

# artsentertainment

## 'Kanchivaram' bags top prize at National Film Awards

— NEW DELHI

**K**anchivaram, a Tamil film that presents a rare portrayal of the town's silk weaver community, won big at the 55th National Film Awards on Sept. 7, picking up trophies for best movie and best actor.

The period drama, directed by Priyadarshan, won Prakash Raj the award for best actor while Umashree was adjudged the best actress for her role in the Kannada film 'Gulabi Talkies'.

Adoor Gopalakrishnan took the honors in the directing cate-



Tamil film "Kanchivaram" was adjudged best feature film and Prakash Raj best actor for his performance in it at the 55th National Awards.

gory, picking up a Swarna Kamal for his Malayalam film 'Naalu Pennungal', which also won the award for best editing.

Set in the backdrop of Kanchivaram's handloom silk industry from the 1920s to 1948, "Kanchivaram" is the story of a non-political weaver who leans towards communism and soon becomes a revolutionary leader and an advocate of the ideology, only to find himself caught between personal needs and his pursuit of social equality.

Although Bollywood missed out on the top awards, films like 'Chak De! India' and 'Taare

Zameen Par' also featured in the awards list for 2007. 'Chak De! India', starring Shah Rukh Khan, won for best popular film while Aamir Khan's directorial debut 'Taare Zameen Par' was adjudged the best film on family welfare. 'Gandhi My Father', 'The Last Lear', 'Jab We Met' and 'Om Shanti Om' were among the other films featuring Bollywood stars to win in the screenplay, music, art direction and supporting actor categories.

The award for best film on national integration went to Bhavna Talwar for 'Dharm'.

— Reuters

## Salman's 'Wanted' gets Supreme Court reprieve

— NEW DELHI

**T**he Salman Khan-starrer "Wanted" will be released Sept 18 after the Supreme Court granted reprieve to Bollywood producer Boney Kapoor in a monetary dispute.

A bench of Justice B.N. Agrawal, Justice G.S. Singhvi and Justice H.L. Dattu allowed release of the film after Kapoor offered to deposit Rs.20 million with the Bombay High Court as surety.

Senior counsel Mukul Rohtagi told the bench that L.M.B. Holdings Limited, a B4U group company, had in June 2007 given Kapoor an advance of Rs.100 million following a tenta-



Bollywood actors Salman Khan and Ayesha Takia at the press meet of upcoming film "Wanted" in Mumbai, Sept. 8.

tive agreement to produce films in a joint venture.

The initial understanding was that Kapoor would return the money within 90 days if the two sides fail to work out the details of the agreement for the joint venture, Rohtagi told the bench.

He added that though the two parties failed to arrive at any firm agreement, his client proceeded on to produce "Wanted", which is now slated for release Sep 18.

He further explained to the court that despite his client failing to return the money within 90 days, the private firm demanded the money back only after the lapse of one year and

three months, claiming that in case the money is not returned, he would have rights over at least five films, including "Wanted", produced by Kapoor.

He said as Kapoor challenged the firm's contention, the Bombay High Court through an interim order has asked his client to deposit Rs.100 million with the court's registry as a security deposit.

Contending that the high court order was illegal, Rohtagi offered to deposit Rs.20 million with the high court's registry in lieu of permission to release one film, which has already been made.

— IANS

## Film festival in New York City to highlight Sikh heritage, traditions

By A Staff Writer

**P**owerful documentaries, compelling stories and bhangra beats will be part of the Sikh International Film Festival 2009 to be held at the Asia Society in New York City from Sept. 18-19. Presented by the Sikh Art and Film Foundation, the festival aims to celebrate the heritage, traditions and culture of the Sikhs and the immigrant experience.

"1984 and the Via Dolorosa Project" and "My Mother India"



Left, Scene from the documentary "Turbanology" which examines the history of turbans. Right, A still from "Flying Sikhs: A History of Sikh Fighter Pilots."



Christianity to modern-day Sikhs in the U.S., with the premiere of "Turbanology."

The Sikh Heritage Gala, a formal black-tie event at Cipriani Wall Street, concludes the festival. Acclaimed film-director and producer Mira Nair is the guest of honor for the gala that includes dance performance, art auction and live entertainment headlined by bhangra pioneers RDB from the United Kingdom.

Awards will be presented to Shelley and Donald Rubin, co-founders and chairs of the Rubin Museum of Art (Vision); Analjit Singh, founder and chairman of the Max India Group of Companies (Leadership); and Sardar Ujagar Singh, director of Camp Chardi Kala ("Seva" Community Service).

Presented by the Sikh Art and Film Foundation, the festival aims to celebrate the heritage, traditions and culture of the Sikhs and the immigrant experience.

The winners in the documentary and short film categories will be selected by a distinguished jury, including Dr. Sarab Singh Neelam, director of "Ocean of Pearls;" Sabrina Dhawan, screenplay writer "Monsoon Wedding;" and Vicki Mabrey, correspondent, ABC News Nightline.

### Zeenat Aman, Kabir Bedi pair up again

**Y**esteryears glamour queen Zeenat Aman and the debonair Kabir Bedi will be seen together on the big screen after a gap of 38 years in Sanjay Sharma's "Dunno Y... Naa Jane Kyun".

The two were last seen in the 1971 movie "Hulchul", which was directed by O.P. Ralhan.

In "Dunno Y..." Zeenat plays

a woman who supports her entire family single-handedly after her husband, played by Kabir, deserts her.

According to a source from the unit, Kabir instantly liked the role, especially since it had an emotional side to it.

To be shot in Mumbai and Goa, the film also stars Bollywood's former dancing queen Helen.

— IANS

will start the Feature Session on Sept. 18, marking the 25th anniversary of the anti-Sikh riots across India in the aftermath of the assassination of then-Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. The emotionally charged session ends on an upbeat note with the world premiere of "Flying Sikhs: A History of Sikh Fighter Pilots," which showcases the contributions of Sikhs toward the allied victories in World War I and II.

The Documentary Session on Sept. 19 examines topics ranging from urban gang violence in "A Warrior's Religion," to the history of the turban, from ancient