

STRUCTURAL VIOLENCE IN KHALED HOSSEINI'S *A THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS*

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ABSTRACT

This research analyses the modes and kinds of oppression and gender based violence faced by Afghan women represented in the novel A Thousand Splendid Suns. Afghan women are the victims of physical, sexual and religious violence, the violence inflicted upon women by the strict Islamic laws of the then Taliban reign. The research also analyses how Afghan women have resisted the patriarchal oppression. I also focus on the role of education and sisterhood among women as the means to struggle and resist the oppression to survive and free themselves from the suffocating chains of marginalization and gender based violence.

KEYWORDS: *Oppression, Gender Based Violence, Sisterhood, Marginalization*