

# Bollywood, Bhangra, and Books

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Hennepin County Library  
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# Books

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A sampling of books by South Asian and NRI (Non Resident Indian) authors published over the last 10 years.

### **Chick-Lit/Romance**

- Banerjee, Anjali. *Imaginary Men*. Downtown Press, 2005  
(1416509437 PB)

While attending her sister's wedding in India, Lina rashly says she has a fiancé back home in San Francisco. Her family starts planning her wedding and Lina is forced to find a real fiancé.

- Daswani, Kavita. *The Village Bride of Beverly Hills*. Putnam, 2004  
(0452286565 PB)

With her in-laws dissatisfied that she hasn't become pregnant, Priya is forced to get a job. Circumstances and luck soon cause her to lead a secret life as a reporter for a Hollywood tabloid.

- Daswani, Kavita. *For Matrimonial Purposes*. Putnam, 2003  
(0452285526 PB)

Anju, an upper class Indian woman, looks for a love match while wrestling with her desire for a career and her family's well meaning attempts to arrange a marriage for her.

- Viswanathan, Kaavya. *How Opal Mehta Got Kissed, Got Wild, And Got a Life: A Novel*. Little Brown, April 2006  
(0316059889 HC)

Rejected by Harvard because she's too serious, Opal gets a second chance but she needs to prove she can have fun like others her age.

- Singh, Sonia. *Bollywood Confidential*. Avon Books, 2005  
(0060590386 PB)

Raveena's career as actress has stalled. When her agent lands her the lead role in a Bollywood film, she heads to the land of her ancestors and finds more than she expects.

- Singh, Sonia. *Goddess for hire*. Avon Books, 2004  
(006059036X PB)

30-year-old Maya, still living with her parents, just wants to survive and find love. Then she discovers that she is the incarnation of the Hindu goddess Kali.

## Historical

- Sundaresan, Indu. *The Feast of Roses: a Novel*. Atria Books, 2003  
(0743456416 PB)  
The saga of Mehrunnisa and Emperor Jahangir continues in the sequel to *The Twentieth Wife*.
- Sundaresan, Indu. *The Twentieth Wife: a Novel*. Atria Books, 2002  
(0743428188 PB)  
A fictional retelling of how the beautiful Mehrunnisa became the 20<sup>th</sup> wife of Jahangir, ruler of the Mughal Empire in 17<sup>th</sup> century India.

## Literary

- Ali, Monica. *Brick Lane*. Scribner, 2003  
(0743243307 HC; 0743243315 PB)  
Nazneen leaves Bangladesh for an arranged marriage in London embarking on a journey to self-realization. Shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize.
- Ali, Samina. *Madras on Rainy Days*. Farrar, Straus, & Giroux, 2004  
(0312423306 PB)  
Raised in the United States, Layla returns to Hyderabad, India, for an arranged marriage. There she finds that it is not just American-raised Muslims who are trying to reconcile Islam, the modern world and Western attitudes towards independence and love.
- Chaudhuri, Amit. *Freedom Song: Three Novels*. Knopf, 1999  
(0375704000 PB)  
With settings in Bombay, Calcutta and Oxford, the three short novels in this critically acclaimed collection create a portrait of the world of middle class Indians.
- Chaudhuri, Amit. *New World*. Knopf, 2000  
(037572480X PB)  
Accompanied by his young son, Jayojit Bannerjee travels from the U.S. to his parents' home in Calcutta where he contemplates his past and future.
- Chaudhuri, Amit. *Real Time: Stories and Reminiscence*. Farrar, Straus, & Giroux, 2002  
(0312421141 PB)  
A collection of stories set primarily in Bombay and Calcutta that present vignettes of life and the clash of cultures in modern India.

- Dawesar, Abha. *Babyji*. Anchor, 2005  
(1400034566 PB)

Sixteen-year-old Animika, an upper class schoolgirl, must reconcile her academic studies and her passionate sexuality.

- Desai, Anita. *The Zigzag Way*. Houghton Mifflin, 2004  
(0618042156 HC; 0618619801 PB)

With past works exploring India and the Indian-American experience, a Booker Prize nominated author shifts gears to examine another cultural setting. The young American historian Eric discovers information and insights about his family's past in Mexico.

Desai's earlier title *In Custody* was made into a film directed by Ismail Merchant (of Merchant/Ivory fame)—the first full-length film he directed.

- Desai, Kiran. *The Inheritance of Loss*. Atlantic Monthly Press, 2005  
(0871139294 HC)

The life of a retired judge is disrupted when his orphaned granddaughter comes to live with him on a decaying estate in the Himalayas.

- Divakaruni, Chitra Banerjee. *The Mistress of Spices*. Anchor Books, 1997  
(0385482388 PB)

From a rundown spice shop in Oakland, California, Tilo has been content helping the Indian-American community through the magic of her spices until she seeks happiness for herself. A magic realism tale.

In 2005, a movie of this title was made with Bollywood star Aishwarya Rai in the lead. The screenplay was co-written by Gurinder Chadha, the director of *Bend it like Beckham* and *Bride & Prejudice*. It has yet to be released in the U.S.

- Divakaruni, Chitra Banerjee. *The Vine of Desire*. Doubleday, 2002  
(038549730X PB)

In the sequel to *Sisters of the Heart*, Anju and Sudha reunite in the United States only to find their relationship again strained.

- Divakaruni, Chitra Banerjee. *Sister of My Heart*. Doubleday, 1999  
(038548951X PB)

A family secret threatens the bond between two women, the upper class Anju and her cousin Sudha, daughter of the family black sheep.

- Ghosh, Amitav. *The Hungry Tide*. Houghton Mifflin, 2005  
(0618329978 HC)

The American-Indian marine biologist Pivali, fisherman Fokir, and translator Kanai come together in an archipelago in the Bay of Bengal - a world threatened both by political turmoil and natural disaster.

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- Kunzru, Hari. *The Impressionist*. Dutton, 2002  
(0452283973 PB)  
The adventures of Anglo-Indian Pran Nath who transforms himself repeatedly, first in order to survive and then to manipulate others.
- Kunzru, Hari. *Transmission*. Dutton, 2004  
(0525947604 HC; 0452286514 PB)  
About to be laid off from a software company, programmer Arjun Mehta creates and releases a computer virus with the intent of 'discovering' the solution, thereby saving his job – but the virus takes on a life of its own.
- Lahiri, Jhumpa. *Interpreter of Maladies: Stories*. Houghton Mifflin, 1999  
(0618101365 HC; (039592720X PB)  
In this Pulitzer Prize winning collection, nine bittersweet stories present the lives of Indians in the United States and India.
- Lahiri, Jhumpa. *The Namesake*. Houghton Mifflin, 2003  
(0395927218 HC; 0618485228 PB)  
The lives of the members of the Ganguli family are traced over three decades from their life in India to their experiences as immigrants and new Americans.  
  
A film version directed by Mira Nair is expected to be released sometime in 2006.
- Malladi, Amulya. *The Mango Season*. Ballantine Books, 2003  
(0345450310 PB)  
Newly engaged to an American, Priya returns to India to break the news to her family.
- Malladi, Amulya. *Serving Crazy With Curry*. Ballantine Books, 2004  
(0345466128 PB)  
Having failed at committing suicide, Devi recovers in her parent's home. Refusing to speak, she throws herself into cooking beginning a process of self-acceptance.
- Malladi, Amulya. *Song of the Cuckoo Bird*. Ballantine 2005  
(0345483154 PB)  
Refusing to marry the man to whom she was engaged as a child, Kokila chooses to stay at the ashram where she was raised to live among people who are not accepted anywhere else.
- Mishra, Pankaj. *The Romantics*. Random House, 2000  
(0385720807 PB)  
While studying at a university in Benares, Samar encounters expatriate Americans and Europeans and begins to question where he fits in the cultural conflict between East and West.

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- Mistry, Rohinton. *Family Matters*. Knopf, 2002.  
(037570342X PB)

Rendered bedridden by an accident, the elderly Nariman recuperates in his daughter's crowded home where his presence places a strain on family relationships.

Mistry's earlier work, *A Fine Balance*, was an Oprah Book Club selection.

- Mukherjee, Bharati. *Desirable Daughters: a Novel*. Hyperion, 2002  
(0786865989 HC; 0786885157 PB)

Tara is the youngest of three Bengali sisters whose lives have gone separate ways. When she encounters a mysterious young man who claims to be her nephew, she uncovers a mystery that threatens her entire family.

- Mukherjee, Bharati. *Tree Bride*. Hyperion, 2004  
(1401300588 HC; 0786888660 PB)

In this sequel to *Desirable Daughters*, Tara traces the history of one of her ancestors who was married to a tree as a child and grew up to be a fierce opponent of the British Raj.

- Naipaul, V.S. *Magic Seeds*. Knopf, 2004  
(0375707271 PB)

In the sequel to *Half a Life*, Willie Chandran joins an underground movement in India but disillusionment finally results in his return to England.

- Roy, Arundhati. *The God of Small Things*. Random House, 1997  
(0060977493 PB)

The circumstances and effects of a tragic event in Kerala in the late 1960s on fraternal twins Rahel and Estha unfold in a tale of innocence lost. Winner of the 1997 Booker Prize.

- Rushdie, Salman. *Shalimar the Clown*. Random House, 2005  
(0679463356 HC)

A former ambassador to India is murdered in Los Angeles by his Kashmiri driver but what is apparently a political act actually has its roots in a story of love and revenge.

- Shangvi, Siddarth Dhanvant. *The Last Song of Dusk*. Arcade, 2004  
(1559707348 HC; 0345485009 PB June 2006)

In this magic realism tale set in 1920s India, the marriage of the beautiful singer Anuradha and handsome doctor Vardhmaan falters after the death of their first child.

- Sharat Chandra, G.S. *Sari of the Gods*. Coffee House Press, 1998  
(1566890713 PB)  
A short story anthology that focuses on the lives of immigrants to the United States, life in India in the 1950s and 1960s, and the lives of Indians who try to return to India.
- Sharma, Akhil. *An Obedient Father*. Farrar, Straus, & Grioux, 2000  
(0156012030 PB)  
A downfall of a corrupt bribe collector begins when a reckless act brings a 20-year-old secret to light.
- *Story-Wallah : Short Fiction from South Asian Writers*. Mariner Books, 2005  
(0618576800 PB)  
A collection that includes works by Jhumpa Lahiri, Salman Rushdie, Rohinton Mistry, Monica Ali and others.
- Suri, Manil. *Death of Vishnu*. Norton, 2001  
(006000438X PB)  
As homeless alcoholic Vishnu lies dying on the first floor landing of an apartment building, the lives and relationships of the building's tenants are revealed.

### **Mystery/Suspense**

- Bahal, Aniruddha. *Bunker 13*. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2003.  
(Out of Print)  
Investigating drug and arms running in Kashmir, journalist Minty Mehta becomes embroiled in a conflict involving gangsters, insurgents, and the military.
- Prabhu, Manjiri. *The Cosmic Clues*. Dell, 2004  
(0440241723 PB)  
In Pune, India, Sonia Samarth opens a detective agency where she uses Hindu astrology as one of her investigative techniques.
- Prabhu, Manjiri. *The Astral Alibi*. Dell, June 2006  
(0440241731 PB)  
Sequel to *Cosmic Clues*.

## **Non-fiction**

- Jadhav, Narendra. *Untouchables: My Family's Triumphant Journey Out of the Caste System in Modern India*. Scribner, 2005  
(0743270797 HC)

Although the caste system was outlawed in 1950, it still plays a role in modern Indian society as is shown through narratives by three generations of an Indian family. An Indian bestseller.

- Kalita, S. Mitra. *Suburban Sahibs: Three Immigrant Families and Their Passage from India to America*. Rutgers University Press, 2003.  
(081353318X HC; 0813536650 PB)

The Indian immigrant experience of professional and working class families in the New Jersey suburbs.

- Kumar, Amitava. *Husband of a Fanatic: a Personal Journey through India, Pakistan, Love and Hate*. New Press, 2005  
(1565849264 HC)

In 1999, with India and Pakistan at war, a Hindu Indian writer marries a Muslim Pakistani woman and embarks on an exploration of cultural differences and similarities.

- Mehta, Suketu. *Maximum City: Bombay Lost & Found*. Knopf, 2004  
(0375403728 HC; 0375703403 PB)

An insider's view of the metropolis of Mumbai (formerly Bombay), home to 18 million people.

- Sen, Amartya. *The Argumentative Indian: Writings on Indian History, Culture, and Identity*. Farrar Straus & Giroux, 2005  
(0374105839 HC)

A collection of essays by a Nobel Prize winning economist that explores the diversity of Indian culture.

- Seth, Vikram. *Two Lives*. HarperCollins, 2005  
(0060599669 HC)

The story of the friendship, subsequent marriage, and life together in England of the author's Indian uncle and German aunt.

## **Science Fiction/Fantasy**

- Banker, Ashok. *Prince of Ayodhya*. Warner Aspect, 2003.  
(1841491861 PB)

The first volume of a retelling of the classic Hindu work *The Ramayama* as a fantasy epic.

## **Children's**

- Divakaruni, Chitra Banerjee. *The Conch Bearer*. Roaring Brook Press, 2003  
(0761319352 HC; 0689872429 PB)

In modern day India, 12-year-old Anand embarks on a quest to return a magic conch shell to its home in a Himalayan mountain valley. A *Booklist* Editors' Choice and *Publishers Weekly* Best Book of the Year.

- Divakaruni, Chitra Banerjee. *The Mirror of Fire and Dreaming*. Roaring Book Press, 2005  
(1596430672 HC)

In the sequel to *The Conch Bearer*, Anand finds himself trapped in the past in an ancient Indian Kingdom threatened by an evil sorcerer.

## **Teen**

- Dahmi, Narinder. *Bhangra Babes*. Delacorte, April 2006  
(0385903375 HC; 0385733186 LIB)

With their aunt finally engaged, the Dhillon sisters encounter new problems as they prepare for the wedding. The third in the series.

- Dahmi, Narinder. *Bindi Babes*. Delacorte, 2003  
(0385731779 HC; 0440420199 PB)

When their widower father asks his sister from India to live with them in England, three sisters try to find her a husband and get her out of the house.

- Dahmi, Narinder. *Bollywood Babes*. Delacorte, 2005  
(0385731787 HC)

In the sequel to *Bindi Babes*, the Dhillon sisters invite a downtrodden former movie actress from India to stay with them only to find that they've taken on more than they expected.

- Hidier, Tanuja Desai. *Born Confused*. Scholastic, 2002  
(0439357624 HC; 0439510112 PB)

Dimple Lala is a New Jersey ABCD (American Born Confused Desi) teenager who rebels against her family and their traditions. While experiencing teenage angst and the vagaries of first love, she begins to understand and accept her background.

- Perkins, Mitali. *Monsoon Summer*. Delacorte, 2004.  
(038573123X HC; 038590147X LIB; 0440238404 PB April 2006)
- Indian-American Jasmine 'Jazz' Gardner spends the summer in India with her family volunteering at the orphanage where her mother was raised. As she helps a teenaged girl avoid an arranged marriage, Jazz comes to accept herself as a beautiful young woman who is able to truly help others.

- Sheth, Kashmira. *Blue Jasmine*. Hyperion, 2004  
(0786818557 LIB; 0786855657 PB April 2006)
- When her family moves from India to Iowa City, 12-year-old Seema gradually adjusts to her new life.

## For more suggestions see:

### Books

- Pearl, Nancy. "The Immigrant Experience," *More Book Lust*. Sasquatch Books, 2005, pp. 123-124.  
(1570614350 PB)
- Pearl, Nancy. "India: a Reader's Itinerary," *More Book Lust*. Sasquatch Books, 2005, pp. 125-128.  
(1570614350 PB)

### Electronic Databases

- [NoveList](#)
- [What Do I Read Next?](#)

# **Bhangra**

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## General sites for more information on Hindi popular music

A few sites that have lists of top songs, will allow you to hear songs, or have information on artists.

- All India Site  
<http://hindisongs.allindiansite.com>  
News and reviews of current Indian music (not only Hindi) and will also let you listen online.
- BBC Asian Network  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/asiannetwork>  
The homepage for BBC's Asian Network. Several shows focusing on Indian music can be heard. Playlists are also available.
- Glamsham  
<http://www.glamsham.com/music>  
Updates three top music lists weekly: Film music, Indipop, and International.
- Music India Online  
[www.musicindiaonline.com](http://www.musicindiaonline.com)  
News and reviews of current Indian music (not only Hindi) and will also let you listen online.
- Raaga  
<http://www.raaga.com/channels/hindi/top10.asp>  
News and reviews of current Indian music (not only Hindi) and will also let you listen online.
- Red Hot Curry  
<http://www.redhotcurry.com/entertainment/music/index.htm>  
A UK site that provides updates on releases by desi artists and other desi music news.

## Where to purchase popular Indian music

### Traditional Vendors

- Multi-Cultural Books and Videos, Inc.  
<http://www.mcbv.com>  
Imports directly from India. Can supply both soundtracks and Indipop music.  
Geared to work with libraries.
- Baker & Taylor  
<http://www.btol.com/>  
Limited availability.
- BWI  
<http://www.bwibooks.com/>  
Limited availability.

### **Web retailers**

- Amazon  
[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)  
Limited availability—may refer you to some of their marketplace vendors.  
Useful if you have established an account with Amazon.

*Some web retailers have an excellent selection, but may not be set up to work easily with libraries. A couple of web retailers we've used for personal purchases:*

- Nehaflix  
[www.nehaflix.com](http://www.nehaflix.com)
- India Plaza  
[www.indiaplaza.com](http://www.indiaplaza.com)

### Other sources

- Local retail shops catering to the South Asian community  
May or may not be geared to working with libraries. May or may not carry pirated materials.

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## Top Hindi Film Soundtracks of 2005

*Aashiq Banaya Aapne*  
*Barsaat*  
*Bewaafa*  
*Bluffmaster*  
*Bunty aur Babli*  
*Chocolate*  
*Dosti*  
*Dus*  
*Ek Khiladi Ek Haseena*  
*Family*  
*Garam Masala*  
*Kaal*  
*Kisna*  
*Koi Aap Sa*  
*Kya Kool Hai Hum*  
*Kyon Ki*  
*Lucky-No Time for Love*  
*Maine Pyaar Kyun Kiya*  
*Mangal Pandey*  
*Neal 'n' Nikki*  
*No Entry*  
*Paheli*  
*Parineeta*  
*Rang De Basanti*  
*Salaam/Namaste*  
*Silsilay*  
*Waqt*  
*Zeher*  
*Zinda*

## **Some of the Top Music Directors of Hindi Film Music**

The music directors are the composers of the music. They may or may not write the song lyrics.

Jatin-Lalit  
M. M. Kreem  
Anu Malik  
Shantanu Moitra  
Pritam  
A.R. Rahman  
Himesh Reshammiya  
Adnan Sami  
Shankar-Ehsaan-Loy  
Nadeem Shrawan  
Saleem Sulaiman  
Vishal-Shekhar

## **Top Playback Singers**

The performers who provide the vocals for the musical numbers in Indian films. Some playback singers release popular music albums not connected with films.

### **Male**

Kunal Ganjawala  
Kay Kay  
Udit Narayan  
Sonu Nigam  
Kumar Sanu  
Shaan

### **Female**

Asha Bhosle  
Sunidhi Chauhan  
Alisha Chinoy  
Shreya Ghoshal  
Kavita Krishnamurthy  
Lata Mangeshkar  
Anuradha Paudwal  
Alka Yagnik

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## Popular Music Performers

Indian and NRI performers that are getting exposure in the US. Most are popular not only in the US and UK, but also in India.

### Apache Indian

<http://www.karmasound.com/index.asp>

English born musician who blends Bhangra, Bollywood film music, reggae, and dancehall.

Current album: *Time for a Change* (2005)

### Bombay Rockers

<http://www.bombayrockers.com/>

A Danish duo playing a mix of Bhangra and Hip Hop.

Current album: *Bombay Rockers* (2005)

### Bombay Vikings

<http://www.bombayvikings.com/>

A Swedish group who uses classical Indian and film music in their compositions.

Current album: *Zara Nazron se Kedo* (2006)

### DJ Aqeel

[www.djaqeel.com](http://www.djaqeel.com)

A popular remix artist.

Current album: *The Kajra Re Mix* (2005)

### DJ Suketu

A popular remix artist.

Current album: *The Bed Lounge* (2005)

### Dr. Zeus

Baljit Singh aka Dr.Zeus is a popular Punjabi music director.

Current album: *The Original Edit* (2005)

### Ganesh Hegde

A musician/choreographer who has just released his first album.

Current album: *G-pop* (2005)

### Jazzy B

[www.jazzyb.com](http://www.jazzyb.com)

AKA Jaswinder Singh Bains. Born in the Punjab, but raised in Vancouver, Canada. A Bhangra artist whose first release was in 1994. He now bases himself in the UK, Canada, and India.

Current album: *Romeo* (2004)

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**Josh**

[www.planetjosh.com](http://www.planetjosh.com)

A Canadian-Indian group whose influences include classical Indian music, R&B, hip hop etc.

Current album: *Kabhi* (2004)

**Juggy D**

A British born Punjabi singer specializing in fusion Bhangra.

Current album: *Juggy D* (2004)

**Daler Mehndi**

[www.dalermehndi.com](http://www.dalermehndi.com)

One of the most popular Bhangra artists from the Punjab.

Current album: *Shaa Ra Ra Ra* (2004)

**Falguni Pathak**

Female performer of Gujarati influenced tunes.

Current album: *Dil Jhoom Jhoom Naache* (2004)

**MIDival PunditZ**

[www.punditz.com](http://www.punditz.com)

An electronica DJ duo from New Delhi.

Current album: *Midival Times* (2005)

**Raghav**

<http://www.raghav.com/main.php>

A native of Calgary now living in the UK whose music mixes elements of R&B, Rap, and Bollywood music.

Current album: *Storyteller* (2004)

**Rouge**

English girl group who should have their first full album out in 2006.

Current album: featured on the album *D-Unit* (2005)

**Adnan Sami**

Indian pop artist, also a popular playback singer for Hindi films.

Current album: *Teri Kasam* (2004)

**Abhijeet Sawant**

Winner of the Indian Idol TV show in 2005.

Current album: *Aapka Abhijeet Sawant* (2005)

**Jay Sean**

<http://www.jaysean.com/flash.html>

UK born musician who mixes Indian rhythms with R&B

Current album: *Me Against Myself* (2004)

**Anoushka Shankar**

<http://www.anoushakashankar.com/>

Daughter of Ravi Shankar, she also specializes in sitar music

Current album: *Rise* (2005)

**Rabbi Shergill**

Incorporates 18th century Sufi poet Bulla Shah's words into pop music.

Current album: *Rabbi* (2005)

**Bikram Singh**

<http://www.bikramsingh.com/>

A Bhangra artist born in the Punjab now living in New York.

Current album: *American Jugni* (2005)

**Veronica**

Singer who has worked with Rishi Rich, Juggy D , and Jean Sean among others.  
Her music mixes Bhangra, hip hop, R&B, etc.

Current album: *Theen* (2005)

# **Bollywood**

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## General sites for more information on Hindi films

There are many websites that provide information on Hindi films. Here are several we've found useful. Some of them provide information on Kannada, Malayalam, Tamil and Telugu films as well.

- Apunkachoice  
<http://www.apunkachoice.com/>
- Bollyvista  
<http://www.bollyvista.com/>
- Glamsham  
<http://www.glamsham.com/>
- Indian FM  
<http://www.indiafm.com/>
- Indiaglitz  
<http://www.indiaglitz.com/>

Some other sites that have a focus beyond movie news that are also useful.

- Bollywhat  
<http://www.bollywhat.com/>  
A discussion board for all things Bollywood and includes an FAQ page for Bollywood newcomers.
- BoxOfficeIndia  
<http://www.boxofficeindia.com/>  
Current and historical box office rankings. Useful for determining what films are considered box office hits and flops.
- IBOS (International Business Overview Standard)  
<http://www.ibosnetwork.com/default.asp>  
Current and historical box office rankings. Useful for determining what films are considered box office hits and flops.
- MusicIndiaOnline  
<http://www.musicindiaonline.com/>

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Primarily a music listening site, it also has some current news and film/music reviews.

## Where to purchase popular Indian films

### Traditional Vendors

- Multi-Cultural Books and Videos, Inc.  
[www.mcbv.com](http://www.mcbv.com)  
Able to supply films in Hindi and other Indian languages. Hindi films are listed as a separate category in their catalog.
- Midwest Tape  
[www.midwesttapes.com](http://www.midwesttapes.com)  
Able to supply films in Hindi. Highlights Bollywood films as a separate category in their catalogs and has a standing order plan available.
- BWI  
<http://www.bwibooks.com/>  
Limited title availability – special Bollywood title list last updated in Fall 2004.
- Baker & Taylor  
<http://www.btol.com/>  
Very limited availability – access by title

## **Web retailers**

- Amazon  
[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)  
Limited availability—may refer you to some of their marketplace vendors.  
Useful if you have established an account with Amazon.

*Some web retailers have an excellent selection, but may not be set up to work easily with libraries. A few web retailers we've used for personal purchases:*

- Eros Entertainment  
[www.erosentertainment.com](http://www.erosentertainment.com)
- Nehaflix  
[www.nehaflix.com](http://www.nehaflix.com)
- India Plaza  
[www.indiaplaza.com](http://www.indiaplaza.com)

## **Other sources**

- Local retail shops catering to the South Asian community  
May or may not be geared to working with libraries. May or may not carry pirated materials.

## **Current Top Actors**

- John Abraham
- Abhishek Bachchan
- Amitabh Bachchan
- Sunny Deol
- Ajay Devgan
- Sanjay Dutt
- Emraan Hashmi
- Anil Kapoor
- Aamir Khan
- Saif Ali Khan
- Salman Khan
- Shah Rukh Khan
- Akshay Khanna
- Akshay Kumar
- Arjun Rampal
- Hrithik Roshan

## **Current Top Actresses**

- Bipasha Basu
- Juhi Chawla
- Priyanka Chopra
- Kajol
- Kareena Kapoor
- Rani Mukherjee
- Aishwarya Rai
- Sushmita Sen
- Shilpa Shetty
- Preity Zinta

## **Current Top Directors/Producers**

- Farhan Akhtar
- Sanjay Leela Bhansali
- Vikram Bhatt
- Aditya Chopra
- Vidhu Vinod Chopra
- Yash Chopra
- David Dhawan
- Subhash Ghai
- Ashutosh Gowariker
- Karan Johar
- Rakesh Roshan
- Ram Gopal Varma

## Gail's and Jeffrey's Suggestions—25 films to start your collection

- *Amar Akbar Anthony* (1977)  
Separated when very young, three brothers are adopted by different families and raised in three different faiths: Hindu, Muslim, and Christian. As adults they find each other and together pay back the man responsible for splitting up their family. *(Comedy/Drama)*
- *Baghban* (2003)  
Raj Malhotra and his wife Pooja sacrifice everything to provide for their four children—only to find themselves neglected when they grow old. *(Drama)*
- *Black* (2005)  
Eccentric teacher Debraj takes on the difficult job of teaching a young deaf, mute, and blind girl. Later in life, as Alzheimer's takes its toll on him, they find their roles reversed. Inspired by the life of Helen Keller. *(Drama)*
- *Bunty aur Babli* (2005)  
Feeling trapped by small town life and their parent's plans for their futures, Bunty and Babli strike on out their own. Meeting by chance, they join forces and become accomplished con artists. Unfortunately, a police officer is on their trail and he's determined to stop them. *(Comedy)*
- *Company* (2002)  
Leadership of criminal empire in Mumbai falls to Mallik and Chandu, until a misunderstanding leads to a gang war. *(Drama)*
- *Devdas* (2002)  
The upper middle class Devdas falls in love with the beautiful middle class Paro. Forbidden by his family to marry her, yet unable to forget her, he retreats into a world of alcohol to comfort himself. Based on the novel by Bengali novelist Saratchandra Chatterjee, *(Drama)*
- *Dhoom* (2004)  
A police officer teams up with a small time con artist to catch a gang of thieves that is using hi-tech motorcycles to carry out their crimes. *(Action)*
- *Dil Chata Hai* (2001)  
A fight tears apart the friendship of Akash, Sameer, and Siddharth until each learns what it means to love. *(Drama/Comedy)*

Gail Mueller Schultz & Jeffrey Gegner  
Hennepin County Library  
PLA March 2006

- *Dil to Pagal Hai* (1997)  
When his star performer is injured, choreographer/director Rahul finds a replacement in the beautiful, talented Pooja. The love that grows between Rahul and Pooja is threatened by a rash promise Pooja made to marry her childhood friend, Ajay. (*Romance*)
- *Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge* (otherwise known as: DDLJ) (1995)  
On a trip through Europe, Raj and Simran meet and fall in love. But when Simran is taken back to India for an arranged marriage, Raj follows her intent on getting her father's blessing to marry her. A film now considered to be a classic. (*Romance*)
- *Hum Aapke Hain Koun* (1994)  
Rajesh and Pooja have fallen in love, married, and have had their first child. Unbeknownst to their families, Rajesh's brother, Prem, and Pooja's sister, Nisha, have also fallen in love. Before they can make their love known, Pooja suddenly dies and the families decide that Nisha must marry Rajesh. (*Romance*)
- *Hum Tum* (2004)  
Karan, a cartoonist, first meets Rhea on a flight to New York. Over the next few years their paths continue to cross and their friendship gradually grows into love. Inspired by the American film *When Harry Met Sally*. (*Romance*)
- *Kabhi Khushi Kabie Gham* (otherwise known as: K3G) (2001)  
Rahul is disinherited when he defies his wealthy father and marries a girl of his own choosing. Ten years later, Rahul's younger brother, Rohan, sets out to find him and unite the family once more. (*Drama/Comedy*)
- *Kaho Naa Pyaar Hai* (2000)  
Shortly after penniless singer Rohit and wealthy Sonia fall in love, Rohit is killed. While recovering from her heartbreak in New Zealand, Sonia meets Raj who looks exactly like Rohit. When someone tries to kill Raj, the two try to find out why. (*Drama/Romance*)
- *Kal Ho Naa Ho* (2003)  
Aman is falling in love with Naina and he knows she is falling in love with him, but he also knows he is dying. He decides to bring Naina together with someone who can actually share her life—her best friend and fellow New Yorker, Rohit. (*Drama/Romance*)

- *Koi Mil Gaya* (2003)  
The developmentally disabled Rohit continues his father's attempts to contact life on other planets. When he succeeds and the extraterrestrials visit earth, one of the aliens is accidentally left behind. One of the first Indian science fiction movies. (*Science fiction*)
- *Kuch Kuch Hota Hai* (1998)  
Although Tina dies shortly after giving birth, she leaves behind letters for her daughter—one for each of the first eight years of her life. In the last letter, Tina instructs her daughter to reunite her father, Rahul, with his best friend Anjali—the woman he would have come to marry had he not fallen in love with Tina. (*Romance*)
- *Lagaan* (2001)  
In the late 1800s, taxes are due to the local British army captain even though there has been a drought and the villagers are unable to pay. The British captain makes a wager with the villagers: beat his team in a game of cricket and you pay no tax, lose and you pay threefold. (*Drama*)
- *Main Hoon Na* (2004)  
Major Ram goes undercover on a college campus in Darjeeling to protect a general's daughter from the attentions of a terrorist. At the same time, he seeks to locate and reconcile with his half-brother and step-family. (*Masala-comedy/drama/romance/action*)
- *Mother India* (1957)  
Three generations of an Indian family suffer the consequences when the local moneylender takes advantage of an uneducated woman through a repayment contract that allows him to take three fourths of her crop. (*Drama*)
- *Mughal E Azam* (1960)  
In this classic movie, the love affair between a crown prince and a court dancer results in civil war in the 16<sup>th</sup> century Mughal Empire. (*Drama*)
- *Munnabhai MBBS* (2003)  
Munna, a gangster, has duped his father into believing that he is a doctor. When the ruse is discovered, Munna enlists the help of his gang so that he may become a real doctor and regain his father's respect. (*Comedy*)
- *No Entry* (2005)  
Three married men become tangled in a web of mistaken identities, when the philandering Prem hires a bar girl to seduce his friend Kishen. (*Comedy*)

- *Sholay* (1975)  
Hired by the police officer who sent them to jail, two criminals take on the man who killed most of the officer's family and is terrorizing his village. A classic film that engendered the nickname "curry western." (*Drama*)
- *Veer-Zaara* (2004)  
Veer Pratap Singh is an Indian Air Force rescue pilot who saves Zaara, a Pakistani girl, after a bus accident. After going to her aid in Pakistan, he is wrongly imprisoned for 22 years until a young Pakistani lawyer decides to take his case and becomes determined to free Veer and find out what happened to Zaara. (*Drama/Romance*)

### **And more suggestions if you want to keep going**

- *Bhoot* (2003)
- *Chalte Chalte* (2003)
- *Coolie* (1983)
- *Dus* (2005)
- *Gadar* (2001)
- *Garam Masala* (2005)
- *The Hero* (2003)
- *Hanuman* (2005)
- *Hulchul* (2004)
- *Hungama* (2003)
- *Indian* (2001)
- *Kaante* (2002)
- *Karan Arjun* (1995)
- *Khakee* (2004)
- *Kismet* (1942)
- *Lakshya* (2004)
- *Mangal Pandey: The Rising* (2005)
- *Masti* (2004)
- *Mission Kashmir* (2000)
- *Mohabbatein* (2000)
- *Mr. India* (1987)
- *Mujhse Shaadi Karogi* (2004)
- *Parineeta* (2005)
- *Raaz* (2002)
- *Raja Hindustani* (1996)
- *Salaam Namaste* (2005)
- *Sarkar* (2005)
- *Swades* (2004)
- *Waqt* (2005)

# Glossary

<b>Terms*</b>	<b>Definitions</b>
ABCD	American Born Confused Desi. A slang term used by American desis in their teens and twenties. See <i>desi</i>
Bhangra	A fusion of music, singing, and drums—originally using the Dhol drum. Bhangra’s roots are in the Indian state of Punjab.
Bollywood	Informal name for the Hindi film industry based in Mumbai. Derived from combining Mumbai’s former name, ‘Bombay’, with ‘Hollywood’. Frequently used to describe the entire Indian film industry.
Chutney	Party music using East Indian folk tunes, movie tunes and bhajans (religious songs), over a fast calypso beat.
Desi	A term Indians and NRIs use to refer to themselves. Derived from the phrase meaning ‘of my country.’
Filmi	Refers to both the music that is composed for Indian films and the Bollywood film industry as a whole.
Firang	Slang term for outsider or foreigner.
Ghazals	An ancient poetic form made of couplets that share a rhyme and refrain still used in popular songs
HiFi	Shortened term for Hindi Film Industry.
Hindi	One of the 18 regional languages recognized as an official language by the Indian government. The primary language of Bollywood films.
Hindi Film Industry	Also known as <i>Bollywood</i> .
Indipop	Refers to Indian popular music that is not film related.
Item Number	A dance number in a film which may have no bearing or ties to the plot and may feature actors and actresses not in the rest of the movie.
Kollywood	A slang term for the Tamil film industry of Southern India. Derived from combining Kodambakkam (an area in Chennai) and Hollywood.

Lollywood	Informal name for the Pakistani film industry based in the city of Lahore. Derived from combining 'Lahore' and 'Hollywood.'
Masala	The Hindi word meaning the mix of many spices. A masala film will be a mix of many things: action, drama, comedy, romance, etc.
Mumbai	City formerly known as Bombay. Home of the Hindi Film Industry.
Music Director	The composer of a films' music. They may or may not be the lyricist.
NRI	Non Resident Indian. Refers to Indians who have emigrated to other countries or are away from India for a significant amount of time each year. Sometimes refers to a broader community of Indian descent—similar to the use of <i>desi</i> .
Picturization	Used in reference to how a song is presented on screen—setting, choreography, etc.
Playback singers	The performers who provide the vocals for the songs in Indian films.
Punjabi	The language of the Indian state of Punjab and is usually the language in which Bhangra is performed.
Qawwali	Traditionally, the devotional music of the Sufis, the lyrics composed mostly in Urdu or Punjabi—now also used in Indian films.
Remix	Songs from current, as well as older, films are rerecorded (remixed) to add an electronic dance beat. Also refers to remakes of older songs.
Tabla	A percussive instrument widely used in Indian classical, devotional and popular music.
Urdu	One of the 18 regional languages recognized as an official language by the Indian government. Also the official language of Pakistan.

\*Note: Hindi words written using the Roman alphabet may have a wide variety of spellings, since there are no standard transliterations.