

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

Literary works have several types, one of which is film. The film is one of the literary works that presents events that are related to real life, events that we experience can usually also be found in a film. According to Yoga, a film consists of narrative elements and cinematic elements. The narrative elements in a film are included in the elements of literary works, such as the script in the film is a written narrative as a means of telling stories through the dialogue of the characters (Sudarisman, 2019).

From the described above, it can be interpreted that films are part of literary works because one of the components that make up a film is the element contained in literary works, film is characterized as the result of culture and creative expression. Film as a combined mass communication of different advances such as photography and sound recording. According to Browne, film is regarded as art that is pervasive and powerful, while film stars are often seen as cultural icons (Browne, 1997).

Films nowadays mostly show some events related to things experienced in the real world. The film tells us, as the movie goes, stories about themes of everyday experiences like loving, hope, death, good, evil, violence and peace. For example, such as films that discuss religious issues because in real life, problems about religious conflicts often occur, such as the Palestinian and Israeli conflicts that began with conflicts over territorial seizure, but the conflict is widely known as a religious conflict.

Several conflicts that occur related to socio-religious issues are also triggered by the existing socio-cultural conditions which are closely related to the surrounding environment, which make a person's mindset and character of behavior. The social class mindset, for example in India the concept of social class or what is known as the caste system is also the main thing that is applied in daily life. According to Manali S.

Deshpande, the caste system is a classification of people into four hierarchically ranked castes called varnas.

They are classified according to occupation and determine access to wealth, power, and privilege (Deshpande, 2010). Related to conflicts that exist in everyday life can occur because the socio-cultural system in each region has many differences resulting in differences in mindset, attitudes, and habits towards everyone in several countries that trigger conflict, as well as in the cultural to socio-religious side. Previously, the researcher were interested in films with the theme of socio-religious issues for the reason that in real life.

The problem of religious conflicts often occurs, such as the Palestinian and Israeli conflicts which began with conflicts over territorial seizure, but these conflicts are also widely known as religious conflicts. The researcher was able to find out that the films selected as objects of study in Comparative Literature began when the researcher were still in school, at that time the researcher only watched a film entitled *Bajrangi Bhaijaan* which present socio-religious and cultural conflict between India and Pakistan, the film reminds researchers of the Palestinian and Israeli conflicts which are close to each other, but conflicts can still occur.

Afterwards, the researcher started watching the films *Bilal a New Breed of Hero*, *The Breadwinner*, and *99 Cahaya dilangit Eropa Part 1 and part 2*, those films which also present problems related to socio-religious and socio-cultural issues. Although these films have similarities in several topics, the *Bajrangi Bhaijaan* (2015) and *Bilal a New Breed of Hero* (2019) films have more unique similarities, namely conflicts between countries that are very close together in both films.

Therefore, from several films with the same topic that have been watched, the researcher decided to choose the two films. When the researcher got to know the Comparative Literature course, the researcher finally imagined to choose two films that had been watched before, by reason of to compare the similarity problems of diversity that often happened in several countries. The film selected are *Bajrangi Bhaijaan* (2015) and *Bilal a New Breed of Hero* (2019).

Even though the two films selected as the object have been watched for a long time before, because of the similarities in the two films that have been selected, it makes easier for researchers to determine them to be material for comparative literature study. Some films provide moral messages in a unique way and it can teach us lessons in an entertaining way, such as the Horace's theory which states that the main function of literary works is to teach and delight or a known concept, namely *Utile et Dulce*.

Horace's theory means that literary works of any kind should have an educational and enjoyable function (Nurrachman, 2017). The moral value we get from a film can be seen through the characterization of a character in a film, for example when a character is faced with a problem or difficult situation, such as religious conflict to discrimination, the way they deal with these problems will be a way to convey their own moral message. Some moral messages can also be conveyed by a character through his words.

The researcher selected two films as the objects of this paper, these films are entitled *Bajrangi Bhaijaan* (2015) and *Bilal a New Breed of Hero* (2019). The choice of these two objects of this research was due to the reason that they compare the similarity of problems related to socio-religious Islam that often occur in several countries. Problems that occur due to socio-religious and socio-cultural problems have made some people experience difficulties in their lives.

Bajrangi Bhaijaan (2015) is one of the best comedy drama movie genre. This film is directed by Kabir Khan. The script was written by V. Vijayendra Prasad. *Bajrangi Bhaijaan* (2015) presented story about the way of religious tolerance aspect and social class depicted between Pakistan and India. The movie also presented many sad and funny scenes at the same time. This movie got an award from Zee Cine Award, or "ZCA" for Best Film.

Compare to other movies, *Bajrangi Bhaijaan* (2015) has similarities in socio-cultural conflict, religious tolerance, and characterization of the main characters in the films *Bilal a New Breed of Hero* (2019). These movies also presented many similarities in the characterization of the main characters when faced with a difficult situation so

that they try to deal with problems caused by conflicts, both socio-religious conflicts and conflicts that are formed because of the concept that is embedded in socio-culture, giving rise to differences in social class, to discrimination.

Bilal a New Breed of Hero (2019) is directed by Ayman Jamal and Khurram H. Alavi is an animated film by Barajoun Entertainment that has entered the animation ranks Hollywood which has participated in various film festival events. The Script was written by Ayman Jamal. This movie got an award as The Best Inspiring Movie and Best Innovative Film award on Broad Cast Pro Middle East Award. This film reveals a lot of moral and social values intended for the younger generation so that the spirit is reaching for a better life. This film is based on the true story of one of the companions of the Prophet Muhammad SAW namely Bilal Bin Rabah.

When discussing the film *Bajrangi Bhaijaan* (2015) and *Bilal a New Breed of Hero* (2019), the researchers focused on discussing the similarities between the two objects that had been selected as the research material. The similarity between objects comes from some sort of comparison between representations. The representations regarding predetermined topics such as socio-religious and socio-cultural topics are just described. This can be done by categorizing what the main characters have in common in the two films, as well as describing the surrounding conditions in the film related to the chosen topic.

From all that described in this chapter above, it shows that the researcher focuses on discussing each of the two films that are used as the object of research in this study. The two films selected were from different countries, namely from India and Arabia. The researcher will compare the objects according to the chosen topic related to some aspects depicted in the film, these several aspects especially in socio-religious, socio-cultural, and characterizations aspects. The selection of these three topics is due to the similarities in characterization, socio-cultural and socio-religious conditions between the two films related to these topics.

1.2 Formulation of the Problems

To analyze how social depictions from culture and character related to religious values in the selected objects. The researcher intends to analyze the movie with the following questions:

1. What are the similarities between films *Bajrangi Bhaijaan* (2015) and *Bilal a New Breed of Hero* (2019) through characterization?
2. How are the socio-religious and socio-cultural conditions depicted in the films *Bajrangi Bhaijaan* (2015) and *Bilal a New Breed of Hero* (2019)?

1.3 The Research Objective

Based on the question above, the purposes of this research are:

1. To prove the characterizations in the films *Bajrangi Bhaijaan* (2015) and *Bilal a New Breed of Hero* (2019) have similarities.
2. To compare the socio-religious and cultural conditions in the films *Bajrangi Bhaijaan* (2015) and *Bilal a New Breed of Hero* (2019).

1.4 Research Significances

The varieties of knowledge present in a movie will be an instrument for common people to love literature more and more. The plot representation will give interesting experience in understanding the message of literary works. This research hopefully has an important role in understanding that socio-cultural conflicts related to Islam occur in several countries in the two films.

The research is expected to give knowledge on how the characterization of religious people facing life in a country that has conflict is depicted in the film so that it has a moral message that can be used as a learning, and it can be an additional reference for comparative literature studies, especially in movies. The results of the research can trigger other researchers to produce such a kind of this research in the

future. Furthermore, the research will give inspiration and can be a reference for other researchers who are interested in comparative literature studies.

1.5 Statement of Problem

This research has two statement of problems, the first is the socio-religious and cultural conditions depicted in the film *Bajrangi Bhaijaan* (2015) and *Bilal a New Breed of Hero* (2019). In this statement, the socio-religious and cultural conditions are related to the surrounding environment, through depictions of daily activities in carrying out worship rituals and interactions with other characters in the film, which describe their socio-cultural conditions.

The second statement of problem in this research is the main characters deal with socio-religious and cultural problem in the films *Bajrangi Bhaijaan* (2015) and *Bilal a New Breed of Hero* (2019). In this statement, the way the main character deals with conflicts related to socio-religious and cultural conditions is through the character's decision-making to behave in what kind and is also related to the way the character takes action to deal with the conflict.

1.6 Previous Research Results

Previous research related to the two objects chosen in this study were to discuss religious pluralism in the *Bajrangi Bhaijaan* (2015) film and moral construction in the film *Bilal a New Breed of Hero* (2019). The two objects selected as learning materials have been discussed previously, with different topics. First, in a thesis entitled *Educational Values of Religious Tolerance in the Bajrangi Bhaijaan Film* written by (Umar, 2017) discusses the tolerance as a lesson that can get from the film.

Umar wrote that the *Bajrangi Bhaijaan* (2015) film is a film that can be used as an alternative in learning, especially in religious tolerance education. The researcher from a thesis entitled *Educational Values of Religious Tolerance in the Bajrangi*

Bhaijaan by Umar, he uses qualitative methods and theories about tolerance in his thesis, one of the theories he uses is the theory proposed by Soejono Soekanto namely tolerance also leads to the formation of assimilation in a society if it is supported by intense communication (Soekanto, 2002).

The similarity between Umar's thesis and this research is that the object of his research is both researching the *Bajrangi Bhaijaan* (2015) film however in Umar's thesis, he uses one object and does not compare it with other objects. In addition, the equation with this research is also contained in the method used, namely the qualitative method. However, the topics analyzed in Umar's thesis are very different, he emphasizes the topic of religious tolerance education which can be taken from the *Bajrangi Bhaijaan* (2015) film.

The other research related to this research is in an Islamic education journal entitled *Construction of Moral Education in the film Bilal Bin Rabah a New Breed of Hero* by Ayman Jamal, the discussion of the film *Bilal a New Breed of Hero* (2019) written by (Akmal & Musdalifatul, 2019) discusses that moral education can be obtained from the film, they also wrote in their journals that in the animated film *Bilal a New Breed of Hero* (2019) by Ayman Jamal, there are two religious values.

The religious values that has been discussed in the thesis written by Mundiri Akmal and Makkiyah Musdalifatul are include obedience and manners. The method they used to reveal the construction of moral values in the film *Bilal Bin Rabah a New Breed of Hero* (2019) by Ayman Jamal is a qualitative approach with Roland Barthes perspective semiotic analysis technique, which focuses on the sign aspect. They use the plot of this movie to analyze the sign aspect depicted this movie.

The research written by Akmal and Musdalifatul has similarities with this research both in terms of the object of research , namely the film *Bilal a New Breed of Hero* (2019) and they use qualitative methods but with semiotic analysis techniques to analyze the object of research. In addition, the different topics chosen by Akmal and Musdalifatul emphasize the value of moral construction that can be taken from the film *Bilal a New Breed of Hero* (2019) without comparing the film with other objects.

The reason for choosing these two films as the research objects is not because Islam is a religion that always creates difficulties and problems, not also other religions in these two objects are filled with all its shortcomings, but seeing that of the similarity of the two objects selected. The topic chosen to make a comparison is regarding the socio-religious and cultural conditions as well as the characters or characterizations in the films *Bajrangi Bhaijaan* (2015) and *Bilal a New Breed of Hero* (2019).

