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Due Date

**Black Panther Movie Review**

The black panther is an American superhero film based on a character known as the black panther. Marvel Studios produced the movie in 2018. Directed by Ryan Cooler, the film represents various themes, most of which represent the African culture. Before the film black panther, many other superhero films have been produced; many of them tend to foster discrimination against people of color alongside inspiring gender stereotypes. The film black panther tends to place people of color at the center of its narrative. The film may not be the first film to have a black protagonist character, but it's arguably the first film to have its cast predominantly black characters. The film largely thematically engages pan-African identities. The film's narrative is unique in its way, encompassing an African king who dwells in the technologically advanced nation of Wakanda. The storyline is based on the present times, occasionally featuring Africa and the United States.

# Historical struggles are covered. T’Challa is the main protagonist in the film. Having inherited the throne, he is mandated with the role and abilities of the black panther, which is to protect the land. These roles represent most African cultures, whereby leadership was mainly inherited from one generation to another, with the most predominant function of a leader being to protect the land (Ryan 35:45 -37:35). In the film, T’Chilla performs a ritual that involves drinking a concoction made from a magical plant so that he could acquire superpowers. Essentially, such practices were more profound in African cultures. T’chilla is also aided in his leadership by the advanced technology of Wakanda. He utilizes reserves of the vibranium to manufacture weapons and gadgets that help in his leadership and advancement. In a nutshell, black panther, T’Chilla, is a true representation of a typical African man. Unlike other superheroes who are simply vigilantes who possess secrete identities, black panther is also involved in political and international issues. The fills depict a back panther as a character who learns how to become a superhero and rule a country. In the African context, heroism was mostly connected to leadership. The film is somewhat in direct contradiction with the American culture, where people of color are considered inferior to their white counterparts. Contrary to the prevailing stereotypes and perceptions against black people, the film has depicted the people of color as somewhat superior to their white counterparts. Racism is usually evident in some modern-day films, such as Disney's " Trapped in the Mouse House" (Jessica 7).

Colonialism and racism are critical historical aspects of our societies. The film, black panther, has embodied these historical issues in several ways. There are two distinctive antagonists in the movie, a white man and a black man, each of these antagonists holds differing ideologies concerning race and colonialism. Unlike other films that have racial conflict as their central theme, the white man in the film black panther has represented white identification without necessarily upstaging the black characters. Of the two antagonists, the white man represents the colonialist while the black antagonist represents a black man of Wakanda decency born and bred in America and whose traits are shaped by violence and under privilege. Their objective brings together both antagonists to steal traditional African Artifacts displayed in the museum. The white man stealing African artifacts represents western imperialism, where white people, particularly colonizers, perceived themselves as being entitled to African resources. This perception caused them to invade African territories whereby they utilized the available resources for their benefits. Like in Africa during the colonial period, the white man recruited a black man to steal the artifacts. During colonialization in Africa, the colonizers utilized natives in fostering their forced rule and acquisition of native resources such as land and minerals.

The nation-building process is an exemplary historical aspect of any nation. There are a series of similarities between the Wakanda nation and curacao island nation-building nations. The parallels are also evident in the two nations' leaders; In the film, Wakanda is depicted as a wealthy nation that has managed to isolate itself from any form of western influence. Nevertheless, the Wakanda nation's isolation from the rest of the world is greatly threatened by globalization and expansion. Before colonial times, many countries had managed to isolate themselves and their respective cultures from western influence. However, most of them from Africa gradually lost their isolation to globalization and the expansion prospects of western powers. The Wakanda people have been depicted as brilliant and courageous people who are willing to protect and advance their nation. In Curacao, the liberation process was implemented mainly through the intelligent and physically fit persons in the country's society. Just like the Wakanda nation is depicted as knowledgeable people, Curacao is arguably one of the wealthiest countries in the Caribbean world (Florencia 7). The island has the most educated persons in the Caribbean regions. Considering these facts, the film Black Panther is the epitome of many cultures both in terms of social and political aspects.

The film Black Panther encompasses a series of emblems of African pasts. The first example of an African symbol of African history is the Wakanda writing system that involves pictorial shapes and colors used in documenting Wakanda's activities. The geometric shapes and colors used in the Wakanda writing are similar to those used in ancient African societies. This form of writing is seen in the tattoos emblemed in each war dog sent to spy on different countries in the film. In the king's palace, the same kind of writing is seen engraved in white on the king's throne alongside the king's pillar in the kings' throne. In Wakanda's township, the same kind of writings is seen on the wall and banners. It is challenging to miss out on the same symbols on the roof of the underground trains. Kimoyo beads which are the primary mode of communication in the Wakanda nation, have these symbols engraved.

The Wakanda nation being an African nation that has not been colonized, the Wakanda people have their native language. The language used in the film is identified as isiXhosa, a language spoken in South Africa. Dialogue is one of the most effective cinematic techniques in portraying an intended theme (Evelina 5). In the film, dialogue between some of the characters has been used to bring out the isiXhosa language. In contrast, the written languages are an embodiment of ancient African writing. Language is one of the identifying aspects in any culture, the use of isiXhosa language in the film Black Panther makes the film a representation of the African culture.

Architecture is another aspect that identifies a culture. The film Black Panther visualizes the African culture through the prevailing architectures represented in the movie. The film encompasses a technologically advanced city whose buildings are inspired by traditional African architecture. The Wakanda architecture serves as an instrument that communicates the aesthetic beauty of the African culture. Still, in the film, the people who live in the borderline live in mud huts, which are the native architectural designs of most African societies. The urban district in the film has its building thatched, a kind of roofing that is predominantly in African architecture. The film somewhat reverses the prevailing stereotype that African society lacked identifying architectural designs. Africans were perceived to be apes who lived on trees. Indeed, the movie Black Panther film communicates a series of thematic and cultural meanings in several ways.

**Works Cited**

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