Amir and his father, Baba the part of the highest tribe called Pashtun and high social class. Amir has a best friend called Hassan who is a Hazara which is the lowest tribe in Afghanistan. As the lowest tribe, Hazaras people are usually mocked and insulted by the other tribes which are higher than Hazara. Hassan and his father, Ali are servant in Baba's family for years. Baba never taught Amir to be the other tribes who mock and insult Hazara, but he wants Amir to be like him. From the perspective of Baba, Amir as a weak, and easily to fear with his friends. These characteristics lead Baba to the idea that he even questioning if Amir is his own son.

Because of the treatment of Baba to his son is not as Amir's expectation, Amir tries so hard to prove that he is brave, and he wants to prove that he is Baba's son. Baba is proud to Hassan, Amir's friend rather than Amir himself. Baba thinks that Hassan in a powerful and brave boy. Amir tries so hard to prove to Baba, he tries by win a kite competition. In the competition, Hassan tries to help Amir win the competition by catch the opponent's kite. At the end of the alley Hassan meet Assef, and Assef raped Hassan. Amir deserve to prove Baba that he can be like Hassan even if he betrays Hassan. After Amir betray Hassan, Hassan and Ali moved from Baba's house, and Baba and Amir do the same thing after that because of

Soviet invasion. Baba and Amir move to The United States. In The United States Baba has difficulty to adaptation with the culture and the society in United State while Amir happy if they move to The United States, because it is the time for Amir to move forward from the problems in Afghanistan. In The United States, the life is totally different from Afghanistan. Baba and Amir start from zero even in Afghanistan Baba and Amir are rich. This is the new beginning for Amir in the contrary this is the end of the world for Baba.

