

DIASPORA BI-WEEKLY

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Record number of people attend one-of-a-kind event with Consul General of India in New York and his staff



The Federation of Indian Associations of the tristate area of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut (FIA-Tristate) hosted a virtual Town Hall on India Visa and OCI (Overseas Citizenship of India) card, on Dec. 7. The first of its kind event aimed to expand the community's understanding of the workings of the new agency, VFS Global, as well as the details about the transition from the old agency, CKGS, to the new agency, VFS Global.

VFS Global is an outsourcing and technology services company that serves governments and diplomatic missions worldwide. Beginning Nov. 4, VFS took over as the exclusive service provider for visa, OCI, passport, renunciation of Indian citizenship, and Global Entry Program verification services for the Government of India in the U.S.

In attendance were Consul General of India in

New York, Randhir Jaiswal, Deputy Consul General, Shatrughna Sinha, and Consul, consular, passport and visa division, Murugesan Ramaswamy.

In the first segment of the Town Hall, Consul General Jaiswal and his staff answered collectively compiled questions regarding the transition process from the previous processing agency to VFS Global; and its impact on the Indian American community. They spoke about OCI, visa and passport renewal rules and highlighted the changes made to travel to India during the COVID-19 pandemic. In the second segment, viewers posed questions to the consulate staff highlighting their challenges and concerns.

A record number of people attended the virtual Town Hall on various platforms. Around 200 people joined the event live on Zoom, while over 5,000 participated through TV Asia's live broadcast.

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The Town Hall video posted on YouTube has 1.4K views as of Dec. 14.

Speaking on the transition to the new visa outsourcing agency, Consul General Jaiswal said that notwithstanding “initial teething troubles,” he is confident of streamlining the visa and passport renewal and application process within no time. He urged the community to be patient and comply with the rules and regulations and follow up with the notices issued by the consulate on their website and social media handles. He noted that the consulate prefers dealing with all visa and OCI related correspondence online and by courier services. He reminded the attendees that the consulate is not issuing a 10-year tourist visa at the moment, and advised them to apply for a 5-year tourist visa instead.

Highlighting the changes to travel to India under Government of India’s guidelines, Consul General Jaiswal mentioned that presently, the consulate is not issuing any tourist visas. One can travel only on an Indian passport or an OCI or PIO card. However, business and other visas are good for travel to India. The consulate is issuing emergency visas to the eligible categories allowed to travel to India as per the advisories issued by the Government of India. Applicants for emergency visa may write an email to visa.newyork@mea.gov.in or through PRAMIT dashboard available on our website www.indiainnewyork.gov.in explaining the exigency, The Consulate thereafter will inform you of the next steps. The consulate on average issues 50 to 75 emergency visas daily, Consul General Jaiswal said.

For emergency passport services, applicants are requested to send an email to passport.newyork@mea.gov.in or through PRAMIT dashboard available on their website www.indiainnewyork.gov.in. Once the request has been approved by the Consulate, the applicant will be informed of the procedure for initiating the application process. The approved applicants may send the completed form by postal mail to Consulate along with a return pre-paid envelope for further processing.

Another area of concern and confusion is the OCI card. Consul General Jaiswal, Deputy Consul General Sinha and his staff deciphered all the elements, ranging from application process, photo

requirements, renewals and current wait times.

Below are some of the salient points from that segment:

1. The OCI card is required to be re-issued each time a new passport is acquired by the cardholder up to the age of 20 years.
2. OCI card is required to be re-issued once on acquiring a new passport after completing 50 years of age.
3. U.S. passport holders ages 21 to 50, are not required to get a new OCI card when the passport is renewed. The OCI card is valid with the new passport.
4. The Government of India has decided to grant further extension in time till June 30, 2021 to get the OCI cards re-issued in accordance with above guidelines.
5. If a U.S. citizen receives the OCI card for the first time after age 50, there is no need to reapply for the OCI card renewal even if they renew their U.S. passports when due.
6. The Government of India, the Embassy of India and the consulate offices across the U.S., have extended the above cases to June 30, 2021.
7. If there is a change of address in your passport or other consular applications or any other significant matter, U.S. passport and OCI holders need to reapply for a new OCI card.
8. According to the consulate, the time required to process an OCI card is a minimum of four weeks, as the application has to be sent to India for approval. The original passport is needed to issue an OCI card. It takes approximately a week to renew the OCI card.

The FIA’s suggestion to display a sample filled-out for passport, visa or OCI application, was warmly appreciated by the consulate.

Also the consulate will look into the feasibility of providing their periodic guidance to the community at designated location or community centers.

The Town Hall was moderated by Bhargavi Kulkarni, who manages FIA’s Diaspora Bi-weekly – FIA’s bi-monthly newsletter, along with support from FIA Chairman Ankur Vaidya, FIA President Anil Bansal, FIA Secretary Parveen Bansal and past president Alok Kumar.

Deconstructing Christmas, a Supreme Religious and Social Mega Celebration Worldwide

By Chandrakant Trivedi



America is regarded as the melting pot for all immigrant communities, all ethnicities who have settled here for generations and have gradually adopted American customs, traditions and lifestyle. Similarly, Indian Americans have also been moving in that direction with regards to celebrating some popular mainstream traditions like Thanksgiving, Christmas and Valentine's Day, among others.

Christmas Day falls every year on Dec. 25. It is both a sacred and religious holiday and a worldwide cultural and commercial phenomenon - observing traditions and practices that are both religious and secular in nature. Since the early 20th century, Christmas has also been a secular family holiday, observed by Christians and non-Christians alike, devoid of Christian elements, and marked by an increasingly elaborate exchange of gifts. Popular customs include exchanging gifts, decorating the Christmas tree, singing Christmas carols, attending church, sharing meals with family and friends, and of course, waiting for the children's favorite Santa Claus to arrive.

Christmas is celebrated to remember the birth of Jesus Christ, who Christians believe is the son of God. The name Christmas comes from the "Mass of Christ" (Jesus). A mass service (which is sometimes called Communion of Eucharist), is where Christians remember that Jesus died for them and then came back to life.

The Christ-mass service was the only one that was allowed to take place after the sun set and before sunrise the next day, so people had it at midnight. Hence we get the name Christ-mass, shortened to Christmas.

According to britannica.com, the English term Christmas is of fairly recent origin. The earlier term Yule may have derived from the Germanic jōl or the Anglo-Saxon geōl, which referred to the feast of the winter solstice. The corresponding terms in other languages—Navidad in Spanish, Natale in

Italian, Noël in French—all probably denote nativity. The German word Weihnachten denotes "hallowed night."

No one knows the real birthday of Jesus. No date is given in the Bible. The New Testament provides no clues in this regard. Dec. 25 was first identified as the date of Jesus' birth by Sextus Julius Africanus in 221 and later became the universally accepted date.

One widespread explanation of the origin of this date is that Dec. 25 was the Christianizing of the dies solis invicti nati ("day of the birth of the unconquered sun"), a popular holiday in the Roman Empire that celebrated the winter solstice as a symbol of the resurgence of the sun, the casting away of winter and the heralding of the rebirth of spring and summer. Indeed, after Dec. 25 had become widely accepted as the date of Jesus' birth, Christian writers frequently made the connection between the rebirth of the sun and the birth of the Son.

A second view suggests that Dec. 25 became the date of Jesus' birth by a priori reasoning that identified the spring equinox as the date of the creation of the world and the fourth day of creation, when the light was created, as the day of Jesus' conception (i.e., March 25). Dec. 25, nine months later, then became the date of Jesus' birth. For a long time the celebration of Jesus' birth was observed in conjunction with his baptism, celebrated in January.

The first recorded date of Christmas being celebrated on Dec. 25 was in 336 A.D., during the time of the first Roman Emperor. The historical significance is the commemorations of the nativity of Jesus.

Christians believe that there can be no "peace" on earth or real "joy" in a human's heart apart from the spirit of Jesus Christ. The gifts of these blessings through the birth of Jesus Christ

is worth celebrating and repeating over and over again in all gifts and contributions.

Midnight mass on the eve of Christmas marks the end of the harvest season and the Winter Solstice.

The basic message of Christmas is the announcement that God, the Almighty, the creator of the universe, has come into the world in the human form of a person whose birth name is Jesus. This is the news of God's incarnation in human flesh.

The Vatican is the supreme pilgrimage place for Christians and Pope John Paul is their highest religious and spiritual leader.

Christmas is celebrated by Christians all around the world. It is a time when family and friends come together and remember the good things they have. It is also a time to exchange gifts with the young and the old alike.

Dec. 25, Christmas Day, has been a federal holiday in the U.S. since 1870. 6.

"A Christmas Carol" musical singing glorifies

the celebration at school and at parties. The festival is extremely popular with children as they are anxiously waiting to decorate the Christmas tree and receive gifts from Santa Claus.

The name Santa Claus is derived from St. Nicholas, in whose honor the death anniversary of St. Nicholas or "Sinster Klaus" started in the 18th century in New York. The abbreviation of Sinster Klaus because Santa Claus. It was the night before Christmas, a jolly man - Santa Claus, who fills from home to home on a sled driven by reindeers, delivering gifts to children..

Indian American associations arrange parties to celebrate Christmas and also specially bring Santa Claus to please the children. This is an example of adopting customs and traditions of our 'karmabhoomi.'

The Federation of India Associations of the Tristate area of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Federation of Indian Associations of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut (FIA-Tristate) Proudly Salutes:

1. All scientists, pharmacists and other highly-talented dedicated, committed personnel, and their visionary and dynamic leadership, in successfully bringing out Corona vaccines in record time to control and treat people worldwide. We particularly convey our deepest gratitude to Pfizer, Moderna and other companies which are working on vaccines to combat the virus. We also look forward to seeing three outstanding companies in India - Serum Institute of India (Pune), Zydus Cadila (Gujarat) and Bharat Biotech (Hyderabad), who are working on a corona vaccine.
2. FIA is proud of the Indian Army as India celebrates the 50th year of the historic win of its war with Pakistan in December 1971. India, under the patriotic leadership of the Indian Army as well as then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, won the war resulting in 93,000 Pakistani soldiers surrendering on the 13th day of the war, Dec. 16, 1971 to Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw, then Chief of the Army Staff. This war resulted in the new country, Bangladesh, earlier East Pakistan. The Government of India is celebrating this historic win throughout the year in all parts of India. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Defense Minister Rajnath Singh and Chief of Defense Staff General Bipin Rawat paid special tributes to the martyrs and others who fought in war at the War Memorial in New Delhi on Dec. 16. FIA joins the 1.35 billion Indians in chanting "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" and "Shahido Amar Raho."
3. FIA congratulates the Indian cricket team, who, under the leadership of captain Virat Kohli, registered a morale-boosting victory in the T20 series against the formidable Australian cricket team by 2-1. In the depressing atmosphere of the COVID-19 pandemic, India's victory in the presence of a live audience is much noteworthy. The FIA also congratulates all-rounder Hardik Pandya for receiving the coveted award for the 'Man of the Series.' While India is gearing up to host the World T20 series next year, this victory is quite encouraging.
4. FIA fondly remembers and pays tribute to the 'Iron Man,' Late Sardar Vallabhai Patel on his 50th death anniversary on Dec. 15. Patel, the first deputy prime minister of India is known as the architect of the integration of 562 princely states. He received the Bharat Ratna in 1991, 41 years after his death.

Indian Rapper DIVINE of 'Gully Boy' Fame Featured on Times Square Billboard

Vivian Fernandes, better known by his stage name DIVINE, has become the the first ever Indian rapper to be featured on a Times Square Billboard for his latest album "Punya Paap." The Mumbai-based rapper's sophomore album was released on Dec. 4. "Man I'm waking up knowing my face is on the billboard at Times Square! Dreamsss...," he wrote in a Facebook post.

The Times of India says "Punya Paap" is a 11-track album which "traverses through the rapper's triumphs, trials and tribulations" and features "an impressive slew of collaborations such as hip-hop veteran Nas, Grammy winning Brooklyn-based singer-songwriter Cocoa Sarai, British Drill rapper Dutchavelli, Grammy winning producer iLL Wayno, London-based dancehall artiste Stylo G and Indian American singer-songwriter Lisa Mishra."

Overwhelmed by the response to his album, DIVINE said in a statement, "Releasing an album is always an important milestone for any artist and I'm grateful to my fans above all who've waited patiently since my previous album." Referring to his song, "Mirchi," which secured a spot on the YouTube Top 100 Global Songs recently, as well as making it to iconic Times Square, he said: "This is a sign that the story of hip-hop in India is no longer confined to a nascent perspective but it's burgeoning and we are headed for exciting times. Life is good and I'm grateful (sic)."

Although he's been on the rapping scene for the past few years, DIVINE gained a lot of popularity after contributing to the soundtrack of Zoya Akhtar's 2019 film "Gully Boy" which is inspired by the lives of Naezy and himself, with Ranveer Singh and Alia Bhatt in the lead roles. DIVINE and Naezy both helped as consultants to get an authentic representation of the Hip Hop culture for the film. Their song "Mere Gully Mein" was remade with Ranveer Singh rapping Naezy's lyrics as part of the film. Furthermore, DIVINE provided additional rap lyrics for Ranveer Singh's character and composed some of the songs for the original soundtrack.

In 2014, after his song "Yeh Mera Bombay" released, DIVINE signed a contract with Sony Music India. The song later went on to win the Best Video



of the Year award by Rolling Stone India in the same year. He released his breakout single "Mere Gully Main" featuring Naezy on April 16, 2015. The song went viral and many Bollywood celebrities shared it on social media. He collaborated with DJ Nucleya on Nucleya's album "Bass Rani," which helped him gain even more popularity. The song won Best EDM track of the Year in the GIMA Awards in 2015.

On March 26, 2016, his debut solo single "Jungli Sher" released and it ruled the charts because of its raw depiction of the life of the poor in Mumbai. He took the song to the Breakfast Show ahead of BBC Asian Network Live on April 26. He appeared on the BBC Asian Network in the Charlie Sloth Show and was the first Hindi-speaking rapper to freestyle on the show and also the first to rap in Hindi with the name-giving host in attendance. He was also featured on Brapp TV.

He again collaborated with Nucleya in another hit track, entitled "Scene Kya Hai" off Nucleya's album "Raja Baja." He was featured on "Daru Daru" with Deep Jandu and Gangis Khan, his first commercially oriented song, which came out on Jan. 10, 2017.

His next solo single "Farak" released on Feb. 16, 2017 and topped the Indipop charts on iTunes India. He appeared as a feature on a record called "City Slums" by Indian-American rapper/singer/songwriter Raja Kumari in May 2017. The song crossed 2 million views on YouTube within 24 hours of its release.

DIVINE made his Bollywood debut for the 2017 film "Mukkabaaz" with the song "Paintra." A year later, he collaborated with music director and singer Amit Trivedi for the Irfan Khan starrer "Blackmail," on the song "Badla." He also contributed to the soundtrack for Netflix's "Sacred Games," with songs like "Jungli Sher" and "Kaam 25," produced by Indo-Canadian producer Phenom which was made specifically for the series.

In 2018, DIVINE terminated his contract with Sony Music India. He released a remix to Lil Pump's Gucci Gang called "Gully Gang" independently on Jan. 18, 2018. The song was perceived well by both critics and fans and helped him garner more attention. On April 5, 2018, he followed up with "One Side" produced by Byg Byrd. The video was produced by Red Bull Media House and came out on the rapper's own YouTube channel.

His next single "Teesri Manzil" earned him a

copyright strike from Zee Music Company a few hours after its release and got deleted from his channel. It was eventually re-released on Dec. 14, 2018 with some changes in the lyrics.

In the meantime, he released "Junoon," his intro to his upcoming first full-length album, "Kohinoor." In July 2019, DIVINE released a documentary film, "Gully Life - The story of DIVINE," about his career so far.

Poster of Vikas Khanna's 'The Last Color' Splashes All Over Times Square Before India Release



In 2018, Vikas Khanna designed a poster for his film "The Last Color." And it was then that he promised Neena Gupta, his lead actress, that one day the poster would be splashed all over Times Square. Last week, the Michelin star chef and filmmaker delivered on his promise. On Dec. 10, a day before "The Last Color" released in India, a poster of the film was displayed at the iconic venue. Khanna called it the "biggest day" for the film.

Speaking about the film's release in India, Khanna said, "I had promised Neena ji that when 'The Last Color' comes out, her picture in the beautiful pink color will be on New York Times Square billboards. Today, as we release the film for everyone to witness this story of hope and promise, I, too, am going back to fulfill my promises and share with everyone this story with the ever-talented Neena ji."

Based on the book of the same name Khanna wrote, "The Last Color," set in Varanasi, explores an unconventional friendship between a young flower seller and a tightrope walker Chhoti (Aqsa Siddiqui) and an old widow Noor (Neena Gupta) who has been living in abstinence of worldly pleasures for a long time. Following its premiere at the 30th Palm Springs International Film Festival in January 2019, "The Last Color" has done exceptionally well at international film festivals such as 16th Indian Film Festival, Stuttgart (Winner: Best feature film Awards , Audience choice & Winner: Director Vision Award), Berlin Indo-German Film Festival (Winner: Best Feature film Award, Audience Choice), Indie Meme Austin (Winner: Best Director), Echo Brics Film Festival 2020 (Winner: Best film).

3 Indian Americans Win Infosys Prize 2020

Three Indian Americans are among winners of the Infosys Prize 2020 for their outstanding contributions to science and research. The awards were presented on Dec. 2 in a virtual ceremony by the Infosys Science Foundation (ISF). The prize consists of a pure gold medal, a citation and a purse of \$100,000 and is awarded for stellar contributions in six fields. Among awardees are:

Hari Balakrishnan of Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Engineering) for his broad contributions to computer networking, and his seminal work on mobile and wireless systems. Balakrishnan's commercial use of mobile telematics improves driver behavior and makes roads safer.

Sourav Chatterjee of Stanford University (Mathematical Sciences) for his groundbreaking work in probability and statistical physics. Chatterjee's collaborative work has played a critical role in areas such as the emerging body of work on large deviations for random graphs.

Raj Chetty of Harvard University (Social Sciences) for his pioneering research in identifying barriers to economic opportunity, and for developing solutions that help people escape poverty towards improved life outcomes. Chetty's research and extraordinary ability to discern patterns in large data have the potential to induce major shifts in the discipline of Economics.

The winners of the Infosys Prize 2020 were handpicked from 257 nominations by an accomplished jury comprising renowned scholars and professors from around the world. The chairs of the jury were: Prof. Arvind (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) for Engineering and Computer Science, Prof. Kaushik Basu (Cornell University and former SVP, World Bank) for Social Sciences, Prof. Akeel Bilgrami (Columbia University) for Humanities, Prof. Chandrashekar Khare (University of California, Los Angeles) for Mathematical Sciences, Prof. Shrinivas Kulkarni (California Institute of Technology) for Physical Sciences, and Prof. Mriganka Sur (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) for Life Sciences.

New Jersey-based SKN Foundation Celebrates 10-Year Anniversary Through Virtual Rewind of Major Milestones

HILLSBOROUGH, N.J.

After surviving the most challenging year for most non-profit organizations in the country, the Shri Krishna Nidhi (or SKN) Foundation celebrated major milestones and pandemic-related victories during a virtual celebration on Dec. 6. Thousands of supporters from around the world attended online and raised tens of thousands of dollars to sustain the organization's decade-long efforts to provide life-saving resources and programs for South Asians battling diabetes, obesity or caring for special needs children in the greater New Jersey area.

In addition to community advocates and political figures, major celebrities like Bollywood actress Juhi Chawla, host and model Mini Mathur, chef Vikas Khanna and singer/songwriter Shibani Kashyap, also spoke and performed during the event and congratulated the founder, Dr. Naveen Mehrotra, on his successful efforts throughout the years. They also encouraged donors to step up and support the cause whole-heartedly of promoting total wellness through community education.

"We are so humbled that the community responded throughout the year to provide thousands of meals to our emergency frontline workers at N.J. hospitals and raise funds to purchase life-saving PPE equipment for them," said Dr. Mehrotra. "At the start of the pandemic, SKN Foundation just responded to the immediate needs of the community-at-large, and we pivoted our efforts to ensure the safety and well-being of our pandemic heroes."

SKN Foundation is a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization with a mission to promote total wellness of the person and community through education. In various populations, including the South Asian Diaspora, there are radical health disparities in access to care, service utilization, quality and outcomes. Alongside evidence of chronic disease burdens in heart disease, diabetes, metabolic syndrome and cancer, there is also a poorer understanding of disease prevention in culturally-isolated community groups. Lifestyle modification and aggressive compliance with medical treatment is the key to a healthier lifestyle, leading to the prevention of many chronic illnesses. This is accomplished through limiting risk factor development through education.

Donations to the SKN Foundation will be accepted through Jan. 5, 2021, and they can be made at <https://sknfoundation.org/general-skn-donation/>



SOLO DANCE COMPETITION 2021

Audition Round:
Sat., Jan. 30th, 2021

Final Round:
Sat., Feb. 6th, 2021

DPC Solo Dance Competition will be held on **zoom**

For Information: info@fianyjnct.org | www.dancepechance.org

India's Incredible Trio – Raj Kapoor, Dev Anand and Dilip Kumar

By Chandrakant Trivedi

Trimurti is always an interesting and inspiring topic. The most famous and auspicious Trimurti in the Hindu religion is Brahma, Vishnu and Mahesh- creator, operator and destroyer. Similarly, there are the three basic instincts – Satvik, Rajasi and Tamasi; or the three Goddesses we worship during Diwali – Mahakali, Mahalakshmi and Maha Saraswati.

Here we are going to discuss the pride of India, internationally renowned, legendary Bollywood stars – Dilip Kumar (Dec. 11, 1922), Dev Anand (Sept. 26, 1923 – Dec. 3, 2011) and Raj Kapoor (Dec. 14, 1924 – June 2, 1988). They reigned on the golden era of Hindi films from the years 1940 to 1980 and beyond, by their exceptional acting prowess, multiple talents and versatility as actor, director, producer and so on. Each one of them had millions of fans worldwide.

December is a landmark month for these three legendary actors. On Dec. 11, Dilip Kumar turned 98; it was Raj Kapoor's 96th birth anniversary on Dec. 14; while Dec. 3 was the day Dev Anand died, 9 years ago.

Another interesting factor that binds these three actors together is that all three of them won the most prestigious Dadasaheb Phalke Award – the ultimate recognition of their superb talents, stardom and contribution in promoting and popularizing Indian cinema worldwide.

The FIA is indeed proud and privileged to have hosted Bollywood's 'Greatest Showman' and recipient of many national and international awards, Raj Kapoor, as a Grand Marshal of its 4th annual India Day Parade in New York in 1984. He was accompanied by his lovely wife Krishna.

Another superstar, evergreen hero Dev Anand, was the Grand Marshal of the 6th annual India Day Parade in 1986. Also gracing a FIA event, was another highly-talented actor, champion of dialogues, 'Tragedy King' Dilip Kumar, who was the guest of honor at a fundraising event



By Chandrakant Trivedi

organized in New York City in 1980. He was accompanied by Saira Banu, his wife.

Both Raj Kapoor and Dilip Kumar were born in Peshawar, Pakistan, in the same area. Ultimately they all moved to India.

As a matter of fact, the Kapoor family is regarded as the first family of Bollywood with five generations working in the Hindi film industry for over 98 years. Bishesharnath Kapoor, Prithviraj Kapoor, Raj Kapoor, Rishi Kapoor and Ranbir Kapoor.

Raj Kapoor and Dilip Kumar were friends from childhood and their friendship lasted their entire life. However the two were seen in only one film together - "Andaaz" (1949), produced by Mehboob Khan. The two actors were seen opposite Nargis. The film was a hit, successful for its music. On the other hand, Dilip Kumar and Dev Anand were seen together in one film as well - "Insaniyaat."

These three actors - Dilip Kumar, Raj Kapoor and Dev Anand - have contributed immensely for fundraising rallies to help victims of natural calamities. They had a good rapport with Late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Late Indira Gandhi.

Born as Muhammad Yusuf Khan on Dec. 11, 1922, Dilip Kumar made his acting debut in "Jwar Bhata," in 1944. It was with his 1947 film "Jugnu" that Dilip Kumar came to the limelight and went on to star in several films, including "Jogan," "Azaad," Babul," "Tarana," "Aan," "Karma," "Daag," "Deedar," "Footpath," "Devdas," and "Mughal-e-Azam." He made his last film appearance in "Qila" in 1998. He is the first Khan to dominate Bollywood for almost four decades, followed by the Khan triumvirate - Salman Khan, Aamir Khan and Shah Rukh Khan.

Dev Anand was born on Sept. 26, 1923 in Gurdaspur district of Punjab. His childhood name was Devdutt Pishorimal Anand and he had an inclination towards acting since childhood. His father was a lawyer by profession. He did his undergraduate education in English literature from the famous Government College in Lahore. Dev Anand also wanted to study further, but due to money problems, he gave up studies. He arrived in Mumbai in 1943 to realize his dream. After reaching Mumbai, He is remembered for some of the most iconic films of all time including "Guide," "Jewel Thief," "Johny Mera Naam," "C.I.D" and "Funtoosh," to name a few.

Raj Kapoor was born on Dec. 14, 1942 in Peshawar, now in Pakistan. His films are popular not only in India but in the Middle East, the Soviet Union, and China. In the 1930s Raj Kapoor worked as a clapper-boy for the Bombay Talkies and as an actor for Prithvi Theatres, two companies that were owned by his father, Prithvi Raj Kapoor. Raj Kapoor's first major screen role was in "Aag" (1948), which he also produced and directed. In 1950 he formed his own Bombay film studio, RK, and the next year achieved romantic stardom in "Awara" (1951). He also starred in such successful films as "Barsaat" (1949), "Shree 420" (1955), "Jagte Raho (1956) , and "Mera Naam Joker" (1970), many of which he also wrote, produced, and directed. Some of the films he directed featured his two brothers and his three sons. Although Kapoor portrayed romantic leads in his early movies, his best-known characters were modeled on Charlie Chaplin's poor but honest tramp. Many of his film songs became musical hits. On May 2, 1988, during an awards ceremony at which he received the Indian film industry's highest honor, Kapoor suffered an acute asthma attack and collapsed; he died one month later.

The striking similarities were noticed in their family members as well. Raj Kapoor's brothers - Shammi Kapoor and Shashi Kapoor - were also regarded as very popular and successful film stars with incredible fans worldwide.

Dev Anand's elder brother Chetan Anand and younger brother Vijay Anand (Goldie) were outstanding directors and producers. Dev Sahab himself got attached as a director till he died in 2011. His Navketan Films was a brand name as also was Raj Kapoor's world renowned R.K. Films. Dev Anand married actress Kalpana Kartik.

Dilip Kumar's younger brother Nasir Khan had acted in several films including "Nagina."

Raj Kapoor's father Prithviraj Kapoor's brother Trilok Kapoor was a well known actor in mythology films and also has his own generations associated with Bollywood which includes Anil Kapoor, Boney Kapoor, Arjun Kapoor, Sonam Kapoor, Jhanvi Kapoor and Harshvardhan Kapoor.

There are also few other interesting facts on these three actors:

All three were recipients of the prestigious Padma awards from the Government of India.

Dilip Kumar: Padma Bhushan (1991), Padma Vibhushan (2015) and Nishan-e-Imtiaz, Pakistan's highest civilian award (1998); Raj Kapoor: Padma Bhushan (1971); and Dev And: Padma Bhushan (2001). Dilip Kumar won eight Filmfare awards for best actor; Raj Kapoor won 14 Filmfare awards for acting, directing, editing and best films. Dev Anand won two Filmfare awards.