

‘A Cultural Environment’ Impact Upon Autochthonous – A study through – A Film Studies – Via the Movie *Avatar*.

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Abstract- A cultural environment is a set of beliefs and tradition that are found to be common to everyone that is living within a certain population. Each society has its own culture and other forms of interaction between the members of the society. This paper traces the cultural environment impact upon the autochthonous Na’vi’s practice, customs and behaviours, language, habits, social structure and the culture of society which have great influence on the functioning of their activities and also focuses on the changes in cultural environment in Pandora and its impact on a race of sentient extraterrestrial humanoids who inhabit in the lush jungle moon of Pandora.

Keywords --- Culture, Environment changes, Social structure, Extraterrestrial, Humanoids.

Cultural environment is the activities of the human beings along with the relationship and with the environment they are living is called cultural environment. There are many advantages of the cultural environment, through the cultural environment the people sharing their views with one another, and thus proper solution of the problem can be ensured and made possible. The paper focuses how the cultural environment create impact upon autochthonous through film studies via the movie *Avatar*. This film signifies a new step in the industry, not just because of its high technology animation and the way it is mixed with real actors, but also because it shows the present condition of this sphere, we should allow it to happen in the life of autochthonous.

In the film *Avatar* an alien tribe on a distant globe fights to save their forest home from human invaders bent on mining the planet. The mining company has brought in ex-mariners for security and will stop at nothing, not even genocide, to secure the profits for its shareholders. Cameron portrayed the cultural environment setting of the planet Pandora the amazing picturization of the six- legged rhinos and massive flying indigenous people in his scientific epic fiction. The alien world of Pandora is based on our biological paradise- Earth. The wonders and struggles of *Avatar* are all around us, we just have to know where to look.

In the film the Na’vi’s are discharged as ‘blue monkeys’ and ‘savages’ by the corporate administrator. Both the corporation and their hired soldiers view the Na’vi as less human. In reality that is the way how some indigenous people are named as ‘confused savages’, ‘barbaric’, ‘second- class citizens’ and ‘ignorant’.

To the culture of the earth, Pandora is mysterious, primal and terrifying. Even from the orbit, the scope of flora present on the surface indicates a moon overflowing with life. One of the creatures on Pandora is the direhorse, a gray-skinned, hexapodal horse-like animal with the bioluminescent qualities that the Na'vi ride when hunting. The Na'vi also ride the mountain banshees, are large bird-like aerial predators that are native Pandora. They are used by the Na'vi for hunting from the air and travelling larger distance. Ikran are also used in battle, where the mount attacks its opponents from the air unlike the direhorse, however, the banshee will only bond with the one Na'vi in its life time

The trees and plant life of Pandora have formed electrochemical connection between their roots and effectively act as neurons, creating a moon-wide 'brain' that has achieved sentience, which is known to the Na'vi as Ewya. Pandora, despite almost as large as earth, is only a moon of the gas giant Polyphemus, which has thirteen other moons. However, due to the smaller size, its gravity is twenty percent less than Earth. Due to Pandora's lower gravity, most creatures are hexapods, although the Na'vi resemble humans and have only two legs. Pandora's wildlife also have bioluminescent qualities. Pandora can have two or even three moons in its sky at once.

Pandora is a treasure house of both living and non-living and also thrived with natural resources. It is the first celestial body to host intelligent sentient life forms away from Earth and it is also home to a plethora of diverse and spectacular species unlike anything ever speculated by humanity. It contains extremely rare superconducting mineral unobtainium. This mineral is worthy twenty million standard dollars per unrefined kilogram and twice that in its refined state. The mineral's superconductivity makes it a baffling scientific discovery.

This film presents the attacking thugs were a bunch of cold-hearted and insensitive corporate who would invest money in science, researching and cultural programs in order to win the hearts and minds of indigenous people living in sacred, untouched, primeval forest, of a balanced but fragile environment.

As a result of bizarre experiments, some of the humans become laboratory-mixed natives. The Avatars were like a new race, mixed individuals who are physically similar to the indigenous, but mentally more aware of certain things. They learn the spirituality and science of nature from the savages, and with time, they learn mining is not worth the price of such destruction. Then they become the protectors of natives, who using a mixture of knowledge, both human and Na'vi, eventually kick the invaders out of their land by actually killing most of them

This movie presented the different cultural environment of the humans and humanoids. The human world is clean, sterile and hygienic, the prevailing element is metal. The Pandora is a jungle, woods, populated, with the flora and fauna of the lush greens and vibrant colours that come to sparkle even at night, as the ground highlights where Na'vi feet tread even so lightly. Under the perspective of Cultural

environment both these humans and humanoids have lot of discrepancies between their values and cultural preferences. The earthly characters in the film value wealth and achievement, as evidence by their quest to know about the resources of their target land Pandora. On the other hand Na'vi's shares the same living space, and social differentiators can be seen in varying head gear and ritualistic markings. Wealth does not matter to the indigenous people.

The Na'vi sleep in hammocks in large groups for comfort and as warning system. They can commune with animals on their planet by literally plugging their braid into the creatures' nerve system. To become the warrior, Na'vi must tame and ride a flying creature known as Ikran. The Na'vi also use this neural bonding system called 'tsaheyle' to connect with a life partner, a bond that, when made, cannot be broken in the Na'vi's life time. This is parallel to human marriage.

Maturity and experiences are valued highly, on Pandora, there is no need for faith, because the deity is real, and everyone is part of it. The Na'vi way of life revolves around their religion, and the Home tree. Human visitors see the Na'vi as possessing a religion, which chief and possibly sole deity is generous goddesses known as Ewya. The Na'vi are able to physically connect to the Tree of Souls. Ewya is said to have a connection to all things Pandora.

The director James Cameron has painted the cultural differences between the paradise and Pandora. There is a scene, for example, where the hero Sully's Avatar gets attacked in the Pandora forest at night by a pack of what could be compared to wild dogs. In fact, this is where he and Neytiri meet, as she comes to his aid and helps kill at least one of the dogs. While Sully is proud of the achievement and happy to still be alive, no doubt, Neytiri considers the wider complication and make Sully aware that a life was taken, and that there can be no joy about the situation.

Another example would be the inviting pattern of both of these two cultures are entirely different from one another. It is in America habit to shake hands, most likely based on the notion of demonstrating that one does not have a weapon. The Na'vi greet each other by tripping their foreheads and saying the sentence 'I see you'. When Neytiri introduces Sully to her elders and he step forward to shake hands, his action misunderstood as an act of aggression. To know the culture of Na'vi is an essential one to the Avatar to connect with the indigenous people, for that purpose Sully's character gets all of three months to immerse himself in the Na'vi culture, to learn their ways, and find a solution. Avatar is learning the language from his personal coach and teacher in the tribe's experienced hunter, warrior, and his life partner Neytiri. This cultural learning plays a vital role in the development of the character of Avatar and made him to understand the cultural environment of the indigenous people.

While the film Avatar ends with the indigenous aliens securing their home from corporate and military invaders, in reality that outcome is rare often these conflicts drag on for decades with the indigenous tribes, despite best efforts, tragically losing their home and their culture and tradition attacked at the same time as their territory is knocked down.

Though Avatar is a fun, showy film that many may view as simple entertainment, the film clearly portrays the importance of cultural environment whether it may be the individual life, group, country, or inside any organization. If there is a gap between the people and they may not have the opportunity to communicate with another that the problem increased and sometimes cannot be possible to solve and it should be continued. It is important for all to understand the cultural environment in order to protect themselves from shame, embarrassment or the act of offending a stranger.

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