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ALLEGORIES, TOOLS AND SYMBOLS IN AND THE MOUNTAINS ECHOED



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About the Author :

*Poornima G hails from Bidar, a district in Karnataka. She runs a chain of educational institutions in Bidar by name Gnyana Sudha Vidyalaya. She is the President of these institutions. If reading gives her solace, writing keeps her connected with what she thinks is necessary for her. The present article that she has sent to **Epitome : International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research** is a work which she has worked on with a critical bent of mind. She has also published a collection of her own poems in Kannada which was published by Ankita Prakashan Bengaluru. The name of her book is *Kattala Ibbani Bannada Chittara*.*

ABSTRACT

Symbols and allegories play an important role in literature. They, many a times, prepare the reader to expect certain way in which the writing may take path and scene may unfold. Khaled Hosseini, who is an Afghan-American writer, has written three novels which are read worldwide with all the three being prescribed for school studies in America. Though there have not been any Ph.D thesis on Hosseini's novels his impact on the world of modern literature cannot be denied-especially about the situation in Afghanistan. His novels are *The Kite Runner*, *A Thousand Splendid Suns* and *And the Mountains Echoed*. His first novel *The*

Kite Runner has been made into a movie in Hollywood. It has become a box office hit as well.

Khaled Hosseini deals with the problems, his country of birth, Afghanistan has faced during the insurgency and war. He has become a voice for the people who are deprived of their rights. In an amazing array of subjects he has written, Khaled Hosseini has talked about the negativities that are eating the Afghan society. In *The Kite Runner*, he has written about how ethnic difference in the country is eating the very fabric of the nation. In *A Thousand Splendid Suns* he talks about the condition of women who are deprived of dignity in their lives. The select novel *And the Mountains Echoed*, though has the backdrop of Afghanistan, deals more with the fears and follies of the people. He brings out the follies of the people and thereby he shows how they become culprits owing to their own wrongs. In building the novel Hosseini uses symbols, allegories and other tools. The usage of these tools helps Hosseini to make his ideas clear to the reader. The story of Abdullah and Pari which sees such profound tragedy makes one feel helplessness to be witnessing it. Thus Hosseini emerges successful in doing what he does the best-story telling.

KEYWORDS

allegories, symbols, tools, Afghanistan, Khaled Hosseini