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### ILLUSTRATING THE THEME OF ALIENATION AND ANTAGONISM IN KHALED HOSSEINI'S "AND THE MOUNTAINS ECHOED"



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#### **ABSTRACT**

Alienation and estrangement are not the octogenarian and over-the-hill disquietude causerie that emerges in the literary oeuvre, but they have an active role in the present literary world in promulgating the on-going identity conjecture, uprootedness, extremity etc. and are predominantly the quotidian characteristics of modern contemporary fiction. It is an established reality that displacement and dislocation play a key role in bringing about a sense of unhomeliness, and this leads to the birth of alienation and estrangement. These cataclysmic doleful feelings have certainly made an innumerable population to survive a living death. The sense of Alienation and Antagonism is the feeling of being a pariah or outsider who doesn't share his own culture and language in a different nation. He is in irremediable exile. He has very judiciously uttered; "*if culture is a house, then language was the key to the front door; to*

*all the rooms inside. Without it, he said, you ended up wayward, without a proper home or a legitimate identity* (Hosseini, 362) the present paper purports to highlight the repercussions of evacuation on people and in what way people feel disgruntled outside their homeland. The paper also vividly vocalizes the ideas of those people who feel alienated and estranged even in their homeland.

### **KEYWORDS**

Antagonism, unhomeliness, alienation, cataclysmic, evacuation, quotidian, Khaled Hosseini.