



A CRITICAL STUDY OF THE FILM SANJU (2018) BIOGRAPHICAL CINEMA AND PUBLIC PERCEPTION

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Abstract

The 2018 Bollywood film Sanju, directed by Rajkumar Hirani, is based on the real life story of actor Sanjay Dutt. simply narrating a biography, the movie aims to reframe Dutt's image in the public eye by focusing on his personal struggles, mistakes, drugs, and attempts at redemption. This paper explores how Sanju uses narrative techniques, character portrayals, and emotional stories to influence public point of view. It also discusse the fine line between storytelling biographical and reputation management in Indian cinema additionally, the film raises many questions about how much creative freedom filmmakers have when dealing with sensitive real-life events like Sanju. It walks a wire between cinematic storytelling and historical accuracy, making it a compelling case study in responsibility narrative.

Introduction

The Biographical films have the power to reshape how audiences view and remember public figures like sanju . Sanju is the film that traces the highs and lows of Sanjay Dutt life from his high to fame and also drug addiction to his legal troubles and emotional journey. The film was both a commercial and critical success, but it also many important questions about objectivity and the ethics of storytelling. This research paper aims to examine the storytelling style of Sanju movie and how it affects the audience's point of view of the real life person behind the character.

Analysis of Narrative Themes

The picture of his addiction is raw and emotional, focusing the long-term impact it had on his personal and professional life as well . The film also briefly touches on the societal shame with drug abuse an all , showing how Sanjay Dutt's actions led to public review and isolation.

1. Mental Health and Addiction

The One of the most emotional elements of the film is its portrayal of Sanjay Dutt's drug addiction part. Rather than

just showing it as a weakness and the film highlights the emotional pain and mental health issues are so big. This gives viewers a deeper understanding of the psychological impact of fame and loneliness this is the perfect example.

2. Relationship between father and son...

His father Sunil Dutt's strong belief in his son is described as a main factor in

Sanjay's final recovery. This part not only adds emotional depth to the story but also reflects traditional Indian family as well, values where parental guidance is seen as divine.

The family bond between Sanjay Dutt and his father, Sunil Dutt, is the important part to the film. It shows how important family support is during this times of crisis. In this film Paresh Rawal's portrayal of Sunil Dutt adds heat, backbone of the story and strength to the story. Their relationship becomes a source of hope in an otherwise turbulent life.

3. Media and Public Judgment

The major role and major message in Sanju is how media plays a role in shaping a person's public image. The film discuss that Sanjay Dutt was misunderstood and misrepresented, especially when it came to his links with illegal arms and mafia. This theme connects with modern debates as well about this media trials and the loss of privacy. Through cinema , the film indirectly critiques the culture of media trials in India, where public opinion is often shaped before a legal verdict. It shows how narratives created by the press ,news,media can have a lasting effect on a person's life especially someone constantly in the spotlight.

Performance and Direction

Ranbir Kapoor's transformation in this movie is commendable and he has portrayed his role of becoming Sanjay Dutt in a very good way and it is a very good work so far. Ranbir Kapoor's maker has taken good care of this movie and he has brought out the His physical appearance, body language, voice tonality is very well and the director of this movie, Rajkumar Hirani mixes humor and drama in a way that keeps the film engaging without losing its serious message. Vicky Kaushal's character in this movie is named Kamli and is a very good friend of Sanjay Dutt. Kamli is very loyal and their friendship is very good and Vicky Kaushal has a supporting cast role in this movie, but it has a strong screenplay and because of him there is a good impact in the background of the story.

Criticism and Ethical Concerns

Sanju is a complete movie, it has been attack for being too compassionate toward Sanjay Dutt. Some reviewers called it a "covering up" of his actions and mainly because it avoids deeper investigation into his court cases as well . This brings up ethical worry about how much control a biopic subject should have over their description. There are also moral issues about the influence Sanjay Dutt may have had over the script and screen play. Some movies expert and researchers believe that the film functions more as a defense rather than an objective account. This brings to light the risks involved in biopic filmmaking, notably when the subject is still alive and involved in the project this make have In such projects, there is fun and risk is also more..

Conclusion

Sanju is a film that combines entertainment with emotional depth lot's of funny element and wow moments. While it tries to present Sanjay Dutt's side of the story, it also walks a fine line between biography and image building of a caractor . The film succeeds in connecting with audiences on a personal level they feel the story, but it also invites debate on the responsibilities of filmmakers when they are representing real lives. In conclusion, Sanju presents valuable insight into how Bollywood explain real life controversies through dramatic storytelling,It leaves the viewer with a mix of understanding, respect, and doubt qualities that make it so meaningful subject for academic and cultural analysis as well.

Works Cited / References

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The Role of Bollywood in Shaping Public Memory

Bollywood is the largest film industries in the world, Bollywood has a unique influence on history, culture, and individuals are remembered with there work. Biopic like Sanju play a big role in crafting and creating the legacy of public figures. When a biopic is created with emotional depth and narrative power and lot's of research , it replaces public knowledge with the cinematic version of every events. In Sanjay Dutt's case, many viewers may leave the movie theater with a understanding view, forgetting or overlooking the controversies that shaped in his life. This showcases the convincing strength of visual storytelling and rewriting or easing our public memory.

Audience Reception and Cultural Impact

The film Sanju grow wide ranging reactions from different segments of the audience. While general viewers connect its emotional storytelling and strong performances, critics and scholars indicated out the selective representation of events. Despite these concerns, the film was a major box office success, earning more than ₹500 crore globally and it's a big number . This level of commercial success indicates that's how deeply it rolls with the masses.

For many fans of Sanjay Dutt, the film served as a kind of closure a retelling of a misunderstood life story of sanjay dutt. It also driven conversations about addiction, parental support, and the impact of false narratives in their life. still there remains a tension between art work and truth. When filmmakers present biopics like this, they not only inform the audience but also influence how a person is judged historically so Sanju becomes more than a film; it is a case study in the cultural responsibility of cinema.

Conclusion: Cinema as a Medium of Redemption

Sanju is a film about forgiveness not just personal forgiveness for Sanjay Dutt, but also a broader forgiveness of image in the eyes of the public views. By crafting a version of events that highlights emotional pain, family values, and many more things. the film invites the audience to forgive and highlights everything. This power of cinema to rebuild reputations is both its greatest strength and most controversial aspect [sanju]. Sanju may not be a completely target biography, but it is indeed a great one as an emotional and powerful story made by rajkumar hirani. The film blends fact about sanjay dutt and fiction in a way that makes you think and feel about the charactor.So just reshaping Sanjay Dutt's image, it gives the audience a chance to take a deeper look of a celebrity's life and the mistakes and the chances to restart.So Sanju is an important example of modern storytelling in Indian cinema.