

# Analysis of Film Functions as A Media to Support State Defense. Case Study of (Pasukan Garuda: I Leave My Heart in Lebanon)

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**Abstract.** This paper discusses the film "Pasukan Garuda: I Leave My Heart in Lebanon" in the particular view as a film that support state defense. This research was conducted in 2017 by using qualitative research methods to categorize its meanings which are referential meaning, explicit meaning, and implicit meaning and symptomatic meaning) and explains its meanings in relation with three film functions to support state defense, 1<sup>st</sup> function as soft power, 2<sup>nd</sup> function as propaganda and 3<sup>rd</sup> function as mass communication. The results of this study show many meanings about different scenes in this film that categorized as soft power function, propaganda function, and mass communication function, which will be explained in details in this article.

**Keywords:** Film, Defense, Soft power, Propaganda, Mass communication

## 1 Introduction

As stated in (1 pp. 353-357) that Film can be used to support the Indonesia Defense, which consists at least with 3 notable functions such as functions as Soft Power, as propaganda, and as mass communication. These 3 functions are the main functions that focused in this research. According to that functions, Pasukan Garuda : I Leave My Heart In Lebanon, is a film that fit to be defined as a film that serves to support the country's defense. The purpose of this research is to study the movie "Pasukan Garuda: I Leave My Heart In Lebanon". Hopefully the results of this research can encourage furthering studies on films that support national defense.

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**Fig. 1.** Pasukan Garuda: I Leave My Heart In Lebanon

## 2 Theoretical Background

In general, Indonesian Defense is focused on three matters. Those 3 matters are Indonesia state sovereignty, its territorial integrity, and the safety of the Indonesian society [3]. To supports those three general matters of Indonesian Defense, a film generally strengthens the defense of the state through its three functions. Which are as Soft Power Function, as Propaganda Function, and as Mass communication function.

The first function of a film that support state defense is Soft power, which is a power of its own that mainly measures through the attractiveness of a country. For example, it can be detected by promoting an interest in the culture of a country, as well as its policies, or ideas of political nuances.

Secondly the function of Propaganda, which it is so interconnected in film [4]. Sastropoetro mentions that film as a propaganda tool can greatly enhance the message's spreading capabilities. And lastly [4] the mass communication functions as a tool to address the film to a large number of people and has functions to entertain, inform, and educate its viewer.

In this research, the film is analyzed into several classifications of meanings, which make more elaborating explanation of the meanings of a film. More over there are at least 4 meanings which are the referential Meaning, explicit Meaning, and implicit meaning, Symptomatic Meaning) that considered in film analysis because the film can have various meanings [5].

|                | Behaviors                            | Primary Currencies                            | Government Policies  |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Military Power | coercion<br>deterrence<br>protection | threats<br>force                              | coercive diplomacy<br>war<br>alliance                          |
| Economic Power | inducement<br>coercion               | payments<br>sanctions                         | aid<br>bribes<br>sanctions                                     |
| Soft Power     | attraction<br>agenda setting         | values<br>culture<br>policies<br>institutions | public diplomacy<br>bilateral and<br>multilateral<br>diplomacy |

Three Types of Power

Fig. 2. Brief explanation of Soft Power in table Three Types of Power by Nye

### 3 Research Method

The qualitative method in this research is content analysis method. This content analysis method focusing its relevance to the three functions of film as a medium to support state defense which are through Soft power function, Propaganda function, and Mass communication function.

Moreover the content analysis method has steps process that according to Hsiu-Fang and Shannon (2005) in [7] are as following. Firstly, data or event is analyzed within a specified time slice. Secondly, its meanings are explained and put into a particular category. For example: power function, propaganda function, or mass communication function. And then the results are explained in detail and things like speech, symbols, events etc explained reinforcingly. Finally, all data that fall into one category are collected and the results are categorized into soft power function, propaganda function, and mass communication function.

### 4 Result and Discussion

The film “Pasukan Garuda: I Leave My Heart in Lebanon is released in theaters in Indonesia on December 15, 2016. The production house TB Silalahi Picture produces the film with Benni Setiawan as a director, a film director from Indonesia.



**Fig. 3.** The premiere of the Garuda Troopers: I Leave My Heart In Lebanon. Source: 2016, [2]

#### **4.1 Various meanings in the film Troops Garuda I Leave My Heart in Lebanon**

The details meanings of this film in different categorizes are explain as following. Firstly, Referential Meaning in this film shows that this film tells a story about Captain Satria, an Indonesian Army First Officer who served in United Nations peacekeeping company at Lebanon. In the length of the film, Capt. Satria must maintain a long distance relationship that fails at the end. Secondly, Explicit Meaning in this film show that the moral message in this film illustrates the example of a Indonesian soldier who is willing to sacrifice for the sake of the state. Thirdly, Implicit Meaning in this film shows meanings that buried in the movie which show problems that resulted from cultural clashes that carry various consequences on life each character in this movie. And finally, Symptomatic Meaning in this film shows that this film illustrates the importance of tolerance to various cultures and the importance of communication between couples, especially in the love relationship of Indonesian soldier who served far from his partner.

#### **4.2 Analysis of soft power function of this film**

Soft power function in this film is displayed through the depiction of the attractiveness of Indonesia as its culture that becomes its own strength. Related matters can be described as follows. Firstly, The Role models of the involvement of Indonesian National Army in the UN Peacekeeping Forces. Secondly, The Indonesian soldier has friendly and gentleman manner. Thirdly, The Indonesian National Army is diligent in practicing. Fourthly, The Indonesian National Army also does not forget the unique roots of Indonesian culture. And lastly, The Indonesian National Army is a religious man.

This film shows to the audience about Indoonesia Contingent in UN Peacekeeping Mission, and aims to grow love and pride to the TNI. Another similar example is the film Act of Valor which also a movie about military that shows to audience about the mythical picture of Navy Seal in its campaign on war against terrorism [8]. Moreover, this film shows the role model of the Indonesian National Army soldiers. After that it also shown in this film that TNI soldiers always shows professionalism in performing tasks. No doubt the film Pasukan Garuda try to promote Indonesian military. Clear attempts to make military popular through Hollywood's films are already quite common in the USA at year 1980 [9].

The other important aspects of soft power are the culture uniqueness. In this film, TNI Soldiers promote Indonesian culture to help local people understand Indonesia art and culture. There is no doubt that film has the ability to influence civilian and military members perception [10]. There is a view that Indonesia should optimize its role to enhance its

participation in the UN Peace Keeping Operation as an instrument of independent and active foreign policy [11].



**Fig. 4.** Capt. Satria (Rio Dewanto) introduces Javanese leather puppet “wayang golek” to Salma, (2).

### 4.3 Analysis of the Propaganda function of this film

The propaganda function of this film is to spreading messages about attitudes, views and whims of TNI soldiers as peacekeeping force in Lebanon, which described in this film such as. Firstly, to keep the good name of TNI. Secondly, Tight bond of brotherhood between Indonesian Soldiers. Thirdly, the recognition to TNI for its warmth and good manner. Fourthly, A Soldier of TNI puts the task above personal interests. And lastly, Promoting World Peace

This film emphasizes the message to maintain the good name of TNI as an effort to get world recognition to the Indonesian government and the TNI. There is also a scene where Indonesian soldiers visit the Lebanese army post to celebrate the anniversary of the Lebanese army, which was then welcomed. This can give a sense of pride of recognition to the Indonesian soldiers. Leonard C. Sabastian mentions that there are at least three reasons why Indonesia go to Lebanon which are: to raise its international profile, to diminish the impact of hardline views, and to improve TNI Professionalism [12].

This film reinforces the message of how important a soldier is to prioritize his duties more than anything. In reality every TNI soldier is mandated to prioritize the duties in order to improve community resilience and national resilience. More Over the film also emphasizes the spirit of world peace. There is no doubt that Indonesia’s active role in contributing to the maintenance of world peace is part of its constitutional responsibility, because it is enshrined in the Indonesian’s Preamble of the 1945 Constitution [13].



**Fig. 5.** Scene about friendship between Indonesia Soldiers with Lebanese soldiers, (2)

#### **4. 4 Analysis function as a mass communication media of this film.**

This film contains several themes that are a mixture of entertainment, information, news, and education that are categorized as following. Firstly, Information about involvement of TNI as UN Peacekeepers. Secondly, Entertainment in form Romantic drama and action. Thirdly, Entertainment and promotion of tourism in Lebanon. And lastly, Education to promote love to homeland

The film gives brief information about Indonesian soldiers in UN peacekeepers. As comparison, the movie the Siege of Jadotville proves that the story about romantic drama of UN Peacekeepers that nominated as best film in 2017 Irish film and television awards [14]. Beside romantic drama that ends sad with a separation, this film also features an action atmosphere through conflict scene in Lebanon although the tension is not the main thing because most of the stories are heavily doted on the drama romance. Moreover, this film shows tendency to promote tourism in Lebanon. Some research states that film can have a positive impact on the local tourism location [15], [16], [17]. In the end this film features the devotion from Capt. Satria as soldier that upholds the professionalism of a soldier.



**Fig. 6.** Dramatic scene between Capt. Satria and his beloved fiance Diah

## **5. Conclusions and Suggestions**

### **5.1 Conclusions**

Pasukan Garuda: I Leave My Heart in Lebanon meets all of aspects of film functions in support of state defense. This film can be categorized as a film that serves as entertainment, information and education to the community with embeded positive propaganda messages to the community while displaying the Soft power from Indonesia, especially the Indonesian National Armed Forces institution. In the USA there is no doubt that films are used to popularized militarism in the popular culture [18], [19], [20], [21]. This film displays a combination of the 3 functions of film to support state defense and delivers a clear message to its Indonesian audience, that can influence audience to support Indonesia state defense.

### **5.2 Suggestions**

More films such “Pasukan Garuda: I Leave My Heart in Lebanon” are increasingly needed by society because they have good benefits to the community as entertainment and also to support state defense. Therefore, the quantity and also quality of films that support state defense needs to be increased filled with other actual and interesting defense themes. There are so many example technology themes in war movie such as robot, drone, and cyberwar [22]. There is also important to be considered that a succesfull film must also get many critical

acclaims from the viewer, and film society. Moreover, further studies are needed to find elaborate findings about this film in its artistic aspect to value its successful acceptance in Indonesian film viewer. There are also studies that views the importance connections between film making and its economical success [23].

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