



## *Irish Film Critic*

The Very Best In Entertainment News & Reviews

"1924 seems to be touched by the divine."

Tim Brennan, Rotten Tomatoes, USA

"1924 draws attention to children in conflict zones."

Align Media, Dubai

"Saha's 5-min movies on big cities go global."

The Print, India

# 1924

## THE KAKORI PROJECT

INSPIRED BY TRUE EVENTS

# PRESS KIT

16TH STREET PRODUCTIONS  
AND FLUTTERBY PICTURES  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH COLLECTIVE MADNESS

PRESENT

1924

THE KAKORI PROJECT

INSPIRED BY TRUE EVENTS

DIRECTION, STORY AND SCREENPLAY PRATAYA SAHA

CAST KARTIKEY TRIPATHI | DEBOPRASAD HALDAR | ROHIT BASFORE

SUDEB DAS | SWARNAKSHI DEY

CINEMATOGRAPHY JOYDEEP BHOWMIK

EDITOR & COLOURIST PRASANTH AMBILI

SOUND DESIGN APURV PRASANNA

MIXING & MASTERING ADRIAN VALENTINE RODRIGUES

BACKGROUND SCORE KARTHIK BHANDARE

GRAPHIC DESIGNER NEIL CHATTERJEE

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT DEBKUMAR BANERJEE

SUBTITLE KARTHIK BHANDARE

PRODUCER POORVA BHAT

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER VIJAYKUMAR MIRCHANDANI

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER MANEESH VERMA ANSHULIKA KAPOOR

FILM FESTIVAL STRATEGIST VIJAYKUMAR MIRCHANDANI

FILM FESTIVAL CONSULTANT SOFIA AMATO





# LOGLINE

In the tumultuous winter of 1924, India, a young man, while getting recruited for a covert mission, grapples with the moral complexities of the Indian Independence Struggle, entwined with the haunting plight of children caught in conflict zones.



# SYNOPSIS

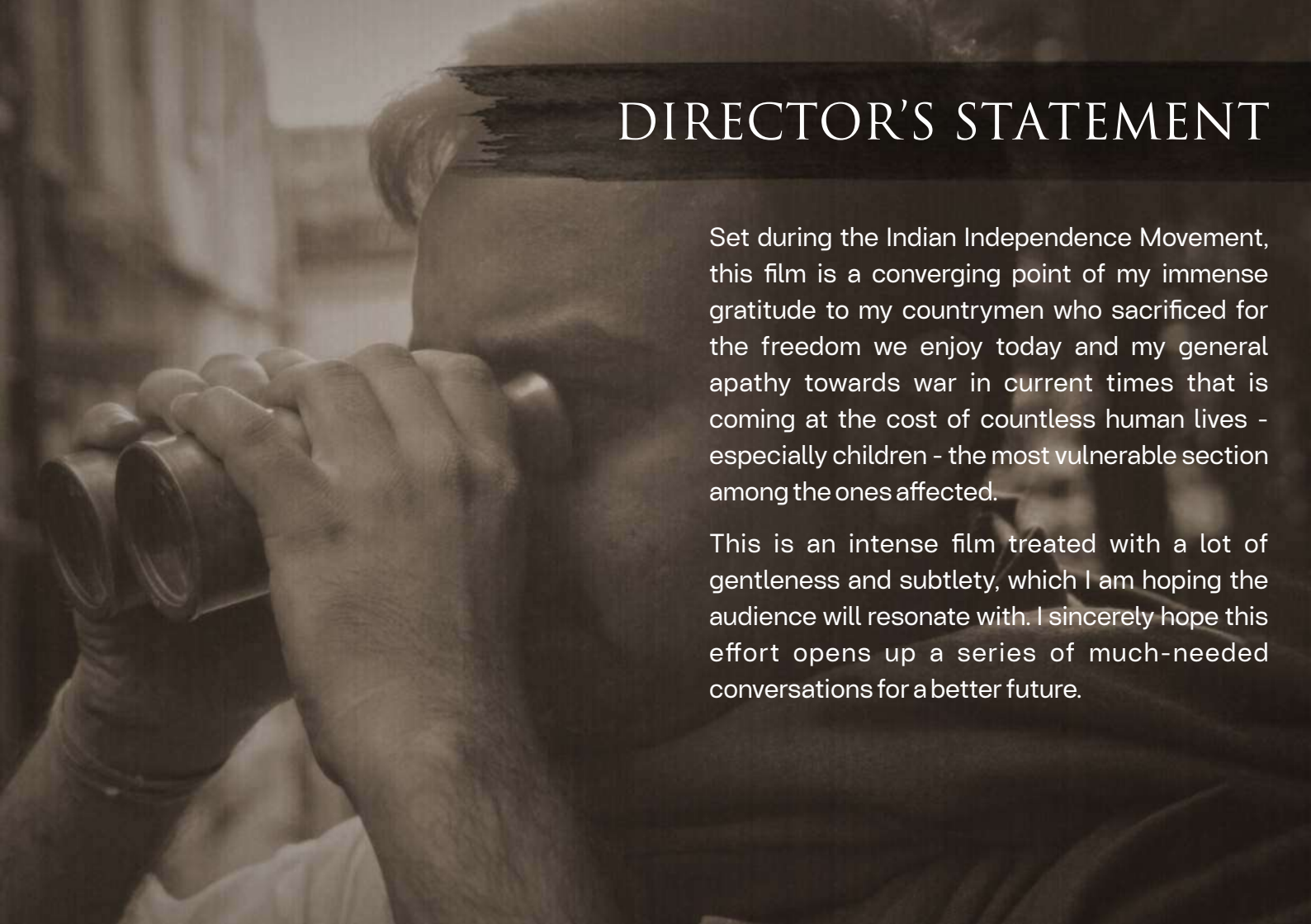
In the winter of 1924. India, amidst the fervour of the Indian Independence Movement, a seasoned freedom fighter recruits an 18-year-old boy torn between personal convictions and the call for national duty. Tasked with a pivotal mission against the British, the boy's internal conflict escalates when he's required to prove his loyalty through the assassination of a British informant.

Set against the socio-political turbulence of the era, this historical drama delves into the profound choices individuals make within the complex fabric of a nation's fight for freedom and intertwines the tumultuous events of the Indian Independence Struggle with the haunting realities of children caught in conflict zones.

# TRAILER



CLICK TO WATCH  
THE TRAILER



# DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Set during the Indian Independence Movement, this film is a converging point of my immense gratitude to my countrymen who sacrificed for the freedom we enjoy today and my general apathy towards war in current times that is coming at the cost of countless human lives - especially children - the most vulnerable section among the ones affected.

This is an intense film treated with a lot of gentleness and subtlety, which I am hoping the audience will resonate with. I sincerely hope this effort opens up a series of much-needed conversations for a better future.



# THE WORLD THEN AND NOW

While highlighting the sacrifices made by the forerunners of the Indian Independence Movement, "1924" also underlines the plight of children caught in conflict zones, drawing parallels to present times where the unfortunate reality is that, despite technological and societal advancements, the fundamental challenges faced by children in conflict zones remain largely unchanged in the last 100 years.

The film serves as a stark reminder that, across generations and continents, innocent children are still caught in the crossfire of geopolitical conflicts, their lives disrupted, and their futures uncertain.

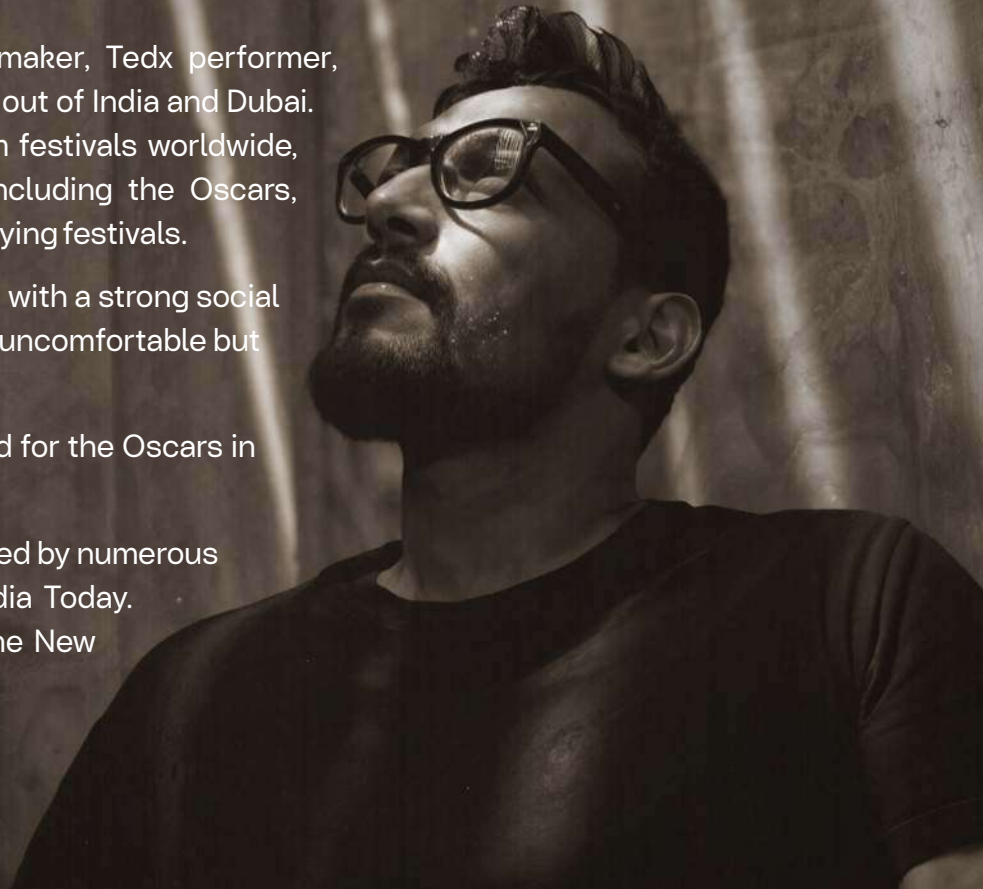
# PRATAYA SAHA (DIRECTOR)

Prataya Saha is an independent filmmaker, Tedx performer, theatre director & photographer based out of India and Dubai. His films have been selected in 98 film festivals worldwide, winning 28 awards in 14 countries, including the Oscars, Canadian Screen Award & BAFTA Qualifying festivals.

Most of his films hover around subjects with a strong social message, sometimes the ones that are uncomfortable but important.

His last film, *The Golden Cage*, qualified for the Oscars in 2024.

Over the years his work has been covered by numerous media houses including *The Week*, *India Today*, *BBC UK*, *Times of India*, *The Hindu*, *The New Indian Express*, etc.



# POORVA BHAT (PRODUCER)

Poorva is a documentary filmmaker and editor based in India. Her body of work is spread across Indian and American productions as an editor and she just made her international debut as a filmmaker in 2024 with her short documentary titled “What’s The Film About?” that World Premiered at the prestigious Visions du Reel film festival, Switzerland.

She is an alumna of DOC NYC, Scottish Documentary Institute, and currently a Fellow at The Bitchitra Collective.

Poorva is also the Co-founder of “Open Door Docs”, a space for women practising documentary filmmaking in India to network, grow, learn and scale.

“Prataya’s treatment of the subject in 1924 moved me not only as a fellow filmmaker but also as a mother. Talking about the brutal impact of war on children needs to be a global conversation right now, and Prataya’s ability to tell a story in five minutes that makes audiences sit up and introspect is a rare gift.”



# VIJAYKUMAR MIRCHANDANI (EXECUTIVE PRODUCER)

Lights, Camera, Action! These words transformed VJ from an actor to an award-winning director/producer. With over 20 films to his credit, VJ's work has garnered 100 awards and over 300 festival selections, including Academy Award®, BAFTA, and Canadian Screen Awards. His LGBTQIA+ short "Coming Out with the Help of a Time Machine" was considered for the 2023 Oscars®. VJ's first feature "Les Chant De Fusils" won multiple awards for its portrayal of child soldiers. In 2024, he collaborates with Prataya Saha on "1924: The Kakori Project," a period short on the impact of conflict on children. Passionate about humanitarian issues, VJ's films address topics like depression, mental health, and domestic violence. He also mentors aspiring filmmakers and consults on festival strategy.

Having made my first documentary on Autism, children hold a special place in my heart. Thus it was a no-brainer joining Prataya Saha's "1924: The Kakori Project". This beautifully crafted 5-minute film addresses the impact of political conflict on children, aligning with my mission to "Be The Change" and raise awareness about unnoticed sacrifices. I am super excited to see how this short film can make a BIG impact.



# THE TEAM

## MANEESH VERMA (Associate Producer)

Maneesh, a National School of Drama graduate with 25+ years in the entertainment industry, is an accomplished actor, writer, director, and producer. For the last decade, he has produced projects in various genres, including musicals, dramas, thrillers, comedies, and fantasies.

☞ What I really like about 1924 is the world it has created. I also loved the central theme of the film and the way it conveys it powerfully in just 5 minutes. Every frame has been meticulously planned and shot and contributes meaningfully to the central theme of the film.



## ANSHULIKA KAPOOR (Associate Producer)

Based in the US and India and a member of New York Women in Film & Television, Anshulika Kapoor is an award-winning actor, producer, and TEDx performer. She passionately advocates for stories about women and children, striving to showcase their narratives through her diverse body of work.

☞ 1924 is a gripping narrative woven from meticulously crafted shots. Each element, from scene design to the narrative flow, interlock seamlessly to illuminate the film's core message.



# THE TEAM



PRASANTH AMBILI  
(Editor)

“As the editor of "1924," I found immense satisfaction in sculpting this evocative narrative, seamlessly blending its historical depth with emotional resonance. Prataya's infectious enthusiasm and creative flair infused every scene with a touch of magic, making editing this film an absolute joy.”



SOFIA AMATO  
(Film Festival Consultant)

“1924 is a gem that more and more people should discover, a few minutes of strong emotions and magnetic images and sounds capable of anchoring themselves to the spectators' skin and remaining with them forever.”



NEIL CHATTERJEE  
(Graphic Designer)

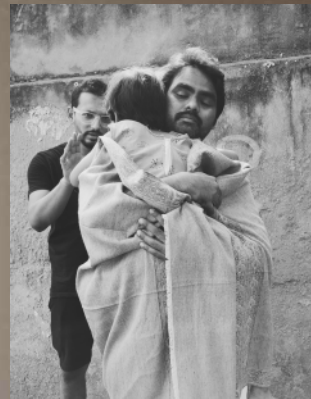
“I joined '1924' because its powerful story and historical importance inspired me. Creating visuals for a film about the impact of conflict on children was a unique opportunity. I'm excited to help a project that aims to make a difference and start important conversations.”



JOYDEEP BHOWMICK  
(Cinematographer)

“I was fascinated by the project as how it can be a reminder of the sacrifices of our ancestors. Also, to resist a history that is being attempted to be rewritten. The humane touch is what makes this film unique.”

# BEHIND THE SCENES



# IN THE MEDIA

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### Movie Reviews

## Movie Review: “1924 – The Kakori Project” Is A Short Film That Avoids Disingenuous Moralizing And Has Symbolic Meaning Throughout

Eamon Tracy August 6, 2024  Leave a Comment



“ This story deserves to be expanded into a feature. ”

Eamon Tracy

*Irish Film Critic*

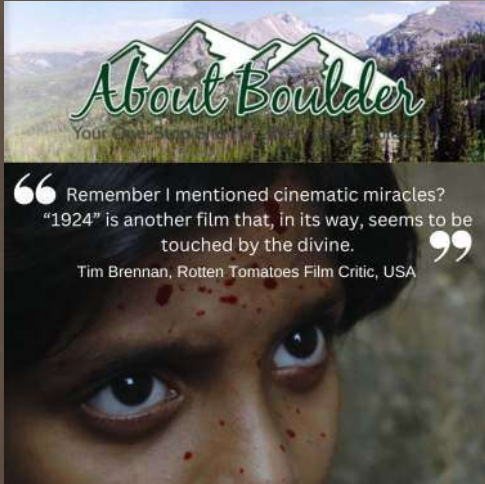
The Very Best in Entertainment News & Reviews



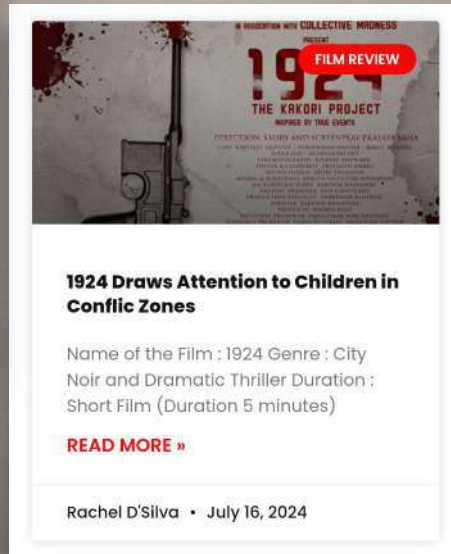
“ In the five-minute run of 1924, Saha takes viewers back to early 20th-century Calcutta and brings a slice of the city’s armed revolutionary history alive. ”

**ThePrint**

# IN THE MEDIA



About Boulder, USA



Align Media, Dubai



The Print, India



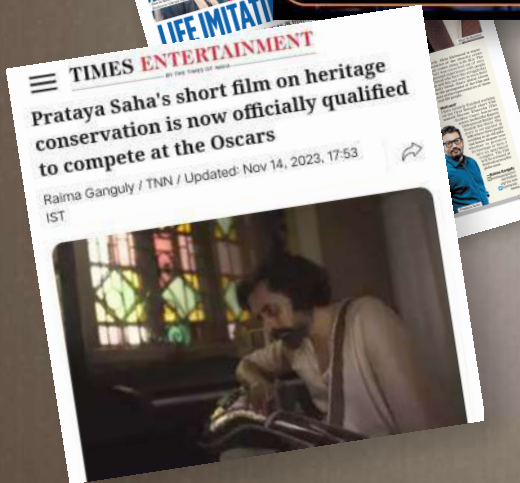
# IN THE MEDIA



BBC Radio Manchester @BBCRadioManc Following

Award winning filmmaker @prataya\_saha is touring the UK with his three short films and is coming to the #Northwest. The independent filmmaker, who has won 27 awards in 14 countries, talks to @TalatFAwan about his films and his career.

[tinyurl.com/4z3ru57c](https://tinyurl.com/4z3ru57c)  
@BBCSounds





# Q & A WITH THE DIRECTOR

## 1. What inspired you to tell this story?

The seed of "1924" lies deep within my socio-cultural roots, stemming from my hometown of Kolkata the erstwhile British capital of India and a pivotal hub of the Indian Independence Movement. My connection to the Movement and its profound human toll, particularly on children, coupled with present day geopolitical situations in conflict zones, compelled me to delve into the untold stories of sacrifice and resilience that unfolded during this tumultuous period in history.

## 2. How did you approach the portrayal of children in conflict zones?

Portraying the experiences of children in conflict zones required a delicate balance of sensitivity and authenticity. We approached their portrayal with the utmost respect for the gravity of their experiences, aiming to depict their resilience amidst adversity. Through nuanced storytelling and careful attention to detail, we sought to capture the emotional complexity of their circumstances while honoring their strength and courage.

# Q & A WITH THE DIRECTOR

## 3. What challenges did you face during the production of "1924"?

Shooting a period film itself brings in some unique challenges to deal with. The production of "1924" presented several challenges, including historical accuracy, coordinating period costumes and props, limited resources, and logistical constraints. Capturing the essence of 1920s Kolkata while adhering to a modest budget required extensive research and creative problem-solving.

## 4. What message do you hope viewers take away from the film?

The message I hope viewers take away from "1924" is twofold.

While highlighting the sacrifices made by the forerunners of the Indian Independence Movement, "1924" also underlines the plight of children caught in conflict zones, drawing parallel to present times where the unfortunate reality is that, despite technological and societal advancements, the fundamental challenges faced by children in conflict zones remain largely unchanged in the last 100 years.

# Q & A WITH THE DIRECTOR

A hand is shown holding a piece of aged, yellowed paper. The paper has handwritten text in Bengali. The top line reads 'আনন্দ মঠ;' (Anand Math) and the bottom line reads 'ত্রিদিবস' (Tridivasa). The background is dark and out of focus.

5. What role do you see "1924" playing in sparking conversations about social change?

We hope that "1924" serves as a catalyst for meaningful conversations about social change, inspiring viewers to reflect on the past, confront injustice, and advocate for a more equitable and compassionate society.



**THANK YOU**

**TO GET IN TOUCH PLEASE WRITE TO OR CALL AT**

[flutterbypicturesindia@gmail.com](mailto:flutterbypicturesindia@gmail.com)

[16thstreetproductions@gmail.com](mailto:16thstreetproductions@gmail.com)

+91 7899 361 879