

INHERITED FROM A SHORT STORY BY SHOHIDUL JAHIR  
A FILM BY ZAYED SIDDIKI



## PRODUCTION DETAILS

### LOGLINE

An aging father, feels increasingly neglected due to his lack of financial worth. When his daughter is married off without his knowledge, deeply humiliated, he chooses to disappear— forcing his family to confront the quiet weight of his presence only through the ache of his absence.

### SYNOPSIS/PLOT

Torab Sheikh, an old man living with his family in a slum by the railway tracks, spends his days confined to a small shack, dependent on his children's earnings. Struggling with the weight of uselessness and an eroding sense of identity, he yearns to reclaim his dignity by working—despite his frail body and his son Jamir's disapproval. Secretly, he helps a neighbor haul goods on a wheelbarrow, clinging to this fragile sense of purpose.

Though once the head of the household, Torab's voice is now ignored, his presence overlooked. When the family, under threat of eviction, arranges the marriage of his daughter Lalu to a local gangster without his knowledge, the final blow is struck. Humiliated and heartbroken, Torab walks out—vanishing from the life that no longer values him. Only in his absence does the family begin to confront the quiet, tragic void he left behind.

### TECHNICAL DETAILS

Original Title	দাঁড়কাক
English/International Title	<b>RAVEN</b>
Genre	<b>Short fiction-Drama</b>
Runtime	<b>29.40 minutes (with credits)</b>
Year	<b>2023</b>
Country of Origin	<b>Bangladesh</b>
Country of Filming	<b>Bangladesh</b>
Film Language	<b>Bengali</b>
Subtitle	<b>English</b>
Shooting Format	<b>Digital (4K)</b>
Screening Format	<b>DCP/Apple Pro-res/H.264-4K/2K</b>
Aspect Ratio	<b>1.85:1</b>
Film Color	<b>Color</b>
Sound	<b>Stereo</b>

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

There is perhaps no struggle more universal—and more quietly devastating—than the fight to remain visible, to matter, to exist beyond mere survival. The existential crisis is not a rare affliction of the aging or the isolated; it is a shared human experience, pulsing beneath the surface of everyday life.

In our families and societies, we often measure worth through productivity. And when someone—particularly an elder—can no longer "contribute" in the ways we deem valuable, they are too easily pushed to the margins. But what does it say about us, about our collective humanity, when those who once nurtured us are made to feel disposable?

This film is a response to that silence. It is a reflection on how care should not be conditional, and how presence alone is a form of value. We are all, inevitably, moving toward a time when the world may no longer find us "useful." But usefulness is not the same as worth.

By telling this story, I hope to confront our discomfort with aging, dependency, and irrelevance—and remind us that dignity is not something earned; it is something owed. All of us will become irrelevant at some point, but that doesn't make us worthless.

## CREDIT LIST

SCREENPLAY & DIRECTION	<b>ZAYED SIDDIKI</b>
STORY	<b>SHOHIDUL ZAHIR</b>
DIALOGUE	<b>ZAYED SIDDIKI</b>
CASTS	<b>JAYANTO CHATTAPADHYAY</b> <b>AMINUR RAHMAN MUKUL</b> <b>FAZLUL HAQUE</b> <b>TUNTUNI SOBHAN</b> <b>IQBAL HOSSAIN</b> <b>TAHUA LABIB TURA</b> <b>JERIN AKTER SHIMUL</b> <b>AKHLAQUZZAMAN KHAN</b> <b>ABM SAIDUL HAQUE</b>
PRODUCER	<b>ZAYED SIDDIKI</b>
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS	<b>SAIYEED SHAHJADA AL-KAREEM</b> <b>ISRAT JAHAN</b> <b>SAKIB IFTEKHAR</b> <b>HASIB SHAKIL</b> <b>MASHIUR RAHMAN</b>
LINE PRODUCER	<b>HASNAT SOHAN</b>
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY	<b>SUJAN MAHMUD</b>
EDITOR	<b>ZAYED SIDDIKI</b>
PRODUCTION DESIGN	<b>TASNIM NISSO</b>
ART DIRECTION	<b>ZAYED SIDDIKI</b>
SOUND DESIGN	<b>SUJAN MAHMUD</b>

COLOUR & VFX  
CHIEF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
ASSISTANT DIRECTORS  
  
ASSISTANT ART DIRECTOR  
COSTUME

**SUJAN MAHMUD**  
**TASNIM NISSO**  
**AKHLAQUZZAMAN KHAN**  
**MALLIKA ROY**  
**DURJOY ROY**  
**TANJINA ISLAM**

## DIRECTOR'S SHORT BIOGRAPHY

**Zayed Siddiki** is an independent Bangladeshi new generation filmmaker; an alumna of TV & Film Studies from University of Dhaka. His films have been screened and competed in more than 50 international film festivals including Kazan, Kolkata, Kerala, Mumbai, Dhaka etc. and also won numerous awards. His work in Development communications strongly influenced his thematic choice in filmmaking; travelling across the country and listening to grassroots peoples' unique stories delve him into neo-realism. It's a reason he's interested in exploring intricate human relations, psychological & interpersonal crises of individuals, impact of socio-political dynamics on them, mainly the subalterns and the middle-class.

## FILMOGRAPHY

**RAVEN** | Short-fiction | 2023 | 30 mins (Writer, Director, and Producer)  
**DELTA OF DESPAIR** | Short-Documentary | 2022 | 36 mins (Writer, Director)  
**IN EXPEDITION TO HAPPINESS** | Short-Documentary | 2021 | 3 mins (Co-Writer, Director, Co-Producer)

## STUDENT FILMS

**TALE OF AN ECLIPTIC TIME** | Short-fiction | 2018 | 30 mins (Co-Writer, Director, Co-Producer)  
**SEIZED PLEASURE** | Short-experimental | 2018 | 18 mins (Creative Producer)  
**DISAPPEARING ARTISANS** | Short-Documentary | 2018 | 20 mins (Writer, Director, Producer)  
**DREAM LITHE** | Short-fiction | 2015 | 9.3 mins (Writer, Director, and Producer)  
**COLOURKITE** | Short-fiction | 2014 | 15 mins (Writer, Director, Producer)  
**LIVES BEHIND GARBAGE** | Documentary | 2013 | 27 mins (Writer, Director)

## LINE-UPS

**NECROPHILE** | Feature-Drama-Psychological thriller | (In early development) | 95 mins (Writer, Director)  
**SILENCE OF THE WORDS** | Feature-Period Drama | (In advanced development) | 65 mins (Writer, Director)  
**PASSION OF PISCES** | Feature-Drama-Psychological | (In early development) | 90 mins (Writer, Director)

## FESTIVALS & AWARDS

### Awards

1. **Best Short Film Award**-6<sup>th</sup> Hill Film Festival 2024, Dhaka, Bangladesh
2. **Special Jury Award**-10<sup>th</sup> International Film Festival of Shimla 2024, India
3. **Special Jury Award**-4<sup>th</sup> Bangladesh Short & Documentary Film Festival, Bangladesh Shilpakala

Academy (National Academy of Fine and Performing Arts), Ministry of Cultural Affairs, GoB, 2025, Bangladesh

## **Festivals**

4. 17<sup>th</sup> Bangladesh International Short & Independent Film Festival 2024, Dhaka, Bangladesh
5. 12<sup>th</sup> Indo-German Film Week 2024, Berlin, Germany
6. 10<sup>th</sup> International Film Festival of Shimla 2024, Shimla, India
7. 7<sup>th</sup> South Asian Short Film Festival 2024, Kolkata, India
8. 13<sup>th</sup> DC South Asian Film Festival 2024, Washington DC, USA
9. 15<sup>th</sup> Indian Film Festival of Melbourne 2024, Melbourne, Australia
10. 13<sup>th</sup> International Film Festival of South Asia (IFFSA) Toronto 2024, Canada
11. 19<sup>th</sup> Kazan International Film Festival 2023, Kazan, Russia (World Premiere)
12. 23<sup>rd</sup> Dhaka International Film Festival 2025, Dhaka, Bangladesh
13. Round The Frame Film Competition 2024, Mumbai, India
14. 10<sup>th</sup> Wolves Independent International Film Festival 2024, Lithuania
15. 6<sup>th</sup> Hill Film Festival 2024, Bangladesh
16. 14<sup>th</sup> South Asian Film Festival of Montreal 2025, Canada
17. 10<sup>th</sup> Toulouse Indian Film Festival 2025, France
18. 15<sup>th</sup> Pune Short Film Festival 2025, India
19. 4<sup>th</sup> Bangladesh Short & Documentary Film Festival, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (National Academy of Fine and Performing Arts), Ministry of Cultural Affairs, GoB, 2025, Bangladesh