

# स्पार्कलेट

*spreading the light*



**THE BOLLYWOOD  
ISSUE**

**CHIEF EDITOR: ANKIT JAIN**

# ABOUT SPARKLE

Sparkle is a monthly magazine which aims at educating today's youth about different cultures, topics and traditions around the world. The main intention is to eliminate stereotypes from the mind of the youth which may facilitate discrimination and racism. Every issue is focused on a topic and gives us an insight into the experiences related to the topic so chosen for the issue. The team aims to connect to the mindset of the youth and inform them about the different ways of the world , ultimately becoming global proactive citizens.

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## PAST ISSUES





# Dear Readers,

Thank you all for reading our humble ode to the amazing scientists of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century in the last issue of Sparkle. It's the feedback and love we receive from our readers which helps us grow not only as professionals, but as human beings as well. This issue we take on the majestic and magnificent world that is, Bollywood.



Motion Pictures, or simply movies have been a wonderful source of entertainment for the general audience since ages. There are different genres of movies and they are of different languages as well.

The film industry which fabricates movies in the language of Hindi, is known as Bollywood, and this is heavily associated with the nation of India, specifically Mumbai. India is known as the nation of colors and there are several stereotypes related to the country all over the world. Many believe that India is full of snake charmers, many individuals are completely uneducated, there is nothing but dirt everywhere, all foods are practically 'tikka masala', but all that is completely inane and stereotypical.

India is a nation which symbolizes the phrase 'Unity in Diversity'. There are 29 states across the nation, but has over 150 languages spoken, and at the same time incorporating so many cultures in just one nation. From the very northern to the complete southern part of India, there ranges a variety of ethnicities, religions, cultures, traditions, and moreover different people. The most effective way to portray this diversity present in the country out in the nation is through movies, and here's where Bollywood comes into the picture.

It's often believed that Indians lack education and the movies they so make are often nonsensical and senseless. They say that all Bollywood movies lack depth and sense. To these people, I say that India is the largest population to converse in the language of English, second only to the United States. To those people, I say watch the movie *Taare Zameen Par*, which is a heartfelt story of a teacher and his dyslexic student. It shows that every child has potential to achieve something if molded the right way and given the right guidance. Now is that uneducated? Is that nonsense?



With this issue, I would like to rid the readers about the different stereotypical views they have about Bollywood, and more importantly India. India is not just a nation about spicy food and colors. It is a nation of racial, geographic, ethnic, and linguistic diversity. There is no better place in the world to understand how people of different mindsets and opinions can co-exist in one environment other than India. The beauty of the nation is hidden by the stereotypes so embedded into minds all over the world. Hopefully after reading this issue, you will see India, Bollywood and Indians in a different light.



*Your Friend,*  
*Ankit*



AYANSH JEWELRY  
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# MOVIE REVIEWS

**Cast:** Shah Rukh Khan, Anushka Shetty  
**Genre:** Romance  
**Director:** Imtiaz Ali

## JAB HARRY MET SEJAL

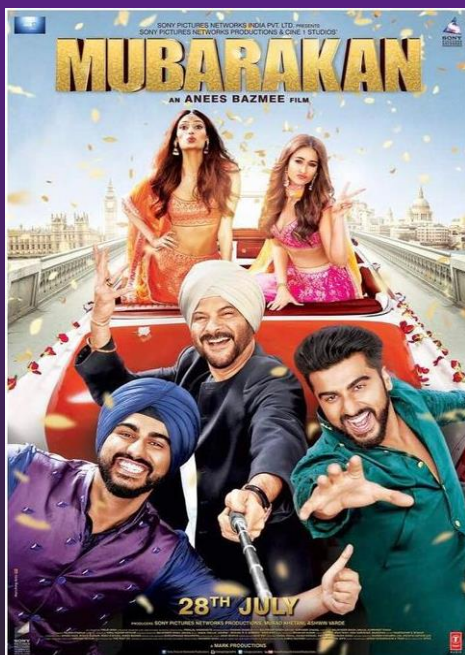


### RATING



Jab Harry Met Sejal is a story of a tour guide who has lost purpose in his life and seems to find it when one of his tour clients loses her engagement ring during the tour and asks for his help to find it. As any typical Imtiaz Ali movie, the plot of the movie is alluring and gives the beautiful message that 'What you're looking for is looking for you too', but this time around there is failure in execution by the actors. One would expect SRK to shine in his forte of romance, but this one seems to disappoint, except during few moments during the movie. Anushka Sharma excels in her role but her character seems to be lost by the end of the story. The climax is rather predictable. The dialogue and script excels but could have definitely been executed better. The direction is commendable and so is choice of location throughout, and special mention of the song Hawayein which is shot ever so beautifully and the one time, we see SRK in his zone. The first half is definitely the better half, as the second half seems like a drag. This is definitely not one of the best works of Ali who has done far better work in movies such as Highway, Jab We Met etc.

## MUBARAKAN



### RATING

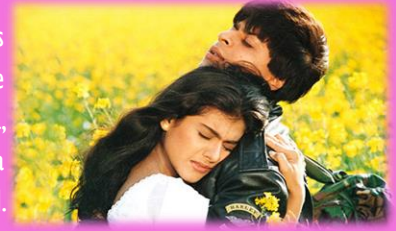


**Cast:** Anil Kapoor, Arjun Kapoor, Ileana D'Cruz and Athiya Shetty  
**Genre:** Comedy  
**Director:** Anees Bazmee

Mubarakan is a movie about twin brothers Karan and Charan (both played by Arjun Kapoor) and their quest for love, main obstacle being their dysfunctional family. Throughout the movie, they hatch plots and schemes which seems to thicken the plot more, thus the hilarity lies in the dysfunctionality. Arjun Kapoor excels in his double role. The characters he played are so well differentiated that one can never tell that the same person is playing them, but the real star of the movie is Anil Kapoor who brings the show with his impeccable comic timing as the eccentric uncle. Ileana's role is more prominent than that of Athiya's, but they both definitely make their presence felt throughout the movie. The direction is simple but heartfelt like any typical Anees Bazmee movie. The room for improvement lies in the script of the movie. The antics of the characters made us laugh a great deal, but the dialogues failed to do justice to the same.

# The Magic of Love

Movies are one of our essential sources of entertainment. There are different genres of movies such as comedy, drama, romance, action etc, but whatever genre it be, it influences the minds of the audience and modernization also influences how these stories are written. This can prominently be seen in India, specifically speaking about the genre of romance. View about romance has come a long way in India from the nineties and changed immensely, but to some extent the idea of love is still preserved.



In the nineties, the idea of romance in most minds across the Indian subcontinent was galvanized by the actor Shah Rukh Khan, popularly referred to as SRK. SRK is 'The King of Romance' of Bollywood and he has proven his mettle for the same since the very beginning of his acting career. His pairing with actress Kajol is deemed as iconic and legendary in the land of Bollywood, especially their movie '*Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge*' (DDLJ), which still plays at the Maratha Mandir theatre in Mumbai, over 20 years after its initial release. That very movie has given a certain view of romance in the minds of many Indians, and has inspired many to forge their love stories ignited by the fire of the movie and even gave rise to the iconic phrase that is '*Palat*', which simply means to turn around. Romance is nothing but a celebration of love and the strengthening of a bond between two individuals who care a lot about each other. SRK is known as the King of Romance, not only because he is a tremendous actor, but also because of his charisma and charm, and he has a certain X-factor and style when it comes to romance and he brings that magic of romance which connects to every individual. He is able to crackle chemistry with any of his co-stars and this can be seen in movies like *Veer Zaara*, *Chalte Chalte*, *Dil Toh Pagal Hai*, *Devdas* etc. In each of these movies, the chemistry between the main characters stimulated a very cutesy and sweet perspective of romance providing a level of relatability and understanding from the actor's side. SRK's movies have built a strong foundation of romance and have inspired the magic of romance in present movies, but as time has passed the idea of romance has also progressed with generations.

By the dawn of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the country went on to become more progressive and modern, and more open to the idea of sexual innuendos. We can see this with the inclusion of more kissing and sex scenes in Bollywood movies which were earlier strict taboos. Best example of how Bollywood has progressed, is of the movie *Befikre*. *Befikre* and *DDLJ* is directed by the same director and written by the same writer, but the idea of romance is so very different in both movies. In *DDLJ*, both characters are so in love that the guy is ready to go to any extent just to gain the acceptance of the girl's family for marriage, but in *Befikre*, it's basically about two people who believe that love is non-existent and just have sex together for the fun of it. This drastic change shows how romance is depreciated since the nineties, and how the current generation perceives romance. The idea of romance in today's youth is not to love and give love, but just consists of several 'hook ups' and just sexual pleasure. The tenderness and the beautiful bond that is love is lost and that can be seen with the movies being so made. Best examples of these are *Luv ka the End*, *Half Girlfriend*, *Murder*, *Band Baaja Baraat*. The good point about the movies is that to some extent they justify the real meaning of love, but they inaccurately portray the part of falling in love. There are few exceptions to this also in recent times such as movies like *Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani*, *Kapoor and Sons*, *Lootera*, *Badri Ki Dulhania*, *Aashiqui 2*.



The process of falling in love is one which is unique and extremely difficult to describe in words, but it is one which can be beautifully portrayed on the big screen. The magic of creating romance is not one which is so easy to achieve but if carefully understood and properly managed, it can do wonders.



# ZEVO



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## Starters Guide to Bollywood Movies

- ☐ Select a movie according to genre and with subtitles
- ☐ Ask a friend who speaks Hindi to watch the movie with you
- ☐ Enjoy the songs and dance along!
- ☐ Watch with an open mind!
- ☐ Appreciate the emotions of the characters and avoid thinking stereotypically



# 🎧 MUSIC BUZZ 🎧

## LATEST TOP 10 BOLLYWOOD SONGS



1: Radha  
Jab Harry met Sejal



2: Main Tera Boyfriend  
Raabta



3: Hawa Hawa  
Mubarakan



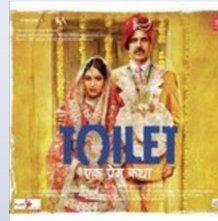
4: Hawayein  
Jab Harry met Sejal



5: Galti Se Mistake  
Jagga Jasoos



6: Ding Dang  
Munna Micheal



7: Hans Mat Pagli  
Toilet: Ek Prem Katha



8: Jatt Jaguar  
Mubarakan



9: Ik Vaari Aa  
Raabta



10: Chandrolekha  
A Gentleman

# **SPEAK UP**

**Time to voice your opinion!**

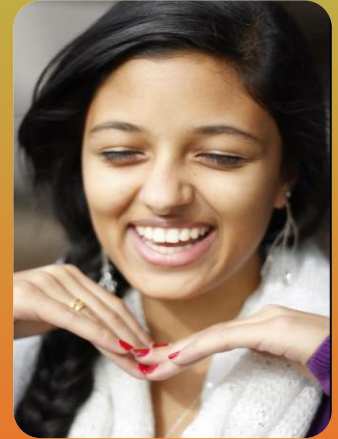
## **What is your opinion on Bollywood?**



### **MUIZZ JIVANI**

My entire family is rather musical and an ardent admirer of the arts, and the beats and moreover the emotion so beautifully portrayed in the songs is definitely something which is unique and special to Bollywood. I, as a dancer love the energy which Bollywood songs bring and there is this unconventional enthusiasm which just fills up the room and just has everyone's foot tapping. Most Bollywood movies are amalgamation of different emotions and feelings which the movies beautifully portray each time.

For me, Bollywood is not just a series of motion pictures, but it is a way of life. I have been watching Bollywood movies and dancing to the peppy and fun numbers, ever since childhood. My dad wants me to be a Bollywood actor, but I realize that the waiting for the same is a lot of hard work and effort. My Dad and I bond a lot over these movies, and I bond a lot with my friends over them and dance as well.



### **SUCHITA GUPTA**



### **ANISHA BAFNA**

Music is a very integral component of my life, and I connect to every song I listen at an emotional level. Bollywood songs have this soul and depth to them which make me feel a spectrum of emotions which is just too difficult to explain in words. Most movies are so relatable and easy to connect to, that it just makes my movie watching experience memorable.

I have lived in the United States ever since I was born, but these Bollywood movies kept me in touch with my Indian roots and also helped me learn Hindi. I am not completely fluent in the language but I am in the process of gaining fluency. Every Bollywood movie I have watched has either taught me a beautiful message or tickled my funny bone. I have never felt far away from home thanks to these movies.



### **VRUNDA PATEL**

# CHIT CHAT

## ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS TO THE RIGHT PEOPLE PRIYANKA CHOPRA

**What drew you to make the transition from Bollywood to Hollywood?**

For me, it's really not a transition ... it's an expansion of my creativity, I mean that's all you want to do is to grow in life and for me I'm doing music, which is something I've never done before and if I do a movie, which I did with 'Planes', it's something I've never done before, I'm just challenging myself more than ever, so I don't really see this as a transition.

**There have been a few A-list Bollywood actors who haven't succeeded in cracking Hollywood. What difficulties do you think they faced, and what difficulties have you faced in cracking Hollywood?**

There's a couple of things. One, there is a very big stereotype with Indian actors, and you get only Indian parts. But there is a stereotype that there's a certain accent and there's a certain vibe and how is that cool. I felt a lot of that and I really want to be able to change that, for people to be proud of their roots. I know I went to school here and I know how much pressure I had to change myself and be a little more normal and acceptable and I think it's great to be who you are. I also think that's changing with so much globalization. You see so many people in so many jobs where ethnicities don't matter, and I think that that's a really great place in the world to be an actor and I'm happy about that.

**How challenging is it to navigate your film choices while being respectful of Indian cultural traditions?**

I am who I am. I am desi (from India), and I am videshi (from outside India). I've been brought up in America, I've been brought up in India, and I think the amalgamation of that is what I want to be. I don't want to be too western or too Indian, or too here or there. I want my work to reflect that. It always has in my movies and I want my music to do that too.

**Are you able to balance that equally?**

I don't know if you can do it equally or not, but it's a chance you take. I just want to make something which I'm happy with and I'm proud of, and present it to the world. I'm a performer, that's what I do.

**Have you had much support from other Bollywood or Hollywood stars?**

I've had some amazing friends and I've also had a lot of detractors who've said 'what are you doing,' so it's a battle, it's a constant battle. It is hard, and I guess when you put yourself out there and doing things and changing things and shaking them around, you're bound to be judged and you're bound to be criticized and applauded, so I hope that I give people more reasons to applaud me than criticize me.



Interview Reference:

<http://in.reuters.com/article/priyanka-chopra-interview/qa-priyanka-chopra-on-films-music-and-stereotypes-idINDEE97406D20130805>