

**REPRESENTATION OF AFGHAN INSTITUTION OF MARRIAGE IN KHALED
HOSSEINI'S *And the Mountains Echoed* and *A Thousand Splendid Suns*: A CULTURAL
STUDY**

SADIA QAMAR¹ & RANA KASHIF SHAKEEL²

¹Lecturer, Department of English, G. C. University, Faisalabad, Pakistan

²Lecturer, Department of English, Punjab College of Science, Faisalabad, Pakistan

ABSTRACT

Instead of employing traditional Post Colonial mode of representation, the present research aims at the textual analysis of an Afghan-American writer Khaled Hosseini's two works — *And The Mountains Echoed* and *A Thousand Splendid Suns* under the Cultural mode of representation. Delimited to Raymond Williams' concepts of cultural criticism i.e. 'documentary' and 'social', the analysis is comparative in nature that highlights the quality of representation of Afghan culture in the works under study. Social institution *Marriage* documented by Hosseini is compared with the real Afghan culture derived from the historical background of Afghanistan. This will, hopefully, lead the critics towards a new mode of analysis.

KEYWORDS: Representation, Marriage, Culture, Matriarchal, Patriarchal, Patrilocal, Endogamous, Social Culture, Documentary Culture, Martial Forces