

Not Hollywood

Most films produced in the English speaking world are made by Hollywood, USA. As a result Hollywood films tend to be the yard stick by which we view all other films. Significant films are made by film-makers outside the USA and we need to learn to appreciate these films in their own right. This study examines films made by the Australian film industry and "Bollywood".

The aim in our study is events/people of historical significance.

Gallipoli

An example of Australian film

- Subject matter- a failed and absorbed military campaign, different from Hollywood where there is a strong emphasis on happy endings.
- Heroes- flawed: e.g. Try to reach Perth end up lost in desert; Archie dies in war unlike Hollywood hero does not solve all problems and save the day.
- Focus on Australian landscape- i.e. The outback
- Emphasis on the concept of the Aussie battler. I.e. life in Australia is about getting by not glory. E.g. Archie is shot down.
- There tends to be a greater focus on the lives of ordinary people. E.g. the soldiers trash an innocent shopkeeper's shop, behave rudely and visit a brothel, they are not the god-like figures of Hollywood. (the castle)
- The tall poppy syndrome is evident i.e. the officer who sends the men to their deaths is a pompous individual who speaks in an aristocratic way.

Asoka

Plot summary

Asoka follows the journey of Prince Asoka's rise to power. However the path is not easy and after challenging one of his brothers to a duel his mother orders him to leave. Lives in the forest finds a wife, then his wife is killed. On the way home he is attacked. He is found by Devi who he marries but upon returning home he is told that his new wife (being of another race) cannot be welcomed. Asoka leaves. Asoka's mother is killed asoka swears revenge and killing his step brothers one-by-one. Then starts a war with the last brother.