

SURVIVAL FOR BETTER LIFE IN *THE JUNGLE BOOK*

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Abstract : This research aims at describing survival reflected by main character in *The Jungle Book*. The research uses qualitative method. The data are taken from two sources: primary source is the novel itself that is *The Jungle Book* and the secondary source are books related with the topic and internet sources to support this research. In addition, the researchers use objective. The finding of this research shows that Mowgli has qualities of survival there are strategy, struggle and gratitude. It is described how the survival reflected in novel *The Jungle Book*. So, the lesson is about the more time to spend with them, the more the mutual understanding revealed and by that Mowgli more exist to spread his kindness and keep spirited to survive in his destiny (Jungle) for better life with a better purpose.

Keywords : *Survival; life; struggle; gratitude.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Literature is produced under certain impulse that is stimulated by certain phenomena close to the writers. The writers are observing their surrounding or feel themselves and then note it down in the piece of writing (Maru, 2011:3). The primary thing is about the element of research which is Survival, According to Collin Towel in *Essential Survival Skill* (2011:5), survival is the situation and strategies to survive, ability to set the goal, desire to be reunited with principal figures of attachment, and know when to be active and when to be passive. Survival happens in *The Jungle Book*. *The Jungle Book* is one of the works of Rudyard Kipling that was written in 2008. This novel is about a village boy named Mowgli who was raised by a group of wolves like theirs in the

jungles of India. When he grows up, he begins to understand the 'Law of the Jungle' and the book followed many of his adventures with various creatures around him. This study also becomes one of the art of literary work because it involves the element of literature as Wuntu (2015:100) said that "A literary work which has affective nature is a significant power to touch the deepest sense that can produce perfect consciousness as it successfully carries out its mission as a form generator of human consciousness". Maru also states : "Since the ingredients of the literature are taken from daily life, it touches every human dilemma, conflict and yearning unraveling the plot of a short story or decoding the dialogue of a play and is more than a mechanical exercise." (Maru 2009:5)

That includes Akela as the leader of the wolves, Baloo the bear and Bagheera the black panther, who is the tutor and protector. While teaching Mowgli how to survive against Shere Khan as a tiger. It is also a reflection for human life as said by Sabudu (2014:1) states that literature is the reflection of human life whether in the society or in their private life, every phenomenon that found in the society usually reflects in the literary works such as poem, novel, drama or short story.

In addition, Rotinsulu (2007) also stated that *“The literature presents a picture of life through the medium of language.”*

So, in this research, the researchers are interest to analyze this novel because the survival of Mowgli is very heavy face with the threat of a tiger. Mowgli who is surviving his life for against the terror of a tiger).

2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research Design

This research will categorize as qualitative research since the data will be collected are in form of words. According to Bodgan and Biklen :

“Qualitative research is the data collected in the form of words or pictures rather than number. The written result of the research contains quotation from the data and substantiate the presentation” (Bogdan and Biklen, 1992:28)

It means that qualitative research is collecting data in form of words not numbers

and the data support the presentation. The researchers themselves are the research instrument to collect and analyze the data.

Data Collection

In conducting this research, the researchers divide the source of the data into two categories, primary source and secondary source. According to Maru, M, G, Wowor J, D and Arisudana: *“Qualitative Method is most suitable method to be used in analyzing novel”* which related to this research. The primary source is the novel itself, and secondary sources are the books explaining literature, life and background of the author and some other relevant books that support the analysis.

Data Analysis

In analyzing the data, the researchers will use objective approach. According to M.H Abrams (1979:26):

“The object orientation, which on principle regards the works of art in isolation from all external pint of references, analyzes itself sufficient entity constituted by its part in their internal relations, and gets out or judge it solely by criteria intrinsic to its being.”

Because of that, this study focuses on the work itself.

Data Analysis

In analyzing the data, an objective approach is used because was only focused on the movie script itself. The objective approach regards the work of art in isolation from all

these external points of reference. The analysis is as a self-sufficient entity constituted by its parts in their internal relations, and set out to judge it solely by criteria to its mode of being (Abrams. 26). The objective approach focuses on the interrelationship between the elements of the play itself, in this case, the elements of Aladdin 2019 by Walt Disney.

3. ANALYSIS

Survival

The story of novel, Mowgli is the one who grows up with a wolf family and grows up with the animals in the forest, and becomes leader. With the stature of a human, there is no one like him. Mowgli survives as a part from two worlds, as a human and animal life, when he tells something, Mowgli always uses his hand. And even as a human he must to know more than a wolf.

He is become very strong, especially when it comes to eat. Mowgli always takes over the conversation when they get together. He speaks and understands what the animals says, from the hive of bees to a tiger called Share Khan.

The incident caused Sheer Khan to hate the existence of humans entering the territories. Knowing Mowgli's presence in the forest under the defense of a pack of wolves has made Sheer Khan very mad.

Sheer Khan continues to try to kidnap and kill Mowgli from the group of wolves who guard and protect him. Basically hatred has disruptive consequences for others like Shere Khan did that makes his life haunted by worries, anger and anxiety and always

wants to destroy others. Revenge behavior like this has the potential to destroy life and make it always uneasy.

Not only that, Mowgli learn from his two friends, Baloo a honey bear and Bagheera a black panther, about the law of the jungle, from every owl's gaze, the hum of the elephant' voice, until the silence in the water.

When he was a boy, and the first time he in the wolf cave, he haunted by the tiger Share Khan, but the wolf's father carried him unharmed. He survive as a person to give protection to his family who get threats by stranger, but though Share Khan can easily hunt him down, he still feel pity for Mowgli. *"It is habit of a wolf to move a cub by biting his back without a scratch."*

From the statement above, Mowgli tries his best to safe a wolf when they will move their egg from one place to another place, he has his sensitivity toward the condition that happens every day in jungle, not only survives to protect but he also always has his sensitivity to know deeper from his heart about his big family in that environment.

The mother wolf also protect Mowgli in comfortable caves with the cub.

"Mother wolf said,' how he is naked like this, twisting the place together with the cub, and watch how he eat like a wolf. Now he will be the one of us."

Positive impact happens when some of animal who get the attention from Mowgli, they feel thankful to Mowgli who always secure them from the unable things which

sometimes they need human hand in helping them.

On the other hand, survival definition in this Jungle book story not only represents Mowgli character from one side as a strong person, but it is also tells about his struggle from ignorance and problem. Another push comes from a wise elephant Hathi, where he helps Mowgli to fight the villagers.

“Come on, this is a war of justice. Mowgli shall have his due upon the adoptive parents and we have been attacked by the villagers.”

According to the story above, it could be concluded that, Mowgli accepts some problems which is reflected as a struggle that he must face, is about fighting and problem solver from some crucial problem that need to be solve.

Mowgli strategy

The conflict has arisen between Mowgli and Sheer Khan since Mowgli was a baby. Old grudges make Sheer Khan dislike the human activity reaching the jungle. It is all started when a group of people made a very tiring journey and made them decide to rest in a cave in the forest. A few moments later, Sheer Khan came to the cave and provoked the fear of humans who were resting in it. Fighting between humans and tigers Sheer Khan was inevitable

As a human who spends his life in the forest, Mowgli is born with mental strength that is very good in responding to everything that happens in his environment just to protect forest residents who are herds of animals,

Mowgli has the right strategy to conquer enemies who dare to disturb the peace of his residence, as evidenced by the description below:

‘Yes,’ said Mowgli, ‘all the jungle fear Bagheera all except Mowgli.’ ‘Oh, thou art a man’s cub,’ said the Black Panther very tenderly. ‘And even as I returned to my jungle, so thou must go back to men at last to the men who are thy Brothers if thou art not killed in the Council.’ (Kipling, 2000: 21)

Based on the sentence above, "Mowgli is the only person who dares to Bagheera" means that the strategy that Mowgli has to be able to survive against all resistance that comes from outside is a strategy to be brave with all enemies coming from outside. Not only that, you can see the character of Mowgli on a journey with his persistence in conquering all the challenges that occur continuously in his life.

“Mowgli was far and far through the forest, running hard, and his heart was hot in him. He came to the cave as the evening mist rose, and drew breath, and looked down the valley. The cubs were out, but Mother Wolf, at the back of the cave, knew by his breathing that something was troubling her frog.” (Kipling, 2000: 24)

Mowgli is also very persistent in spreading the principles of life that he has, especially in the strength of his emotions to those closest to him to have a burning passion for leadership, to never be afraid of opponents

and always be determined with all the available strengths.

“Mowgli sprang to his feet. ‘Free People,’ he cried, ‘does Shere Khan lead the Pack? What has a tiger to do with our leadership?’ ‘Seeing that the leadership is yet open, and being asked to speak’ Shere Khan began. ‘By whom?’ said Mowgli. ‘Are we all jackals, to fawn on this cattle butcher? The leadership of the Pack is with the Pack alone.” (Kipling, 2000: 27)

Finally, in understanding Mowgli's strategy to live a better life, he always strives to have a life strategy that is always based on courage as a winner, mental leader and resilience with a strong and persistent spirit in dealing with all situations, conditions day by day in particular and in its dynamics dealing with challenges externally.

Mowgli Struggle

The ability of Mowgli and his friends to survive in conflict is stated here. From the beginning, Buldeo only looked down at Mowgli and was finally awakened by Mowgli's force.

Besides Buldeo and other villagers, Mowgli thanked Mowgli for killing Sheer Khan, who often ate people, but they were afraid of Mowgli, who was thought to rule animals in the forest.

Struggle experience by Mowgli is not merely a decoration in the story in the jungle book, but there is a moral message that is very good to be study more deeply, because there is a close connection with the struggles experienced by every human being in

everyday life. Especially how much struggle Mowgli in providing protection for all the animals in the forest to be able to have comfort and serenity in living their lives. Protection is the responsibility of the heros, it happen to the little Mowgli where he hunted by Share Khan had kill him instantly, but Share Khan still feel pity on him.

“It is a typical of father wolf to move his children without a scratch and then put it between a pack of wolves.”

Wolf's father is a hero for the little Mowgli. Heroism exists since the dawn of time, but it seems that time has almost disappeared by popular culture. By observing a person's behavior, this is called the ideal of personal heroism. In other words, it can help with difficult circumstances or low morals.

Protection is also demonstrate by the mother wolf, she guards Mowgli in a comfort cave.

“Mother wolf said,’ how he is naked like this, twisting the place together with the cub, and watch how he eat like a wolf. Now he will be the one of us.”

The protection provide by the mother wolf pure in her heart, and he lovingly care for Mowgli. A mother knows how to take care of her child. This is where Kipling wants us to remember our mother, it also shows us that we need a mother.

“For a time he was afraid of being dropped. Then he grew angry but knew better than to struggle, and then

he began to think. The first thing was to send back word to Baloo and Bagheera, for, at the pace the monkeys were going, he knew his friends would be left far behind.” (Kipling, 2000: 27)

The struggle is experienced by Mowgli when he realized that he was still an ordinary human who was not free from mistakes and problems and physical limitations that sometimes weakened him in giving the best to the people around him.

At one point Share Khan is success to influence a few young wolf to dispose of Mowgli or submit to him. But Mowgli knows of Share Khan cunning plan, so Mowgli prepares himself to fight the tiger, he goes far away to the village to take the fire they called Red Flower. The Red Flower is the biggest scared of the jungle.

"There is no war between the wolf family. But it is a debt to beat Share Khan. Mowgli went ahead and hit him on the head with a flaming branch, and the tiger cried out in agony.”

Mowgli basically could not fight a tiger, but Mowgli used his mind to defend his rights, he went to the village to pick up the Red Flower for his use against the tiger.

Gratitude

Gratitude is essentially the recognition of the unearned increments of value in one's experience. So in this story Mowgli gained some experience from his heroic personality.

The sacrifice, trust, and values that they instilled in Mowgli made him grow as a person who understands reciprocity. Mowgli reflects on ethical reasoning through the way he thinks critically and is reflected in his actions. Mowgli tried to return the favor of his adoptive parents through his actions. This is a form of the consequence of Mowgli's gratitude for the goodness and lessons in life values that were instilled by his adoptive parents.

He is always grateful for what he has accomplished, never forget to thank his friends, even for a wolf's father and mother. He always appreciates everything that he able to do.

“We are one blood’ Mowgli said to his family. I learned so much from you, you taught me the meaning of life. Yu love me, and I will never forget that.”

Although he is not a wolf, Mowgli continue to show his gratitude to his family, mother wolf and father wolf, as well as to his friends, who help him in every situation even defending his right as a human being. Until the time came when Mowgli had to say good bye to everyone.

“I'm done, it is hard to say goodbye. But it is all for my future, and I have to go back. The lessons you've learned mean so much to me, and I don't know how to repay you. Once again I thank to you for my family, friends, my sister and brother, and even to the Hathi who always help me and always on my side.”

When Mowgli returns to his community as a human, he again expresses his gratitude.

Mowgli never forgets his family and friend. Mowgli, after all, is a human being who has to return to where he comes from. That is the law of nature. Everything will be gone.

“Day after day Mowgli would lead the buffaloes out to their wallows, and day after day he would see Gray Brother’s back a mile and a half away across the plain (so he knew that Shere Khan had not come back), and day after day he would lie on the grass listening to the noises round him, and dreaming of old days in the jungle. If Shere Khan had made a false step with his lame paw up in the jungles by the Waingunga, Mowgli would have heard him in those long, still mornings”. (Kipling, 2000: 93)

In expressing his sense of gratitude towards the surrounding environment and all forest dwellers, Mowgli is always determined to look after the entire herd of animals as an expression of his gratitude for all the gifts and blessings bestowed by his god on him.

The story above illustrates the reflection of moral imagination on the character of Mowgli and the pack of wolves who consider one and the other as part of a family that cannot be eradicated. The sacrifice and resistance against Sheer Khan and other disturbances made Mowgli have the moral imagination to defend himself and defend his friends in the jungle as a form of solidarity.

Kipling leads the reader to a fantasy story about Mowgli, lost in the jungle of India and adopted into the wolf family. Mowgli was raised to obey the laws of the jungle and

uphold loyalty. Regular adventures with friends and enemies among the Jungle People, Cobras, panther, bear, and tiger sharpen Mowgli's strength and intelligence and hone the imagination of the novel's readers. By showing Mowgli in the world of wild animals 'world of wild animals' which is often considered dangerous by others. He actually dismisses the stigma by making friends and living in harmony with the jungle community. Kipling through his novel invites readers to adventure in the jungle and teach readers 'learn to behave and act' and 'learn who can be trusted' as an effort to defend themselves. Some important characters, such as Mowgli, Father Wolf, Mother Wolf, Hathi, and Bagheera, represent courageous attitudes.

CONCLUSION

Survival happens in *The Jungle Book*. *The Jungle Book* is one of the works of Rudyard Kipling that was written in 2008. This novel is about a village boy named Mowgli who was raised by a group of wolves like theirs in the jungles of India. When he grew up, he began to understand the 'Law of the Jungle' and the book followed many of his adventures with various creatures around him. That includes Akela as the leader of the wolves, Baloo the bear and Bagheera the black panther, who is the tutor and protector. While teaching Mowgli how to survive against Shere Khan as a tiger.

So, in this research, the researchers are interested to analyze this novel because the survival of Mowgli is very heavy faced with the threat of a tiger. Mowgli who is surviving his life for against the terror of a tiger

This study has reveals the survival for better life in *Jungle Book* by Rudyard Kipling's. Mowgli has experienced many obstacles and problems that appear in his environment which is many things that influence his personality to be strong to survive and facing several lesson when he protect the entire inhabitants in jungle especially the animal life.

Therefore, as a human, he always be a primary key of understanding to overcome any obstacles by solving every problem that happens and influences to his environment about togetherness and peace, such as: being a pioneer for some problems which happen in the jungle, maturity to facing the challenge, keep in positive to respond something that will influence to fight and influence others to share love and kindness.

The most important thing that appears in almost all the story of the *The Jungle Book* is Kipling's love for a definite order and discipline in the life, which is clearly enforced through the *The Jungle Book*. He conceives Mowgli and the law together and both of them are in tune with each other. The law protects Mowgli because Mowgli follows it. The law of the jungle never suits Mowgli but he obeys it because it is necessary if the jungle is to survive.

In addition, it is analyzed the several analysis of Mowgli's way to survive for better life consist of survival, Mowgli's strategy, Mowgli's struggle and his gratitude. Thus, from that fact human is human, animal is animal, when human does not understand animal's heart or feeling, it will be more effective when they spend life together in a

long time. So, the lesson is about the more time to spend with them, the more the mutual understanding will reveal and by that, Mowgli more exist to spread his kindness and keep spirited to survive in his destiny (Jungle) for better life with a better purpose.

SUGGESTION

The writers witness how this novel giving a good messages for people especially as human when sometimes facing problem and always survive for it but could not involve a patient and understanding to solve it. Finally, based on analysis and the experience, the writers analyze and read the content of novel, there are several suggestion that hopefully will be an important part to be remember and implemented:

1. As a human, we must reject the negative insights by primarily the positive insight without lacking something but strength it.
2. It is suggested to parents to treat their child in exact way especially how to educate them to be the independent person since kid and not only keep as a sweetheart but allow them to brave for deciding something and accept the risk and face it.
3. For students' in English Education Department especially English Language and Literature study program, hopefully this study could give an advantages for you to be deep knowledge in reflecting this topic as a certain part to

support you to more survive any obstacles as a student in the process to achieve the goals. And it is also could be a good reference/source for you to identify this novel in different analysis of literary part.

4. For everyone who read this skripsi, I hope you can get the good values as your personal reflection to always push yourself to survive for better life and giving the positive impact for people and always encourage yourself to use a positive views when problem appear than respond with negative sides. Keep going!
5. And the last but not least for this situation I hope guys even if you limit your time online as much as possible, you can still experience an information overload. It is important to be well-informed, but on the other hand you have to keep your spirits up. You can take turns with your classmates to read newsletters from the university and then share the important bits to each other. If one person feels more anxious about the situation on any given day, they can rest and switch off their phone while being sure they will not miss out on any important updates.

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