

Representation and Stereotyping: Images of Arabs

Name

Course

Date

Films

Legionnaire (1998)

Director: Peter MacDonald



Day of the Falcon (2011)

Director: Jean-Jacques Annaud



Legionnaire: denotation and connotation



Attack of men on horses wearing traditional clothes

Connotation

**Arabs are savages
Arabs are violent
murders**



Legionnaire: denotation and connotation



**Men in black clothes
attack positions of the
legionnaires**

Connotation

- Arabs are dangerous
- Arabs are enemies of civilization
- Legionnaires are heroes



Legionnaire: denotation and connotation



Connotation

- Arabs are barbaric
- Arabs are warriors
- Main character is a hero



**Widely screaming men
with guns**

Day of the Falcon: denotation and connotation



Connotation

- Arabs oppose progress and modern civilization



The man in traditional clothes shoots down a plane

Day of the Falcon: denotation and connotation



Fight between men on horses and modern machines

Connotation

- Arabs prefer traditional ways of fighting
- But some Arabs can use machines as well



Day of the Falcon: denotation and connotation



One group of Arabs attack machines, while the other group protect these machines

Connotation

- Arabs can use modern techniques
- Not all Arabs oppose progress



Conclusions

Legionnaire

- The film represents negative stereotypes of Arabs as savages and violent warriors
- Legionnaires who fight against these unruly Arabs are shown as heroes

Day of the Falcon

- The film focuses on the conflict between traditions and progress, and clearly promotes progress
- The film shows benign stereotypes, and claims that Arabs can support modern civilization and progress

Works cites

- Annaud, Jean-Jacques. Day of the Falcon. Warner Brothers. 2011.
- MacDonald, Peter. Legionnaire. Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation. 1998.