

Representation of How Patriarchy Affects Mental Health in Qala and Black Swan

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Abstract : This paper examines the representation of patriarchy in the movies 'Qala' and 'Black Swan' and how it affects the mental health of women. Both movies portray female characters who are subject to patriarchal attitudes and structures that limit their choices and opportunities and contribute to negative mental health outcomes. In 'Qala' the central character Qala confronts the patriarchal attitudes of her family and community, which contribute to feelings of frustration and despair. In 'Black Swan' the main character Nina is subject to the demands and expectations of a patriarchal system that leads to anxiety, paranoia, and disconnection from her own body and emotions. Both movies highlight the harmful impact of patriarchal attitudes on women's mental health, including feelings of disempowerment, objectification, and self-doubt. The paper suggests that these negative outcomes can be addressed through a rejection of patriarchal norms and an assertion of one's own agency and identity. Overall, this paper demonstrates the importance of recognizing the role of patriarchy in contributing to mental health struggles for women and the need for more diverse and empowering representations of women in media.

Keywords : patriarchy, mental health, depression, PTSD, mental health in Indian cinema, patriarchy in Indian cinema, feminism and patriarchy, sexism

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