



## CHARACTERIZATION AND CULTURAL VALUES OF THE MAIN CHARACTERS OF THE FILM “LEAP YEAR” BY ANAND TUCKER

**Rika Virtianti, Ria Yuliasari**  
**Universitas Bina Sarana Informatika**  
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### *Abstract*

*The research aims to describe the cultural values contained in the film Leap Year and to describe the characterizations of the two main characters of the film. The research method used is descriptive qualitative to analyze the elements of cultural values and characterizations in this film. Analysis of cultural elements was carried out using the Koentjaraningrat theory, while characterization analysis was carried out using the Tasrif theory. Observations show that this film displays many cultural values in the form of belief systems, social systems, economic and livelihood systems, language and communication systems, as well as art systems, but there is no cultural element in the form of knowledge systems and technology systems. The observations also show that the characterization is carried out by the concept of physical descriptions, depiction of the way of thinking and awareness, reactions to an event, direct analysis from the author and other people's conversations about the characters, but there is no depiction of characterizations through environmental discussions.*

**Keywords:** characteristics, cultural values, main characters, film

### **Abstrak**

Penelitian bertujuan untuk menjabarkan nilai budaya yang terdapat dalam film Leap Year serta menggambarkan penokohan dari kedua tokoh utama film tersebut. Metode penelitian yang digunakan adalah deskriptif kualitatif untuk menganalisa unsur nilai budaya dan penokohan dalam film ini. Analisa unsur budaya dilakukan dengan menggunakan teori Koentjaraningrat, sedangkan analisa penokohan dilakukan dengan menggunakan teori Tasrif. Hasil pengamatan menunjukkan bahwa film ini menampilkan banyak nilai budaya dalam bentuk sistem kepercayaan, sistem kemasyarakatan, sistem ekonomi dan matapencarian, bahasa dan sistem komunikasi, juga sistem kesenian, namun tidak terdapat unsur budaya dalam bentuk sistem pengetahuan dan sistem teknologi. Hasil pengamatan juga menunjukkan bahwa penokohan dilakukan konsep deskripsi fisik, pelukisan jalan pikiran dan kesadaran, reaksi terhadap suatu peristiwa, analisis langsung langsung dari pengarang dan percakapan orang lain tentang tokoh, namun tidak terdapat penggambaran penokohan melalui diskusi lingkungan.

**Kata kunci:** penokohan, nilai budaya, tokoh utama, film

## I. INTRODUCTION

**E**njoying literary works is a form of entertainment that many people do. The variety of literary works ranging from poetry, rhymes, fairy tales, legends, short stories, novels to drama provides many choices for those who want to enjoy them. Everyone must have their own choice of what literary works they like the most. In a pandemic like this, where everyone is obliged to do most of their activities at home, makes literature becomes the main choice of entertainment.

Among all types of literary works that exist, it seems like drama or in this case films and novels are the most popular types of literary works. This is supported by the emergence of many applications for watching movies and reading novels online. It seems that almost everyone, especially young people, has at least one movie-watching or novel-reading application on their phones, or at the very least, has a home cable network to watch the latest movies through international television channels. Although its main character is entertainment, filmmakers do not always make films for the sole purpose of entertainment. Call it a documentary film which aims to provide an explanation of information or detailed

knowledge about a topic, or a biographical film that tells the life journey of a certain character or figure. This illustrates that films have other functions besides entertainment. Apart from having a function as entertainment, films can also have an educational, informative and even persuasive function.

The effects of a film are often extraordinary. Movies can make someone suddenly burst into tears, laugh out loud or even suddenly become interested in something new. The ability to influence is what causes filmmakers to insert messages or values that can be a lesson for the audience. For example, the film "Laskar Pelangi" which is very inspiring with its story about teachers and students who are always passionate about pursuing their dreams in all their limitations. Or the Hollywood film entitled "The Intern" which tells the story of a middle-aged man who should have enjoyed his retirement but can still be very productive, even his work is better than the work of his colleagues who are much younger. Films with storylines and characters that reflect what happens in real life are usually very popular with the audience. In addition to the audience feeling connected and immersed in the story, usually the audience can take lessons from what was experienced and felt by

the characters in the film. And when a film can touch its audience that deeply, it is possible that the story of the film can have an impact on the viewer's attitude.

The film genre that can often touch the audience deeply is usually drama. The story of a drama film that is usually inspired by or brings up things that happen in real life, or even tells what actually happened to someone, makes this film genre very popular and makes the audience can see themselves in the film. Drama filmmakers also usually insert values or messages that can be taken by the audience through the dialogue of the characters or the conflicts that occur in the characters. This makes a drama filmmakers have to work hard to build the characters in the film, because from the interactions between the characters in the film there is dialogue and conflict that makes the storyline of the film attractive to the audience and can bring the audience is immersed in the story.

The film "Leap Year" was chosen by researchers as the object of research with the consideration that although this film is packaged in a light comedy drama, this film has two main characters that are very interesting when combined because the two main characters in this film have different characters

because they come from different countries, cultures and life stories that have shaped their respective characters. Many of the acids of life that they have felt in their lives have finally shaped their characters and make these two main characters very interesting to watch. The differences in the country of origin and culture of the two main characters also make this film provide a lot of interesting information about the culture of the main character. These reasons make the researcher interested in conducting an in-depth analysis with the title "**CHARACTERIZATION AND CULTURAL VALUES OF THE MAIN CHARACTERS IN THE FILM**" LEAP YEAR "BY ANAND TUCKER.

## **II. THEORETICAL REVIEW**

According to Nurdiyantoro (2007: 165) "story characters are people who are shown in a narrative work or drama which readers interpret as having moral qualities and certain tendencies as expressed in speech and what is done in action." In other words, characters is an element that always exists in a literary work in the form of a narrative or drama where every word, attitude and action usually leads to a good or bad direction, so that the reader or the audience can conclude whether the character is a good or bad character.

According to Nurgiantoro (2007: 166) "characterization is a clear depiction of a person who is featured in a story." In other words, characterization is broader than a character because characterization includes details about the character such as how the character is and how it is placed in a story so that it is able to provide a clear picture to the reader.

According to Tasrif (1960: 18), there are seven ways to describe the characterization of characters in a literary work, namely (1) physical description, which describes the characteristics or descriptions of the physical characteristics of the characters in the story; (2) a portrayal of thought stream or conscious thought, namely describing the storyline that crosses the character's mind; (3) reaction to event, which describes how the character reacts to events in the story; (4) direct authentic analysis, namely conducting direct analysis of the character's character; (5) discussion of environment, which describes the condition of the surrounding environment of the figures; (6) reaction of others about the character, which describes how other characters view the main character; (7) conversation of other about character, which is a conversation by another character towards the main character,

so that it can give an impression to the main character.

The term culture according to several languages has different meanings. In English, culture is called culture which means cultivating, working, especially cultivating the land and farming. In terms of this meaning, culture as all human power and activities to cultivate and change nature. According to the Sanskrit language, culture is called budidhaya, the plural form of the word buddhi which means mind or reason. And in Latin, culture is called colere which means cultivating, working, especially regarding the land. Experts also have different definitions of culture.

According to Koentjaraningrat (2000: 181) "culture is a whole system of ideas, actions and human work in the context of community life which is made the property of humans themselves by learning." In other words, culture is a human thought obtained from a learning process which is manifested in the form of rules that are reflected in their attitudes and actions and all of which will regulate the lives of all people in a community environment.

Furthermore Koentjaraningrat (2015: 2) explains that there are seven elements of culture, namely (1) Religion and belief systems

which include all ideas, lessons, religious rules, sacred tales, history of figures, ceremonial procedures, and so on (2) The knowledge system is a set of elements related to how to know things that need to be known such as: the surrounding nature, the flora in which a particular community lives, fauna or animals, raw substances around it, the human body, human nature and behavior, space and time, (3) Technology and equipment systems. Manufacture of production tools, containers, weapons, fire-making tools, and so on, (4) Social systems which include kinship systems, political organizations, legal systems, marriage systems and so on, (5) Livelihood systems such as agriculture, animal husbandry, systems production, distribution systems between raw materials and foodstuffs, and so on, (6) Language as a medium of communication both oral and written, and (7) Art in the form of dance, fine arts and various folklore or literary works that are disseminated through oral or written communication. sung and sung.

### **III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

This type of research is descriptive analysis. This type of qualitative descriptive research is one of the research procedures that produces descriptive data in the form of words or writings and the behavior of people who are

observed (Bidgan and Taylor in Moleong, 2007).

The method used in this research is content analysis method, which is a method used to draw conclusions through an effort to find the characteristics of the message, and is carried out objectively and systematically (Holsti in Moleong, 2007: 220). This method is the method that is considered the most appropriate in examining the contents of a document. Therefore, this method is seen as the most appropriate method for this research because this study also analyzes documents in the form of manuscripts.

The data sources of this research are the manuscripts and images from the film entitled "Leap Year". A romantic comedy starring British actor Mathew Goode and American actress Amy Adams. The film was directed by Anand Tucker, a London-based director and producer. The film was released on January 8, 2010 and is 100 minutes long.

#### **Data Collection Technique**

The data collection technique is the stage in the research where the researcher collects data to be analyzed. The data in this study were collected using the observation and note method. The listening technique is the provision of data by listening to language use

data (Sudaryanto 1993: 133). And the note-taking technique is an advanced technique that is carried out when the researcher uses the listening technique, namely by systematically recording the data that has been obtained (Mahsun, 2012: 03).

The observation technique is the initial technique used by researchers, namely by watching films which are the object of research to get images as data to be analyzed. The researcher also reads the film script to collect data in the form of dialogue which is also the source of data for this research. Data in the form of dialogue will be recorded and grouped systematically.

### **Research Instrument**

The data analysis technique is the next step that the researcher takes after all the data has been collected and recorded. In line with the observation and note-taking techniques used in data collection techniques, data analysis was carried out in three stages, namely:

- a. Describe the entire data,
- b. Analyze and interpret the data that has been obtained and relate it to expert opinions regarding characterizations and cultural values to then draw conclusions, and
- c. Interpreting the form of data delivery, namely the characterization of the two

main characters from the film "Leap Year" and the cultural values contained in the film.

## **IV. RESEARCH RESULT**

### **Characterization of the Main Characters in the film "Leap Year" by Anand Tucker**

#### **Characterization Concept of Anna Brady**

NO	Characterization Concept	Number of occurrence	%
1	Portrayal of thought	4	33,4%
2	Direct authentic analysis	3	25%
3	Reaction to event	2	16,7%
4	Physical description	1	8,3%
5	Character's reaction toward other character	1	8,3%
6	Conversation of others about the character	1	8,3%
7	Discussion of environment	0	0%

Based on the data in the table above, the characterization of Anna Brady's character is mostly described by the concept of portrayal of thought, namely as much as 33.4%. The next two depiction concepts are the author's direct analysis concept by 25% and the character's reaction to an event by 16.7%. The concept of characterization with the same amount of 8.3% is found in three concepts, namely physical descriptions, character reactions to other characters, and conversations of other characters about the character in question. And there is one concept that was found at all, namely the concept of environmental discussion.

### Characterization Concept of Declan O'Calaghan

NO	Characterization Concept	Number of Occurance	%
1	Character's reaction toward other character	5	35,7%
2	Reaction to event	4	28,5%
3	Direct authentic analysis	2	14,2%
4	Physical description	1	7,2%
5	Portrayal of thought	1	7,2%
6	Conversation of others about the character	1	7,2%
7	Discussion of environment	0	0%

Based on the data in the table above, the characterization of Declan O'Calaghan's character is mostly described by the concept of character reactions to other characters. The next most characterization depiction is the concept of a character's reaction to an event at 28.5% and direct analysis from the author of 14.2%. The concept of physical descriptions, thoughts and conversations of other characters about the character in question is used in the same amount, namely 7.2%. And from the overall depiction of the Declan O'Calaghan characterization concept, there is no characterization that is illustrated by the concept of environmental discussion.

### Overall Characterization Concept

NO	Characterization Concept	Number of Occurance	%
1	Reaction to event	6	23,1%
2	Character's reaction toward other character	6	23,1%
3	Way of thinking	5	19,2%
4	Direct authentic analysis	5	19,2%

5	Physical description	2	7,7%
6	Conversation of others about the character	6	23,1%
7	Discussion of environment	0	0%

Overall, from the seven depiction concepts of Tasrif's characterizations, the characterization of the main character in the film "Leap Year" is only done through six concepts. Two concepts with the largest percentage of 23.1% are a character's reaction to an event and a character's reaction to another character. Two concepts with the second largest percentage of 19.2% are the way of thinking and direct analysis from the author. The next two concepts with the same percentage of 7.7% are physical descriptions and conversations of other characters about the character in question. There is one character depiction concept that is not used at all in this film so that the percentage is 0%, namely the concept of environmental discussion.

### Cultural Values of the Main Characters in the Film "Leap Year" by Anand Tucker

#### Main Characters Cultural Values

NO	Cultural Values	Number	%
1.	System of belief	4	31%
2.	Art	4	31%
3.	Language	2	15,2%
4.	Social system	2	15,2%
5.	Livelihood system	1	7,6%
6.	Knowledge system	0	0%
7.	System of technology	0	0%
TOTAL		13	100%

The findings from the observation of the film "Leap Year" can be concluded that the film is full of cultural values that are very interesting and can increase the knowledge of the audience. The findings above show that Ireland is a country that still upholds tradition, as evidenced by the tradition of applying on leap days or what is called the Leap Day Proposal which is still being carried out by women there. Apart from still carrying out traditions, Ireland is also quite similar to Indonesia where the people still believe in many myths passed down from generation to generation. One of the myths that are almost the same as the myths in Indonesia may be the myth of a black cat that brings bad luck. This film also shows that the Irish people still really love their arts, especially music and dance which can still be found performed at weddings. Fine art in the form of jewelry is also very beautiful and philosophical. For those who are interested in learning the differences between British English and American English, this film also provides a lot of vocabulary that can increase the audience's knowledge as well as vocabulary.

## **V. CONCLUSION**

### **The main character characterization in the film "Leap Year" by Anand Tucker**

Based on the descriptions in the previous chapter, the characterizations of the two main characters in Anand Tucker's "Leap Year" film are depicted using only six concepts based on Tasrif's theory, namely the concept of physical description, the way of thinking, the character's reaction to an event, direct analysis of the author, the reaction of the characters. against other figures and other figures' comments regarding the character in question. There is one characterization concept that is completely used in this film, namely the concept of environmental discussion.

Of the six characterization concepts used in this film, the most common were two, namely the character's reaction to an event and the character's reaction to another character, which was 23.1%. The two second terbanya concepts are the concept of thinking and direct analysis from the author, which is 19.2%. And the two concepts with the lowest percentage of 7.7% were found in the concept of physical descriptions and conversations of other characters about the character in question.

## **Cultural Values of the Main Characters in the Film “Leap Year” by Anand Tucker**

Although this film is packaged in the form of a romantic comedy drama with a light and entertaining story, this film is full of elements of knowledge, especially knowledge of Irish culture. Many things about culture in Ireland are told in this film. And the author believes that not many people know these cultural elements. And that makes this film really worth watching.

Of the seven cultural elements based on Koentjaraningrat theory, only five elements are contained in this film. The two elements with the highest percentage were the belief system and the arts at 31%. The second largest number of elements is the social system and language, which is 15.2%. Next is the cultural value associated with the livelihood system, which is 7.6%. And two cultural elements that are not contained in this film, namely the knowledge system and the technology system.

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