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SEMIOTIC ANALYSIS OF PATRIOTISM IN *HACKSAW RIDGE* AND *LETTERS FROM IWO JIMA* MOVIE

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ABSTRACT

Each country has different meaning of Patriotism. Therefore, this research comparing on the movie of Hacksaw Ridge and Letters from Iwo Jima since both of the movies showed differences perspective of patriotism since both of them from different culture. The research aimed at revealing the semiotic of patriotism in Hacksaw Ridge and Letters from Iwo Jima movie. This research is based on Roland Barthes semiotic theory, Nathanson patriotism theory and Joana Japanese patriotism. The qualitative method was employed by analyzing the symbols that indicate the act of patriotism found in the movie. The research used a descriptive design. The object of the research is the character and the background of the set was taken. Document analysis was used as the instrument in order to get the valid data. There are 57 data that took from the 10 scenes from each movie to symbolize the Dennotative, Connotative and Myth. From the analysis, three types of symbols were found that showed by the character or the background set. They were data 33,33% of Dennotative (10 occurrences), 33,33% of Connotative (10 occurrences) and 33,33% of Myth (10 occurrences) in Hacksaw Ridge movie. As for the Letters from Iwo Jima, 37% of Dennotative (10 occurrences), 37% of Connotative (10 occurrences) and 26% of Myth (7 occurrences). The data semiotic Analysis were based on Roland Barthes theory.

Keywords: Patriotism, Semiotic, Movie

INTRODUCTION

In language, linguistics is one of the important aspects. One of the branches that linguistic has is semiotics. According to Roland Barthes in Dessy Lestari research (2019), semiotic is analysis of signs based on a larger system or combination (Sentence, Books, etc.) involves what is called a combination rule which consists of paradigmatic action, namely vocabulary, and systematic action, namely a method of selecting and combining signs based on rules or specific code so that it can express meaningful code. In another sense, semiotics is a science or method of analysis for studying signs.

In achieving a great country, the struggle is needed to defend the country for the sake of forming a welfare state and nation. For that, we need strong and ready communities to sacrifice for the sake of glory until the nation and country reach independence. Symbols and other means of representation have to be used for group members to feel a sense of belonging and attachment. Such symbols may be a flag, a hero, an anthem, or myths: descriptions of a common fate and shared past; articulations of common law, common language, and tradition;

realities such as common leadership, government, or boundaries. All these factors contribute to the sense of separation between "us" and "others" and the development of the sense of belonging that underlies patriotism (Samuel,1989).

An attitude of patriotism can be shown by creating great drivers and supported by quality infrastructure create honest politicians. This thing looks lighter compared to ancient times where patriotism should be fought and sacrificed his life to defend the country. However, comparing the current condition of the nation with the condition of the nation when the war against the invaders was very different. At that attitude, patriotism is very thick in the blood of freedom fighters sacrificing desperately to defend the country, but currently, the attitude of patriotism very rarely found, the more dominant attitude is the egoism of the nation's citizens who increasingly do not care about the integrity of their country. Along with the swift currents of modernization and globalization in this country our patriotism is being tested.

In this case, Film is a mass media that has a role in conveying a message to the audience. A film which is a form of art which consists of audio and visual and combines the stories in them, to attract audiences to watch it. On these occasions, the researcher used "Hacksaw Ridge" movie and "Letters from Iwo Jima" to analyze the semiotic of patriotism that the movie have. One of the reasons why the researcher compared those movies:

1. "Hacksaw Ridge" movie and "Letters from Iwo Jima" are completely from different nation perspective with different definition of patriotism
2. Both of the movie tells the audience about different point of view on how they act on World War II situation.

REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

ROLAND BARTHES THEORY

Based on the research of Yunus (2020) Roland Barthes pointed out that "Semiology aims to take in any system of semiology" signs whatever their substances and limits like; images, gestures, musical and things, and sounds" These are as a mechanism of the meaning. Roland Barthes claimed that linguistics requires semiology to be exact, it is the section covering the great units of significance of discourse.

In this regard, an important area that Barthes explores in his study of signs is the role of the reader. The connotation, although it is the true nature of the sign, requires active speakers in order to function. Barthes extensively discusses what is often referred to as the second level of meaning system, which is built on top of other systems that have existed before. Literature

is the clearest example of a second level system of meaning according to Barthes which is called connotative, which in his *Mythologies* he clearly distinguishes from denotative or the first level of meaning system. The study of semiotics is focused on the representation of signs, like the language, image, and object. In visual semiotics, the visual signs have more direct meaning than in language. The representation not only shows the world but also the interaction in it. Continuing Hjelmslev's studies, Barthes created a map of how signs work.

Table 1. Barthes Sign Work.

1. Signifier	2. Signified
3. Denotative Sign	
4. Connotative Signifier	5. Connotative Signifier
6. Connotative Sign	

From the Barthes map above, it can be seen that the denotative sign (3) consists of a signifier (1) and a signified (2). But at the same time, the denotative sign is also the connotative signifier. In other words, it is the material element: only when you recognize the "Lion" sign will connotations such as self-esteem, ferocity and courage become possible.

So, in Barthes' concept, there is a connotative sign which not only has an additional meaning, but also contains both parts of the denotative sign that underlie its existence. In fact, this is Barthes's very significant contribution to the perfection of Saussure's semiology, which stopped at denotative marking.

DENOTATIVE

Denotation is referred to by Barthes as a common-sense, the obvious interpretation of the sign, sign. an image of a street scene, for instance, denotes the specific street; The word "street" means an urban road lined with structures. This photograph is capable of Two different types of photography will be taken into account. Those two photos are going to the denotative sense is the same way. In other words, whatever the ways the photograph of a street was taken, that photographs of the street will always denote that particular street. It means, their denotative meaning would be the same. Denotation refers to those things that seem natural to us and which they can take people for granted. In other words, it can be called denotation as a conceptual meaning. Meaning that, by sight, smell, according to observations, Hearing, feeling, and all that is related to factual information and should be become objective. the true meaning straightforward or significance. The Actual In the dictionary, significance is not a figurative meaning.

CONNOTATIVE

Barthes refers to one of the three ways in which signs are described by connotation. Operate in the second order of meaning. This describes the communication between the Sign and the emotions or feelings of the users and the values of their culture. Based on these two photographs are both the same in the example in the denotation above. The difference between those images lies in the shape, the appearance, the photograph.

MYTH

A myth is the way that a culture thinks about something. The myth is close to the culture that includes faith and religion. The British Traditional Myth concepts of friendliness, reassurance, solidity, non-aggressiveness, lack of firearms is included in the police. If connotation is the meaning of the second-order meaning of the signified meaning is myth.

PATRIOTISM

Patriotism can be defined into two type, blind patriotism and constructive patriotism. Some of patriotic act can be easily portrayed in soldier. Such as:

- a) Sympathy for the nation. This patriotism enables a person to love his nation as well as his country without making the country objective purpose for self-benefit.
- b) Solidarity. This patriotism creates solidarity in order to achieve the welfare of the nation.
- c) Patriotism is able to see the strengths and weaknesses of the nation.
- d) National Cultured Values. With the capital of national values and culture, strive at this time to be able to achieve the nation's goals.
- e) A sense of self-identity. Patriotism is an attitude of wanting to see, accept, and also develop the character and personality of the nation.
- f) Open nature. Patriotism means seeing one's nation in the context of world life, being willing to be involved in it and also being willing to learn from other nations for the nation's progress.

Those criteria that already mention also supported by (Nathanson, 1993) that define the patriotism is someone who is willing to:

1. Special affection for one's own country
2. A sense of personal identification with the country
3. Special concern for the well-being of the country
4. Willingness to sacrifice to promote the country's good.

with the statement above, the author will identify based on the principle of Barthes to dismantle the sense of (denotative meaning, connotative meaning and myth). The writer believes that these movies carry multiple signals, depending on the results of the debate.

Symbolic, iconic and index signs are used in the signs (signifier and signified). The visual expressions (image, written expression, color, tagline, tagline and punctuation) represent these signs.

JAPANESE PATRIOTISM

According to Japanese society, Japan was formed from an incarnation of heaven, this incarnation is called Tenno Heika (Emperor). Because of that, a religion originating from Japan or a traditional religion called Shinto was created. Shinto itself is a combination of two different kanji, namely “Shin” which means “God” and “To” which means “Way” so that when interpreted it forms a meaning of “God's Way”. Also, Japan is a country that has never been raided by any other western country in Asia. by doing so, Japanese patriotism was created to prevent the inevitable war from the Western colonialization. rejection of the western nation was carried out by modernization, and at that time the spirit of Japanese patriotism began to become very high, extreme and aggressive or ultranationalist in expanding Japanese sovereignty. In carrying out reforms, the Japanese national movement began with "Revolution from above" as it refers from the royal family to the lower class. They as an upper-class group, namely samurai made changes rapidly from the upper class to the lower class (Hartono, 1967).

The revolution of Japan patriotism was based on three points; Isshin (back in time), Sonno-joi (Respect the Emperor and banish the savages) and Fukoku-Kyohei (Strong military, prosperous country). Due to the era of the modernization, Japan started to focus they're on Fukoku-Kyohei (Strong Military, Prosperous Country) and prepared to Sonno-Joi (Respect the Emperor and banish the savages). This slogan is intended to strengthen the foundations of the economy and Japanese industry, so that a strong military could be built up to defend Japan from outside powers. This is the response by the reformers gathered around Emperor Meiji when confronted with the threat of Western imperialism during the 19th century. It is also meant to catch up with the West (Joanna, 2017).

METHODOLOGY

The researcher conducted the research and how the researcher collected the data and analyze it. To get a systematic organization, the writer divides this study into: Research Method, Research Object, Data Collection Technique, Document Analysis and Data Source.

Research Design

This method uses a qualitative approach which is a case study. Bogdan and Taylor in Lexy J Moeloeng (2002) define methodology as a research mechanism that produces descriptive data in the form of words, be it written or spoken from people and behaviors that can be observed by researcher. In other word, qualitative research is a research procedure that resulted

descriptive data and relies on narrative description.

In its application, a qualitative uses data collection method. The method used in this research is descriptive analysis which focuses on non-hypothesis research so that in the research steps there is no need to formulate a hypothesis.

Research Subject

The object of this research is a film with the title *Hacksaw Ridge* and *Letters From Iwo Jima*. While the research unit of analysis is a piece of the image or visual contained in the film *Hacksaw Ridge* which is related to the formulation of the research problem.

Instruments

Document analysis is a form of qualitative research in which documents are interpreted by the researcher to provide voice and meaning around an assessment topic (Bowen, 2009). documents Analyzing incorporates coding content into topics similar to how to focus group or interview transcripts are analyzed (Bowen, 2009). The documentation in this research used transcription from "Hacksaw Ridge Movie" and "Letters from Iwo Jima". To analyze the data. The researcher observes the movies carefully and categorizing it into Denotative, Connotative and Myth. After that the researcher classifies the symbols that included in the movies based on the categorization that mention above. And as for next step the researcher analyzed the movies to describe their symbols that relevant to the topic and confirm it. Then the final step is reporting his research that include the findings and conclusion of the objects. The following procedures will be explained below:

1. Categorizing

researcher categorize the symbols from Denotative, Connotative and Myth as showed on the from both of the movies "Hacksaw Ridge" and "Letters from Iwo Jima"

2. Classification

The samples that obtained will be classified based on the categorizations that have been mention previously. To make it easier the classification will be shown as Sample and Time (ST/ 00:20:12) which mean that the sample was taken and appear in the movies on 00 hours 20 minutes and 12 second in the movie.

3. Analyzing

The categorical information in the table is analyzed to illustrate movies and the character actions. The scene shown in the film also has the participation. In addition, a quantitative strategy is used to review the information, because a number in the proportion of each of the movies have.

4. Discussing

The researcher concluded the findings based on the theories and method and elaborate it to answer the questions above.

5. Reporting

The findings of the research reported in the paper by the researcher as well with the suggestion regarding to the research. Regardless for the datasheet that used for the researcher will be formed in a table by using visual make it simple

Data Analysis

Analysis of Qualitative Data

Qualitative methods are used to describe the data that found in these movies. Document Analysis as an instrument play part to analyze the movies semiotic based on Roland Barthes regarding Denotative, Connotative and Myth.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the research question 1 & 2, the research took ten scenes from *Hacksaw Ridge* and *Letters from Iwo Jima* movies as a sample to know how the patriotism portrayed in *Hacksaw Ridge* and *Letters from Iwo* movie. In collecting the necessary data, the researcher uses Document Analysis to identify the object of the research to answer RQ 1 & RQ 2 by selecting ten scene that taken as a data for the research. Regardless of how many scenes that taken from the movie, the researcher found the represented scene that portrayed patriotism in *Hacksaw Ridge* and *Letters from Iwo* movies and it showed as below with the description of the semiotic analysis according to Roland Barthes theory.

Hacksaw Ridge Analysis

This part of section discussed the analysis of *Hacksaw Ridge* to answer RQ 1 regarding on how the patriotism portrayed in this movie. The data analysis will be shown below.

Table 2. Hacksaw Ridge Movie Analysis

No	Pictures taken	Connotative	Denotative	Myth
----	----------------	-------------	------------	------

1



✓

✓

✓

2



✓

✓

✓

3



✓

✓

✓

4

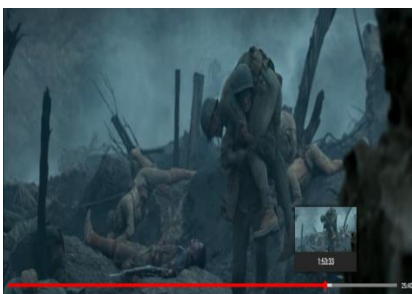


✓

✓

✓



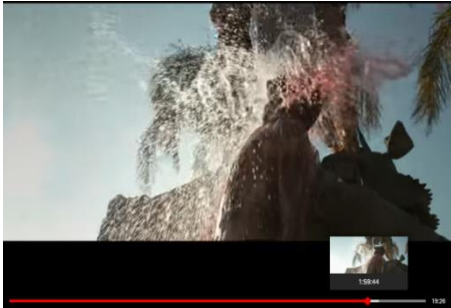


5



✓

✓

✓

6		✓	✓	✓
7		✓	✓	✓
8		✓	✓	✓
9		✓	✓	✓
10	 <p data-bbox="443 1666 651 1697">He was the first conscientious objector to receive the Medal of Honor, America's highest award for courage under fire.</p>	✓	✓	✓

Based on the data above, Each of the scene that the researcher took as a sample of the research. All of the scene have their Dennotative, Connotative and Myth. So according to the data, the percentage rate of occurrences presented in the table below.

Table 3. Percentage occurrences of Hacksaw Ridge



No	Semiotic Type	Occurrences	Percentage
1	Dennotative	10	33,33%
2	Connotative	10	33,33%
3	Myth	10	33,33%

The calculation of the percentage of occurrences in the table above is calculated in the following way: $\frac{\text{Number of Occurrences}}{\text{Number of Scenes}} \times 100\%$

Letters From Iwo Jima Analysis

This part of section discussed the analysis of *Letters from Iwo Jima* to answer RQ 2 regarding on how the patriotism portrayed in this movie. The data analysis will be shown as the table picture below.

Table 4. Letters From Iwo Jima Analysis

No	Picture Taken	Connotative	Dennotative	Myth
1		✓	✓	✓
2		✓	✓	-e

3

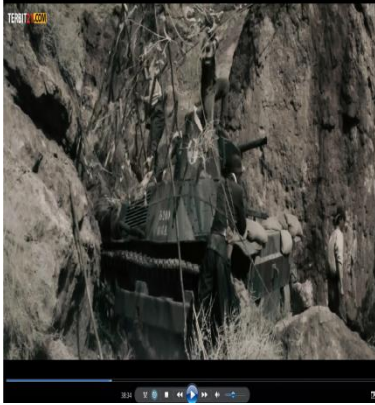


✓

✓

-

4



✓

✓

-

5



✓

✓

✓

6



✓

✓

✓





7



✓

✓

✓

8		✓	✓	✓
9		✓	✓	✓
10				
		✓	✓	✓

Based on the data above, each of the scene that the researcher took as a data of the research from *Letters from Iwo Jima*. All of the scene has their Denotative, Connotative except for Myth. So according to the data, the percentage rate of occurrences presented in the table below.

Table 5. Percentage occurrences of Letters from Iwo Jima

No	Semiotic Type	Occurrences	Percentage
1	Dennotative	10	37%
2	Connotative	10	37%
3	Myth	7	26%

The calculation of the percentage of occurrences in the table above is calculated in the following way :

$$\frac{\text{Number of Occurrences}}{\text{Number of Scenes}} \times 100\%$$

Discussion

The movie of Hacksaw Ridge and Letter from Jima is war genre movies that took place in the second of World War. The movies talk about the struggle in both Army on how to defend or claim the territory and showed to the audience both of them an act of Patriotism in a different way according to their culture. From both of the movies, the researcher found the symbols that represent an act of Patriotism such as, Medal of Honor, Soldier behavior during the battle, even the gun aiming towards the enemy.

The representation of Patriotism in this movie a quite unique, both of the movies represent different kind of Patriotism. The Hacksaw Ridge movie with their Constructive Patriotism and as for the Letters from Iwo Jima with their Blind Patriotism. An act of Patriotism was showed in this movie were mostly showed during the battle scene which is more likely to be easier to found about act of patriotism where the nations are fighting for their believe and fight for their country.

Whether its related or not regardless in how the movie end, the patriotism in this scene were mostly taken as a sample mostly by physical aspect due to the movie's scene were mostly showed about attacking and defending the territory from the enemy. This research data found around 57 data in total of both of the movies in symbolizing Denotative, Connotative and Myth. Each of the movie's data were shown as in the Findings.

CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis on semiotic of Patriotism by Roland Barthes theory, the following findings in chapter IV can be drawn to answer Research Questions in Chapter I. The first Research Question were answered in chapter IV. As stated, before by in Skarzynsky (2006) There are mainly two Patriotism which is blind and constructive patriotism. The following question is about on how Hacksaw Ridge patriotism portrayed in the movie. Based on the result, Hacksaw ridge movie can be categorized as a constructive patriotism due to the characteristic of the soldier who can retained their critics regardless on how a group activity carried out as long as it was beneficial. Regardless on how many differences the portrayal of the movies about patriotism, the movie still showed a great movie where both of the country fighting for their belief until the end.

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