

**CHILD ABUSE IN THE 20th CENTURY AS REFLECTED BY SHEKIBA
IN *THE PEARL THAT BROKE ITS SHELL* NOVEL**

FINAL PROJECT



**Presented as Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
to Obtain the *Sarjana Sastra* Degree In English Literature**

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FACULTY OF LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION SCIENCE
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PAGE OF APPROVAL

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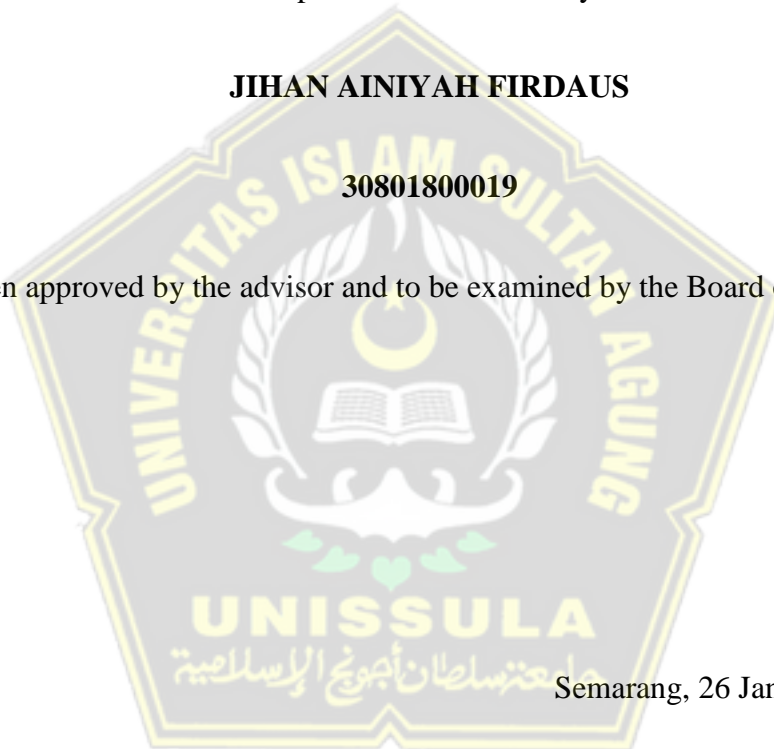
**CHILD ABUSE IN THE 20th CENTURY AS REFLECTED BY SHEKIBA
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has been approved by the advisor and to be examined by the Board of Examiners.



Semarang, 26 January 2022

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Idha', is positioned below the date.

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Advisor

PAGE OF VALIDATION

A Sarjana Sastra Final Project on

**CHILD ABUSE IN THE 20th CENTURY AS REFLECTED BY
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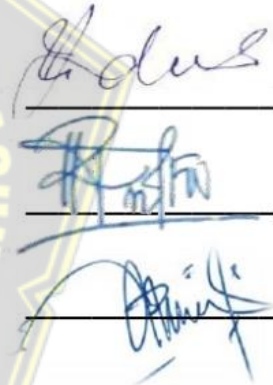
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STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

Hereby, I honestly declare the undergraduate thesis does not contain the works or part of the work of other people, except those which were cited in the quotations and the references, as scientific paper, if my statement is not valid in the future, I absolutely agree to accept an academic sanction in the form of revocation of my paper and my degree obtained from the paper.

Semarang, February 2022



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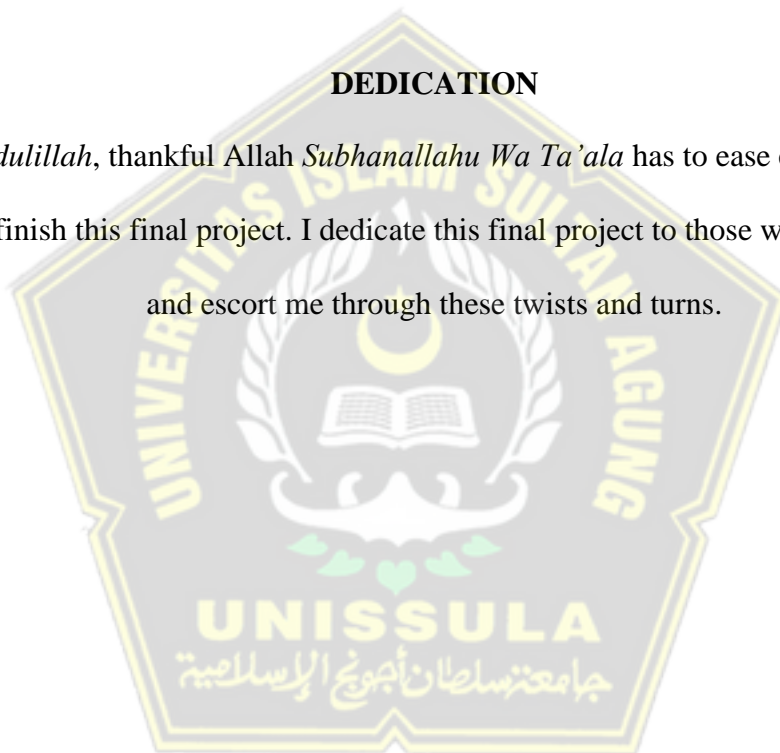
MOTTO

In doing anything, never forget to involve Allah in it because
*“Allah is sufficient for us, and he is the best disposer of affairs.
And (He is) the Excellent Protector and the Excellent Helper.”*

(Q.S. Ali Imran:173 and Q.S. Al Anfal:40)

DEDICATION

Alhamdulillah, thankful Allah *Subhanallahu Wa Ta'ala* has to ease everything for me to finish this final project. I dedicate this final project to those who encourage and escort me through these twists and turns.



ABSTRACT

Firdaus, Jihan Ainiyah. 30801800019. Child Abuse in the 20th Century as Reflected By Shekiba in *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* Novel. Final Project of Language and Communication Science. English Literature Program. Sultan Agung Islamic University Semarang. Advisor: Idha Nurhamidah, S.S., M.Hum.

The presence of a child cannot be denied that it is a gift from God. However, not all humans treat their children as a gift from God, but they treat the children like a burden. Children are the nation's next generation. Their future depends on their social, environmental conditions. However, a child has the right to freedom, even protection from any acts of abuse that threaten their life. *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* novel by Nadia Hashimi tells a girl in Afghanistan who was subjected to abuse and neglect from her family and the community in her neighborhood since she was a child.

This study aims to reveal the types of child abuse and its impact experienced by Shekiba as the main character. This study used *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* novel as the primary data and used various scientific writings such as journals, essays, articles, previous studies, and sites discussing the same topic as the secondary data. Descriptive qualitative research describes and understands the types and impacts of child abuse of the character Shekiba in *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* novel.

The result of this study shows that Shekiba has experienced five out of six types of child abuse and neglect from her own family and environment. Even though she experienced various types and adverse impacts of abuse and neglect since childhood, it did not make Shekiba commit the same acts to her child in the future. Instead, it was her son who became the spirit for Shekiba to continue struggling.

Keywords: Child Abuse, Child Neglect, Afghanistan, The Pearl That Broke Its Shell, Nadia Hashimi

INTISARI

Firdaus, Jihan Ainiyah. 30801800019. Child Abuse in the 20th Century as Reflected by Shekiba in *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* Novel. Skripsi. Program Studi Sastra Inggris. Fakultas Bahasa dan Ilmu Komunikasi. Universitas Islam Sultan Agung. Pembimbing: Idha Nurhamidah, S.S., M.Hum.

Tidak dapat dipungkiri bahwa kehadiran seorang anak adalah anugerah dari Tuhan. Namun, tidak semua manusia memperlakukan anak-anaknya sebagai anugerah dari Tuhan, tetapi mereka memperlakukan anak-anak itu sebagai beban. Anak adalah generasi penerus bangsa. Masa depan mereka tergantung pada kondisi sosial dan lingkungan mereka. Oleh karenanya, seorang anak berhak atas kebebasan, bahkan perlindungan dari segala tindakan kekerasan yang mengancam nyawanya. Novel *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* karya Nadia Hashimi menceritakan seorang gadis di Afghanistan yang mengalami pelecehan dan penelantaran dari keluarga dan masyarakat di lingkungannya sejak ia masih kecil.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengungkap jenis-jenis kekerasan terhadap anak dan dampaknya yang dialami oleh Shekiba sebagai tokoh utama. Penelitian ini menggunakan novel *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* sebagai data primer dan menggunakan berbagai tulisan ilmiah seperti jurnal, esai, artikel, penelitian terdahulu, dan situs yang membahas topik yang sama sebagai data sekunder. Penelitian kualitatif deskriptif mendeskripsikan dan memahami jenis dan dampak kekerasan terhadap anak terhadap karakter Shekiba dalam novel *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell*.

Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa Shekiba telah mengalami lima dari enam jenis kekerasan dan penelantaran anak dari keluarga dan lingkungannya sendiri. Meski mengalami berbagai jenis dan dampak buruk pelecehan dan penelantaran sejak kecil, hal itu tidak membuat Shekiba melakukan hal yang sama kepada anaknya di kemudian hari. Sebaliknya, putranya yang menjadi semangat bagi Shekiba untuk terus berjuang.

Kata Kunci: Pelecehan Anak, Pengabaian Anak, Afganistan, The Pearl That Broke Its Shell, Nadia Hashimi

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In the name of Almighty Allah, the Merciful, the Beneficent, I would like to convey her deepest gratitude to Allah the Almighty for his blessings. Shalawat and Salaam are always conveyed to our prophet Muhammad, bringing us from the darkness to the brightness. I could start and finish this final project with the assistance and guidance of many beautiful people. Therefore, I would like to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to:

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Finally, I realize that there are still some shortcomings in this final project that is far from perfect. However, the writer hopes that this study can be helpful for every reader.

Semarang, February 2nd, 2022



Jihan Ainiyah Firdaus

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Literature is a part of the culture. This is marked by how a person or community group uses language and thought patterns that eventually establish a belief that is used as a guide for life from generation to generation, and then reflected in a literary work. This is in line with the statement of Wellek and Warren, which defines "literature as an imaginative work that provides language and has high moral value" (21). These values become the constituent elements of the reflection response to the social reality of social life.

Literary works also have their magnificence for each author and reader. Long says that literature reflects the beauty and truth of something that cannot be seen by all people but can only be felt by people from their innermost souls (18). The various beauties possessed by literary works are a picture of human life with other humans and their own life.

The relationship between men creates social life. The literary works and the social life of a human being are much related. Literary works display problems in human life related to the meaning or value system of social and historical situations in human life. Human problems in social life generally never escape concerning community life.

The author, as a literary creator, is a member of society. In creating literary works, they cannot be separated from the community in which they live, so what is depicted in literary works often represents the reality that occurs in society. Likewise, the readers enjoy literary works. Readers are also members of society, with several aspects and socio-cultural, political, and psychological backgrounds involved in choosing the reading and interpreting the work they read.

The novel as a form of literary work is a manifestation of the social and cultural background of the community presented by the author. The socio-cultural background displayed by the author includes procedures for life, customs, habits, attitudes, traditional ceremonies, local conventions, courtesy, kinship in society, ways of thinking, and ways of looking at everything or the perspective of life. This is in line with the writer who chose the novel *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* by Nadia Hashimi to analyze, which tells a snippet of the life of the people in Afghanistan, which is thick with cultural and social values with abuse. A novel with an Afghan background with the main characters of cross-generational girls who both experience violence in their lives is fascinating to discuss. Moreover, a child who should enjoy their growth and development happily must experience something like violence, which will have an impact on their growth and development later.

The presence of a child cannot be denied that it is a gift from God. But not all humans, especially parents, treat their children as a gift from God, but they treat the children like a burden. According to UNICEF in the *Convention*

of the Rights of the Child, someone can be said to be a child if they are under 18 years old (1, 3). A child also has rights, which must concern parents and even adults. Parents or people who are given responsibility in terms of caring for them must look after them by observing and supervising the environment where the children are. Children are the nation's next generation. Their future depends on their social, environmental conditions. Therefore, the child has the right to freedom even protection from any acts of abuse that threaten their lives.

Acts of abuse against children are all forms of physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse and neglect, even exploitation by their parents or caregivers. Abuse against children is also an act that can put children under threat. Various kinds of child abuse experienced by children also have a large percentage. Based on the data of the Child Maltreatment Report, published by The Children's Bureau and Administration for Children and Families (ACF), child neglect has reached 74.9 percent, physical abuse going 17.5 percent, sexual abuse reaching 9.3 percent, and then psychological abuse reaching 6.1 percent (Child Welfare Information Gateway 4). Child abuse usually results from their own families, especially from their parents. Various actions due to economic, environmental, and psychological factors each trigger child abuse. However, cases of abuse in Afghanistan do not only happen to women, but men also experience it, although victims of sex trafficking are predominantly women.

The existence of women from the past until now cannot be said to be completely safe. This is evident because there are still widespread gender disparities between men and women. A survey conducted by the Thomson Reuters Foundation states there are five countries included in the most dangerous countries for women (TrustLaw). These countries are Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Pakistan, India, and Somalia, and Afghanistan is one of the countries on the list. There are many reports about child abuse in Afghanistan in the international media, development reports, and academic literature. It stated in a report from UNICEF, Afghanistan was identified as "the worst place to be born in the world" (qtd. in International Observatory Human Right). Abuse is the same as intentionally injuring another person, for example, killing or raping. It also involves actions such as restricting, reducing, or eliminating someone's rights, as well as intimidating, slandering, and terrorizing others. It is the image of child abuse in Afghanistan.

With this background, the writer is interested in researching the representation of child abuse depicted in *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* novel, which presents a story about Shekiba as one of the main characters who is still experiencing abuse by her family and environment. The writer uses the character Shekiba to be analyzed because the character Shekiba is a figure of a girl. Still, she has been persecuted by her own family, environment, and future family. Shekiba experienced this, and many children in Afghanistan suffer from it, both boys and girls. In analyzing *The Pearl*

That Broke Its Shell, the writer will focus on the child abuse phenomenon in which the work is an illustration that reflects society and social conditions that occurred at different times. Of course, it is very suitable to use the child abuse theory by Robin E. Clark.

The writer is also interested in analyzing *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* novel because this story portrays most children in Afghanistan who have been abused, from slavery to marriages. They have to live without feeling attracted to each other for the sake of paying debt, ransom, or even just as a satisfy lust. Given the explanation above, this study is titled *Child Abuse In 20th Century as Reflected by Shekiba in The Pearl That Broke Its Shell Novel*, which focuses on the types and impacts of child abuse that often occurs in Afghanistan.

B. Problem Formulation

In this study, the writer formulates two problems as follows:

1. What types of child abuse are experienced by the main character, Shekiba, in *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* novel?
2. How does the impact of child abuse in Shekiba's life as the main character reflected in *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* novel?

C. Limitation of the Study

As explained previously, a child has rights that must be a concern of parents and even adults, but this is less of particular concern for Afghanistan,

so child abuse is rampant. By developing the previous explanation, this study is limited by only analyzing the forms of child abuse and its impact in *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* novel, which focuses on the character Shekiba who experienced abuse in the 20th century. This study would be limited and analyzed based on the novel as the textual resources.

D. Objectives of the Study

This research consists of two objectives the study as follows:

1. To identify the types of child abuse experienced by the main character, Shekiba, as reflected in *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell*.
2. To analyze the impacts of child abuse in Shekiba's life as the main character reflected in *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell*.

E. Significance of the Study

The significance of this research regards the benefits of helping and providing knowledge about child abuse in Afghanistan and its impact on the character of Shekiba in the novel *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell*. Furthermore, the results of this study bring new insights for those who want to analyze and study child abuse that often occurs in Afghanistan, which can be useful as a reference for further research, especially for students of the College of Languages and Communication Science of Sultan Agung Islamic University in English Literature Study Program.

In addition, this research is also supposed to inform the public about the impact or consequences of child abuse to prevent more cases of child abuse and educate the public to look after and protect children without acts of abuse and participate in the success of UNICEF's program to protect children as a nation's next generation.

F. Organization of the Study

This study is organized well in chapter to make the reader understand easily. This study consists of five chapters.

The introduction is the first chapter. In the first chapter, there are backgrounds of the study, problem formulation, which consists of two research questions, limitations of the study, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and organization of the study. Reviews of related literature are the second chapter. It consists of the synopsis of Hashimi's *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* novel, some related previous studies, and related literature used by the writer to analyze the novel, including child abuse and its impact. Chapter three contains research methodology, including types of research, data organizing, data collecting method, types of data, and analyzing the data. Finding and discussion of the problem formulations are discovered in chapter four which describes the types of child abuse and what impacts are contained in the novel. The last chapter concludes the result of this study and suggestions for the subsequent researchers.

CHAPTER II

REVIEWS OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter discusses the Review of Related Literature to this study. There are three points addressed in Review of Related Literature, including a synopsis of the novel, review of related studies, and review of related theories.

A. Synopsis of *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* novel

The Pearl That Broke Its Shell novel by Nadia Hashimi was published on 1 May, 2014. Nadia Hashimi is known as an Afghan-American woman. Many of Nadia Hashimi's novels discuss gender equality, women's empowerment, violence against women and children. This novel is set in Kabul, Afghanistan, in the 20th century and tells the story of women's lives in a country that upholds patriarchy. The novel has two main characters living as women in a patriarchal environment. One of the main characters in the novel is named Shekiba. Shekiba is a girl who lives alone as an orphan and loses her siblings due to an illness at that time. As a woman in a country that upholds patriarchy, a beautiful face was also precious for a woman. But this is not owned by Shekiba because her beautiful face had to melt in hot oil when she was two years old. It makes people, especially their own families feel disgusted with Shekiba's presence. Even though she has become an orphan and has no siblings, she still has a grandmother. However, her grandmother

doesn't like Shekiba's presence and thinks that Shekiba is the bad luck in their family.

The cruelty that Shekiba endured when she lived with her grandmother's family made her experience violence and grew up without affection. For Afghan women, education and freedom are wishful thinking. At a young age, she should have had the rights of the child she should have received, but not with Shekiba. She had to do a lot of housework, and unfortunately, she was sold by her grandmother to be a maid. Child trafficking and violence against children are commonplace in Afghanistan. After being sent to several wealthy merchants to be enslaved, Shekiba was made a palace guard. To become a palace guard, Shekiba must change her identity from a girl to a boy, called a *bacha posh*. As a *bacha posh*, Shekiba's name was changed to Shekib. Her friends and girls there have to change their identities to become boys. Replacement self-identity is also common in Afghanistan as men are seen as strong beings and have more freedom than women.

Shekiba also experienced not only child abuse and slavery but the forced marriage. After becoming a palace guard, she was forced into marriage to endure a misunderstanding that befell her. Most Afghan women only have a role in getting married, taking care of the household, and taking care of the children. They are not allowed to gain freedom. This is why polygyny in Afghanistan is triggered by marrying a woman who can give a son as an

inheritance. Their only destiny is to be married, whether as a first, second, third, or fourth wife.

After her forced marriage, in her household, she was only required by her husband to fulfill his lustful needs and ordered Shekiba also other wives to do housework and give birth to a child. Boys are considered more powerful and have potential in Afghanistan because it is classified as a country that adheres to a patriarchal system. Men are more willing to have a son than a daughter to continue their reign in the future.

As an orphan, Shekiba struggled from adversity to build a new life. Shekiba is forced to live as a man because she has to survive alone, without her parents and siblings who have died. Not fulfilling children's rights, forced marriage, and violence against children are Shekiba's life stories that inspire Rahima, one of the other main characters, to love her next generation and not commit the same abuse and neglect as what she experienced in the past. Conscious portrait the author of this novel is Nadia Hashimi, an Afghan woman born and settled in America after her parents left Afghanistan in the 1970s before the Soviet invasion. In this international best-selling novel, Nadia has succeeded in bringing a portrait of Afghan life to readers, that is, a portrait that evokes awareness of the existence of children and women in this world. It is such a gentle and beautiful family story. Nadia Hashimi always creates interesting multigenerational stories as portraits of Afghanistan with all its chaos and puzzles and becomes a mirror of the ongoing struggles of Afghan women. One must act out of the ordinary and take a chance if one

wants something. It is not surprising that this novel received awards such as 'Goodreads Choice Award Nominee for Fiction of 2014' and 'Goodreads Choice Award Nominee for Debut Goodreads Author of 2014'.

B. Review of Related Literature

B.1 Review of Previous Studies

To analyze this research, the writer uses three studies related to the present thesis. The purpose of these presented related studies is to provide basic knowledge on the topic and prevent duplication from other writers.

The first study is written by Nur Anisa (2020) entitled *Women Inferiority and Struggle in The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* by Nadia Hashimi. It is about the idea of inferiority positions of women characters in the novel *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell*. The characters Rahima and Shekiba, who have been Afghanistan women since they were kids, did not have rights as a woman and freedom of choice until they married without intention. Their lives are full of burdens and duties, making it difficult to solve their situation. Its research also discusses how women struggle to get their rights against the patriarchal society in Afghanistan.

The second study is a thesis by Arneta Fajar Surya Nugraheni (2020) entitled *Afghan Women's Responses Toward Oppression In Nadia Hashimi's The Pearl That Broke Its Shell*. In her thesis, she identifies the traits and the context of two main characters of two generations who

experienced oppression using the theory of oppression and feminism. The object is the same as the previous thesis that used *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* novel, but in Nugraheni's thesis, it is more specifically discussed the oppression that the characters experience. Not only that, but she also analyzes the responses of the two main characters toward oppression.

The third study is a thesis written by Desi Saras Mahdyawati (2020) entitled *Rahima's Struggle Against Oppressions As Seen In The Pearl That Broke Its Shell By Nadia Hashimi*. This thesis is different from the two previous theses because this thesis only focused on the character Rahima and examined by analyzing the characteristics of Rahima, who experienced oppression and her struggle. Rahima, who experiences oppression in this novel should struggle against the patriarchal society. She struggles like working in parliament, breaking the tradition, and taking brave action to liberate herself from oppression.

Those three studies above help the writer reveal the differences between the three studies related to the writer's study. In contrast to the three related studies, the first and second studies focus on analyzing two characters in the novel, specifically Rahima and Shekiba. Meanwhile, in the third study, she focused more on analyzing Rahima's character. However, the writer only focuses on researching the Shekiba character in this study.

The author will examine what types of child abuse she experienced by Shekiba characters and how the impact of child abuse she experienced by Shekiba on her life. The three related studies also discuss patriarchal society and use a feminist approach to implement it. However, what distinguishes this study from others is that this study uses a child abuse topic and focuses on the problem of child abuse experienced by many children in Afghanistan, especially Shekiba as a girl. The various types of child abuse experienced by Shekiba naturally impact Shekiba's life, where she cannot feel her life like a normal child at her age.

B.2 Review of Related Literature

B.2.1 Child Abuse

Definition of abuse by United Nations is all actions or threats that affect another person to do physical, emotional, sexual, economic, or psychological actions (2018). Abuse also can be interpreted as all forms of verbal and nonverbal behavior by a person or group of people against a person or group of people, causing negative impacts physically, emotionally, and psychologically. Abuse can happen to anyone, anywhere, and can be committed by anyone, including even close relatives. One of the objects of abuse that are often highlighted is children.

Child abuse is a phenomenon that attracted much attention, especially in the 20th century. According to Dahake et. al, child abuse

is perpetrated on a minor such as unintentional injury, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, or trauma by a parent or other caregiver (36). But Pekarsky stated that child abuse occurs when the pattern of injuries indicates that the injury was unintentional, not in accordance with the caregiver's statement; when the child is unable to do something that could cause them injury, then abuse should be suspected because the damage appears to be accidental (2020).

Child abuse can occur in a wide variety of forms of behavior, from the act of direct physical threats by parents or other adults to neglect of the child's basic needs. This is in line with the definition of child abuse by WHO, an act of violence against children, which is all forms of physical violence, sexual violence, emotional abuse and neglect, even exploitation by parents or caregivers (2020). Meanwhile, Robin E. Clark, in his book entitled *The Encyclopedia of Child Abuse* states that,

Child abuse and neglect is a general term that covers a wide range of acts of commission and omission, either carried out by a child's caretaker or allowed to happen, that result in a range of injuries ranging from death to serious disabling injury, to emotional distress, to malnutrition and illness (13).

Some people may assume that child abuse is just an act of abuse such as kicking, hitting, and various other acts of physical abuse. The

reality is child abuse is all physical, mental, sexual acts, and neglect from parents or caregivers in any problems that indicate a lack of attention and protection for children, resulting in injury and failure of physical, intellectual, mental, and social development. Child abuse acts include beatings, repeatedly physical attacks until injuries occur, exploitation such as pornography, sexual assault, giving inadequate or malnourished food, and neglecting education and health.

B.2.2 Types of Child Abuse:

Abuse against children has many types. According to Robin E. Clark in his book entitled *The Encyclopedia of Child Abuse*, he classifies the types of child abuse into six types, as will be explained below.

1. Physical Abuse

Physical abuse, according to Clark is, “acts of commission that result in physical harm including death to a child” (13). This is in line with the definition of physical abuse as a portrayal of abuse done forcibly against a person's physical condition, which can cause deep trauma. Actions such as kicking, hitting, throwing, burning, stabbing, pushing, choking are considered physical abuse. Any injury or damage arising from such behavior is considered offensive regardless of whether the carer intended to harm the child.

Abuse in hitting with and without particular objects can cause physical injury to children. If the beating leaves a mark or wound, the child will remember this violence.

2. Sexual Abuse

In general, sexual abuse is an act involving the sexuality of a child forcibly. This is in line with Clark that defined sexual abuse as, "acts of commission including intrusion or penetration, molestation with genital contact, or other forms of sexual acts in which children are used to providing sexual gratification for a perpetrator" (13).

Sexual abuse can produce sexual gratification on the perpetrator's part, although the fundamental goal is often to express power and dominance over the attacked person (Kalra and Bhugra 244). It means that sexual abuse needs the presence of a child in sexual activity that the child does not fully understand, does not approve of, or is developmentally unprepared and unable to give permission. It can be considered an act against the law or considered taboo by the community. Child sexual abuse is committed between a child and an adult or who has a relationship of responsibility, trust, or power. Activities that are intended to satisfy the needs of others include holding, feeling their vital organs, showing their vital organs, forcing or threatening to

commit immorality, to rape. Sexual abuse against children can not only cause physical injury but can also cause mental disorders.

3. Emotional Abuse

Abuse against children is not only in physical form but also in other types, for example, abuse that attacks the child's mentality. Emotional abuse can be various. For example, it is belittling or humiliating a child, shouting in front of the child, threatening the child, and saying that they are not capable.

Emotional abuse sometimes cannot be identified because it is different from physical and sexual abuse. It is the same as what was Clark stated that emotional abuse is, actions such as repeated verbal attacks on a child that can cause permanent fear and worry in their life (218). It means that emotional abuse is mostly done verbally and impacts children's emotions or mentality. Therefore, the act of belittling, ridiculing, saying harshly, and even cursing children, will cause children to feel that they are not wanted, lack self-confidence, and think that they are not worthy and unloved. This type of abuse is considered more dangerous because it directly affects the mental or psychological that they can carry into adulthood.

4. Physical Neglect

Every human being has the right to a decent standard of living, including a child. The obligation of either parents or the person who is responsible for the child is to fulfill their needs, including giving love, protecting, and caring for the child. If either parents or the responsible person cannot meet the child's needs, it can be considered that they have neglected the child.

Neglect is a form of child abuse that is carried out by not providing adequate supervision; does not protecting children; and meeting or neglecting their basic needs, including physical, educational, and emotional.

Clark stated that physical neglect includes "...conspicuous failure to protect a child from hazards or danger" (13). It means that physical neglect occurs if a person neglects their duties, obligations, and responsibilities to meet the needs of the physical child. For example, unavailability of nutritious food for children, tattered and dirty clothes therefore, they are not suitable for use for children, comfortable places to live instead of being placed like in the kitchen, streets, or places that are not supposed to be.

Another example is about hygiene, which is often seen when children are not kept clean, such as wearing dirty clothes. Their shabby appearance may be due to the unavailability of clean water

for bathing. This type is most easily identified when the child is experiencing physical neglect, as this is most prominent (Jules 2020).

5. Educational Neglect

In addition to being physically ignored, children also often experience educational neglect. For the sake of creating a brilliant generation, the role of education is essential for growth and development and its future. Based on data from UNICEF listed in number 28, children have the right to education and get to the highest level possible because education has an important role in improving hard and soft skills that children need.

Clark stated that educational neglect includes “...inattention to specific education needs” (13). It means that children do not get an education at their age, and parents do not take their children to educational facilities or even tell their children to earn a living for their families and are forced to drop out of school.

This type of neglect does not directly injure the child but has a terrible impact on the quality of child development and life in the long term. It usually happens in families with poor socio-economic problems and they often ignore the rights of children that must be given (Avdibegoviü and Brkiü 339).

6. Emotional Neglect

Emotional neglect is a type of neglect that is difficult to identify because it cannot be seen physically but emotionally in the child. In addition to needing physical needs, children also need emotional needs, namely affection and attention from their parents. Children who intentionally do not get affection from their parents, family, or caregivers can be categorized as emotional neglect.

Clark explained that emotional neglect includes the act of "... failing to meet the nurturing and affection needs of a child and other inattention to the child's developmental needs (13)." In line with the statement by DePanfilis that kinds of emotional neglect include ignoring children by allowing them to perform maladaptive actions, isolating them from interacting with their peers, and allowing them to take drugs (14).

The love and attention that parents and families give to their children significantly affect the growth and development of a child both physically and psychologically. The absence of affection and attention from family and parents will negatively impact the child. As Avdibegović and Brkić said, mental health problems in adulthood are often correlated with childhood neglect and have long-lasting effects such as hypertension and chronic pain syndrome (340). It indicates that neglect is also among the most significant threats affecting the growth and well-being of children.

B.2.3 Impact of Child Abuse

Child abuse is not only limited to physical abuse, but various forms of child abuse may not have been previously realized. It starts from physical, sexual, psychological, verbal abuse, exploitation, and selling children to neglect their welfare. In most cases, abused children suffer more mentally (Norman et al. 31). Child abuse will undoubtedly impact them, which can have a negative impact.

Child abuse can have physical, emotional, and behavioral impacts in the future and can have a detrimental impact on society as a whole. These consequences or impacts may be independent of each other but may also be interrelated. The response of each child who receives physical and verbal abuse will be different. Some children have long-term effects, while others recover more quickly and easily. Although recovery can occur quickly, there is still trauma due to the mistreatment experienced.

The following are the negative impacts that can affect children's health due to abuse originating from *The Encyclopedia of Child Abuse* by Robin E. Clark, including:

1. Physical Impact

Physically, children are more straightforward to injury than adults because their bodies are still growing and developing. Physical abuse is directly related to physical health. Some injuries

in the body will be visible for children who are abused physically and sometimes have far-reaching effects.

The actions from physical abuse such as slapping, kicking, hitting other abusive acts can have a direct impact on the victim, such as experiencing ordinary to serious injuries, but it is also important to recognize that physical impact not only occurs as a result of physical abuse but also can come from sexual abuse to other types of abuse and neglect.

In his book, Clark stated that physical abuse committed in children could directly affect fracture (125). Fracture is a condition where the integrity of the bones in the human body is broken. Fractures can occur as a result of an accident, a strong bump, or as a result of abuse, and can occur without a bump, which people with chronic diseases commonly experience.

Another impact of physical abuse is gastrointestinal injuries. Clark stated, "Such injuries may cause hemorrhaging of damaged blood vessels" (128). The injury occurred as a result of a hard blow to the child's abdominal area that results in organs in the digestive system being damaged. Damage to these organs can affect the performance of a child's digestive system to be unstable and not even function as it should.

In addition to the consequences of physical abuse, the effects that arise can also result from sexual abuse. Sexually transmitted infections or diseases and pain in the genital area may be caused by forced sex or torture. Meanwhile, according to the Child Welfare Information Gateway, hepatitis C and HIV will be more susceptible to contracting children who are victims of sexual abuse (2). This causes physical injury and triggers mental and emotional effects such as trauma to the victim.

Not adequate intake of nutrients and vitamins in children is one of the results of neglect that can cause vision problems; one of them is avitaminosis (Clark 39). Vision problems can take various forms such as avitaminosis, nearsightedness, farsightedness, and damage, which can be fatal to blindness. This can be due to torture or blows using sharp or hard objects, impacting the eye nerves. This cannot be underestimated because the eye is one of the most valuable assets for human life.

Abuse and neglect also result in functional limitations. It is the inability to perform beneficial activities or daily activities that normal people can do. The inability is not only limited because unable to do something but because physical or mental disorders that have been ongoing trigger permanent limitations (Dorland). Children's abuse and neglect are also associated with brain damage,

so brain function cannot run correctly (Child Welfare Information Gateway 2).

It is worrying that children who receive harsh treatment will imitate this so that the child becomes aggressive and it is more concerning if the child will continue the improper parenting style to their child in the future. Physical and any other abuse and neglect can cause serious injury even to the victim's death.

2. Emotional Impact

The emergence of various psychological problems in children is one of the impacts of child abuse and neglect also it cannot be seen directly because it is related to a person's emotions or psychological so it is not causing physical injury. It can cause children to feel afraid, insecure, and isolated and can last for a lifetime, affecting the child's future life.

The emotional impact is usually related to a person's mental problems to cause trauma, one of which is depression. Clark said, "Depression is often cited as a factor contributing to child maltreatment, including both the abuse and neglect of children" (94). Children who are depressed can trigger higher suicide rates compared to children who did not experience abuse when they were young (Clark 94; Choi et al. 252-262). Desire to suicide also stemmed from the abandonment they experienced. They feel unwanted, unloved, and a lack of affection and attention from

family causes them depression. The researchers also identified that child abuse and neglect have a psychological impact on children, especially women such as depression who are almost three times more at risk (Clark 26). Not only depression, but poor mental and emotional health demonstrated the impact that children who were abused or neglected also lead to serious mental illnesses.

Extreme behavior and bad events in the past experienced by children can cause post-traumatic stress (Clark 32). Post-traumatic stress in children can be caused by the experience of seeing or suffering violence that causes various problems in the long term. It raises the potential for stress and coping theory to children to be involved in violent behavior and abuse in the future, both as perpetrators and victims (18).

The child's low self-confidence is also an emotional impact. Verbal or non-verbal abuse to neglect makes children feel unloved and worthless, so they have a low quality of confidence that will be carried until adulthood. It can allow them to become abusive parents because they will project the feelings they felt by punishing or degrading their child in the future (229).

Emotional abuse is difficult to identify or diagnose because it does not leave lasting or tangible evidence such as physical abuse. However, this is very dangerous for children's growth and development because they will experience depression, have

difficulty building relationships, and feel worthless, which can lead to suicide.

3. Behavioral Impact

The behavioral impact of children who experience child abuse and neglect tends to mimic bad behavior such as addiction to alcohol and drugs and have suicidal thoughts (Mutmainnah, 2020). Emotional impacts and behavioral impacts are related to one another because the emotional impact of the child will trigger the child to engage in deviant or bad behavior.

Child abuse and neglect experienced by children cause the development of antisocial resistance as they grow up. According to Clark, antisocial behavior and juvenile delinquency are among the most common impacts of abuse and neglect in adolescence or adulthood (20). It also triggers them to grow into an introvert or aggressive and unstable in socializing. Social difficulties in children make children become closed and antisocial person associated with low children's low self-confidence as a result of it causing them to behave antisocially. Antisocial children tend to antagonize, manipulate or treat others harshly or indifferently. They show no guilt or remorse for what they have done. Antisocial behavior such as poor-peer relationships is an unwillingness to socialize a lot with peers is a form of trust issue action they experienced.

Child Welfare Information Gateway also stated that this psychological effect affects children's behavior when they grow up, such as committing criminal acts (3). The criminal acts include bullying, hostility, and the development of antisocial attitudes as behavioral impacts related to the psychological impact. Alcohol and drug use is the impact of very worrying violent behavior in children. As Clark said, “Adults abused as children have an increased risk for alcoholism and/or drug dependence (addiction) compared to adults who did not suffer from childhood abuse” (Clark 25). It indicates that children who experience abuse and neglect will be more prone to become alcoholics and drug addicts.

The occurrence of child abuse and neglect in children makes them less understanding of good and bad behavior without direction from parents and families. This is one of the triggers for children to commit criminal acts. Alcohol and drugs use when they are growing up is an outlet for the trauma of the violence they experienced as children. This is bad behavior that can also lead to abuse later due to alcohol and drugs because it affects their brain work. Although not all children who exhibit antisocial or criminal acts are abuse victims, it is possible that abuse could be an underlying factor for some children (Clark 16).

B.2.4 Child Abuse in Afghanistan

A child's life cannot be separated from the responsibility of the parents, family, or caregivers. The role of parents in educating their children is essential for their growth and development as the nation's future generations. However, without realizing it, children in the world, especially in Afghanistan, are very concerned. Inseparable from the various conflicts that exist, based on data from UNICEF, a person can be categorized as a child if they are under 18 years old (1, 3). In essence, a child has basic rights, including life, survival, and development, protection from violence, abuse or neglect, education to fulfill their potential, and having a relationship with their parents according to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). Most children do not find the fulfillment of these rights in Afghanistan. Rampant wars, abuse, neglect of children in Afghanistan are often experienced by the children there (Humanium).

The roles of boys and girls in Afghanistan are very different. The role of boys is meant to help their father, become the future breadwinner of their own future family. The role of girls is intended to focus more on household skills, with social norms attached to the honor of preparing for a future marriage. This division of roles leads to frequent child abuse.

According to a report from UNICEF, Afghanistan was identified as "the worst place to be born in the world" (qtd. in International

Observatory Human Rights 2020). Poverty and violence are the extremes that Afghan children experience every day. They also often experience child mortality, malnutrition, forced marriage, sexual abuse, and slavery.

As reported by Humanium, around 250 children died because of terrorist attacks in 2009. Many of them were victims of sexual harassment, and each year around 1,500 incidents are recorded. Unfortunately, the majority of victims do not dare to reveal the unpleasant experiences they experienced. According to the Eligibility Guidelines of UNHCR 2016 for Afghanistan, ANSF (Afghan National Security Forces) and AGEs (Anti Government Elements) reportedly kidnapped children and then were executed, injured, or raped. It was done for various purposes, including retaliation and punishment for family members of the victims (69). This kind of thing happens not only because of the victim's lack of courage to reveal but because of their powerlessness to fight the perpetrators.

Child abuse has been widespread in Afghan society from then until now. As reported in the US Department of State's Country Report on Human Rights Practices in 2017 (qtd. in United Kingdom: Home Office 29), sexual abuse of children is a type of abuse that is becoming a widespread problem. Those abuses often involve girls as victims of abuse in their families or communities and boys being targets of abuse by men outside their families. Sexual abuse and rape of children, also

perpetrated by religious leaders, police, and officials, with several families reportedly involved, allowing influential local people to abuse their children in exchange for status or money.

The child abuse they experience is also a part of child trafficking, which is rife in Afghanistan. According to data from the USDD Trafficking in Persons Report in 2017, some families in Afghanistan deliberately sell their children for the sex trade. Opium farming families sometimes sell their children to pay off debts with opium traders. Not only from their own families, but some government officials also use boys for social activities and sexual entertainment. Several law enforcement officials, prosecutors, and judges accepted bribes or used their positions to pass bacha baazi offenders (29).

According to Save the Children (2017) research, child respondents experience all types of high-level abuse, including physical, psychological, and sexual abuse, as well as physical and emotional neglect. Save the Children also reports that children from urban areas experience more abuse than children in rural areas (21). Narrowly some children experience at least one form of psychological abuse at home, including swearing, screaming, and neglect threats. Lack of awareness, unemployment, drug abuse, and poverty are the main reasons for child abuse.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

This chapter presents the research method of this study. There are four points discussed in the research method, including types of research, data types, data organizing, and analyzing the data.

A. Types of the Research

The research entitled *Child Abuse In 20th Century as Reflected by Shekiba in The Pearl That Broke Its Shell Novel* is qualitative research. Qualitative research is an inductive and broad approach that includes many research methods by collecting, organizing, and interpreting information not from numbers but from writing and even pictures (Young, Hren 2). The qualitative approach is used to understand opinions, attitudes, and motivations and answer questions that cannot be answered with numbers. This method analyzes through text as the primary data source and uses *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* novel (2014) as its study object.

B. Types of the Data

The types of data that the writer used in this paper are primary and secondary data. The primary data is the main source, and the secondary data is the supporting data.

- a. The primary data as the main source that the writer used for this paper was from *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* novel by Nadia Hashimi. It was

published in 2014 with 378 pages. It was taken in dialogues, exposition, and description of the setting, characters, conflict, etc.

- b. The secondary data is the supporting data that the writer used for this paper obtained various scientific writings such as national and international journals, essays, articles, previous studies, and sites to help the writer discover related to child abuse in Afghanistan.

C. Data Organizing

The writer took some processes to discover the well-arranged data in data organizing. They are:

C.1 Data Collecting Method

This sub bab deals with the process of collecting data originating from the novel. As the primary data in dialogues, exposition, and description of the setting, characters, the conflict was then studied using research-related references such as national and international journals, essays, articles, previous studies, and sites as secondary data. There are several procedures in the data collection method. These procedures are:

C.1.1 Reading the Data

The first reading process is quick reading in reading the primary data or the novel. It happens because the writer is not entirely familiar with novels, so the main purpose of quick reading is to gain general knowledge such as identifying characters, understanding themes, conflicts, and plot. After the quick reading is pleasure reading. At this

stage, the writer reads to enjoy the author's experience, feel emotions, and understand the novel's most exciting problems or aspects. The final step in this stage is close reading or analytic reading. The novel as an object of study is read to develop a sense of connectedness between the novel and its background context and to read novels critically to present a more objective perspective. In reading the secondary data that used various scientific writings, the first reading process is analytical reading by selecting the secondary data related to the issues taken in the problem formulation.

C.1.2 Identifying the Data

After reading the data, the next data collecting method is identifying the data from the primary and secondary data. Instead, it is necessary to know which data to analyze and discuss. This is done by underlining, highlighting, and color-coding the data related to the analyzed and discussed topics. The primary data are in the form of dialogues, exposition, and description of the setting, characters, conflict in the novel, and all potential data from the secondary data related to highlighting the data in color-coding which is divided into several parts according to the issues taken in the problem formulation.

C.1.3 Classifying the Data

After identifying the data, appendices or data tables are created in this process needed as support. The appendices highlight the data

collected concerning the problem formulation and contain references and explanations from the writer. In detail, the appendices are in the form of a table containing numbers, quotations from the text, types of analysis, types of data, references, and comments. They are listed in the table to facilitate the reader to understand the answer to problem formulation. Primary data is done by classifying primary data based on the appropriate problem formulation. In contrast, secondary data can be used for any related problem formulation.

C.1.4 Reducing the Data

Reducing the data is the final process of the data collecting method. Collected data that is less related to the problem formulation has been deleted. This process aims to ensure that all data is suitable for answering the problem formulation and establishing the writer's analysis in Chapter IV.

C.2 Analyzing the Data

The last step is analyzing the data, which used a qualitative method through the text as the object of its study, understanding opinions, attitudes, and motivations, and answering the questions that cannot be answered with numbers. The types of data that the writer used are primary data and secondary data. The primary data was taken from *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* novel by Nadia Hashimi in dialogues, exposition, and description of the setting, characters, conflict, etc. The secondary data that

the writer used for this paper obtained various scientific writings. After reading, identifying, classifying, reducing the data that has been collected from primary and secondary data are managed in a neatly arranged appendix. Then, in analyzing both primary and secondary data, the writer examines the problem formulation using the child abuse theory contained in the novel, which reveals the various forms of child abuse that exist in Afghanistan and the impact that this abuse has on the survival of children.



CHAPTER IV

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

This chapter discusses the finding of child abuse in *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* novel to answer the problem formulations introduced in the first chapter. This chapter focuses on analyzing child abuse types portrayed in Shekiba, the main character of *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* novel by Nadia Hashimi, and the impacts of child abuse in Shekiba. They are divided into two sub-chapters, including types of child abuse reflected in the main character of *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* novel and the impacts of child abuse toward Shekiba as the main character.

A. Types of Child Abuse Reflected by Shekiba in *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* Novel

This sub-chapter discusses the data to answer the first problem formulation: the types of child abuse in the main character, Shekiba. The following are the finding and discussions about the data found in the novel.

Child abuse is a phenomenon that attracted much attention, especially in the 20th century. Abuse includes threats and actions resulting in injury, loss, and even death. The injuries that occur can be physical injuries, feelings, thoughts, which are detrimental to health and mental. Child abuse can happen in a wide variety of types committed by parents or caregivers. According to Robin E. Clark, there are six types of child abuse: physical abuse, sexual

abuse, emotional abuse, physical neglect, educational neglect, and emotional neglect (13).

A.1 Physical Abuse Reflected by Shekiba in *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* Novel

Physical abuse is the first type that arises and is often experienced by Shekiba. This type is more offensive to the victim's limbs and impacts physical appearance. Actions such as kicking, hitting, throwing, burning, stabbing, pushing are considered physical abuse. These actions often occur in Shekiba, who lives with her grandmother. She was made a maid and had to do many households. Bobo Shahgul, her grandmother, does not like the presence of Shekiba because she thinks that Shekiba was an unlucky bearer and curse for her family that resulted in her son or Shekiba's father dying.

Bobo Shahgul has power in the house, so she uses that power to act arbitrarily, especially against Shekiba. There she was mistreated and suffered a lot of abuse and even neglect. Shekiba often gets hit by Bobo Shahgul when she makes a mistake. Bobo Shahgul's dislike of Shekiba results in whatever Shekiba will be judged wrong, and Bobo Shahgul will stab her stick at Shekiba's body. These conditions are in accordance with the statement of Odhayani, abuse that occurs directly to the child's body is physical abuse. It may be done once or repeatedly (832). It can be seen in the following monologue:

Shekiba was on her side in her uncle's room when **she vaguely felt Bobo Shahgul's walking stick jab into her thigh** (Hashimi 38).

The hit occurred while Shekiba was sleeping, then Bobo Shahgul came and hit Shekiba using her walking stick. Shekiba was considered lazing by Bobo Shahgul even though Shekiba was feeling pain in her body due to her relatives' harsh treatment of her, so she lay down briefly to restore her energy. However, Bobo Shahgul did not accept it and hit Shekiba again as follows:

Shekiba winced. A downside to her recovery was that her body now had the energy to sense pain. **Again, the stick poked into her leg.** Shekiba rolled onto her side and tried to push herself back, away from her grandmother (Hashimi 38).

Bobo Shahgul's hit against Shekiba not only once but repeatedly even against trivial matters. At that time, after Shekiba was awakened by hitting her, she sat down and listened to the swearing said by her grandmother. Bobo Shahgul judged that she sat was wrong and then threw another punch against Shekiba. Her grandmother did not tolerate the slightest mistake in Shekiba did, as we can see from the quotation below:

“Sit up straight and watch your legs. Although you may not know it, you are a girl and you should sit like one.” **Bobo Shahgul snapped her stick against her granddaughter's arm** (Hashimi 38).

Bobo Shahgul, who committed abuse against Shekiba and other family members such as her aunt, also did the same inside the house. For no apparent reason, they do this because they are only based on a sense

of dislike and assume that Shekiba is a curse bearer. After the death of her parents, Shekiba is asked to live in Bobo Shahgul's house, inhabited by her uncle and aunt there. They did not welcome Shekiba's arrival; instead physically tortured by being brutally bathed. It is described in the following monologue:

Her skin was raw and reddened from **the brutal baths she had been given. Her aunts had scrubbed a layer of filth from her with a washcloth too rough for her frail skin** (Hashimi 37).

At that time, Shekiba had just arrived at Bobo Shahgul's house, and her aunt was asked to bathe Shekiba so she would not look dirty. She was bathed brutally and roughly by rubbing her body until it hurt the surface of her skin. The brutal treatment by her aunt is in line with the definition of physical abuse put forward by Odhayani that it occurs directly to the child's body (832).

It turns out that the physical abuse experienced by Shekiba not only comes from her family but also comes from the community in her neighborhood. Living in a country that adheres to a patriarchal system makes Shekiba feel violence from the surrounding environment. Women are judged to have no strength compared to men. Because of her helplessness both physically and in position, she had to experience physical abuse as follows:

“This girl is here to claim her father’s land,” Hakim explained.
“To claim what? Is there no end to this girl’s stupidity?” **He turned to Shekiba and landed another kick into her side.**

The pain threw her into a rage (Hashimi 114).

From the dialogue, it can be seen that Shekiba wanted to claim ownership of the land belonging to her parents, but Shekiba was not allowed to assert the right because she was a girl. The authorities think it is stupid to do and respond harshly to this intention by kicking her. This act is classified as physical abuse that injures Shekiba's body directly.

The act of hitting by Bobo Shahgul repeatedly, abusive treatment while bathing Shekiba from her aunt, and harsh treatment from the authorities when Shekiba wants to claim her land can be categorized as physical abuse. The actions such as punching, biting, shaking, stabbing, or kicking are in line with Clark's statement that they include physical abuse that may result in injury.

A.2 Sexual Abuse Reflected by Shekiba in *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* Novel

The act which involves the sexuality of a child forcibly is called sexual abuse. It needs the presence of a child in sexual activity that the child does not fully understand, does not approve of, or is developmentally unprepared and unable to give permission. Robin E. Clark, in his book, defined sexual abuse as "acts of commission including intrusion or penetration, molestation with genital contact, or other forms of sexual acts in which children are used to providing sexual gratification for a perpetrator" (13). Child sexual abuse is committed between a child and an adult or who has a relationship of responsibility, trust, or power.

In the novel, the character Shekiba experience sexual abuse by Agha Baran, often called Aasif, her husband. The marriage between Shekiba and Aasif was included in forced marriage. The marriage occurred because of an incident in the palace that resulted in Shekiba being exposed to slander. To avoid punishment, she had to be forcibly married to Aasif. Aasif is one of the king's confidants who turn out to have a special relationship with one of the king's consorts, Benafsha. On that night, Aasif and Benafsha's affair raised Shekiba's suspicions as one of the palace guards on duty that night. A result of the incident caused such a furor in the palace that Shekiba was made bait by Ghafoor and eventually subjected to 100 lashes. The suffering experienced by Shekiba not only stopped there, after experiencing pain due to the lashings, she also had to obey the palace's orders regarding her forced marriage.

After getting married and leaving the palace, Shekiba lived with Aasif in his home with Aasif's first wife, Gulnaz. Aasif and Gulnaz's first marriage was blessed with a daughter. Still, the position of a woman was low in Afghanistan, so Aasif wanted a boy in his family to continue Aasif's position later.

Forced marriage undergone by Shekiba has also been included in sexual abuse as stated in the *World Report on Violence and Health* about forms of sexual abuse, including forced marriage and children's marriage. In addition to forced marriage, Shekiba was also asked to have sexual

relations with Aasif, who favored the reason that it was Shekiba's obligation as a wife as portrayed in the following narrative:

“Shekiba,” he whispered. **“You are my wife. You have an obligation to fulfill.”**

Shekiba did not answer. His voice was raspy and low. He did not sound like himself (Hashimi 336).

Nevertheless, Shekiba's refusal did not work, so she had to obey Aasif's will and do it.

She clutched her blanket tightly with her two hands, knowing she had no right to resist. She was his wife and she had a responsibility to lie with him, even if it terrified her. Her breathing quickened. He turned toward her and pulled the blanket away. Shekiba could keep her eyes closed no longer. She saw him looking at her nightgown, the thin white cotton that surrendered without a fight. He undid the drawstring of his pants and lifted her hem over her hips. **Shekiba pressed her back into the mattress, wishing she could melt into the floor. A wave of panic rolled over her body as Shekiba closed her eyes, clenched her teeth, and became Aasif's wife** (Hashimi 336).

Shekiba's unwillingness is shown in the monologue, which states that Shekiba gripped the blanket tightly with both hands even if the rejection was useless and wished she could melt onto the floor so she could escape and not indulge Aasif's sexual needs. Apart from the relationship between Shekiba and Aasif, who is a husband and wife, the actions taken by Aasif are coercive and can be categorized as sexual abuse in accordance with Krug et al. statement that sexual abuse is the forced act of sexual activity on a person's sexuality by anyone despite their relationship with the victim (149). So, sexual activities that are carried out forcibly without the consent of one of the parties, even though

they are bound in a marriage relationship, can be categorized as sexual abuse.

A.3 Emotional Abuse Reflected by Shekiba in *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* Novel

The type of child abuse is not only in physical form but also in other types, such as emotional abuse that attacks the child's mentality. Abuse against children that attack mentally can be various—for example, belittling or humiliating a child, shouting in front of the child, threatening the child, giving a call or nickname that seems insulting to the child, and saying that they are not capable. Actions such as repeated verbal attacks on a child can cause permanent fear and worry in their life (Clark 218). It means that emotional abuse is mostly done verbally and impacts children's emotions or mentality.

It is the same as Shekiba's experience that she gets emotional abuse verbally and is done repeatedly, as illustrated in some of the following narratives:

Even her aunts and uncles would shake their heads and cluck their tongues every time they saw her, as if every time they were freshly disappointed and shocked to see what she looked like. **Her cousins came up with twisted names for her. “Shola face,” as her skin resembled the lumpy soft rice. “Babaloo,” or monster.** That one she hated more than the others (Hashimi 15).

Shekiba has burns on her face, which makes her appearance look bad. It is proven from the monologue says Shekiba was given the nicknames "Babaloo" and "Shola face" by her cousins because of an

accident on her face in the past. It can also be seen from the attitude of her uncles and aunts, who gave a gesture of disgust when they saw Shekiba by sticking out their tongue like spitting something while shaking their head. Shekiba not only received insults about her face from her family, but other people also do that, which is illustrated in the following dialogue:

“It looks like haleem, doesn’t it?”

Shekiba sighed. This was not the first time **her face had been compared to the dish of slow-cooked meat with grains, mushy enough that it could be spoon-fed to infants.**

“Her face?”

“Oh, you’re right! How awful!” (Hashimi 182)

At that time, Shekiba was made a palace guard to the king's concubines. The women there talk about Shekiba's face and liken it to "haleem", a popular dish in Central Asia with a porridge-like texture consisting of a mixture of several ingredients. Verbal harassment includes insulting and calling someone inappropriate names. Therefore, it can hurt people's feelings, which is the form of emotional abuse stated by Odhayani that emotional abuse is perpetrated by ignoring a child's emotional reaction or shaming a child. It can be done verbally by saying sarcastic words or hurtful names, or putting a child down by comparing them with a sibling or friend (833).

“Well? Have you nothing to say for yourself? Disrespectful and ungrateful. We have bathed and fed you and you can do nothing more than **sit there and stare like an idiot?**” (Hashimi 38).

In addition to being insulted by being given the worst nickname, Shekiba was insulted lazy, insolent, and even an idiot by Bobo Shahgul, which has proven in that dialogue. The humiliation suffered by Shekiba certainly greatly disturbed her emotional or psychological condition. Bobo Shahgul's dislike of Shekiba is often vented by mocking her and saying that Shekiba is not grateful for what she has given her.

“Well, well. **Look who has decided to disrupt our peace yet again.**”
“*Salaam.*” Shekiba decided she would take Samina’s advice and try not to antagonize the old woman.
“*Salaaaaam,*” Bobo Shahgul said mockingly. “**You stupid girl.** How dare you come here? How dare you step foot in this house?” (Hashimi 88).

Bobo Shahgul sold Shekiba to a wealthy merchant to be enslaved. Then once upon a time, she decided to revisit Bobo Shahgul to take a land ownership letter she kept in her house to be claimed secretly. Still, Shekiba's arrival was not welcomed by Bobo Shahgul and instead considered it was damaging her peace since Shekiba left the house. Not only that but also in the dialogue also illustrated emotional abuse received by Shekiba in the form of stupid calls made by Bobo Shahgul.

Emotional abuse sometimes cannot be identified because it is different from physical and sexual abuse. This type of abuse is considered more dangerous because it directly affects the mental or psychological carried into adulthood.

A.4 Physical Neglect Reflected by Shekiba in *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* Novel

Every human being has the right to a decent standard of living, including a child. The obligation of either parents or the person who is responsible for the child is to fulfill their needs, including giving love, protecting, and caring for the child. If either parents or the responsible person cannot meet the child's needs, it can be considered that they have neglected the child. Clark stated that physical neglect includes "...conspicuous failure to protect a child from hazards or danger" (13). It means that physical neglect occurs if a person neglects their duties, obligations, and responsibilities to meet the needs of the physical child.

Living without parents and being neglected by the family of Bobo Shahgul, Shekiba had to experience physical neglect such as not having enough nutritious food, clothing, and a proper place to live described in this monologue:

Winter came and Shekiba floundered along, subsisting on what she had managed to keep through the fall. Each time she bothered to undress and bathe, **she noticed her ribs protruding more. She used her siblings' clothing to cushion her hip bones from the hard floor. She grew weak, her hair brittle and frayed. Her gums bled when she chewed but she barely noticed the taste of the blood in her mouth** (Hashimi 28).

In the monologue, the physical neglect that Shekiba receives can be seen starting from her untended hair, her gums which suddenly bleed without being able to feel before subsequently, until the moment Shekiba observes her skinny body and realizes her ribs look very prominent. This

is due to the lack of more attention and adequate nutritional intake for Shekiba. The monologue also shows that she was not given a decent bed but instead had to sleep on the floor, so she needed more padding to support her hip bones against the hard floor.

Physical neglect comes from the lack of adequate food and clothing, health, hygiene, and appropriate shelter for children. This is in line with Grummitt's statement that "physical neglect represents inadequate physical care, such as food, hygiene or medical care" (2). The incompatibility of clothes worn with the current season is also included in physical neglect as experienced by Shekiba portrayed in this monologue:

She hadn't bothered to wash her dress, **and for most of the winter, she had curled up in a ball under a blanket, letting her own stench fester.** Daylight and warmth had inspired her to wash herself but it would take more than a few baths to undo what had become of her. **Her hair was a tangled nest of lice and unbrushable for months** (Hashimi 35).

Shekiba had to curl up in a blanket when winter came because no thick clothes or sweaters could protect her from the cold. Shekiba's hygiene and body health are not well maintained; it can be proven by the condition of her tangled hair and lice. Not only hair but in the following monologue, it is also explained that parts of her body have some scabs.

She had some scabs, while other areas stayed red and chafed, **her body too malnourished to repair minor damage. At night she slept on a blanket in the narrow kitchen,** her feet often knocking against a pot and waking her up (Hashimi 37).

From that monologue, we know that Shekiba also did not get a proper place to live, even though at that time she had moved to Bobo Shahgul's house, but she was not given an adequate room to sleep instead of sleeping in a narrow kitchen with only a blanket. In conclusion, physical neglect can be noticed from the child's physical appearance, who does not have the proper clothes, nutritious food, hygiene, and living place.

A.5 Educational Neglect Reflected by Shekiba in *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* Novel

For the sake of creating a brilliant generation, the role of education is essential for growth and development and its future. Children have the right to education and get to the highest level possible because education has a crucial role in improving children's hard and soft skills. However, not all children are fulfilled educational needs; therefore, some children experience educational neglect from their families. Clark stated that educational neglect includes "...inattention to specific education needs" (13). It means that children do not get an education at their age, and parents do not take their children to educational facilities or even tell their children to earn a living for their families and are forced to drop out of school.

The experience of educational neglect by Shekiba does not reflect in this novel. In the novel, during her lifetime Shekiba was only a servant and did not get the education she should have. It happens because

education in that era is still considered less important. The novel also does not clearly illustrate that Shekiba did not get an education from either school or other sources. Still, it can be known through the activities that Shekiba does throughout the day only doing homework from light to heavy things that men can do.

A.6 Emotional Neglect Reflected by Shekiba in *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* Novel

The last type of child abuse that Shekiba reflects is emotional neglect. Emotional neglect is a type of neglect that is difficult to identify because it cannot be seen physically but emotionally in the child. In addition to requiring physical needs, children also need emotional needs, namely affection and attention from their parents. Children who intentionally do not get affection from their parents, family, or caregivers can be categorized as emotional neglect.

Clark explained that emotional neglect includes the act of "... failing to meet the nurturing and affection needs of a child and other inattention to the child's developmental needs (13)." The love and attention that parents and families give to their children significantly affect the growth and development of a child both physically and psychologically.

Shekiba, who no longer has a nuclear family and lives adrift by abuse, causes her to feel emotional neglect. Her family's lack of

affection, attention, and environment resulted in her living neglected. One of Bobo Shahgul's apathy as one of the Shekiba families was to sell it to be an enslaved person depicted in the following dialogue:

“Hmm. And where is your family?”

“My village is one day’s travel from here. My mother and father are a dead. My brothers and sister are dead.”

Ghafoor’s brow furrowed. “You have no other family?”

“**They gave me away to repay a debt.** And that man gave me away to the king.” (Hashimi 139)

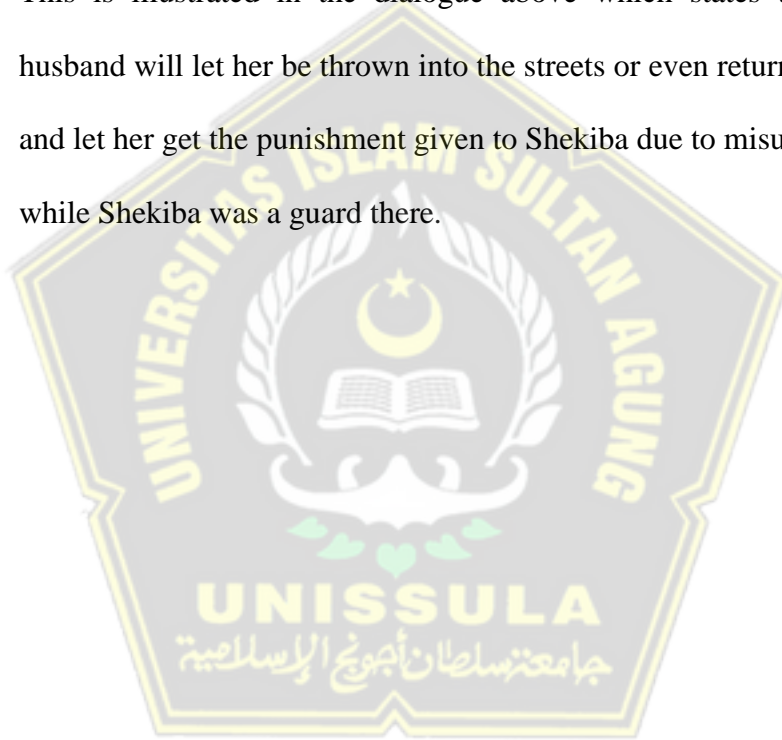
Shekiba's conversation with Ghafoor occurred when Shekiba first set foot in the palace. She was ordered to come to the palace to serve as a guard for the king's wives. Shekiba, the granddaughter of Bobo Shahgul, does not feel the affection and attention of Bobo Shahgul; instead, she often experiences abuse and neglect from her grandmother. Shekiba was neglected and used as a means of exchange to pay off debts held by Bobo Shahgul's family. From this, it can be concluded that Shekiba did not get enough affection and attention from her own family. The absence of affection and attention from family and parents in children who experience violence can be categorized as emotional neglect stated by Bıçakçı (222).

The emotional neglect she felt not only came from her grandmother but also from her husband, who is depicted in the following dialogue:

“I feed you and clothe you and for nothing! This is what you do to me! **I should throw you out on the street! I should throw you back to the palace and let them do with you what they planned!**”

(Hashimi 338)

Shekiba's marriage was a forced marriage without Shekiba's consent and wishes. Her husband committed many acts of abuse and neglect against Shekiba, which of course, interfered with her emotional condition. Despite being in a marital relationship, affection is not in their relationship. Shekiba as a wife, only plays a role in giving children and is not given the affection and attention that she should get from a husband. This is illustrated in the dialogue above which states that Shekiba's husband will let her be thrown into the streets or even return to the palace and let her get the punishment given to Shekiba due to misunderstandings while Shekiba was a guard there.



B. Impacts of Child Abuse Reflected by Shekiba in *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* Novel

This sub-chapter discusses the data to answer the second problem formulation: the impacts of child abuse in the main character, Shekiba. The following are the finding and discussions about the data found in the novel.

Child abuse can occur in various forms, from physical, sexual, and emotional abuse. Different attitudes carried out by parents such as physical, education, and emotional neglect are also included in child abuse. Childhood should be an important time for the growth and development of children because it is the time when the character and personality of the child begin. This is what makes children should get the love from their parents. Child abuse is an act of human rights violation. Without realizing it, abuse committed on children has a very influential impact on them until they are adults.

Child abuse can have physical, emotional, and behavioral impacts in the future and can negatively impact society. These consequences or impacts may be independent of each other but may also be interrelated. The response of each child who receives physical and verbal abuse will be different. Some children have long-term effects, while others recover more quickly and easily.

B.1 Physical Impact Reflected by Shekiba in *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* Novel

Physical abuse is directly related to physical health. Physically, children are more straightforward to injury than adults because their bodies are still growing and developing. Some injuries in the body will be visible for children who are abused physically and sometimes have far-reaching effects. The actions from physical abuse such as slapping, kicking, and hitting other abusive acts can directly impact the victim, such as experiencing ordinary to serious injuries. Still, it is also important to recognize that physical impact occurs due to physical abuse and can come from sexual abuse to other types of abuse and neglect.

Abuse and neglect that Shekiba often experiences undoubtedly impact Shekiba's body. As Clark said, injuries arising from physical abuse are the impact of the act of hitting, kicking, shaking, and stabbing in children that can cause fractures, severe bruises, burn, and internal injuries (203). Shekiba's injuries stem from acts of abuse committed by her family, as illustrated in the following description:

Her skin was raw and reddened from the brutal baths she had been given. Her aunts had scrubbed a layer of filth from her with a washcloth too rough for her frail skin. **She had some scabs, while other areas stayed red and chafed** (Hashimi 37).

The action of bathing Shekiba by her aunt, who has been discussed in physical abuse, certainly leaves a wound on Shekiba's body. The impact of the brutal bath resulted in Shekiba's skin becoming reddish

and blistered on some parts because it was rubbed too roughly on her soft skin.

The move of Shekiba to Bobo Shahgul's house does not make life more comfortable. It adds more burden and misery to Shekiba. Shekiba, who lives with Bobo Shahgul, gets more and more household tasks. She was made a maid by the family and had to take care of all kinds of household chores. The amount of work done by Shekiba certainly makes her body weak and lack nutrients resulting in her back pain. Not only because of the amount of household done by Shekiba, but the pain she felt also came from the blows from Bobo Shahgul that she often did as the following statement:

Her back ached at the end of the day, but she did not let her face show it (Hashimi 48).

However, the pain she felt did not show in front of the aunts and her other family because it would not foster sympathy and empathy. It will only add to Bobo Shahgul's anger and trigger another blow to Shekiba's body.

As it is known that Shekiba not only gets acts of abuse from her family but also from the surrounding neighborhood that has an impact on her body as follows:

Two days passed before Shekiba could stand. **Her lip was swollen and scabbed, her legs and back bone multiple bruises and each breath yanked her ribs in different directions** (Hashimi 125).

As a result of her actions to claim land belonging to her deceased parents, Shekiba had to be treated improperly by the officer. Shekiba was kicked by the officer resulting in injuries to her body, as depicted in the narration above.

Shekiba felt her back stiffen. There were still three raised scars she could feel when she bathed. She wondered how many more scars she had that she could not see (Hashimi 339).

In the monologue above, it can be described that Shekiba had injuries as a result of torture when she was a palace guard. Shekiba was caned because of a misunderstanding that befell her. The action left Shekiba's body full of wounds. How painful she felt when she took a shower even though she could not see it. Abuse and neglect faced by Shekiba turned out not only from her family but from the surrounding environment also did the same to Shekiba. The environment in which Shekiba grows should not be supported by abuse and neglect that will have a direct and clear identifiable impact, such as the physical impact on Shekiba's body.

B.2 Emotional Impact Reflected by Shekiba in *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* Novel

The emergence of various psychological problems in children is one of the impacts of child abuse and neglect. It can cause children to feel afraid, insecure, and isolated and can last for a lifetime, affecting their future lives. Also, it cannot be seen directly because it is related to a person's emotions or psychological, and it is not causing physical injury.

Child abuses that Shekiba endures during her childhood indeed have impacts on her emotion, as mentioned below:

She could imagine the conversation.

But be careful. Your uncle has a daughter, a monster, really. She is terrible to look at, so don't be frightened. She's insane and may say crazy things (Hashimi 28).

From the quotation above, we can see that the abuse and neglect affect her self-confidence. When her uncles visited Shekiba's house to look for her dead father, the thought crossed Shekiba's mind when they did not say it to Shekiba. Shekiba's confidence decreased because she often experienced emotional abuse verbally by calling her a bad name and insulting her as a monster that she trusted and embedded in her mind. This lower self-confidence is included in one of the emotional impacts, as Clark said (229).

Besides lowered self-confidence, child abuse also causes Shekiba poor emotional regulation and depression. That feeling causes children to feel worried, afraid, and think negatively of others or think about doing something dangerous, which triggers the behavioral impact then. It shows the difficulty of showing emotions towards others, determining emotions, and negatively thinking about others and yourself (Avdibegovii 340). It can be seen in the monologues below:

Shekiba waited till Zarmina had walked away to let out a heavy sigh. **How she wished she would have died on the cold floor of her own home, before her uncles had found her** (Hashimi 51).

As they moved further from her family's land, Shekiba wondered if

she had done the right things. **What if she found herself alone again? What would she do?** But she knew. She would do what she had intended to do months ago... *I will find a way back to our land and bury myself with my family*, Shekiba resolved (Hashimi 55).

Shekiba, often treated harshly, feels unwanted and unloved by grandmothers and other families. From two quotations above show that Shekiba felt uncomfortable moving into her grandmother's house and hoped to stay in her house even though she had to live alone there. Shekiba also stated that she would rather die of cold on the floor and insist on returning to her home and catching up with her deceased family. Therefore, the abuse and neglect that she experienced caused depression which was included in one of the emotional impacts, as said by Clark (94).

B.3 Behavioral Impact Reflected by Shekiba in *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* Novel

Emotional impacts and behavioral impacts are related to one another because the emotional impact of the child will trigger the child to engage in deviant or bad behavior. Child abuse and neglect experienced by children cause the development of antisocial resistance as they grow up (Child Welfare Information Gateway 3). Social difficulties in children make children become closed and behave antisocially that associated with their low self-confidence, as we can see from the quotation below:

No one had thought of her when the house's contents were thrown outside for trash. The few remaining items that had belonged to her mother, her father, her siblings were all tossed aside to make way for something new. Was someone going to move into her home? **Shekiba**

realized part of her was still hoping to return to that home, to live there independently as she had before. But, of course, that would never happen (Hashimi 50).

As we can see from the quotation above shows that Shekiba has a desire to live alone in her house and live without people's coexistence as she had done before he had to move into Bobo Shahgul's house. The behavior shown by Shekiba belongs to antisocial behavior that arises due to abuse and neglects that she often experiences which makes her afraid and reluctant to socialize with others. It also triggers them to grow into introverts or aggressive and unstable socializing because of her trust issues.

Clark stated that a child who experienced emotional abuse would show inappropriate behavior, such as destructive attitudes, anger, abuse of alcohol and drugs, or even worse is, committing suicide (217). In line with Clark's statement, the behavior was shown by Shekiba as the behavioral impact of abuse and neglect that she experienced. The inappropriate behavior she showed to Bobo Shahgul, who often scoffed at Shekiba depicted in the following monologue:

“Do not do anything that will bring shame to this family.” Her grandmother’s farewell to her was unceremonious. Shekiba did something she never thought she would do. She lifted her burqa from her face and **spat at her grandmother's wrinkled feet** (Hashimi 54).

In the monologue mentions that Shekiba spat carelessly directed at Bobo Shahgul. That action includes inappropriate behavior for a child

to do to an older person. However, Shekiba did it because she felt very fed up with everything Bobo Shahgul had done to her during this time.

Not only spitting on Bobo Shahgul, the inappropriate or problematic actions she did also uttered inappropriate words as depicted in the dialogue below:

“And with Allah as my witness, I curse you, Grandmother! May demons haunt your dreams, may your bones shatter as you walk and may your last breaths be painful and bloody!” (Hashimi 55).

Shekiba's behavior was done because before her leaving, Bobo Shahgul told Shekiba that she was a cursed creature, insulting her late mother and blaming Shekiba for her presence that caused all members of the Shekiba family to die. Not accepting that, Shekiba's emotions ignited consequently impact her attitude that cursed back Bobo Shahgul. The impact of poor emotional regulation causes Shekiba to respond to Bobo Shahgul's treatment by cursing Bobo Shahgul. After the amount of pressure, she endured exploded, which impacted Shekiba's demeanor. The existence of suppressed emotions caused her to fight her patience to remain silent.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Chapter five is the last chapter that consists of two subchapters that deliver conclusions and suggestions based on the discussion in chapter four.

A. Conclusion

After analyzing and interpreting *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* novel by Nadia Hashimi, this study presents the types of child abuse and its impacts as represented in the novel. According to the finding and discussion in chapter four, this study analyses Shekiba as the main character of *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* novel.

Child abuse and neglect are rife in Afghanistan. As an Afghan woman, the main character, Shekiba, became an object of abuse and neglect since her childhood. Shekiba is an orphan who has experienced abuse and neglect since childhood. She received abusive treatment and neglect not only from her family but also from her surrounding environment. The types of child abuse and neglect that Shekiba experienced are physical abuse, including hitting, kicking, and arbitrary treatment. Sexual abuse includes forced intercourse. Emotional abuse includes throwing denounce words labeling the main character with inappropriate nicknames. Also, Shekiba received physical and emotional neglect, which included did not get inadequate clothing, food, shelter, and love needs. It is clearly described in the dialogues and monologues in *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell*.

Besides the child abuse experiences, the impacts of child abuse are also faced by Shekiba. It can have physical, emotional, and behavioral impacts in the future. She has scars all over her body that are the physical impact of the abuse and neglect faced by Shekiba. The emotional impact on Shekiba due to abuse and neglect can be seen from the decrease in self-confidence and difficulty in emotional regulation. Meanwhile, the impact of the behavior shown by Shekiba is the presence of anti-social attitudes and the emergence of inappropriate forms of protest. These consequences or impacts may be independent of each other but may also be interrelated. The response of each child who receives abuse and neglect will be different. Some children have long-term effects, while others recover more quickly and easily. Although Shekiba experienced abuse and neglect during her life, she still cared for her son with love and was reluctant to commit the same abuse against her child. Instead, her child became the spirit for Shekiba to live a better life.

B. Suggestion

This study uses child abuse to analyze *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* novel. It points to the types of child abuse and its impacts portrayed in the novel. This study provides some suggestions, especially for future researchers to analyze this novel. This study suggests that further researchers can explore other social issues contained in the novel; one of them is forced marriage. The writer also suggests that this research can analyze using the hierarchy of human needs on the same character, Shekiba, or use another character, Rahima.

By reading the novel and the results of this study, it is hoped that readers can increase their knowledge and awareness of cases of abuse against children. As the next generation of the nation, children should get proper treatment according to their rights; therefore, it does not have a destructive impact on their lives.



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