

Mapping Trauma of Afghanistan through the Fictional Bodies in Atiq Rahimi's *Earth and Ashes: A Novel*

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Abstract :

The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979 triggered humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan. Millions of Afghan people were brutally murdered and several million became refugees as a consequence of Soviet Union's military action on Afghanistan. The catastrophic war had a traumatizing impact on the psyche of the victims. The novel *Earth and Ashes: A Novel* recreates the excruciating history and chronicles the suffering experienced by people during the invasion. The novel articulates the fear, terror, agony and other physical and psychological implications of the soviet invasion on Afghan citizens. This research paper shall use the theoretical perspective of trauma studies to examine and explore the techniques adopted by the novelist in articulating the fear, anxiety and trauma experienced by the people of Afghanistan due to the appalling event.

Keywords : trauma, catastrophe, survivor, suffering, nightmares.