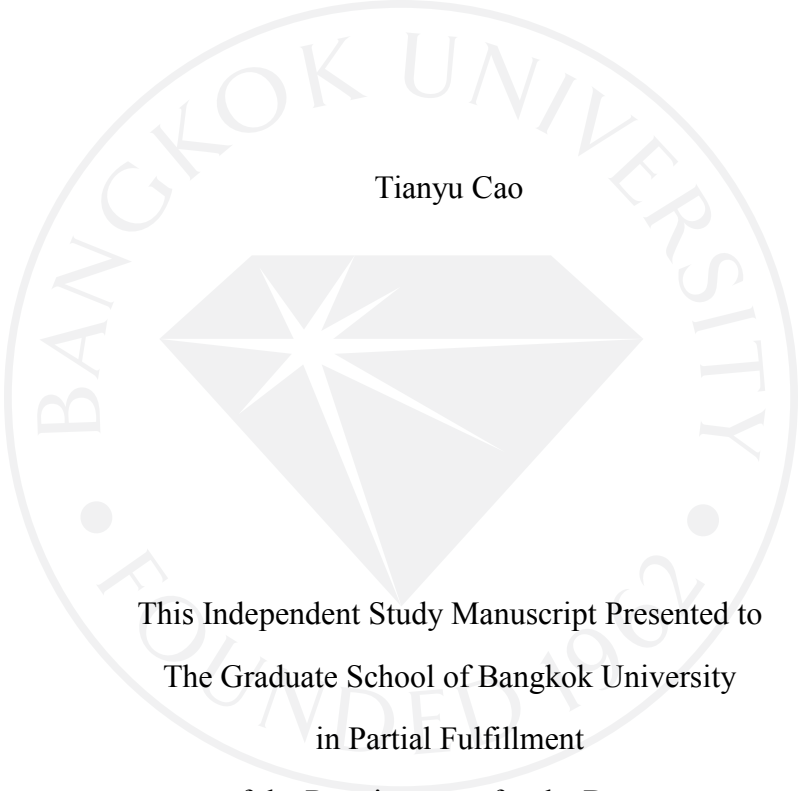


THE INFLUENCE OF CHINESE KUNG FU FILM ON HOLLYWOOD FILM



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The influence of Chinese Kung Fu film on Hollywood film ( 58 pp.)

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## ABSTRACT

Nowadays, with the growing of the movie industries, more and more people pay close attention to the development of movies. Because of the population, China always make various kinds of films, in particular with Kung Fu films, which relates to Chinese culture, because of its mystery and special charms, foreign people can be attracted.

The paper discusses about Chinese Kung Fu films and Hollywood films. It will use sampling movies of China and USA to compare with each other, to find Kung Fu elements in Hollywood, and at the same time, main contents of the paper will be divided into two parts. The first one is analysis of three Chinese Kung Fu films which have an influence on Hollywood. And the second part is using data and specific movies to analyze how these three movies can bring influence to Hollywood and how Hollywood movies can relate to Chinese culture and Kung Fu. All of movies that the paper will use can contain Chinese martial arts elements or Hollywood actions.

*Keywords: Chinese Kung Fu, Hollywood, Movie, Film*

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## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Rationale and Problem Statement

At present time, film industry has already become an important part of global economy. For some people, movies can be a significant aspect in their daily lives, people can forget from their real lives and throw themselves into films to acquire a comfortable and relaxed moment. That is why films can be extremely popular. Hollywood is the most famous film manufactures in the world, the movies produced and can make money. If it is a movie with a mass of marketing and high-level visual effect, advertising and marketing can transmit message and information to the audience. The power of them is growing, the more people can know the movie. In addition to Hollywood film, people all know that China is another big film production country with amount of films. From network data, people can find that in 2012, 893 films<sup>1</sup> were made by China, including 745 story movies<sup>2</sup>, 15 documentary<sup>3</sup> and other kinds of films. And the box office is 170.73 million Chinese yuan<sup>4</sup>, the homemade box office is 82.73 million yuan<sup>5</sup>. And in 2014, 638 story films<sup>6</sup> were made by China. Most of time, the yield of the movie which comes from China is in the top 3<sup>7</sup> of the world. For Hollywood, according to the MPAA (Motion Picture Association of

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<sup>1</sup> Data taken from <http://www.199it.com/archives/99919.html>

<sup>2</sup> Data taken from <http://www.199it.com/archives/99919.html>

<sup>3</sup> Data taken from <http://www.199it.com/archives/99919.html>

<sup>4</sup> Data taken from <http://ent.cntv.cn/2013/01/10/ARTI1357787586921532.shtml>

<sup>5</sup> Data taken from <http://ent.cntv.cn/2013/01/10/ARTI1357787586921532.shtml>

<sup>6</sup> Data taken from <http://www.chyxx.com/industry/201410/289208.html>

<sup>7</sup> Data taken from [http://news.xinhuanet.com/newmedia/2010-05/19/c\\_12118313.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/newmedia/2010-05/19/c_12118313.htm)

America), in 2010, 706 films<sup>8</sup> were rated and 560 films<sup>9</sup> were released. Although Hollywood only occupies 6%<sup>10</sup> of the whole film yield in the world, its influence is stronger than China's. According to the data, people know that these 6%<sup>11</sup> of the films occupied 80%<sup>12</sup> of the film market of the whole world. Each country's films have their own advantages and features, for Chinese films, the most attractive and impressive film is Kung fu film, which includes many factors of Chinese culture and because the action of Kung fu is different from other kinds of fight actions, it focuses on basic training, such as carrying water and standing on the stump. Kung Fu pays attention to the "spirit", not only for actions, this is different from others. Real Chinese Kung fu is not suitable for competition, because some actions, like digging eyes from Wing Chun, Grabbing Hands can make people feel dislocated. With the rules, they can't release their power. But they were always showed in Chinese Kung fu films and western people love this mysterious oriental culture. The topic is interesting, because this oriental martial art is one of the successful films in Hollywood.

## 1.2 Objectives of Study

The study will be divided into two parts. The first one is the analysis of fighting scenes in three Chinese Kung Fu movies that influenced Hollywood, especially using fighting scenes

<sup>8</sup> Data taken from <https://www.quora.com/How-many-movies-are-made-in-Hollywood-every-year#!n=12>

<sup>9</sup> Data taken from <https://www.quora.com/How-many-movies-are-made-in-Hollywood-every-year#!n=12>

<sup>10</sup> Data taken from <http://www.mofangge.com/html/qDetail/08/g0/201408/nfqdg008169790.html>

<sup>11</sup> Data taken from <http://www.mofangge.com/html/qDetail/08/g0/201408/nfqdg008169790.html>

<sup>12</sup> Data taken from <http://www.mofangge.com/html/qDetail/08/g0/201408/nfqdg008169790.html>

to analyze. Then the second part is Hollywood uses movies to pick up parts of Chinese culture and Kung Fu. The paper will use focus group of qualitative research, finding 8 people who has interested in movies to be a group and discuss about the influence of Chinese Kung Fu on Hollywood, to find more interesting idea from others. 3 people were coming from China and 5 people were coming from Thailand. All of them are interested in movies or TV drama and they discussed about the topic in a room. People can get different idea from others, 4 people thought that Chinese Kung Fu can affect Hollywood and they also gave the example like <Kung Fu Panda>. 2 friends thought that Kung Fu can not affect Hollywood because Hollywood has its own fighting styles. Last 2 people were not sure about whether Kung Fu can has an influence on Hollywood. People can get different opinions when these 8 people sit together to be a group.

### 1.3 Scope of Study

People may know that there is a term for people that like movies, especially in action films. Whatever the actors or actions of fight, people always can find the shadow of Chinese Kung Fu film. Such as in <Kill Bill Vol.1><sup>13</sup>, there was a scene that The Bride wears a yellow jumpsuit which is a classic clothing of Bruce Lee. In <Charlie's Angels><sup>14</sup> and <The Matrix><sup>15</sup>, the stunt coordinator was Yuan Heping,

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<sup>13</sup> <Kill Bill Vol.1>,Quentin Tarantino,Miramax Films,2003

<sup>14</sup> <Charlie's Angels> Joseph McGinty Nichol Columbia Pictures 2000

<sup>15</sup> <The Matrix>,Andy Wachowski,Larry Wachowski,Warner Bros. Entertainment,1999

who is a very famous action director in China. He directed <Drunken Fist><sup>16</sup> and <Kung Fu Hustle><sup>17</sup> before and achieved success. These cases show that Chinese Kung Fu films were recognized and accepted by Hollywood and many Hollywood films were affected by Chinese Kung Fu. The paper will choose <Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon><sup>18</sup>, <Enter the Dragon><sup>19</sup> and <Rumble in the Bronx><sup>20</sup>, which were three famous Chinese Kung Fu films and <The Matrix>, which is a Hollywood action film and was influenced by Chinese elements. It demonstrates the influence of Chinese Kung Fu movies in Hollywood, theories that the paper will use is Auteur Theory, which was presented by Andre Bazin and Roger Leenhardt in 1940s and it talks about director's idea. A film may reflect director's own viewpoint. The second one is Montage Theory, this theory was presented by Sergei Eisenstein and it relates to editing of the movie, montage is a way to display a film and different ways of editing may bring different feelings to the audience. Then will be the screen theory, which was presented by Colin MacCabe, Stephen Heath and Laura Mulvey. It talks about the audience, and highlights the audience is important. The last one is Structuralist film theory, which is a branch of film theory, it was proposed by Henri Bergson. This theory talks about message transmission, using different ways, such as nonverbal ways, codes and others to transmit message.

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<sup>16</sup> <Drunken Fist>, Yuan Heping Seasonal Film Corporation, 1978

<sup>17</sup> <Kung Fu Hustle>, Stephen Chow Huayi Bros. Media Group, 2004

<sup>18</sup> <Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon>, Ang Lee, China Film Co-Production Corporation, 2000

<sup>19</sup> <Enter The Dragon>, Gao Leshi, Jiahe Entertainment Limited, 1973

<sup>20</sup> <Rumble in the Bronx>, Stanley Tong, Jiahe Entertainment Limited, 1994

#### **1.4 Research Questions**

What influence can be found through Chinese Kung Fu to Hollywood? What benefits can Hollywood get when they add Chinese elements? Why Hollywood films pay close attention to Chinese film markets? What changes that people can find in Hollywood action films when they increase oriental culture and factors from China?

#### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

China and USA communicate with each other frequently in many aspects, not only in economic, political aspects, but also in culture terms. Therefore films can be a way to transmit culture to other people, such local value systems and traditions. In both Hollywood and Chinese films, people always can find their own culture and moral values, such as the heroism in Hollywood action movies and collectivism in Chinese movies. People from other countries can get this information.

Although the script of the movie will be written by script writers. Sometimes, the prototype of the story may come from people's real lives, but people can add fictitious elements to perfect the whole movie. For Chinese Kung fu film, it also has its own appealing aspects. Incredible fighting actions, the action is full of Chinese culture and characteristic, such as modesty and respect to your opponent. When people fight with each other, sometimes they will send their respects. These details can lead people into another world which is full of hint and aspects of Chinese culture. Because of this, Chinese Kung Fu films can achieve success abroad and in America in particular.

Some filmmakers, such as Quentin Tarantino, who is a fan of Bruce Lee. That's when he made <Kill Bill Vol.1>, he lets the actress to wear the classic clothing of Bruce Lee, a yellow jumpsuit. Some Kung Fu stars can leave an impressive impression to the audience and other filmmakers, some of them can be attracted and add these fresh elements into their own film products.



## CHAPTER 2

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### 2.1 Related Literature and Previous Studies and Theories

Movies are an important part of the culture industry. Jerome.J.V says that “Thus, while those reviews correctly rejected the film's misleading thesis of "no different", they also tended to overlook the significance of the fact that a Hollywood film had been compelled to raise, however inadequately, the question of negro equality. It means that movie industry also can relate to the culture, and African American can be an element for Hollywood”.(1952, p.45). New elements can bring changes, it also can be used for Kung fu movies, the oriental movement attracts many audiences. Many people were fascinated by magnificent fighting actions. That’s why Hollywood wants to add Chinese factors in their own films. Battison.H.J says that “For the creation of many special effects, simple inversion of the camera is all that is required. This operation is used chiefly to cause titles to appear suddenly and built up gradually to completion and for effects where it is necessary for the last scene recorded by the camera to be the first seen by the audience”(1950, p.215) It mentions filmmakers will use more ways to achieve better visual effects because audience love it. Audience want to relax and enjoy the show, even though may forget the story. The video still can remain an impressive impression for the audience. Chinese Kung fu actions are according with Hollywood’s demand, to use high-level visual effects to attract more people in the world and win the box office. They absorb the advantage like the strong



spirit and flexible movements of Kung fu and put them into their own films. It can relate to Auteur theory, which was presented by Andre Bazin and Roger Leenhardt in 1940s and it holds the point that a film can reflect the director's personal creative vision. Because this theory explains that each film or TV program has some exceptional idea and creative contents. Directors can show their ideas, such as using lens to tell the story to the people or using the whole story to show their own feelings and opinions. Director is a person who should be the commander and control the movie. Such as in <So Young><sup>21</sup>, which is a Chinese youth film movie with 729 million yuan<sup>22</sup> of the box office. The director Vicki Zhao showed that everyone's youthful time should be remembered.

Zhang says that "Chinese Kung Fu is the treasure of China, it still has development potential and contains Chinese culture, such as tolerance and humble."(2015, p.54) Real Kung fu lets justice be done, not be used to kill people. Films also can show this point. In <Ip Man><sup>23</sup>, Ye Wen uses Martial arts to save people's lives from danger.

Zhang says that "Chinese Kung fu is mysterious, they are quite a lot of kinds of movements. Sometimes, people can use both soft and tough actions, doing more exercise can make people's body powerful.(2002, p.6) Western people love this kind of mystery, even emaciated people can win the battle when they know Kung fu. For a long time, western people thought that every Chinese people knows how to use Kung

<sup>21</sup><So Young>, Vicki Zhao, HS Entertainment Group Incorporated, China Film Co-Production Corporation, 2013

<sup>22</sup> Data taken from <http://baike.baidu.com/subview/1152550/7293261.htm#viewPageContent>

<sup>23</sup><Ip Man>, Wilson Yip Wai Shun, New classic entertainment media group, Mandarin Films Limited, 2008

fu. It reflected that these sorts of actions were very popular at that time. Nowadays, there are many kinds of action film in the world, different countries have different ways of fighting. Such as the series of <ONG BAK><sup>24</sup>, which are Thai action movies, it is very clearly that people can find Thai boxing there. Hollywood likes using guns and Chinese movies like using Kung fu, such as American movie <Air Force One><sup>25</sup>. The president was fighting with terrorists, especially on the plane, using the gun to shoot and protect hostages. And the series of <Ip Man>, which talked a story of Ip man, who was a well-known Kung Fu master in China. In the movie, Ip man used Wing Chun, which is a kind of Chinese traditional Kung Fu to fight with others and show the justice. But nowadays, with the development of the movie and tendency of globalization, each country links to each other closely, including film industry. Hollywood and Chinese film both absorb advantages from each other. Therefore, many new action films at present time, such as in <Transformers: Age of Extinction><sup>26</sup>. One of the most important actress was Lee Bingbing, who is very famous in China. And in <The Expendables Vol.1><sup>27</sup>, Jet Li was an important actor in the movie, he fights with others by Chinese Kung Fu.

Bordwell says that “Thus the use of editing, though important, is wholly at the discretion of the filmmaker. still, one can see why editing has exercised such an enormous fascination for film asetheticans, for as a technique it is very powerful.”

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<sup>24</sup><ONG BAK3>, Tony Jaa, Iyara Films, 2010

<sup>25</sup><Air Force One>, Wolfgang Petersen, Columbia Pictures, 1996

<sup>26</sup><Transformers: Age of Extinction>, Michael Bay, Paramount Pictures, 2014

<sup>27</sup><The Expendables Vol.1>, Michael Sylvester Gardenzio Stallone, Millennium Films, 2010

(1997, p.201). Editing is an important part of a film. It can be a decisive element of the style of the movie. This kind of technique is very powerful. It can be a key to make an influence on films' overall construction and effect. Bordwell's idea may have a connection with Montage theory, which was presented by Sergei Eisenstein, who was the father of the montage of attractions. This is a well-known and frequently-used theory, it related to editing of the film, montage is a way to display a film and different ways of editing can change a movie into different feelings. Especially for action film, such as Kung fu movie, film makers must do a good job when they edit the film. It can generate good effects when they cut fantastic scenes together. Audiences also can feel good when they watch a film like this, action film always try their best to attract people by their brilliant actions of fight. Montage should be very significant, good films need good editing. Such in <The Twin Dragons><sup>28</sup>, which is a classic action film of Jackie Chan, there is a scene that two "Jackie Chan" are fighting with others, one know Kung Fu, but another one can't fight. The director used Montage editing methods to link each scene to each other, highlighting different situations of both of them and using rapid editing to set off by contract scene. Wan Ming is fighting with bad guys and Ma You is evading. <Reservoir Dog><sup>29</sup> is another famous movie which directed by Quentin Tarantino. At the first of the movie, there was a 6-people scene, they talked with each other. It was a scene with good editing, the director used moving camera to shoot, with the standard of film axis, to

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<sup>28</sup><The Twin Dragons>,Hark Tusi,Jiahe Entertainment Limited,1991

<sup>29</sup><Reservoir Dog>,Quentin Tarantino,Live Entertainment,1992

shoot one people, two people or shoot the opposite through one people's shoulder.

The direction of eyes from actors can be a point of editing, whatever the rhythm or the joint, they were all suitable.

Blumer says that “Meanwhile children clamor to attend the movies as often as they are allowed to go. Moving pictures make a profound appeal to children of all ages. Whatever the audience is, they still can get information from motion pictures.”(1933, p.10) It relates to Screen theory, which was presented by Colin MacCabe, Stephen Heath and Laura Mulvey. It talks about the audience, and highlights how important the audience is. For a movie, audience is very important, they should acts on first. Audience is the base of a film, a successful film must attracts many people, each person is different in the world, there is no film that everyone can like. It is very hard for a movie to get recognition from everybody. When filmmakers want to add some new elements into the film, it should be dangerous, because no one knows whether it can be successful. Audience can reflect the popularity of the movie. The movie called <Lost in Thailand><sup>30</sup> was a very successful movie in China. It gained 12.67 million Chinese yuan<sup>31</sup> of box office in China and also, caused a upsurge for travelers to come to Thailand. Especially for Qiang Mai, which was the location of shooting of the movie.

Kawin says that “But a photograph is not a simple thing, and once several photographs are arranged into a structure, that structure reveals mystery of its own,

<sup>30</sup><Lost in Thailand>, Xu Zheng, Enlight Pictures,2012

<sup>31</sup> Data taken from <http://baike.baidu.com/view/9213587.htm?fromtitle=泰囧&fromid=8716555&type=syn>

for it begins to display some of the attributions of a language: a signifying system.”

(1987, p.55) Film scenes are vital aspects of understanding the story or the plots. It relates to Structuralist film theory, this theory talks about message transmission, using nonverbal ways, codes and others to transmit message. It relates to communication, but not using languages. Movies are a platform to transmit information and messages to the audience. Even when there is no words spoken, with the help of non-verbal cues, people can get information and ideas. Action is a very good way to transmit messages, no word talking, but people still can know what they want to express. Such as in <21-The Movie><sup>32</sup>, the professor took his students to the casino, using eyes and gesture language to transmit information and get money.

## 2.2 Theoretical Framework

The paper talks about Chinese Kung fu and Hollywood film, also the influence of Kung fu film on Hollywood. There are many research paper of Chinese Kung Fu, such as <A brief analysis of the history and benefits of Kung Fu> on March 10, 2013. <Kung Fu and its effect on Asia> on November 26, 2012. People also can get much information from previous work, but not so much work about the influence that people can find. In fact, Chinese Kung fu had an influence on Hollywood for many years. Nowadays, even people can find so many Chinese film actors and actress in Hollywood films. People can say that Hollywood links to Kung fu closely. In the

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<sup>32</sup><21-The Movie>,Robert Luketic,Columbia Pictures,2008

paper, the research will focus on influence of Chinese Kung fu film on Hollywood's film industry.



## CHAPTER 3

### METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 The Way of the Research

The research method is qualitative research, three Chinese famous Kung fu movies and one Hollywood film will be used to this study because all of these movies are famous and successful. Specific films can help people to know clearly about the research, finding the influence of Chinese Kung fu film on Hollywood movie. From recent years, such as in 2001, 2007 and 2014, the series of <Rush Hour><sup>33</sup>, Jackie Chan was the main character of the movie. In 2008, 2011, 2016, the series of <Kung Fu Panda><sup>34</sup>, all the things in the movie were related to China, the main character is Panda Bao, and people can find Master Shifu and other characters with Chinese elements. And they all know Kung Fu, such as Tiger and Mantis. From sceneries to food, they all full of Chinese factors, such as ancient rampart, steamed vegetable stuffed bun, ancient bowls and chopsticks. In 2006, < Mission: impossible 3><sup>35</sup>, which used Shanghai to be the shooting location for a part of the movie. From aerial camera, people can find the Oriental Pearl Tower, the bund, when Tom Cruise leap onto roofs and vault over walls, people can find Chinese traditional life style. Such as using bamboo pole to dry clothes. People can find that there are many kinds of Chinese factors in the movie, and Hollywood really gets benefits when they find the charm of Chinese Kung fu. Attractive fighting actions can attract more people.

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<sup>33</sup><Rush Hour>, Brett Ratner, New Line cinema, 1998

<sup>34</sup><Kung Fu Panda>, Mark Osborne, Paramount Pictures, 2008

<sup>35</sup><Mission: impossible 3>, J. J. Abrams, Paramount Pictures, 2006

### 3.2 Sample Collection

The first movie that the paper will choose is <Enter the Dragon>, which was made in 1973 and released in Hong Kong on July 26, 1973. The director was Robert Clouse, he was an American film director and producer and made action and adventure films before, such as <Game of Death><sup>36</sup>, <Force: Five><sup>37</sup>. <Enter the dragon> became a famous Chinese action film because it featured Bruce Lee. Although it had some coproduction with Hollywood, the main part of the production was Chinese. Bruce Lee became a very famous Kung fu star in the world, although he was born in USA, he still wanted to show Chinese Kung fu to the world. Actually, Bruce Lee brought Chinese Kung fu into Hollywood. Lee was not only good at fist position, but also can do a good job when he used nunchakus and other weapons. Brilliant actions scenes attracted western audiences, and for Lee, this meant recognition and stardom. He was awarded the “Martial arts movie star award” on November 1998, and he also got “Lifetime Achievement Award” in 1993<sup>38</sup>. Bruce Lee made American audiences know what is Chinese Kung Fu. He also made contributions to Chinese Kung fu. <Enter the Dragon><sup>39</sup> is very famous and also won the high box office in USA, 230 million dollars<sup>40</sup> were made in ticket sales by this movie. Hollywood filmmakers got some new ideas when they discovered who was Bruce Lee and what was Chinese Kung fu. They found that Kung fu actions may bring some benefits to Hollywood, therefore,

<sup>36</sup><Game of Death>,Robert Clouse,Jiahe Entertainment Limited,1978

<sup>37</sup><Force: Five>,Robert Clouse,ACG Motion Pictures,1981

<sup>38</sup> Data taken from <http://baike.baidu.com/subview/3091/8045178.htm>

<sup>39</sup><Enter The Dragon> ,Gao Leshi ,Jiahe Entertainment Limited ,1973

<sup>40</sup> Data taken from

<http://baike.baidu.com/subview/229652/6195844.htm?fromtitle=Enter+the+Dragon&fromid=1736528&type=syn>



Hollywood started to add more Chinese Kung fu factors in the movie.

The second Chinese Kung fu film that the paper will select is <Rumble in the Bronx><sup>41</sup>, which was made in 1994 and released on January 25, 1995. The director was Stanley Tong, who was a famous director in Hong Kong, he made many excellent films before, such as <Police Story 3><sup>42</sup> in 1992, <The Myth><sup>43</sup> in 2005 and <Chinese Zodiac><sup>44</sup> in 2012. All of these films featured Jackie Chan as the main character. <Rumble in the Bronx> made 32 million dollars<sup>45</sup> of box office in USA and almost 57 million Hong Kong dollars<sup>46</sup> in China. The major actor was Jackie Chan, who is an international Kung Fu star in the world. The Kung Fu style of Jackie Chan is different from Bruce Lee. Lee's actions are more harder and stronger, but for Jackie Chan, he added more comedy factors in Kung fu and more actions were comfort to the Kung fu movie. People like this kind of film, because they can see brilliant actions and some comedy factors. Jackie Chan's films brought a new way of Kung fu to western countries, because most people knew what is Kung fu by Bruce Lee. And the way of actions of Lee were more practical and murderous. But Jackie Chan brought different ways of Kung fu. He made Kung fu became more ornamental and also added some comedy elements, such as he felt pain and jumped when he has been overthrown by a bad guy. This kind of scene can makes people feel happy when they watch the movie, that's why Jackie Chan can be very popular in Hollywood.

<sup>41</sup><Rumble in the Bronx>, Stanley Tong, Jiahe Entertainment Limited, 1994

<sup>42</sup><Police Story 3>, Stanley Tong, Jiahe Entertainment Limited, 1992

<sup>43</sup><The Myth>, Stanley Tong, China Film Group Corporation, Jackie Chan Emperor Movies Limited, 2005

<sup>44</sup><Chinese Zodiac>, Stanley Tong, Huayi Bros. Media Group, 2012

<sup>45</sup> Data taken from <http://baike.baidu.com/view/358819.htm>

<sup>46</sup> Data taken from <http://baike.baidu.com/view/358819.htm>

<Rumble in the Bronx> made Jackie Chan to be a very famous star in Hollywood, although he had some coproduction with Hollywood before, <Rumble in the Bronx> made Jackie Chan became well-known in USA. Because the movie was shot in New York and this make American audience feel more comfortable with the location of the movie. As a Hong Kong police officer, Jackie Chan displayed his brilliant Kung fu actions in the film. This film was successful in Hollywood and made people know another side of Chinese Kung fu. A side that mixed martial arts and comedy.

The last selected Chinese Kung fu movie is <Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon><sup>47</sup>, which was made in 2000, released on May 16, 2000 in France and released on July 8, 2000 in China. The director was Ang Lee, who won the 78<sup>th</sup> and 85<sup>th</sup> Oscar award of best director<sup>48</sup> by <Brokeback Mountain><sup>49</sup> in 2006 and <Life of Pi><sup>50</sup> in 2013.

<Crouching tiger, hidden dragon> is a very famous Kung fu movie that won 4 Oscar awards at the 73<sup>rd</sup> Oscar awards ceremony, including the best foreign language film at that time. And also it was nominated by other 6 awards<sup>51</sup>. People can say that it was the first time that western people in touch with Chinese mysterious and beautiful Kung fu, which people fight with each other in the sky or on the water. Because some people thought that Kung fu was powerful and fierce, but after they watched the movie, they had a new idea of Kung fu, Kung fu also can be very beautiful. And this

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<sup>47</sup><Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon> ,Ang Lee,China Film Co-Production Corporation,2000

<sup>48</sup> Data taken from <http://baike.baidu.com/subview/25290/6326835.htm>

<sup>49</sup><Brokeback Mountain>,Ang Lee,Focus Features,2005

<sup>50</sup><Life of Pi>,Ang Lee,20th Century Fox Film Corporation,2012

<sup>51</sup> Data taken from <http://baike.baidu.com/subview/27115/5421772.htm>

movie won more than 200 million dollars in USA<sup>52</sup>

Because of the life of Ang Lee, the most time he spent was in USA, when he made <Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon>, he added some western factors as well. Such as narrative ways of the story, the character of the actor and actress and some other things, most of these kinds of thing can be recognized by western audience. This movie was a shock In USA film market and after that a trend of learning Kung fu was started. This film had an influence on Hollywood film, actors always fly in the sky when they fight with each other, not like American fighters who always fight on the ground or in a car or other transportations. This movie gave Hollywood a new idea, that they can find more ways of magnificent fighting and add some Chinese mysterious factors.

Hollywood learned a lot from Chinese Kung fu and added these kinds of elements into their later films. People can find these factors in the movie. A series of films named as <The Matrix><sup>53</sup> brought many Chinese martial elements in the movie. There were so many fighting scenes in the movie and people can find that there were many actions of Chinese styles. The director of <The Matrix> was Andy Wachowski, who is a fan of Chinese Kung fu. When he made this film, he invited Chinese famous martial art consultants to help him to design actions. Fight choreographer can be a soul of action movies, they design fighting movements, teach actors to learn and master Kung fu. How to make a scene looks like fantastic also that they will think

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<sup>52</sup> Data taken from <http://baike.baidu.com/subview/27115/5421772.htm>

<sup>53</sup><The Matrix>,Andy Wachowski,Larry Wachowski,Warner Bros. Entertainment,1999

about. The major Character, Neo was a good fighter and people can find Kung fu from him. With the visual effect, the movie looked very beautiful and gorgeous. People can find there is an influence on Hollywood when it decided to add Kung fu into their films. Some famous directors also like it, they watch Kung fu films and let them display in their own films. People can see that these different kinds of movements made the whole film looks magnificent.

### 3.3 Analysis of Sampling Films

< Enter the dragon >, it is a Kung Fu film, audience can find both Chinese Kung fu and western boxing, it seemed like a East and West combination. Lee, who was acted by Bruce Lee, is a right-minded person, he got the mission from his Master, to investigate an event about drug trade. This movie is an action movie, people can find many fight scenes in the film. From 0:0:35—0:2:35, there is a fight scene between Lee and another competitor.



Figure 3.1: <Enter the Dragon>.

People all know that the opening of a movie is significant, good opening can attract more audience. In this scene, people can find that Li's fist and actions are very powerful, this is a kind of Chinese Kung fu, which uses one fist with power to attack opponent. From this opening, audience can get the keynote of the movie and have some expectation at the first. This scene can relate to Montage theory, using fast-paced editing to connect each lens, to highlight the feeling of tension of the fighting scene. Different ways of editing can change a movie into different feelings, fast-paced editing can make the scene more exciting. In this scene, Bruce Lee was fighting with another man. At first there was a full shot which can introduce the situation and tell audience what they are going to do, after that the director uses a close shot to highlight Bruce Lee, to make audience know that in this scene, he is the main character. Bruce Lee's martial art is powerful and when he fights with others, editing is very important for his actions, it can be a basis for visual effects. People can find full shot, close shot, middle shot, even close-up in this scene. Different shooting scales can bring different feelings to audience, people can know surroundings when they watch a full shot in the movie, and can get message from actor's face when they watch a close shot. when Bruce Lee fights with others, people can clearly see a punch through a close-up, this kind of scenes can show the power of Bruce Lee. That is why Montage theory can be used in this scene, it makes lens to link to each other in different ways and can give audience different feelings.



Figure 3.2: <Kill Bill Vol.1>, <Enter the Dragon>.

In <Kill Bill Vol.1><sup>54</sup>, which was made by Quentin Tarantino in 2002, and was released in 2003. People can find a similar scene, the bride wears a yellow cloth which is same with Bruce Lee's. This movie can be seemed like to salute Bruce Lee. It can relate to Structuralist film theory, which can use nonverbal ways to transmit message, the director used cloth to salute Bruce Lee, no words, but from the action and the color of the cloth, audience can get the message. People can find a full shot in the movie which shows that the actress wears the same cloth with Bruce Lee, audience can see very clearly from her head to feet, even the black stripe of the cloth. At the same time, people can find that in this full shot, there are many people around the actress, it is very similar to Bruce Lee's fighting ways. For Bruce Lee, he always fights with a large number of people, therefore when Quentin Tarantino wants to salute to Bruce Lee, not only for cloth, but also using other surroundings. Audience can directly get this message when they watch this scene. People also can find Auteur theory in these scenes, a film can reflect the director's personal points. From the cloth, audience can find that Quentin Tarantino was saluting to Bruce Lee and Chinese Kung

<sup>54</sup><Kill Bill Vol.1>,Quentin Tarantino,Miramax Films,2003

Fu, he is a Kung Fu fan. Therefore when he made this film, he wants to add some Kung Fu elements, especially obviously. Director is the core of a film, his idea can decide a movie, whatever the style or the content. Some scenes can show director's points apparently, such as this full shot, when audience see the girl who wears a yellow cloth in the movie, they can think of Bruce Lee at once.

From 0:48:15—0:51:00, there is another scene of fighting, it is a fighting scene between foreign people. The main character is Williams, in this fighting scene, people can find the shadow of Chinese Kung fu. When another person kicks his leg to the opponent, people can see clearly that the action is Chinese Kung Fu, that means, at that time, people can find the influence of Chinese Kung Fu.



Figure 3.3: <Enter the Dragon>.

These actions are very same to Bruce Lee's movements.

From 1:17:50—1:25:25, there is another timeline of fighting scene. It is fantastic because this is a fighting of crowd. This is the fighting style of Bruce Lee, one punch

beat down one man, and with the special yell of Bruce Lee, audience can enjoy themselves to the full. Also, in this scene, people can find that Bruce Lee is good at using weapons. When audience watch this movie, they can find that in this scene, Lee uses different weapons, such as nunchakus, to show this special weapon's power. Montage theory can be related to this part, fighting scenes focus more on editing. Good ways of editing can make audience feel exciting and can attract people's eyes. In this scene, people can find many full shots, there are a lot of people sitting around two fighters, full shot can add sense of nervous in this fighting scene. At the beginning of the fighting, two fighters prepare for a long time and see each other. The director uses editing to highlight the stress, full shot emphasis the environment and then jump into a close shot to see actor's faces, such as eyesight. When they fight with each other, people also can find full shot, because with the scream of the crowd, audience can get the superb atmosphere of the fighting. It can help people to blend in the movie. It can relate to Screen theory as well, audience is very important for a movie, filmmakers find many ways to attract audience. Therefore when they make action films, fighting scenes must be attractive. Kung Fu comes from China, but in this scene, people can find some foreign fighters to fight with each other, this is attractive and can be a fresh element in the movie.





Figure 3.4: <Enter the Dragon>.

In Hollywood films, people also can find the shadow of Chinese Kung Fu.



Figure 3.5: <Enter the Dragon>, <DOA: Dead or Alive>, <Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon>.

In <DOA: Dead or Alive><sup>55</sup>, which was made by Yuan Kui in 2006. Some fighting scenes are very similar, especially for kicking movements. These actions are similar to

<sup>55</sup><DOA: Dead or Alive>, Yuan Kui, TFM Distribution, 2006

Bruce Lee's and also can make audience thinking of <Crouching Tiger, Enter the Dragon>.

Generally speaking, <Crouching Tiger, Enter the Dragon> is a film full of Chinese Kung Fu factors. Although it is a co-production with Chinese film companies and Hollywood film corporate, it is still a famous and successful movie in the world and deserve to be remembered forever.

<Rumble in the Bronx> is a co-production of Chinese and Hollywood film companies. The main character is Keung, who is a man from Hong Kong, China. This movie can be a mark of Jackie Chan. The story was set in New York, in this action film, we can find both Chinese Kung Fu elements and Western fighting ways. From 0:17:30—0:19:20, this is a fighting scene which takes place in the supermarket, this is the first time that let audience know the fighting way of Keung, his actions are different from Bruce Lee. Because Bruce Lee's actions are lay emphasis on power and one shot to beat down the people, but for Jackie Chan, his actions are speedy, powerful and full of ornamental value. This is very important for action films, because fantastic actions can be popular in the movie.



Figure 3.6: <Rumble in the Bronx>.

From 0:49:30—0:53:0, there is another fighting scene, Keung was fighting with other foreign guys and showing Chinese Kung Fu as well. These scenes can relate to Structuralist film theory. When Jackie Chan lends a hand to the opponent, no words, but people still can know that he is angry. Close shot can clearly shows Jackie Chan's expression. And for fighting scenes, Jackie Chan's movements are faster and full of ornamental. Therefore editing must highlights the consistency of the action. There is a fighting scene that Jackie Chan and another man are fighting with each other on the billiard table. Two people are standing on the table, and others are waiting near the table, although there is no word, audience still can feel nervous and looking forward to the following plots. In Jackie Chan's action movies, people always can find some actions like jump into the water or jump from a tall building. These kinds of lens need to use editing to link each other. When he jumps from a tall building, people can find lens from different angle. At the same time, when he fall at the ground, lens from different angle can give editors more choices to choose the way of editing. Therefore, if filmmakers want to have more choices in editing, they should have some lens from different angle.



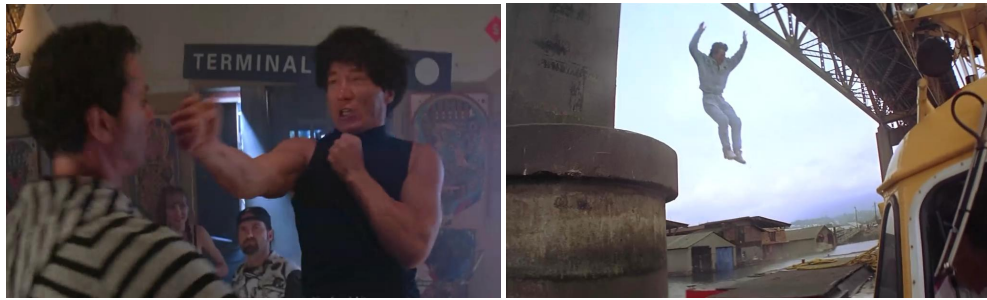


Figure 3.7: <Rumble in the Bronx>.

From < Rumble in the Bronx> and < The Matrix>, people can find some similar things. For the preliminary motion of Kung Fu, they are very similar, and for fighting actions, people can find that the way of punches have something in common. In <The Matrix>, it is easy to find something in common with other Kung Fu movies.



Figure 3.8: <Rumble in the Bronx>, <The Matrix>.

For <The Matrix>, it is totally a movie integrated by Chinese Kung Fu and western fighting. In most of the fighting scenes, people can find Kung Fu. Such as from 0:2:50—0:3:25, this scene is full of Chinese factors, it is totally Chinese Kung

Fu. The girl fly to the sky and kick the enemy, and the finishing position of the girl also is Chinese style. People always can find some actress fly to the sky in Kung Fu movies.



Figure 3.9: <The Matrix>, <Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon>.

Some actions that people can find are very similar to Bruce Lee's fighting movements, especially for kicking actions. Montage theory can be found in these scenes, when actress flying in the sky, using rapid editing to highlight the beauty of the lens, and make the audience to be personally on the scene. Filmmakers like using full shot to highlight the actress, especially when they do some stunner stunts, such as flying in the sky. The camera will follow the actress and move. Therefore, when the editing is finish, people can feel dynamic when they watch the scene. It makes fighting scenes to be more beautiful. It can lets audience to see clearly and know the surroundings, some filmmakers like using wide-angle lens to finish this kind of

scenes.



Figure 3.10: <The Matrix>.

People can find in the movie that the ready positions are Chinese actions, it is very clearly that <The Matrix> draws lessons from Chinese Kung Fu. And the way of punches is the same as well.

People all know that Chinese Kung Fu has its own ready positions. In some Hollywood action films, such as <Charlie's Angels> and <The Matrix>, it is very clearly to find Chinese elements, prepared positions are very similar. It can relate to Structuralist theory, prepared positions of Chinese Kung Fu can show politeness and respect to the opponent, without words, people still can know that Kung Fu focuses more on ceremony. In the movie, when people fight with each other by using Chinese Kung Fu. At the beginning, audience must see that both of them salute with hands folded and raised in front of one's face. This is a kind of Chinese ceremony of Kung Fu.



Figure 3.11: <Enter the Dragon>, <Yip Men>, <Fearless>, <Charlie's Angels>.



Figure 3.12: <The Matrix>.

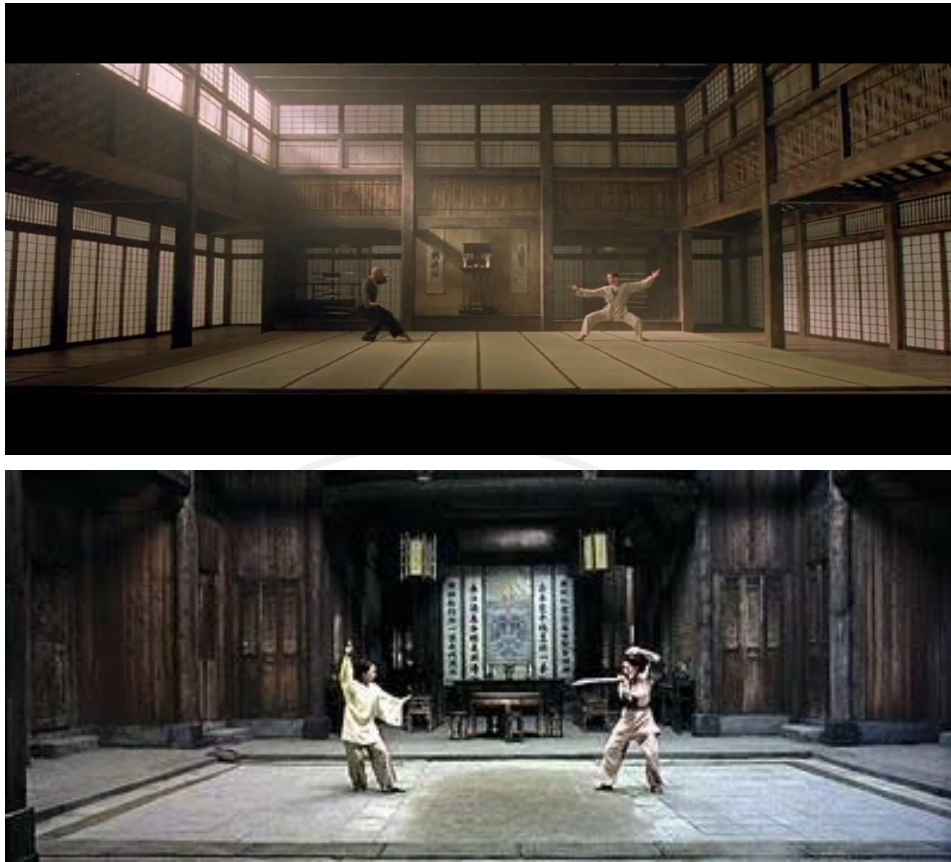


Figure 3.13: <The Matrix>, <Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon>.

From 1:46:05—1:51:35, and 1:55:30—2:03:30, there are two other fighting scenes, including actions like leap onto roots and vault over walls, Kung Fu elements embodied very well. In this film, people exactly can find the influence of Chinese Kung Fu on Hollywood films, people can find the shadow of Bruce Lee. Especially when Neo makes an action which is same with Bruce Lee's. At the same time, people also can find the shadow of < Crouching Tiger, Enter the Dragon >, actors are flying in the sky and show what the Chinese Kung Fu is. The feeling of the fighting is same with < Crouching Tiger, Enter the Dragon >, such as use many slow motion scenes to highlight the quintessence of the fighting and show how beautiful the action is.

Although in people's impressions, Chinese and Hollywood movies are totally



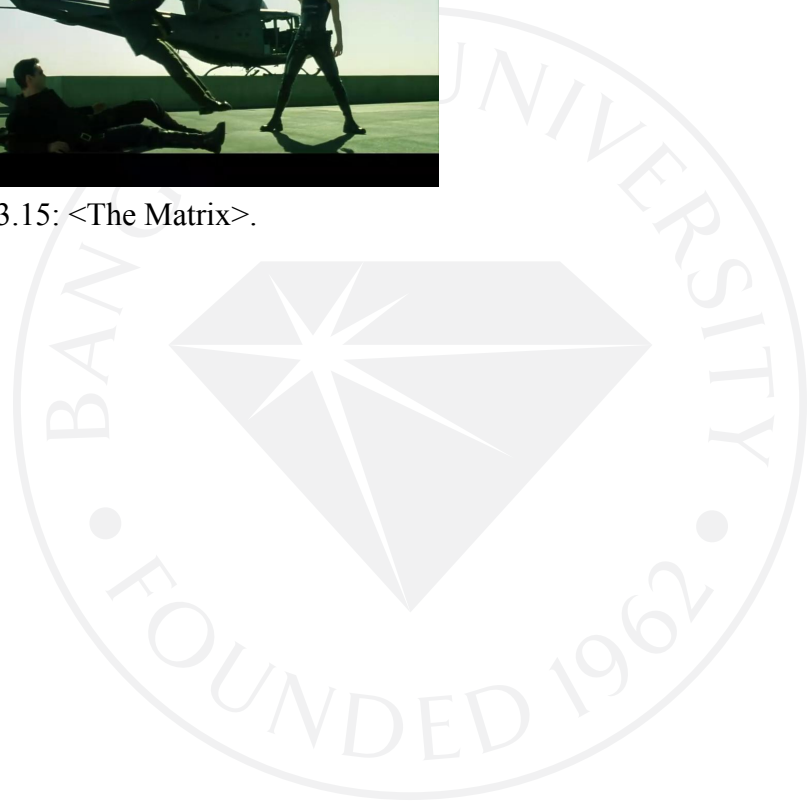
different. Actually these two kinds of movies can connect with each other in many ways. It relates to Auteur theory, the director has his special idea to make the fighting scene looks fantastic. People can dodge bullets in the movie. It also can relates to Montage theory and Structuralist film theory, the rhythm of editing in this scene is both fast and slow, using slow motions to adjust the whole rhythm. Audience can find both fast-paced lens and slow motions in this fighting scene. People can dodge bullets and flying in the sky in the movie. When they do these actions, without words, people still can know that they are powerful. For editing, people can find in this scene, with the super power, main characters in the movie can sidling on the wall. Therefore in some lens, the actress should be vertical to the wall, these fresh elements make the scene to be more fantastic. And for editing, it can has more materials of filming to choose, some conventional lens can connect with some unconventional lens, such as the actress is running on the wall. These kinds of lens can make the scene looks more brilliant and wonderful, and can give audience fresh factors as well.



Figure 3.14: <The Matrix>.



Figure 3.15: <The Matrix>.



## CHAPTER 4

### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

#### 4.1 Analysis of Chinese Kung Fu Films

These kinds of movies cover Chinese culture. Martial art has a very long history, as early as Shang and Zhou dynasty, people can find the shadow of Kung Fu. After that, with the time passing, it improved, China pays attention to its own traditional culture. Chinese people are diligent, they are not afraid of troubles and can spend time on practicing for one thing. Such as in <Legend of the Fist: The return of Chen Zhen><sup>56</sup>, which was a Chinese action film. It was released on September 21 2010 and the director was Wei Keung Lau, who is a famous director from Hong Kong, China. This movie talks about Chen Zhen, who was a famous and real Kung Fu man in China.

In the movie, when Chen Zhen was young, he always practices Kung Fu at home or in the martial club day by day. Diligent practicing is the symbol of Kung Fu man in China.

In <Fearless><sup>57</sup>, which was a Chinese movie that talks about Huo Yuanjia, who was impressive in Chinese history. There were many scenes that Huo had a competition with foreign martial artists. Before the competition, Huo always showed polite actions before the fighting, such as greeting with both two hands. In Kung Fu films, people can find Chinese traditional culture.

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<sup>56</sup><Legend of the Fist: The return of Chen Zhen>,Andrew Lau,Enlight Pictures,2010

<sup>57</sup><Fearless>,Yu Rentai,Galaxy Film Investment Management Ltd 2006

Kung Fu films always can be attractive for people. Such as <Tai Chi 1><sup>58</sup>, which was an action movie of Hong Kong, China. The director was Stephen Fung, who was a well-known Chinese director and was learned in USA. The date of release was September 27 2012. From news of the website of China, people can know that this movie guides a trend of Kung Fu in other countries<sup>59</sup>. For <The Shaolin Temple><sup>60</sup>, this movie can be seemed like another guide for people to know Kung Fu. This movie was released on January 21 1982, and the director was Zhang Xinyan, who was a famous Chinese director. The estimated box office was HKD 2,000,000<sup>61</sup>. This movie made a trend that many people go to Mount Songshan to learn Kung Fu.

#### **4.2 How Important the Chinese Kung Fu is**

People know that nowadays Chinese Kung Fu factors and movies are very popular in Hollywood and Hollywood learned more from Chinese Kung fu.

Films have theories, but practice is also very important. Hollywood is comprehensive for external elements. Most people will know that China is a country full of mystery and history, it has a 5000-year history. In each period of the history, there were plenty of dynasties of China, from the ancient books of Chinese history, people can find that there are some contents about Chinese Kung fu. Although there not exact evidence to prove that some exaggerate actions, such as flying in the sky

<sup>58</sup><Taichi 1>,Stephen Fung,Huayi Bros. Media Group,2012

<sup>59</sup> Data taken from <http://www.chinanews.com/yl/2012/09-25/4209363.shtml>

<sup>60</sup><The Shaolin Temple>,Zhang Xinyan,Zhongyuan Film corporation, 1982

<sup>61</sup> Data taken from <http://baike.baidu.com/subview/1761/5732915.htm#viewPageContent>

was existed whether or not. People still can find real Kung Fu in China and there are still many people believe that real Kung Fu was existed. In many books, movies and other platforms of media, people always can find Kung Fu to be an element in the production. That means, it is an important element in China and Chinese history. Even in the modern time, many people still love and learn it. In China, there are amount of Kung Fu schools in China, which can attract many students and tourists from China and all over the world. Many foreigners like Chinese culture, especially the history of China, and Kung Fu also is a part of Chinese culture. When people watch some Chinese movies, drama or Television drama, they always can find some themes about ancient China. And in these kinds of dynasties, Kung Fu was an important part as well. People always can find these movements in these kinds of television and film works. In China, Kung Fu has already been a popular element and with high popularity.

#### **4.3 An Analysis for the Power of the Country**

Negandhi says that “The results show that the global retionalization drive is equally pursued by the American, German and Japanese companies. And such practices are creating a higher level of centralizaiton in decision-making, Creation tension and conflict between the headquarters and subsidiaries and the multinational companies and the host countries.”(1982, p.5) It means that globalization is a trend in the world. At present time, USA and China are two countries with high power in the world. USA is in North America and China is in Asia, which are two different parts of

the world, people can find different culture and value system in these two countries. And as people all know that, USA and China are partners in foreign trade, they trade products to each other in a huge number and that means, both of them pay close attention to each other, including the market. Especially for USA, it pays close attention to Chinese market. Whatever the product is, they always focus more on Chinese market, not only for its huge population, but also for its rapid growth of economic power. The purchasing power of most Chinese people is growing and growing, many people have good lives. Some of them can have powerful purchasing power and when people want to buy some products, some of them may pay attention to foreign products. Because some people have the opinion like that foreign products are ones with high quality. Because of this opinion, some people like buying foreign products, this kind of phenomenon gives foreign countries some chances to popularize their own products to Chinese people. China has already becoming a popular market for almost every brand in the world. Chinese business market gives many companies a chance to enter.

These kinds of films made a lot of money in China, not only for its films, but also for its other products which relates to the film, such as toys, cartoons, even electron games. These kinds of products also made much money for the company. A successful film also can bring many other kinds of chances to earn money, such as manufacturing some toys of the main and characters with high popularity. Real fans of the film and the character can cost money on these kinds of products. A good film can

lead many other kinds of benefits. From the data, people can know that in 2015, these kinds of products made 194 million dollar<sup>62</sup> for USA. And in 2016, it still increases 6.7% of growth rate<sup>63</sup>. China is an attractive country for many industries, Hollywood also wants to focus on Chinese market. That's why they always added Chinese factors, such as made a special part of the movie when the film enters Chinese market. Or invited Chinese actors and actresses to join Hollywood film and when they propaganda the film, Chinese factors were an important part that they will propaganda as a special aspect, especially when they do the job in China. Some film corporate of USA want to use this way to increase their awareness of the movie in Chinese market.

Because of this background, Chinese elements have more chances to enter Hollywood. And this kind of phenomena gives Chinese Kung Fu a chance to show its charms to the world.

#### **4.4 Why Kung Fu Can be Popular in Western Countries**

Why Kung Fu can be very popular in western countries. The paper mentioned some reasons in the previous chapter. In this chapter, the paper will discuss more about this question. Li says that "Chinese and western people hold different gene which named as USH2A. Different gene may decide different body."(2011:962) Such as some Americans. Because of their natural elements of the body, most of them have strong body and obvious masculine features. Therefore, for some teenagers, they

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<sup>62</sup> Data taken from <http://yulejiashiyanshi.baijia.baidu.com/article/325064>

<sup>63</sup> Data taken from <http://yulejiashiyanshi.baijia.baidu.com/article/325064>

prefer violent movies to soap opera. Therefore, the character of the movie is very important. People prefer resolute man to be the main character of the film, people can find this point clearly in Heroism films, the main character who can save the world always are powerful and strong. This impression makes most of western audience think that the main actor should be full of masculine charms. Therefore, in Chinese historic movies, people always can find the personalities of the character are the same with what the paper said before. For two countries, China and USA, these kinds of characters' images are the same. Each of them likes the character like this. Thus, it's easy for Chinese Kung Fu characters to enter Hollywood movies.

The image of Kung Fu stars are comfort to the requirement of Hollywood movies. These people can be a hero in the film. Kilmer says that "Therefore the axiomatic generalized value system could be described as a common method of determining the importance of "things" based on accepted rules."(1986, p.25) Audience of a film, each of them has their own value system and opinions about people, society and other aspects. Thus, when they watch a movie, they will focus on the story, plots and characters of the film. If the image of the character comfort to their own image or their own features, they will like this character. That's why some characters can be popular and classic, they can leave deep impression for the audience. And for some audience, they can find their shadows when they see the character. They can see their lives and ambitions, even though some of them can't be successful and achieve their ideal goals, they still can find themselves when they watch the movie and see the



character. The resonance of a film is very important, especially for audience.

Everyone wants to watch a movie with resonance, film makers always use more energy on scripts. The story is very significant, good stories can make audience to find reality, and accept the storytelling. People must admit that, in this world, especially in western countries, some people want to be a hero, but actually, most of them are ordinary people only. They do the same job everyday and get normal salaries, even if they have a heart to be a hero. Because of the realistic situation, they can't achieve their goals. Thus, movies can be an important platform for them to show their goals. They may have deep feelings when they watch a movie which relates to their own lives. They find resonance and this will be important for them when they evaluate the movie.

Kung Fu movies always satisfy the people who have the opinion like this. In Chinese Kung Fu films, people always can find righteous characters who can beat down vicious people, and save good guys. These kinds of people are comfort to the sense of style of western audience. For Chinese Kung Fu film and Hollywood action film, they have some common points. And the most important aspect is the character, the audience from two countries all accept these kinds of characters, this phenomenon gives Chinese Kung Fu film good chances. For some foreign films, the hardest problem for their movies are the value system and characters. Each country has different value system, and different sense of style of people. People can't say that each movie can get the identity from other people because of the difference between

people from different countries and culture, someone doesn't accept other value systems. For a foreign movie, how to let most people accept the core content is the most important mission for a film if it wants to enter other countries' markets.

#### **4.5 The Influence of Chinese Kung Fu on Hollywood**

For Kung Fu films, most main characters in the movie are righteous, this comforts to Hollywood's value system, especially for heroism films. Most main characters in Hollywood heroism movies also are righteous, they punish evil people and bring a happy life for people. Characters in different countries but have same goals, this makes western people, especially for the audience of Hollywood, more easy to accept these foreign movies. That's why Kung Fu movies always have markets in western countries. People should accept the value system first and then they can focus on more details of the movie.

Because of the characteristics of characters and actions of Chinese Kung Fu, movies can attract audiences. Nowadays, the world is a global world. Each country transmits its own cultural to other countries, and also for public people. Most of them can be attracted by different cultures and fresh contents. Because new contents can bring fresh feelings to them. In 21<sup>st</sup> century, most teenagers and other young people like things with some innovations, new films also have charms for them.

People can see some big conditions of fighting in the film in China. Some of performers may not be professional actors, but they are good at Kung Fu. They

learned it and can finish requirements of the director. In movies, if famous actors were not available at the time, more directors prefer professional Kung Fu man to complete the movie.

Because of this situation, including American's value system and other aspects. Therefore, Chinese Kung Fu films have a chance to attract people. Because in Kung Fu films, people always can find that there are many Kung Fu hero who can beat down bad guys and save others, these kinds of characters are similar to the hero in Hollywood films. Western people can accept this kind of value system. The value system gives Kung Fu movie a chance to communicate with western audience. Because most people like hero. It also can be easy for both two countries to cooperate with each other. Most of action movies can attract people by their high-level visual effects and famous actors and actress. Ozer says that "In a movie the story is given in a brief time--at one sitting." (1971, p.89) For some action movies, the storytelling is easy to understand. What people pay close attention to is actions. When the audience choose movies, they will consider about the plots and the style of the movie. When they choose action films, they will lay more emphasis on the fighting actions. That's why people are hard to find some action films with amount of movie awards, but it is easy to find these kinds of movies in the list of the nomination of the visual effects and some other effects. At the same time, these sorts of the movie always can win the high box office and high popularity. Nowadays, most people pay close attention to action films in the cinema, they want to spend their money on exciting contents. With

catching this kind of mentality, producers always make attractive movies and sell them to the market. Surely they will add Chinese Kung Fu elements into the film, to attract more people, especially for Chinese audience. In the future, Chinese Kung Fu films still can have markets and competitiveness in western countries. This kind of movies can be a trend to lead young people. With more and more movie productions, the quantity demand of movie markets is growing at present time. Most film companies will make more movies to earn money, each kind of films can hold more chances to show their special features to the audience. Thus, for Chinese Kung Fu film, it also has chances to go further, Kung Fu actions can be a selling point for producers, using this to attract people is a very good idea. As a movie, most movies that people know are going to make money, the purpose is to earn money, whatever for Chinese or Hollywood films. For movie companies, they need to formulate marketing strategies as well. How to attract people's eyes and money is a big question for them. But from the data that people can find it's very hard for every film to earn money. In 2014, the whole box office in China was 296 million yuan<sup>64</sup>, but the investment was hundred billion<sup>65</sup>. Only 10% of them can get money.<sup>66</sup>

In the meantime, filmmakers are going to find actors which can attract people to take their money from their pockets. People must admit that, nowadays, the most attractive elements are fighting actions and erotic elements, but the erotic element in the movie is more convergent than the real erotic movies. People want to see beautiful

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<sup>64</sup> Data taken from <http://ent.sina.com.cn/m/c/2015-01-01/20504266847.shtml>

<sup>65</sup> Data taken from <http://news.mydrivers.com/1/451/451775.htm>

<sup>66</sup> Data taken from <http://finance.sina.com.cn/money/lczx/20151016/075623492729.shtml>

ladies in the film. Thus, fighting actions and erotic factors are two important aspects for a movie to earn money from the audience, especially for young people. They like exciting things. Beauties always stand near the hero. That's why film makers like add beautiful ladies in the action films. Hero in the film always need to go with beauties, this theory also comforts to the Chinese Kung Fu film. In Kung Fu movies, people can find beauties near the hero, and most of them are eastern beautiful ladies. These kinds of action films are same with Hollywood action films, fantastic fighting actions and beautiful girls. Thus, Hollywood can add Chinese Kung Fu factor into their own films, or using Chinese Kung Fu stars to be the main character in the film, and it is easy for audience to accept these two kinds of movies.

For film companies, they should know their own marketing strategies clearly. Because for films, people know that the word of mouth is very significant, no one wants to make a poor film. But in the meantime, film makers also love the film which can both gets good word of mouth and earns money from box office. These films must have strategies, besides necessary propaganda, they still need target population.

Target population is very significant, film companies need accurate positioning for their audience, because it relates to its income of the film. Precise positioning should be made at first, this step can helps companies to make a strategy to make money and occupy the market. Such as some sci-fi and action films may use young people to be their target population. That means, before making a film, they will have clearly marketing strategies. Thus, they will add some factors which can attract young people,

such as add some fighting actions. Each kind of films has different target population and marketing strategies. Nowadays, people must admit that most of movies are commercial movies, the main purpose is to earn money, but there are still some literary films and independent films. The film maker doesn't focus on the movie, they focus on their productions, even though the movie can't makes money, they still want to make them.

Some People love independent movies, because they think that these kinds of films don't own commercial elements, they are pure movies. But some others are interested in commercial films as well. Because they want to enjoy the show. Commercial factors including fighting or erotic elements, and these kinds of factors are what people like. For independent films, some of them may have deep meanings, but without exciting visual effects. That's why different people like different kinds of movies. For people who love commercial films, go to a cinema to watch a commercial film is a good choice. Because of the population like this, commercial movies still have big markets in every corner of the world, and can attract many audiences as well.

#### **4.6 The Influence of Chinese Kung Fu in Western Countries**

There are some findings about the topic that people can find at the time. People can find many kinds of findings in chapters as well. Chinese Kung fu film had already become a popular part in USA, and in Hollywood.

China has a 5000-year long history and Chinese traditional culture always can be

very popular in the world. People can find Chinatowns in some big cities, such as London, New York and Bangkok. On the one hand, it represents that Chinese culture is influential and attracts public people. People can not say that everyone has been to China, but in fact, many of them would like to know something about Chinese culture. And for Kung fu, as a special part of Chinese culture, also attracts many people. When a film includes Chinese Kung fu, this was one of the biggest concerns in films. That is why when western people have watched a Kung fu film, they felt excited, and felt like finding a fresh element that they never see before. In memories of some western people, China is a country full of mystery, when Kung fu came to USA at the first time, audience also felt the action of Kung fu was mysterious and can't guess what action should be the next step. It was different from the fighting style of Hollywood. Most of Chinese Kung fu films can achieve success in Hollywood, because it is different from other kinds of acrobatic fighting from other countries. The curiousness of western people can be a chance for Chinese Kung fu to enter the world.

#### **4.7 The Influence of the Movie**

Three Chinese Kung fu films had influence on Hollywood films, they learned actions and skills. Because of the global communication trend, USA and China, as two big countries in the world, they all have power nowadays, and each country costs so much money in culture industries, including movies. That means they will communicate with each other closely and for Kung fu, it has some chances to spread

itself to other parts of the world. On the other hand, global communication brings a good chance for Chinese and Hollywood films, and Chinese Kung fu has an opportunity to enter Hollywood. People can find that it is very significant for movies.

Michael says that “I have stressed an immediate, instinctual response to the organization of an image, because this is how an audience must read a film. Unlike responding to a photograph or painting, which can be leisurely and thoughtful.” (1997, p.73). Such as when audience watching <Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon>, they must understand this Chinese style story and thinking of the lines of the movie, then they may get information from the film. For <The Matrix>, it is totally a different kind of movies. Therefore, they need audience to read them in different ways. For Hollywood and China, because of the culture, the style of the movie is totally different either. Chinese’s movies are more euphemistic and for Hollywood, it will be more directly, whatever the acting or the script. People can find the difference. After Hollywood add some Chinese factors and also China add some western elements into their own movies, both of them communicate with each other tightly, and new factors can make them being perfect as well.

Thorp says that “It must be remembered that the production of motion pictures is not only an art but an industry.”(1939, p.135) Such as <Jurassic Park><sup>67</sup>, which was made by Steven Allan Spielberg and released in 1993. It won both good reputation and 402 million dollars<sup>68</sup> of box office in North America. Without standard models of

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<sup>67</sup><Jurassic Park> Steven Allan Spielberg Universal Picture, 1993

<sup>68</sup> Data taken from <http://baike.baidu.com/subview/64411/5241078.htm>



industry, movies are very hard to live. Movie needs to make money. Hollywood focused more on Chinese market, many people are aware of that China is very big market for industries, including film industry. Because nowadays, China develops very fast and the requirement in every industry grows. In particular with movie industry, as a result of the increase of Chinese people's income, people spend some money on entertainment consumption. Especially for some young people, they like watching a movie with friends in the cinema, to enjoy the high level visual effects and sound effects. Therefore, Hollywood knows that big movies can attract more people and earn more money. It adds more Chinese factors in the movie and wants to attract more Chinese audience. They add Chinese Kung fu into the movie and it works, the audience like it. Such as a series movie called <Kung Fu Panda>, which was directed by Mark Osborne and John Steffensen and released in 2008. The movie was nominated as the best cartoon and the best director of the cartoon of Golden Globe Awards in 2009<sup>69</sup>. Later on, <Kung Fu Panda 2><sup>70</sup> and <Kung Fu Panda 3><sup>71</sup> were released in 2011 and 2016. People can find that from the historical background to specific characters, everything shows Chinese culture and elements. Panda is China's national treasure, because they are very precious and only can be found in China, China always sent pandas to other countries to show the friendship. He is the main character in the movie, and at the same time, Kung fu factors are so many. When people watch the movie, they may find that everything in the film is Chinese. And the

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<sup>69</sup> Data taken from <http://baike.baidu.com/subview/779189/7820657.htm>

<sup>70</sup><Kung Fu Panda 2>,Jennifer Yuh,paramount Pictures,2011

<sup>71</sup><Kung Fu Panda 3>,Alessandro Carloni,Jennifer Yuh,China Film Group Corporation,2016

movie got 631 million dollars<sup>72</sup> in the world.

American people know that Kung fu can help them to attract audience. In early times, they hired famous Kung fu stars, such as Bruce Lee and Jackie Chan, to be the main character in the film. These kinds of different feelings make audience feel happy and have the newness. Bruce Lee's movies can make people feel cheerful and nervous, because of the rhythm of the movie. For Jackie Chan, not only that audience can feel cheerful, but also can feel humorous and dramatic. The influence of Chinese Kung fu actors also has increased. This phenomenon makes Hollywood invited more Chinese actor and actress to join Hollywood films, and attract more Chinese audience. Such as in <The Transporter><sup>73</sup>, which was made by Louis Leterrier and Yuan Kui in 2002. The main actress was Shu Qi, who is a very famous actress in China. In <Memoirs of a Geisha><sup>74</sup>, which was made by Rob Marshall in 2005, the main character was Zhang Ziyi, who is well-known in China, even the world.

From three Chinese Kung fu films, people can find difference between them. Three Kung fu films represent three styles of Kung fu. That means, for Chinese Kung fu, there are different styles. Form <Enter the Dragon>, people can discover something about Bruce Lee' Kung fu. His actions were powerful and people can find this from each punch. When enemies get close to him, he uses his punch to fight with people and everyone was beat down by one punch. This new visual shock make the audience feel very excited. It can be said as the first impression of Chinese Kung fu in

<sup>72</sup> Data taken from <http://baike.baidu.com/subview/779189/7820657.htm>

<sup>73</sup><The Transporter>,Louis Leterrier,20th Century Fox Film Corporation,2002

<sup>74</sup><Memoirs of a Geisha>,Rob Marshall,Columbia Pictures,2005

western countries. The personality of the character of Bruce Lee also is comfort to American's value. Western people like man who is manly, such as full of muscle, thus, the image of Bruce Lee can get the recognition of the audience. And for Jackie Chan, his style of Kung fu is another way, in his movements, people can find funny factors and totally different ways from Bruce Lee's style. Jackie Chan's film always can bring happiness to people and nowadays, people go to cinema to watch a film always for fun. Therefore, Jackie Chan's film comfort to people's minds and also can win the high box office.

#### **4.8 Film Market's Power**

Boughey says that "The meteoric rise of the cinematograph industry from scientific experiment to world-wide industrial and commercial importance is of such recent occurrence that it will be more or less familiar even to the younger generation." (1921, p.19) With the development of electric theaters, movie industry is growing, making a movie is a large work, many aspects should be considered about, including the director, scripts, and markets. Hollywood is growing very fast. Because of the power of its films, some of them may be very popular and successful in the world. Thus, it is very hard for films from other countries which wants to enter Hollywood market. There are not so many foreign movies can get achievements in Hollywood. Therefore, when foreign films want to enter Hollywood, they must have right strategies and positioning themselves, because some kinds of films have

repetitions with each other and some films are the advantage of Hollywood, such as gun-fighting and fast car films. This situation makes a lot of countries to think about, because of the reason that many people want to improve the awareness of the film and earn more money outside the motherland. Bolen.M says that “It goes without saying that director is the man of all work. TV workmen become teams--units who function at their best together. A director is only as good as his team---no matter how talented he may be.”(1950, p.215). But what kinds of films can be successful is a question for many film makers and film publishers. After a series of attempts, people find that Kung fu film are popular and can get achievements in Hollywood, because of its special features, people only can find it in China. Thus, Kung fu film can get achievements and high popularity in USA and other western countries, these kinds of films can have a competition with other foreign or some local films. For Chinese films, they have the same idea with Hollywood, Chinese films should open the foreign market and let people know Chinese films, but actually, not every kind of film can leave a deep impression for the audience. Because for films, there are only these kinds, that means each countries can make these kinds of movies. If the situation likes this, for some countries which have powerful abilities in film industry may have some advantages in making films. And Hollywood has obvious advantages in making films. Thus, for Chinese films, they should find their own advantages, not the same thing with other countries. And Kung Fu gives Chinese movies a good chance to show the charms of Chinese culture.

## CHAPTER 5

### CONCLUSION

With the comparison between Chinese and Hollywood action films, readers can find that they link to each other tightly, there are many example films show that each kind of film can exhibits the other party. This trend must lasts for a long period of time. Both of two countries also have cooperation in film industry this year, such as the summit meeting of Chinese and American movie industries of 2016 in China. China insists the strategy of the country which called “Go Out”, which means let their own advantages to go out, so is the movie. From the paper, people can find that both of two countries want to show its culture to the world. Different kinds of movies hold different styles. Such as in the series of <Rush Hour>, which was a series Hollywood film released in 1998 and made by Brett Ratner, who is a well-known director in America. Main characters were Chief Inspector Lee, who was made by Jackie Chan, and Detective James Carter, who was made by Chris Tucker. These two people represent two cultures and style, Lee is Chinese, his gentle personality and James Carter’s frank character can be a comparison. From the movie, people can intuitive find the difference between two persons.

It is very important to choose three Chinese Kung Fu films to analyze, these movies can be representative films that show the influence on Hollywood, they all well-known and persuasive to the people. Because they achieved success in Hollywood and their Chinese culture and elements left a deep impression for the

audience. Kung Fu factors can make China and USA to have more chances to cooperate with each other, they can have more elements in their movies, such as in action films. Even if in other parts, such as merchandise products, they all can get benefits when the movie comes out. When audience watch a heroism film of Hollywood, some of them may buy some merchandise products, such as hero models. That means, China and USA can all earn profits if they catch the trend of globalization to work together. This is a very good phenomenon, that means in the future, there will be more and more excellent cooperative movies that people can find.

The paper discusses more about the influence of Chinese Kung Fu films on Hollywood films. People definitely can know the relationship between these two parts. Hollywood got new elements when they know Kung Fu, and Kung Fu used Hollywood to be a platform to show itself to the world. People are looking forward to the future, especially for these two partners, both of them can attract audience and bring value to the world.

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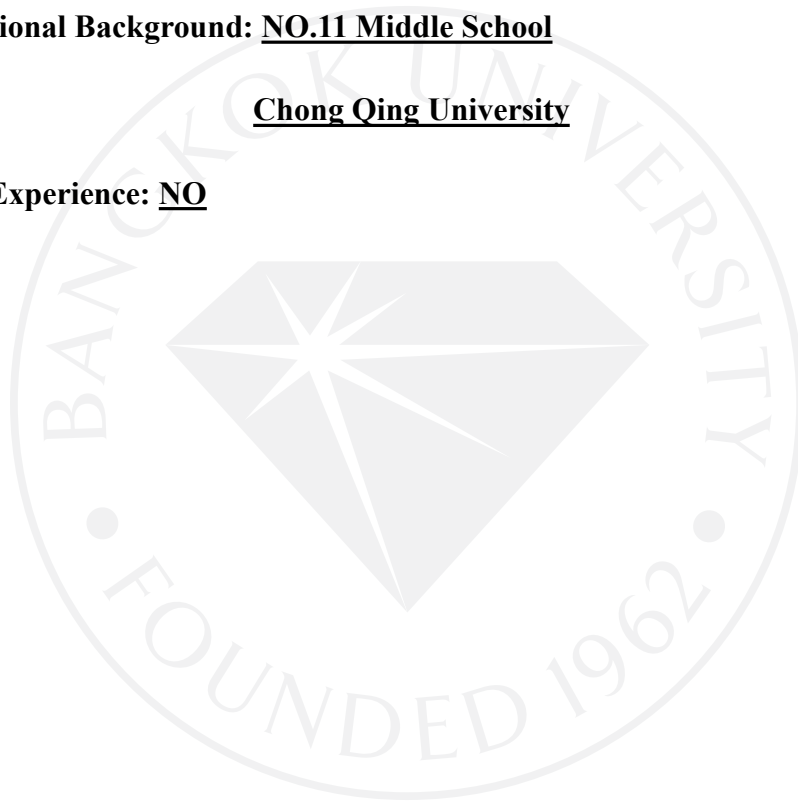
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