

Press Release

'Karma: Crime, Passion, Reincarnation' has its World Premiere at the 10th Osian's-Cinefan Festival of Asian and Arab Cinema

12 July 2008: The world premiere of Karma: Crime, Passion, Reincarnation at the ongoing 10th Osian's-Cinefan Festival of Asian and Arab Cinema generated a lot of excitement on the first day. The Director, M. R. Shahjahan and producers Vivek Singhania and Dhiraj Kotkar addressed a press conference at Siri Fort, after the screening of their film.

An Indian film packaged like a Hollywood thriller, spoke of subjects very Indian, such as karma and reincarnation, a subject that would intrigue audiences across the world. Addressing a press meet, M.R. Shahjahan said the film which had its showing at Cannes this year had been made with an international audience in view and this was the reason for using a western cast, and Hollywood crew. The only prominent Indian actor in the film is Vijayendra Ghatge.

Shahjehan, who had first worked with Richard Attenborough's 'Gandhi' and then made the film 'Afsana Pyar Ka' with Aamir Khan in 1991, had then started working overseas, working with Channel Four and Channel Nine besides being associated with filmmakers like Ivory-Merchant (in 'Heat and Dust' and 'Muhafiz') and David Lean.

He said he would in future like to work in a way in which he can associate artistes from India and abroad in his films. He would work in a Bollywood film only if he had complete freedom to work in his own way and would not settle for anything but the best.

He is now planning a thriller based on espionage, and the film will be produced by Vivek Singhania.

Vivek who had earlier produced 'Chura Liya hai tumne' said in reply to questions that the film is based on an original screenplay. He said the film which is a dramatic thriller is being screened in a seminar on reincarnation being held in Los Angeles later this year.

'Karma: Crime. Passion, Reincarnation' tells the story of an American who helps her Indian husband to get re-united with his estranged father but in the process discovers several secrets about herself. The movie haunts, intrigues and continues to get 'curiouser and curiouser' as it progresses.

Osian's-Cinefan Festival of Asian and Arab Cinema celebrates its 10th anniversary from 10-20 July this year with over 150 films from Asia and the Arab world. The festival, is being held in Siri Fort and Alliance Française in New Delhi, and brings over 40 short fiction films to its audience for the first time this year.