

**AN ANALYSIS OF CONFLICTS AND THEMES IN KHALED HOSSEINI'S
'THE KITE RUNNER' AND 'A THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS.'**

SARAH NG MEI YEN

**A RESEARCH PAPER SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT
FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONS)
IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION**

**FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND LIBERAL ARTS
ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION
UCSI UNIVERSITY
KUALA LUMPUR**

AUGUST 2013

**AN ANALYSIS OF CONFLICTS AND THEMES IN KHALED HOSSEINI'S
'THE KITE RUNNER' AND 'A THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS'**

ABSTRACT

A literary analysis is carried out in this paper to explore the conflicts and themes in Khaled Hosseini's novels, 'The Kite Runner' and 'A Thousand Splendid Suns.' An analysis of the conflicts are then linked to the themes that are present in the novels. Three research objectives have been posed: Firstly, the research is carried out to identify the different types of conflicts in the novels and to explain how did these conflicts develop and whether or not they were or were not resolved. Secondly, it also seeks to explain the conflicts which contribute to the novels' themes. And thirdly, to interpret the themes and link them to Hosseini as a writer. The findings in Hosseini's two novels are that conflicts such as ethnic impenetrability, patriarchal influence and the position of women in the society contribute to the understanding of the themes in the novel such as friendship, love and various forms of discrimination. The conflicts and themes are analysed using the theories of Rosenblatt (1970), Foucault (1982) and Graves (1996). Through this research, it is discovered that Hosseini writes on conflicts that are happening in Afghanistan especially in regard to women. It is recommended that future studies be carried out on Hosseini's work to extend the literary appreciation of ELC students to non-western writers. Hosseini as a writer helps readers become familiar with Afghanistan's historical background, practices and beliefs.