



**Revisiting Communal Trauma: Healing and Reconciliation in Toni Morrison's *The Bluest Eye*:  
Trauma Criticism  
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**Abstract.**

As an outstanding African-American author who has got fame for her tragic novel, Toni Morrison is well-known for her depiction of the blacks traumatic experiences at the result of being slaves or the after-affect of African-American's traumatic suffering under white dominance. This black community has to bear the heavy burden of rejection, oppression, racism and white dominance, so they are burdened with a wounded psyche and body that causes pain which constantly reminds them of their gloomy past. Morrison's major novel, *The Bluest Eye* focuses on traumatic events of the black community; this novel represents the communal and personal trauma of black community who struggle with pressures pressing them down from upward and inward. This essay aims to study the cultural trauma that the black characters are haunted with and the after-effect of this trauma; it further intends to analyze how this trauma condition's the characters' life and focuses on their difficulty dealing with the problems that weigh down their shoulders. Moreover, it aims to explore how the communal trauma conditions the subjective healing and the reconciliation in the communities within the work of trauma theory.

**Key words:** cultural or communal trauma, personal trauma, healing or recovery