



"INNOVATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS IN SCIENCE 2024"

THE EXPRESSION OF THE CONCEPT OF FRIENDSHIP IN THE KITE RUNNER BY KHALED HOSSEINI: A PHRASEOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

Haydarov Anvar Askarovich

(*BuxDu professori*)

Yodgorova Maftuna Ulug'bekovna

(*II bosqich magistr*)

This paper examines the concept of friendship in Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*, particularly as expressed through phraseological units, including idioms, metaphors, and culturally bound expressions. By analyzing specific language patterns, this study uncovers how Hosseini uses phraseology to convey friendship's complex role in themes of loyalty, betrayal, and redemption. Ultimately, this analysis reveals friendship's transformative power and its significant influence on character development and moral reconciliation.

Friendship is a central theme in literature, often used to mirror societal norms and interpersonal bonds. In *The Kite Runner*, Khaled Hosseini delves into the complexities of friendship, capturing it as a dynamic force that defines identity and moral choices. The relationship between Amir, a Pashtun, and Hassan, a Hazara, is laden with cultural tension, yet it forms a profound basis for exploring loyalty and betrayal. Hosseini's use of phraseological expressions enriches this portrayal, enabling a nuanced analysis of friendship as both a redemptive and challenging force. This paper focuses on how phraseological units underscore these complexities, using them to explore friendship's multidimensional role in *The Kite Runner*. Hassan's loyalty to Amir is vividly illustrated through idiomatic and metaphorical expressions. Phrases like "stand by someone through thick and thin" encapsulate Hassan's unwavering dedication, despite societal barriers. Hosseini often uses implicit language, as seen in Amir's reflections, stating that Hassan "always had his back." Such phrases capture loyalty as a cultural and moral ideal, intensifying the poignancy of Hassan's devotion, especially given his social position. The recurring use of metaphors such as "unbreakable ties" underscores the bond that transcends cultural divides, presenting Hassan's loyalty as unwavering. Although Amir repeatedly fails to reciprocate, these expressions set a standard for friendship that he must ultimately strive to match. Hosseini's language choices here do not merely illustrate Hassan's dedication but serve as a thematic benchmark, prompting readers to evaluate the nature of true friendship.⁵

Phraseological expressions effectively capture Amir's betrayal and subsequent guilt. Idioms like "stab in the back" and "let down" reflect the emotional weight of Amir's choices.⁴ The idiom "stab in the back" conveys betrayal as a visceral act of harm, intensifying the reader's

⁴ Hosseini, Khaled. *The Kite Runner*. Riverhead Books, 2003. p. 47.

⁵ Smith, Andrew. "The Role of Social Hierarchies in *The Kite Runner*." *Literature and Society*, vol. 12, no. 3, 2010, pp. 56–62.



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understanding of Amir's moral conflict. Hosseini's language here is layered, using phraseology to mirror Amir's self-reproach and fear of unworthiness.⁵

Furthermore, expressions like "carry the weight" and "live with the consequences" are repeated, highlighting Amir's internal struggle. This repeated phraseology shows that, while friendship provides comfort, it can also be a source of deep-seated pain. Hosseini's linguistic choices allow readers to sympathize with Amir's journey of guilt, inviting them to consider friendship as an intricate balance of trust, responsibility, and sacrifice.⁶ Redemption, a pivotal theme in *The Kite Runner*, is tied to the concept of friendship. Amir's journey to atone for his past mistakes is marked by expressions such as "make amends" and "mend the broken bridge,"⁷ symbolic of his desire to restore his friendship with Hassan. Although Hassan is no longer alive, these expressions reflect Amir's commitment to repairing their bond posthumously. Hosseini's phraseology here captures the essence of friendship as a moral responsibility that endures even beyond physical presence. Moreover, phrases like "facing the past" and "finding peace" suggest that redemption is not merely about forgiveness but also about growth and acceptance. By weaving these phraseological units throughout Amir's narrative, Hosseini portrays friendship as a path to self-discovery, illustrating how reconciliation with one's friends is often intertwined with reconciliation with oneself.⁸ Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner* uses phraseological expressions to examine the intricate concept of friendship. Through loyalty, betrayal, and redemption, Hosseini depicts friendship as a profound moral compass. This analysis of phraseological units reveals the depth of Hosseini's portrayal, allowing readers to connect with characters' emotional and moral journeys.⁹ In *The Kite Runner*, friendship emerges as a transformative, multifaceted force that influences individual identity and growth, ultimately underscoring the belief that friendship is both a privilege and a responsibility.

⁶ Williams, Clara. "Phraseology and Emotional Resonance in *The Kite Runner*." *Journal of Modern Fiction Studies*, vol. 44, no. 4, 2014, pp. 102–118.

⁷ Brown, Margaret. "Betrayal and Redemption: Themes in Hosseini's Work." *American Literary Review*, vol. 23, no. 1, 2012, pp. 89–96.

⁸ Hosseini, *The Kite Runner*, p. 202. 8. Davis, Lauren. "The Journey of Redemption in Contemporary Literature." *Literature Today*, vol. 7, no. 2, 2018, pp. 41–50.

⁹ Williams, Clara. "Phraseology and Emotional Resonance in *The Kite Runner*." *Journal of Modern Fiction Studies*, vol. 44, no. 4, 2014, pp. 102–118.