

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Study

We may have different languages, religions, and different colored skin but we all belong to one human race. Humans must be born and raised in different backgrounds. It comes from cultures, tribes, languages, and all kinds of things. These distinctions can have an impact on social, political, and economic relationships. When these differences are not managed properly, conflict, incomprehension, discrimination, and intolerance between ethnic and even religious groups can arise. The entry of foreign cultures leads to the emergence of a mixture of cultures within a community or group called multicultural. This condition makes each community have a different view of the world's realities, which may trigger social tensions and misunderstandings among groups. To maintain peace and harmony, every individual is expected to be able to respect and appreciate culture.

In general, culture can be understood as a way of life believed by a group or social community that has evolved and been passed down from generation to generation to the present. Culture is general and specific. General itself means where every human being has a culture, while specific means every culture in the group. Culture can also be seen as a symbol that indicates the identity of a particular society, whether it is something verbal or non-verbal, it can also be through a special language that can only be understood by the society itself. Culture is essentially an adaptive process that helps a population establish positive relationships with its environment so that each member makes every effort to live and pass on their genes to future generations.

However, the world is home to thousands of cultures. It means every community is different. Simply put, Eastern culture is different from Western culture. For instance, the Indonesian language is different from the American language, and as well the Indian religion differs from the French. Cultural differences are one aspect of the life of multicultural societies that represent how diverse the way people think, dress, speak, socialize, and so on.

Cultural diversity is a condition in a multicultural society where, within a community, there is more than one characteristic that distinguishes one from the other. Diversity can also be a benchmark for identifying where a person comes from. However, sometimes diversity issues might cause misunderstandings if we take them for granted. Conflicts occur because a multicultural society contains various interests, institutions, organizations, and social classes that do not always have similar and harmonic interests (Zarbaliyev, 2017, p. 8). It might create prejudice and stereotypes, or it could be a majority and a minority issue that could turn into a conflict. The situations like this need to be understood in the context of social life.

Multiculturalism is a term used to describe a view of the variety of life that emphasizes acceptance of diversity; and differences. Understanding and appreciating the diversity of cultures and languages can help cultivate an attitude of mutual respect and appreciation for differences. Every society has its own culture. Certain cultures are similar, different, and even contradictory. Sometimes, we have different perceptions of other cultures. It normally happens when people have different perceptions which could be positive or even negative perceptions that might come from many aspects such as the behavior, customs, ways of thinking, values, and ideas of other people who come from other cultures.

The issue of multiculturalism, such as race, ethnicity, and beliefs, has attracted attention to this day because the term multiculturalism not only describes the diversity of social groups but also encourages every human to be able to accept and appreciate differences or diversity while indirectly giving protection to existing minorities or other cultures. Multiculturalism is a term that explains that social societies are diverse and plural and acknowledges that this diversity is accepted. Community cohesion is characterized by a combination of different forms of differences so that we can live together. It is anticipated that planned coexistence will help society deal with the effects of persistent social problems like conflict.

In the development of literary works, one of the creative arts besides novels, poetry, short stories, and dramas is film. According to Sumardjo (1997), literature is a human personal expression in the form of experiences, thoughts, feelings, ideas, enthusiasm, and belief in the form of concrete images that evoke enchantment with language tools

(Sholihah, 2021, p. 58). Film is a piece of work consisting of a literary aspect, called a scenario. However, with today's technological developments, someone can convey thoughts, ideas, or work through visual media. Film as a medium can be enjoyed more actively. It is because film is a more direct sensory experience. After all, besides verbal language, there is also color, movement, and sound.

Directed by Lasse Hallstrom, *The Hundred-Foot Journey* (2014) tells about an Indian family who decided to move and live in a new place far away from their hometown, which is in France. The decision to move was caused by an accident that happened to them, which made their house and all the things they had burned down by the fire, and the worst thing that they never expected to happen was that the mother's family also died. After all, they moved to France because they also wanted to try their luck by building an Indian restaurant there.

However, it is not going as well as expected. Kadam's family meets Madam Mallory and some of her workers in a restaurant. This happened because, as the film has shown, Kadam's restaurant is built not too far from Madam's Mallory restaurant. Madam Mallory seems not to be respectful to them and considers them nothing. She does not like them, from head to toe, if it is saying. She is too mean to them by judging their restaurant; that is not what a restaurant looks like. She was angry when Kadam's family played Indian music by saying, "*If your food is anything like your music, I suggest you turn it down.*" She insulted what they had inside their restaurant. All she does is considered disrespectful behavior to them. But, as the film goes it slowly shows how Madam Mallory and others are changing. After all the conflicts, she starts aware and accepts them even she asks badly papa Kadam to let his son working in her restaurant. Papa Kadam lets his son work with her in a French restaurant and surprisingly because of Hassan, her restaurant is getting two stars which means it is good. Finally, Hassan became a professional chef and famous around the world. In the end, it shows that their relationship is getting close. They feel happy, safe, and peaceful at the same time.

Multiculturalism is interesting to discuss because, in its meaning, multiculturalism is a system of beliefs and behaviors that recognizes, respects, acknowledges, values, and encourages the presence of all diverse groups (Rosado, 1996, p. 2). This means that it is very important to accept the differences in cultures, backgrounds, and lifestyles in each

certain society. Simply put, accepting other cultures will make each other feel safe and experience living in various experiences and different backgrounds. Because there are millions of people in the world, we, as a society, cannot ignore the distinctions. A society does not reject the culture of others but it is willing to listen, see, dialogue, and, in the end, possibly accept the culture of the other without compromising its own (Reuven Rivlin, 1939). By analyzing multiculturalism, society will realize how important it is to accept and appreciate differences.

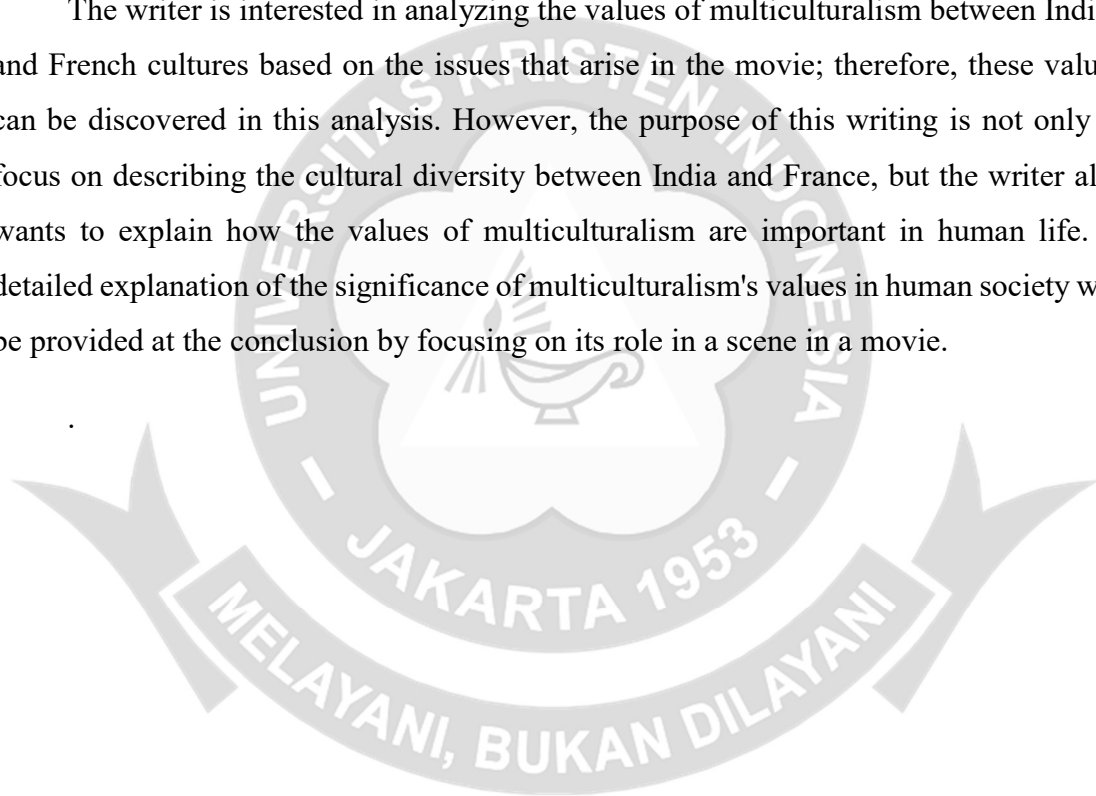
Multicultural and multiculturalism are closely related. Multicultural refers to conditions in societies that vary based on religion, culture, language, lifestyle, and others, while multiculturalism is a term that emphasizes acceptance of the existence of diversity or differences in society. As a society that lives coexist, multiculturalism is crucial in encouraging every human being to become aware of cultural differences and diversity so as to directly cultivate understanding and being able to appreciate and accept other cultures. Meanwhile, if we don't have this awareness then it might be caused division and conflict easily.

Mutual respect is one of the values of multiculturalism (Tilaar, 2004). This is needed for a society that consists of cultural diversity to be able to adapt and interact well. This value refers to accepting differences in a respectful manner based on the diversity of opinions and cultural backgrounds. In the case of Indians and French, they need to respect each other to accept the difference for example in their clothes. When Indians wear their traditional clothes in France's environment, it means they are different and might be different in French eyes because they have never seen them before. To give a good response, the French need to respect whatever the Indian's clothes look like. Whether it is something that they think is new or weird, they have to respect them to give them space and make Indians feel accepted in their place. Appreciating differences will create peace and comfort together. There will be no hostility or insulting behavior because we respect and provide a place for other people to live, even if they come from a different group.

Multicultural means different; it refers to cultural diversity, religion, or differences in elements of other cultural values that can be seen in everyday life. "They are found in a city who live together but have different origins, religions, languages, and other aspects of distinct cultures" (Clyne and Jupp, 2011, p. xiii). Depicting the lives of these two

cultures living in an environment shows how diverse and different they are, whether from the way they dress every day, their appearance, lifestyle, food, or even the concept of their houses. For instance, India has the characteristic of using Hindu symbols to decorate theirs, or in daily life, they usually wear India traditional clothes, whereas France represents a European lifestyle by wearing classic or formal dresses, and the design of their houses tends to be big and magnificent, as shown by the film itself. However, that doesn't mean they can't coexist; the film tries to show that even though India and France are different in cultural ways, they can live together by accepting each other's differences.

The writer is interested in analyzing the values of multiculturalism between Indian and French cultures based on the issues that arise in the movie; therefore, these values can be discovered in this analysis. However, the purpose of this writing is not only to focus on describing the cultural diversity between India and France, but the writer also wants to explain how the values of multiculturalism are important in human life. A detailed explanation of the significance of multiculturalism's values in human society will be provided at the conclusion by focusing on its role in a scene in a movie.



1.2. Statement of the Problem

Based on the background above, the writer will analyze the problems in this study including:

1. How does the film show the differences between Indian and French cultures in *The Hundred-Foot Journey* (2014)?
2. What are the values of multiculturalism portrayed in the film?
3. What are the impacts of multiculturalism as shown in the film?

1.3. Purpose of the Study

The intended purposes of this study are:

1. To explain how the film shows the differences between Indian culture and French culture,
2. To explain the values of multiculturalism are portrayed in the film,
3. To explain the impacts of multiculturalism as shown in the film.

1.4. Significance of the Study

This research is expected to provide an understanding and knowledge as well as a reference for further research related to multiculturalism topics by using film, especially to relate the values of multiculturalism that can be found through film scenes by using multiculturalism theory. By knowing the values of multiculturalism, this research is supposed to help the readers relate what happened in the film to the reality of the social environment.

1.5. Methodology

In conducting this research, the writer used the descriptive qualitative method. The source of this research is *The Hundred-Foot Journey* (2014) film by Lasse Hallstrom. The references for the data analysis are taken from materials found in books and journals. Analyzing data is conducted by finding the scenes in the film that described multiculturalism between India culture and French cultures, after that will be describing each value of multiculturalism that can be found through the scenes of the film by using

the theory and then finding some statements in the book or journals that related to the values' meaning in order to support the analysis from the writer. At the end, the writer will elaborate and explain the impacts of multiculturalism by seeing the changing behavior from the characters and how their relations after by living and coexisting together.

1.6. Scope and Limitation of the Study

The writer focuses only on discussing multiculturalism in the film *The Hundred-Foot Journey* 2014 by using the values of multiculturalism theory proposed by Tilaar (2004), such as diversity, mutual understanding, mutual trust, mutual respect, being open-minded, appreciation, and interdependence. The writer limited the analysis by focusing on two cultures: India and France that live in the same place. They are Kadam's family as an Indian: Papa Kadam, Hassan, Mansur, and his sister, and French includes Madame Mallory with some of her chefs in the restaurant: Marguerite and Jean who appeared in scenes. By showing in the film, the writer is able to analyze the multiculturalism aspects of the film *The Hundred-Foot Journey* by Lasse Hallström (2014).

1.7. Status of the Study

There are previous studies that use the same film found by the writer. In 2016 the title "Self-Esteem and Self-Actualization Needs Analysis of the Main Character in *The Hundred-Foot Journey* Film", is written by Sulthan (2016) discusses about what the main character needs for his life and how he fulfills his needs by using the hierarchy of needs theory by Abraham H. Maslow. The finding of this study shows that the main character cannot get perfection in his life when he has not fulfilled his needs yet. To make it happen, passion is one key to achieve all the needs (Sulthan, 2016, p.39).

Ita Muthia Syarifuddin (2017) also used the film in her research with the title "Ethnocentrism Shown in *The Hundred-Foot Journey* Movie." This research aims to know ethnocentrism's characteristics and consequences by using Sumner's and Gudykunst's Theories. The findings of this study are that ethnocentrism characteristics are loyalty, preference, contempt, and hostility (Syarifuddin, 2017, p.41).

Wahyuni (2017) also uses the same film as her research with the title "The Role of Food in Constructing Hasan's Identity in Steven Spielberg's *The Hundred-Foot Journey* Movie". This study is aimed to examine the role of food in constructing the identity of

Hasan as the main character in that film. By using social identity and diaspora as the main theoretical framework, this study concludes that food plays an important role in preserving and negotiating Hasan's cultural identity. It becomes a bridge between his local cultural identity and the culture he inhabits which lead to the openness of his new cultural identity.

Yustika (2021) with the title "The Analysis of Intercultural Competence in *The Hundred-Foot Journey* Movie Written by Steven Knight." This study was conducted through a deep analysis of the script of the movie that used document analysis which gathered two methods, content and thematic analysis. The finding of this study indicated that there were three components shown in the movie, they are attitude, knowledge, and skills. The characters also showed the outcome, internal and external, through communication and behavior in facing cross-cultural situation effectively and appropriately.

Compared to previous studies that have been found, the writer wants to analyze this film on a different topic that has never been analyzed before. The writer wants to analyze the multiculturalism issue of the film *The Hundred-Foot Journey 2014*. The writer considers this film because it contains the issue of multiculturalism represented by two different families from India and France. They become multicultural because, in their lives, they are different in terms of geography, food, clothes, house, language, and environment, which can be seen in every scene of this film. Because of the problems that happened in this film, the writer is interested in analyzing more about it.

1.8. Organization of the Study

This study consists of several chapters, each of which is explained as follows:

Chapter I is about the introduction that aims to give an understanding of this study, which can help the reader understand the background and purpose of choosing this topic before getting into the discussion. This chapter consists of several parts, such as the background of the study, statement of the problem, purpose, significance, methodology, scope and limitations, status, and organization of the study.

Chapter II focuses on a review of related literature, which aims to explain the theory and concept of the study as a guide in order to continue to the next chapter. This chapter

contains film as literature, which aims to give an understanding of how film and literature are related to each other in terms of elements and genre as well. Further, this chapter will explain multiculturalism in the film, such as the definition, values, and impacts of multiculturalism.

Chapter III contains the findings and discussion. This chapter would be the main focus of this study because it will explain the problems that the writer found in this film regarding the chosen topic. The writer will be able to relate every problem between film with the use of theory to complete the purpose of this study. This chapter will explain how multiculturalism can be found in the film, the values of multiculturalism, and the impacts of them.

Chapter IV is the conclusion. The writer will elaborate on and explain what findings were obtained from the analysis. In explaining, the given conclusion is a strong basis based on the data found by the writer.

