



Competition on Indian Language Films

Country : India

Avni Ki Kismat

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2023 / Colour / 130 minutes / Hindi



Director : Shonet Anthony Barretto

Producer : Asit Ghosh Diana Ghosh

Cinematographer : Gopi Bhagat

Editor : Tejas Wanjari Sikandar Lbg

Music : Debojyoti Mishra

Cast : Sanjay Suri, Ashlesha Thakur, Pratap Madhavrao Phad, Varun Gautam, Mitalee Jagtap Varadkar

Synopsis : *Avni Ki Kismat* (Avni's Fate) is an Indian film inspired by real-life events. Village inhabitants near a forest in India are being killed by an unknown animal. Instigated by corrupt officials and the media, the villagers are inclined to believe that Avni, a tigress from the neighbouring forest, is responsible for the deaths. Avni is then labelled a man-eater without any evidence and this irresponsible act puts her life in danger as fearful villagers call for her execution. Mihir Ghosh, a tiger conservationist from the city, works with his friends in the local forest department and with village leaders to educate the people about coexisting with wildlife. While the country is divided into people who support the execution and others who protest it, Mihir and his friends challenge the official narrative intended to slander Avni, and work towards uncovering the agenda behind the shoot-to-kill order.



Director's Biography : Shonet Anthony Barretto is an emerging writer/director. Born and raised in Mumbai, India, Shonet began her career as a choreographer and followed her passion in photography. She soon got fascinated with the art of filmmaking and made a short film on dance, *Wake Up*, in the year 2017. In 2018, *Wake Up* was selected and premiered at San Francisco Dance Film Festival and Shonet was invited as a panelist for their film forum. *Avni Ki Kismat* is her debut feature.