Social Action in the Movie Alkhallat+: Talcott Parson's Structural Functional Study

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Abstract

This research describes the results of the representation of social action in the film Alkhallat+ (2023) directed by Fahad Alammari and began airing on January 19, 2023 on Netflix. This research will provide an empirical understanding of the impact of actions taken in the social life of the community and contain the results of the representation of the form of social action. In the process of analyzing this research study, the researcher used the modern literary sociology approach of Talcott Parson’s study with data collection techniques using listening and recording techniques in the Alkhallat + movie. The analysis of qualitative data is carried out by revealing the forms of social action using the AGIL scheme concept theory and interpreting the impact of social action into the classification of representation values. The findings of the data analysis of this social action research are in the form of 3 representation values classified into three parts, namely the representation of love, discrimination, and solving problems with the law. This study opens new insights related to the form of representation of social action, and provides a broader view of the concept of the AGIL scheme in the study of literary sociology for writers who want to conduct similar research or add new findings.

Keywords: Alkhallat+ Movie (2023), Social action, Representation, AGIL Scheme

Introduction

Nowadays, movie platforms are starting to become the main place or alternative that people are most interested in to enjoy entertainment during leisure time or to get rid of boredom and boredom, this form of film by Martinus (2021) is categorized as the best media channel that offers various film genres, such as comedy, drama, romance, and horror genres (Martinus, 2021). Meanwhile, to be able to access these various genres, is to find a premium platform that contains selected movie models, such as Netflix streaming media (Situmeang, 2022).

Alkhallat+ is the first original Saudi Arabian film to air on Netflix featuring four themes of social action in the form of trickery and humor. Alkhallat+ was directed by Fahad Alammari and began airing on January 19, 2023 on Netflix. In addition, the interesting side of the Alkhallat+ film is that there are forms of social action that represent the value of love, discrimination, and settlement with the law. Of the four themes in this film, have different messages but in fact, show the same common thread, that all human actions bring up social action factors that dominate the impact of these social actions (Fauziah & Puspita, 2022).

According to Nurcahya (2021) the forms of social action in Talcott Parson’s perspective are contained in one core AGIL scheme, namely Adaptation: As an adjustment to environmental conditions, active changes in situations to other situations. Goal attainment: an important goal and action for individual and group achievement. Integration: the building of internal solidarity between members and functional systems.
Latency or maintenance of existing patterns (latent pattern maintenance): security balancing, maintenance of functional systems for external disturbances and challenges (Nurcahya, 2021).

From the AGIL scheme above, social action can form values that represent the results of actions taken by certain groups of people. In Meiferawati’s research (2023) that representation itself is also an important element that can reveal an idea, concept and thought in order to convey a message or meaning through the process of producing meaning using language, in this case showing that the representation can be captured and understood properly when describing through the correct choice of words and language (Meiferawati, 2023). The representation value obtained from this Alkhallat + movie research is divided into three parts, namely: 1). Representation of love; 2). Representation of discrimination; 3). Representation of solving problems with the law.

In connection with the research concept of the AGIL scheme, researchers found similar studies contained in previous research, such as Functionalism Analysis of High Child Marriage Rates (Nisa et al., 2024), PIESQ Learning Approach Perspective of AGIL Theory (Kardiana & Pratiwi, 2023), Cultivation of Character Education Examination of Talcott Parson's Functional Structure (Sulistiawati & Nasution, 2022), River Chief System Achieved River Pollution Control, AGIL Paradigm (Li et al., 2024), writing Teacher Scientific Work; AGIL Perspective (Mulyana et al., 2023), Preserving the Kenduri Sko Tradition Through Talcott Parson’s Structural Functionalism Perspective (Pritania & Sandora, 2024), and Social Change of Women Workers during the Pandemic; Talcott Parson's Perspective (Sarah, 2022).

In this case, researchers found similarities in some of the previous studies above, namely similarities in using the concept of the AGIL scheme theory from Talcott Parson's perspective. While the difference with previous studies is that this study uses the movie "Alkhallat+" directed by Fahad Alammari as the object of research. In addition, researchers will talk about the impact of social actions found in the film, so that later it can be classified according to various types of representation. Not only that, this study also contains the suitability of social action in films with the concept of AGIL scheme theory which is different from previous studies, precisely such as research that uses the concept of AGIL scheme to analyze social changes in people's lives, traditions, and research on education.

Based on the similarities and differences found in previous research, a form of gap is found in the form of the use of qualitative studies that are still little used against the AGIL scheme. This study serves as an addition to the findings on the discussion of social events studied using the AGIL scheme theory, with the main source of research data in the form of film objects. So research on films using literary sociology theory according to researchers is very important, especially modern literary sociology in order to increase knowledge about the impact of social action by society, which is then classified in the form of representation values and categorized in detail using the AGIL scheme concept (Little & Parsons, 1981).

The existence of this research aims to identify and analyze elements related to the representation of social actions (love, discrimination, problem solving with the law) that arise from the concept of AGIL scheme theory according to Talcott Parson in the film Alkhallat + as a real impact of every activity carried out by humans in their lives. While the benefits of this research are useful to add new views related to the form of representation of social action that arises from the concept of the AGIL scheme so that it can be applied by readers in real life. As well as increasing knowledge about literary research studies in the form of films studied with modern literary sociology theory,
where today films are considered a combination of works of art and literature, and are recognized as a form of literary work itself (Apyunita, 2023).

**Methods**

The approach used in this research is qualitative using descriptive methods (Leavy, 2022). Qualitative research is research that uses sentences or narratives descriptively of a phenomenon experienced by the research subject, namely in the form of behavior, perspectives, and so on (Moleong, 2016). Descriptive research is a study that contains information related to an event that occurs and is presented in the form of a description of words (Rarasati & Zawawi, 2024). Then the data obtained is described using Talcott Parson's social action theory. The primary data source in this research is the movie Alkhallat+ which was released in 2023 and directed by Fahad Alammari, this movie lasts 1 hour 57 minutes 03 seconds. Secondary data sources are taken from previous research in the form of articles, and books that discuss Talcott Parson's theoretical concepts.

The data collection technique in this study used the listening and note-taking technique in the movie Alkhallat+. First, researchers listened by watching the entire Alkhallat+ movie. Second, recording dialog or conversations that are considered in accordance with the results of the representation and the concept of the AGIL scheme. Third, take some footage from the movie. And finally, adding and correlating with previous relevant studies. The data analysis technique used is the Miles and Huberman qualitative analysis technique (Sri Annisa & Mailani, 2023). Namely data reduction by selecting and reducing the data that has been collected according to the value of the AGIL scheme representation (Adaptation, Goal Attainment, Integration, and Latent Pattern Maintenance). Then the presentation of data is done by presenting the data that has been reduced previously and displayed in the form of diagrams so that the author is easy to understand the data. And finally, drawing conclusions from the data that has been collected and then analyzed in accordance with the representation value and concept of the AGIL scheme (Parson, 1977; Sugiyono, 2018).

**Results**

**Representation of Social Action**

The data findings generated in the analysis of the Alkhallat+ Film are a form of representation of social action which includes three things, namely the representation of love, discrimination and solving problems with the law, as shown in the diagram below:
AGIL Scheme Concept of Social Action

The results of the analysis of the Alkhallat + Film using the concept of the AGIL scheme theory of social action, provide empirical findings according to 13 data, as condensed in the following diagram:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concept of AGIL Scheme</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adaptation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theme 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theme 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theme 4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Discussion

Social Action Representation

There are several social action values categorized into three aspects of value, namely the representation of love, discrimination, and solving problems with the law shown by the characters in the film Alkhallat + directed by Fahad Alammani. Such as family love for their children, children's love for their parents, wife's love for her husband and father's love for his son. In addition, the form of discrimination of superiors against subordinates, discrimination of women against friends and cheating husbands, and discrimination of fathers and children against their idols, and finally solving problems with the law in the crime of thieves who are imprisoned.

Representation of Love

Data 1

![Image](image)

(That is, they may ask for compensation for damage) (Alkhallat+, 1.36.47).

In the first theme in minute 1.36.47, there is a tire theft in one of the residential areas, one of the perpetrators of the tire theft was then caught and arrested in the car, his two friends followed him to the location of the party, they disguised themselves as part of the invited guests, by renting costumes that match the event, on the basis of complete cooperation, the thief appears to be trying to save a friend who is being detained by defending and claiming he was once a lawyer, his expression of seduction influenced the head of the family before finally the police and security forces came to check the secured perpetrator. This social action contains an element of representation of the love of friends that even though theft is a form of crime that is detrimental, they do not abandon each other but try to save each other (Alammani, 2023).
At minute 1.20.43 in the second theme, Sarah is seen working in a restaurant for her efforts to unite her mother and father who are about to divorce, she took the opportunity to make her family intact as before, what Sarah did was to book table 9 even though she had to cancel an important guest who had been prepared at the table by the main director, some staff had helped her in this plan, such as illegal bookings and Sarah’s business acts of falsifying data, orders, dishes, and embezzling other accessories. Even when her parents came to the place, Sarah did not want her mother to know that she was the mastermind behind this big plan. The social action above represents the love of a child for his parents who are on the verge of divorce, he tries his best to make his family whole again even though at the same time, the child must lose his new job (Alammari, 2023).

Riim is the wife of Fahad who is a character in the 3rd theme, at minute 36.43. Riim was crying next to Fahad’s corpse, cell phones, watches and other items belonging to the deceased were held by his wife, Fahad’s friend panicked because Fahad’s mistress called on the cell phone, finally he tried to hide the secret from Fahad’s wife by persuading her to give Fahad’s cell phone to his friend, after being given Riim felt an extraordinary irregularity that was hidden by those closest to Fahad and did not tell him anything, from this Riim began to investigate, when the collaboration between Fahad’s affair and friend was revealed, Riim was furious and hurt by this and killed both of them. Tindakan sosial di atas menunjukkan nilai representasi cinta seorang istri kepada suaminya, bahkan ketika setelah suaminya meninggal, ia berhasil membalaskan dendamnya dan membasmi masalah-masalah eksternal yang berkaitan dengan rumah tangganyanya (Alammari, 2023).
Theme 4 in the movie Alkhallat + minute 21.14 mentions, when after Su’ud ran away from the room because he met his idol, the father then looked for him since his son was not in his original place. This happened at minute 21.14, finally with all the efforts that could be done, Su’ud’s father found a bright spot by seeing his son enter the nightclub under the hotel, without thinking long the father went to the location and gave up 1,500,000 to be able to find his son in the forbidden place, even after entering the club, he refused to order alcohol and other prohibited things, because he was only determined to find his son who was missing that night. The social action above represents the love of a father for his son, he is willing to sacrifice anything for his son to be found again (Alammari, 2023).

Data 5

At minute 08.42 in the same theme, it shows how Su’ud was caught in the bathroom by his angry father, with a loud tone it turned out to invite security staff to reprimand him but the staff who came turned out to be fake staff who wanted to hurt the father, the father shouted for help to his son, Su’ud who knew his father was tortured, Su’ud ventured out of the bathroom and hit the fake staff’s head with an iron trash can until he fainted, Su’ud quickly pulled his father out of the bathroom. The existence of social action in theme 4, contains elements of representation of a child’s love for his father, even though he was not brave enough to face his father’s anger and outside conditions, he rushed to help his father when he heard his father was experiencing similar discrimination (Alammari, 2023).
Representation of Discrimination

Data 1

Discrimination occurs at minute 1.04.20 in theme 2, is when after Sarah carelessly burned the order bill, took the rose-shaped cake stand without permission, and took away another table’s order to give to her father and mother at table-9, manager Chooke was very angry with all the restaurant crew including when Sarah was suspected of doing all the embezzlement activities, and Sarah was yelled at, until finally fired from the restaurant where Sarah worked, the social action experienced by Sarah represented a form of discrimination from her superiors, before being expelled from her job, Sarah was yelled at and made as if she was happy and everything had been forgiven, but in fact she was dropped by being immediately fired as staff (Alammari, 2023).

Data 2

The third theme explains the murder by Riim of Fahad’s best friend who was the one who hid Fahad’s affair with a woman named Nur, the disclosure of the affair case occurred at minute 36.25, when her husband’s friend rushed to Nur’s residence and warned her not to contact Fahad again and blocked his number, there Riim stalked by coming to the location, when Fahad’s friend was still trying to cover up and make a fake voice and yelling response, Riim came out and showed her cell phone that the caller was Nur with the voice of her best friend, furiously Riim killed both of them that night which ended up praying The bodies were recorded as two men and one woman, the bodies were Fahad, his best friend and Nur his mistress, the social action carried out by a wife against her husband’s best friend and mistress, represents a form of discrimination because it contains revenge against both of them by eliminating or killing the mastermind of their external household problems (Alammari, 2023).
What are your requests? I’ll do it to clear it up and that’s it. (Alkhallat+, 05.20).

The occurrence of discrimination in theme 4 at minute 05.20, when Su’ud and his father managed to get out of the club, but met the wife who was also looking for both of them, coinciding with this, the idol who was drunk was threatened by Su’ud’s father to spread photos in the club earlier, because he was afraid and panicked, the idol immediately granted all requests on condition that he was not known to the public, the father immediately asked for the entrance fee to be charged to the idol, and asked him to take off the clothes and jackets worn to be used as hiding both of them so as not to be seen by the wife who was also looking for him. The social action in this fourth theme, represents the value of discrimination from the son and father to the idol, where they make a big threat to an innocent person, as well as forcing him to give whatever clothes he wears to give to these two people, with a sense of anxiety and his good name destroyed, the idol obeys all the orders of the father and son (Alammari, 2023).

Representation of Problem Solving with Law

Data 1

He ordered my arrest. - Yes, there is a warrant for your arrest. Come on. (Alkhallat+, 1.26.22).

The form of solving problems with the law is found in minute 1.26.22 of the first theme of this film, where the police officers parry all kinds of excuses from the thieves and ask for evidence of resistance but because the evidence of the defense of the thieves is fake and unacceptable, finally the three thieves with the tire theft case were secured by the police, the social action above contains elements of representation of solving problems with the law because the problem involves the law and the case is resolved by the police with the justice of the applicable law (Alammari, 2023).
Concept of AGIL Scheme Social Action

In this chapter, researchers try to re-explain the concept of the agile scheme of social action to categorize the social actions in the film. The first is adaptation, which is functional related to the adjustment of a society to the environment to meet its needs. Second, Goal Attainment is a functional related to goals and important actions to achieve these goals. Third, Integration includes functional requirements that build interdependence between its components in order to produce maximum work. Finally, Latent Pattern Maintenance (latency), is a functional form of maintenance of the system that has been running, such as maintaining and repairing if at any time there are threats or attacks from external parties (Ingrassia et al., 2020).

The first theme in the film Alkhallat+ tells the story of a large family who received an invitation to a noble wedding party, where the family almost canceled attending the wedding banquet invitation due to a group of thieves who had the aim of thwarting the plans of this large family to attend the party, finally with quite mature cooperation, a group of thieves began to act by stealing the tires of the car that would be used to travel. This is included in the AGIL concept, namely goal attainment and integration. It is Goal Attainment because there is an act of planned theft and integration is an important achievement of the group of people. In this case it is also in line with research conducted by Sarah (2022), that goal attainment is the achievement of certain goals and integration is unification or cooperation (Sarah, 2022).

The second theme in this film explains a family that is on the verge of divorce, in preventing this from happening, her child named Sarah makes great efforts in order to restore the integrity of her romantic family, attributed to Sarah who just worked at a restaurant, she took the opportunity to achieve her dreams for her family, namely by organizing a strategy as carefully as possible even though it was finally revealed too, Sarah experienced many unexpected things at the same time, thanks to her efforts she managed to restore the integrity and harmony of her family, but she had to lose her job at that time too. This is included in the concept of the AGIL scheme, namely adaptation, goal attainment, integration and latent pattern maintenance. It is adaptation because there is a form of adaptation to new jobs and problems that are correlated with new solutions, Goal Attainment from the existence of a big goal to restore the integrity of a family, and the form of latent pattern maintenance in cooperation or high solidarity towards solving this problem, and balancing the existence of disaster and luck together. Like previous research J. li (2024), who used the AGIL scheme as his research analysis knife, explained that adaptation, goal attainment, integration and latent pattern maintenance, including the AGIL paradigm which is the most representative multidimensional concept (Li et al., 2024).

The third theme in the movie Alkhallat +, shows the power of love from two couples named Riim and Fahad, even when Fahad was found dead, Riim experienced tremendous frustration, she continued to be beside her husband’s body, the items left behind were also on her, Fahad’s best friend who also accompanied Riim and the corpse saw the cell phone in the wife’s hand ringing repeatedly, he was worried that Fahad’s affair was trying to contact Fahad who had died, finally with the efforts of his friend, Riim was successfully persuaded while that Fahad still had business affairs and other work, and Riim believed and immediately gave the deceased’s cell phone to him, after the exposure of the concealment of Fahad’s affair with Nur, Riim finally felt that she was not respected as the wife of Fahad until her husband’s best friend betrayed Riim who held the status of a legal wife of the deceased, Riim began to be furious and took revenge by killing both of them, the end of the third theme story is, the funeral prayer is held by
praying for three bodies, namely the deceased Fahad, the male friend of her husband, and Nur who is her affair. This is included in the AGIL concept, namely adaptation, goal attainment, and integration. It is an adaptation because there is a wife’s adaptation to her newly deceased husband and to the case of infidelity, including goal attainment because there is a goal to dismantle and destroy external problems with her family, the existence of integration is mentioned in the form of cooperation in covering up the case of infidelity between the deceased’s best friend and his affair. This is in line with a previous study by Mulyana (2023) which explains that adaptation, goal attainment, and integration (balance). This theory is very important because it can classify every aspect of needs or arrangements (Mulyana et al., 2023).

The fourth theme of this Arabic movie contains a story about a complete family staying at a hotel, because the father has a shrewd nature in manipulation and does not want to lose, finally paying for the hotel room is only for him and his wife, their two children are included secretly so as not to pay anymore, at night the child complains of hunger and is still not allowed to leave by his father on the grounds that he is afraid that his two children will be expelled for not paying when entering, until the parents fell asleep, Su’ud saw his idol in the same hotel, Su’ud intended to take a picture with him but ended up having to fall into a forbidden place due to being forced by his idol, the father woke up and found out his son was not in the room, and immediately took action to rush to find Su’ud. The secret of entering his son secretly was revealed due to having to check CCTV one by one, also had to spend about 1500 real to be able to enter the forbidden area, and finally Su’ud was found in the club with many unknown people, the father was angry and forced Su’ud back to the room, by passing several obstacles, finally the two of them could get out of the place and get compensation for club entry fees from the idol. In addition, the idol also gave her clothes due to the father’s threat to spread photos of the night’s events. With this big threat, for the sake of the idol’s good name, he complied with everything Su’ud and his father asked for. This is included in the concept of the AGIL scheme of adaptation, goal attainment, integration, and latent pattern maintenance. It is adaptation because there is an adaptation to a new atmosphere that Su’ud and his father have never encountered, including goal attainment because there is a goal of solving problems from small to large, there is integration because there is a good form of cooperation between children and fathers in achieving common goals, and latent pattern maintenance because of all the preparations made by fathers and children when experiencing threatening and favorable situations. Closely related to the previous study by Nisa (2024), using the concept of the AGIL scheme which explains that the four of these functions affect the strategy and the value of the achievements obtained when achieving the goal itself (Nisa et al., 2024).

Conclusion
This study explains that films can also be studied using modern literary sociology theory, especially in the realm of social life using the concept of Talcott Parson’s AGIL scheme theory as a means to achieve effective research results, so that in this study, several data interpretations were found related to the classification of the value of representation of social actions carried out by the characters in the film. The resulting form of representation includes three parts, namely the representation of love, discrimination, and solving problems with the law. Similar to the context of the AGIL scheme, adaptation, goal attainment, integration and latent pattern maintenance are also social action preferences that are able to identify the representation results of
themes 1, 2, 3 and 4 more empirically. The data findings, in addition to showing
harmony with the theory used, also interpret the value of social action representation in
research on films, as a form of continuity from similar views.

With this research, the author hopes to be able to provide additional and
contribution to knowledge for further researchers, especially those who want to explain
the study of representation in literary works both novels and films using other literary
approaches.

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