

Evolution of Villain Characters in Bollywood

Project Report

Submitted by

Aashitha.R.Prabhu (Reg.No.SB20CE001)

Under the guidance of

Ms. Felcina Dcruz

*In partial fulfilment of requirements for award of the degree
Of Bachelor of Arts*

St. Teresa's College (Autonomous), Ernakulam



College With Potential for

Excellence Accredited by NAAC with 'A++'

Grade

Affiliated to

Mahatma Gandhi University

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Declaration

I do affirm that the project “Evolution of Villain Characters in Bollywood” submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirement for the award of the Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature and Communication Studies has not previously formed the basis for the award of any degree, diploma, fellowship or any other similar title or recognition.

Ernakulam

Aashitha.R.Prabhu

19 April 2023

Reg no: SB20CE001

B.A English Literature and Communication Studies

St. Teresa’s College (Autonomous)

Certificate

I hereby certify that this project entitled “ Evolution of Villain Characters in Bollywood” by Aashitha.R.Prabhu is a record of bonafide work carried out by her under my supervision and guidance.

Ernakulam

Ms. Felcina Dcruz

19 April 2022.

Department of Communicative English

St. Teresa's College (Autonomous)

Acknowledgement

I take this opportunity to offer my humble prayers and thanks to God Almighty for His mercy and blessings for the completion of this project.

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Content

Chapter I	Introduction	1
Chapter II	The early times of Bollywood	3
Chapter III	The new age of Bollywood	22
Chapter IV	A Comparative Study -the Movies before twentieth century and after twentieth century	32
Conclusion		38
Filmography		41
Bibliography		42

Abstract

Bollywood movies are an all-time favourite for a lot of people living in each nook and corners of India, especially Action movies are filled with a lot of romance and Drama. These types of movies mainly consists of a charismatic hero along with a criminal who creates a kind of hate in the minds of the viewers. This project is mainly focusing on the Criminals who have evolved over the past few years of Bollywood when it comes to the way in which they are represented throughout the time period. This study includes a comparison between movies from two vast time periods that is movies before 2000 to movies after 2000. Some of the movies that had been selected from the earlier time period are *Sholay*, *Koyla*, *Kaalia* and *Baazigar* in which famous actors like Shahrukh Khan, and Amitabh Bachchan had played the lead role. In addition to that some of the movies after the year 2000 like *Commando: A One Man Army*, *Dabangg*, *Bhaagi 3* have also been considered. Hence, the main idea of this project is to find the differences as well as the similarities that the villain characters of the older movie

Chapter 1

Introduction

The main aim of this project is to make a comparison between the representation of villains in Bollywood movies before the 20th along with the Bollywood movies after the 20th century. This project mainly consists of three chapters. The first chapter mainly deals with the movies which came up in the 20th century, which are *Sholay*, *Kaalida*, *Koyla* and *Baazigar*. The second chapter deals with the movies after the 20th century like *Commando a One-man army*, *Baaghi 3* and *Dabangg*. The third chapter gives a detailed study of comparison based on the villains in movies from two different time periods. The main actors focused for this study are Amjad Khan, Dalip Tahil and Amrish Puri, who represent the movies before the 20th century. The actors who represent movies from the 20th century are Jaideep Ahlawat, Jameel Khoury and Sonu sood. The main grounds of comparison used for this analysis are the back story of the villain, Setting, atrocities caused, weapons used, makeup, body language, costume, background music, sound effects, disability portrayed. editing techniques used etc. There has been a lot of changes in the portrayal of villains in Bollywood movies as time passed Earlier the villains were given various characteristics like arrogance, selfishness, fierceness and greediness. They created a feeling of terror in the minds of the audience through their physiques, which included a taller stature, a black mole on the face, big beards and moustaches along with wearing a terrific expression on their face. They were mostly shown with harmful weapons like big guns and spade like tools which created serious injuries to a person. But on the other hand, in modern Bollywood movies the villains were not given much characteristics, they behaved in a flexible way when situations came in front of them. Even though each of the villains had their own physiques, which included a muscular body and a taller frame they did not create a significant impact in the minds of the audience in order to create a feeling of terror. it is really possible to pick out some problems with the villains that remains in the consciousness of the audience for a long time, some of the instances are in which the villains exploit

innocent women for their own needs without even considering them as individuals. This may get a lot of disapproval from female audience especially. Along with that villains are often shown as terrorizing people who are new to their state or nation, this makes them inhuman in nature. It also portrays the disruption of unity and world peace. These villains may be a role model in the minds of the new generation audience and this could further lead to serious consequences. Apart from the broader side the physical portrayal of the villains may create an irritation in the minds of the audience. Sometimes the audience may also feel that some fight scenes are too dramatic in nature when it comes to old Bollywood movies.

Chapter II

The Early Times of Bollywood

This chapter deals with the movies which were released in the period before the twentieth century. It was the time in which most of the movies were starred by famous Bollywood actors such as Shahrukh Khan and Amitabh Bachchan along with well known antagonists like Amjad Khan and Amrish Puri. The movies which had been chosen for this chapter are *Sholay*, *Kaalaa*, *Koylea* and *Baazigar*.

Sholay is a Hindi action thriller released in the year 1975, directed by Ramesh Sippy. Some of the main characters in this movie are Amitabh Bachchan, Dharmendra, Amjad Khan, Sanjeev Kumar, Hema Malini and Jaya Bachchan. The plot of this movie revolves around two friends named Veeru (Dharmendra), Jai (Amitabh Bachchan) who were recruited by Inspector Thakur to take revenge on the dacoit Gabbar Singh. They had already earned the confidence of Thakur when they saved him from a train robbery despite of being prisoners. Thus they continued with their journey to Ramgarh where Gabbar Singh resided. Once they were in Ramgarh Veeru instantly fell in love with the horse cart driver named Basanti. Along with Basanti, they also met another female character named Radha who was the widowed daughter in law of Thakur. During a Holi festival the village got attacked by Gabbar Singh, who later tried to show the villagers that the duo was unable to defeat him but he was proved wrong when they retaliated against him. After the whole ordeal, through the words of Thakur they came to understand that both of his hands were disembodied due to the atrocity committed by Gabbar Singh, which not only destroyed him physically but also mentally by killing all of his family members including his grandson. After getting this information, The duo started to become more dedicated in carrying out the mission. After hearing about their heroics Gabbar Singh sets out to kill the Imam, Rahim Chacha's son Ahmed. Along with that, Gabbar also ordered the villagers to make

the duo surrender to him but they refused to do so. Instead of that, they made the duo kill some of Gabbar's hunchmen. As a result of which Gabbar retaliated by capturing both Veeru and Basanti. At that time Jai attacked the hideout from a rock which helped the couple to escape even though they were chased by the dacoits. But suddenly they realized that they were running out of ammunitions. To make matters worse Veeru and Basanti were not at all aware of Jai being injured while running away. But despite of that Jai shot at close range and died after taking a lot of risks to save his friend and Basanti. After Veeru and Basanti returned they were really sad to find the dead body of Jai. This made Veeru attack Gabbar's den and attack Gabbar badly. But when he was set to kill Gabbar, Thakur reminded him of the oath which said that he was supposed to summon Gabbar in front of Thakur without killing him. Later, Thakur badly injured Gabbar Singh by using his iron soles, which made it easy for the police to get hold of Gabbar. Veeru immediately leaves Ramgarh after the funeral ceremony of Jai. When it comes to the villain, he is portrayed as a man who is uncivilized both in his language and conduct. He is dressed in traditional Indian hunter attire which is as similar as his men. Its shown as if he is very nosy when it came to dealing with the villagers. He is so coldhearted that he just kills everyone without even giving a second thought. The main weapons used by him were knives and guns. His revengeful attitude is quite evident from the scene in which he killed Thakur's entire family for arresting him. Also, there is one instance in which Basanti is forced by him to dance on broken glass, this shows that he is not a man who treats women in a nice manner. His iconic dialogue "Kitne Admi the" shows the amount of control he exercise on his subordinates, it also states the fact that he is so confident in himself that he can defeat everyone even if they are in large numbers.



Figure 1.1 Gabbar tries to kill Inspector Thakur's family when He was not at home



Figure 1.2 Gabbar gets angry with a hunchman who didn't fulfill the wish of killing

The duo. This made him point the gun to the hunchman



Figure 1.3 Gabbar physically assaulting Basanti, when he captured her along with Veeru who was helpless at that time.



Figure 1.4 Gabbar pretending to slaughter Veeru

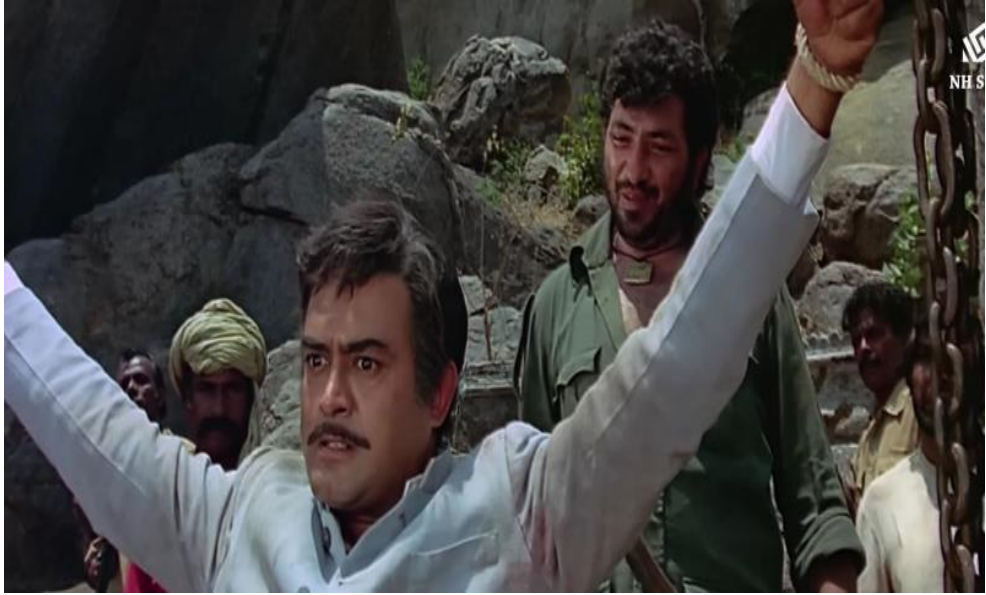


Figure 1.5 Gabbar is going to amputate Inspector Thakur's arm, who went to his den

From immense amount of grief after Gabbar killed his family members



Figure 1.6 Gabbar having a conversation in an uncivilized manner

Kaalia is a Hindi action thriller movie released in the year 1981, directed by TLV Prasad . Some of the main characters in this film are Amitabh Bachchan , Parveen Babi , Asha Parekh , Kader Khan , Pran , Amjad Khan, and Jagdeep. The plot of this movie revolves around Kallu who was an intelligent man with a childish personality. He lived in a small house with his brother , sister in law , and his niece. Even though he was unemployed his brother worked for a factory and was the only bread winner in the family. All their problems started when his brother along with some factory workers set out for a strike against the bad working conditions faced by the employees. Even though, they didn't get their desired results of getting the machineries replaced but they were instead offered some kind of bonus, which motivated the workers to get back to work. much to the dismay of his brother who eventually joined him. On the same day there was an accident in which his hands were amputated by a collapsed machinery. To make matters worse, due to applying unnecessary pressure on his arms he required an operation which required some money. When Kallu pleaded his boss Shahani Seth for help, his request was instantly rejected by Shahani Seth who justified that he had faced more losses when it came to the blood stained goods and the loss of one worker. This forced Kallu to steal some money from his locker, but as he reached his home he came to know that his brother had already died. At the same time, he was arrested by the police as per the complains given by Shahani Seth

against him. Kallu encountered a sudden transformation in the prison, which made him lose all his innocence along with adopting a tougher personality. Once he came back, he robbed the money that Shahani Seth had smuggled into the factory, along with that he also took pleasure in burning down the factory, as a result of which he went back to the prison for a period of two years. Once he got released from the prison, he decided to lie to his sister in law by making her believe that he had gone to America, in order to support his fact he brought some money and gifts for his family. Not only that, by his help they also started to live in a big house. While being imprisoned, he got a chance to meet the Jailer named Baldev Singh who was always bothered about his daughter Rani, who was said to be abducted by one of his prisoners. Meanwhile, Kaalia got engaged with his lover Shalini.. As time passed even Shahani's assistant started to feel angered by his atrocities, As a result of which he planned a bomb blast which was supposed to kill Shahani. But he was instantly murdered after his boss found out about his plan. Kaalia was made responsible for this murder even if he was just an eye witness. He made an intelligent escape plan while in the prison, which was eventually put into the attention of the jailer. But when he informed about his niece being kidnapped by Shahani Seth, The jailer felt pity on him and accompanied him on his mission. When they reached Shahani Seth's place they were shocked to find out that both the niece and sister in law were under the clutches of Shahani Seth. After a long fight, they finally succeeded in controlling Shahani Seth. At the same time they also came to know that Shahani Seth was the person who abducted the Jailer's daughter. This made him push Shahani Seth in a cell which crushed his hands. Thus, the movie ends with a happy ending.

When it comes to the villain he is portrayed as both rich and greedy. His cunningness is clearly portrayed in the scene in which he blames Kaalia even though he was the one who killed his assistant. He brings out his coldhearted personality in the scene in which he refused to offer some money for Kaalia's brother's operation even though he was the person who was responsible for his plight.



Figure 1.7 Kaalia/Kallu begging Shahani Seth for some money to treat his brother



Figure 1.8 Shahni Seth comes with the police to capture Kaalia/Kallu because of stealing money from his locker



Figure 1.9 Shahani seth standing and watching his building catching fire due to the Activity of Kaalia/Kallu



Figure 1.10 Shahani Seth blackmailing Kaalia's/Kallu's sister in law, by telling that he will Leave free her daughter from his clutches only if she agreed in court that Kaalia/ Kallu

had committed a crime



Figure 1.11 Shahani Seth is having a conversation with Kaalia/Kallu by bragging about himself



Figure 1.12 Shahani Seth fights with Kaalia/Kallu

Koyla is a Hindi action thriller released in the year 1997, which was directed by Rakesh Sharma. Some of the main characters in this movie are Shahrukh Khan, Amrish Puri, Madhuri Dixit, Deepshikha,

Salim Ghouse , Jonny Lever, Himani Shivpuri along with Mohnish Bahal. The plot of this movie revolves around Shankar who was a handsome but mute person, who worked as a slave under Raja. Despite of being illiterate Raja gained power from unfair practices, followed by his brother Brijwa. One day, as Raja was bored of Bindiya he started to desire a marriage with a woman who was much younger than him. He eventually finds love in an innocent village girl named Gauri .But Since his face would make her instantly reject the proposal he uses a photograph of Shankar to show her. Being handsome Shankar already started to receive love and admiration from Gauri. But during the wedding ceremony She fainted after realizing that Raja was the one who was going to marry her. But Raja ordered to proceed with the rituals even though his marriage would be considered invalid. After a series of traumatizing events Gauri decided that the best way in front of her was suicide, But she wasn't allowed by the terrorizing Raja. Later that night Gauri made a suicide attempt which was stopped by Shankar and his friends. This gave a chance for Gauri to vent out her anger on Shankar for manipulating her to marry the old Raja, but she later came to know that it was not at all his fault . One day ,when Bindiya, tried to approach Shankar after a hard time with Raja it turned out to be Brijwa , who started to rape her. After Shankar came to know about this there was a huge fight between both the parties, which ended up in Shankar getting injured. After the Raja came to know about this he punished Bindiya by sending her to a brothel owned by Chandi Bai . Meanwhile, when Gauri's brother came to meet her She lied to him that everything was going fine. But when he returned to take Gauri back he heard from Shankar about the reality, this resulted in the death of her brother by the hands of Raja. Later , Shankar escaped with Gauri to the mountains, where Raja and his men did a ferocious attempt to find the duo. But because of Shankar's survival instincts they were hard to be found. This made Raja call off the mission. As Gauri and Shankar Started to love each other, they unexpectedly get caught by Raja who returned back after a lot of preparation. As a result of which Gauri gets shot on her arm, and Shankar gets abandoned seriously injured after a lot of beatings from Brijwa along with his throat getting slit out by Raja. Gauri was immediately sent to the same

brothel from where she was put into display as a form of punishment. On the other hand Shankar was treated by a forest dweller who operated on the damaged nerve in his throat which rendered him mute. He was not actually mute from birth but it happened on the day his father and mother were killed by Raja and two anonymous men for the diamonds he had found in the coal mine. When Shankar threatened them because of their deeds someone put hot coal into his throat making him mute. After recovering he regained his voice and saved Gauri from the two anonymous men who caused his parents death, later he proceeded to kill them. He also found that Raja was the person who made him mute, this made him even more furious, as a result of which he burnt the Raja alive in the coalmine. When it comes to the villain the raja is portrayed as an illiterate person which is significant from his main dialogue “bloody fool“. At most of the times he is seen terrorizing a woman, especially in the scene in which he performed sexual activity with Gauri by marrying her without consent. In addition to that he seems very ungrateful to his servants and disposed them when they were of no use to him. he is mainly portrayed as a rich, powerful ,egoistic and self centered man devoid of all the desirable human qualities.



Figure 1.13 Raja getting furious about Gauri not liking him



Figure 1.14 Raja is ill treating Gauri



Figure 1.15 Raja going to slap Shankar



Figure 1.16 Raja beating up Shankar badly even though he was innocent



Figure 1.17 Raja finds both Shankar and Gauri who had fled from his palace to the forests

Baazigar is a hindi action thriller released in the year 1953, it was directed by Abbas Mustan. Some of the main characters in this movie are Shahukh Khan, Kajol, Shilpa Shetty and Dalip Tahil , Siddharth Ray and Jonny Lever. The plot of this movie revolves around a young man named Ajay Sharma , who was living with his sick mother due to an event which changed their lives. His main motive was to seek revenge on his father's assistant Madanlal who was the main man behind their plight. He started his mission by dating two of his daughter's named Seema and Priya. One day he met Madanlal accompanied by Priya during a car race in Madras, where he facilitated the chance of Madanlal winning since it was his last race before retirement. He also created an impression in Priya's mind by telling that he lose the race for winning her love. But even though he had dated Seema he changed his identity into Vicky. Later, To test their love Ajay forced Seema to write two identical suicide notes when he heard that Seema's father was going to marry her to another man. But later he revealed to her that it was just a prank and tore her note, after which they decided to get married in a registration office. But when they reached the office Seema was taken to the terrace by Ajay were she was pushed

from a height leading her to die. Even though people believed that Seema had committed suicide Priya was still doubtful about it. Her father eventually found out that She was going to elope with a man, which made him stop the investigation. But Priya proceeded with her findings with the support of her college friend Inspector Karan Saxena. One day when Seema's classmate Ravi told that he recognized Ajay's image in a birthday party picture, he was forced to sign her suicide note by Ajay who proved that he was Seema's boyfriend as well as her murderer, hence closing the case. By that time Ajay also gained the confidence of both father and daughter. Then he remembered a flashback in which Madanlal Chopra came begging to his father to take him back to work after getting imprisoned for some of his misdeeds. But as he was taken back to the company he started to become one of his father's trusted employee. But one day when Mr.Sharma left for a Business tour he gave Madanlal the power of attorney, which gave Madanlal an opportunity to usurp the company as a form of revenge. After Mr.Sharma returned he was shocked to find out that his company was taken over by Mr. Madanlal Chopra.They were evicted from their home since Chopra sold both his property and his house. His father eventually died off heart attack , along with his newborn sister who died of fever. This incidence made his mother insane, which created a long term effect in their lives Later, Priya and Ajay got engaged , but when he understood that Seema's friend Anjali recognized him he sets to kill her in the apartment and stuffed her body in a suitcase, which was later found by a man who was accompanied by his dog in water.. This news made Priya and Karan realize that the murderer was still alive. Later, Madan Chopra handed over the power of attorney to Ajay/Vicky, as a result of which the company was usurped by Vicky. His new ways of planning to escape hits a bump when the couple met his friend named Vicky, which made Priya suspicious. After Priya understood about his misdeeds Ajay narrated the entire story to Priya which made her feel sympathetic towards him. After that, they visited his house in Panvel where he introduced her to his sick mother. At that moment Mr Chopra and his men managed to shot a bullet on his arm, after which they chased each other with the desire to kill. But sadly Ajay was stabbed with an iron rode along with Mr.Chopra who died at that moment itself. In the ending, both Priya and Karan watched Ajay dying in his mother's arm by telling that he

had regained everything back. When it comes to the villain in this movie, he is really cunning and selfish which made him cheat his employer and throw him in the streets. Along with that he is not at all loyal to his superiors and other people who helped him. From the last fight scene its easy to understand that he is absolutely merciless to Ajay and stabbed him even if Ajay had cancelled the plan of killing him.



Figure 1.18 Ajay Sharma or vicky getting his revenge on Mr.Chopra by usurping his company



Figure 1.19 Mr.Chopra came to Ajay Sharma's/Vicky's house with some goons to kill him



Figure 1.20 Mr.Chopra mercilessly stabs Ajay Sharma/Vicky with an iron rod, as a result of which He himself got



Figure 1.21 Mr.Chopra acts in an inappropriate manner with Ajay/Sharma's / Vicky's mother In the name of sympathy

Chapter III

The New Age of Bollywood

The movies which were released after the twentieth century paved the way for new talents . New actors like Salman Khan, Vidyut Jammwal , Tiger Shroff started to star in movies. Some of the movies that had been chosen for analysis are Baaghi 3 , Commando: A One Man Army and Dabbang. Even some iconic pictures and moments of villains would be included in this Chapter.

Baaghi 3 is a Hindi Action thriller released in the year 2020, directed by Ahmed Khan. The main characters in this movie are Tiger Shroff , Riteish Deshmukh , Jackie Shroff and Shraddha Kapoor. The plot of this movie revolves around Ronnie, a young man who was very protective of his elder brother who continued to be bereaved about their father Charan Chaturvedi's death. Ronnie refused the offer of joining the police force just because of the 33 cases filed against him because of his weak and dependent brother. This gave a chance for Vikram to take up the job. Ronnie eventually fell in love with Siya, which facilitated the marriage of their siblings Ruchi and Vikram. Later, Vikram was forced to go to Syria for some routine work. Once, while chatting with Ronnie his brother was beaten and kidnapped by Abu Jalal Gaza's men. Ronnie felt really helpless while his brother was getting beaten. As Ronnie and Siya reached Syria they were helped by a man named Abdu Lahori. When they reached the hotel they found the broken phone of Vikram. Even though they were chased by the cops they escaped from their view. After a long chase they caught one of Abu Jalal's men who got hit by a truck before he gave any information about Vikram. He turned out to be Abu Jala's brother. They got a chance to meet a goon named IPL who was made to pretend that he was betraying Abu Jalal in order to save Vikram. Ronnie successfully defeated the entire army of Abu Jalal, but IPL had to sacrifice his life for saving Vikram. After a long fight, even though Abu Jalal agreed to leave all the people from his clutches, he took away Siya instead. While fighting for Siya, Ronnie finally decided to stop since

Vikram was getting enraged. This gave Abu Jalal a chance to stab Ronnie, who was at the verge of death. This brought a change in Vikram, who started to fight with the enemies. Vikram and Siya succeeded in reviving Ronnie. At the end, Vikram was given the credit for defeating the goons, which made Ronnie even more happier. Ronnie also imagined that his dead father Charan Chaturvedi was patting him for keeping the promise of taking care of Vikram. Finally, they all lived happily with each other. In this movie the villain is portrayed as an authority figure who terrorizes the entire country. His main target are tourists and the other migrants in the place. When it comes to beating his enemy he doesn't show any kind of mercy on them. Despite being tough hearted he became soft and emotional when it came to his own family members, this is shown in the scene in which he grieves about his dead brother. The scene in which he tried to kidnap Siya shows his desire towards women. At times he can be shown suspicious of his men, which is shown in the scene in which he takes the life of IPL who was just going along with the plan planned by the trio. He is so powerful that he succeeded in conquering Syria, where each place was occupied by his men. In the video call scene he is shown as an alert and sneaky man. He has the egoistic attitude which made him believe that nobody can do any harm to him. He does a lot of mass killings for small mistakes done by the people, His killings are done publicly which is a way of making others aware about the consequences they have to face if his authority was questioned.

Commando A One Man Army is a Hindi language action thriller released in the year 2013, directed by Dilip Ghosh. The main characters in this movie are Vidyut Jammwal, Pooja Chopra and Jaideep Ahlawat. This movie revolves around, A Para SFI Commando named Karan Singh Dogra who was accused by the Chinese officials for spying on them when his helicopter crashed into China's border during a routine exercise. Despite his superiors trying to prove his innocence, The Indian government ordered the army to erase his record, identity along with denying his existence. Meanwhile, Karan was brutally tortured by the Chinese people but luckily he managed to escape as he was taken to the

military court. Later, he met Simrit who was running from a local goon named Amrit Kanwal/AK-47 (the main villain of this movie), who along with the support of his politician brother was trying to get married to Simrit. When they were escaping to another town they were abruptly stopped by AK-47 and his men who were blocking their path on a bridge. As the opposite party was outnumbered the duo escaped through a river. After that, Karan came to know that AK-47 was trying to get married to Simrit only for political gains. When he heard about the control that AK-47 had over the entire place, he was really sure about helping Simrit. The next day, AK-47 utilized his resources to get hold of the duo who were hiding in the jungle, but luckily Karan was able to defend himself as he was trained at forest warfare. But unfortunately AK-47 found them, this made him shoot Karan down a waterfall along with killing Simrit's parents who helped their daughter run away from him. After recovery, Karan sets out to commit atrocities on AK-47 and his men, which proved to be successful. He started to make arrangements to hang AK-47 in the middle of the town square, but he was stopped by the police who were the supporters of AK-47. At the right time his ex superior Col Akhilesh Sinha ordered Karan to proceed with the killing. At the end he successfully killed AK-47 while making people aware that these types of criminals should be killed rather than getting scared of them. Finally Karan surrendered to Col Sinha along with telling his real name to Simrit. He also promised Simrit that he will definitely come back. When it comes to the villain of this movie, He is portrayed as an intimidating man who expect people to think in his own way, this is quite evident in the scenes in which he cracks bad jokes and expect others to laugh at them. When it comes to his physical features he is shown as a person with a small defect in his eyes. He is one of the kinds of people who exercise their power on mass crowds by depending on political support. In order to get his own way he even chose to kill innocent people, this is shown in the scene in which he kills Simrit's parents by a car crash. Like many other villains he is also shown to have desires towards women, which is the main reason he runs behind Simrit. His merciless behaviour is shown in the scene in which he beheads a person for a small mistake he had committed.



Figure 2.1 AK-47 stares the girl he likes in a creepy way



Figure 2.2 AK-47 tries to Kill Karan Singh Dogra



Figure 2.3 AK-47 having a conversation with the girl he wants to get married

With



Figure 2.4 AK-47 beheading a forest officer)



Figure 2.4 AK-47 getting frustrated because he failed to capture the duo

<https://youtu.be/M1de4ytrtI>. Accessed 17 Apr. 2023.

Dabangg is a Hindi comedy action thriller released in the year 2010, directed by Abhinav Singh. Some of the main characters in this movie are Salman Khan, Arbaaz Khan, Mailaika Arora Khan, Sonakshi Sinha, Om Puri, Dimple Kapadia, Vinod Khanna, Anupam Kher, Mahesh Manjrekar, Mahie Gill and Sonu Sood. The plot of this movie revolves around Chulbul Pandey who lived with his half-brother named Makkhanchand Pandey (Makkhi), Mother Naini and his Father Prajapati Pandey. Even though he didn't have a good relationship with his father he continued to desire his love. After 21 Chulbul became a policeman and he opted to stay with his family. Later Makkhi fell in love with a girl named Nirmala who was the daughter of Masterji. Masterji kept on rejecting his request of getting married to his daughter since Makkhi was not able to fulfill some of his monetary demands. Meanwhile, Chulbul also fell in love with Rajjo, whom he met during a chase. Later, Makkhi requested his father to approve his marriage with Nirmala, but he denied it due to inadequate money in his hands, Chulbul also proposed to marry Rajjo but She denied his request by saying that she wanted to take care of her drunkard father Hariya. That day, Makkhi stole some money from Chulbul's locker wishing that

Masterji would allow their marriage. Later, Chulbul reached home to find his mother dead, but when he decided to reconcile with his father he was denied in a really cruel way. After that, Chulbul talked about his love towards Rajjo to her father Haria. But unfortunately he committed suicide from the pain of giving away his daughter. Later, during Makkhi's Marriage Chulbul got to know that it was conducted by using his money, this made Chulbul marry Rajjo on the same day much to the disgrace of masterji. After getting his marriage cancelled Makkhi expressed his anger by beating up a worker in their factory. Later when Chulbul came to know about his atrocities he publically bet Makkhi in order to disgrace him. When Chhedi came to support Makkhi Prajapati Pandey also came to force Chulbul to apologise to him, but much to his annoyance chulbul kicked Makkhi by telling that he is a disgrace to the family. Later, Chulbul came to meet Dayal Babu who was also an enemy of Chhedi. Along with him Chulbul destroyed Chhedi's brewery and Blamed Makkhi for that. Meanwhile, Chhedi Executed his revenge on Makkhi by burning down their factory, as a result of which his father went through a shock leading to a heart attack. When Makkhi pleaded for help Chhedi asked him to deliver a crate of mangoes to Dayal Babu in order to get financial help. But what Makkhi didn't know was about the bomb implanted in the box along with the mangoes, which resulted in Dayal Babu's death. Knowing that Makkhi was innocent Chulbul quickly forgave him. During the encounter between Chulbul and Chhedi Makkhi revealed that Chhedi was the one who killed their mother Naina. The fight ended with Chhedi getting killed by inhaling smoke. The movie ends with Makkhi and Nirmala getting married. When it comes to the villain of the movie, He is shown as someone who has a powerful status in the society. He can be so manipulative for his gains, this is shown in the scene in which he lies to Makkhi that he would provide money if he deliver the crate of mangoes which later creates a bomb blast which resulted in fulfilling his desire of murdering Dayal Babu. He hurts the people who trust him the most, which is shown in the scene in which he killed Makkhi's mother even though he was very loyal to him. He can be really addicted towards women, this is shown in the song in which he acts in an uncivilized way while a woman was dancing. During fights he is not often shown with weapons but he still uses bombs and other explosives in order to kill his enemies.



Figure 2.5 Chhedi rips off his clothes to fight with Chulbul Pandey



Figure 2.6 Chulbul Pandey's mother begging for her breathing device to Chhedi who
Was trying to kill her



Figure 2.8 Chhedi takes out a gun in order to kill Chulbul Pandey



Figure 2.9 Chhedi and Chulbul fighting in a godown which caught fire



Figure 2.10 Chhedi and other gang members forcing Makkhi to give a crate of mangoes to DayalBabu

Chapter IV

A Comparative Study -the Movies before twentieth century and after twentieth century

The chapter mainly focuses on the changes that had taken place in the portrayal of criminals throughout the passage of time in Bollywood movies. For the purpose of comparison only some movies from the 1970's- 2000's are chosen. The main criminals used for this analysis are Amrish Puri, Amjad Khan, Dalip Tahil who are from the 19th century along with criminals from the 2000's like Jameel Khoury, Jaideep Ahlawat, Sonu sood. The main points used as the basis for comparison are the backstory, position in the society, disability portrayed, body language, atrocities caused, sound effects, editing technique, weapons used, makeup and background music, costumes etc. in the movies.

Backstory - The backstory of the villain will make the audience understand the reason for which that person is trying to kill the hero along with the other protagonists. These backstories can vary from very high degrees to less degrees in nature. The movies from the modern times will not have any backstory that can justify the villain's actions. In the movies that were released before the 2000's it is seen that most of the villains have very dramatic backstories, for example. In the movie *Koyla* the villain shoved huge lump of coal in the protagonist's mouth and killed his parents because the father found some diamonds in his coal mines, revengeful attitude can also be seen in the movie *Sholay* when Gabbar Singh kills the inspector's family because he was caught red handed by the inspector earlier, in *Kaalida* the boss imprisoned Kaalia for a long time because his factory was burned by the protagonist along with stealing money from his locker. On the other hand, In the movies from modern days the villains do not have a backstory, even if they have one it would not be that dramatic in nature as compared to movies of olden times. For example, In *Baaghi 3* the villain kidnaps the protagonist's

brother just for the sake of avoiding him getting caught by the police authority, in *Commando a one-man army* the villain just chases the hero for getting the heroine back, along with that in *Dabangg* the villain commits atrocities on the hero's family only for venting out his anger for the hero. Hence it's understandable that Olden movies and modern movies are two opposite poles when it comes to having a background story which often gave rise to a revengeful attitude.

Position in the society- Position in the society determines the power and strength of a villain. It determines the extent to which the citizens get intimidated and threatened by the villain, who can be really manipulative at such times. When the villain becomes powerful the hero becomes more vulnerable due to his atrocities and traps which prove harmful to the hero. This power play can be mostly seen in movies which were made in the older times, which created an impression of foreseen circumstances in the audience's mind. Some examples of such movies are, In *Kaalia* when the police authority and the advocates only listened to the boss's complaint against the hero since he was a really rich man owning a big mill no matter how bad he is, in the movie *Koyla* the old man was able to take people in his hands and exploit them only because he was a really wealthy king, along with that in *Baazigar* even after destroying the hero's family Chopra was able to act innocent because the of people who didn't question him based on his power in the society. But in modern movies we can clearly understand that most of the villains are just ordinary people without any status in the society. They are more often not portrayed as wealthy and terrifying in nature. For example, In *Dabangg* the villain is just a local goon who only owns a farm for meeting his daily needs, in *Baaghi 3* the villain is shown as a kidnapper who may not hold any other position in the society etc. Thus, we can conclude that only movies in the older time portray the villains having a great social status as compared to modern movies.

Portrayal of disability- Normally disabled people are considered as weak in the society, as a result they are really underestimated in every sphere of life. Such villains are rarely found in Bollywood movies, especially when it comes to movies from the olden times. But in the modern movies disabled villains are portrayed, this is true in the case of the movie *Commando - a one Man army* in which the main villain is shown having an eye problem. Despite his limitations he is seen enjoying terrorizing people. He is also shown as a negative character in the movie. This can show the audience that it is alright to have a disability which may not make you weak. It can also make people think it's fine to portray disabled villains in movies. Hence, we can clearly understand that Bollywood had changed a lot from 1970 and 2000 in portraying disability through movies.

Body language- Body language is the main factor which determines how much people hate a villain, if body language is not maintained properly the movie will be not effective as it is supposed to be. But to some extent body language may be different when old movies are compared with new ones. When it comes to old movies the body language of the villains makes the audience feel that they are uncivilized and intimidating in nature, their facial expressions can create a sense of hate in the minds of the audience, and their body language can be really dramatic in nature. For example, in *Sholay* Gabbar Singh speaks and acts in a way which shows as if he is uncivilized, In *Koyle* the old Raja is always shown in an intimidating position, in *Kaalia* the boss is always shown with a cunning expression on his face etc. But on the other hand, the villains in the modern movies do not have a body language as such, but they do not fail to meet the expectations of the audience. For example, in *Baaghi 3* the villain maintains a mediocre expression till the movie ends, in *Commando a one - man army* apart from giving a creepy smile the villain does not have any expression as such, In *Dabangg* Sonu Sood does not show any significant expression while more importance is given to his physique.

Atrocities caused – The number of atrocities caused by the villains can determine how cold hearted he is. The degree of the atrocity can determine how terrorizing and deadly the villain is. When it comes to atrocities, old movies only show petty atrocities as compared to new movies which include a lot of murders. Some of the examples of such old movies are. In *Koyla* the old Raja only undertakes atrocities like shoving coal in the hero's mouth during childhood along with misbehaving with women and dumping them at brothels, in *Kaalia* the boss is only accused for indirectly hurting his brother and landing the hero into trouble as a form of revenge and foul play from the villain's part etc. But on the other hand, the modern movies show a large number of murders executed by the villains. Some of the examples of such movies are, In *Dabang* the villain murders the hero's mother along with the minister who was really innocent, In *Commando- a one man army* the villain kills the parents of the heroine because they had helped her to escape from marrying him etc. Thus, it's too easy to conclude that when it comes to atrocities committed by the villains the olden movies are a step backward when compared to the movies after the 20th century.

Sound effects- Sound effects during fights are really important when it comes to a conflict between the hero and the villain, who usually starts the fight. But these sound effects will slowly decrease as time passes in Bollywood movies. Earlier, movies used to incorporate a lot of punch sounds while fighting in order to create an audiovisual effect. These punch sounds were so artificial to the audience. The fact is that this Punch sound was not even caused by punches but these were mainly choreographed to make the movie more action oriented. These punch sounds were usually made with the help of various objects which can be really surprising at times. But when compared to modern movies there are no artificial punch sounds which makes the movies a lot more original. Modern Bollywood movies tend to focus more on the visuals rather than the audio elements. The punch sounds can be really irritating and artificial for the modern-day viewers, even though they were an attraction at that time. Thus its

easy to understand that punch sounds have been clearly outdated when it comes to modern day movies.

Editing technique- Editing techniques are used to mainly avoid external disturbances like high glare as well as human voice. Editing techniques used in the movies can determine its quality and the impact it creates on the audience's mind. But in earlier movies new technologies were not used for editing purposes which made it really unsatisfying and artificial in nature. But by the time modern movies began to come up, advanced technologies started to provide better equipment, devices and softwares which proved to be very effective for editing purposes.

Weapons- weapons can be seen in every nook and corner of Bollywood movies. It is very terrifying to see weapons in the hands of the villains but it changed overtime when the movies evolved. In olden movies primitive weapons like knives, iron rods and other traditional machines for amputation were used. For example, in *Sholay* Gabbar Singh uses a manual machine to amputate the inspector's hands, in *Baazigar* the villain kills the hero with the help of an iron rod, along with that in *Koyla* Shahani Seth stabs his assistant with a knife. But when it comes to movies after the 20th century advanced weapons like cannons and other ammunition are used. For example in *Commando-A one man army* the villain mainly uses guns to defeat the hero, along with the movie *Baaghi 3* in which the villain's place is surrounded with advanced weapons and ammunition to kill anyone who tried to defeat him.

Makeup- makeup is always a necessity when it comes to the film industry. Make up is very important to change the outlook of a person even if he is playing the part of the hero or villain. But the usage of makeup on villains can be minimal in old Bollywood movies. For example, in *Sholay* Gabbar Singh causes terror in the minds of people by his naturally grown beard and moustache, in *Kaalia* the villain is portrayed with his naturally coloured beard and moustache, even the villain in *Koyla* is shown in his

original self as an old man. But as Bollywood movies started to evolve the villains started to wear thick layers of makeup in order to make them look good on the big screen. Thus it's easy to conclude that as modern movies came up natural looks of villains began to fade away.

Background music- Background music in movies creates a sense of terror in the minds of the audience. But the gravity and the effect of this background music may vary from old Bollywood movies to modern day Bollywood movies. While old movies have a dramatic background music, new movies do not have a dramatic Background music.

Setting- The setting of the movies helps the audience to determine how old a movie is. Normally in old Bollywood movies the shooting used to take place in the hills, forests and kingdoms which were usually created. But in modern day movies the shooting usually took place in open fields.

Costumes- Costumes in a movie are always a feast to the eye of the audience. But the costumes worn by villains can change over time. In the case of old Bollywood movies, the villains wore costumes related to the theme. For example, in *Sholay* Gabbar Singh wore a hunter like suit, while in *Koyla* the villain wore a King's suit While, on the other hand in modern day Bollywood movies the villains mostly wore normal clothes.

Conclusion

In this project the focus is on the changes in the representation of villains in Bollywood. The first chapter gave a brief idea of the movies before the 20th century. Along with that, in the second chapter the movies after the 20th century had been focused. The main grounds for comparison used for this project were the backstory, position in the society, disability portrayed, body language, atrocities caused, sound effects, editing technique, weapons used, makeup, setting, background music and costumes etc. Some of the findings based on the critical analysis of these villains and the movie they are starred in are:

Movies before the 20th century are only the ones which gave a background story to justify the actions of the villains, which is clearly evident in the movies which had been used for comparison from the 20th century.

Villains from the movies before the 20th century usually held very high positions in the society, which made them really powerful in the eyes of the audience. But it is not true in the case of Bollywood movies which came after the 20th century.

A disabled villain is only found in the movies which came up after the 20th century. But sadly its not really possible to see such a villain in the old Bollywood movies.

Body language is imbibed in the villain in large quantity in case of old Bollywood movies. Which proves its dramatic nature. But on the other hand the modern day movies do not portray a villain who relies mostly on the Body language part.

New Bollywood movies show villains undertaking atrocities of high degree, which included killing someone in brutal ways. But in old movies the degree of the atrocities caused is comparatively lesser even though they can be considered unacceptable.

When it came to the sound effects, mainly the punch sounds during a fight scene are considered. In the movies before the 20th century lot of fake punch sounds were used in order to create an audiovisual affect. But in the movies which came after the 20th century these punch sounds were not used since visuals were more concentrated than the sounds, along with that it was also irritating for the ears of the modern-day audience.

Editing techniques used in the movies after the 20th century were far better than those used in the movies before that. Even if the old movies had also used some kind of editing techniques the results were so unsatisfactory and artificial in nature.

The weapons used in the movies which came up before the 20th century were really primitive in nature, for example the villains used knives, iron rods and other traditional weapons to kill or amputate a person. But the types of weapons used had changed in the movies which came after the 20th century, for example nowadays weapons like cannons and other ammunitions had been used.

Makeup had been excessively used by villains in modern Bollywood movies. But in old Bollywood movies minimal makeup was being used on the villains, they were mostly presented with their own body hair and the physical differences time had brought in them.

The background music used in movies before the 20th century were more dramatic in nature when compared to modern day movies which only has mild background music at times of requirement.

The settings used in old Bollywood movies mainly consisted of forests, mountains and kingdoms which were created artificially. But in modern movies the shooting took place in open fields.

The costumes worn by Villains in old Bollywood movies are based on the theme, for example they use costumes like a hunter and king. But in modern day movies the villains usually wore normal clothes.

Thus it is possible to conclude that old Bollywood movies are more dramatic in nature with villains possessing exaggerated characteristics, when it came to costumes, they were overdressed. The sound effects during the fight scenes were irritating for the modern day audience. But on the other hand, modern day villains were less dramatic and usually wore normal clothes. But still the modern day villains never failed to come up to the expectations of their audience.

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