THE WAY CHINESE-DESCENDENT MOTHERS TEACH CHINESE CULTURE AND THE PRESERVED TRADITIONS IN INDONESIAN-CHINESE MULTICULTURAL FAMILY: A REFLECTION THROUGH THE JOY LUCK CLUB BY AMY TAN

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Abstract

Since The Joy Luck Club mainly focuses on Chinese culture, it is acknowledged by people around the world that Chinese culture is rich with the values and history which influences every slide of world history. Although Chinese people are recently residing far away from mainland China, the cultural values they have learned before it will be remained within themselves. To uphold the cultural values and traditions within a Chinese-descendent family, the role of mother is needed. However, since most of the Chinese-descendent families live in multicultural neighborhood with the assimilated cultures—like Indonesia—it is unknown whether the Chinese cultural values and traditions are being preserved or not. This study is focused on the way Chinese-descendent mothers teach the Chinese culture and the preserved traditions of Chinese culture within the family. The mothers from The Joy Luck Club represent the role of Chinese-descendent mother in teaching the children the cultural values. These figures are reflected through the mothers in the two cities of Indonesia, Tarakan and Samarinda, as the representation. There are similarities and differences from the mothers from the novel and the two cities in Indonesia in nurturing the children with their cultural values. It comes from the way each mother teaches their cultural values, especially in teaching integrity and filial piety to the children with the mothers’ own method. Several Chinese cultures and traditions are mentioned and still preserved by the family, both in the novel and inside the Indonesian-Chinese mothers’ families. The Lunar New Year and Moon Festival are the examples of the preserved traditions within the family. The results of these studies will show how valuable the cultural values and traditions are and this study will give a further comprehension in preserving the cultural values within a family.

Key words: Chinese culture, Indonesian-Chinese, multicultural, The Joy Luck Club, Amy Tan

Abstrak


Kata kunci: kebudayaan Cina, Indonesia-Cina, multikultur, The Joy Luck Club, Amy Tan

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References


Know about Chinese culture and traditions, Chinese culture is an amalgamation of old-world traditions and a westernized lifestyle. Get to know more about the Chinese Cultural Revolution. Chinese Religion, Philosophy and Politics: Confucianism, Taoism and Buddhism have left a collective and lasting impression on Chinese culture and tradition. Confucianism propagated "Ren" (Love) and "Li" (rituals), signifying respect for society and social hierarchy. Taoism advocated the controversial philosophy of inaction. Buddhism emphasized on the need to attain self-emancipation through good deeds. Politics in China has a well-known tradition of diplomacy and statesmanship. The domination of successive dynasties left a deep impact on Chinese History. Online and offline Chinese resources for families who are learning Mandarin as a second language! Hanyu World is an online Chinese language and culture learning library with a wonderful collection of audio-visual resources. (FREE & bilingual site – Taiwan). Confucius Institute Online (CIO) has programs in major universities in the U.S. and worldwide. Sample Masha and the Bear in Chinese. (Mandarin Chinese with Chinese subtitle). Chinese Shima Shima Tora no Shimajirō: This tiger is from Japan and it is loved by numerous young children in Japan (Japanese Edition), Taiwan, and China (Mandarin Chinese Edition). The Chinese Cultural Dimension. In order to facilitate its comprehensiveness, a paper on a particular national cultural dimension must begin with a preliminary understanding of the basic cultural construct. terms of Chinese values, communication norms, and differences with other cultures. The analysis. as in Western countries, the breadth of the family tends to be much more extended in Chinese. society resulting to higher degree of collectivism. In the effort to keep the group knit, Chinese. tend to avoid topics that are controversial like criticism of state administration and focus. conversations on work and family (Dadfar, 2001).