

Hindi transcript:

Q. Who is your favorite actor in Bollywood?

आजकल के actors में मेरे favorite actor आमिर खान हैं। मैं favorite तो नहीं कहूँगी पर जो भी हैं, जिनमें कितने भी actors हैं, उन में से सबसे ज्यादा मनपसंद वही हैं। और आमिर खान तकरीबन पिछले बीस सालों से हिन्दी फ़िल्मों में काम कर रहे हैं और उनकी पहली फ़िल्म 'क़यामत से क़यामत तक' आई थी, 1987 में या '88 में और बहुत hit हुई थी अपने गानों की वजह से भी और अपने concept की वजह से भी। आमिर खान एक ऐसे actor माने जाते हैं जो कि फ़िल्मों में... अपनी फ़िल्म को एक अलग-सा रखा देते हैं। उनकी फ़िल्में – अगर बीच के period को छोड़ दी जाए तो पिछले दस साल की फ़िल्में काफ़ी अलग लग रही हैं – काफ़ी meaningful cinema उन्होंने किया है और unlike शाहरुख़ खान जो कि सिर्फ़ एक star माने जाते हैं, आमिर खान को star as well as actor माना जाता है क्योंकि उनकी फ़िल्मों में काफ़ी variety होती है। So लोग उनकी फ़िल्मों को देखना बहुत पसंद करते हैं। और ज्यादातर उनकी फ़िल्में काफ़ी hit होती हैं। In fact वो काफ़ी लोग wait भी करते हैं उनकी फ़िल्मों का।

बीच में आमिर खान बहुत choosy हो गये थे... उनकी फ़िल्में तीन-तीन, चार-चार साल बाद आती थीं। ज़ल्मे 'लगान' के बाद अगली... फ़िल्म आने में चार साल लग गए। 'लगान' उनकी बहुत मशहूर फ़िल्म है। उन्होंने खुद produce की थी और वो, भारत की एक favorite topic, जो कि क्रिकेट है उसपर based है। क्रिकेट during the British period और... उन्होंने खुद भी बड़ी अच्छी acting की थी और फ़िल्म को आशुतोष गोवारिकर ने direct किया था और बहुत अच्छी तरह direct किया था।

उसके बाद आमिर खान की काफ़ी फ़िल्में आईं, 'दिल चाहता है', उनमें से एक थी, और अभी, कुछ दिन पहले 'रक्षा दे बसन्ती' फ़िल्म आई, जो कि... जिसको लोग... जिसने लोगों को काफ़ी छुआ। और 'रक्षा दे बसन्ती' का concept बहुत अच्छा था। 'रक्षा दे बसन्ती' को ज़ल्मे picturize किया गया था, वो काफ़ी अच्छा था। वह... फ़िल्म जो है वह... उसके background में Indian freedom struggle था और क़से... उसमें दिखाया गया है कि क़से आजकल के नौजवान freedom struggle से inspiration ले सकते हैं; क़से नौजवान भगत सिंह ज़ल्मे उस ज़माने के नौजवान से, जिसने अपने देश के लिए जान दे दी, जानते हुए

भी कि वो अपनी जान बचा सकते थे – ऐसे लोगों से inspiration कम्मे लिया जा सकता ह्य और कम्मे... वे लोग हमें बताते हैं कि कम्मे हम अपने values के लिए stand करें और कम्मे देश को बदलने की कोशिश करें... उसके बारे में फिल्म थी। और फिल्म काफ़ी मशहूर हुई और काफ़ी popul... hit हुई और इसका सब से ज़्यादा credit, director के अलावा, आमिर खान को जाता ह्य

तो आमिर खान basically अपनी ऐसी चीज़ों के लिए मशहूर हैं कि वे अपनी फिल्में जो करते हैं वे किसी न किसी issue पे based होती हैं। ज़रूरी नहीं ह्य कि फिल्म बहुत serious हो, फिल्म बहुत non-serious भी हो सकती ह्य casual भी हो सकती ह्य जस्से 'दिल चाहता ह्य। पर आमिर की जो intensity ह्य वह फिल्म को एक अलग रखा देती ह्य और उनकी जो variety ह्य वह दर्शकों को हमेशा उत्सुक करती ह्य यह जानने के लिए कि आगे क्या होने वाला ह्य और आमिर क्या नया करने वाले हैं। तो इस वजह से आमिर मेरे favorite actor हैं।

English translation:

Q. Who is your favorite actor in Bollywood?

Among the actors of today my favorite actor is Aamir Khan. I wouldn't say that [he is] my favorite actor but whoever is around, among the current lot of actors, he is my most favorite. And Aamir Khan has been working in Hindi films for almost the past twenty years, and his first film '*Qayamat Se Qayamat Tak*' came out in 1987 or '88 and it became a big hit because of its songs and also because of its concept. Aamir Khan is considered an actor who, in his films, who gives a different color to his films. His films – if the middle period is left out then – [his] films of the last ten years look quite different; he has done quite a bit of meaningful cinema. Unlike Shah Rukh Khan who is considered just a star, Aamir Khan is considered a star as well as an actor because there is quite some variety in his films. So people like watching his films a lot. In fact, quite a few people wait for his films too.

In between, Aamir Khan became very choosy ... his films would appear every three or four years. For instance, after '*Lagaan*' his next movie took four years to come out. '*Lagaan*' is his very famous film. He produced the movie himself, and it is based on India's favorite topic, which is cricket. Cricket during the British period and... he acted very well in it, and the film was directed by Ashutosh Gowariker, [who] directed it very well.

After that, many films of Aamir Khan's came – '*Dil Chahta Hai*' – that was one, and now, some days back the film '*Rang De Basanti*' came out, which ... which people ... which moved people quite a lot. And the concept of '*Rang De Basanti*' was very good. The way

in which ‘Rang De Basanti’ had been filmed¹ was quite good. That ... the film ... the Indian freedom struggle was in the background of the film and how ... it is shown in [the film] how the youth of the present can derive inspiration from the freedom struggle; how the youth can [derive inspiration] from the young people of that era such as Bhagat Singh, who laid down his life for the country, despite knowing that he could save his own life, how inspiration can be derived from such people, and how ... those people tell us how we should stand for our values and how we could try to change the country ... the film was about [these things]. And the film became quite famous and became quite popular ... a hit and most of the credit for this, besides the director, goes to Aamir Khan.

So Aamir Khan is basically famous for [these things], and the films he works in are based on some issue or the other. It is not necessary that the film be very serious; the film can be very “non-serious” as well, [it] can be casual as well. For instance ‘Dil Chahta Hai’. Aamir’s intensity adds [a new dimension] to the film and his variety keeps viewers enthusiastic to know what will happen next and what new thing Aamir will do. So because of this Aamir is my favorite actor.

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¹ The speaker is referring to the cinematography.