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مجلد: 27 عدد: 3 (رت 72) السنة: 2023

Rhetoric of the image in the documentary film -science and Islam--semiological study-

بلاغة الصورة في الفيلم الوثائقي -العلم و الإسلام --دراسة سيميولوجية-

Feyrouz Bouzida¹

University of Jijel feyrouz.bouzida@univ-jijel.dz

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Abstract:

This study aims to reveal the rhetoric of the image in the documentary film (Science and Islam), and to complete this research was based on a systematic plan that enables us to answer the problem of the study and achieve its objectives, where the semiology was chosen as a method of research through Roland Barths approach as the most appropriate to study of image in all its semiotic and rhetorical manifestations. In addition to the use of observation as a tool for collecting data as the film is an audiovisual material. After the analysis process the study reached a set of results, the most important of which are: The documentary science and Islam bears significant semiological signs. In addition, the documentary used rhetorical image that shows the bright side of Islam far from fanaticism and terrorism as propagated in western media.

Keywords: documentary film, Islam, rhetoric, image. Semiology

ملخص:

تهدف هذه الدراسة إلى الكشف عن بلاغة الصورة في الفلم الوثائقي العلم و الإسلام، و لإنجاز هذا البحث تم الاعتماد على خطة منهجية تمكننا من الإجابة على إشكالية الدراسة و تحقيق أهدافها، حيث تم اختيار السيميولوجيا كمنهج للبحث من خلال مقاربة رولان بارث باعتبارها الأنسب لدراسة الصورة بكل تجلياتها السيميولوجية و البلاغية، إضافة الاستخدام الملاحظة كأداة لجمع البيانات باعتبار الفلم مادة سمعية بصرية، و بعد عملية التحليل توصلت الدراسة إلى جملة من النتائج أهمها: يحمل الفلم الوثائقي العلم والإسلام علامات سيميولوجية دالة، إضافة إلى أن الوثائقي استخدم بلاغة الصورة التي تبين الجانب المشرق للإسلام بعيدا عن التعصب و الإرهاب كما تدعى وسائل الإعلام الغربية.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الفلم الوثائقي، الإسلام، البلاغة، الصورة، السيميولوجيا.

¹ - author correspondant : Feyrouz Bouzida e-mail : feyrouz.bouzida@univ-jijel.dz

892

1. INTRODUCTION

The study of rhetoric has been considered as an essential part of the western culture, the ancient greeks promoted the study of rhetoric, they were interested in different persuasion and speech techniques rather than written texts. Rhetoric, as the art of speaking or writting effectively and the ability to sway the audience, was valued as essential component of civic engagement. Therefore, it became a standard part of the western culture that continued into the centuries later.

Today, rhetoric encompasses not only oral or written discourses, but also visual rhetorics like images and films. Rhetoric of the image in some ways is more complex since it bears different semiological signs and persuasive dimensions.

The image is closely linked to contemporary human life, it is able to form consciousness, because of the rapid dominance of the image in all aspects of man and his culture, however, it can express ideologies, propagandas, attitudes, steriotypes and mental images.

The documentary film is an important part of modern image, it has attracted enormous attention of governments, organizations, and people in general, and brings the audience into new experiences through the factual information about real lives, people, places countries and phenomenon...etc. Documentaries have many purposes like education, information, communication, persuasion, raise consciousness. Documentary film is considered as a new and a powerful tool for agenda -setting, creating public opinion and redrawing the mental maps of audiences.

Islam has a widspread concern in documentary films especially after the attakes of 09/11 where Islam and Muslims are negatively portrayed in western media by describing this religion as violent and radical that finally resulted a kind of hatred and fear of Islam, it is offen associated with terrorism, fanaticism, and anti-Semitism. Islam is widely misunderstood and concidered by many Americans with distrust''². On the other hand, there are many documentaries in the west shed light on the bright side of Islam as a challange to correct the image of Islam in the west, by exploring the Islamic civilization in the medeaval ages where science flourished across a wide areas around the world for several centuries like chemistery, astronomy, mathemathics, medecine and translation that began with the great movement of orientalist scholaship''³. This kind of documentary depends on rhetoric of the image using different visual techniques to attract, inform and persuade the western audience. One of the most famous documentary films in this field is science and Islam by professor Jimal-khalili. This led us to ask an important question: how does the rhetoric of the image manifest itself in the documentary film science and Islam?

Objectives of the study:

This research paper seeks to achieve a set of objectives:

- Explore the role of the image plays in contemporary world, along with how to create the strongest and clearest messages for the audiences through documentaries.
- Discover the rhetorical techniques of the image in the documentary film science and Islam through the topics, characters, music, places ...etc
- Explore the power of the documentary films that can change the stereotypes, and the mental images of Islam in the west through rhetoric of

² -Marie-Christine Pauwels, civilization des Etats Unis, Hchette livre, Paris, 2002, p 151

³ -Bernard Lewis, Islam and the West, Oxford University press, New York, 1993,p 63

مجلد: 27 عدد: 3 (رت 72) السنة: 2023

- the image.
- Show to what extent the image in the documentary
- Science and Islam- is rhetorical.
- Show the relation between image and its sociocultural dimensions in the documentary under study.
- 2/Concepts
- 2/1- Rhetoric
- The English word rhetoric is derived from Greek (Rhetoriké), which apparently came into use in the circle of Socrates in the 5th century BC. Rhetoriké in Greek specifically denotes the civic art of public speeking as devoloped in deliberative assemblies, law, courts, and other formal occasions under constitutional governments in the Greek cities⁴.
- The anciant philosopher Aristotle was one of the first theorists to define rhetoric, and his definition is one of the most influencial yet today. Rhetoric said Aristotle 'is the ability, in each particular case, to see the available means of persuasion '. His definition focused on persuasion, an association that is still quitecommon today among theorists and critics⁵.
- Rhetoric is the art of using language for persuasion, in speaking or writing, especially in oratory".
- There are two main concepts most commonly associated with rhetoric: discourse and persuasion. A discourse can be any speech written or spoken as well as the exchange of symbols or meanings in any context (books, newspapers, pictures, movies, websites, music, and so on. Persuasion occurs when someone convinces you of something; it encompasses the dramatic experience of being moved to rage, tears or action by speech, as well as more subtle process such as being influenced by advertising or political ideology''
- The relation between rhetoric and persuasion

The practices of rhetoric and persuasion are closely linked because various rhetorical techniques are commonly used for the purpose of persuasion.

Persuasdion specifically refers to using a variety of what are generally rhetorical techniques to change opinions or to encourage particular actions⁸

2/2- Image

In Oxford dictionary the word (image) means a copy of sb/sth in the form of a picture or statue, a picture of sb/sth seen in a mirror through a camera or on television or a computer⁹

An image is a visual representation of something such as:

- A likeness of an object produced on a photographic material.
- A picture produced on an electronic display (such as television or computer screen)

⁴ - George.A.Kennedy, a new hitory of classical rhetoric, princeton university press, New Jersy, 1994, p03

⁵ - Timothy Borchers, Heather Handley, rhetorical theory and introduction, waveland press, USA, 2018,p05

⁶-J.A Cuddon, the penguin dictionary of literary theory, penguin books, 4th ed,London, 1998,P747

⁷-william M. Keith, the essential guide to rhetoric, Bedford/ST Martin's, Boston, 2008, p 04

⁸ -www.languagehumanities.org (29/11/2022)

⁹ - Oxford advanced learner's dictionary, Oxford university press, 2000, p 675

مجلد: 27 عدد: 3 (رت 72) السنة: 2023

- A mental picture or impression of something 10

'Acording to the ancient ethymology, the word image should be linked to the root (imitari). Thus we find ourselves immediately at the heart of the most important problem facing the semiology images'¹¹.

• Rhetoric of the image

Roland barthes said in his essays that the signs of the 3rd message (the symbolic message, cultural, or connoted) were discontinuous. Even when the signifier seems to extend over the whole message, it is nontheless a sign separated from others; the composition carries an aesthetic signified, in much the same way as intonation although suprasegmental is a separate signifier in language. Thus, we are here dealing with a normal system whose signs are drawn from a cultural code. What gives this system its originality is that a number of readings of the same lexical unit or lexia (of the same image) varies according to individuls¹²

2/3- Documentary fim

"It is certainly impossible to argue that the documentary film has never had a very precise definition. It remains a common today to revert to some version of John Grierson's definition of documentary. First proposed in the 1930s as the creative treatment of actuality.

Documentary films speak about actual situations or events and honor known facts' 13

A documentary is a genre of movie making that uses video and film scenes, photographs and/or sound of real people and real events which when edited together creates a particular story, viewpoint, message or experience¹⁴

Overview on the documentary of (Science and Islam)

Science and Islam is a three-part BBC documentary about the history of science in medieval Islamic civilization presented by Jim Al-Khalili. The series is accompanied by the book Science and Islam: A History written by Ehsan Masood.

Episodes:

Part 1: The Language of Science Part 2: The Empire of Reason

Part 3: The Power of Doubt

Part 1: The Language of Science:

Physicist Jim Al-Khalili travels through Syria, Iran, Tunisia and Spain to tell the story of the great

¹⁰ - www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary (02/06/2022)

¹¹ - Roland Barthes, rhetoric of the image .www.williamwolff.org (02/06/2022)

¹² -Roland Barthes, image,music, text, essays selected and translated by Stephen Heath, Hill and Wang,New York, 1977, p46

¹³ - Bill Nichols, introduction to documentary, indiana university press, USA, 2nd ed, 2010, p 06

¹⁴ - www.desktop-documentaries.com (2/06/2022)

مجلد: 27 عدد: 3 (رت 72) السنة: 2023

leap in scientific knowledge that took place in the Islamic world between the 8th and 14th centuries. 15

Its legacy is tangible, with terms like algebra, algorithm and alkali all being Arabic in origin and at the very heart of modern science - there would be no modern mathematics or physics without algebra, no computers without algorithms and no chemistry without alkalis.

For Baghdad-born Al-Khalili this is also a personal journey and on his travels he uncovers a diverse and outward-looking culture, fascinated by learning and obsessed with science. From the great mathematician Al-Khwarizmi, who did much to establish the mathematical tradition we now know as algebra, to Ibn Sina, a pioneer of early medicine whose Canon of Medicine was still in use as recently as the 19th century, he pieces together a remarkable story of the often-overlooked achievements of the early medieval Islamic scientists.

Part 2: The Empire of Reason:

Physicist Jim Al-Khalili travels through Syria, Iran, Tunisia and Spain to tell the story of the great leap in scientific knowledge that took place in the Islamic world between the 8th and 14th centuries.

Al-Khalili travels to northern Syria to discover how, a thousand years ago, the great astronomer and mathematician Al-Biruni estimated the size of the earth to within a few hundred miles of the correct figure.

He discovers how medieval Islamic scholars helped turn the magical and occult practice of alchemy into modern chemistry.

In Cairo, he tells the story of the extraordinary physicist Ibn al-Haytham, who helped establish the modern science of optics and proved one of the most fundamental principles in physics - that light travels in straight lines.

Prof Al-Khalili argues that these scholars are among the first people to insist that all scientific theories are backed up by careful experimental observation, bringing a rigour to science that didn't really exist before.

Part 3: The Power of Doubt:

Physicist Jim Al-Khalili tells the story of the great leap in scientific knowledge that took place in the Islamic world between the 8th and 14th centuries.

Al-Khalili turns detective, hunting for clues that show how the scientific revolution that took place in the 16th and 17th centuries in Europe had its roots in the earlier world of medieval Islam. He travels across Iran, Syria and Egypt to discover the huge astronomical advances made by Islamic scholars through their obsession with accurate measurement and coherent and rigorous mathematics.

Research Methodology

¹⁵ - <u>www.islamicity.org</u> 10/06/2022. 10.45pm

مجلة المعيار ISSN :1112-4377

مجلد: 27 عدد: 3 (رت 72) السنة: 2023

As stated in the outset, the main aim of this research is to examine in details the rhetoric of the image in the documentary film (science and Islam), this calls to adopt a a systematic methodology to enable us to address the previous questions of the study.

1/ Research method

The use of the method is an essential step of any scientific research, this study was based on semiology method which is the most appropriate in image studies.

In this study we based on Roland Barthes approach of semiology to analyze the documentary film (science and Islam).

Semiotics or semiology has been defined first by the Swiss linguist Ferdinand De Saussure as "the science of signs", he considered linguistics in his book (course in general linguistics) as a part of a the general science of signs or semiology.

On the other hand, Roland Barthes has inverted the Saussurean postulation in his book elements of semiology i-e "semiology is a part of linguistics, to be precise it is that part covering the great signifying unities of discourse" ¹⁷

"According to F.De Saussure the linguistic sign unites not a thing and a name, but a concept and a sound image. The latter is not the material sound, a purely physical thing, but the psychological imprint of the sound, the impression that it makes on our senses". He called them signifier and signified.

Roland Barthes perceived the semiological sign as a compound system of two main copmonents (the signifier and the signified) like the linguistic sign, but it differs on the level of substances. The essence of the semiological sign is not only for signification but it is an object of everyday use, he called them sign-function.

2/ Research instrument

This paper is based on three tools of reseach:

2-1 Film cut: That means to cut the film into shots and how to jump from one shot to another, in order to read the documentary semiologically.

2-2 Denotation and connotation levels of analysis:

According to Roland Barthes any system of signification comprises a plane of expression or the signifier and the plane of content. Denotation is the first order of signification that refers to the simple and initial reading of the image (sign). Connotation is the second order of signification reffers to the socio-cultural, personal and emotional ... etc interpretations and implications of the sign. Thus, we will study the image in the documentary film-Science and Islam- on the denotative and connotative levels of semiology.

2-3 observation:

This study was based also on the scientific observation tool, which is best suited to the nature of the chosen method, in addition to the specificity of the audiovisual material under study.

The documentary was observed accurately and objectively in order to collect data.

3/ The sample

The sample of the study represents the sum of the signifying shots that enable us to answer the questions and achieve the objectives of the research, after the survey we have selected 40 shots of episode 01 from the documentary film science and Islam.

 $^{^{\}rm 16}$ -sibhan Shappman, Christopher Routledge, key ideas in linguistics and philosophy of linguage, Edinburg university , 2009 , p 120

¹⁷ - Roland Barthes, elements of semiology, Hill and Wang, New York, 1986, p 11

¹⁸ - Ferdinand De Saussure, course in general linguistics, philosophical library, NewYork, 1959, p 66

The semiological analysis of the documentary film

1 / The dennotation level of semiology analysis

ISSN:1112-4377

N0 of	Duration of	types of shots	Place of	Observations
shots	shots		shots	
01	12 seconds	Medium shot	External	Jim Alkhalili introduces the
				impact of the islamic
				civilization
02	06 seconds	Medium full shot	External	Alkhalili draws the picture of a
				mosque in a popular street in
	0.7			Cairo Egypt
03	07 seconds	Exteme close up	Internal	The Islamic manuscripts of
0.4	00 1	3 6 1' 1	- 1	Algebra and Algorithms
04	08 seconds	Medium close up	External	Alkhalili talks about the Muslim
				scientist Alkhawarizmi through
0.5	1.6 1	F 11 1 4	F (1	an Italian document
05	16 seconds	Full shot	External	Alkhalili walks in Cairo and
				talks about the contributions of Alkawarizmi
06	60 seconds	Extreme alogo un	External	Alkalili explains how
VO	ou seconds	Extreme close up	External	Alkhawirizmi showed the west
				the better way of doing
				arithmetic with 10 simple
				symbols
07	50 seconds	Full shot	Internal	The map of the islamic world in
07	30 seconds	Tun shot	Internal	the medieval ages
08	12 seconds	Full shot	External	Baghdad in the 60s one of the
				greatest cities
09	08 seconds	Full shot	Internal	A map shows how Islam spead
				in different parts of the world
10	30 seconds	Full shot	External	The picture of some mosques
				and Islamic architecture
11	40 seconds	Full shot	External	Alkhalili explains how Islam is
				a religion of knowledge through
				the Hadith of the prophet
				Muhammed(PBUH)
12	04 seconds	Close up shot	Internal	Young men reading Quran
13	06 seconds	Close up shot	Internal	a calligrapher writes in arabic
				language
14	08 seconds	Close up shot	Internal	Jim Alkhalili shows a picture of
				(In the name of Allah most
4=	0.7			merciful)
15	07 seconds	Full shot	Internal	Many books in different fields
				to explain the translation
				movements in the Islamic
16	15 . 1	F11 -1 ·	F-4 1	civilization
16	15 seconds	Full shot	External	The new library of Alexandria

مجلد: 27 عدد: 3 (رت 72) السنة: 2023

				in Egypt
17	20 seconds	Cow boy shot	Internal	Jim alkhalili reads and explains
		·		a saying of the prophet
				Muhammed ''God did not
				sendtdowns a disease without
				also sending down its cure "
18	14 seconds	Full shot	External	Jim walks with doctor Petter in
				Damascus Syria and talk about
				Islamic medecine
19	10 seconds	Cow boy shot	Internal	Alkhalili talks with a tunisian
				woman about medical herbs in
				Tunisia
20	08 seconds	Cow boy shot	Internal	Jim explains that Islamic
		J		medecine is related to other
				traditions of mecine like india
				and China
21	22 seconds	Medium close up	Internal	Jim Alkhalili reads the book of
	22 50001145	shot	Incommu	the Prophet 's medecine
22	07 seconds	Full shot	External	group prayer of Muslims in the
	or seconds	T dil bilot	Zaternar	mosque
23	20 seconds	Full shot	External	Jim and Petter enter to
25	20 seconds	Tun shot	External	Noureddinr hospital in
				Damascus which is now a
				museum, it was the leading
				hospital in the Islamic empire
24	17 seconds	Full shot	External	Petter explains that the hospital
4 7	17 seconds	Tull shot	Laternai	was open for all people Muslims
				and non muslims
25	21 seconds	Full shot	Internal	Jim talks the notion of
25	21 seconds	Tun shot	Internal	pharmacy in Islamic hospitals
26	15 seconds	Full shot	Internal	Jim and Pitter talks and show
20	13 seconds	1 un snot	Internal	the Islamic surgery
27				Petter explains a drawing of the
21				eye during the Islamic empire
28	18 seconds	Medium full shot	Internal	Medical tools used by muslim
40	10 seconds	iviculum fun snot	Internal	doctors
29	17 seconds	Full shot	External	Jim talks about Ibn Sina and
47	1 / Secolius	1 un shot	LACTIAL	shows his picture
30	11 seconds	Extreme closeup	Internal	The book of Ibn Sina the Canon
JU	11 Secolius	Extreme closeup	mema	of Medecine
31	33 seconds	Medium shot	Internal	Jim and Petter talk about the
31	33 seconds	Miculum Shot	memai	book of Ibn Sina
22	10 2222742	Full shot	Extornol	
32	10 seconds	ruii siiot	External	Mosques and Islamic architecture
22	9 seconds	Medium shot	Internal	
33	9 seconds	ivieurum snot	Internal	The archiologist in Egypt
				explains the manuscript of Ibn
24	20	Madina -14	Tratage - 1	wahchia
34	20 seconds	Medium shot	Internal	The archiologist explains the
25	22 1	T 11 1 .	F 4 1	letters in hierogliphs language
35	23 seconds	Full shot	External	Jim explains the curiosity that

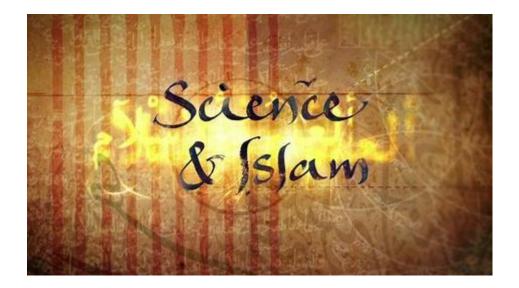
الجلة المعيار ISSN :1112-4377

مجلد: 27 عدد: 3 (رت 72) السنة: 2023

				Islamic scholars had about the world
36	10 seconds	Medium shot	Internal	Alkhalili checks books in a library in Baghdad
34	7seconds	Full shot	Internal	Mosques and Islamic architecture
35	6 seconds	Medium shot	Internal	Jim listens to pieces of Iraqui music
36	6 seconds	Medium closeup shot	Internal	Jim listens to a storyteller as a part of his culture
37		Full shot	Internal	Jim walks and talks in one of the Abassi castle about the intellectual life of Baghdad
38	10 seconds	Medium closeup	Internal	Jim talks about Alkhawarizmi
39	16 seconds	Closeup shot	Internal	The picture of Alkhawarizmi
40	10 seconds	Full shot	Internal	Geometry and mathematical symbols

2- The connotation level of semiology analysis

Semiology of the title -Science and Islam-



The title of the documentary was written in both languages english and arabic. Both phrases are semiologically attractive through the combination of languages which connote that Islam is a religion of knowledge and contributed lagely in many scientific fields. The title in this way is like a door opened for many interpretations and readings.

✓ Colors symbolism in the title

مجلد: 27 عدد: 3 (رت 72) السنة: 2023

The phrase العلم و الإسلام was written in Arabic with yellow color. It is a color associated with sun. it symbolizes optimism, energy, joy, happiness, it is mentionned in the Quran in Surat Albaqara, when Allah Almighty wanted to show the Israilites intransigence in asking their messenger (Moses) in showing what intended cow is. They said '' Call upon your Lord for us to make plain to us its color''. '' It is a yellow cow, bright in its color, pleasing the beholders''.

This title connotes that Islam is not a religion of ignorance or darkness; it is a religion of science and knowledge. This is mentioned even in the tradition of our Prophet Muhammed (PBUH), He orderd Muslims to seek knowledge even in China.

The black color is the color of the English phrase science and Islam, black is a symbol of power, mystery, sophistication, authority and elegance. It connotes the power of Islam in the medieval ages where many Muslim scientists created and devolped many sciences like medecine, pharmacy, biology, physics, chimestery ... etc

✓ Characters

The main character in this documentary is Professor Jim Alkhalily. Jameel Sadik "Jim" Al-Khalili (born 20 September 1962) is an Iraqi-British theoretical physicist, author and broadcaster. Jim is a theoretical physicist at the University of Surrey where he holds a Distinguished Chair in physics as well as a university chair in the public engagement in science. He received his PhD in nuclear reaction theory in 1989 and has published widely in the field.

He is a prominent author and broadcaster. He has written 14 books on popular science and the history of science, between them translated into twenty-six languages. He is a regular presenter of TV science documentaries¹⁹.

Jimal-khalili seems to be a charismatic figure, intellectual confident and also proud of his origins. He uses body language to be more persuasive.

Topics of the image

✓ Mathemathics and Alkhawarismi

The documentary shows the great contribution of Alkhawarismi in the field of mathemathics, it is thanks to him that europeans realized their way of doing arithmetic he described a revolutionary idea, you can represent any number you like with 10 symbols. He has been described as the father of algebra his name gave rise to the term algorism or algorythm. On the Calculation with Hindu Numerals, written about 820, was principally responsible for spreading the Hindu–Arabic numeral system throughout the Middle East and Europe

✓ The map of the Islamic empire in the middle ages

899

¹⁹ -www. jimal-khalili.com (12/06/2022. 17:15)

مجلد: 27 عدد: 3 (رت 72) السنة: 2023

The Middle Ages was a period that witnessed the rise Muslim Empires in the middle ages. During this period, there were numerous developments in science, art, cultural works, religion and economy that ensured the empires survived. Scholars from various backgrounds in the Islamic world were united with one goal of translating classical knowledge into the Arabic language and were based in the House of Wisdom in Baghdad. This scholarly knowledge was vital to the success of the empire and advancement in new ways. This ideas is very important to clarify and correct the image of Islam in the west.

✓ Quran and arabic language

The holly Quran is written in Arabic and his words are sacred, and making copies of Quran is has always been a respected job since the foundation of Islam. The documentary shows the beautiful aspects of the arabic calligraphy, It has has a strong history in the Islamic world in merging culture and geometry. It allows you a myriad of ways in creating one-of-a-kind calligraphic expressions. Thus, the beauty of the arabic language and calligraphy was very clear in this documentary.

✓ The mosque, prayer and reading the Holly Quran

The film shows some mosques in Baghdad, Damascus and Cairo, which is a sign of the sanctity and beauty of the place, as it is clear that people pray lined up and this shows the importance of prayer and its role in the lives of Muslims. Prayer is one of the five pillars of Islam, it was made obligatory for all Muslims, it allows the believer to enrich their spirituality through the connection woth our Lord.

✓ Medecine and Ibn Sina

The Islamic empire known a great movement in medecine and pharmacy. Ibn sina or Avecena as known in the west tration. He was one of the most eminent Muslim physicians and philosophers of his days whose influence on Islamic and European medicine persisted for centuries thanks to many of his books like the canon in medecine which is among the famous books in the history of medecine. This is a sign of the large Islamic contribution in the field of medecine.

the islamic contribution in medecine witnessed the first anatomical illustration in history (illustration of the eye). In addition, there are many tools of surgery and anatomy in Noure-ddine hospital in Damascus which is a leading hospital of the Islamic empire; it was opened for all community in that times (for muslims and non-muslims).

✓ Voice of Adhan (call for the prayer)

The voice of the Adan (call for prayer) has appeared in many shots of the film, it reflects the Islamic culture, The Adhan is delivered five times a day to remind Muslims to come to mandatory prayer and leave wordly matters behind. It is common to hear the call to prayer in the Muslim countries.

Music and sound effects

مجلد: 27 عدد: 3 (رت 72) السنة: 2023

The documentary has succeded in transmeting the message to the audience through the music and some sound effects. It used the oriental music; different tunes were heard by using some specific instruments needed to make the region completely unique in music. In creating this kind of music certain tools should be used like: ganun, darbouka, drum, doumbek, and oud.

Lighting

Lighting is a fendamental cinematic element because it makes the visual mood and sence of meaning for the audiences. In this documentary film Science and Islam lighting varied between natural lighting through the light of the sun and daylight in different parts of the film; in streets, markets, mosques of Baghdad, Egypt and Damascus and artificial lighting that was the best way to achieve well-lit scenes in order to make what we see in the film almost similar to what we see in real life.

Conclusion

This research provides us with insightful results and conclusion

- ✓ The documentary (science and Islam) includes many semiological signs.
- ✓ The image in the documentary film under study is open for many interpretations.
- ✓ the documentary used rhetorical images that shows the bright side of Islam far from fanaticism and terrorism as propagated in western media.
- ✓ The image in this documentary reflected the value of science in the Islamic civilization like : mathematics, geometery, algebra, architecture, medecine, pharmacy and calligraphy.
- ✓ the characters played an important role in the image; Jim Alkhalili as the main character, besides some scientists.
- ✓ A famous figure was hired to make the image more credible and rhetoric.
- ✓ The documentary uses music and some sound effects to give more significace to the image which basically related to the eastern and Islamic culture.
- ✓ Rhetoric of the image was related to semiology of place which varied between internal and external shot, like streets, mosques, hospitals, museum...etc
- ✓ The image is related to the sociocultural of the icons appeared in this documentary (mosques, Quran, Islamic architecture, music, arab cities and arabic language ...)
- ✓ The image tried to deliver ideas and messages effectively as a language, this may make a significant contribution to change the image of mulims and arabs in the west.
- ✓ Lighting played an important role to make the image rhetorical and significant.

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مجلد: 27 عدد: 3 (رت 72) السنة: 2023

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