



## PATRIARCHY IN “AITRAAZ” MOVIE DIRECTED BY ABBAS-MUSTAN AIRED ON 2004

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### Abstract

*Patriarchy is a social system that gives power and control to men rather than women. Patriarchy is the prime obstacle in women's development. This system keeps women dominated and subordinate. In the modern world, women try to get ahead in their life then patriarchy creates problems for women's development. A very famous example of this system is a very famous movie that is "Aitraaz" directed by Abbas-Mustan aired on 2004, and played by Priyanka Chopra as Sonia, Kareena Kapoor as Priya, and Akshay Kumar as Raj. This movie highlights how male dominance wins over a woman, her career and how he controls her life. And when she tries to get famous then he leaves her, humiliates her, and at the end he destroys her identity and makes her helpless so that she commits suicide.*



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### Introduction

“Aitraaz” is 2004, Indian Hindi- language romantic thriller film directed by Abbas-Mustan and produced by Subhash Ghai. It is the story of a man, Raj, accused of sexual harassment by his former lover and in order to restore his dignity he sues her in court along with the help of his wife Priya. The case gains widespread media attention. It is revealed that Sonia, his ex-girlfriend, married Mr Roy for money, power and status but when he couldn't satisfy her sexually then she tries to resume a relationship with Raj. Raj and his wife Priya won the case. Guilt-stricken, humiliated Sonia commits suicide by jumping from a building and Raj and Priya live happily. Raj lives happily with his wife Priya being a destroyer of Sonia's identity and career. He is equally or more responsible than Sonia to destroy her life. It is always been the tradition that man enjoys his life on the cost of woman's suffering. He is the destroyer of her career because he started love affair with Sonia first and left her when she was in need of time for her career. He didn't support her and left her and Married to another woman called Priya

without revealing his past. If he was pure heart then he would have told her wife about his past and affair. Friends, he did not forget his former lover. For example, in company anniversary day he uses the word “sexy” to her. Why did he use that word if he was loyal to his wife? Basically, he was at the fault but as a result of patriarchy, being a man he gets clean cheat and he made her suffer. At the end of the movie Sonia has to surrender and he lives happy life that’s why she commits suicide by jumping from the building. In patriarchal system it always happens that man wins over the woman because it has been the tradition of India.

Taken into consideration the aforesaid issue the present research paper shades light on how patriarchy becomes obstacles in women’s development and they become victim of it. Analytical and interpretive research methodology has been adopted for the present research paper with qualitative techniques

**Keywords:** Patriarchy, Ambition, Power, Humiliation, Helplessness, Identical Loss

**Love Affair:**

Raj Malhotra keeps continuously looking at Sonia on beach when he sees her for the first time. It means he was the first who was attracted towards her and then drops her at home and offers his shirt to her because she is drenched. He is interested in her so that on the way he keeps asking about her and family and shakes hand with her while departing. He got selected her as a model in the company where he works and demands treat from her as it was decided. Their friendship got converted into live in relationship. Sonia is very ambitious woman and she wants to prosper her career that's why she always searches opportunities.

In a party she uses her beautiful body to attract a client and there is nothing wrong because patriarchy does not allow women to develop and prosper their life and career and being a model she has to use her beauty so nothing is wrong in it. Ajay Singh reputed businessman, is attracted by her beauty and offers an ambassadorship . But Raj becomes jealous and demands explanation. Innocently, she explains that she did attract him knowingly so that she can get the project. She should not have confessed it frankly if there was any nonsense in her mind and women has to use their beauty because men do not support them to fullfill their dreams, desires, ambitions. Moreover, she explains that she is not going to sleep with that man. What is wrong in it? The biggest problem is our society is that men do not want women's progress. They only want them for sexual pleasure, to give birth to children, and to look after the house. Eventually, after an argument, he permits her for modelling when she touches her in a sensual manner. For example, while permitting, he says how can I say no to you in such a position. It means he does not understand depth of her dreams but out of lust he does it.

### **Pregnancy Scene:**

Sonia gets pregnant but she wants to prosper her career so mentally she is not ready for the child. That's why she decides to get that child aborted but Raj is not ready to sacrifice for her. She explains him about her ambitions and demands some time to prosper her career but Raj chooses his child over her dreams. We can clearly see that he does not support her career and ambition. For the years, men have been used women only to give birth to their children and to take care of their house. They do not think about their dreams, ambitions, important steps in careers, turning point of their life etc. Eventually, he blackmails her asking a question that do you not love me? She tells she loves him very much but mentally she is not ready for the child as she wants to make her career and can't sacrifice it. As patriarchy speaks, women has to follow men blindly. But Sonia denies it so his ego is heart. As a result of male dominance, he curses her saying that she will get money, power, status and everything she wants but will be alone in life. If he was her well wisher then he wouldn't have spoken it rather he would have supported her. See the male dominance. His dream is not fulfilled that's why he wished bad for her. Men are of these types. They are happy only when their needs, ambitions, lust is completed. That's why women like Sonia are not at fault because men only think of their satisfaction. If he would have loved her truly then he would have supported her. If a woman think of her satisfaction then what is wrong in it?

### **Patriarchy : Biggest Secret**

Raj marries with Priya, and enjoys his life with her but hides his past from his wife. For example, he does not reveal that he had an affair with Sonia and impregnated her too. If he was innocent then he would have revealed his wife about his affair. But at the end, when his wife is aware about his affair then simply he justifies himself that he didn't reveal it because he had forgotten it. He also hides the condition that what was he doing with Sonia at her house on his housewarming party. He has destroyed Sonia's life because he was being abused. But what about Sonia? What about her suffering? He was also responding and kissing her madly. What about that? He simply answers he has lost his senses. What about Sonia? When she was using her beauty to prosper her career then he used to declare her characterless. Now he is at the fault but gets clean cheat with dignity and she suffers. It is patriarchy.

### **Raj and Sonia's Second Meeting on Company Promotion Declaration Day:**

Raj was expecting the post of CEO but Sonia included him in the Board of Director so that she can live close with him. Instead of being shocked, he says that his personality is great so that anyone can get impressed and continuously keeps looking at Sonia. First of all gives

angry look to Sonia for not having the post of CEO then becomes very happy listening that he is included in Board of Directors. He, himself is expecting the post of CEO. It means he is not worthy of Board of Directors. But still is very happy. Then where was his self when it was offered by Sonia?

#### **Company Annual Day Function Party:**

Rakesh, colleague of Raj asks what magic did you do that you got included in board of directors then he simply answers it's magic of his personality. Rakesh again says that Sonia is very hot, attractive and sexy then Raj says yes she is sexy but she is our boss's wife. If she was not his boss's wife then what would have he done?

It shows that he still thinks of her and also feels bad that she is his boss's wife. Before starting from "Talam" song, he keeps on watching Sonia continuously. He could have seen at her wife but it is not the case. Afterwards, he got distracted from Sonia's presence by his wife. In "Talam" song he swears if his wife that he will be loyal to her. Then where was his loyalty when he was responding to Sonia for sex? later on, in night, Priya asks a question that how was she looking. He answers for a while he was thinking to take her away but afterwards thought that she was his legal property. His wife was his legal property that's why he kept watching Sonia. It is patriarchy.

#### **House Warming Night: Meeting of Sonia and Raj**

Raj goes to Sonia, leaving house warming party and waits for her in her house. He was getting bored and was yawning but he stops as soon as he looks at Sonia. It means she was energy for him. He compliments her that she is looking lavish once same words said to his wife. Afterwards, he is attracted by her beauty and that's why he gets distracted while speaking to her and instead of saying madam he called her Sonia. If he was one-woman man then he would not have gotten distracted. He starts shuddering looking at her and is unable to speak. It clearly states he was again attracted by her beauty. Is it justified?

#### **Attraction Towards Sonia:**

Sonia comes and sits by him and touches him on his cheek, nose, hair, head etc. and he didn't mind. If he was one-woman man then he could have resisted her from touching him or pushed her away or gone away. He goes away when he becomes aware of the fact that she got call of her husband. Then afterwards, when Sonia, hugs him then he also responds and starts kissing her madly as he was waiting for the years and only says this is wrong. If it was wrong and was being abused then he could have pushed her away, he could have told her wife, colleagues, boss, but he didn't do it because he was also enjoying it at that time. He stops himself form

kissing after seeing his wife's photo around his neck in the mirror. If mirror was not there and couldn't see his wife's photo then what would have he done? And you know the answer. Isn't it a patriarchy?

### **Trust and Loyalty Issue**

Raj is not trust worthy because he didn't reveal his past to his wife, Priya and again he didn't reveal whatever happened in sonia's house at house warming party night. Mr.Chotrani, his friend demands a definition of "Love" from him then he explains that love is trust and loyalty. But he was not loyal to his wife while enjoying with Sonia. Again he has marks of nails on his body of Sonia but he does not show it to his wife moreover, tries to hide before she comes. Then where is trust?

### **Way to Greet His Secretary(female)**

Raj always greets men saying hello, good morning, but when it comes to his female secretary then he slaps a piece of paper or whatever in his hand on her buttocks and wishes or greets her. Why does this difference in saying hello to men and women? The reason is he is characterless. If a woman was there then she would have been punished for her character or she would have been asked a question against her behavior or character by the society. It is a patriarchy.

### **Conclusion:**

Patriarchy allows men to do anything but when it comes to women then there are boundaries for them. They can't go beyond their limitations made by the men. They can't think beyond the outlines. They have to live within limits. Why these set of rules, norms are only made for women? why does this difference? Men and women are equally important for the society but this "Aitraaz" movie focuses on patriarchy. Raj loves Sonia and leaves her because she is ambitious and can't fulfill his dreams and marries some another woman, Priya hiding his past. Raj is not one-woman man. Moreover, Sonia is one-man woman because Raj married to Priya, and again is attracted by Sonia but Sonia marries with such a man who can not satisfy her sexually. It means he can't touch her and she only waits for Raj otherwise she was powerful and could do anything. But she only tries to attract Raj. It shows that she is one-man woman. Raj, from his wife, hides his past and gets clean cheat with reputation. In case of man it is justified but in case of woman it is not justified. It is a sin. For example, at court, Sonia tried to hide her past then what had happened to her? People made her suffer. She lost her dignity and reputation and Raj, being a man, got clean cheat with dignity. A husband who can't satisfy

his wife sexually, he left her. They made her life hell. Society punished her. Her Identity is lost and ultimately she ends her life. It the gift of patriarchy for women.

**Works Cited:**

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