

INDIAN CINEMA



The Cinema of India consists of films produced in the nation of India.

Cinema is immensely popular in India, with as many as 1,600 films produced in various languages every year. Indian cinema produces more films watched by more people than any other country; in 2011, over 3.5 billion tickets were sold across India, 900,000 more than Hollywood.

Indian cinema is sometimes colloquially known as Indywood.

As of 2013 India ranked first in terms of annual film output, followed by Nigeria, Hollywood and China. In 2012, India produced 1,602 feature films. The Indian film industry reached overall revenues of \$1.86 billion (93 billion) in 2011. In 2015, India had a total box office gross of US\$2.1 billion, third largest in the world.

Indian cinema is a global enterprise. Its films have a following throughout Southern Asia, and across Asia, Europe, the Greater Middle East, North America, Eastern Africa, China and elsewhere, reaching in over 90 countries. Biopics including Dangal became transnational blockbusters grossing over \$300 million worldwide.

Global enterprises such as 20th Century Fox, Sony Pictures, Walt Disney Pictures and Warner Bros invested in the industry along with Indian enterprises such as AVM Productions, Prasad's Group, Sun Pictures, PVP Cinemas, Zee, UTV, Suresh Productions, Eros International, Ayngaran International, Pyramid Saimira, Aascar Films and Adlabs. By 2003 as many as 30 film production companies had been listed in the National Stock Exchange of India (NSE).

Millions of Indians overseas watch Indian films, accounting for some 12% of revenues. Music rights alone account for 4–5% of net revenues.

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MUKESH



Mukesh Chand Mathur (22 July 1923 – 27 August 1976), better known mononymously as Mukesh, was an Indian playback singer. Mukesh is considered to be one of the most popular and acclaimed playback singers of the Hindi film industry.

Amongst the numerous nominations and awards he won, his song "Kai Baar Yuhi Dekha Hai" from the film *Rajnigandha* (1973) won him the National Film Award for Best Male Playback Singer.

Mukesh was also popular as being the voice of actors Raj Kapoor, Manoj Kumar, Feroz Khan, Sunil Dutt and Dilip Kumar.

Mukesh was born in Delhi in a Hindu Kayastha family. His parents were Zorawar Chand Mathur, an engineer, and Chandrani Mathur. He was the sixth in a family of ten children. The music teacher who came home to teach Mukesh's sister, Sundar Pyari, found a pupil in Mukesh, who would listen from the adjoining room.

T.M.SOUNDARARAJAN



Thoguluva Meenatchi Iyengar Soundararajan (24 March 1922 – 25 May 2013), popularly known as TMS, was an Indian Carnatic musician and a playback singer in Tamil cinema for over six and a half decades.

He lent his voice to actors and thespians in the South Indian film industry such as M. G. Ramachandran, Sivaji Ganesan, N. T. Rama Rao, Gemini Ganesan, S. S. Rajendran, Jaishankar, Ravichandar, AVM Rajan, Muthuraman, Nagesh, Siva Kumar, Kantha Rao, Rajkumar and A. Nageswara Rao. He also gave his voice to many new generation actors like Kamalahasan, Rajanikanth, Vijayakanth, Satyaraj, Rajesh, Prabhu, and Vijaya Kumar, in addition to other known and unknown heroes and supporting actors like M.R. Radha, K R Ramaswami, T. Rajendar, V.K. Ramaswami, Thengai Sreenivasan, M.N. Nambiar, Thangavelu, Y.G. Mahendran, R.S. Manohar, S.V. Ashokan, Ranjan, Narasimha Bharathi, Sahasra Namam, T S Balayya, Jagayya, Nagayya, Sreenath, Shankar etc.

GEETA DUTT



Geeta Dutt (born Geeta Ghosh Roy Chowdhuri; 23 November 1930 – 20 July 1972) was a prominent Indian playback singer and a famous bengali-hindi classical artist, born in Faridpur before the Partition of India. She found particular prominence as a playback singer in Hindi cinema. She also sang many modern Bengali songs, both in film and non-film genre.

Geeta Ghosh Roy Chowdhuri was one of 10 children born to a wealthy Zamindar family in a village named Idilpur, presently under Gosairhat Upzilla of Shariatpur District, Bangladesh, formerly under Faridpur district in Bengal, British India. Her family moved to Calcutta and Assam in the early forties, leaving behind their land and properties. In 1942, her parents moved to an apartment in Bombay. Geeta was twelve and continued her schooling at the Bengali High School.

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TALAT MAHMOOD



Talat Mahmood (24 February 1924 – 9 May 1998) is considered one of the greatest male Indian non-classical and semi-classical singers. He was a born singer with an intuitive sense of beauty, charm and grace. He was an Indian playback singer. Although he tried his luck as a film actor, he didn't succeed a great deal in acting.

Talat received Padma Bhushan in 1992, in recognition of his artistic contributions in the spheres of cinematic and ghazal music. He had a unique, elegant and profoundly artistic style of singing. Talat was a very gifted singer in every sense. He was particularly famous for singing soft and sombre semi-classical and non-classical ghazals, but the film songs sung by him are also considered critically flawless and outstanding. Although Talat's typical genre was Ghazal, he was an astoundingly brilliant film singer who sung innumerable fantastic film songs.

BHUPEN HAZARIKA



BHUPEN HAZARIKA

Bhupen Hazarika (8 September 1926 – 5 November 2011) was an Indian playback singer, lyricist, musician, singer, poet and film-maker from Assam, widely known as Sudhakantha. His songs, written and sung mainly in the Assamese language by himself, are marked by humanity and universal brotherhood and have been translated and sung in many languages, most notably in Bengali and Hindi. His songs, based on the themes of communal amity, universal justice and empathy, have become popular among the people of Assam, besides West Bengal and Bangladesh.

He is also acknowledged to have introduced the culture and folk music of Assam and Northeast India to Hindi cinema at the national level. He received the National Film Award for Best Music Direction in 1975. Recipient of Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1987), Padmashri (1977), and Padmabhushan (2001), [2] Hazarika was awarded with Dada Saheb Phalke Award (1992)

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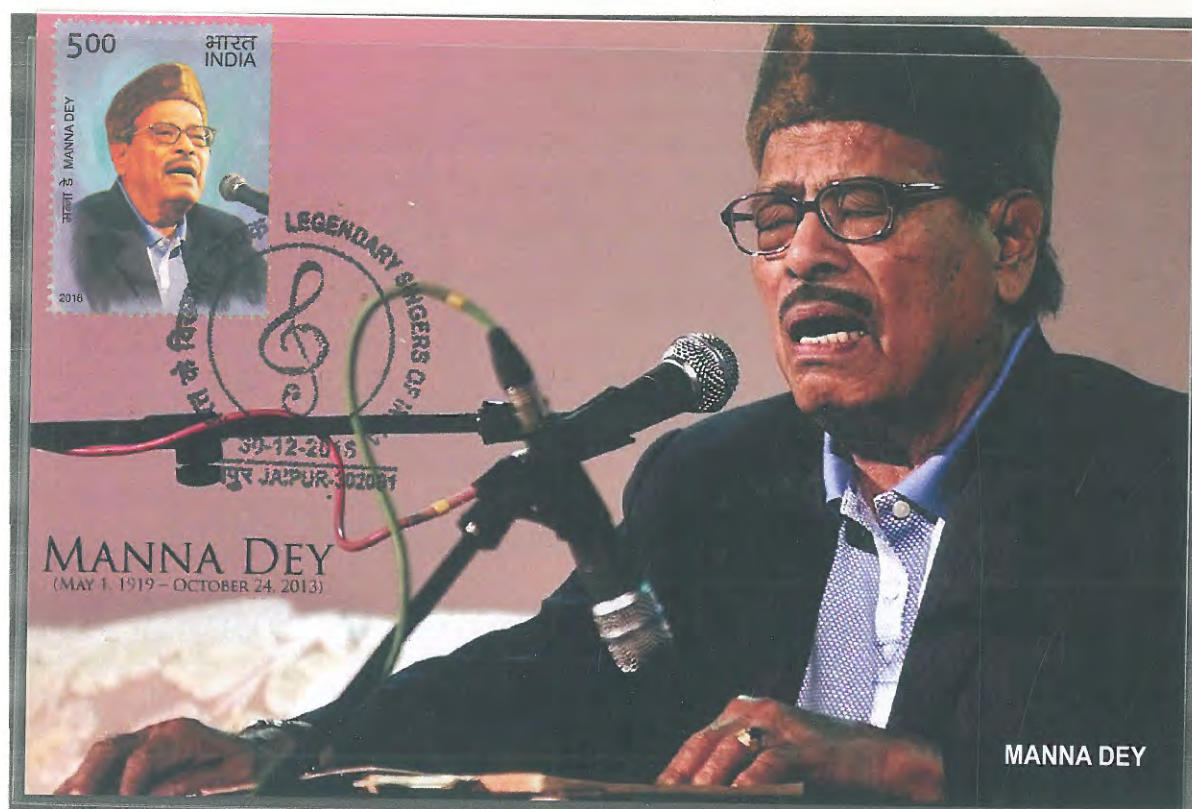
SHAMSHAD BEGUM



Shamshad Begum (Śamsād Bēgam; 14 April 1919 – 23 April 2013) was an Indian singer who was one of the first playback singers in the Hindi film industry. She had a distinctive voice and was a versatile artist, singing over 6,000 songs in Hindi and Bengali, Marathi, Gujarati, Tamil and Punjabi languages and of them 1287 songs were Hindi film songs. She worked with maestros including Naushad Ali, S. D. Burman, C. Ramchandra and O. P. Nayyar. Her songs from the 1940s to the early 1970s remain popular and continue to be remixed.

Shamshad Begum was born in Lahore, British India (present day Pakistan) on 14 April 1919, the day after the Jallianwala Bagh massacre took place in nearby Amritsar city. She was one of eight children, five sons and three daughters, born to a conservative Muslim family of limited means.

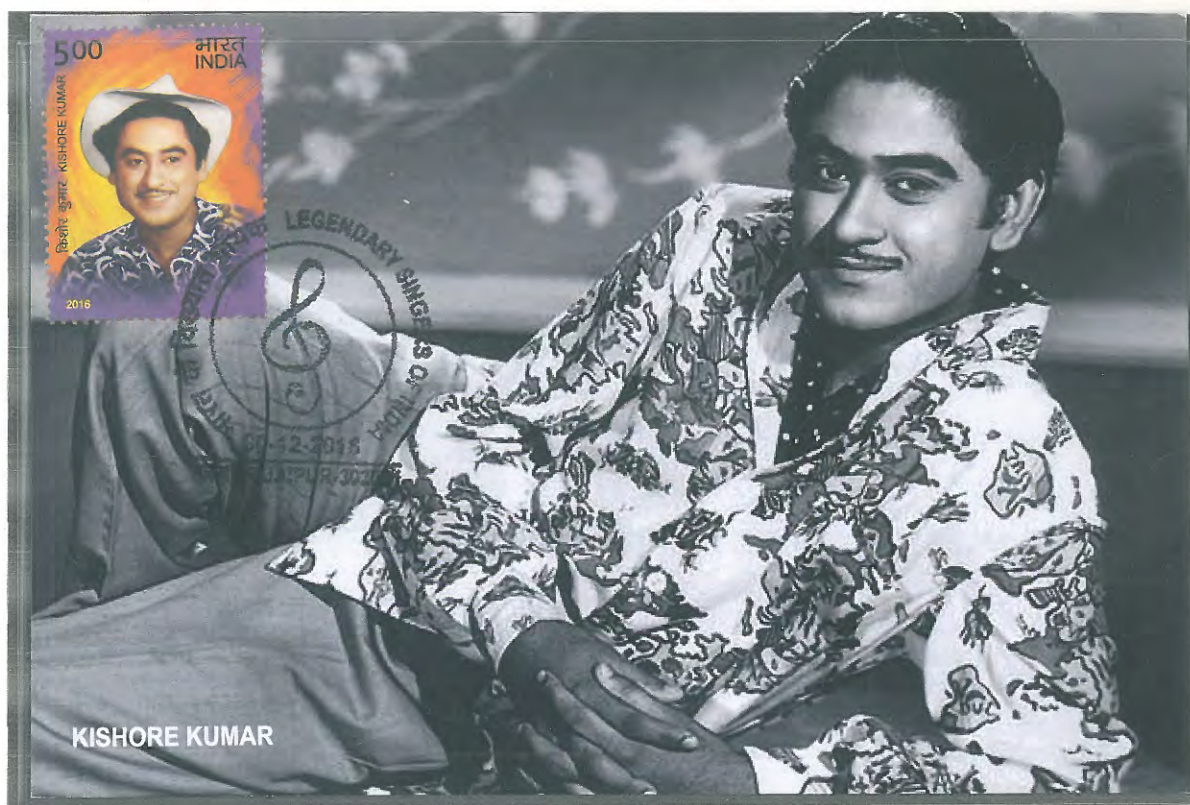
MANNA DEY



Prabodh Chandra Dey (1 May 1919 – 24 October 2013), known by his stage name Manna Dey, an Internationally acclaimed Indian playback singer. He is considered one of the most versatile and celebrated vocalists of the Hindi film industry. He was one of the playback singers credited with the success of Indian classical music in Hindi commercial movies. He debuted in the film Tamanna in 1942. After the song "Upar Gagan Bishal" composed by S D Burman he saw success and went on to record more than 4,000 songs till 2013. The Government of India honoured him with the Padma Shri in 1971, the Padma Bhushan in 2005 and the Dadasaheb Phalke Award in 2007.

Dey sang in all the major regional Indian languages, though primarily in Hindi and Bengali. His peak period in Hindi playback singing was from 1953 to 1976.

KISHORE KUMAR



Kishore Kumar (4 August 1929 – 13 October 1987) was an Indian playback singer, actor, lyricist, composer, producer, director, and screenwriter. He is considered as one of the most popular and successful singers of Hindi film industry and from soft numbers to peppy tracks to romantic moods, Kumar sang in different genres but some of his rare compositions which were considered classics were lost in time. According to Ashok Kumar, Kumar's success lies in the fact that his voice used to hit the microphone straight at its most sensitive point.

Apart from Hindi, he sang in many Indian languages including Bengali, Marathi, Assamese, Gujarati, Kannada, Bhojpuri, Malayalam and Urdu. He has also sung in private albums in several languages especially in Bengali.

HEMANT KUMAR

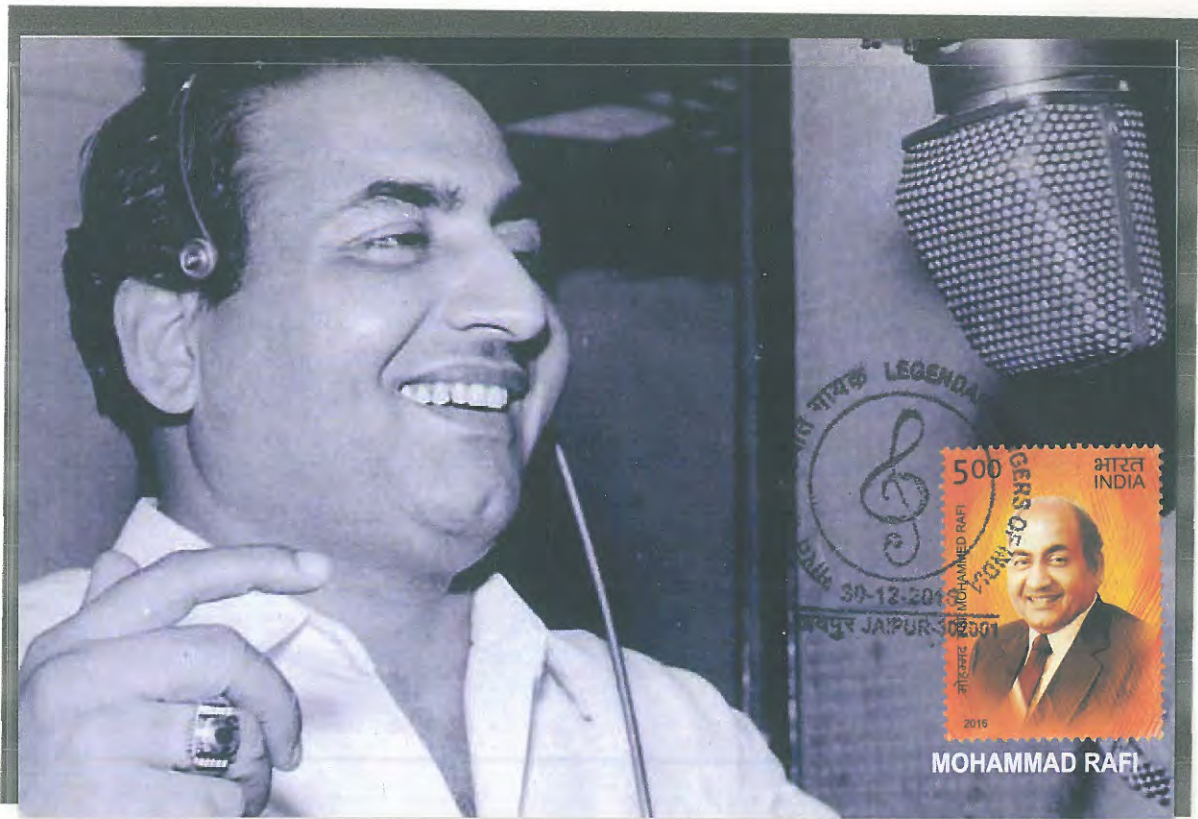


HEMANT KUMAR

Hemanta Mukherjee (16 June 1920 – 26 September 1989); was an Indian music director, who sang in Bengali, Hindi and other Indian languages. He is also one of the known artists of Rabindra Sangeet. He won two National awards for the category best male playback singer.

Hemanta was born in Varanasi, in the house of his maternal grandfather who was a leading physician. From the paternal side his family originated from of Jaynagar. They migrated to Kolkata in the early 1900s. Hemanta grew up there and attended Nasiruddin School and later Mitra Institution school of Bhawanipore area. There he met his longtime friend Subhas Mukhopadhyay who later became a Bengali poet. During this time, he developed a friendship with the noted writer Santosh Kumar Ghosh. At that time, Hemanta wrote short stories, Santosh Kumar wrote poems and Subhash Mukhopadhyay sang songs.

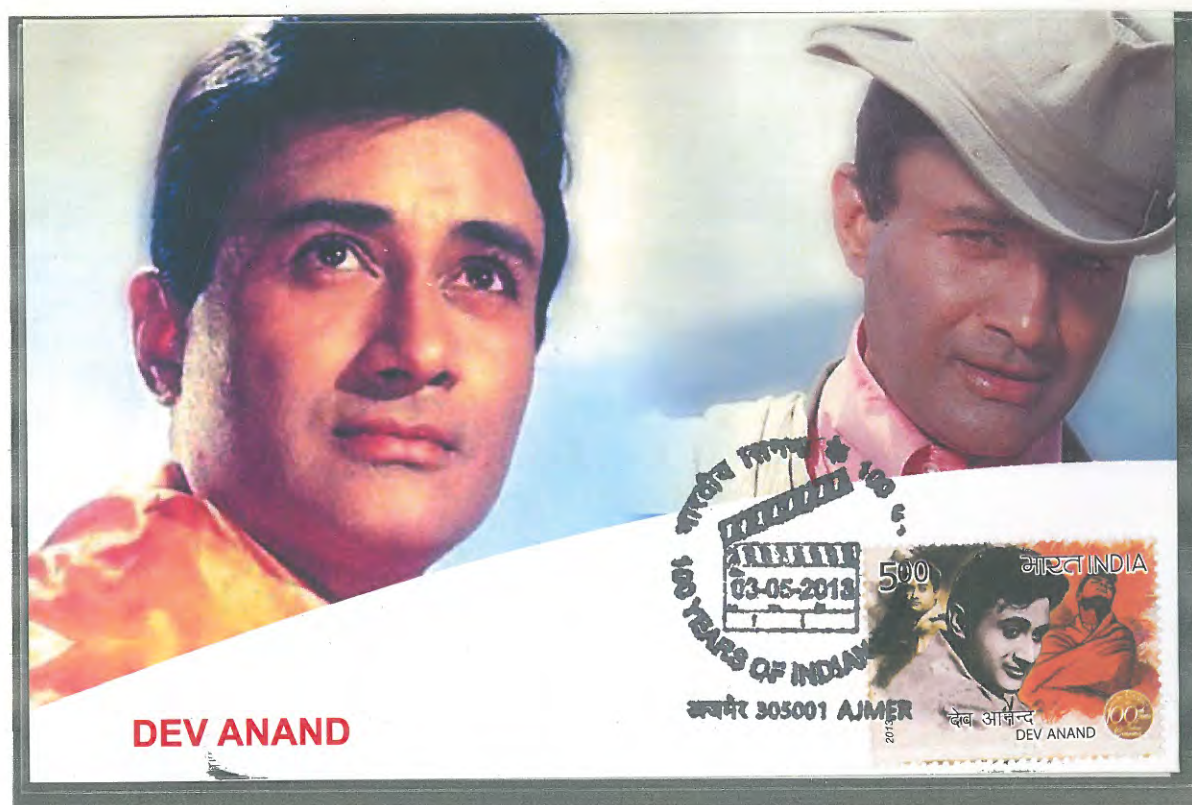
MOHAMMAD RAFI



Mohammed Rafi (24 December 1924 – 31 July 1980) was an Indian playback singer and widely considered to be one of the greatest and most influential singers of the Indian subcontinent. Rafi was notable for his voice, versatility and range; his songs were varied from fast peppy numbers to patriotic songs, sad numbers to highly romantic songs, qawwalis to ghazals and bhajans to classical songs. He was known for his ability to mould his voice to the persona and style of an actor, lip-syncing the song on screen in the movie. He received six Filmfare Awards and one National Film Award. In 1967, he was honoured with the Padma Shri award by the Government of India. In 2001, Rafi was honoured with the "Best Singer of the Millennium" title by Hero Honda and Stardust magazine.

In 2013, Rafi was voted for the Greatest Voice in Hindi Cinema in the CNN-IBN's poll.

DEV ANAND



Dharamdev Pishorimal Anand (26 September 1923 – 3 December 2011), known as Dev Anand, was a noted Indian film actor, writer, director and producer known for his work in Indian cinema. He is considered as one of the greatest and most successful actors in the Indian film industry.

Dev was born Dharam Dev Anand on 26 September 1923^{[1][2]} in the Shakargarh tehsil of the Gurdaspur district in Punjab (British India). His father Pishori Lal Anand was a well-to-do advocate in Gurdaspur District Court. Dev was the third of four sons born to Anand. One of Dev's younger sisters is Sheel Kanta Kapur, who is the mother of film director Shekhar Kapur. His older brothers were Manmohan Anand (Advocate, Gurdaspur Dist. Court) and Chetan Anand and the younger one was Vijay Anand. He did his schooling till matriculation from Sacred Heart School, Dalhousie, (then in Punjab) and went to Government college Dharamshala before going to Lahore to study.^{[3][4]} Later Dev completed a BA degree in English Literature from the Government College, Lahore in British India.

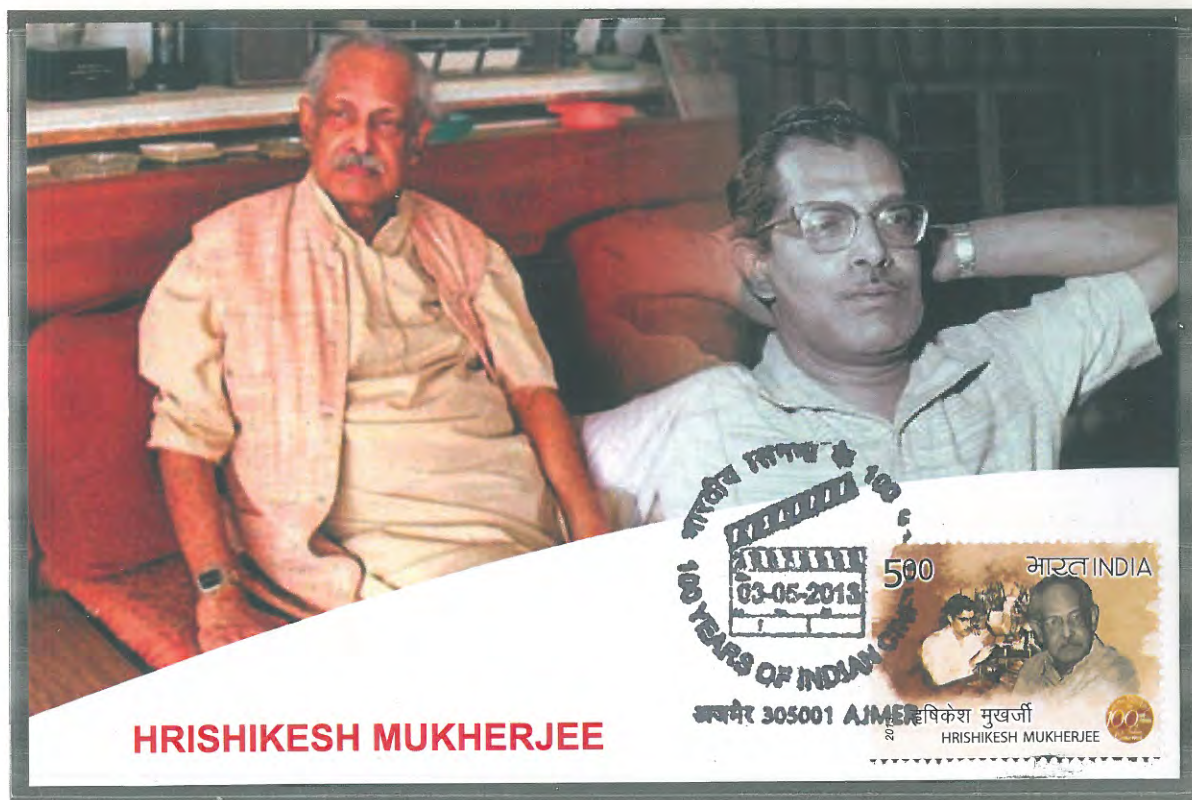
SURAIYA



Suraiya Jamaal Sheikh (15 June 1929 – 31 January 2004), popularly known by the mononym Suraiya, was a popular Indian Hindi/Hindustani film actress and playback singer in Bollywood. She was active from 1936 to 1963.

In a career spanning from 1936 to 1963, Suraiya acted in 67 films and sang 338 songs. She was one of the greatest actresses of the Hindi Cinema and a leading lady in Bollywood in 1940s and 1950s.[1] She was also a renowned playback singer, who mostly sang for her own films in Bollywood, starting from a song in *Nai Duniya* (1942) when she was only 12 years old.

HRISHIKESH MUKHERJEE



Hrishikesh Mukherjee (30 September 1922 – 27 August 2006) was an Indian film director, editor and writer known for a number of films, including Satyakam, Chupke Chupke, Anupama, Anand, Abhimaan, Guddi, Gol Maal, Majhli Didi, Chaitali, Aashirwad, Bawarchi, Kissi Se Na Kehna, Namak Haraam and Chemmeen.

Popularly known as Hrishi-da, he directed 42 films during his career spanning over four decades, and is named the pioneer of the 'middle cinema' of India. Renowned for his social films that reflected the changing middle-class ethos, Mukherjee "carved a middle path between the extravagance of mainstream cinema and the stark realism of art cinema".

KAMAAL AMROHI

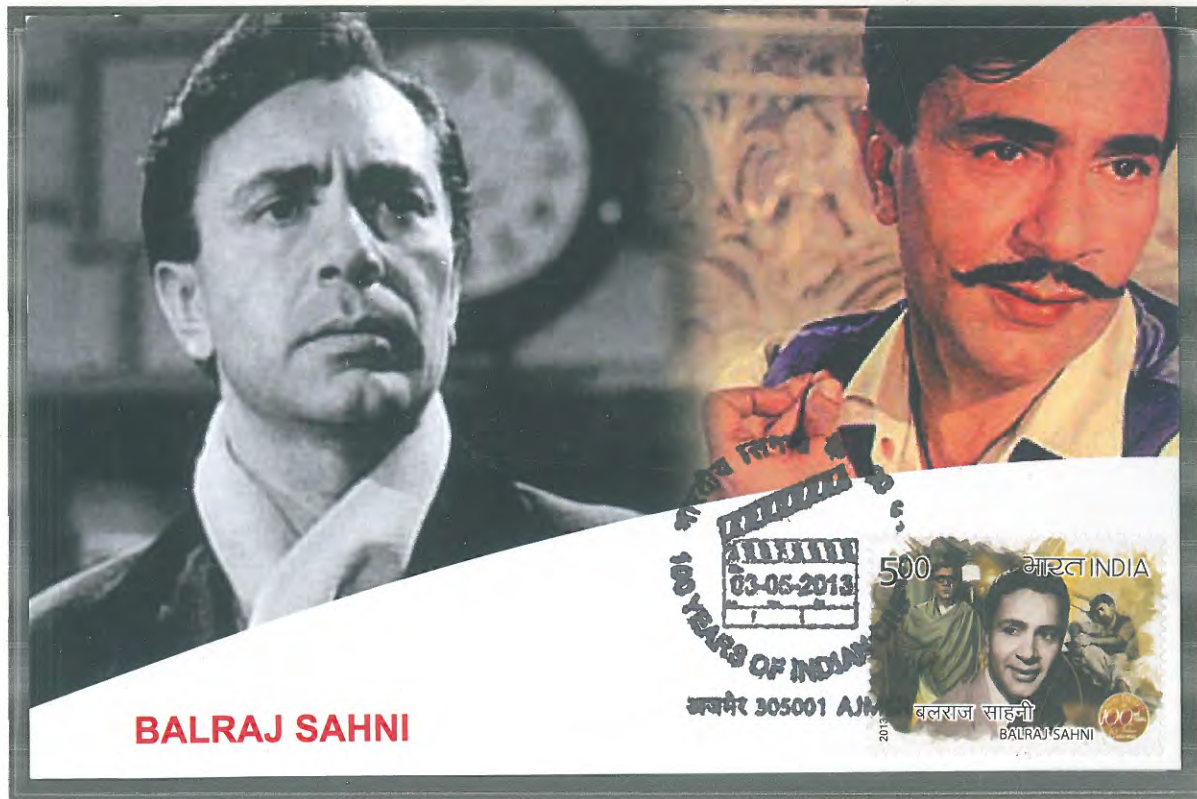


Syed Amir Haider Kamal Naqvi (Urdu: سیّد امیر حیدر کامل ناظمی), popularly known as Kamal Amrohi (Urdu: کمال امروہی), (17 January 1918 – 11 February 1993) was an Indian film director and screenwriter. He was also an Urdu and Hindi poet.

His Hindi films include Mahal (1949), Pakeezah (1972) and Razia Sultan (1983). He established Kamal Pictures (Mahal Films) in 1953 and Kamalistan Studio in Bombay in 1958.

Kamal Amrohi was born in Amroha, United Provinces in British India (present-day Uttar Pradesh) and later took on the name Kamal Amrohi (or Amrohvi). He was a first cousin to Pakistani writers Jaun Elia and Rais Amrohvi.

BALRAJ SAHNI

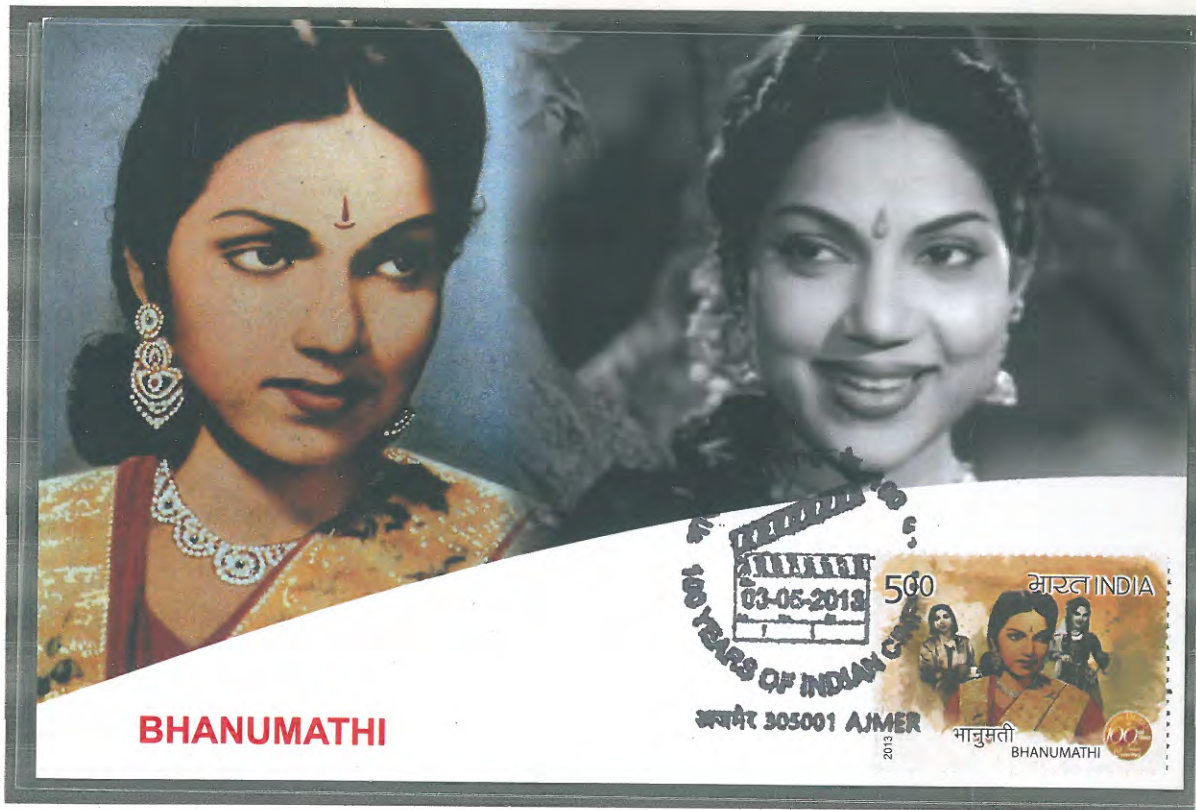


Balraj Sahni (1 May 1913 – 13 April 1973), born Yudhishthir Sahni, was an Indian film and stage actor, who is best known for *Dharti Ke Lal* (1946), *Do Bigha Zameen* (1953), *Kabuliwala* (1961) and *Garam Hawa* (1973).

He came from Bhera, now in Punjab, Pakistan, and was the brother of Bhasham Sahni, noted Hindi writer, playwright, and actor.

Sahni was born on 1 May 1913 in Rawalpindi, British India. He studied at Government College University (Lahore), Punjab, British India. After completing his master's degree in English Literature from Lahore, he went back to Rawalpindi and joined his family business. He also held a Bachelor's degree in Hindi, followed by a Masters in English from Punjab University. Soon after, he married Damayanti Sahni.

BHANUMATHI



Bhanumathi Ramakrishna (7 September 1925 – 24 December 2005) was a multilingual Indian film actress, director, music director, singer, producer, book writer and songwriter. Widely known as the first female super star of Telugu cinema and South Indian film Industry, she is also known for her works in Tamil cinema. She was awarded the Padma Bhushan in 2003 for her contribution in Indian cinema.

She was honored among "women in cinema" at the 30th International Film Festival of India.

She was the third child to Saraswatamma and Bommaraju Venkata Subbaiah, in Doddavaram village of Prakasam district, near Ongole, Andhra Pradesh. She grew up watching her father perform in various stage shows. Her father, Venkata Subbiah, was a lover of classical music and trained her in music from an early age.

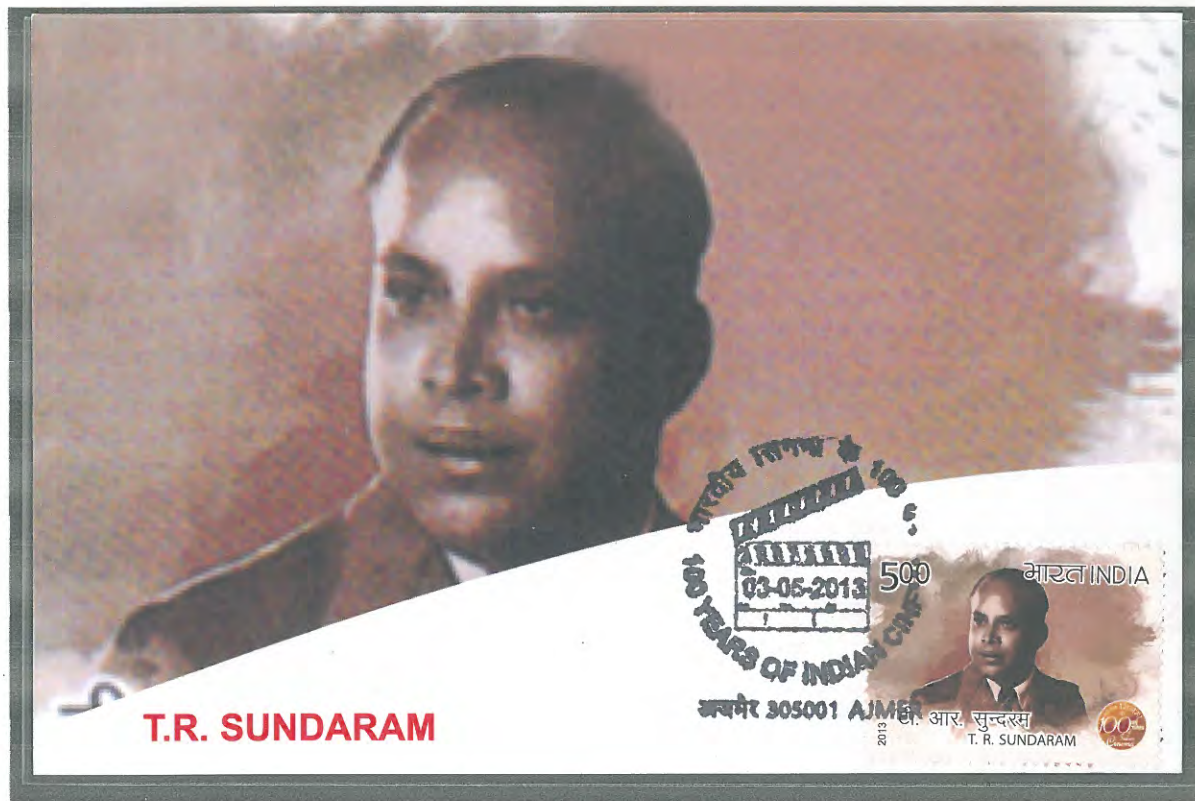
TARACHAND BARJATYA



Tarachand Barjatya (Hindi: ताराचंद बड़जात्या; 10 May 1914 – 21 September 1992) was an Indian film producer. He has produced many successful Hindi films from the 1960s through to the 1980s. He founded Rajshri Productions which continues to produce films even today. His mainstay was family-oriented films based on human values.

He was born in Kuchaman City in Rajasthan state in 1914. He studied at Vidyasagar College, Calcutta. He established Rajshri Pictures (P) Ltd. in 1947. Some of the notable films produced by him are Dosti, Jeevan Mrityu, Uphaar, Piya Ka Ghar, Saudagar, Geet Gaata Chal, Tapasya, Chitchor, Dulhan Wahi Jo Piya Man Bhaye, Ankhiyon Ke Jharokhon Se, Sawan Ko Aane Do, Taraana, Nadiya Ke Paar, and Saaransh. He died in 1992. His grandson Sooraj R. Barjatya is a successful film producer and director and his granddaughter is Kavita K. Barjatya.

T.R.SUNDARAM

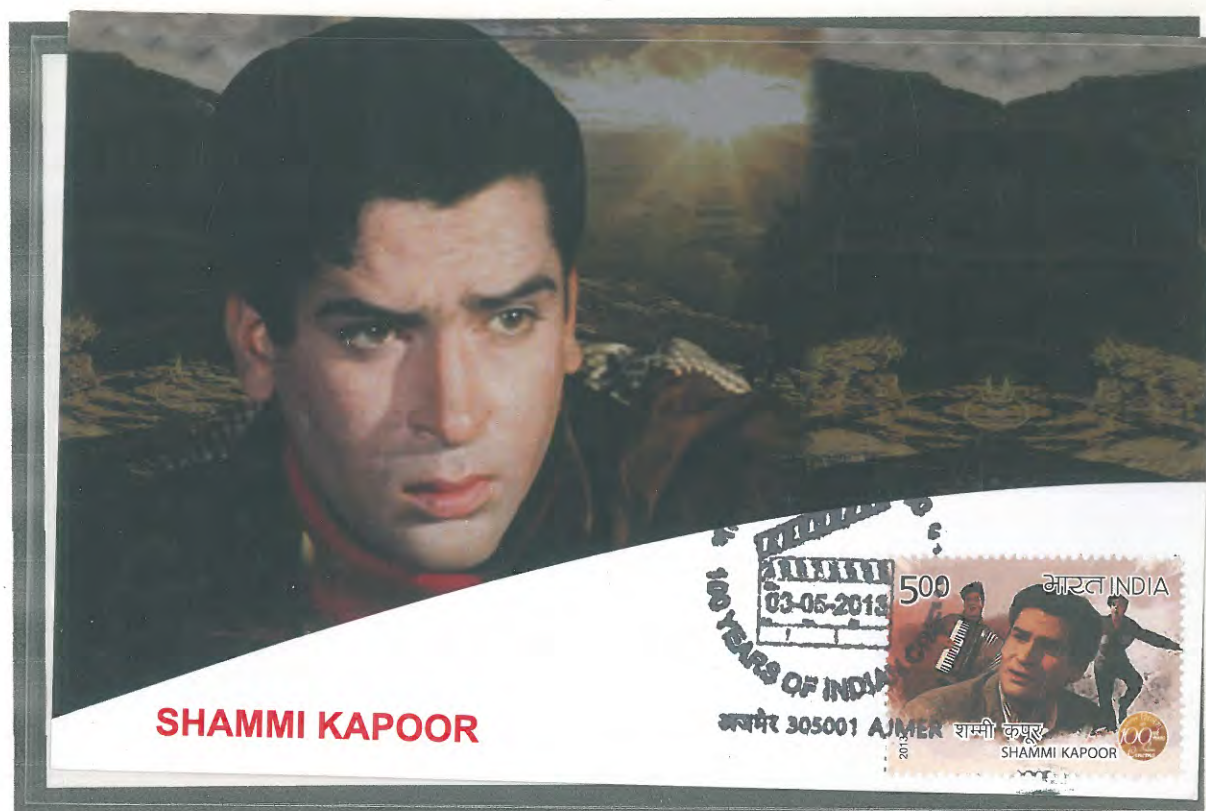


Tiruchengodu Ramalingam Sundaram (16 July 1907 – 30 August 1963) was an Indian film actor, director, and producer. He is the founder of the Salem-based movie production company The Modern Theatres Ltd.

Sundaram was born in 1907 in Salem to a wealthy textile merchant Ramalingam Mudaliar and had his studies in India and in Leeds, England, where he graduated in textile engineering. On returning to India, he managed his family business. After the production of the first Tamil talkie Kalidas in 1931, the film industry emerged as a profitable means of investment. Sundaram set up Angel Pictures in Salem and produced movies along with S. S. Velayutham.

Sundaram split with Velayutham after a few years and set up his own production company The Modern Theatres Ltd. The first film produced under the banner of Modern Theatres was Sathi Ahalya in 1937. The next year, Sundaram produced the Malayalam film Balan (1938). His 1944 film Arundathi was a commercial success and completed 100 days at the theatres. Sundaram was instrumental in giving M. G. Ramachandran his first major solo box office hit in Manthiri Kumari.

SHAMMI KAPOOR



Shammi Kapoor (born Shamsher Raj Kapoor; 21 October 1931[2] – 14 August 2011) was an Indian film actor and director. He was a prominent lead actor in Hindi cinema from the Mid 1950s until the early 1970s and also made a debut in Tamil cinema with the 1992 blockbuster crime drama *Amaran*. He received the Filmfare Best Actor Award in 1968 for his performance in *Brahmachari* and Filmfare Award for Best Supporting Actor for *Vidhaata* in 1982.

Shammi Kapoor is hailed as one of the most entertaining lead actors that Hindi cinema has ever produced. He was one of the leading stars of Hindi cinema during the late 1950s, the 1960s and early 1970s. He made his Hindi Film debut in 1953 with the film *Jeevan Jyoti*, and went on to deliver hits like *Tumsa Nahin Dekha*, *Dil Deke Dekho*, *Singapore*, *Jungle*, *College Girl*, *Professor*, *China Town*, *Pyaar Kiya To Darna Kya*, *Kashmir Ki Kali*, *Janwar*, *Teesri Manzil*, *An Evening in Paris*, *Brahmachari*, *Andaz* and *Sachai*.

MAJROOH SULTANPURI

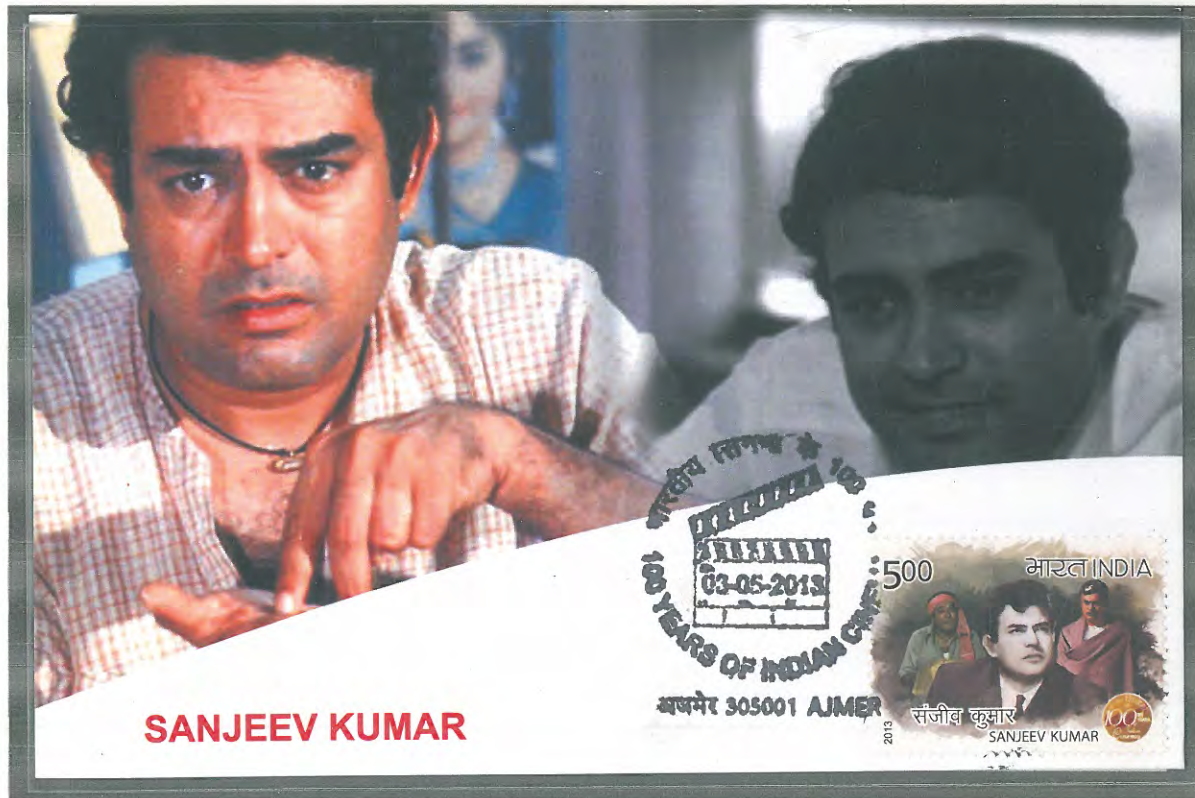


MAJROOH SULTANPURI

Majrooh Sultanpuri, born Asrar ul Hassan Khan (1 October 1919 – 24 May 2000), was an Indian Urdu poet. He is known for his work as an Urdu poet, and as a lyricist and songwriter in the Bollywood film industry, where he wrote Hindi-Urdu lyrics for numerous Bollywood soundtracks.

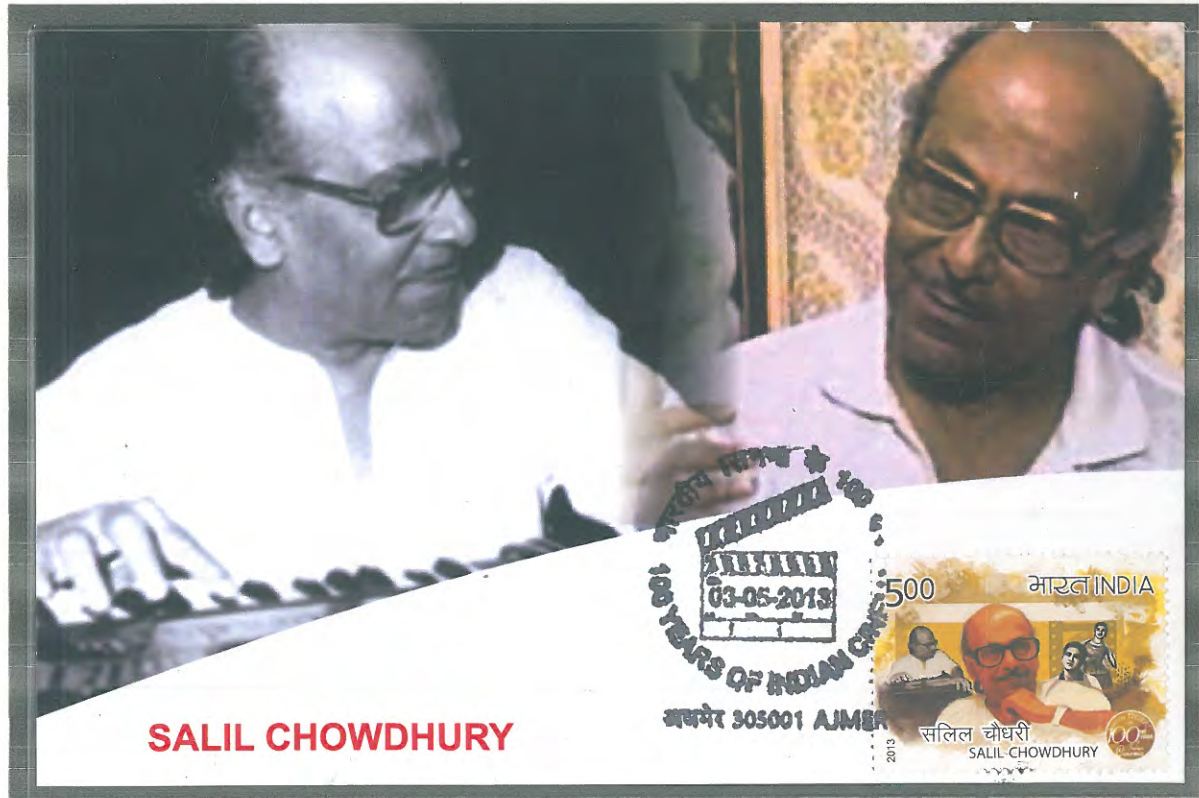
He was one of the dominating musical forces in Indian cinema in the 1950s and early 1960s and was an important figure in the Progressive Writers' Movement. He is considered one of the finest avant-garde Urdu poets of 20th century literature.

SANJEEV KUMAR



Sanjeev Kumar (born Harihar Jethalal Jariwala; 9 July 1938 – 6 November 1985) was an Indian film actor. He won several major awards including two National Film Awards for Best Actor for his performances in the movies *Dastak* (1971) and *Koshish* (1973). He acted in genres ranging from romantic dramas to thrillers. Kumar did not mind playing roles that were non-glamorous, such as characters well beyond his age. Movies such as *Arjun Pandit*, *Sholay* and *Trishul*, along with the remakes of Tamil films into Hindi such as *Khilona*, *Yehi Hai Zindagi*, *Naya Din Nai Raat*, *Devata*, *Itni Si Baat* and *Ram Tere Kitne Naam* exemplify his talents. He also did suspense-thriller films such as *Qatl*, *Shikar*, *Uljan* and *Trishna*. Kumar also proved his ability to do comedy in films such as *Manchali*, *Pati Patni aur Woh*, *Angoor*, *Biwi O Biwi* and *Hero*. He is well remembered for his versatility and genuine portrayal of his characters. His double role in the film *Angoor* was listed among the 25 best acting performances of Indian cinema by *Forbes India* on the occasion of celebrating 100 years of Indian Cinema.

SALIL CHOWDHURY

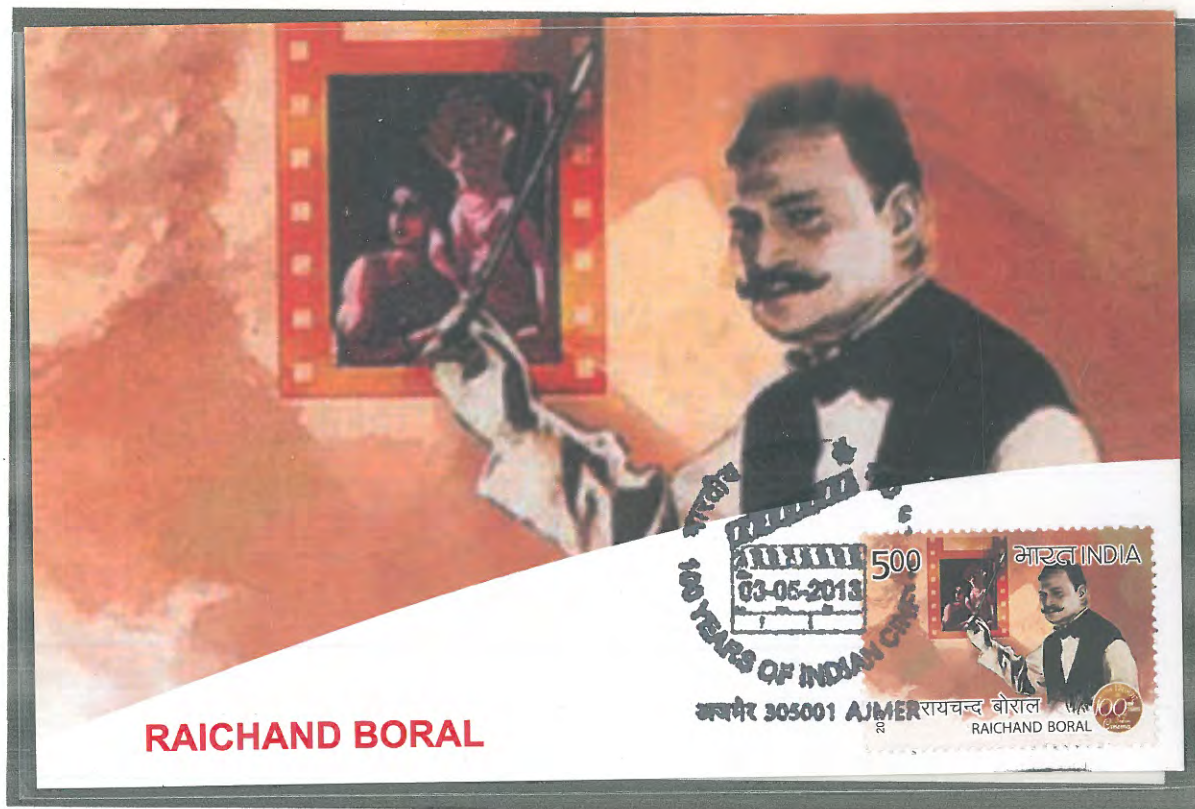


SALIL CHOWDHURY

Salil Chowdhury was an Indian music composer , lyricist , writer and singer, who mainly composed for Bengali, Hindi, Malayalam film and other films. He was also a poet and a playwright. He is affectionately called Salilda by his admirers.

His musical ability was widely recognised and acknowledged in the Indian film industry. He was an accomplished composer and arranger who was proficient in several musical instruments, including flute, the piano, and the esraj. He was also widely acclaimed and admired for his inspirational and original poetry in Bengali.

RAICHAND BORAL



Rai Chand Boral (19 October 1903 – 25 November 1981) was an Indian composer, considered by music connoisseurs to be the Bishma Pitamah, the father of Bollywood film music.

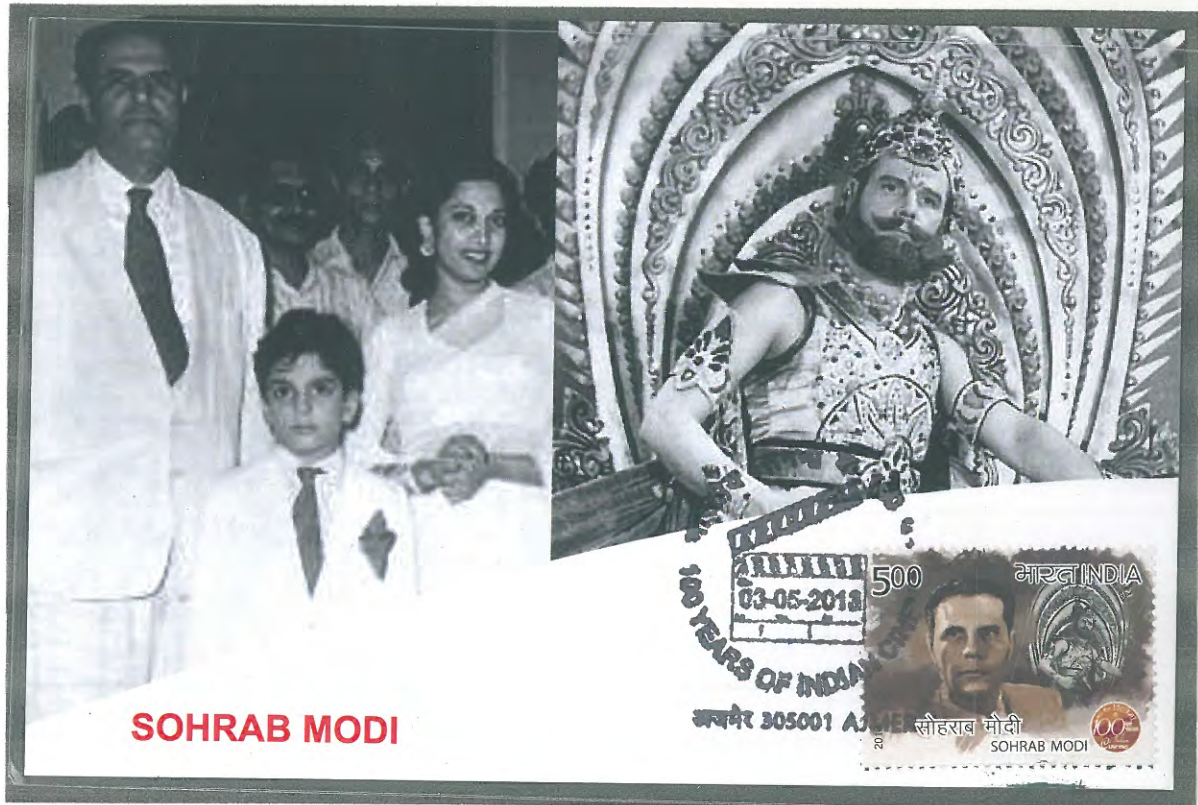
He was awarded the Dadasaheb Phalke Award the highest award in Indian cinema, given by Government of India, in 1978, and also in the same year, the Sangeet Natak Akademi award, given by the Sangeet Natak Akademi, India's National Academy for Music, Dance and Drama.

PRITHVIRAJ KAPOOR



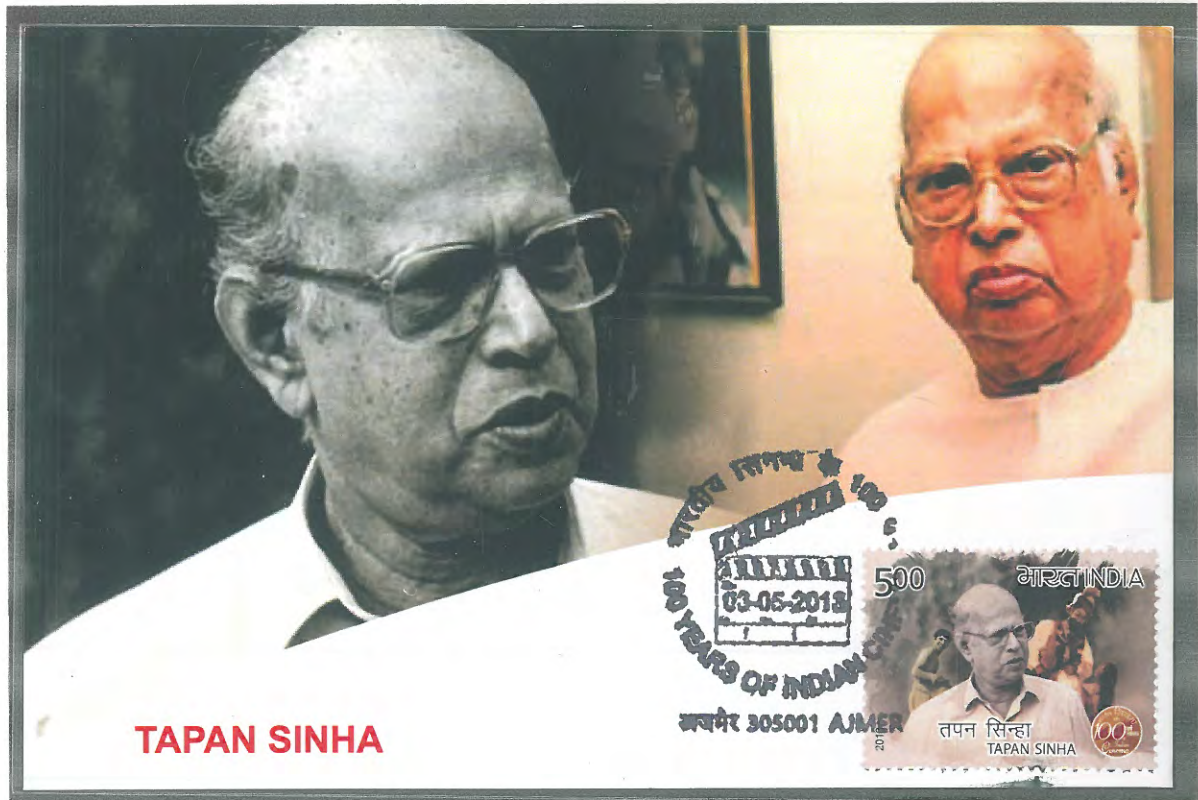
Prithviraj Kapoor (3 November 1906 – 29 May 1972) born Prithvinath Kapoor, was a pioneer of Indian theatre and of the Hindi film industry, who started his career as an actor in the silent era of Hindi cinema, associated with IPTA as one of its founding members and who founded the Prithvi Theatres, a travelling theatre company based in Mumbai, in 1944. He was the patriarch of the Kapoor family of Hindi films, four generations of which, beginning with him, have played active roles in the Hindi film industry. However, his father, Basheshwar Nath Kapoor, also played a short role in his movie Awaara. The Government of India honoured him with the Padma Bhushan in 1969 and the Dadasaheb Phalke Award in 1971 for his contributions towards Indian cinema.

SOHRAB MODI



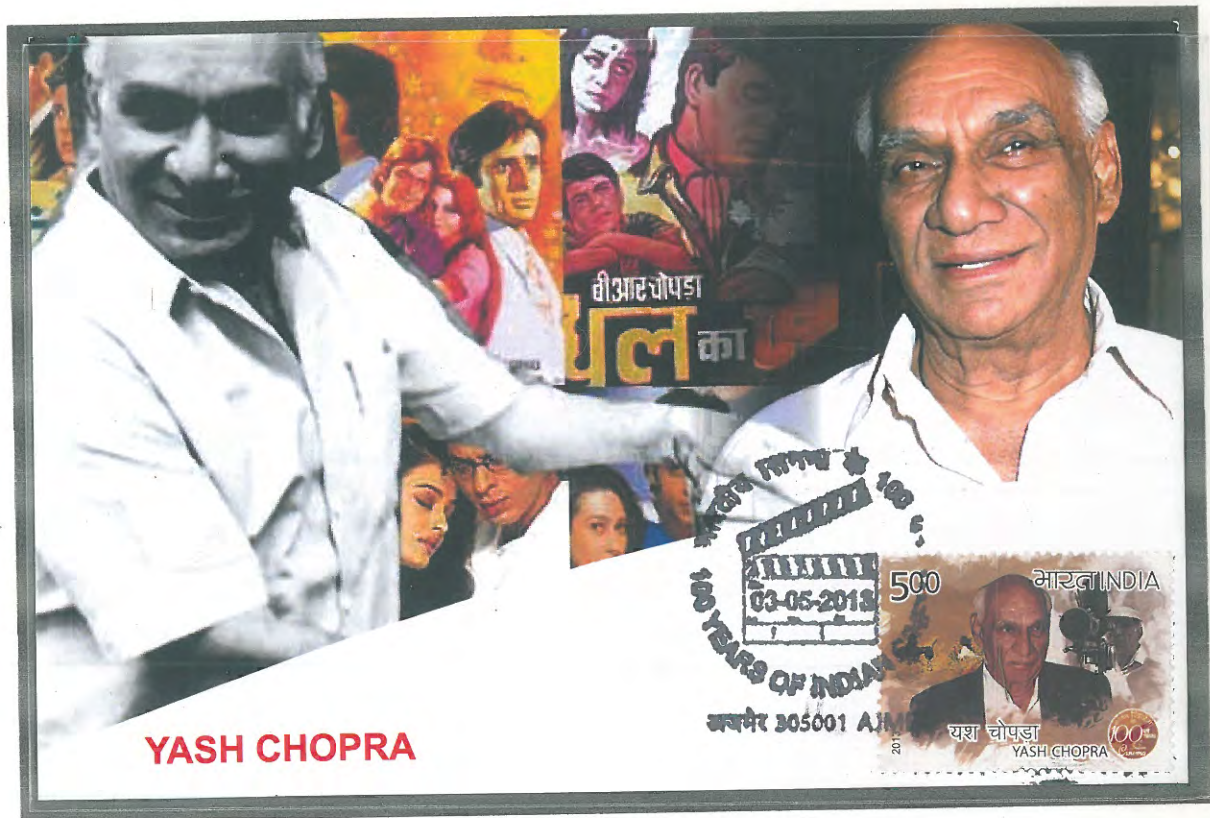
Sohrab Modi (1897–1984) was an Indian Parsi stage and film actor, director and producer. His films include *Khoon Ka Khoon* (1935), a version of Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, *Sikandar*, *Pukar*, *Prithvi Vallabh*, *Jhansi ki Rani*, *Mirza Ghalib*, *Jailor* and *Nausherwan-E-Adil* (1957). His films always carried a message of strong commitment to social and national issues.

TAPAN SINHA



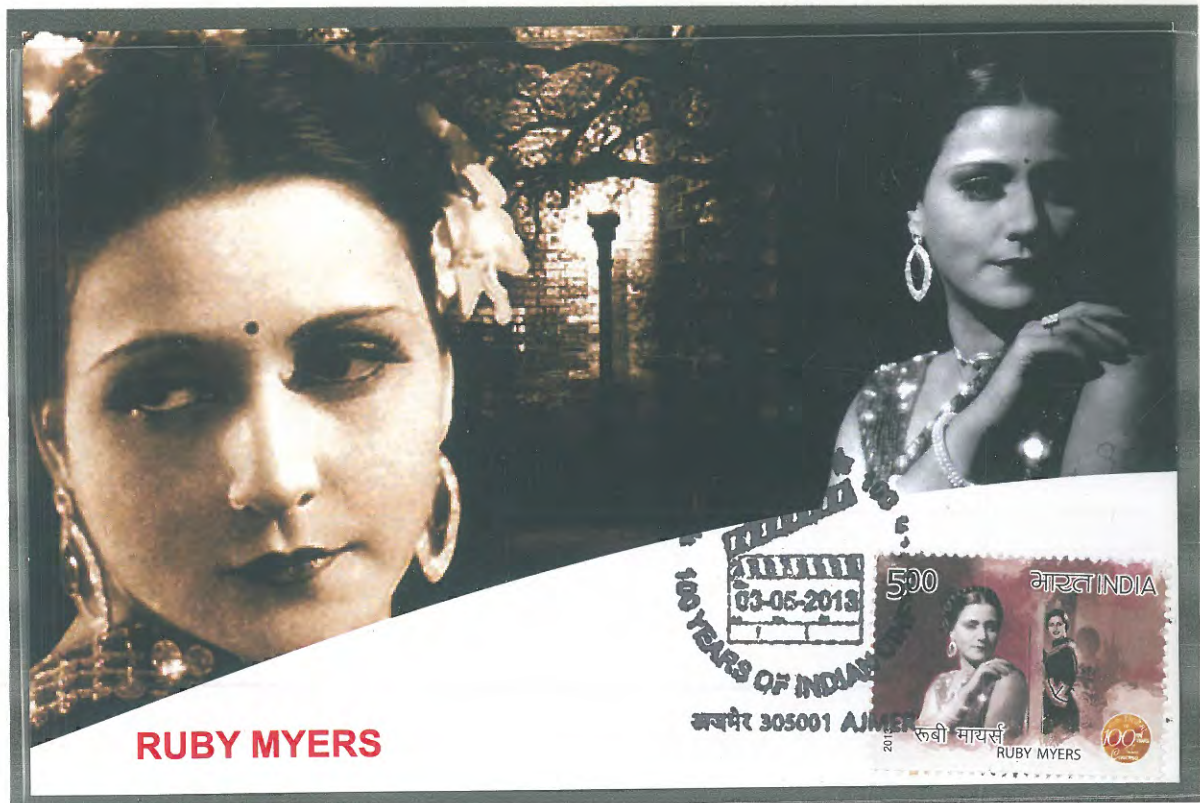
Tapan Sinha (2 October 1924 – 15 January 2009) was one of the most prominent Indian film directors of his time forming a legendary quartet with Satyajit Ray, Ritwik Ghatak and Mrinal Sen. He was primarily a Bengali filmmaker who worked both in Hindi cinema and Bengali cinema, directing films like *Kabuliwala* (1957), *Louha-Kapat*, *Sagina Mahato* (1970), *Apanjan* (1968), *Kshudhita Pashan* and children's film *Safed Haathi* (1978) and *Aaj Ka Robinhood*.

YASH CHOPRA



Yash Raj Chopra (27 September 1932 – 21 October 2012) was an Indian film director and film producer, predominantly working in Hindi cinema. Yash Chopra began his career as an assistant director to I. S. Johar and elder brother, B.R. Chopra. He made his directorial debut with *Dhool Ka Phool* in 1959, a melodrama about illegitimacy, and followed it with the social drama *Dharmputra* (1961).

RUBY MYERS



Ruby Myers (1907 – 10 October 1983), better known by her stage name Sulochana, was an Indian silent film actress of Jewish ancestry, hailing from the community of Baghdadi Jews in India.

In her heyday she was one of the highest paid actresses of her time, when she was paired with Dinshaw Billimoria in Imperial Studios films. In mid-1930 she opened Rubi Pics, a film production house.

She was awarded the 1973 Dada Saheb Phalke Award, India's highest award in cinema for lifetime achievement.

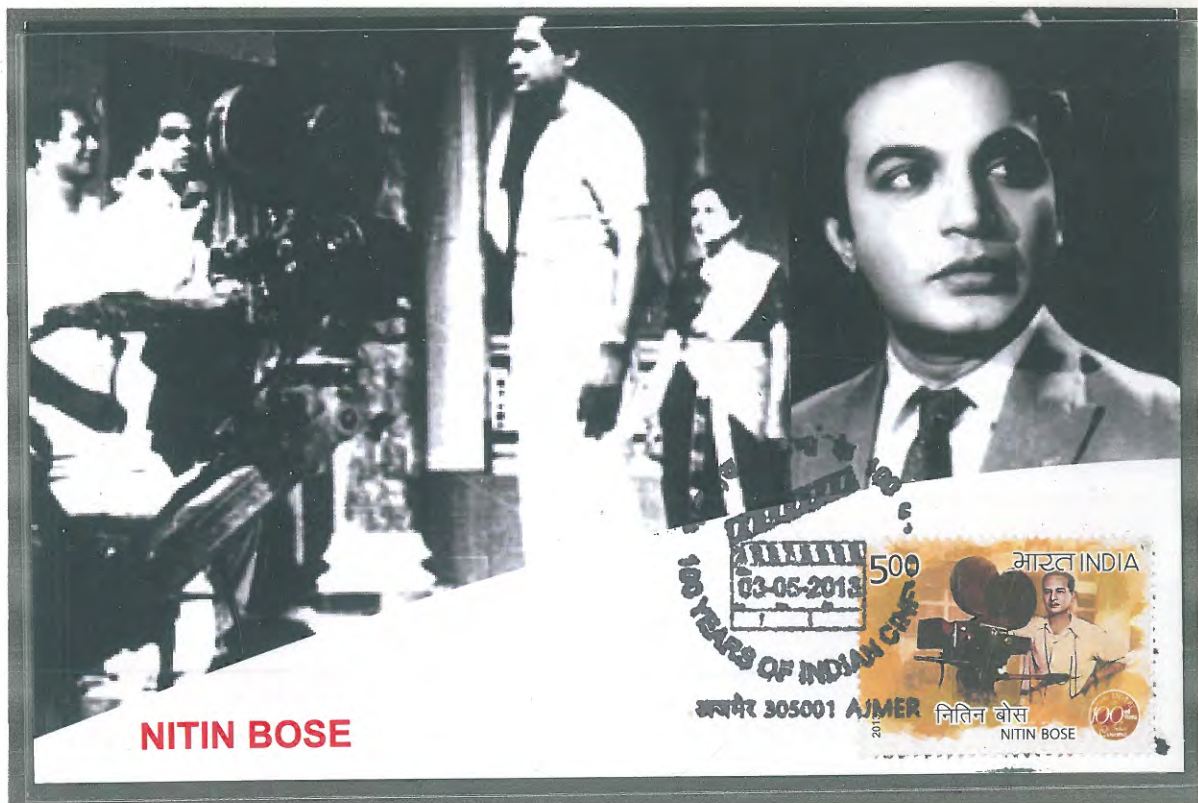
SHAKEEL BADAYUNI



Shakeel Badayuni (3 August 1916 – 20 April 1970) was an Indian Urdu poet, lyricist and songwriter in Bollywood.

Shakeel Badayuni was born in Badaun, Uttar Pradesh. His father, Mohammed Jamaal Ahmed Sokhta Qadiri, wanted him to have a good career, thus he arranged Arabic, Urdu, Persian, and Hindi tuition for Shakeel at home. His inclination towards poetry was not hereditary like other shayars. One of his distant relatives, Zia-ul-Qadiri Badayuni, was a religious shayar. Shakeel was influenced by him and the contemporary environment of Badayun led him to poetry.

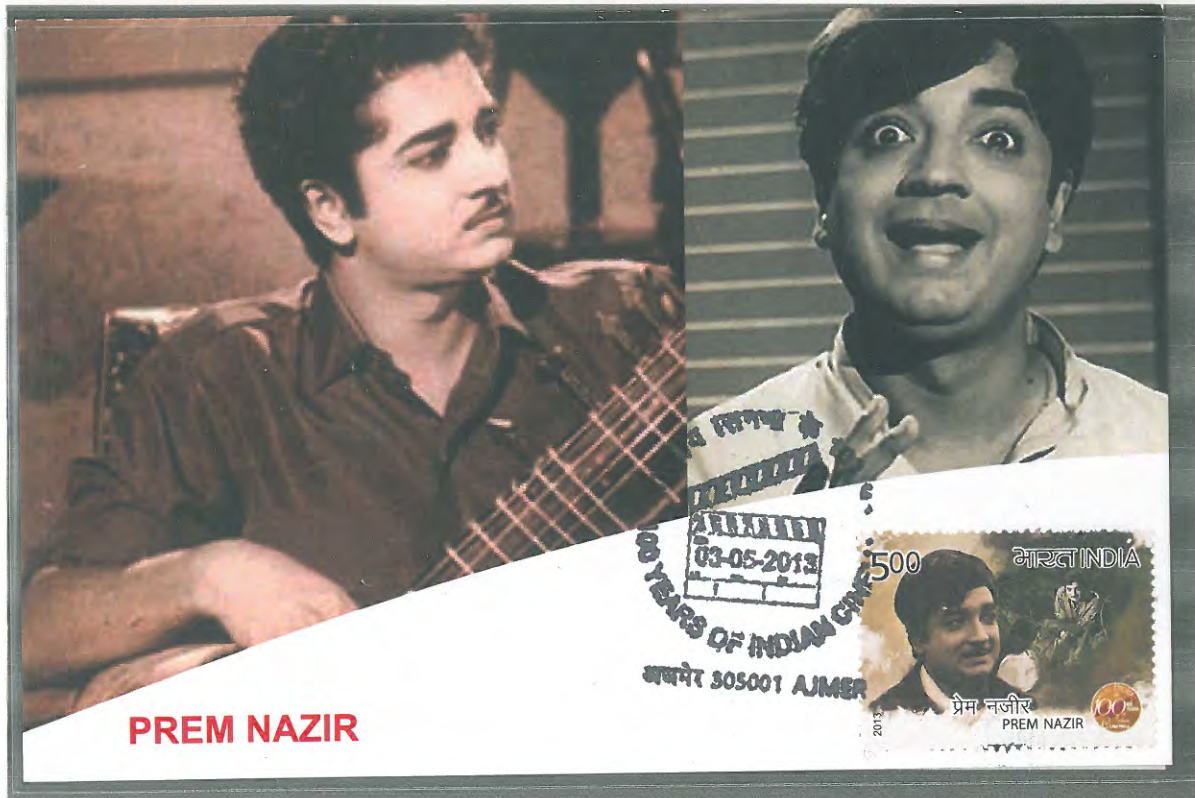
NITIN BOSE



Nitin Bose (26 April 1897 – 14 April 1986) was an Indian film director, cinematographer and screenwriter of the nation's film industry. He was born in Calcutta and died in the same city. In the 1930s and early 1940s, he worked with New Theatres, who made bilingual movies: in both Bengali and Hindi. Later, he moved to Bombay and directed under the banners of Bombay Talkies and Filmistan.

The first use of playback singing in Indian films occurred in films directed by Bose in 1935: first in *Bhagya Chakra*, a Bengali film, and later the same year in its Hindi remake, *Dhoop Chhaon*. His most well-known work is *Ganga Jamuna*.

PREM NAZIR



PREM NAZIR

Prem Nazir (born Abdul Khader; 7 April 1926 – 16 January 1989) was an Indian film actor known as one of Malayalam cinema's definitive leading men of his generation.[1] Nazir is often referred to as Nithyatharita Nayakan ("Evergreen Hero"). Nazir began his career as a stage actor and made his film debut with the 1952 film Marumakal. He took on the stage name Prem Nazir on the sets of his second film, Visappinte Vili (1952). Nazir rose to stardom in the 1950s and was a popular leading actor from the 1950s till the early 1980s.

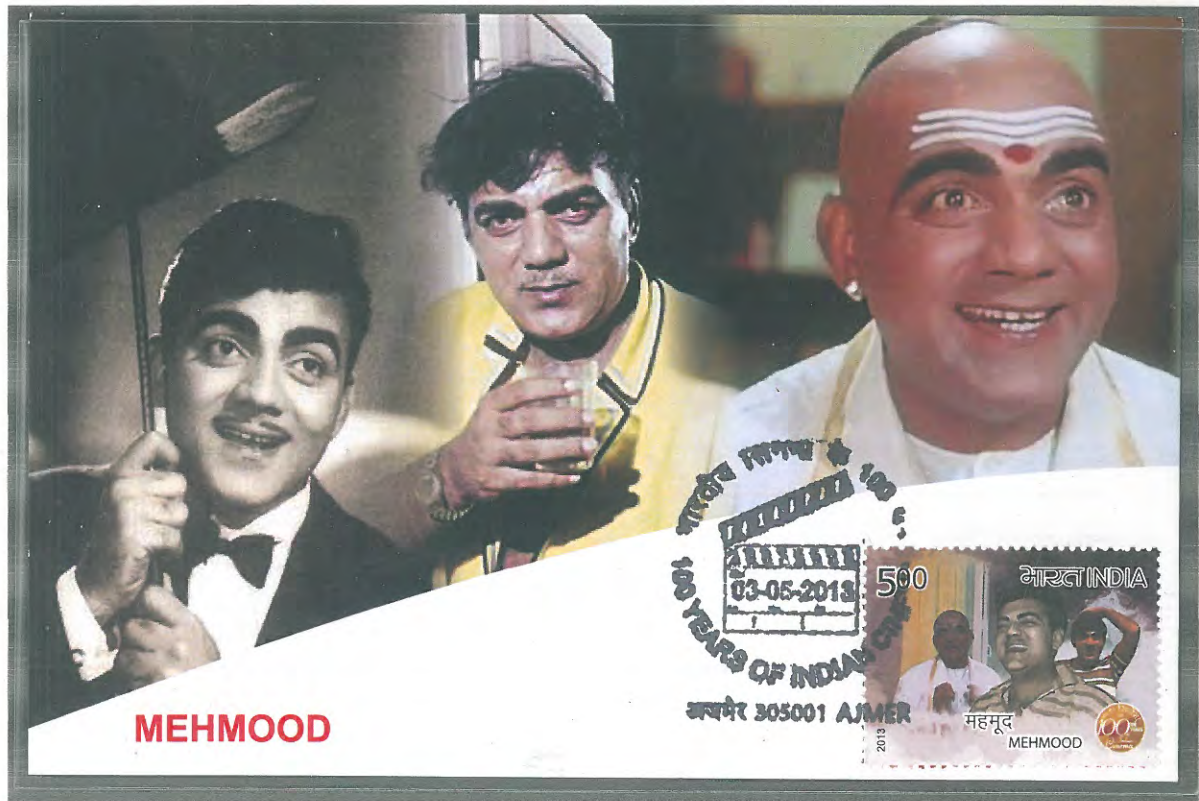
Nazir is noted for his critically acclaimed performances in films such as Murappennu (1965), Iruttinte Athmavu (1967), Kallichellamma (1969), Nadhi (1969), Anubhavangal Paalichakal (1971), Azhakulla Saleena (1973), Vida Parayum Munpe (1981), Padayottam (1982), and Dhvani (1988)

KANNADASAN



Kannadasan (24 June 1927 – 17 October 1981) was an Indian poet and lyricist, heralded as one of the greatest and most important lyricists in India. Frequently called Kaviarasu or Kavirajar (King of Poets), Kannadasan was most familiar for his song lyrics in Tamil films and contributed around 5000 film lyrics apart from 6000 poems and 232 books,[1] including novels, epics, plays, essays, his most popular being the 10-part religious essay on Hinduism, Arthamulla Indhumatham (Meaningful Hindu Religion). He won the Sahitya Akademi Award for his novel Cheraman Kadali in the year 1980 and was the first to receive the National Film Award for Best Lyrics, given in 1969 for the film Kuzhanthaikkaga.

MEHMOOD



Mehmood Ali (29 September 1932 – 23 July 2004), popularly known simply as Mehmood, was an Indian actor, singer, director and producer best known for playing comic roles in Hindi films. During his career of more than four decades, he worked in over 300 Hindi films. Mehmood received 25 Nominations for filmfare awards, 19 for 'Best Performance in a Comic Role', while the awards started in 1954, awards for the best comedian category started only in 1967. Prior to that Mehmood also received 6 nominations for 'Best Supporting Actor'.

MADAN MOHAN



Madan Mohan Kohli (25 June 1924 – 14 July 1975), better known as Madan Mohan, was a popular and unparalleled Indian music director of the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s. He is considered one of the most melodious and skilled music directors of the Hindi film industry.[1] He is particularly remembered for the immortal ghazals he composed for Hindi films. Some of his best works are with Mohammed Rafi, Talat Mahmood, Lata Mangeshkar and Asha Bhosle.

RAJESH KHANNA



Rajesh Khanna born Jatin Khanna; 29 December 1942 – 18 July 2012) was an Indian actor, film producer and politician who is known for his work in Hindi cinema. He is referred to as the "first superstar" and the "original superstar" of Indian cinema. He starred in 15 consecutive solo hit films from 1969 to 1971, still an unbroken record.

He did 106 solo hero films of which 97 were released between 1967 and 2013. He acted in only 22 films with multi-star cast. 82 of the 127 films with Khanna as the lead protagonist (of them 117 released and 11 unreleased) were critically acclaimed films with ratings above 4 stars out of 5 by film reviewers of various newspapers unanimously.

MOTILAL



Motilal Rajvansh (4 December 1910 – 17 June 1965) was an Indian film actor and the winner of Filmfare Best Supporting Actor Award for Devdas (1955) and Parakh (1960). He is credited with being among Hindi cinema's first natural actors.

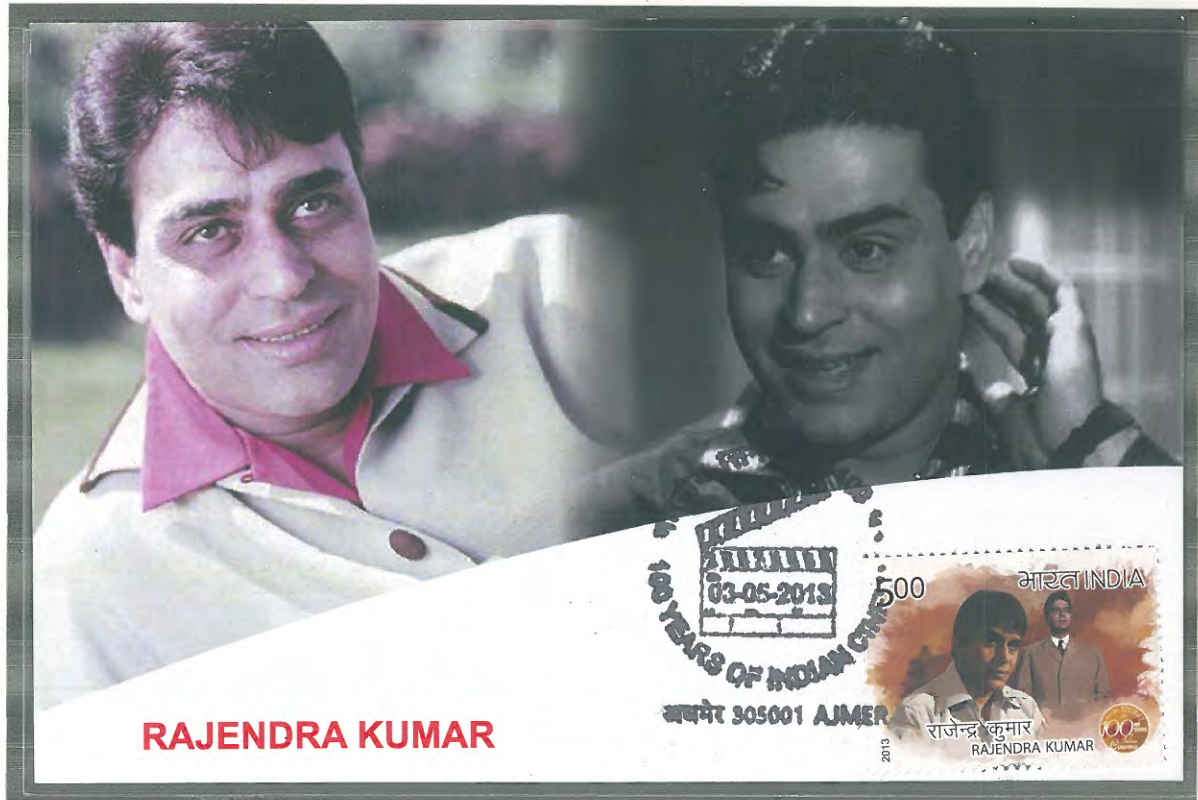
He also directed the film Chhoti Chhoti Baatein (1965), but died before its release. At the 13th National Film Awards, it won the award for Certificate of Merit for the Third Best Feature Film and he posthumously won the Certificate of Merit for the Best Story Writer.

NAGESH



Nagesh (born Cheyur Krishna Nageshwaran; (1933–2009) was an Indian film actor, mostly remembered for his roles as a comedian during the 1960s. He is regarded as one of the most prolific comedians in Tamil cinema. He acted in over 1,000 films from 1958 to 2008, performing in a variety of roles as comedian, lead roles, supporting actor and antagonist. He has also acted in Telugu, Malayalam, Hindi and Kannada films. Nagesh's style of comedy was largely inspired by Hollywood actor Jerry Lewis. Similarities between Nagesh and Lewis earned Nagesh the sobriquet the "Jerry Lewis of India". He was also a fantastic dancer. The song "Kanni Nathiyoram" in the movie Neerkumizhi shows some of his comic dance skills.

RAJENDRA KUMAR



RAJENDRA KUMAR

Rajendra Kumar Tuli (20 July 1929 – 12 July 1999) was an Indian film actor who starred in Bollywood films. Starting his career in 1950, he appeared in more than 80 films in a career spanning over four decades. He was considered one of the most successful Indian Bollywood actors in the 1960s. He also produced several films starring his son Kumar Gaurav. The Government of India honoured him with the Padma Shri in 1969.

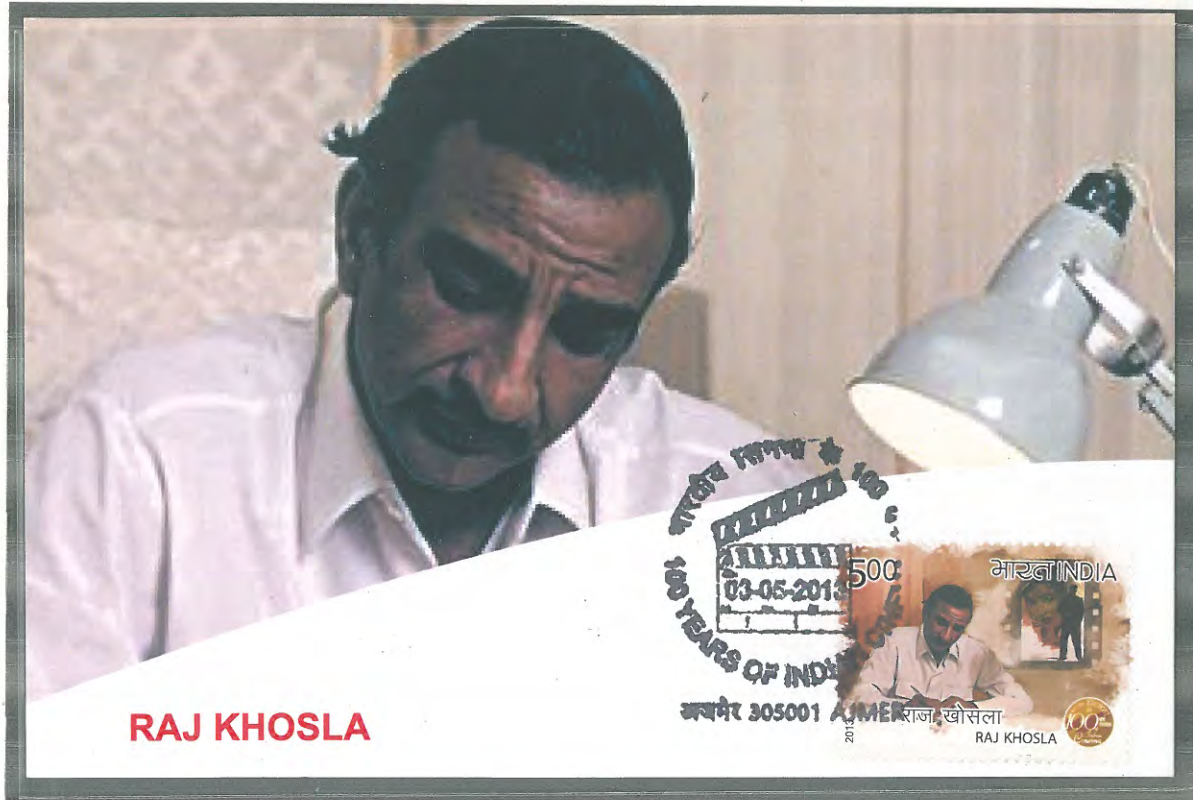
He was born in a Punjabi Hindu family in Sialkot, in the Punjab province of British India.

S.V.RANGA RAO



Samarla Venkata Ranga Rao (3 July 1918 – 18 July 1974), popularly known as S.V.R., was an Indian film actor, director and producer known for his works in Telugu cinema and Tamil cinema. Regarded as one of the finest method actors in the history of cinema and one of the greatest actors in Telugu Cinema, Rao was popularly known as "Viswa Nata Chakravarthi". Throughout his film career, which spanned a total of thirty years, Rao garnered various National Honors, International Honors, State Nandi Awards, and the Filmfare Special Award - South. In 1951, Rao appeared in the fantasy film, Pathala Bhairavi, screened at the first India International Film Festival, held in Mumbai on 24 January 1952. Rao received wide reception for his portrayal of Nepala Manthrikudu the tantric in the super-hit film.

RAJ KHOSLA



RAJ KHOSLA

Raj Khosla (Hindi: राज खोसला; 31 May 1925 – 9 June 1991) was one of the top directors, producers and screenwriters in Hindi films from the 1950s to the 1980s. He was known for bringing in "neo-noir" and style in Indian cinema since black and white times, and also as a "women's director" because he showcased actresses at their best. He is often credited for the success of actors such as Dev Anand. Starting his career under Guru Dutt, he went on to make hit films like, C.I.D. (1956), Woh Kaun Thi? (1964), Mera Saaya (1966), Dostana (1980) and Main Tulse Tere Aangan Ki (1978), which won the Filmfare Best Movie Award. His early background in classical music ensured that most of his films excelled in music.

VISHNU VARDHAN



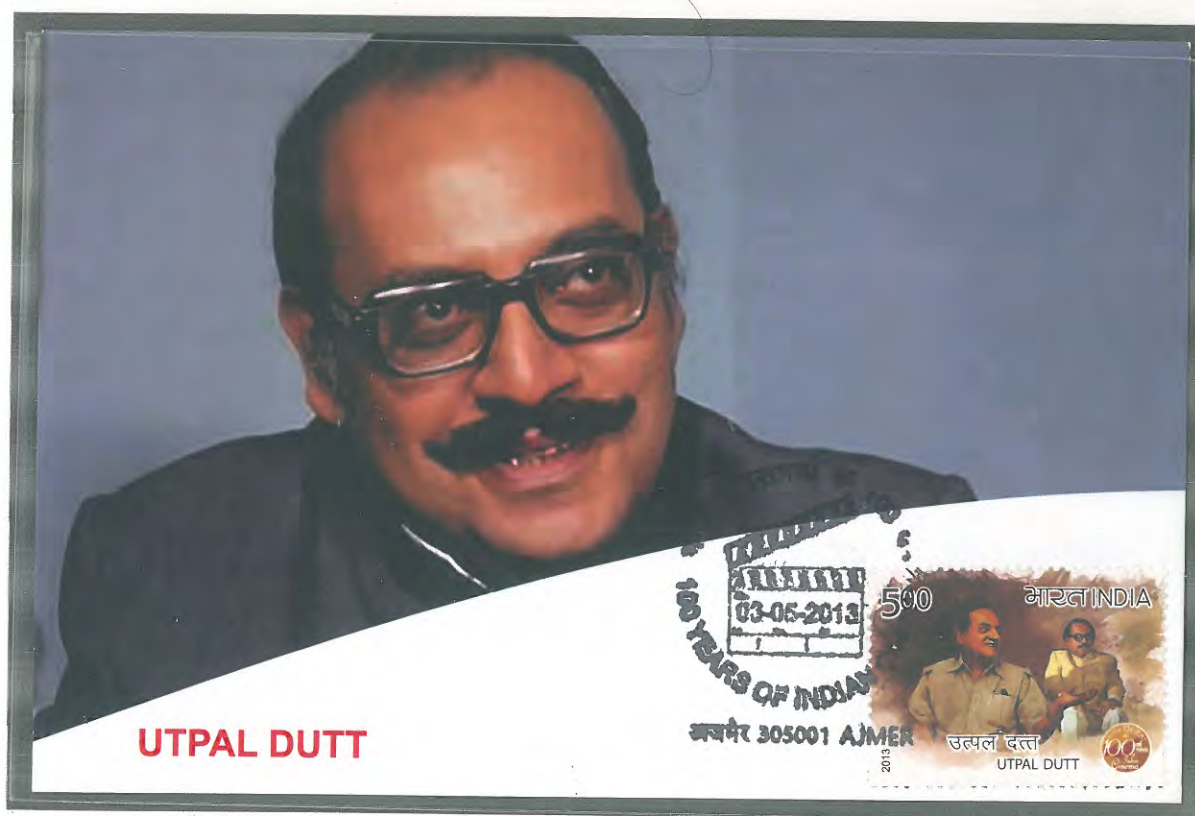
VISHNU VARDHAN

Vishnu Vardhan (born 27 July 1987), also known as J.

Vishnuvardhan, is a professional tennis player from India. He won bronze medal in men's doubles at 2010 Asian games in Guangzhou, China. He paired-up with and Sania Mirza for mixed doubles and won silver medal at the same event. He was featured as ITF player of the month in the month of April 2011. He won the national singles title for the fourth time by winning the Men's final of Fenesta Open tennis Championship on October 8, 2016

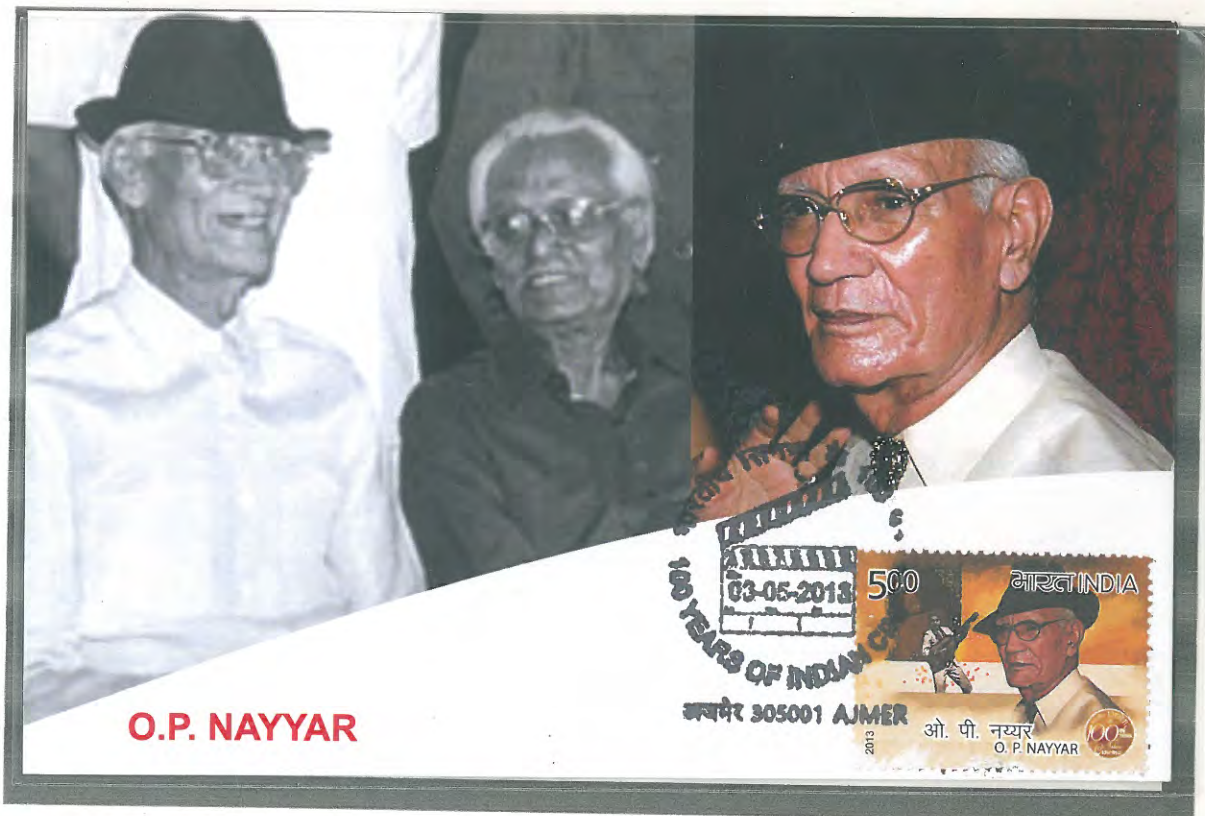
Vishnuvardhan's father Mr Jagadeesan is a businessman. He started playing at the age of 9 and was greatly inspired by Leander Paes. He did his schooling from DAV Safilguda Hyderabad.

UTPAL DUTT



Utpal Dutta (About this soundlisten (help·info)) (29 March 1929 – 19 August 1993) was an Indian actor, director, and writer-playwright. He was primarily an actor in Bengali theatre, where he became a pioneering figure in Modern Indian theatre, when he founded the "Little Theatre Group" in 1949. This group enacted many English, Shakespearean and Brecht plays, in a period now known as the "Epic theatre" period, before it immersed itself completely in highly political and radical theatre. His plays became an apt vehicle for the expression of his Marxist ideologies, visible in socio-political plays such as Kallol (1965), Manusher Adhikar, Louha Manob (1964), Tiner Toloar and Maha-Bidroha. He also acted in over 100 Bengali and Hindi films in a career spanning 40 years, and remains most known for his roles in films such as Mrinal Sen's Bhuvan Shome (1969), Satyajit Ray's Agantuk (1991), Gautam Ghose's Padma Nadir Majhi (1993) and Hrishikesh Mukherjee's breezy Hindi comedies such as Gol Maal (1979) and Rang Birangi (1983). He also did a small role of a scientist in a detective show called Byomkesh Bakshi on Doordarshan in the early 90s, shortly before his death.

O.P. NAYYAR



O.P. NAYYAR

Omkar Prasad Nayyar (16 January 1926 – 28 January 2007) was an Indian film music composer, singer-songwriter, music producer, and musician. He is considered to be one of the most rhythmic and melodious music directors of the Hindi film industry.[1] He won the 1958 Filmfare Award for Best Music Director (for *Naya Daur*). Nayyar worked extensively with singers Geeta Dutt, Asha Bhosle and Mohammed Rafi but not with leading Bollywood female singer Lata Mangeshkar. However, Mangeshkar's song *Saari Saari Raat Teri Yaad Satayein* (from the 1958 film *Aji Bas Shukriya*) was used in the 1973 Hindi film *Taxi Driver*, for which Nayyar was music director. According to music and film expert Rajesh Subramanian, "*Aap Ke Haseen Rukh*" (from *Baharen Phir Bhi Aayengi*) was planned with full orchestration but many of the musicians were late for the recording. After a disagreement with Mohammed Rafi, Nayyar began working with singer Mahendra Kapoor.

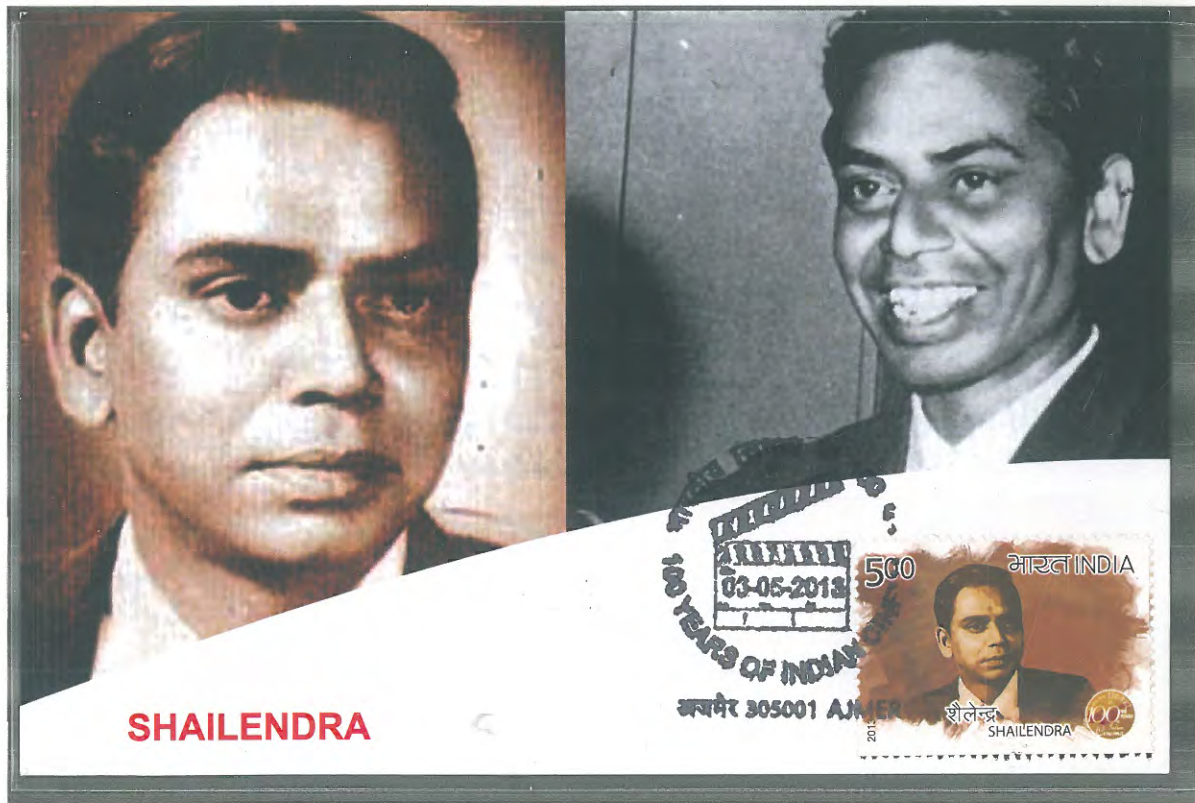
R.D. BURMAN



Rahul Dev Burman (27 June 1939 – 4 January 1994) was an Indian music director who is regarded as one of the most influential composers of the Indian film industry. Nicknamed Pancham, he was the only son of the composer Sachin Dev Burman.

From the 1960s to the 1990s, Burman composed musical scores for 331 films. He was mainly active in the Hindi film industry as a composer, and also provided vocals for a few compositions. Burman did major work with Asha Bhosle (his wife) and Kishore Kumar and scored many of the songs that made these singers famous. He also scored many songs sung by Lata Mangeshkar. He served as an influence to the next generation of Indian music directors, and his songs continue to be popular in India.

SHAILENDRA

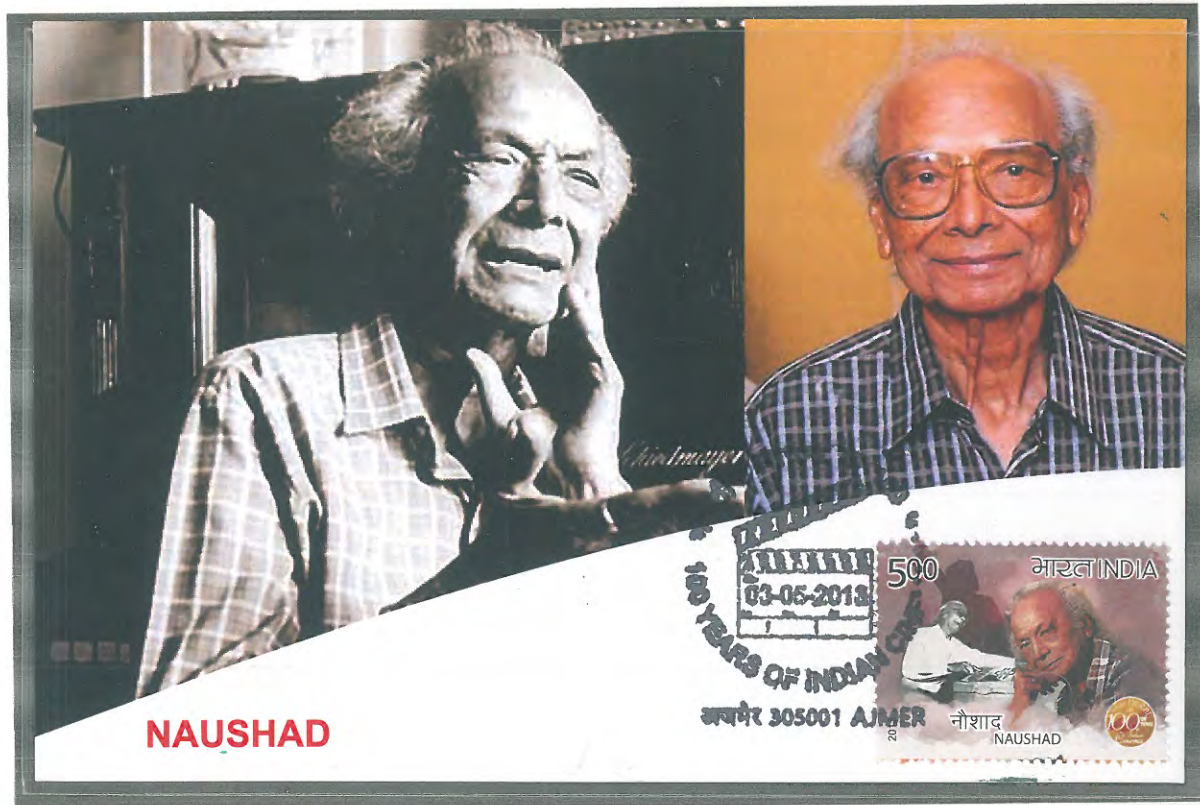


SHAILENDRA

Shailendra (30 August 1923 – 14 December 1966) was a popular Indian Hindustani (Hindi-Urdu) lyricist, music arranger, playback singer and music director. Noted for his association with the filmmaker Raj Kapoor and the composers Shankar-Jaikishan, he wrote lyrics for several successful Hindi film songs in the 1950s and the 1960s.

Shailendra was born in Rawalpindi, and brought up in Mathura. The native place of his ancestors is located in the Akhtiyarpur, Ara district of Bihar.

NAUSHAD

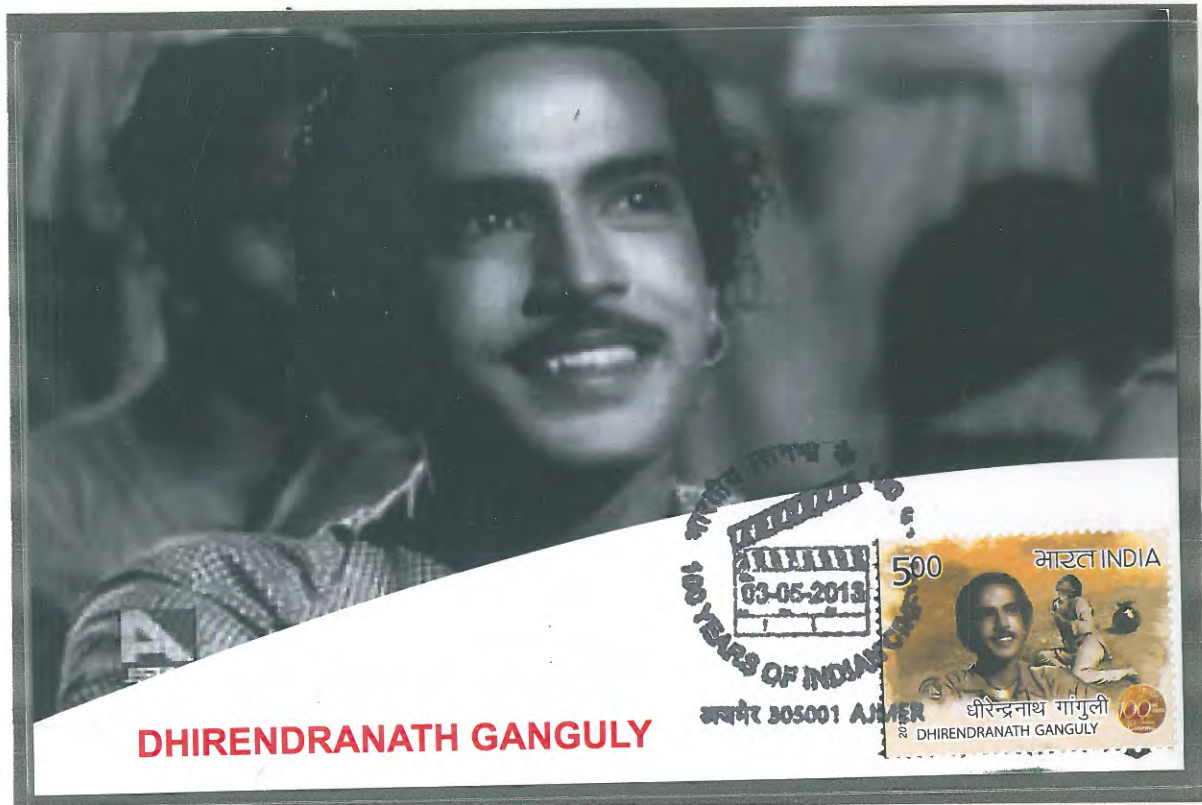


NAUSHAD

Naushad Ali (25 December 1919 – 5 May 2006) was an Indian music director for Hindi films. He is widely considered to be one of the greatest and foremost music directors of the Hindi film industry. He is particularly known for popularising the use of classical music in films.

His first film as an independent music director was Prem Nagar in 1940.[4] His first musical success film was Rattan (1944), following it up with 35 silver jubilee hits, 12 golden jubilee and 3 diamond jubilee mega successes. Naushad was conferred the Dadasaheb Phalke Award and the Padma Bhushan in 1982 and 1992 respectively for his contribution to the Bollywood film industry.

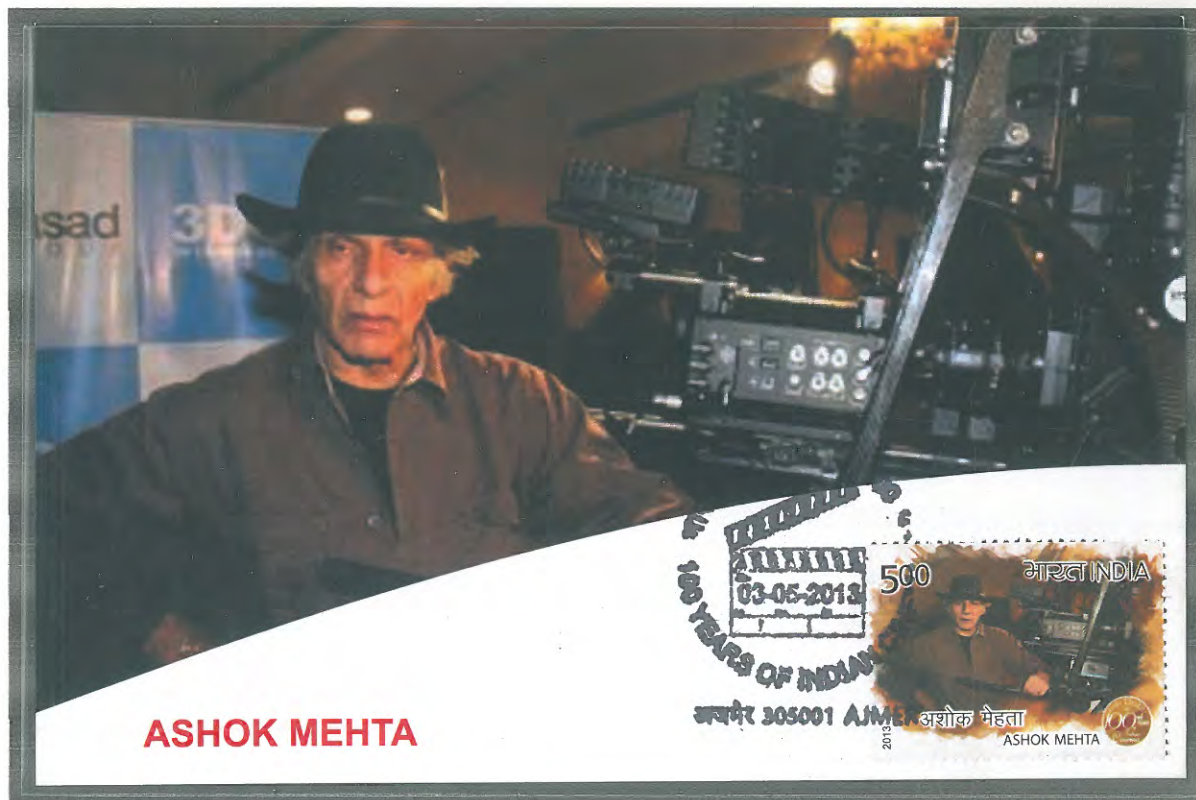
DHIRENDRANATH GANGULI



Dhirendra Nath Ganguly (26 March 1893 – 18 November 1978), better known as Dhiren Ganguly or D.G, was a Dadasaheb Phalke Award-winning and Padma Bhushan recipient film entrepreneur/actor/director of Bengali Cinema. He had set up a number of film production companies: Indo British Film company, British Dominion Films, Lotus Film Company. Later, he directed films for New Theatres. He produced many movies in the comedy genre. He was born in Calcutta and died in the same city.

Ganguly studied in the Visva Bharati University in Shantiniketan. He became a headmaster of State Art School in Hyderabad. He released a book of photographs of his make-up techniques called Bhavki Abhivyakti in 1915. He also taught this art to C.I.D. officers in both British India and independent India. His family hailed from Barisal.

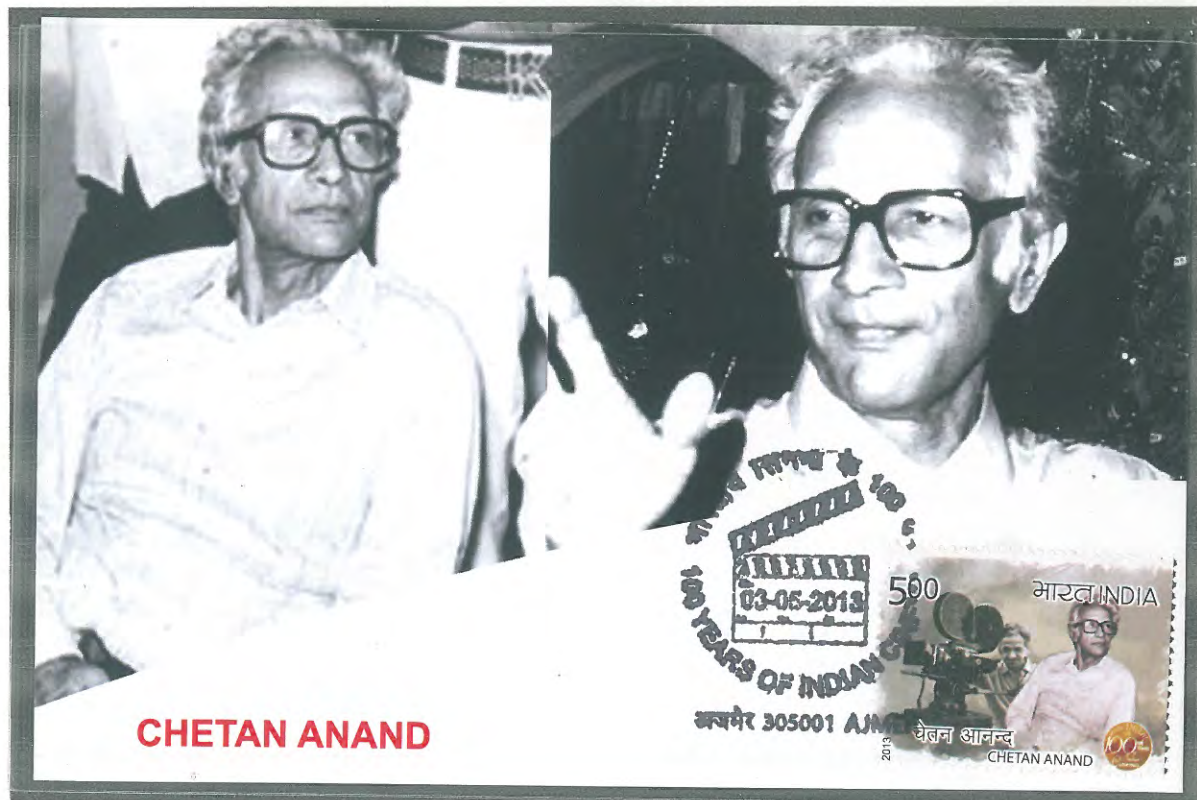
ASHOK MEHTA



Ashok Mehta (1947 – 15 August 2012) was a noted national film award-winning Indian film cinematographer, known for films such as *Bandit Queen* (1994), *36 Chowringhee Lane* (1981) and *Utsav* (1984). He won the National Film Award for Best Cinematography twice, *36 Chowringhee Lane* (1981) and *Moksha* (2000), the latter he also directed.

He worked both with directors of mainstream Bollywood, like Subhash Ghai (*Ram Laxman* (1989), *Saudagar* (1991)) and Rajiv Rai (*Gupt* (1997)), Mukul Anand (*Trimurti* (1995)), as well as parallel cinema directors, like Shyam Benegal (*Trikaal* (1985), *Mandi* (1983)), Aparna Sen (*36 Chowringhee Lane* (1981), *Paroma* (1984)). He also worked on films, including Shekhar Kapoor's *Bandit Queen* (1994), Girish Karnad's *Utsav* (1984), Gulzar's *Ijaazat* (1987) and MF Hussain's *Gaja Gamini* (2000).

CHETAN ANAND

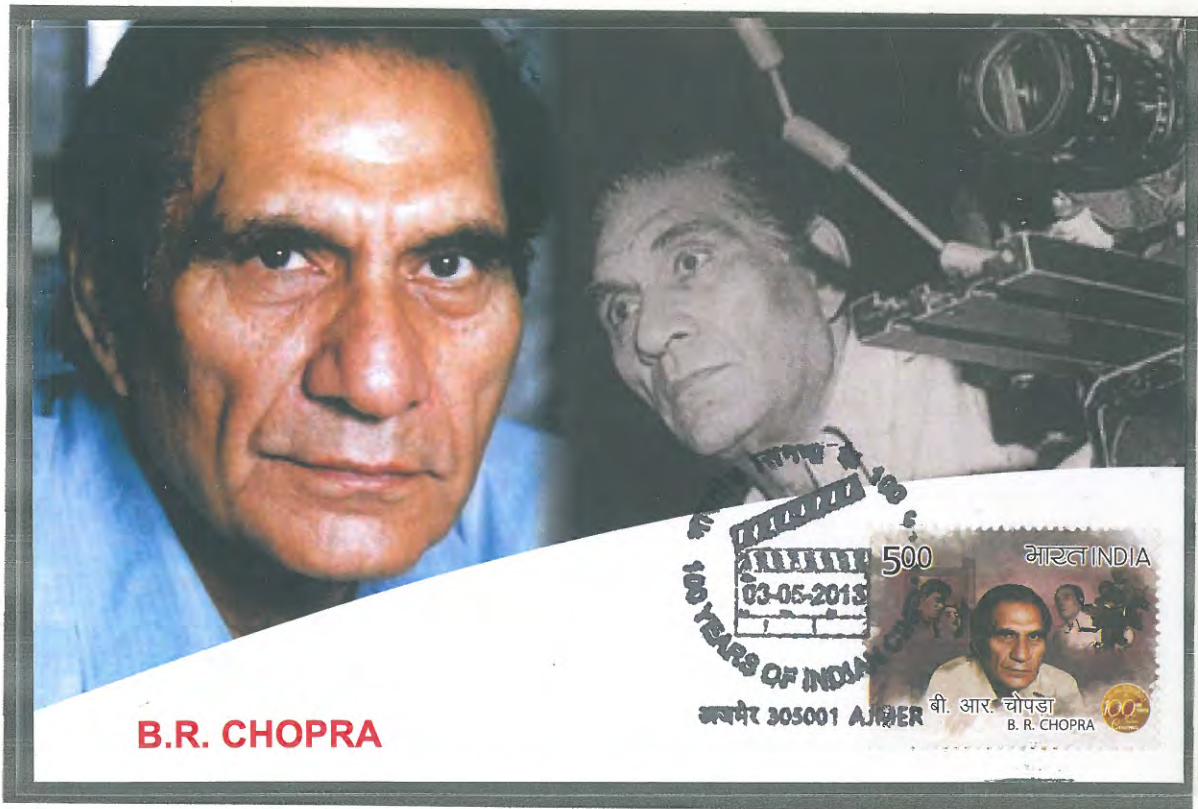


Chetan Anand (3 January 1921 – 6 July 1997) was a Hindi film producer, screenwriter and director from India, whose debut film, *Neecha Nagar*, was awarded the Grand Prix Prize (Now Golden Palm) at the first ever Cannes Film Festival in 1946. Later he co-founded Navketan Films with his younger brother Dev Anand in 1949.

He was the eldest brother of the Anand family as he was the elder brother to Hindi film actor-directors, Dev Anand and Vijay Anand. His younger sister, Sheel Kanta Kapur, is the mother of Hindi and English film director Shekhar Kapur.

Chetan Anand was born on 3 January 1921, in Lahore, British India, to well-to-do advocate Pishori Lal Anand.

B.R.CHOPRA



B.R. CHOPRA

Baldev Raj Chopra (22 April 1914 – 5 November 2008) was an Indian director and producer of Bollywood movies and television serials. Best known for making Hindi films like *Naya Daur* (1957), *Sadhna* (1958), *Kanoon* (1961), *Gumrah* (1963), *Humraaz* (1967), *Awam* (1987) and the TV series, *Mahabharat* in the late 1980s, he was awarded the Dadasaheb Phalke Award in 1998.

His younger brother Yash Chopra, son Ravi Chopra and nephew Aditya Chopra are also directors in the Bollywood industry. His nephew Uday Chopra is an actor and producer.

Chopra was born on 22 April 1914 in Lahore, to Vilayati Raj Chopra, an employee of the PWD. He was the second of several siblings; his youngest brother was filmmaker Yash Chopra.

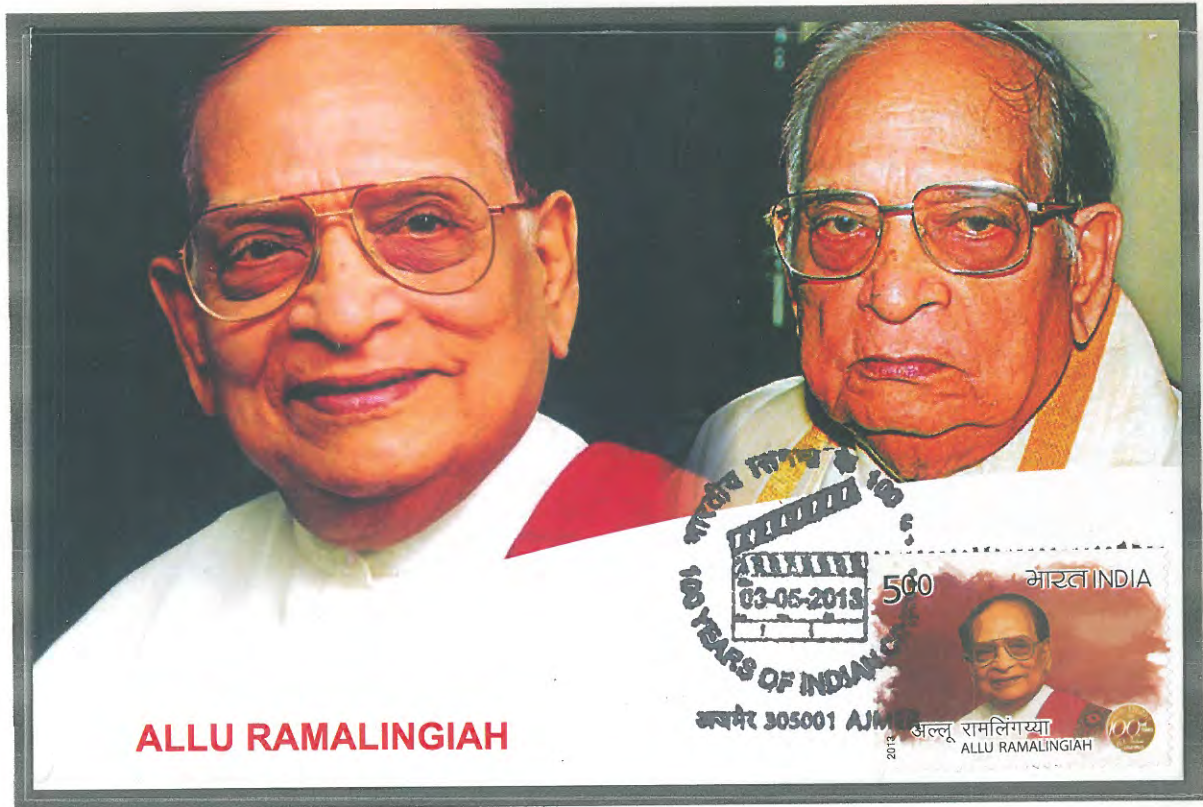
B.N.SIRCAR



Birendranath Sircar (also Sarkar; 5 July 1901 – 28 November 1980) was an Indian film producer and the founder of New Theatres Calcutta. He made Bengali-language films that were noted for introducing many film directors who later became famous. He was awarded the Dada Saheb Phalke Award in 1970 and the third highest civilian award in India, the Padma Bhushan, in 1972.

B. N. Sircar was born in Bhagalpur to the then Advocate-General of Bengal, Sir N. N. Sircar. After completing his study at Hindu School, Kolkata, he studied Engineering at the University of London [citation needed] and on returning to India he was asked to build a cinema. The project caused him to develop a keen interest in film and he proceeded to build a cinema for the screening of Bengali-language films. Called Chitra, this was opened in Calcutta by Subhas Chandra Bose on 30 December 1930 and was followed by the construction of New Cinema, which showed Hindi films. He then decided to involve himself in making of two silent films.

ALLU RAMALINGIAH

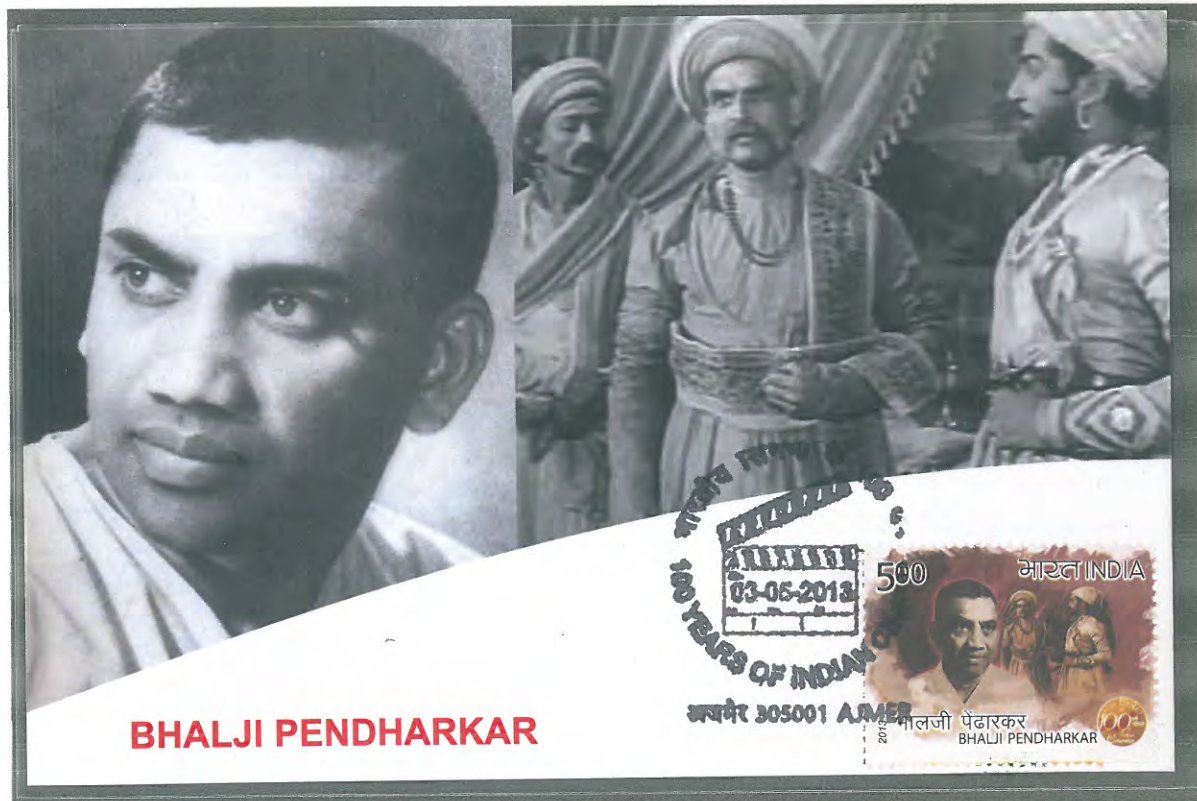


Allu Ramalingaiah (1 October 1922 – 30 July 2004) was an Indian Telugu comic actor from Palakol who appeared in over 1000 Tollywood films.

Allu began his film career in 1953 with Puttillu and his last film *Jai* was in the year before his death. He was awarded the Padma Shri in 1990 by the Government of India, and received the Raghupathi Venkaiah Award in 2001.

Allu played memorable roles in classics such as *Mayabazar* (as one of the Sarma-Sastry duo), *Missamma*, *Muthyala Muggu*, *Sankarabharanam* (his speech preceding the song "Dorakunaa Ituvanti Seva" commenting on the downfall of modern-day music, and the scene where he admonishes Somayajulu), *Saptapadi*, *Yamagola* ("Taalamu vesitini, gollemu marachitini!"), and numerous movies of the 80s, where he played a soft and unhated villain with the likes of Raogopal Rao and Nagabhushanam. His comedic timing and his nasal voice distinguished his many comic performances.

BHALJI PENDHARKAR



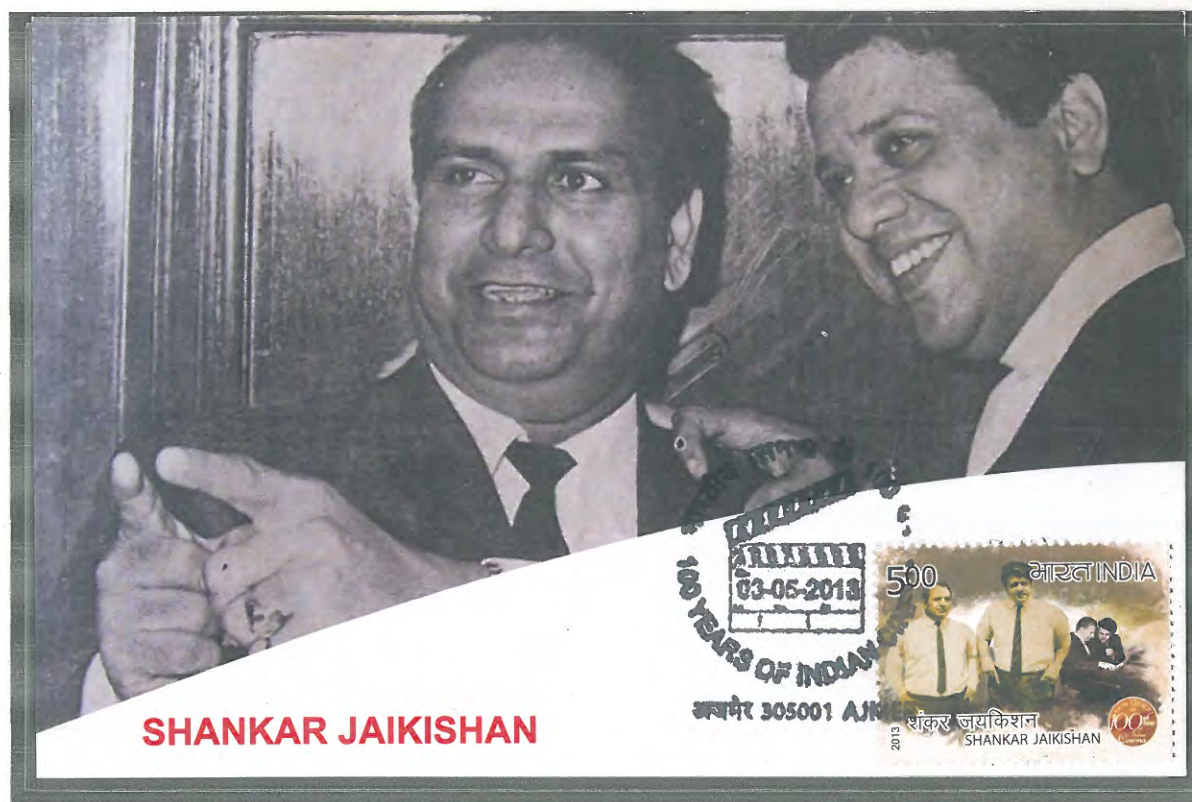
BHALJI PENDHARKAR

Bhalji Pendharkar (3 May 1897 – 26 November 1994) was a film personality in India, and recipient of Dadasaheb Phalke Award, the most prestigious award in the field.

Born to Radhabai and her patron Dr Gopal Pendharkar, Bhalji was related to quite a few film personalities in Indian film industry. A number of his close relations achieved fame in the Indian film industry. They include his elder brother Baburao Pendharkar, half-brother and actor-Director, Master Vinayak Karnataki, and maternal cousin V Shantaram.

Bhalji had two wives. One of whom, Leela Chandragiri, acted and sang in Hindi and Marathi films in 1930s under the name Miss Leela. Leela-bai already had two children when she first met Bhalji. Bhalji adopted both of them, a boy (Jayasingh) and a girl. The girl later married novelist Ranjit Desai and she is better known as Madhavi Desai (died in 2013); she wrote the book 'Naacha Ga Ghumaa'.

SHANKAR JAIKISHAN



Shankar Jaikishan (also known as S-J), were a popular and successful Indian composer duo of the Hindi film industry, working together from 1949 to 1971. They are considered to be two of the best music directors of the Hindi film industry. Later, Shankar continued to function as a Music Director alone, still giving music under the banner Shankar-Jaikishan, till 1987.

Shankar-Jaikishan, along with other artists, composed "everlasting" and "immortal melodies" in the 1950s, 1960s, and early 1970s. Their best work was noted for being "raga-based and having both lilt and sonority".

While working in Prithvi Theatre, Shankar and Jaikishan used to compose tunes and were in touch with Raj Kapoor, who was working as an assistant to the famous director Kidar Sharma and was aspiring to be an actor/director. Thus, the three had met at Prithvi Theatre.

DURGA KHOTE



Durga Khote (14 January 1905 – 22 September 1991) was an Indian actress, beginning as one of the foremost leading ladies of her times, she remained active in Hindi and Marathi cinema, as well as theatre, for over 50 years, starring in around 200 films and numerous theatre productions.

In 2000, in a millennium issue, India Today named her among "100 People Who Shaped India", noting: "Durga Khote marks the pioneering phase for women in Indian Cinema" as she was one of the first women from respectable families to enter the film industry, thus breaking a social taboo.

She also ranks among the top ten actresses in mother roles in Hindi cinema, most notable among them were as Jodhabai in K. Asif's *Mughal-e-Azam* (1960); as Kaikeyi in Vijay Bhatt's classic *Bharat Milap* (1942); her other memorable roles as mother were in *Charnon Ki Dasi* (1941); *Mirza Ghalib*; *Bobby* (1973) and *Bidaai* (1974). She has received the highest award in Indian cinema, the Dadasaheb Phalke Award (1983), for lifetime contribution to Indian cinema.

ASHOK KUMAR



Ashok Kumar (13 October 1911 – 10 December 2001), born Kumudlal Ganguly, and also fondly called Dadamoni, was an Indian film actor who attained iconic status in Indian cinema. He was honoured in 1988 with the Dadasaheb Phalke Award, the highest national award for cinema artists, by the Government of India and also received the Padma Bhushan in 1999 for his contributions to Indian cinema. He is considered to be one of India's finest actors ever, playing leading, antagonist and character roles with equal panache.

Ashok Kumar was born Kumudlal Ganguly to a Bengali family in Bhagalpur,[1] then in the Bengal Presidency of British India and now in the Bihar state of India. His father, Kunjlal Ganguly, was a lawyer while his mother, Gouri Devi, was a home-maker.

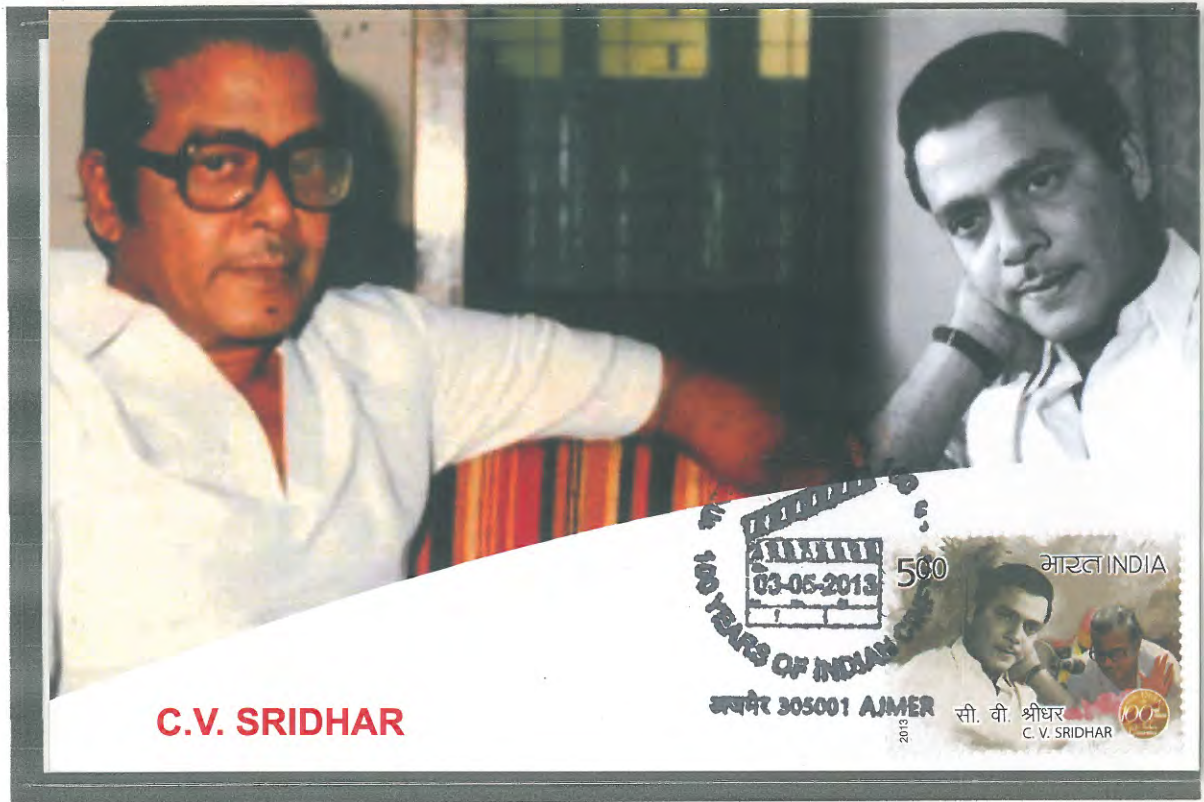
SMITA PATIL



Smita Patil (17 October 1955 – 13 December 1986) was an Indian actress of film, television and theatre. Regarded among the finest stage and film actresses of her times, Patil appeared in over 80 Hindi and Marathi films in a career that spanned just over a decade. During her career, she received two National Film Awards and a Filmfare Award. She was the recipient of the Padma Shri, India's fourth-highest civilian honour in 1985.

Patil graduated from the Film and Television Institute of India in Pune and made her film debut with Shyam Benegal's *Charandas Chor* (1975). She became one of the leading actresses of parallel cinema, a New Wave movement in India cinema, though she also appeared in several mainstream movies throughout her career. Her performances were often acclaimed, and her most notable roles include *Manthan* (1977), *Bhumika* (1977), *Aakrosh* (1980), *Chakra* (1981), *Chidambaram* (1985) and *Mirch Masala* (1985).

C.V.SRIDHAR



Chitthamur Vijayaraghavulu Reddiar Sridhar (22 July 1933 – 20 October 2008) was an Indian screenwriter and film director. He has directed nearly 60 films in Tamil, Hindi and Telugu.

Sridhar hailed from Chitthamur, a village near Madurantakam, Tamil Nadu. He studied at St. Joseph's Higher Secondary School, where he began writing and staging plays while he was in the Seventh Standard.

In 1956, Sridhar turned producer along with associates Krishnamoorthi, Govindarajan and Sundararajan in Venus Pictures where he scripted Amara Deepam and followed by Uthama Puthiran. Both films had Sivaji Ganesan and Padmini as the main roles. He made his debut as a director with Kalyana Parisu. This movie ran for more than 25 weeks, and is revered to this day as a milestone in the history of Tamil cinema. After this, he had a huge fan following and his name was talked about among the middle class movie going audience.

LEGENDARY HEROINES



DEVIKA RANI - Devika Rani Chaudhuri, usually known as Devika Rani (30 March 1908 – 9 March 1994), was an actress in Indian films who was active during the 1930s and 1940s.

NUTAN - Nutan Bahl (born as Nutan Samarth; 4 June 1936 – 21 February 1991), better known as Nutan, was an Indian film actress.

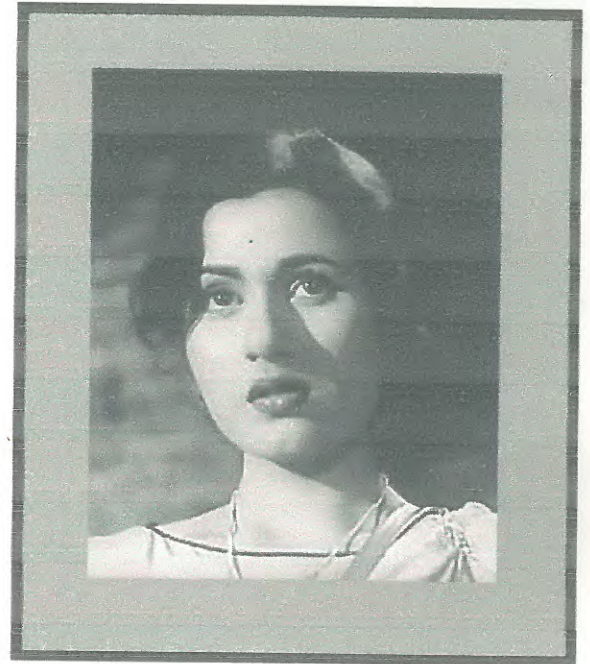
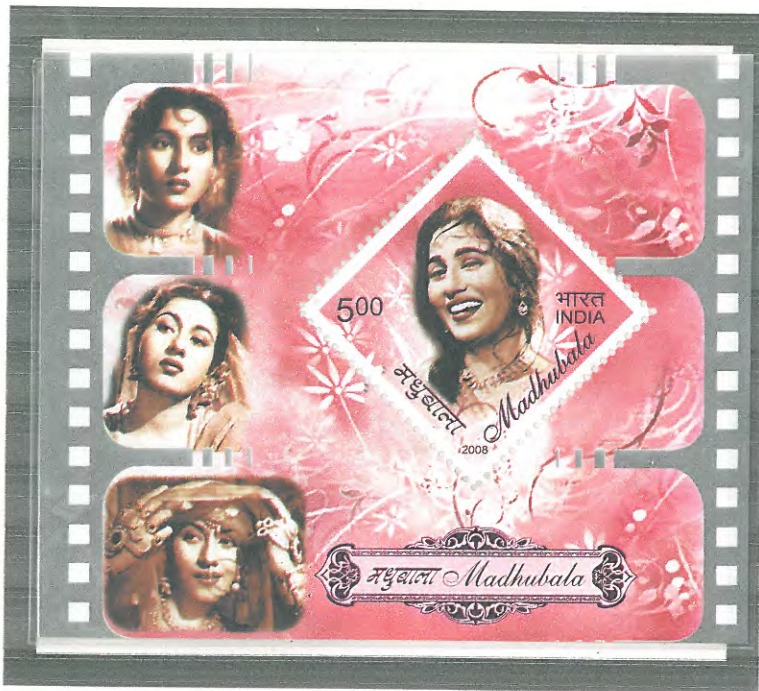
KANAN DEVI - Kanan Devi (22 April 1916 – 17 July 1992) was an Indian actress and singer.

SAVITHRI - Savitri Ramasamy (born Savitri Nissankara 4 January 1936 – 26 December 1981) was an Indian film actress, playback singer, dancer, director and producer known for her works primarily in Telugu cinema and Tamil cinema.

MEENA KUMARI - Meena Kumari (born Mahjabeen Bano, 1 August 1933 – 31 March 1972) was an Indian film actress, singer and poet under the pseudonym Naaz, who starred in classic films of Hindi Cinema.

LEELA NAIDU - Leela Naidu was an Indian actress who starred in a small number of Hindi and English films, including Yeh Raste Hain Pyar Ke (1963), based on the real-life Nanavati case, and The Householder, Merchant Ivory Productions' first film.

MADHUBALA



Madhubala (born Mumtaz Jehan Begum Dehlavi; 14 February 1933 – 23 February 1969), was an Indian film actress who appeared in Hindi films. She was active between 1942 and 1964, and was known for her beauty, personality, and sensitive portrayals of tragic women.

Madhubala made her screen debut in a minor role at the age of 9 with the film *Basant* (1942). However, her acting career actually began in 1947, when she made her debut with Raj Kapoor at the age of 14 with the film *Neel Kamal* (1947). During the career span of 22 years, Madhubala was known for her roles in more than 70 films of variety of genres such as *Mahal* (1949), *Dulari* (1949), *Beqasoor* (1950), *Tarana* (1951), *Amar* (1954), *Mr. & Mrs. '55* (1955), *Chalti Ka Naam Gaadi* (1958), *Howrah Bridge* (1958) and *Mughal-e-Azam* (1960) with actors such as Dilip Kumar, Guru Dutt, Ashok Kumar, Dev Anand, Kishore Kumar and many more as her co-stars. Out of 73 Hindi films, only fifteen of them were successful at box office. She received her only nomination for a Filmfare Award for Best Actress for her performance in *Mughal-e-Azam* (1960).