

Call for Papers
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Guest Editors

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Special Issue on Bollywood, Power, & Politics

In 2018, the release of the popular film *Padmavaat* in India unleashed considerable controversy. The Rajput community was offended by the depiction of particular cultural dance rituals, while secular activists were troubled by what came across as aggressive Hindu nationalism and demonization of Muslims. Right-wing Hindu groups called for the film to be banned and threats were made against the director's and star's lives.

Popular Hindi films (often labelled as “Bollywood” films) have frequently served as a lightning rod for political and cultural issues, such as poverty, corruption, caste discrimination, gender inequality, anti-Muslim discrimination and the direct, human impact of Partition on Hindu-Muslim families (see Banerjee, 2017; Dudrah and Desai, 2008; Dwyer, 2014; Hirji, 2010; Mishra, 2002; Viridi, 2003). Examples abound, from *Shri 420* (1955) to *Rang De Basanti* (2006) and beyond.

These critiques are more relevant than ever in an era where nationalism and anti-Muslim sentiment have become entrenched throughout India, with the state placing increasing pressure on media to support these politics or at the very least, remain silent and thus complicit.

We invite papers examining popular Hindi-language cinema in an era of neoliberal globalization (Williams 2015; Banerjee and Williams 2019) and ascendant Hindu nationalism. We welcome multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary perspectives on how religion, sexualities, caste, nation, and gender intersect in films to both support and disseminate particular cultural and political power trajectories that maintain the status quo in Indian society in the wake of post-1991 liberalization policies and the ever-increasing dominance of BJP-style Hindu nationalism.

Deadline: August 15, 2020

Submissions: Papers (5,000 to 7,500 words), review articles of more than one book (2,500 to 3,000 words), and book reviews (1,000 to 1,200 words).

Method: All manuscripts must be submitted electronically as Word Document attachments, directly to gmjspecialissue@gmail.com.

Guidelines: Available at: <http://gmj-canadianedition.ca/for-author/>

About Global Media Journal – Canadian Edition: The *Global Media Journal — Canadian Edition* (<http://www.gmj.uottawa.ca/>) is a bilingual (English and French) open-access online academic refereed publication that aims to advance research and understanding of communication and media in Canada and around the globe.

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