



THE DEPICTION CHARACTER OF PATRIARCHAL CULTURE IN THE MULAN MOVIE

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ABSTRAK

The research object chosen in the film Mulan is because the narrative contained in the film Mulan discusses things that are very closely related to the phenomenon of patriarchal culture as is often the case in Indonesian society today. In this thesis there is a problem formulation, namely how patriarchal culture was formed and also the causes of the emergence of patriarchal culture in the film Mulan. Patriarchy is a structure that places men at the center compared to women. Patriarchal culture places women in a second position with limitations and is not allowed to exceed men's position as the main actor. This research is a qualitative descriptive method obtained through literature study. The conclusion of this thesis is that the writer concludes that Mulan's character in her behavior is able to fight discrimination and obstacles imposed on women by showing behavior as a leader, responsible, independent and brave enough to take risks. The writer hopes that similar research can use other approaches such as a feminist perspective and for filmmakers the writer hopes to raise the issue of gender equality so that it can help in building public awareness of the importance of gender equality.

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INTRODUCTION

Literature is an integral part of human culture, encompassing various forms such as poetry, drama, novels, and films. These works express events, ideas, and life values, and can be analyzed from various perspectives. Films, as a popular mass communication medium, present fictional stories in various dimensions

and can be used as learning media for students and literary researchers.

Patriarchy is a significant issue in society, where women are often placed below men, leading to gender differences and oppression. This creates gender differences and makes women oppressed. (Sahira, 2022). Films

can be used as a communication tool in the feminist movement, influencing the audience cognitively, affectively, and conatively. One example of a film discussing patriarchy is *Mulan*, adapted from a Chinese folk tale. *Mulan*, a young Chinese woman, disguises herself to replace her father and bravely fights against the Huns. The film's moral message is emphasized through the phoenix, a guardian of *Mulan*'s family ancestors.

In conclusion, literature and film play significant roles in addressing issues such as patriarchy, gender inequality, and the importance of gender equality. By examining the moral messages contained in *Mulan*, we can contribute to a more inclusive and equitable society.

Scope and limitation

In the part, necessary have limit the problem with the aim of focusing the discussion, that the problems raised can be studied in more depth and avoid lengthy descriptions that are not related to the object to be studied. Delimitation of the problem also needs to be done to clarify the identity of a study. The limitations of the problem in this research include aspects of the patriarchal cultural character of the character *Mulan* in the *Mulan* Movie.

Statment of the problem

In life from the past until now, there will be many views and issues of gender

equality in social life that we haven't realized it yet. One small thing is that many people consider men to be superior to women, therefore the writer wants to do research. In this research refer to the following things:

- 1.How was the patriarchal culture in the film *Mulan* formed?
- 2.What is the cause of the emergence of patriarchal culture in the film *Mulan*?

Goal and function

The research aims to present and develop knowledge about gender equality issues in everyday life, which often lead to conflict and problems. It focuses on *Mulan*'s character, who has high ambition and ego to achieve better goals, and conveys the message that women can achieve their goals despite patriarchal culture. The writer will also explain lessons from the film *Mulan* about a life full of conflict. This function is expected to become a reading medium or study material for academics and literary works. Research on literary works is important to determine their relevance to society's reality and to create public awareness of gender equality. The researcher believes that awareness should start from individuals before reaching the wider community. The research serves as a reading medium or study material for academics and literary works.

Saraswati and Bahsin teori

Characters are psychological traits, morals, or manners that distinguish individuals from others. According to (Saraswati, 2019) They are depicted in narrative works or dramas, interpreted as having certain moral qualities and tendencies. Each individual's character varies based on their traits and characteristics.

There are nine types of characters in fiction: flat, static, round, dynamic, and stock. Flat characters are minor characters in a story that do not undergo significant change or growth. They serve no purpose and may be more parts of the setting than characters. Static characters are characters that do not change but may appear in multiple scenes. Round characters are multidimensional, complex, and often contradictory, serving an important role in the plot or subplot. Dynamic characters undergo change in the story, such as a doorman discovering something unsavory about the main character. Stock characters represent stereotypes and are difficult to pull off in fiction, but they help move the story along by allowing the audience to already understand the character. These characters are essential for a well-rounded and engaging story. Protagonists in fiction are round characters who readers sympathize with, but they may not always be morally or likable. They should be relatable and understandable, as seen in Captain Ahab in *Moby Dick*. An antagonist, often seen as a bad guy, tries to prevent the protagonist from achieving their goals. They should be round

and conflicted, as seen in Darth Vader in "Star Wars." Confidantes are round characters who help the protagonist in their own conflicts, as seen in *Anna Karenina* by Leo Tolstoy. Foils are characters who possess opposite traits of the protagonist, serving as a contrast to highlight the main character's best traits. For example, a character known for honesty can be portrayed as a foil for a dishonest character, challenging the protagonist's commitment to honesty.

Patriarchy, a concept that has persisted throughout history, is a system where men dominate beliefs and power structures, often resulting in women being placed in a subordinate position. This system is deeply rooted in cultural norms and practices, such as in Jewish religious practices where women were considered inferior and excluded from religious ceremonies. In Buddhist societies, women were married before puberty and denied education, leading to illiteracy. In Indonesia, women were used as sex slaves during colonial periods, with restrictions on education. "to refer to male domination to the power relationships by which men dominate women, and to characterise a system whereby women are kept subordinate in a number of ways" (Bhasin, 2019),

RESEARCH METHOD

The writer used a qualitative descriptive approach to gather data for their thesis, referencing books, articles, and internet media

to support the writing and provide a reference for readers. This approach aimed to determine the value of an independent variable without making comparisons or relating it to other variables, analyzing social events, phenomena, or situations without manipulation and displaying the data results as they are.

The writer conducted a research on *Mulan*, an American fantasy drama, focusing on gender equality and the struggles faced by women during war. They chose the film due to its portrayal of real-world issues and the importance of understanding gender roles. The writer gathered data through multiple viewings and sought related theories to provide solutions.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

Film is a combination of images, camera technology, and sound, used as a mass communication tool. *Mulan* is an American fantasy action-drama film, produced by Walt Disney Pictures and directed by Niki Caro. The film tells the story of Hua Mulan, a young girl who meets an old woman to show her grace as a future wife. The film received 31,000 viewers on its opening day in South Korea. *Mulan* is a live-action adaptation of Disney's first animated film, *The Ballad of Mulan*, and is a testament to the power of film in preserving and promoting cultural heritage.

An imperial outpost was attacked by Rouran warriors led by Böri Khan, aided by a sorceress named Xianniang. The Emperor of

Tiongkok issued a conscription decree, forcing families to contribute one man to fight Khan's forces. Mulan, a young girl, flees her father's service and joins a training camp led by Commander Tung. Khan's army advances, forcing Tung to end training early. Mulan pursues troops alone, but is confronted by Xianniang. She returns to battle, using a helmet and archery skills to trigger an avalanche.

Mulan, a woman expelled from the army, rescues Chen Honghui and returns home. She faces Xianniang, who reveals she fought for Böri Khan because he treated her as an equal. Mulan warns her battalion of the emperor's capture and disguises herself as the Imperial Chancellor. Xianniang persuades the emperor to accept a single combat challenge, killing guards and preparing to burn him alive. Mulan saves the emperor, disarms him, and destroys his father's sword.

Mulan is reunited with her family and receives a new sword from the emperor, under Commander Tung, who also requests her to join the Emperor's Guard.



Character Mulan

(1).Mulan as a Careless Daughter, Duration (minute 00:02:09-00:02:23) Mulan's carelessness caused chaos, causing anger and shame among her mother and villagers. She chased a chicken, causing panic and causing a near-fall. The villagers screamed, but Mulan remained calm and jumped and landed smoothly, despite the panic. The incident highlights the importance of avoiding accidents and maintaining safety.(2) Mulan as Brave Imperial Army Duration (minute 00:25:27-00:26:20) Mulan brought her father's war equipment such as horses, swords, armor along with military service documents. Mulan bravely disguised herself as a man, despite being shocked by the imperial soldiers changing clothes and joking around. She remained calm, similar to Dory in Finding Nemo. She volunteered to look after her bathing friends and learned to live with men, including wrapping her chest with a cloth and enduring pain.

Patriarchal Culture

In the journal "Woman in Patriarchal Culture: Gender Discrimination and Intersectionality Portrayed in Bob Darling by Carolyn Cooke," the author discusses the experiences of Carla, a female character in patriarchal culture, who experiences gender discrimination. Patriarchy, a social system where men dominate in all aspects, has been deeply rooted in Chinese society since Confucianism. Despite changes, women have

gained nearly equal economic power, but traditional attitudes and practices, such as forced abortion and social pressure on women. The movie Mulan 2020 represents gender discrimination through negative labeling and violence.

CONCLUSION

Patriarchal culture, which views men as dominant, leads to gender discrimination and restrictions on women's rights and freedoms. The movie Mulan 2020 illustrates these forms through scenes of subordination, marginalization, stereotypes, and violence, while also highlighting patriarchal culture's restrictions on women's movement and labor power. Mulan's character, Mulan, represents women who break free from these discrimination and patriarchal culture, demonstrating that with a will and a will to succeed, women can overcome challenges and achieve their desires.

Mulan, the main character in Mulan 2020, embodies a strong, independent, and courageous personality. She challenges discrimination and standards as a woman, proving that women can be leaders and independent. Mulan's honesty, firmness, agility, responsibility, and loyalty are evident in her actions, both in training camps and on the battlefield, from the film Mulan we are taught never to be afraid to accept ourselves because the most comfortable home is a personality that does not need to be hidden.

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