



YASH CHOPRA

THE LEGEND

Visionary. Director. Producer. Legendary Dream Merchant of Indian Cinema.
And a trailblazer who paved the way for the Indian entertainment industry.



1932 - 2012

Genre defining director, star-maker and a studio mogul, Yash Chopra has been instrumental in shaping the symbolism of mainstream Hindi cinema across the globe. Popularly known as the 'King of Romance' for his string of hit romantic films spanning over a five-decade career, he redefined drama and romance onscreen.

Born on 27 September 1932, Yash Chopra's journey began from the lush green fields of Punjab, which kept reappearing in his films in all their splendour.



Yash Chopra started out as an assistant to his brother, B. R. Chopra, and went on to direct 5 very successful films for his brother's banner - B. R. Films, each of which proved to be a significant milestone in his development as a world class director of blockbusters. These were DHOOL KA PHOOL (1959), DHARMPUTRA (1961), WAQT (1965) - India's first true multi-starrer generational family drama, ITTEFAQ (1969) & AADMI AUR INSAAN (1969). He has wielded the baton additionally for 4 films made by other film companies - JOSHILA (1973), DEEWAAR (1975), TRISHUL (1978) & PARAMPARA (1993).

But his greatest repertoire of work were the 50 plus films made under the banner that he launched - the banner that stands for the best of Hindi cinema - YRF.

Out of these films, he directed 13 himself and these films have defined much of the language of Hindi films as we know them today. Some of the highly successful films which Yash Chopra directed are DAAG (1973), KABHI KABHIE (1976), KAALA PATTHAR (1979), SILSILA (1981), CHANDNI (1989), DARR (1993), DIL TO PAGAL HAI (1997), VEER-ZAARA (2004) and JAB TAK HAI JAAN (2012).



A fitting end to a glorious career, a film to wrap up decades of fine work - JAB TAK HAI JAAN starring Shah Rukh Khan, Katrina Kaif and Anushka Sharma was Yash Chopra's last film as a director. He passed away on 21 October 2012 (at the age of 80) leaving behind a legacy that will inspire generations to come. The film released on 13 November 2012 to an overwhelming response worldwide and was one of the top grossers of the year.

A Yash Chopra directed film was anchored in its strong screenplay but embellished always with gorgeous locations, snow-capped mountains, lakes and rivers, beautiful women draped in gorgeous chiffon amidst fields of flowers - women who invariably went on to become icons after appearing in his films. No wonder then that actresses thought their careers have truly taken off only when they acted in a Yash Chopra film. A Yash Chopra film did not just engage the eyes and the heart - it seduced the ears as well. His sense of film music was impeccable - and each of his films had musical scores and signature tunes that still keep India humming years and years after their original release. And more than anything else, a YASH CHOPRA film was straight from the heart... it dwelled on human emotions.

To many South Asians, a Yash Chopra film was their passport to a world outside the one they inhabit. He was one of the first directors to take his camera to countries such as Switzerland, Holland, Germany and the United Kingdom. This often led to a direct increase in visitors to those countries, and governments were not shy in taking note.



If his achievements as director were staggering, his work as a producer was no less. He had never been shy of adventuring into bold and controversial themes - which were not just simple 'message films'. Instead he pulled off the more difficult task of weaving in socially relevant messages within the parameters of commercial cinema. The social comment meshed in with the smiles and tears and managed to successfully bridge the gap between the older and the younger generations worldwide. His directorial efforts surpassed the work of directors less than half his age.

Yash Chopra unearthed new composers, new singers, and acting talent, almost all of whom have gone on to great heights in the industry. To be a part of a YRF film is the culmination of the fondest dreams for any talent in India - creative or technical.

Yash Chopra was more than a director and producer alone. In fact, the corporatization of the Hindi film industry had its very genesis in the pioneering efforts of Yash Chopra. With his vast years of experience in the entertainment business, Yash Chopra was indisputably the leader of the Media and

Entertainment firmament in India and the voice that governments and organizations listened to on matters pertaining to the rapidly booming Hindi film industry.

Even after decades, Yash Chopra's creative legacy remains undiminished, and a new YRF film continues to remain the most anticipated event in the film calendar of Indian cinema.

Yash Chopra will remain the trendiest director of his era who revolutionized the craft of filmmaking and changed Bollywood... forever.

FILMS AS A DIRECTOR

SR. NO.	YEAR	FILM	PRODUCER
1	1959	Dhool Ka Phool	B. R. Chopra (B. R. Films)
2	1961	Dharmputra	B. R. Chopra (B. R. Films)
3	1965	Waqt	B. R. Chopra (B. R. Films)
4	1969	Aadmi Aur Insaan	B. R. Chopra (B. R. Films)
5	1969	Ittefaq	B. R. Chopra (B. R. Films)
6	1973	Joshila	Gulshan Rai (Trimurti Films)
7	1973	Daag	Yash Chopra (Yash Raj Films)
8	1975	Deewaar	Gulshan Rai (Trimurti Films)
9	1976	Kabhi Kabhie	Yash Chopra (Yash Raj Films)
10	1978	Trishul	Gulshan Rai (Trimurti Films)
11	1979	Kaala Patthar	Yash Chopra (Yash Raj Films)
12	1981	Silsila	Yash Chopra (Yash Raj Films)
13	1984	Mashaal	Yash Chopra (Yash Raj Films)
14	1985	Faasle	Yash Chopra (Yash Raj Films)
15	1988	Vijay	Yash Chopra (Yash Raj Films)
16	1989	Chandni	Yash Chopra (Yash Raj Films)
17	1991	Lamhe	Yash Chopra (Yash Raj Films)
18	1993	Parampara	Feroz A. Nadiadwala (A. G. Films)
19	1993	Darr	Yash Chopra (Yash Raj Films)
20	1997	Dil To Pagal Hai	Yash Chopra (Yash Raj Films)
21	2004	Veer-Zaara	Yash Chopra & Aditya Chopra (Yash Raj Films)
22	2012	Jab Tak Hai Jaan	Aditya Chopra (Yash Raj Films)

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

National Honours & Recognitions:

- For all the pioneering efforts throughout his illustrious film career, Yash Chopra won every conceivable film award and recognition.
- He was the Founder Trustee of the Film Industry Welfare Trust established in the year 1996.
- He was also chosen for the prestigious Dadasaheb Phalke Award for 2001, and the highest honour given by the Government of India to a member of the entertainment fraternity.
- He was the recipient of the Dr. Dadabhai Naoroji Millennium Lifetime Achievement in 2001.
- In 2002, he was appointed as the Chairman of the Entertainment Committee of FICCI (Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry) – the Apex Business Organisation of India.
- He was honoured with the Teachers 2003 Outstanding Achievement Award.
- The Guru Nanak University, Amritsar, India, conferred upon him an Honorary Doctorate (Doctor Of Philosophy – Honoris Causa) in February 2004 in recognition of his stature as a leading luminary of India.
- Yash Chopra was invited as Guest of Honour for the 2005 Convocation ceremony of the Kanya Maha Vidyalaya – one of the oldest institutions for women’s education in India. He joined the ranks of many great Indian stalwarts like Lala Lajpat Rai, Dr. Radha Krishnan, Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Dr. Rajinder Prasad, Mr. Morarji Desai, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu and Mrs. Indira Gandhi, who have been invited to this illustrious institution.
- He was one of the eminent Indians selected for the coveted Padma Bhushan Award, one of the country’s highest civilian honours bestowed for the year 2005 by the Honourable President of India, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam.
- Yash Chopra was honoured with ‘Outstanding Achievement Award’ at the Punjabi Pravasi Divas 2006, for his commendable contribution to the Film and Entertainment Industry and for bringing laurels to the land of his birth - Punjab.
- Yash Chopra was honoured with the first ever Punjab Rattan Award by the then Chief Minister of Punjab on 20 June 2006. He was conferred with this award as recognition from the state (Punjab) he was born and grew up in.
- Yash Chopra was also honoured with the title of The Forbes Quintessential Man by the Rotary Club of Bombay on 25 June 2006 for his contribution to Indian Society through his films.
- Yash Chopra was conferred with the Marketing King Award 2006 by the Institute of Marketing Management, New Delhi on 14 August 2006, in recognition of his exemplary work in marketing his films, both within India and abroad.
- The 4th Pune International Film Festival (PIFF) 2006 bestowed its ‘Lifetime Achievement Award’ to Yash Chopra, recognizing his towering contributions made to film production and direction.
- He was the recipient of the Vocational Excellence Award by the Rotary Club in 2007.
- Yash Chopra was awarded the coveted Raj Kapoor Award by the then Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Mr. Vilasrao Deshmukh at the 44th Marathi Film Festival and Awards on 30 April 2007, in recognition of his impressive contributions to the Hindi film industry.

- Yash Chopra was conferred the Zenith Asia Honour for his contribution to Indian cinema at a ceremony at the National Film Archive of India on 13 November 2007.
- The Hindi film industry voted Yash Chopra and his son Aditya Chopra the most powerful people in the Indian Entertainment business and YRF thundered into the Number 1 slot in Filmfare's Power List for various years.
- Yash Chopra was honoured by the International Punjabi Society at their 34th World convention on 7 January 2008, for spreading Punjabi culture abroad through his films.
- Yash Chopra was on the Advisory Board of the Information & Broadcasting Ministry of the Government of India.
- He was awarded the Outstanding Achievement Awards by the apex bodies of Indian Industry – like the CII (Confederation of Indian Industry).
- He was honoured by NASSCOM (National Association of Software and Service Companies) and AIAI (All India Association of Industries) for his outstanding achievements.
- He was awarded the prestigious Priyadarshini Award for his outstanding contribution to Indian Cinema. This award was presented to him by the then Deputy Prime Minister Mr. L. K. Advani.
- The Punjab University, Chandigarh, India, conferred upon him an Honorary Doctorate (Doctor Of Literature – Honoris Causa) at a special convocation ceremony held on 16 January 2008, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to Indian cinema.
- Yash Chopra was honoured with the coveted Golden Peacock Award, considered as the Holy Grail of corporate excellence, on 17 January 2009, in Mumbai, for his invaluable contribution to the Indian cinema.
- He was honoured with the prestigious National Kishore Kumar Award on 14 October 2010, given by the Madhya Pradesh Government at the birthplace of the Late Kishore Kumar – Khandwa.
- Yash Chopra's JAB TAK HAI JAAN which released few weeks after his untimely demise on 21 October 2012, went on to become one of the highest grossing films of the year. Yash Chopra's invaluable legacy and extraordinary contribution to cinema was celebrated with a number of tributes & posthumous awards and honours.
- Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh was the chief guest at the NDTV Indian of the Year Awards held in New Delhi in April 2013 where Yash Chopra was awarded posthumously. The Prime Minister personally handed over the award to Mrs. Pamela Chopra and in his speech he said Yash Chopra was a master artist who served our people through the medium of films and the films he created have entertained and educated generations of Indians.
- Yash Chopra was also conferred with the 58th Filmfare Lifetime Achievement Award for his contribution towards Hindi Cinema in January 2013. Pamela Chopra was presented the award by one of Yash Chopra's famous leading ladies, Madhuri Dixit, after a wonderful audio video presentation dedicated to Yash Chopra was revealed by Karan Johar. Also Filmfare announced that hereafter a special award in Yash Chopra's name would be given to the Best Debut Director each year.
- Pamela Chopra received the Screen Lifetime Achievement Award in January 2013 for her husband, from lyricist Gulzar and actress Rekha.
- The Yash Chopra Statue was unveiled at UTV Stars' Walk of the Stars at Bandra Bandstand in February 2013. The unveiling was preceded with the revealing of the unique statue at YRF Studios by Pamela Chopra and Uday Chopra amongst special guests.

- Superstar Shah Rukh Khan also paid a heartfelt tribute to Yash Chopra by performing to Yash Chopra everlasting hit film numbers along with his leading ladies at the Zee Cine Awards 2013 and the 58th Filmfare Awards 2013.
- Furthermore, on the occasion of Indian Cinema completing 100 years, India Post (Department of Post, India) released special commemorative stamps and devoted one iconic stamp to Yash Chopra in May 2013.
- In a special poll conducted by Filmfare to commemorate 100 years of Hindi Cinema, Yash Chopra was declared the greatest director in Hindi Films, according to the nation-wide poll.

International Honours & Recognitions:

- He was the only Indian Film Producer and Director to receive the BBC Asia Award twice – in 1998 and 2001 for his outstanding contribution in films.
- In 2002, he was honoured by the IIFA (International Indian Film Awards) at Malaysia for his outstanding contribution to Indian Cinema.
- He was felicitated at the Indian Film Festival 2003 in Kuala Lumpur, for his outstanding contribution in films.
- He was also honoured with the Asian Guild Award in London in the year 2003.
- He was honoured with the prestigious 'Lifetime Achievement Award' at CineAsia 2004 held at Bangkok, Thailand in December 2004, and was the first Indian ever to be honoured at CineAsia.
- In 2004, the British Film Institute handpicked Yash Chopra for a book written by Dr. Rachel Dwyer in its 'World Directors Series'. This book was launched amidst great fanfare in London and showcases the glorious 5-decade career of Yash Chopra. The book, 'Yash Chopra' was also released in New Delhi by the then Information & Broadcasting Minister Mrs. Sushma Swaraj, and in Mumbai by three generations of Indian superstars - Dilip Kumar, Amitabh Bachchan & Shah Rukh Khan.
- Yash Chopra was honoured at the 2nd Dubai International Film Festival 2005, along with the Oscar Winning actor Morgan Freeman and the Egyptian comedy superstar Adel Imam as the Asian, Hollywood and Arab honourees in the Festival's 'In the Spotlight' program.
- Yash Chopra was awarded the Superbrand Award for 2005 by Superbrands International, a worldwide organisation operating in 44 countries, which promotes the discipline of brand management and pays tribute to exceptional brands.
- Yash Chopra was felicitated at the MTV IMMIES 2005 with the 'Inspiration Award' for his contributions to Indian Music in his career spanning 5 decades. The Award was presented to him along with international music superstar Ronan Keating.
- Yash Chopra was felicitated with the first ever Variety Cinema Personality of the year 2005 award. This award instituted by the Variety magazine recognizes the efforts of an Indian personality who has made an indelible impact on World Cinema.
- Yash Chopra's VEER-ZAARA also got the prestigious recognition of being selected as one of the films screened at the 55th Berlin International Film Festival, in the 'International Forum of New Cinema' section, in February 2005 in Berlin, Germany. After winning hearts of people in major parts of the world, Yash Chopra's Love Legend, VEER-ZAARA also cast its magical spell on Germany.

- Yash Chopra was honoured with a major award presentation at the 5th Annual Marrakech Film Festival in November, 2005. He joined Martin Scorsese and Dame Judi Dench in being honoured by His Royal Highness, Prince Moulay Rachid at the Royal Palace. His film, VEER-ZAARA, was screened to an unprecedented crowd who gave him a standing ovation.
- VEER-ZAARA was the first film ever to be premiered at The Grand Rex, the biggest cinema in Paris on 26 April 2006. The premiere was well attended by the crème de la crème of Paris society and French media. The excitement created in Paris on this occasion was unprecedented.
- VEER-ZAARA was also screened at the 8th Annual Hawaii International Film Festival in Hawaii, in April 2005 and at the Jeonju International Film Festival in Korea, in May 2006.
- Yash Chopra was the first Indian ever to be honoured by BAFTA (British Academy of Film and Television Arts) in the 59 year history of the Academy on 15th July, 2006. Celebrating Indian Cinema, BAFTA dedicated a 3 day weekend to showcase Indian Cinema with Yash Chopra's VEER-ZAARA getting top billing.
- UK's prestigious Channel 4 paid a special tribute to Yash Chopra through a Special Film Festival of Yash Chopra Movies titled 'The World of Yash Chopra', which aired between September to November 2006.
- Yash Chopra was invited as a member of the International Jury for the prestigious 56th Berlin International Film Festival in 2006. This was a significant marker acknowledging India's place in World Cinema and Yash Chopra was the first Bollywood personality in 25 years to have been given this honour.
- Yash Chopra was honoured in the UK at The House of Lords and House of Commons at the Palace of Westminster on 17 May 2007, for his contribution to the Indian film industry. He was invited there by the ROKO Cancer charity to accept Patronage to the Charity, in recognition for his role in the ROKO Cancer campaign.
- The Leeds Metropolitan University, UK conferred upon him an Honorary Doctorate at a special honorary awards convocation ceremony held on 9 June 2007, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to Indian Cinema.
- Yash Chopra was formally bestowed with France's highest civilian award, the 'Officier de la Legion d' Honneur' (Officer of the Legion of Honour) at a glittering ceremony in Delhi on 5 July 2008. The French President, Nicolas Sarkozy, had announced this award by decree no. 01D dated 21 January 2008. Yash Chopra joined a very select list of awardees, including such luminaries from the Indian cultural sphere as the legendary Satyajit Ray, sitar maestro Ravi Shankar, India's nightingale Lata Mangeshkar and megastar Amitabh Bachchan.
- Yash Chopra was honoured by the renowned Hollywood Reporter magazine at a function held on 14 October 2008 in Mumbai. He was felicitated for his invaluable contribution to Indian Cinema and the impact created by YRF in business in the US.
- Yash Chopra was awarded the FIAPF Award for outstanding achievement in film at the annual Asia Pacific Screen Awards, the region's highest accolade in film. The Awards were announced on the Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia on 11 November 2008, with more than 700 film industry luminaries from the Asia-Pacific region, Europe and the United States attending the ceremony.
- Yash Chopra was invited to personally inaugurate The Indian Film Festival at Abu Dhabi on 2 October 2008, which opened with the screening of VEER-ZAARA.
- Yash Chopra was felicitated at the 14th Pusan International Film Festival (PIFF) on 9 October 2009 as the Asian Filmmaker of the Year.

- The School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), UK, awarded Mr. Yash Chopra an honorary higher doctoral degree, a DLit, a Doctor of Letters honoris causa, on 23 July 2010, for having made an outstanding contribution to the field of cinema in his five decades of work in the Hindi film industry.
- The Embassy of Switzerland felicitated Yash Chopra with the 'Swiss Ambassador's Award 2010' in October 2010, for his contribution in promoting 'Brand Switzerland' through his films.
- He was also presented with the 'Asian Award for Outstanding Achievement in Cinema' in October 2010, in London.
- He was honoured with the title of 'Ambassador of Interlaken' in April 2011 in Switzerland, making him the first recipient of this prestigious award.
- A majestic 'Yash Chopra Suite' has been named after him at the Victoria Jungfrau Grand Hotel & Spa, Interlaken's most luxurious hotel. He is perhaps the only one to have the honour of a suite being named after him, other than King Louis XVI.
- A 'Yash Chopra Train' was launched as part of the Jungfrau Railways, Switzerland, a first of its kind tribute. The only other person who has a train named after him is the pioneer of the Jungfrau Railways.
- He was the recipient of Certificate of Recognition from the British Tourist Authority and British Film Commission for promoting tourism in the UK through his films.
- Yash Chopra's last labour of love JAB TAK HAI JAAN received a standing ovation at the Doha Tribeca Film Festival in November 2012 and took Doha by storm when it was screened as a part of the DTFE to a house full crowd of Indian expats and the local Qatari community.
- Marrakech International Film Festival paid tribute to Yash Chopra alongside the screening of JAB TAK HAI JAAN in December 2012 in the Out of Competition program.
- The prestigious Agora cinema in La Trobe University Australia was renamed as the 'Yash Chopra Cinema' and was launched by Mrs. Pamela Chopra in April 2013. For the very first time in Australia, a cinema was named after an Indian personality and our dearly loved Yash Chopra was recipient of this honour. Additionally, Yash Chopra was given the Lifetime Achievement Award as a part of the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne.
- In May 2016, the Swiss government honoured the work of Yash Chopra with a special statue, as a mark of gratitude and salutations. A sculpture made of pure bronze, and weighing about 350 kilos, has presented Yash Chopra in an iconic pose of him directing a film. This statue has been installed at the heart of Interlaken.

Awards Received by Yash Chopra for his Films:

Yash Chopra was the only film-maker to have won the National Award six times.

He won the Filmfare Award eight times – and was the only living director to have won this award eight times – and various other awards innumerable times.

National Awards

Year	Film	Award
2004	VEER-ZAARA	National Award for "Best Film for Providing Popular and Wholesome Entertainment"
1997	DIL TO PAGAL HAI	3 Awards including National Award for "Best Film for Providing Popular and Wholesome Entertainment"
1995	DILWALE DULHANIA LE JAYENGE	National Award for "Best Film for Providing Popular and Wholesome Entertainment"
1994	DARR	National Award for "Best Film for Providing Popular and Wholesome Entertainment"
1989	CHANDNI	National Award for "Best Film for Providing Popular and Wholesome Entertainment"
1962	DHARMPUTRA	President's Gold Medal for "Best Hindi Film"

Other Awards and Recognitions

Year	Film	Award
2004	VEER-ZAARA	<p>4 Filmfare Awards including Best Film 7 IIFA Awards including "Best Director" & "Best Film" 4 Screen Awards including "Best Film" 5 Zee Cine Awards including "Best Director", "Best Film" & "Best Producer of the Year Award" 2 Global Indian Film Awards 1 Apsara Award 1 Sangeet Award 1 ETC Punjabi Award</p> <p>Screened at the 55th Berlin International Film Festival in February 2005, in the "International Forum of New Cinema" section to an unprecedented crowd</p> <p>Screened at the 5th Annual Marrakech Film Festival in November 2005</p> <p>Screened at the 2nd Dubai International Film Festival in December 2005</p> <p>Veer-Zaara was the first Indian film ever to be premiered at The Grand Rex, the biggest cinema in Paris on 28th April 2006</p>

		<p>Screened at the 8th Annual Hawaii International Film Festival in Hawaii, in April 2005</p> <p>Screened at the Jeonju International Film Festival in Korea, in May 2006</p> <p>Screened by BAFTA (British Academy of Film and Television Arts) in July 2006</p>
1997	DIL TO PAGAL HAI	7 Filmfare Awards including "Best Film" 11 Zee Cine Awards including "Best Film"
1995	DILWALE DULHANIA LE JAYENGE	10 Filmfare Awards including "Best Film" 2 Screen Awards including "Best Film"
1991	LAMHE	5 Filmfare Awards including "Best Film"
1975	DEEWAAR	7 Filmfare Awards including "Best Director"
1973	DAAG	2 Filmfare Awards including "Best Director"
1969	ITTEFAQ	Filmfare Awards for the "Best Director"
1965	WAQT	4 Filmfare Awards including "Best Director"

RESOURCE LINKS

Photo Gallery

- [Yash Chopra - Solos](#)
- [Yash Chopra - As a Director](#)
- [Yash Chopra - Creating Music](#)
- [Yash Chopra - Memorable Moments](#)

Video Gallery

- <http://bit.ly/2WQIU9z>