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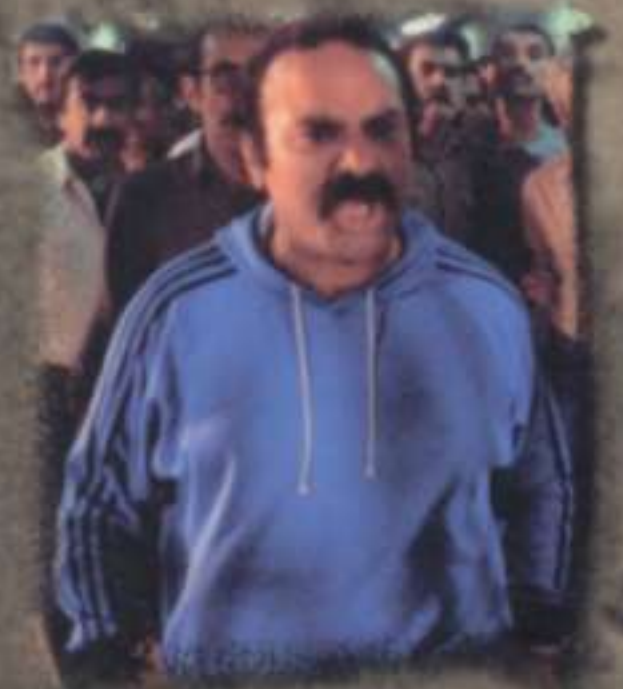
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BOYCOTT

BOYCOTT

FACETS
VIDEO

*Directed by
Mohsen Makhmalbaf*



B O Y C O T T

FACETS FILMS
VIDEO FROM
IRAN

Boycott

Directed by Mohsen Makhmalbaf

Makhmalbaf's fourth feature is set in the period just prior to the Islamic Revolution and tells a story inspired by his own painful experience. Valeh, a member of a leftist organization, is arrested by the Savak and sentenced to death. In prison, he reconsiders his relationships with members of his political cell, and begins to doubt the validity of the ideas for which he is condemned. At the same time, his comrades pressure him to make a sacrifice for their cause, and his beloved wife experiences personal problems and economic hardships. BOYCOTT evinces the bold visual style which brought Makhmalbaf international attention, and is remarkable for its intimations of tolerance for diametrically opposing attitudes. The leading role of Valeh is played by Majid Majidi, who went on to direct CHILDREN OF HEAVEN and THE COLOR OF PARADISE.

"In Boycott, I intended to say that no struggle can be brought to its conclusion without faith in God and in the Universal Judgement. In jail there were many more insane people than these, either because they turned into psychopaths because of the torture, or because they had lost their minds because of the pressure they were under in their political organizations. Among other things it should be said that the madness that marks this specific ward, which I have treated in the film, also has a symbolic meaning." – Mohsen Makhmalbaf

Original title: Baycot. Written and directed by Mohsen Makhmalbaf. Cinematography: Faraj Heydari. Editor: Rubik Mansuri. Cast: Majid Majidi, Mohammad Kasebi, Zohreh Sarmadi.

Iran, 1985, color, 85 min. Farsi with English subtitles.

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