Politics and Culture In Indonesian Cinema

Pawito

Department of Communication Studies, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences
University of Sebelas Maret Surakarta, Indonesia

Abstract

This study deals with Indonesian cinema. The political and cultural perspectives were used to provide an understanding of the development of Indonesian cinema from the early period until recent times. This study argues that principally Indonesian cinema can be associated significantly with politics, primarily in the 1950s and 1960s when Indonesian cinema started to grow. In the period of the New Order regime, Indonesian cinema became a manifestation of kitsch pursuing for capital gain. Yet after the fall of the regime significant shifts occur namely no longer have Indonesian cinemas strongly related to politics in their content of messages but the cinemas promote much more various discoursive contents.

Keywords: cinema, politics, culture, discoursive content, indie film.