

The world is a strange place.
Here,
Whoever shoots,
Is the one who gets killed!



KUPAL

Scriptwriter and Director
Kazem Mollaie

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YOU CAN'T BE ALONE IN THIS WORLD!



Film Biography (KUPAL)

CATEGORY: NARRATIVE FEATURE / **GENRE:** DRAMA / **Shooting Format:** 4K
Frame rate: 25 fps / **Aspect Ratio:** 1.78 (16x9 VIDEO) / **LANGUAGE:** PERSIAN
SUBTITLE: ENGLISH / **RUNTIME:** 81 minutes / **Picture Format:** COLOUR
Sound: Dolby digital, Stereo / **Screener Format:** Secure Online Screener, DVD,
BLU-RAY, MP4 (H264) / **Exhibition Format:** DCP, MOV, BLU-RAY, MP4 (H264)
PRODUCT OF 2017 (IRAN)



LOGLINE (KUPAL)

"Kupal" is the story of a hunter and a taxidermist, called "Dr. Ahmad Kupal". On the last day of the year, moments before the turn of the year, he faces an unexpected challenge.



BIOGRAPHY (Director)

Kazem Mollaie started filmmaking with a short film named "FROM GAME TO..." (1999). Mollaie holds a B.A. in Cinema Directing from "Soore University of Tehran" in 2005. He has been the member of several organizations such as "Iranian Young Cinema Society" (IYCS), the "Iranian Alliance of Motion Picture Guilds" (Khaneh Cinema) and member of Board of Directors of "Iranian Short Film Association" (ISFA). He is known for his first feature movie named KUPAL (2017) and short films like DELETE (2011) and MINUS (2009). His latest film is THE BADGER (2020).

- **Kazem Mollaie**, Born on the 21st. September 1981 in Sabzevar, Iran
- Member of "Iranian Youth Cinema Society" (IYCS) / 1998
- Has started filmmaking with a short film named "From Game to ..." / 1999
- Director of the film and photo center of "Soore University of Tehran" / 2003 - 2005
- Holds a B.Sc. in Cinema Directing from "Soore University of Tehran" / 2005
- The author of cinematic page of "Asrar newspaper" / 2005 - 2006
- Member of "Iranian Alliance of Motion Picture Guilds" (Khaneh Cinema) / 2009
- Member of "The Iranian Short Film Association" (ISFA) / 2009
- Jury Member of the "Iranian Short Film Academy" / 2011 - 2019
- Member of the Selection Committee of the "8th. Varesheh International Film Festival" / 2015
- Member of the Selection Committee of the "32nd. Tehran Int. Short Film Festival" / 2015
- Jury Member of "Kichah Film Festival" / 2016
- Chief Editor of ISFA website (iranianshortfilm.com) / 2016
- Member of Board of Directors of Iranian Short Film Association (ISFA) / 2016
- Member of the Selection Committee of the "34th. Tehran Int. Short Film Festival" / 2017
- Jury Member of the "19th. Iran Cinema Celebration Academy" (Khaneh Cinema) / 2017
- Jury Member of the "9th. Wordless International Short Film Festival" / 2017
- Spokesman of "Film Week of Serbia" in IRAN/ 2018
- Member of the Selection Committee of the "9th. Iranian Independent Short Film Festival" / 2018
- Special guest and Spokesman of Round Table of Iran's Cinema in the "5th. Hanoi International Film Festival" in VIETNAM / 2018
- Manager of public relations of the "3rd. National Mowj Short Film Festival" / 2018 - 2019
- Jury Member of the "16th. Qazvin Film Festival" / 2019
- Jury Member of ISFA AWARD in the "9th. Varesheh International Film Festival" / 2019
- Jury Member of the "16th. Nahal International Film Festival" / 2019



FILMOGRAPHY (Kazem Mollaie)

- 1) From game to... / Short Film / 2000
- 2) Tel / Short Film / 2000
- 3) The wind is blowing in the Alley / Short Film / 2002
- 4) Akbar, For God Sake, don't die before me! / Short Film / 2003
- 5) Carmen Funebre / Documentary / 2005
- 6) Please stay away from the red line / Short Film / 2008
- 7) Minus / Short Film / 2009
- 8) Delete / Short Film / 2011
- 9) Kupal / First Narrative Feature / 2017**
- 10) THE BADGER / Second Narrative Feature / 2020



Credits

Cast

Levon Haftvan

Nazanin Farahani
Pouria Rahimi Sam
Hossein Shamsabadi
Vahan Salimzadeh
Mojtaba Alizadeh
Hossein Qayebi Shabahang
Behrouz Nameni
Maryam Shahroudi
Elham Nami
Ebrahim Akbari
And Sharon (Starring as Haiku)

Directing Crew

Scriptwriter and Director: Kazem Mollaie
Artistic Advisor: Mohammad Akbari
First Assistant Director and Program Coordinator: Mehrnoush Hosseini
Script Supervisor: Safoura Barsan
Second Assistant Director and Behind the Scenes' Photography:
Khalil Khosrovani
Still Photographer: Ali Delakabadi
Press Relations: Hadi Alipanah

Camera Crew

Director of Photography: Majid Gorjian
First Camera Assistant: Arash Sasani
Filming Crew: Ali Mohammadi, Farhad Shokri, Abbas Ataie, Arash Mirzakhani,
Mostafa Amiri
Cinemobile: Amir Hossein Ahmadi
Technical Support: Reza Tahmoores, Mojtaba Tahmoores (T.R.C)

Set and Costume Crew

Production Designer: Mohammad Akbari
Costume Designer: Mitra Asiaee
Prop Assistant: Majid Majidi
Accessories: Mehdi Majidi
Scene Manager: Hossein Qayebi Shabahang
Sculptor: Hadi Arefi, Hamid Arefi
Costume Designer Assistant: Afsaneh Haddad

Production and Logistics

Executive Producer: Siamak Kashef Azar
Production Manager: Mitra Mehtarian
Production Supervisor: Hassan Shamsabadi
Procurement Manager: Omid Dareyni
Assistants for Production and Logistics: Saied Yusefi, Hossein Monidri
Transportation: Ali Eslami Moghaddam

Make-Up Crew

Make-Up Artist: Mahmoud Dehghani
Assistants: Afshin Aslani, Mina Aslani

Sound Crew

Sound Recordist: Hamed Samadzadeh
Sound Designer and Mixer: Hosseyn Ghourchian

Music Crew

Music Composer: Babak Mirzakhani
Assistant: Arman Nasiri
Musicians: Arman Nasiri, Sepehr Karbasian, Farshad Pasdar, Mohmmad Hossein
Moharrami, Babak Mirzakhani

Editing Crew

Editor: Emad Khodabakhsh, Kazem Mollaie
Assistant: Hadi Ahmadi

Visual Effects & Title Designer: Amir Mehran
Thanks to: Masoud Taghi Momeni

Color Correction: Saman Majd Vafaie
Graphic Designer: Taha Zaker
Logo Designer: Abtin Arad

Animal Trainer: Mohammad Talebi
Assistant: Bahram Rajaiefar

Distributor Advisor: Ali Asgari
Subtitle Translator: Hoda Lezgi
Official Movie Site: Behrang Parnian

Thanks to

Organization of Cinema & Audiovisual Affairs of Iran's Ministry of Culture
and Islamic Guidance
The Department of Environment of Tehran Province
Office for Natural Museums and Genetic Reserves
The Department of Environment of Khorasan Razavi Province
Sabzevar Governor's Office
Sabzevar City Islamic Council
The Department of Environment of Sabzevar
Abadaniye Diyar Sarbedaran Institution of Sabzevar
Sabzevar Municipality
Organization for Parks and Landscape Areas of Sabzevar
University of Medical Sciences and Healthcare Services of Sabzevar
Police Department of Sabzevar
Public Relations Office of Sabzevar Prison
Parto San'at Technical and Engineering Company of Sabzevar
Department for Roads and Urban Development of Sabzevar
Department of Culture and Islamic Guidance of Sabzevar
Chahar-Yek Memar Engineering Group
Sepidar Studio Pro
Majd Cinematic Technology Development Center
Asia Furniture Company of Sabzevar
Kaj Fast Food Restaurant of Sabzevar
Sarbedaran Local Dance Group
Amirulmomenin Rehabilitation Charity Center of Sabzevar
Soha Seyr Sharq Air Travel Services Agency
Roshanak Arya Clothes Designing Company

With Special Thanks to

Mostafa Delbari
Hakim Sabzevari University
Kamelia Hotel of Sabzevar



Producer

Kazem Mollaie
2017



Summary (KUPAL)

"Dr. Ahmad Kupal" is a 50 year-old hunter and a taxidermist. Recently, his wife "Firoozeh" has left him because of his job. Firoozeh will come back only on one condition, that Kupal sends "Haiku" (Kupal's beloved dog) and the rest of the taxidermied animals out of the house. Moments before the New Year, Kupal and his dog, get trapped in the big taxidermy workshop in the basement of the house and struggle with death for a week. He tries to battle thirst and hunger in his own special way to survive.

Synopsis (KUPAL)

"Dr. Ahmad Kupal" is a 50 year-old hunter and taxidermist. Recently, his wife "Firoozeh" has left him because of his excessive hunting and the numerous taxidermied animals that he has kept in the house. Because of his extreme love for his dog (Haiku) and uncontrolled hunting, Kupal fails to bring his wife back to the house. Firoozeh will only come back on one condition: that Kupal takes Haiku and all the taxidermied animals out of the house. Just moments before the New Year, Kupal and his dog get trapped in the big taxidermy workshop in the basement of the house and he's not able to open the burglar-proof door. For days, he struggles with death in a very harsh situation and is forced to battle thirst and hunger in his own special way to survive. On the fifth day of his struggle, when Kupal gives up and surrenders to death, he sees a video captured by the Gopro camera on Haiku and comes to a realization: the key of the burglar-proof door has been swallowed by Haiku himself. Kupal has undergone changes and now he can't bear to kill an innocent animal, especially Haiku and so he decides not to kill him but to give up his own life instead. The next day, (on the sixth day of his struggle), Kupal suddenly realizes that Haiku has intentionally swallowed his heart medication, leaving him poisoned and on the verge of death. Kupal has no choice but to mercy kill him in order to end his suffering. He manages to bring the key out of Haiku's gut and rescue himself from an inevitable death.



Festivals & Awards (KUPAL)

1. 35th. Fajr Film Festival (IRAN) / Feb. 01, 2017
2. 35th. Fajr International Film Festival {Market & Video Library} (IRAN) / April 2017
3. **Best Feature Film** in the "3rd. Around International Film Festival" (NETHERLANDS) / June 2017
4. **Nominated for the Best Debut Filmmaker** in the "11th. Celebration of Iranian Critics and Writers Association" (IRAN) / Aug. 2017
5. 14th. Jameson CineFest Miskolc International Film Festival (HUNGARY) / 11th. & 12th. Sept. 2017
6. **Nominated for the Best Feature Film** in the "6th. Iran International Green Film Festival" (IRAN) / Sept. 13, 2017
7. 22nd. Split Film Festival (CROATIA) / Sept. 15, 2017
8. **Best Feature Film** in the 6th. Brasov International Film Festival & Market (CANADA) / Sept. 17, 2017
9. 10th. Arizona Underground Film Festival (USA) / Sept. 17, 2017
10. 12th. Silk Screen Film Festival (USA) / 18th. & 21st. Sept. 2017
11. 11th. Buffalo International Film Festival (USA) / Oct. 08, 2017
12. 12th. Orlando Film Festival (USA) / Oct. 20, 2017
13. 8th. Wind International Film Festival (USA) / Oct. 2017
14. **Best Feature Film** in the 34th. Bogota Film Festival (COLOMBIA) / 20th. & 26th. Oct. 2017
15. 5th. Portland Film Festival (USA) / Nov. 02, 2017
16. **Best Foreign Feature** in the 26th. Berkeley Video and Film Festival (USA) / Nov. 04, 2017
17. **Best Feature & Best Actor and Nominated for the Best Screenplay & Best Cinematography** in the 12th. Hamilton Film Festival - Canadian Film Market (CANADA) / Nov. 07, 2017
18. **Best Foreign Language Film** in the 7th. Weyauwega International Film Festival (USA) / Nov. 09, 2017
19. **Jury Award (Special Mention) and Nominated for the Best Film & Best Director** in the 23rd. Kolkata International Film Festival (INDIA) / 13th. & 16th. Nov. 2017
20. 3rd. Toronto's Iranian film festival {CineIran Festival} (CANADA) / Nov. 19, 2017
21. **Best International Fiction Film** in the "2nd. International Film Festival With Alternative Media" {FICMA} (MEXICO) / Nov. 22, 2017
22. 12th. Jogja-NETPAC Asian Film Festival (INDONESIA) / Dec. 02, 2017
23. 6th. Delhi international film festival (INDIA) / Dec. 08, 2017
24. **Grand Prix Narrative Feature** in the "3rd. Montreal Independent Film Awards" {MIFA} (CANADA) / Dec. 10, 2017
25. 22nd. Kerala International Film Festival (INDIA) / 9th. 11th. & 13th Dec. 2017
26. **Best Feature Fiction & Best Trailer of the Month** in the "2nd. 12 Months Film Festival" (ROMANIA) / Dec. 2017
27. 7th. Jaipur International Film Festival (INDIA) / Jan. 08, 2018

28. 16th. Dhaka International Film Festival (BANGLADESH) / Jan. 18, 2018
29. **Closing Film** of the "18th. Geneva International Independent Film Festival" {Black Movie} (SWITZERLAND) / Jan. 28, 2018
30. 20th. San Francisco Independent Film Festival (USA) / 3rd. & 4th. Feb. 2018
31. 2nd. Wisconsin Iranian Film Festival (USA) / Feb. 2018
32. **Best Feature Film** in the 13th. Huntington Beach Film Festival (USA) / Feb. 22, 2018
33. 46th. Belgrade International Film Festival (SERBIA) / March. 01, 2018
34. 13th. International Film Festival Thrissur (INDIA) / March. 07, 2018
35. Regional Film Festivals of Kerala (INDIA) / March. 15, 2018
36. 8th. Queens World Film Festival (USA) / March. 18, 2018
37. 10th. Trenton Film Festival (USA) / March. 22, 2018
38. 16th. Cine Pobre Film Festival (MEXICO) / May 07, 2018
39. **Best Narrative Feature** in the 5th. The Fine Arts Film Festival (USA) / May. 12, 2018
40. 4th. Iranian Film Festival Zurich (SWITZERLAND) / 24th, 27th. May 2018
41. 3rd. The Mediterranean Film Festival "MedFF" (ITALY) / June 02, 2018
42. **Closing Film** of the 5th. Iranian Film Festival Cologne (GERMANY) / June 03, 2018
43. 6th. Iranian Film Festival in Paris (FRANCE) / June 07, 2018
44. 5th. Fresco International Festival of Modern Art and Spiritual Films (Armenia) / June 26, 2018
45. **Best Cinematographer, Closing Film and Nominated for the Best Festival Theme Film, Best Lead Actor & Best Soundtrack** in the 3rd. Realtime International Film Festival (Nigeria) / June 30, 2018
46. 16th. Ischia Film Festival (Italy) / July 06, 2018
47. **Nominated for the Best Foreign Feature Film & Best Story** in the "21st. The Long Island International Film Expo" (USA) / July 15, 2018
48. 18th. New Horizons International Film Festival (POLAND) / July 28, 2018
49. 3rd. Lakecity International Film Festival (INDIA) / Aug. 11, 2018
50. **Best Actor** in the "3rd. Canal de Panama International Film Festival" (Panama) / Aug. 19, 2018
51. 4th. Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival (USA) / Aug. 25, 2018
52. 3rd. Defy Film Festival (USA) / Aug. 25, 2018
53. **Nominated for the Best Feature Film in the "19th. Moondance International Film Festival" (USA) / Sept. 2018**
54. **Special Mention** in the "7th. Cebu International Film Festival" (Philippines) / Sept. 20, 2018
55. 5th. Bioscope Global Film Festival (India) / Sept. 29, 2018
56. 6th. Haverhill Film Festival (USA) / Oct. 2018
57. **Best Cinematographer** in the "4th. BANGIFF - BangkokThai International Film Festival" / Oct. 15, 2018
58. 5th. Hanoi International Film Festival (Vietnam) / Oct. 2018
59. 18th. Valley Film Festival {Trailer Section} (USA) / Oct. 2018
60. 18th. Anchorage International Film Festival (USA) / Dec. 06, 2018
61. **Honorable Mention (Best Actor)** in the "4th. All Lights India International Film Festival" (India) / Dec. 01, 2018
62. 2nd. Krajina Film Festival (Bosnia and Herzegovina) / December 2018
63. 8th. The Lift Of Sessions (United Kingdom) / Dec. 2018
64. Dumbo Film Festival (USA) / Dec. 2018
65. **Best Feature Film** in the "3rd. Arthouse Asia Film Festival" (India) / Jan. 2019
66. **Best Poster & nominated for the Best Trailer** in the "37th. Fajr Film Festival" (IRAN) / Jan. 2019
67. 4th. Dada Saheb Phalke International Film Festival" (India) / Feb. 2019
68. 5th. First-Time Filmmaker Sessions (United Kingdom) / Feb. 2019
69. 3rd. Cardiff International Film Festival (United Kingdom) / Oct. 2020



Trailer

vimeo.com/kazem/kupaltrailer



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تولید و توزیع: سینا ۱۳۸۷

KUPAL

Levon Haftvan / Nazanin Farahani / Pouria Rahimi Sam / Sharon (Haiku)

Production Manager: Mitra Mehtarian / Make-Up Artist: Mahmoud Dehghani / Visual Effects: Amir Mehran / Sound Recordist: Hamed Samadzadeh
Sound Designer and Mixer: Hosseyn Ghourchian / Music Composer: Babak Mirzakhani / Editor: Emad Khodabakhsh, Kazem Mollaei
Director of Photography: Majid Gorjian / Artistic Advisor & Production Designer: Mohammad Akbari / Executive Producer: Siamak Kashef Azar
Director, Writer & Producer: Kazem Mollaei