



Writers, directors, producers and stars who attended the First International Konkani Film Festival in Kuwait, honored at the hands of His Excellency Ambassador Shri Sunil Jain .

FIRST FILM FESTIVAL UNITES KONKAN COMMUNITY

The first ever International Konkani Film Festival held in Kuwait was a celebration of cinema par excellence that will certainly be talked about for years to come.

The festival spread over 2 days (25th & 26th February) brought a continuous flow of audience to the American International School auditorium.

The fest's forward-looking heart is apparent from the words of chief organizer Shri Carmo Santos who expressed a dream to make the event an annual platform for Konkani film premieres and award ceremonies.

His Excellency Shri Sunil Jain, Indian Ambassador to Kuwait, chief guest at one of the movies, had a word of praise for Goan Cultural Centre-Kuwait, who arranged the festival in association with T-Bush International Films and the Konkani community of the Holy Family Cathedral. "It is a delight to know this is the first international Konkani film festival and Kuwait is the host," stated Shri Jain further adding, "we shall support Konkani art, language and films, always."

It should be noted Konkani films has a limited scope. Just a handful of Goan and Mangalorean films are produced in a year. Limited audience, difference in dialects and lack of resources has been a drawback to Konkani cinema for long.

However, this has gradually vanished with the release of great movies in recent times. Many Goan stars are seen in Mangalorean movies while Mangalorean artistes are working together in Goan films too.

Ester Noronha, lead actress of Noshibacho Khell, who was present at the festival, has sung for Nachom-iaKumpasar and is lined up to feature in a forthcoming Goan film.

Movies screened & delegates present

Select movies that were screened at the Kuwait festival included Big Ben, Nirmon, Home Sweet Home-2, Enemy, Noshibacho Khell, and Nachom-ia Kumpasar.

A number of dignitaries, personalities and artistes representing films were on visit to Kuwait to be part of the festival.

Present among the special invitees were



Shri Sunil Jain, Ambassador of India, with the festival coordinators T-Bush and Carmo Santos.

Glen Barretto - producer, and Simon D'Silva - Co-producer of Nachom-ia Kumpasar; Swapnil Shetkar - producer/writer/director/, and John D'Silva - lead star of Home Sweet Home-2; Nilesh Newalkar and Armando Fernandes - producers of Nirmon; Mark de Araujo - producer/writer/director/lead actor of Big Ben; Henry D'Silva - producer and Ester Noronha - lead actress of NoshibachoKhell.

Vote of thanks

In his vote of thanks Carmo Santos specially singled out Tibush Rebello of T-Bush International Films for praise in making the festival a success, and the Kuwait Church for supporting the Film Festival.

He also thanked all sponsors, supporters, volunteers, executive members of Goan Cultural Centre-Kuwait, all dignitaries, directors, producers, artistes who attended the festival.

During the closing ceremony Carmo

expressed sadness at some elements of the Goan community who wanted to disrupt the festival.

The 2-day festival was compered by Anjali Amonkar and Gasper Crasto.

Film festival proceeds

In a statement, Carmo revealed that

funds raised from the Konkani Film Festival shall be donated towards the construction of Bahrain Cathedral.

Dedicated to Our Lady of Arabia, once completed, the cathedral will be the biggest church in the Middle East Gulf holding 2,600 congregants at a time, and will serve about 2.5 million Catholics.

PROMINENT INDIAN ONCOLOGIST DR VP GANGADHARAN TO GET NSH GLOBAL HARMONY AWARD



Reputed Indian Oncologist Dr VP Gangadharan has been chosen as the recipient of the First NSH Global Harmony Award - 2017 by the NSH Global Village Harmony NSH GVH), an award winning organization connected with the Indian Embassy in Kuwait.

Dr VP Gangadharan will receive this honour from the President of NSH GVH, Sabu in a glittering function on 24 Feb 2017. Persons of high ranks and merits had a series of discussions, led by Sabu, and finally chosen him for his excellent medical service, combining high professional skill, with compassion and personal bondage, saving many precious lives and alleviating pain and suffering.

EMBASSY OF INDIA HOLIDAY NOTICE

The Embassy shall remain closed on Monday, 13th March, 2017 on the occasion of the festival of Holi. However, emergency consular services will be rendered by the Mission.