

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. The Background

Film is certainly not something new in society. This entertainment media has become one of important human needs. Therefore, it is true to say that the role of films in society is essential. In fact films are created in accordance with the needs of society (Adi, 2011, p. 70). For this reason, the purpose of film is to entertain people. Even though it is one of the sources of entertainment, the presence of film has a significant role in society, particularly in education field.

There are many things that people can learn about film because it is a well-known media (Buckland, 2003, p. 1) and people are familiar with films. Besides its function as a source of entertainment, in fact, films can make people know and learn about things related to society, culture, human behavior, interactions, language, and so on (Cortés, 2000, p. 19). This means, films can display phenomena, trends, people's ways of thinking and issues in aspects of human life to attract the attention of the audience or simply convey messages and show certain situations in society.

Since today's society sees film as an influential medium to convey values, perspectives and beliefs (Cloete, 2017, p. 1), people who watch films will know that there are things in the films which can be explored or identified. One of the significant issues that can be examined from the film is friendship. The value of friendship is essential because humans are not only individual beings, but also social beings. Therefore, everyone must interact and make friends with other people. Even though, each person has a different way to describe what friend is, the friendship issue is still something that many people have been researching.

It is still difficult to define friend and those who are categorized as friends, might not be the real friends (Leib, 2007, p. 638). This has made friendship become something complicated (Hassan, Salgado, Pavón, 2011, p. 1). In other words, the concept of friendship that seems easy but difficult to understand needs to be discussed so that people can have a clearer view of friendship. There are indeed many ways can be done to understand the value of friendship, but if it is shown in a popular film, then this would become interesting to discuss.

Therefore, this study discusses the depiction of friendship shown in the film so that the concept of friendship can be understood better.

1.2. The Problems of Study

Based on the explanation above, this research concentrates on finding the answers for the following problems:

- (a) How is friendship depicted in the film *Aladdin*?
- (b) Why is the value of friendship important to people?

1.3. The Objectives of Study

The research questions listed above can show that the essence of this study is:

- (a) to identify how friendship is depicted in the film *Aladdin*
- (b) to analyze importance of the value of friendship to people.

1.4. The Use of Study

The benefits of this research can be seen from sides. Theoretically, this study can contribute to the development of theories in field of humanities, especially those related to culture, literature and media studies.

In practice, this study is able to provide an understanding to people about the value of friendship shown in the film. Besides, this research can also be a reference for other researchers who are interested in studying films.

1.5. The Scope of Study

This study uses an American film entitled *Aladdin* to obtain the main data that will be analyzed to find answers to research questions. Information regarding this film is presented in the table below:

Film title	Aladdin
Year	2019
Country	The USA
Director	Guy Ritchie
Production Company	Walt Disney Picture
Film stars	Will Smith, Mena Massoud, Naomi Scott
Duration	128 minutes

This film is based on the legendary story of “One Thousand and One Nights”. In 1992, Disney Company also produced an animation movie with the same title, *Aladdin*.

The animated film *Aladdin* in 1992 received a good response from the public and has become one of the favorite animated films for children in many countries. Moreover, the character of genie in the movie is played by the famous American actor, Will Smith. Therefore, the presence of the new version of *Aladdin* in 2019 was a moment that the fans of *Aladdin* movie looked forward to. From the consideration above, it will be an interesting discussion if the issue of friendship is examined from this film.

1.6. Clarification of Terminology

There are terms used in this study need to be clarified to avoid misunderstanding. The term friendship used in this study refers to friendship in general, for example, friendship that exists at school, work place, neighbors, and others. *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* showed that friendship means “a relationship between friends” and the second definition of friendship is “the feeling or relationship that friends have; the state of being friends” (Wehmeier (ed.), 2000, p. 516). From the definition above, it is common to say that friendship is created when two or more people who know each other, share thoughts and help each other. Regarding this, friendship is related to trusting (Kaye, 2005, p. 475).

Therefore, not everyone can be included as a friend, especially those who are strangers (Healy, 2011, p. 232). From the explanations above, the term ‘friendship’ used in this study is the term generally understood by everyone. However, behind the term ‘friendship’ which is commonly understood by people, there are various perceptions and views regarding the term of friendship that need to be explored to obtain a deeper and clearer concept of friendship.

Another term to clarify is ‘film’. The term ‘film’ in this study refer to the audio-visual entertainment media that people usually watch in cinema. Everyone must be familiar with the term ‘film’ used in this study. The terms ‘film’ and ‘movie’ will be used interchangeably in this study because they have the same meaning. The word ‘*Aladdin*’ in this study is a film title.