

STUDY ON THE PORTRAYAL OF ISLAM IN TAMIL CINEMA

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Abstract

India is one of the developing countries in the world. It was famous for its culture, tradition and their living style. India has much diversity through language, religious, culture, tradition and so on. But unity in diversity is the biggest advantage of it. In this situation, religion plays in a vital role in Indians life style. India is the birth place of four main religions Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism. According to 2001 census, the Hinduism is the largest religion and Islam placed as the second largest religion of India.

Keywords: Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, Industry, census, religion

Introduction

On the other hand, after the independence much religious communal conflicts were created between Hindus and Muslims communities. Subsequently the partition of India, India has faced large-scale violence attacks and communal tension between the Hindus and Muslim communities. Later Babri Masjid demolition, these conflict generate more extreme level violence that also lead to affect the secularism principle of the country. In this scenario, the extreme level of violence attack 9/11 incident happened by Al-Qaeda group in New York City would change the view of the entire world about the total Muslim community. It also affects the overall view of people against that particular community and it also happen in India. After this incident overall Muslim community get the negative identification. Aftermath 9/11 incident, the word “terrorists” was glued to Muslims (Khan and Bokhari, 2011).

A negative image of Islam by the media is the key reason to change the people mindset. The media always focused the religion negative identity in all kind of manner. The media are the key influencers of public opinion of Muslims, and have portrayed negative representations and stereotypes of these people with political and media agenda in mind (Christine Barton, 2010). Especially the cinema can played in a major role of presenting Islam in negative character. Many movies are released with Islamic Behavior based content in India after 1990's and more over it increased high-level after the 9/11 incident. In the past decades, the cinema shows stereotypically Muslims are bad people and they do against humanity. Stereotypes of Islam as fanatical, intolerant, militant, fundamentalist, misogynist and foreign have previously led to opposition of Mosque developments, and lie behind arson attacks and racist violence (Dunn, Klocker & Salabay, 2007, p. 569).

In this scenario, the media get new direction to portray the Islam community in some negative manner that is, Muslims are Terrorists, extremists, violent behavioral and the like manner. The media also expressed that Muslim men don't give their rights to the Muslim women. From this manner the media tries to show that Muslims are exposed to danger. It is the main reason to divert the thinking of the non-Muslim among the Islam community as a negative one.

Cinema is the Conscious Industry

Cinema is a popular medium which will be seen by all categories of the people. It continues to play an important role in leisure pattern of our society. The younger generation updates their looks by replicating the looks of the actors in movies. More over dialogues and songs of movies make deep impression as they get used in day today life. (Mohammed Tanveer). Cinema has become a powerful vehicle for culture, education, leisure and propaganda (Vikas Shah, 2011). Cinema is the way to transfer the message or stories to the mass level audience. It is an entertainment medium and exposes reality. It is the world's most complex, collaborative, and costly artistic expression. Films not only make the opinion but it also reshapes the opinions. Films reshape old trends, customs and traditions. If one idea prevails strongly in a society then it can be transmitted from one society to another (Khan and Bokhari). The direction, in which Film Industry and Cinema are moving today, has generated enormous social tension to which we have not been able to find appropriate solutions (Ruchi&Manju). The cinema had the responsibility to see how these representations have shaped public opinion of Islam. Bollywood is also playing an ample role to fuel the fire with regard to portraying Muslim image as terrorists.

Indian cinema is the traditional cinema when compared with other country's movie. So, many people around the world, they like to watch Indian movies. Most of the movies had been content of cultural, political, romance, thriller, sociological aspects. The Hindi mainstream cinema (Bollywood) is the major cinema industry which is liked by many people of India. Since the early 1920s the Bollywood cinema industry had been making films with Muslim characters. Such as Anarkali(1928), Noorjehan(1923), Humayun(1945), Shajahan(1946). These movies were producing with the historical concept about Muslim Kings. This trend was continued even after the independence of India with the film of BaijuBawra(1952), Anarkali(1953).

Since the early 1990s - coinciding with the Kashmir rebellion, the destruction of the Babri Masjid and its fallout - a transition has taken place in the portrayal of the Muslims. In the cinema and television of the 1990s, the Muslim 'terrorist' has increasingly appeared as a threat to India in keeping with the changing political climate and discourse of the country, Roja is the most accepted film of this genre. This film was amongst the first to show a symbiotic relation between Kashmir, Pakistan and Muslims (Purba Banerjee). The cinema had the responsibility to see how these representations have shaped public opinion

of Islam. Bollywood is also playing an ample role to fuel the fire with regard to portraying the Muslim image as terrorists.

The Mani Ratnam Movies are the first movie that emphasis Muslims in a negative character. Such as Roja, Bombay, Uyire. After the 9/11 it was increased. After the Bombay attack (2008) the cinema exposed the Muslim as villain character. Even commercial movie such as velayutham, Thuppaki also focus the Muslim religion in negative character. Most of the Tamil movies had been produced with the basic of real issue. In that situation, many films produced the real disaster. It creates the negative appeal on whole Muslims in Tamilnadu.

In the beginning stage, Tamil cinema portrayed the Muslim character in sense of comedy, genuine and innocent character. In this situation after the Babrimasj it demolition, the directors gives their interest to portray the Muslim character in the way of demolished the society like bomb blasting and like other. After 1990's the Muslim character always shown as the Pakistan supporters, terrorist, breach of unity to the society and they also shown to give the weapons to the anti-social person. Most of the action movie had the Muslim character in the negative role especially actor Arjun, Vijayakanth movies. Both these actors always had the Muslim negative character in their movie. The directors intentionally or not, they give the negative appeal on the Muslim community to the audience. They always give the representation of Muslim in the background of Pakistani.

This study aims to analyze the portrayal of Islam in Tamil Movies during the year 2008-2013.

Objectives of the Study

- To find out how the Muslims were portrayed in recent Tamil movies (2008 to 2013)
- To examine how Muslim character were stereotyped and prejudiced
- To measure the level of positive and negative portrayal of Muslim character in Tamil recent movies.

Methodology

Methodology adopted was content analysis. This research method was very suitable to analyze the portrayal of Islam in selected Tamil Movies. "Content analysis ... is a research technique that is based on measuring the amount of something (violence, negative portrayals of women, or whatever) in a representative sampling of some mass-mediated popular form of art" (p. 25) (Berger:1991). The Researcher selected 7 films released during the year 2008-2013 to analyze the stereotyped portrayal of Muslims as anti-nationals. The structured coding sheet was used for the content analysis data gathering by the researcher.

Theoretical Background

The theory adopted was both Structuralism and Framing theory. The Structuralism film theory emphasizes on how films convey meaning through the use of codes and

conventions not dissimilar to the way languages are used to construct meaning in communication and Framing explains as “selecting and highlighting some facets of events or issues, and making connections among them so as to promote a particular interpretation, evaluation, and/or solution (Entman, 2004).

Findings

The Following Tamil Movies were selected for this research purpose using the purposive sampling method. Viswaroopam (2013) - Tamil Spy Thriller Film, Anwar (2010) - Thriller Film, Thuppakki (2012) - Tamil action Thriller film, Velayutham (2011) - Tamil action masala Thriller film, Vaanam(2011) - Tamil drama film, Payanam(2011) - Indian drama Thriller film, Unnaipoloruvan(2009) - Tamil drama Thriller film

Viswapooram

In this movie, the Muslim characters are shown as giving importance to their Family. They are shown always as family bonded one. They control their family members and they restrict to obey the Islamic Norms. The top most negative character Omar shows his extreme affection for his family member. But he gives first preference to his religion and terrorist activity. It shows the level of negative thought of the Muslim leading character. He was trusted with the Nigerian suicide bomber to attend the suicide attack who was a young man and he sacrifices his life for Jihad. In Jihad, Most of the workers are youngsters. The leading Jihadi workers mostly used the youngsters to execute their plan against society. The negative characters show the development of the technological knowledge and well educated power. But they used their knowledge for the negative purpose. And they teach the technological knowledge to their children and test them how they get the idea about that. Such as Omar teaches about the weapon and other guns to his child even while he was a kid. And that child only permits to gaming with the weapons. The Muslim characters are always portrayed as religious fanatics. They show as economically bonded with the unity of their terrorist group. So, they satisfy their needs with their group. This movie shows the positive character also giving importance to his religion and not giving importance to his country. It shows in the level of interest for the motherland. It also creates the negative mindset about the Muslims and Islam religion. Movie shows that Muslims strictly follow “what religion says” in their life. They restrict women and they hide women from the society. They are not ready to follow the social convention. But they must obey their clothing convention. Such as most of the Muslims were wearing kurtha and kulla system. Women were forced to wear partha and scarf. Narcotics behavior had been followed by Muslim character in this movie. Party culture is also demonstrated in this movie. Muslim characters do activities against law and society. Lives of men were shown as dominant character. They expressed themselves as rulers of the society. They treated children and women as unimportant. Women’s lives are shown in critical background and they are dependent on the male. They get no rights, no space in their home and any other surrounding. Youngsters are shown as religious bond. Whatever they studied, it was used for

the negative purpose. Young Muslims are diverting and they are forced to work in Jihadi path. They changed them for their religious faith and they are willing to do the bombing, suicide attacks and other criminal activities for their religion. The lives of children are in very dangerous situation. The children are trained to do terrorist activity even in the stage of their childhood. They are practicing even their gaming only for the terror activities. The kid of the Omar had many dreams and he wants to become a doctor, but Omar tries to force his child to handling the weapons. Most of the Muslim are shown in Taliban terrorist tent and the Afghan border background.

However in this movie the Muslim character and the Muslim life style were linked with terrorism and other negative activities. In this movie, the Muslim children and the Muslim Youth are pressed to do the terrorist activity and the suicide attacks. This type of representation affects children's lives, men's lives, youth's lives. The women are shown as if they are depended on men. These types of scenes create an unequal trend in our society.

Character Framing

This movie had most of the Muslim characters as negative one and few Muslim characters (Leading role) showed as a positive role. The hero and the main characters are exposed in terrorist background. Most of the supportive Muslim characters are shown as negative one and they do extreme level of terrorist activity.

Physical Features of Muslim Characters

Most of Muslims had a normal weight; fair exposure, more height, and wearing scarf and follow Muslim's traditional kurthaculture dress. In this movie, Muslim characters are very curious to follow their religious dressing convention. The Muslim women forced to wear the scarf. In one scene, the Muslim group scolded the female doctor and told her to leave from their place because of the reason that she doesn't wear the scarf. These types of scenes explain the level of crucial behaviour of the Muslim male. It shows the dominant power of the Male. They treated female as servant of the male. All male Muslim characters had a fit body and they always wear the kurtha and kulla. Most of Muslim character had been in fair color and greater height. These physical features had been noted by the Muslim character in this Movie.

Beliefs, Feelings and Emotions, and Mindsets of the Muslim Characters

This viswaroopam movie shows Islamic Beliefs in positive way and the Muslims feeling/emotion and their mindset/attitudes are always shown in the negative way. Muslims are expressed in positive way in following their religion and its belief.

They had positive sense to follow seriously their religious beliefs and norms. But they used it to do the terrorist activity. They keep their prayer method every time. It shows the level of importance they give to prayer. But on other hand, it creates the negative

appeal on the Muslim religion. Their feelings/ emotions are always shown in negative way. Their Mindset/ Attitudes are also often negative.

Detailed Description of the Plot

The detailed description of the viswaroopam movie shows the negative appeal of the Muslims and their actions. It exposes the high level delinquency and different type of terrorist activities done by the Muslim community. Viswaroopam Movie is an Anti- Islamic Movie. Table 1.5 shows detailed explanation of the physical features of the Muslim character in this Movie. Internally they obey their religion and they love Jihad. That's why they love to die for Jihad and do terrorism. Muslim characters internally they had some positive emotions for their family and surrounding environment. But they made their character to violent type for Jihadi. All Muslim character gives importance to their religious practice. They think they are born to follow their religion and Jihad. Most of them get the negative emotions against American. It shows the political domination of the American on the Muslim countries and the conflicts between them. Muslims however do terrorist activities, they had family bonded emotions with them. In one scene, the Main negative character Omar also cries for his family members' death. This type of scenes expressed negative character. Some of the character gets positive appeal (Wiswan and some of his friends, the little boy, mamo). Some of the children were forced to practice terrorism they are brought up as a terrorist. Many characters get the negative appeal such as Omar, Salim and like characters. Full movie focused on the crime delinquency appeal of the Muslim characters against the American country. The relationship is one of the main things of the Muslim community. They always need to join and they always like to live in a union. In this movie the unity was shown within the Muslim community. In some place some type of conflicts were shown. In majority they had good relationship with the Muslim community. The good relationship had been with the Muslim and Non-Muslim character. Throughout the movie, all Muslim character bearing weapons and they played with the weapons. The economic levels of the Muslim characters are very low in this movie. Finally Arab, English and Tamil languages are used by the Muslim character in this movie.

Unnai pol Oruvan

Unnai pol oruvan movie were fully based on the outcome of the common man's anger. In this movie tries to show the common man anger how can create the impact on the society. In this movie the hero point out the incident of Coimbatore bomb blast and Meenambakkam airport blast. He tries to justify that incident and he speak to the favor of the criminals. He ordered the police commissioner to release 5 terrorist to be freed. Otherwise he blasts the public property. The terrorists three out of four, are shown in the image of Muslim religion. They focus by the perspective of Muslim names such as Abdullah, Inayadullah, Ahamadullah.

The analysis shows the background of the Muslim in Unnai pol Oruvan Film. This Movie also shows the Muslims are the negative one. This movie reflects the angriest of the normal human being with the terrorism. In this movie the Muslim people are not shown in the background of family scene. In one scene, the positive character Arif khan shows to control and slap his colleague for doing the illegal activity against Muslim girl. This scene shows the family banded nature of the Muslim character. The education level of the Muslim character is in good condition. Most of them got the best level of education and they invest their education to do anti-social activities. They give more importance to their religion and its faith. They keep up their dignity to religious norms. Their economic status is shown in normally but they are shown themselves that they are affected by the society. They don't follow or obey the social convention but they expressed themselves that they are changing as terrorist by the way of social convention. The clothing conventions are followed by some of them, if not strictly followed by all Muslim characters. Most of the Muslim had the habit of Narcotics. Muslim men are bonded with the terrorist activity in this movie. Muslim Children and women are the victims in this movie. The youngsters and their educational power are used negatively in this movie. It will get the chance to change the youngster's opinion on the Jihad group. The borders of Pakistan and the terrorist tent were shown in this movie which is the place to give training to the Jihadi workers.

Character Framing

This analysis shows the movie has most of the Muslim characters in negative one and some main Muslim character only shows as a positive one. Most of the Muslim characters are exposed in terrorist background. Negative characters are often shown on the basis of the religion. Most of the supportive Muslim characters are shown as negative one and they do the terrorist activity and bomb blasting activity.

Physical Features of Muslim Characters

The physical features of the Muslims in this Unnai pol Oruvan Movie reveals that all main characters and the supportive characters look like normal weight, more color, more height and some guys only wear the scarf and some guys only wear the Kurtha. Beliefs, Feelings and Emotions, and Mindsets of the Muslim Characters

In this movie their beliefs are shown positively and their feelings/emotions are also shown positively. Their Mindset/Attitudes is shown in negative manner. They show that they also had normal feelings and affection to their family. It was the reason to change their life path. They thought that India isn't their motherland. Because no one gives the equal chance to them in employment, education, and the other essential needs. So they started to practice Jihadi activities. This type of negative mindset occupies the negative Muslim characters in this movie. And they think if they want to join any job they have to change and sacrifice their religion and faith. Most of the terrorist are very attached and affectionate to their family members. This movie often evoked the negative emotion of the

Muslims and the positive emotions are shown only for minimum time. Arif Khan and the women character were shown positive and Abdullah, Inayadullah, Ahamadullah and other Jihad workers are shown as negative.

Detailed Description of the Plot

The detailed description of the Unnai pol Oruvan movie examines that the normal human being and his anger on the terrorist group was shown. This movie also shows the terrorists group behind the basic image of Muslim community. This movie shows majority level of the Muslims in the negative angle. The terrorism training and the gun shot, bomb blast and this type of activities are mainly focused by the director and also the name of the terrorist is focused extremely. Unnai pol oruvan Movie had the concept of Patriotism, Peace, and Nationalism. Internally they obey their religion and the social atmosphere changes their attitude towards Jihad. Most of them get the negative emotions on the Society and its culture. Most of the Muslim characters give importance to their family.

Thuppakki

Thuppakki is an Indian Tamil action thriller film. It is one of the commercial movies performed by the most leading actor Vijay. It gives equal amount of masala scenes of Tamil cinema. The Muslim character is showcased in only some scenes. But that scenes fully focused that the Muslim characters are the negative one or Anti-social worker.

The following analysis shows the background situations of the Muslim character in "Thuppakki" movie. The middle class family atmosphere was shown in the background of the Muslim characters. In their family, the women are shown as voiceless. Their life style was shown in a traditional way. It expressed their traditional religious identity. The Muslim men are proved that they are technologically well when compared to the normal mankind. Their education level was moderate. They have capable knowledge to access all technological devices. This movie focused on some part of the Muslim character. In that part, they follow their religious trend traditionally. Economically the Muslim characters are well sound. This movie also shows the as usual portrayal of Muslim, they are involved in terrorism by the influence of some sound Muslim group. The poverty is the main reason to convert the normal Muslim people to the Sleeper cells. They follow the tradition that was based on the Muslim country trend basics. In this movie, the Narcotics content are omitted by the director because it doesn't get the value in the film content. Most of the negative character is Youth. Muslim Youth are bonded with the terrorist activity in this movie. Muslim Children and women are the victims in this movie. The Bomb blasting scenes are often show in this movie

Character Framing

This analysis shows this movie has most of the Muslim characters in negative one. Most of the Muslim characters are exposed in terrorist background. Negative characters are

often shown in the basis of the religion. Most of the supportive Muslim character is shown as negative one and they do the terrorist activity and bomb blasting activity.

Physical features of Muslim Characters

This analysis reveals the physical features of the Muslim characters. All main characters and the supportive characters look like normal weight, more color, more height and some guys only wear the scarf and some guys only wear the Kurtha.

Beliefs, Feelings and Emotions, and Mindsets of the Muslim Characters

The beliefs, feelings, emotion and the mindsets of the Muslim character in this movie show their beliefs in negative way. Their Mindset/Attitudes were shown in negative manner. They show that they also had normal feelings and affection to their family. That was the reason to change their life path. The Poor innocent Muslims are brain washed by the terrorist group. They are controlled by the unknown person and the innocent Muslims are used as sleeper cells.

Detailed Description of the Plot

The detailed description of the Thuppakki movie reveals Commercial, Patriotism, Nationalism, and Social Justice Content. Most of them are very height, 2 people only wear kurtha, one person only wear cap, most of them are fair in colour. Internally they are like common man and they do the terrorist activity by the control of unknown person. They obey their religious practice and they follow their norms strictly. Most of them get the negative emotions on the Society and its culture. Most of the Muslim character gives the importance to their family. Most of the Muslims were portrayed in the negative way and they show as a negative thinker against the society. Terrorism was employed by Muslim people and their supportive sleeper cells such as Bomb blast, Gun shooting, fighting crucially. The good relationship was shown in between the Muslim characters and the Honourable relationship was shown in between both Muslim and Non-Muslim character. Whenever the Muslim characters are shown, they keep the weapon to themselves. Hindi, English and Tamil languages are used in this Movie.

Vaanam

This movie is one of the commercial movies. It follows multi narrative format. This examines the process of converting the good Muslim into the Bad terrorist by the society. The Hindu Muslim conflicts are shown in this movie at high level. This movie expressed that the social conflicts is the main reason to convert the good Muslim to the negative one. This movie shows Hinduism negative one which is the main reason to change the Muslim into a terrorist.

The Muslim character was shows in family background. Rahim and his family were shown as the main Muslim characters of this Movie. The educational level of them is well good. They are living in a traditional Muslim environment. They are shown as middle class level. They also were living like others in the society. But they are often identified by their

religion by the anti-Muslim officer Shivaram. He abuses them by the image of religion. Rahim and his brother show that they live in the peaceful environment. But after loss of Zara's twin unborn children, Rahim's brother gets disappointment with the society. Vaanam movie portrayed the Muslim men, women, and the Youth lives with the real world issues against them. It doesn't show the terrorist background because it portrays the background of why the Muslim becomes a terrorist in the real world.

Character Framing

Vaanam movie portrays the 3 main positive characters and 2 negative characters and other rest of the characters are shown negatively. Rahim, Zara and Rahim's brother are only shown as positively.

Physical features of Muslim Characters

This analysis shows the physical features of the Muslim character. All main characters and the supportive characters look like normal weight, fair in color some of them gets normal color, normal height and All the Muslim character wear the scarf and some guys only wear the Kurtha/Partha trend.

Beliefs, Feelings and Emotions, and Mindsets of the Muslim Characters

The beliefs, feelings, emotion and the mindsets of the Muslim character showed their beliefs in mostly positively and some of them get negatively. Their Mindset/Attitudes were shown as positive and some of them gets negative manner. They show that they also had normal feelings and affection to their family. It was the reason to change their life path. The family affection and social conflicts is the main reason to change the good one to the bad.

Detailed Description of the Plot

The detailed description of the Vaanam movie shows that this movie gets the concept of poverty, family relationship and social conflicts. The Internal nature of the Muslim character was shown positively. The beliefs/faith is shown in the way of positive manner. They had both positive and negative emotions. Some of the Muslim characters get the positive appeal and the some of the Muslim character has the negative appeal. In this movie, some few scenes only show the crime delinquency behavior of the Muslim character. The good relationship was shown in between the Muslim characters. But the controversy relationship was depicted between the Muslim and other community people. Weapon bearing situation was depicted in a few scenes. Middle class situation was shown in the background of the Muslim character. English and Tamil languages are used by the Muslim character in this movie.

Payanam

In this movie, the Muslims are portrayed as terrorist and they are doing violence against the innocent passengers and their life. They blackmail the government to release

the leader of the Terrorist group. The 5 terrorist used their religion for the Hijacking activity. They told that the terrorism is not the wrong path. It is a way of Holy war. This movie expressed the social conflicts of our society.

This interpretation shows the background situation of the Muslim characters in this movie. This Movie also shows the Muslims are the negative one. In this movie the some of the positive Muslim people are shown in the background of family bond. The education level of the Muslim character is good. Most of them got the best level of education and they invest their education to do anti-social activities. They give more importance to their religion and its faith. They do their dignity to the religious norms. Their economic statuses are shown normally but they are shown themselves that they are affected by the society. They don't follow or obey the social convention but they expressed themselves that they are changing as terrorist by the way of social convention. The clothing conventions are followed by some of them. It not strictly followed by all Muslim character. Muslim men are bonded with the terrorist activity in this movie. Muslim Children and women are the victims in this movie. The youngsters and their educational power are used negatively in this movie. It will get the chance to change the youngster's opinion on the Jihad group. They told that it is a holy war of their religion by Jihad. They blackmail the government with the 100 innocent lives. They told that they are given full security to the women and they respect women from their point of view.

Character Framing

This analysis shows this movie has most of the Muslim characters as negative one. Most of the Muslim characters are exposed in terrorist background. Negative characters are often shown on the basis of the religion image. Some of the supportive characters are only shows in the way of positive manner.

Physical features of Muslim Characters

The interpretation shows the physical features of the Muslim character. All main characters and the supportive characters look like normal weight, fair in colour some of them get normal colour, normal height and none of the Muslim character wear the scarf and some guys only wear the Partha trend only. Beliefs, Feelings and Emotions, and Mindsets of the Muslim Characters

The analysis shows the beliefs, feelings, emotion and the mindsets of the Muslim character. In this movie their beliefs are shown negatively. The feelings/emotions are shown positively in some scenes and most of the scenes it shows in the negative manner. Their Mindset/Attitudes were shown negative manner. They show that they also had normal feelings and affection to their family. But they give more importance to the Jihad. They consider that the sentiment is the first enemy of the Jihad workers.

Detailed Description of the Plot

The detailed description of the Muslim character in Payanam movie reveals that this movie had the hijacking concept. The internal characters of the Muslims are often shown negatively. Their beliefs/faith is always shown negatively. They had both positive and negative emotions. Some persons are shown as the family attached person. Some of the Muslim character only gets the positive appeal and the other characters are portrayed negative appeal. From the beginning to the end of the movie, the Muslim characters are shown that they are doing the Crime delinquency activity. The relationships between the Muslim characters are good and the relationships between the Muslim and Non-Muslim people are very honorable in this movie. They obey the norms of the other religious people. Throughout the movie, the Muslim characters are wearing weapons. The Middle class Muslim background is shown in the background of the Muslim character. The English, Tamil and the Hindi languages are used by the Muslim character in this movie.

Velayutham

Heroism is the basic of movie. The hero centric movie usually had the villain character and that character was destroyed by the hero these types of concept are mainly focused by this type of movie. In this scenario, the Velayutham movie focused the villain character on the basis of Religion. The negative Muslim character involved in terrorist attack such like bomb blasting and the like activity to create the fear to the people. The negative Muslim character told that terrorism is the main duty of the Muslim religion and the good Muslim must be involving the terrorism activity.

The background situation of the Muslim characters in this movie shows the Muslims are the negative one. In this movie none of the Muslim people are shown in the background of family bond. The education level of the Muslim character is good. They give more importance to their religion and its faith. They keep their dignity to the religious norms. Their economic statuses are shown in normally. They don't follow or obey the social convention but they are expressed themselves that they are changing as terrorist by the way of social convention. The clothing conventions are followed by all of the Muslim character. Muslim men are bonded with the terrorism activity in this movie. Muslim Children and women are the victims in this movie. They told that it is a holy war of their religion by Jihad. The Muslim youngsters are practiced by the Jihad workers. They read the Quran before killing the person. These types of scenes affect the Islamic norms high level.

Character Framing

The character framing strategies of the Velayutham Movie reveals that the movie portrays the one main positive characters and rest of them negative. The supportive characters are mostly shown negatively. One police man who had the name of ferozkhan is the only person in the positive manner. Physical features of Muslim Characters

The interpretation shows the physical features of the Muslim character. All main characters and the supportive characters look like normal weight, fair in color some of them gets normal color, normal height and All the Muslim character wear the scarf and all Muslim character wear the Kurtha/Partha trend. Beliefs, Feelings and Emotions, and Mindsets of the Muslim Characters

In this movie their beliefs are shown negatively. Their Mindset/Attitudes were shown in negative manner. The feelings/emotions are also shown negatively. No Muslim character is shown on the basis of the family bonded.

Detailed Description of the Plot

The analysis reveals the detailed descriptions of the Muslim characters shown in the Velayutham Movie. It is one of the commercial oriented movies. In this movie, the internal nature of the Muslim character is shown negatively. Their beliefs/faith is also shown negatively. They had both positive and negative emotions. None of the scenes shows the background of family bonded. Some characters are shown the positive manner and most of the characters are shown in the manner of negative appeal. All crime delinquency scenes are connected with the Muslim characters in this movie. The relationships between the Muslim characters are good and the relationships between the Muslim and Non-Muslim people are not too good. Weapon bearing situation is also portrayed in maximum scenes of this film. Middle class economical level is only shown in the background of the Muslim characters but they are technologically well sound in this movie. They are often involved with the crime activities against society such as bomb blasting. English, Tamil, Hindi and Arab were used by the Muslim characters in this film.

Anwar

The Anwar movie is one of the anti-Islamic movies. This movie fully focused on the conflicts and crime of the local Muslims in the society. Their anger and terrorism contacts and the criminal behaviour had the main focus of this movie. The Muslim characters are shown in traditional way of the society. Their living style, habits and other factors are shown in the natural way. But most of them are shown in the way of involving crime against the society. This reflects some real issues about the Islam. If any place any crime was happened by any one, the first doubttable persons are the Muslims. This movie is based on the real issue, Coimbatore bomb blasting.

This interprets is expressed the background situation of the Muslim characters in this movie. This Movie also shows the Muslims are the negative one. This movie the most of the Muslim people are shown in the background of family bond. The education level of the Muslim character is in good. In this movie the local crime activity involved by the local Muslim group. They are affected by the society by the image of religion. They give more importance to their religion and its faith. They do their dignity to the religious norms. Their economic statuses are shown in the middle class level but they are shown themselves that

they are affected by the society. They don't follow or obey the social convention but they are expressed themselves that they are changing as terrorist by the way of social convention. The clothing conventions are followed by all of them. Muslim men are bonded with the terrorist activity in this movie. Muslim Children and women are the depended one to the Muslim men in this movie. The Muslim women don't get any rights to the family. They get the weapons from the larger Islamic group of the Islamic countries.

Character Framing

This analysis expressed the character framing strategies of the Anwar Movie. Anwar movie portrays the equal number of positive and negative characters. The supportive characters are also getting the equal number of positive and negative aspects.

Physical features of Muslim Characters

The interpretations show the physical features of the Muslim character. All main characters and the supportive characters look like normal weight, fair in colour some of them gets normal colour, normal height and All the Muslim character wear the scarf and all Muslim character wear the Kurtha/Partha trend.

Beliefs, Feelings and Emotions, and Mindsets of the Muslim Characters

The analysis shows the beliefs, feelings, emotion and the mindsets of the Muslim character. In this movie their beliefs are shown positively and some of them get negatively. Their Mindset/Attitudes were shown as positive and some of them get negative manner. They show that they also had normal feelings and affection to their family. Some of them get the positive feelings/emotions and others get negative feelings/emotions.

Detailed Description of the Plot

The interpretation shows the detailed description of the Muslim character in Anwar movie. Anwar movie is an anti-Islamic movie. The internal characters of the Muslims are shown negatively. Their beliefs/faith is shown both positive and negatively. They had both positive and negative emotions on society. All the Muslim characters get much attached with their family. Some of them had got the positive appeal and the most of them get the negative appeal. All crime delinquency scenes are connected with the Muslim characters in this movie. The relationships between the Muslim characters are good and the relationships between the Muslim and Non-Muslim people are not too good. Weapon bearing situation is also portrayed in maximum scenes of this film. Middle class economical level is shown background of the Muslim characters but they are technologically well sound in this movie. They are often involved the local crime activities against society and the government. English, Tamil, Hindi and Arab were used by the Muslim characters in this film.

Findings

- This analysis shows the Muslim characters portrayed in the background of family oriented scenes in 5 out of 7 films (Viswaroopam, Thuppakki, Vaanam, Payanam, and Anwar)
- This analysis shows the Muslim character portrayed in educationally well sound particularly technological aspects.
- This analysis reveals the Muslim character portrayed in economically normal in the society in most of the films.
- Majority of Muslim character shows the image of religion basics in all these movies.
- The Vaanam and the Anwar movie only reveal the Muslim character in the civic life and the recreation focus.
- Thuppakki, Vaanam and Anwar movie only show the Muslim character in the basis of social convention.
- Mostly all the Muslim characters in these movies had the clothing convention.
- Most of the Muslim characters are shown with the Narcotics behavior even 4 out of 7 movies.
- No movie had the Muslim character that situated in stimulant law enforcement.
- All 7 movies had the focus on lives of men, women, children and the youth.
- 5 out of 7 movies had the scene of the Muslim character in the background of terrorism tent and the National border.

Depiction of Muslim character Framing

- In Viswaroopam film, the Muslim main character shows in equal level the positive and negative aspects. Supportive characters mostly depict negative aspects only.
- In Unnai pol Oruvan film, the Muslim main character shows equal level in positive and negative aspects. Supportive characters mostly depict negative aspects only.
- In Thuppakki film, none of the Muslim characters portrayed in the way of positive. All Muslim characters portrayed in negative aspects in this Movie.
- In Vaanam film, 3 main Muslim characters were shown in the positive way; 2 main Muslim characters shown in negative way. All supportive Muslim characters were shown in the way of negative aspects.
- In Payanam film, none of the Muslim main characters was shown in the way of positive aspects; 6 Muslim main characters were shown in the way of negative aspects. 3 supportive characters were only shown in the manner of positive aspects.
- In Velayutham film, only one Muslim main character was shown in the manner of positive; Most of the Muslim characters shown negative in this movie.
- In Anwar film, the Muslim main character shows in equal level in positive and negative aspects; The Muslim supportive character was shown in equal level in positive and negative aspects.

- From this analysis, the researcher identifies that the Muslim characters mostly depict in the manner of negative aspects. The negative aspects are much greater than the positive aspects of the Muslim character in these films.

Depiction of the Physical Features of Muslim Character

- From the analysis, all 7 movies had the Muslim character in Normal weight in their physical appearance.
- In all movies, the Muslim characters were fair in color.
- In 4 out of 7 movies, the Muslim character had normal height and in other 3 movies the Muslim character had more height.
- Most of the Movies, the scarf/ kulla culture is followed extremely by the Muslim characters.
- Most of the Movies, the Kurtha/ Partha culture is followed extremely by the Muslim characters.

From this result, the researcher identifies that the Muslim character was exposed with their traditional form when they are showing as the negative one. It gives the negative identity to the whole Muslim community.

Depiction of the Beliefs, Feelings and Emotions, and Mindsets of the Muslim Characters

- From the results the researcher identifies that most of the films show their beliefs negatively. Unnai pol oruvan, and Viswaroopam movie show their belief in positive manner. Vaanam and Anwar movie expressed their beliefs both positively and negatively. Velayutham and Thuppaki movie show their beliefs always negatively. These 2 movies portrayed the Muslim character as villain.
- The feelings/emotions were mostly shown always in a negative way. Unnai pol oruvan movie expressed that the Muslims were forced by the society to do the terrorist action. They need normal life like others. So they expressed some of positive feeling. Vaanam and Anwar movie had both positive and negative feelings/emotions. In this movie, the positive appeal takes higher part than the negative appeal of the Muslim character.
- The Mindset/Attitudes of the Muslim character was portrayed always negatively. Anwar and Vaanam movies had some exemption. These movies portrayed both that is positive and negative. These movies also expressed the innocent Muslim's expectation and their worries in the society.
- All movies indicate that the Muslim characters are very affectionate with their family. They were portrayed in the positive way and they always show in family bond. Both Vaanam and Anwar movie only show the positive and negative appearance of the Muslim character with their family. The Vaanam movie shows the attachment of the family is the main reason to create anger with the society.

From these findings, the researcher proved that the Beliefs, Feelings and Emotions, and Mindsets of the Muslim Characters are always shown in negative. And she analyzes in *Shanlax International Journal of Arts, Science & Humanities*

detail about what type of portrayal was used by these 7 movies about the Muslims people's character and appearance.

Detailed Analysis of the Muslim Character

- Most of the movies had the Anti-Islamic concept and about the social justice. Most of the movies had the negative content among the Muslim community. Film-makers are also influenced by their contemporary settings. Then later decades saw movies more on Muslim middle class or "Muslim social" whose subject was of common men's concerns. In the last two decades the political scenario in the shadow of Hindutva nationalism underwent radical experiences. The cinema as a medium of creative and social change got the impact and also it reflected the contemporary reality. One can argue that it only captured and translated what was already in the air into visual narrative. Or it can be also argued that it strengthens the existing stereotypes through partisan projection of Muslim identity rendering artistic justification (Shiraz Sheikh).
- Most of the films portray that the Muslim characters are internally good but they are forced to do the terrorism for their fanatic religious feelings. They give more importance to their religion than their life and anything in the world. In some movies they are converting themselves as a terrorist because of the impact of social conflicts. They believe terrorism is the only way to get the rights of their religion in this society. They called these activities are the holy war of their religion. This type of portrayal makes the negative impacts on the entire Muslim community in our society.
- All 7 movies mostly focused the Muslim characters, their beliefs, are all about their religion only. They don't care about anything else in the world.
- Most of the Muslim character portrayed that they had the negative emotions and feelings about the society and the other religion.
- Most of the Muslim characters were affectionate with their family. They give more importance to their family members. But they controlled the women and children and they give more restriction to them.
- Most of the movies, small number of Muslim characters only show in the manner of getting positive appeal and the most of the Muslim characters gets the negative appeal on the society.
- Most of the movies had the crime delinquency violence engaged by the Muslim characters with the physical appearance of the Muslim community.
- The relationship statuses between the Muslim communities were always shown as good. They had good relationship among the Muslim community.
- The relationship status between the Muslim community and the non-Muslim people were always shown as good. They had good relationship between the Muslim community people and other. But *Vaanam* and *Anwar* Movie had some exception.

Both of these movies had some conflicts between the Muslim and non-Muslim people.

- Most of the Muslim characters in these 7 movies were wearing weapons in most of the scenes.
- All 7 movies show the Muslim character as Middle class.
- Most of the Movies, the Muslim characters used Arab, English and the Tamil language in their speech.

Conclusion

All 7 movies fully based on the Islamic content which is very useful to analyze the portrayal of Islamic trend in Tamil cinema. After 2008, Tamil cinema also gets the terrorism point of view on the Muslim community people. From the Roja film to Viswaroopam movie also stereotypically represent the Muslim community related with terrorism. In Tamilnadu, Muslim community is one of the largest populous minority communities.

By the way of content analysis, the researcher proved that the 7 movies exposed the Muslim character negatively. The negative portrayal grew in time when numbers of Muslim youths were framed and made-up with false terror indication. Tamil movies mostly present Muslim character negatively. Tamil movies always presented that all terrorist are Muslim and their actions are always against innocent people and non-Muslim. The terrorist are mostly shown in the image of Islam and they dressed up in Muslim traditional clothes whenever they do terrorist activity. Muslim character was shown as bad people. More or less they showed as terrorist, traitor, cruel and violent type of people.

To conclude with the message, In India, the cinema is one of the major entertainment media. The cinema is the only source, it affects the entire trend. In this scenario, these types of stereotyped negative portrayal they give the chances for a negative impact on society. The film industry must be very careful, responsible, and conscious of our secularism principles. All minority communities are to be treated equally by the media in order to maintain the secularism of the country.

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