

# 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



**Widely screaming men  
with guns**

## Connotation

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





# Day of the Falcon: denotation and connotation



The man in traditional clothes shoots down a plane

## Connotation

- Arabs oppose progress and modern civilization



# 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.