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MYSTIC AURA

MAGAZINE

SILENT LOVE
Mother's eternal voice

SUMMER WARDROBE
Art of Curating

GROWING GRACEFULLY
The art of growing old

**THE INFLUENCE OF
THE ECONOMY**
Creators redefining
beauty in own terms

Bloom in Your Own Light

Celebrating personal growth, self-expression & Embracing Individuality

2026

MYSTICAURA

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From Editor's Desk

Mystic Aura magazine celebrates its 6th year, a journey shaped by vision, passion, and the belief that stories connect, inspire, and transform. From humble beginnings, it has evolved into a platform where creativity meets authenticity, offering readers more than fleeting trends. Rooted in art, culture, lifestyle, wellness, and fashion, each issue reflects a commitment to substance over sensationalism and quality over quantity. The magazine began with a small team dedicated to crafting meaningful content in a fast-paced digital age. Every page was built with care, every challenge met with determination to create something enduring. Over time, Mystic Aura embraced both print and digital formats, expanding its reach while preserving its intimate tone and distinct aesthetic – minimal, warm, and immersive.

Its pages have featured poets, artists, entrepreneurs, wellness practitioners, and cultural custodians, blending heritage with contemporary style. Fashion stories honor tradition while embracing innovation, much like a mekhla chaddar bridging past and present. Wellness content promotes mindfulness and holistic living, reminding readers that success extends beyond the professional.

Mystic Aura has become a collaborative ecosystem through partnerships, special editions, and community events. It has given young creators their first platform while offering seasoned professionals nuanced coverage. Guided by audience feedback and ethical practices, the team continues to evolve without losing identity.

Looking ahead, Mystic Aura plans regional sections, mentorship programs, and curated experiences. The goal remains clear: to be a beacon of thoughtful content, nurturing talent and celebrating the mystic beauty of life in all its forms.

Regards

GITALI PATHAK DEKA

Proprietor & Editor-in-chief

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Designer

Sikha Gohain Gogoi



A Love Beyond Words

The Silent Strength
of a Mother

By : **Jishnu Vijayan Nair**
Actor/Writer/Motivational
Speaker - Keralam

There are many relationships in this world - friendships that comfort us, bonds that support us, and connections that shape our journey. But among all of them, there is one relationship that stands pure, selfless, and unconditional - the bond between a mother and her child.

A mother's love does not come with expectations, conditions, or judgments. It is constant, patient, and forgiving. It exists even before we understand the meaning of love. From the very first moment of life, a mother becomes the silent architect of her child's world.

From infancy, when a child cannot even stand on two feet, it is the

mother who supports every step - literally and emotionally. She watches closely as the child grows, celebrating the smallest achievements as if they are the greatest victories. The first step, the first word, the first smile - these moments are treasures she carries in her heart forever.

A mother does not simply raise a child; she shapes a life. She teaches how to speak, how to behave, and how to understand the world. Through her words and actions, she becomes the first teacher, the first guide, and the first example. The habits we build, the values we carry, and the beliefs we hold are often reflections of her influence.

She sacrifices her time, her comfort, and sometimes even her dreams to build a better future for her child. Every effort she makes - whether visible or silent - is a step toward shaping the person her child will become. She not only nurtures the present but also plants the seeds of the future.

Of course, a father too plays an equally important role. The responsibility of raising a child is shared, and both parents contribute in their own ways. While a father often stands as the pillar of strength and support, a mother becomes the emotional foundation of the family.

Together, they create a balance

that helps a child grow into a complete individual. In most homes, this bond continues beautifully. Children grow up, achieve their dreams, and carry forward the values their parents instilled in them. Today, many people are more aware and appreciative of their parents' sacrifices than ever before. They express gratitude, provide care, and ensure their parents feel valued.

Yet, in certain corners of society, a different reality exists. The increasing number of old age homes is a reminder that not all stories end the same way. It is a trend that invites reflection. When parents dedicate their entire lives to raising their children, they deserve love, respect, and companionship in return - not distance.

Mother's Day is not just a celebration; it is a reminder. A reminder to pause and acknowledge the woman who has given so much without expecting anything in return.

While words of gratitude are meaningful, actions speak louder. Sometimes, the most beautiful gift is not something expensive - it is time. A simple surprise, an unexpected plan, or a heartfelt gesture can bring immense joy. Taking your mother to a place she has always wanted to visit, spending quality time with her, or simply being present can create memories that last forever.

I still remember one such moment in my life. I once took my mother to the southern tip of India -

Kanyakumari. Watching her experience the beauty of the place, standing near the Vivekananda Rock, visiting the Kanyakumari Temple - I could see a spark in her eyes that words cannot describe. That moment of happiness, that silent joy, remains one of the most valuable memories of my life.

It made me realize something simple yet profound: the happiness we give our parents becomes the most meaningful reward we receive in life. As we grow older, we often become busy with our own responsibilities, ambitions, and routines. But in that process, we must not forget that while we are growing, our parents are aging. Time moves forward for everyone, and the moments we have with them are precious.

At the end of the day, life is not measured only by achievements or success. It is also measured by the memories we create, the love we give, and the relationships we nurture.

A mother's love is not something we can repay. But we can certainly honor it - through care, respect, and meaningful moments.

This Mother's Day, let us go beyond words. Let us create memories. Let us give back, even if it is just a fraction of what we have received.

Because in the journey of life, the most beautiful thing we can truly earn is not wealth or status - but the smile of the people who gave us everything.



Model
Dr Sangeeta Das

Makeup
Ahana's makeover

Photography
Unique Borah

AURA PHOTOGRAPHY



Curating an Intentional

S U M M E R

WARDROBE

By: **Sukmaya Lama (PhD)**,
Asst. Prof. (History)

Surya Kumar Bhuyan School of
Social Sciences, Krishna Kanta
Handiqui State Open University

Seasons, in fashion, are less about the calendar and more about mood- those fleeting, intoxicating shifts that dictate hemlines, hues, and the quiet language of style. Fashion swings unapologetically between nostalgia and novelty. There is a moment when we are seduced by the avant-garde and the very next moment, we return to the classics that refuse to be forgotten.

As summer arrives, a renewed desire emerges to shed excess- layers, weight, and sometimes even the noise of overconsumption. There is a particular romance to summer dressing that deserves to be celebrated: an ease that feels both deliberate and effortless. Think sun-warmed skin, fabrics that breathe, and silhouettes that move like poetry in motion.

And yet, beneath this aesthetic delight lies a more complex narrative. The global rise of fast fashion has re-defined how we consume style. Brands have mastered the



art of immediacy, delivering runway-inspired looks at dizzying speed and accessible prices. The wardrobe, once curated with patience, now risks becoming disposable.

India stands at the intersection of this paradox. On one hand, it has em-



braced the accessibility of global fashion markets, amplified by social media's relentless influence. On the other, it takes pride in its rich textile legacy. From the intricate poetry of handwoven fabrics to the storytelling embedded in every thread, Indian handlooms echo a quieter, more enduring form of luxury. But craftsmanship demands time, and time, in today's economy, often translates into cost. Handloom textiles, once integral to everyday life, now occupy a more aspirational space for many.

This summer, the answer may not lie in chasing every trend but in curating with intention. The season calls for fabrics that breathe, textures that whisper rather than shout, and garments that feel as good as they look. The go-to fabrics for summer are, indisputably, cotton and linen. Cotton remains a perennial favourite for us all—light, versatile, and undeniably comfortable, it embodies the very essence of summer dressing. Linen, with its slightly rumpled charm, speaks to a kind of effortless sophistication that fashion editors have long adored.

While summer often tempts us with a riot of bright colours, there is a quiet sophistication in choosing earthy tones—muted beiges, soft browns, olive greens—that not only feel seasonally grounded but also reduce the impulse to constantly refresh one's wardrobe. These shades offer versatility, pairing effortlessly across outfits and occasions. In the same spirit, a pair of shoes in white, beige, and black remains indispensable. For a distinctly summer-ready finish, traditional styles like jutis and mojris add both comfort and character, elevating even the simplest ensemble with

understated elegance.

We are, in many ways, the sum of our choices—each decision quietly shaping the person we become. To dress for summer, then, is not merely to follow trends but to engage in a dialogue—with climate, culture, and conscience. It is about choosing pieces that resonate beyond the moment, garments that carry stories rather than just labels. Fashion, at its best, is not about excess—it is about true style, which lies in balance: the ability to merge the contemporary with the timeless, the accessible with the artisanal.



AURA Trends



Model: Dhruv Kalita & Kalayani Bharali

Designer: **Ruplin Kropi**

Photography: **Swapnajit Borkakoti**

The Influence Economy, How Creators Are Rewriting Beauty Standards

By **Brian La Cour**, USA

There was a time when beauty was dictated from the top down, runways in Paris, editorial pages in glossy magazines, and campaigns led by a select few faces deemed universally aspirational. That era hasn't disappeared entirely, but it has been fundamentally disrupted. Today, beauty is no longer handed to the masses, it is negotiated, debated, and reshaped in real time by creators across the globe.

Welcome to the influence economy, where the power to define beauty has shifted from institutions to individuals.

Scroll through any social platform and you'll see it instantly: a teenager in São Paulo setting a blush trend that catches fire in Los Angeles within days; a skincare enthusiast in Seoul redefining glass skin for a Western audience; a creator in Lagos challenging shade inclusivity in ways legacy brands never dared. The beauty conversation is no longer central-



ized, it's fragmented, fast-moving, and deeply personal.

What makes this shift so powerful is not just reach, but relatability. Traditional beauty advertising relied on aspirations, perfect lighting, perfect skin, and an often unattainable standard. Creators, on the other hand, thrive on proximity. Their audiences don't just watch them; they trust them. They share routines, mistakes, unfiltered opinions, and, importantly, results. This transparency has created a new kind of authority, one rooted not in perfection, but in perceived authenticity.

And that authenticity is rewriting the rules.

In this new landscape, beauty standards are no longer fixed ideals, they are fluid, constantly evolving based on what resonates in the moment. One week, it's "clean girl" minimalism; the next, bold maximalism returns with unapologetic color and texture. Skin textures once hidden are now highlighted. Features once altered are now celebrated. The algorithm doesn't reward perfection, it rewards engagement. And engagement thrives on difference, not uniformity.

But with this democratization comes complexity.

The same platforms that empower creators also accelerate trends at a relentless pace. A product can go viral overnight and disappear just as quickly. A technique can dominate feeds globally, only to be replaced within weeks. For consumers, this creates a paradox:

more choice, but also more noise. More representation, but also more pressure to keep up.

There's also the question of influence itself. When does authenticity become strategy? As creators grow, many transition from everyday voices to polished personal brands. Partnerships, sponsorships, and affiliate links blur the line between recommendation and advertisement. Audiences are increasingly savvy, they can sense when content shifts from genuine enthusiasm to transactional promotion. Trust, once lost, is difficult to regain.

Yet despite these tensions, the influence economy has undeniably expanded the definition of beauty in ways that traditional systems never could.

It has opened the door for diversity, not as a campaign, but as a constant presence. Different skin tones, face shapes, ages, and identities are no longer "featured"; they are integral to the conversation. Beauty is no longer about fitting into a mold, but about finding, or creating, your own.

Brands, of course, have taken notice. The most successful ones are no longer dictating trends; they are listening. They collaborate with creators not just for reach, but for insight. Product development is increasingly influenced by real-time feedback. Shades are expanded, formulations are adjusted, and messaging is refined based on what creators, and their audiences, demand.

This shift has also changed how

products succeed. It's no longer enough to have a strong campaign; products must perform under scrutiny. A single viral review can elevate a brand to global recognition, or dismantle it just as quickly. In this environment, quality and transparency are not optional; they are survival.

What we are witnessing is not just a marketing evolution, but a cultural one.

Beauty, once defined by a narrow lens, is now a conversation shaped by millions of voices. It is more inclusive, more dynamic, and, at times, more chaotic. But within that chaos lies something powerful: the ability for individuals to see themselves reflected, not as an exception, but as part of the norm.

The influence economy hasn't just changed who sells beauty, it has changed who defines it.

And perhaps that is its most lasting impact.



Aura Beauty



Model
Dr Sangeeta Das

Photography
Unique Borah

Makeup
Tinku Teron

Jewellery
Abhukhan jewellery



**GLORIOUS
6 YEARS
Celebration**









The Art of Growing Old

How Asia Embraces the Gift of Age

By **Vanessa Jacqueline Dacruz**, Author /writer, Singapore.

In much of the Western world, ageing is often treated as something to be fought, hidden, or reversed. Creams promise to erase wrinkles. Surgeries offer to turn back the clock. Youth is currency. But travel through Japan, South Korea, China, Vietnam, or India, and you encounter a profoundly different relationship with the passage of time — one where growing old is not a loss, but an arrival.

Elders at the Centre, Not the Margins

Across much of Asia, the family unit remains the primary social structure, and within it, elderly members hold a place of honour. In China, the Confucian principle of *xiao* — filial piety — has shaped family life for over two thousand years. Adult children are expected, both culturally and legally, to care for ageing parents. The elderly are

not quietly relocated to care facilities; they are woven into the fabric of daily life, present at dinner tables, in morning markets, and in the raising of grandchildren.

In Japan, this reverence is formalised. Respect for the Aged Day (*Keirō no Hi*) is a national holiday, a rare cultural acknowledgment that growing old deserves celebration, not condolence. Japan also has the highest proportion of centenarians in the world, a fact attributed not only to diet and medicine, but to a sense of *ikigai* — a reason to get up in the morning. Purpose, it turns out, is a powerful medicine.

The Body Kept in Motion

Walk through any Chinese park at dawn and you will find something remarkable: dozens of older men and women practising tai chi, doing fan dances, playing badminton, or simply walking briskly in deliberate circles. This is not organised exercise class culture. It is simply what people do. Movement is social, habitual, and lifelong.

In South Korea, hiking is practically a national religion, and the trails are full of people in their seventies and eighties, dressed in bright technical gear, ascending mountains with the confidence of those who have been doing it for decades. In Vietnam, older women carry their goods to market on foot. In India's villages, elders tend gardens and perform morning rituals that keep the body and spirit aligned.

Physical activity in Asian ageing cultures is rarely framed as fitness. It is framed as life — as part of belonging to a community, start-



cooking, prayer, and patience. Business decisions are often deferred to the most experienced in the room.

This is not mere nostalgia. It is a practical recognition that a life fully lived produces something irreplaceable — a kind of wisdom that no app, shortcut, or algorithm can replicate.

A Different Way of Arriving

Ageing gracefully in Asia is less about maintaining the appearance of youth and more about deepening into life.

It is about remaining useful, staying connected, moving the body, eating well, and being seen — not despite your age, but because of it.

The West asks: how do we slow ageing down? Much of Asia asks a different question entirely: how do we make the most of every stage? The answer, it seems, is community, purpose, movement, and the quiet confidence that the years you have lived are something

That's, perhaps is the most graceful thing of all.

ing the day well, and maintaining dignity in the body.

Food as Longevity

The diets associated with long-lived Asian populations share common threads: an abundance of vegetables, fermented foods rich in probiotics, seafood, green tea, and minimal processed sugar. In Okinawa, Japan — long studied as one of the world's Blue Zones — the traditional diet is built around sweet potatoes, tofu, seaweed, and fish. Portions are guided by the principle of *hara hachi bu*: eat until you are eighty percent full.

These are not diet trends. They are cultural inheritances, passed down through generations in kitchens and at family tables, absorbed without the self-consciousness of a wellness programme.

The Wisdom Economy

Perhaps most significantly, Asian cultures tend to view the elderly as repositories of knowledge rather than relics of the past. The

older generation carries stories, skills, and judgment. Grandparents teach grandchildren calligraphy,

*Ageing gracefully
in Asia is less
about maintaining
the appearance of
youth and more
about deepening
into life.*



AURA Trends



Model

Daniya

Photography

Kamal Dey

AI Model

Fabric
Pure paat

Designer
Dipankar Kashyap

AURA
Male Trends





DIGITAL AFTERLIFE

What Happens to Your Data When You Die?

By **Manikangkana Devi**, Writer, Poet, Artist and Translator

What happens to us after we die? It's a question humanity has asked for centuries, shaping religions, philosophies, and cultures. But in the 21st century, a new version of this question has quietly emerged; what happens to our 'digital selves' when we are gone?

Today, our lives are no longer confined to physical spaces. We exist in messages, photos, emails, social media profiles, cloud storage, playlists, search histories, and even in the algorithms that have learned

our habits better than some of our closest friends. When the human body stops, this vast digital presence doesn't simply vanish. Instead, it lingers, silent, untouched, yet hauntingly alive. This is the digital afterlife.

Imagine opening your phone and seeing a birthday reminder for someone who passed away years ago. Or scrolling through a feed and stumbling upon their old posts; their laughter frozen in captions, their thoughts preserved in comments. In a strange way, they are

still here. Our digital footprints create what can only be described as "data ghosts," fragments of identity that remain long after the person is gone. These traces can comfort us, wrapping us in memories we are afraid to lose, yet they can also reopen wounds, making absence feel almost like presence.

When someone dies, their physical possessions are passed on through wills or family decisions. But digital lives are far more complicated. Access to accounts, files, and personal data often depends on the



this legacy may seem small, but it shapes how we are remembered and what parts of us remain accessible to those we love.

At its core, the digital afterlife is not just about data, technology, or online accounts. It is about the human desire to be remembered. Every photo shared, every thought posted, every message sent is, in some quiet way, an attempt to leave a mark; to say, “I was here.”

And yet, no matter how advanced technology becomes, it cannot fully capture the essence of a human life. It cannot recreate the warmth of a voice in the room, the comfort of a presence, or the depth of a shared moment. What remains are fragments; beautiful, haunting echoes of something much larger.

In the end, our digital traces may outlive us, preserves in servers and screens, waiting to be revisited. But the truest afterlife does not exist in data. It lives in memory, in emotion, in the invisible connections we leave behind in the hearts of others. And perhaps, in a world obsessed with preserving everything, it is these intangible echoes that matter the most.

policies of platforms where they exist. Some profiles can be turned into memorial spaces, where loved ones gather to share memories. Others remain locked forever, protected by passwords and privacy laws, leaving families unable to access pieces of a life that once meant everything to them. It raises an unsettling thought; do we truly own our digital selves, or are we simply borrowing space for them?

In the past, memory faded naturally. Letters yellowed, photographs wore out, and stories softened with time. Forgetting was part of being human. Now, forgetting is optional. Every message, every picture, every moment can be stored indefinitely, creating an almost permanent archive of who we were. Yet, these archives are not perfect reflections. They are curated versions of ourselves; highlight reels rather than complete stories. And so, we may be remembered not exactly as we lived, but as we chose to present ourselves to the world.

Technology is now pushing this idea even further. Tools are emerging that can analyze a person’s messages, voice notes, and online

behavior to simulate conversations even after they are gone. It becomes possible, in a sense, to “talk” to someone who no longer exists. For some, this feels like a miracle; a second chance to connect. For others, it feels unsettling, as though grief is being paused instead of processed. It blurs the line between memory and reality, between presence and illusion.

Despite how deeply we are connected to the digital world, very few people think about what will happen to their online lives after death. We carefully organize our physical belongings, yet leave behind a scattered digital existence; accounts, passwords, files, and memories floating across invisible networks. Taking control of



AURA Trends

Model

Fiza

Designer

Dipankar Kashyap

Photography

Kamal Dey





THE BOMBAY NOIR

Bombay Meri Jaan

Dr. Dipsikha Bhagwati

Award winning film critic | Published Author | Translator

The emergence of Bombay Noir can be seen as one of the most critical moments in the history of Indian cinema in terms of aesthetic and intellectual

revolution. After the independence of India and emergence of a new social reality amid political liberation, the cities of India began experiencing great transforma-

tions. The city of Bombay (now known as Mumbai) served as the epicentre of all these changes. On one hand, it shone brightly with the promises of hope and aspirations; on the other, there was a dark undercurrent of uncertainty, poverty, alienation, and great moral ambiguity. It is this ambivalence of metropolitan life that prompted the filmmakers to seek a new language of cinema and narrative structure to create one of the greatest artistic movements in cinema – Bombay Noir.

Theoretically, 'Film Noir' refers to movies with pessimistic heroes and fatalistic worlds, where protagonists are surrounded by morally ambiguous people, crimes, betrayals, greediness, and existentialism. These films usually include a lot of chiaroscuro lighting, scenes full of smoke and rain, and jazz or blues music in the background. Often, they employ flashbacks to depict the complexity of human destiny and the acute internal moral conflicts. Reflecting on the oppressive nature of noir world, Pulitzer awardee film theorist, Michael Dirda has stated, "...it is always hot, characterized by sweltering hotel rooms, whirring fans, and a feeling of hot mugginess."

Inspired by German Expressionism, the most prominent noir films emerged in Hollywood in the late 1940s and early 1950s.

Although *Neecha Nagar* by Chetan Anand is often regarded in Bollywood history as an early precursor to the noir tradition, the true seeds of Film Noir in Indian cine-

ma were firmly sown during the 1950s and 1960s. *Neecha Nagar*, inspired by 'The Lower Depths' by Maxim Gorky went on to achieve international acclaim by jointly winning the Grand Prix at the Cannes Film Festival in 1946. Yet, despite its artistic brilliance, the film was never commercially released in India. The film that truly ushered noir into the mainstream popular imagination was *Baazi*, the directorial debut of Guru Dutt.

The years that followed witnessed the emergence of a remarkable body of films that collectively gave this genre its enduring foundation. Works such as *Baazi*, *Aar Paar*, *C.I.D.*, *Awaara*, *Afsana*, *Bewafa*, *Anhonee*, and *Jaal* enriched the noir idiom with striking visual aesthetics, psychological complexity, and profound social resonance. Through these films, Bombay emerged not merely as a geographical backdrop, but as a living, breathing entity- one that shaped destinies, tested human endurance, and at times consumed those who inhabited it. Echoing across the imagination of audiences was that unforgettable composition by O. P. Nayyar from *C.I.D.*- the immortal "Yeh Hai Bombay Meri Jaan."

"Ae dil hai mushkil jeena yahan,
Zara hatke, zara bachke, Yeh hai
Bombay meri jaan..."

Simultaneously, its subjects can't deny its attraction:

"Ae dil hai aasaan jeena yahan,
suno mister, suno bandhu, yeh hai
Bombay meri jaan..."

Post-Independence India was

marked with huge migration flows from countryside areas to cities, it was then that the contradictions of urban life appeared. Whereas cities represented opportunity and modernity, the life there was characterized by unemployment, social claustrophobia, exploitation, and a huge gap between classes. All these contradictions found the reflection in *Bombay Noir*, which utilized visual techniques of chiaroscuro lighting, dark narrow alleys, and mysterious silence of the nights.

Featuring artists like Dev Anand, Geeta Bali, *Baji* bore the influence of Hollywood films like 'Gilda' and 'The Asphalt Jungle'. Telling the story of a gambler who becomes entangled in the world of crime, this film brought the world of people involved in the flaws and moral dilemmas of urban life to a mainstream audience for the first time through a story that moves through narrow alleys, slum areas and smoke-filled nightclubs.

Raj Kapoor's *Awaara* offered an in-depth portrayal on the subject of poverty, social inequality and how the environment determines the destiny of human beings. The high shadows and ethereal ambience seen in its dream-scenes gave an artistic form to the inherent contradictions of human beings. This film not only entertained the audience but also took them to a world of philosophical thoughts.

At the same time, *Afsana* and *Bewafa* made a cinematic assessment of the deceptions, aspirations and mental conflicts that lie at the heart of personal relationships.



WINNER OF THE GRAND PRIX
INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
CANNES, FRANCE. Price 4 Annas



The shadow of the rooms used in these films in the form of mise en scène and the reflection shown in the mirror became a symbol of the broken state of the heart. Not only did the characters face external dangers, they also struggled with the constant doubts and fears in their psyches. The theme of dual identity and social diversity came out in a powerful way in K. A. Abbas's film *Anhonee*. The difference



between the rich and the poor was presented here not only as an economic condition, but also as a symbol of moral values. The sharp camera-angle and intense close-up scenes intensified the intensity of the characters' mental conflicts.

Contemporarily, Guru Dutt came up with *Jaal* (1952), and by then Bombay Noir had become quite popular. *Jaal* was successful at the box-office and established the character of 'antihero' as an acceptable and commercially viable form among the audience. In 1954, Guru Dutt gave a new form to the style in his directorial

Aar Paar by mixing it with comedy and romance. Here the vibrancy of everyday city life and the hidden sources of crime are woven together. Rainy streets and dark cafes - all these scenes created a feeling of a lively urban reality. The scenes of love also show an underlying uncertainty and a hint of danger. The technique of using music and drama together made this film special. The songs made the pace and feel of the story deep and memorable. Later, the Dev Anand starrer *Jewel Thief* (1967, Vijay Anand) became one of his most successful films.

In the same genre, *C.I.D* (1956) achieved an outstanding position which placed director Raj Khosla in the line-up of top directors of Hindi cinema. In the 1960s, his films such as *Bombai Ka Babu*, *Woh Kaun Thi*, *Mera Saaya* combined theatricality, 'gothic' touches and supernatural elements with a noir style, somewhat reminiscent of Alfred Hitchcock's films.

The influence of this genre was seen in Bimal Roy's *Madhumati* (1958) and Biren Nag's *Kohra* (1964). At the same time, films like K. A. Abbas's *Anhonee* (1952), Shambhu Maitra and Amrit Maitra's *Jagte Raho* (1956), Pramod Chakravarty's *Twelve O'Clock* (1958), Shakti Samanta's *Howrah Bridge* (1958) and Yash Chopra's *Ittefaq* (1969) clearly illustrated the diversity and multidimensionality of the noir genre.

However, perhaps, the most significant feature of Bombay Noir compared to western versions of this genre was music. Unlike western noirs, where music played quite secondary role, songs in



Hindi movies were an integral part of narrative. The remarkable achievement of Bombay Noir filmmakers consisted in incorporating songs seamlessly into noir narratives. Interestingly, one can name some of the most popular Hindi songs, which were created under the inspiration of classic noir; for example, the timeless and iconic - 'Lag Ja Gale'.

There are extensive similarities between these films. The loneliness of civilian life is a central feeling in these films, where people feel lonely in the midst of crowds. Love also takes on a precarious form, where trust is accompanied by the possibility of suspicion and betrayal, especially as the female characters carry a complex; they can grow up to be gentle and strong, compassionate and dangerous at the same time. The influence of Bombay Noir was not limited to that period, but the story of the spiritual use of shadow light, psychological conditions and moral dilemmas profoundly influenced many subsequent filmmakers, showing that cinema is not just a medium of entertainment, it is a powerful reflection of the underlying crises, aspirations and contradictions of society.

Although the genre gained immense popularity for a majority of years, the influence of the anarchist genre gradually waned with the rise of Angry Young Men in the 1970s. The genre then faded for many years until a revival of the genre began in Europe and Hollywood as neo-noir. Some notable films in this neo-noir genre are

Reservoir Dogs, Oldboy, Pulp Fiction and many of the films by the famous Coen Brothers' (*Fargo, No Country for Old Men*).

Bombay Noir left a long-lasting legacy as it influenced not only its contemporaries but subsequent generations of filmmakers, providing them with great examples of how one can depict socially acute topics with the help of noir techniques. Moreover, the creators of Bombay Noir showed that movies can become not only a means of entertainment; they can also represent social and ethical issues of our age.

In Bollywood, directors like Anurag Kashyap, Dibakar Banerjee, Vishal Bharadwaj and Sriram Raghavan have experimented extensively with Neo Noir. Their films reflect the anxieties, discontent and mental turmoil of the modern age and connect with the tastes of audiences familiar with world cinema. With the advent of OTT platforms, the genre has got a new lease of life, as evidenced by serials like Sacred Games, Mirzapur, Paatal Lok and Delhi Crimes.

There are extensive similarities between all the mentioned films of Bombay Noir. The loneliness of civilian life is a central feeling in these films, where people feel lonely in the midst of crowds. Love also takes on a precarious form, where trust is accompanied by the possibility of suspicion and betrayal, especially as the female characters carry a complex; they can grow up to be gentle and strong, compassionate and dangerous at the same time. The influence of Bombay Noir was not limited to that period, but the story of the spiritual use of shadow light, psychological conditions and moral dilemmas profoundly influenced many later filmmakers.

The emergence and relative growth of Bombay Noir constitutes one of the brightest moments in Indian cinema as art. Although pure noir now exists in a very limited space at today's circuit of cinema, we can hardly deny its huge significance, as something that reveals the beauty of darkness in art



Aura Beauty Touch

Maha lakshmi Rani Roy

I'm **Maha Lakshmi Rani Roy**, owner of Maha Lakshmi Make-up Studio & Academy and a professional makeup artist since 2022.

I specialize in bridal, mehendi, reception, party, glossy, and waterproof makeup, along with many other styles tailored to every occasion.



MUSINGS OF A SOUL

Nah! It doesn't belong to any religion nor does it understand it.

It knows no cultural system

Neither can it be forced upon.

It touches you slowly and flows inside you.

It is an endless horizon

It can just be felt by the soul

It keeps the human race moving.

A balm for every soul

Sweet and Magical

Gift of the Almighty

Which is nonpareil

It is the Angelic feeling

"Love".

- Monali Bhuyan

AURA
Male Trends



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Fabric
Pure paat

Designer
Dipankar Kashyap



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