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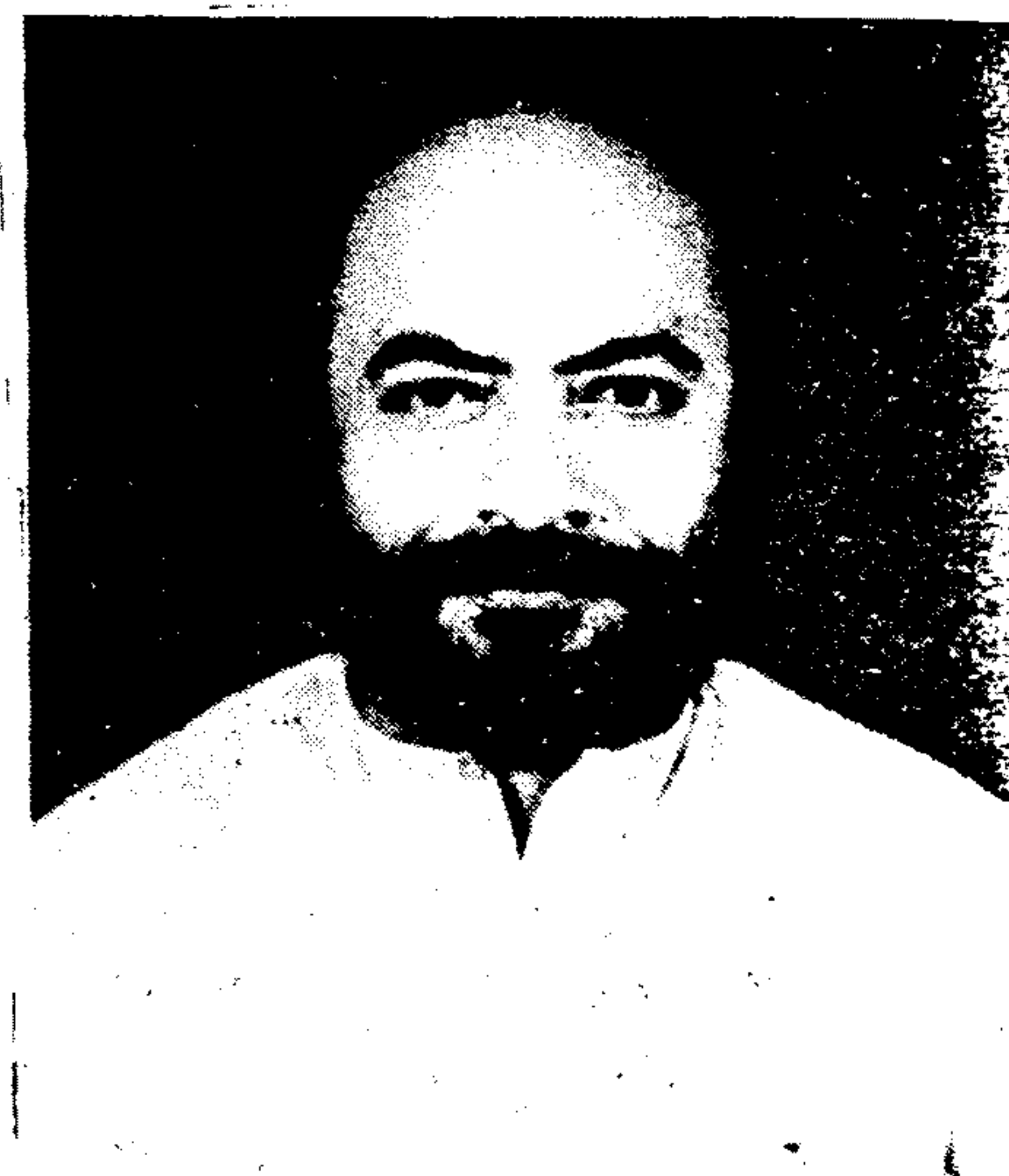
## award for the best hindi film

### ARDH SATYA

Rajat Kamal and a cash prize of Rs. 15,000 to the Producers, Manmohan Shetty and Pradeep Uppoor.

Rajat Kamal and a cash prize of Rs. 7,500 to the Director, Govind Nihalani.

**citation** The award for the Best Hindi Film of 1983 is given to 'ARDH SATYA' for "a its powerful exploration of a labyrinthine socio-political situation."



Thirty-five year old Manmohan Shetty and 33 years old Pradeep Uppoor started the Neo Films Associates seven years ago. The production company has produced several advertising

films, documentaries and audio-visuals. Their maiden venture 'CHAKRA', directed by the late Rabin-dra Dharmaraj, has won several awards, both national and international

After graduating from the Shri Jayachamarajendra Polytechnic, Bangalore, in 1962, Govind Nihalani began his career as a cinematographer.

Then followed a long association with Shyam Benegal, for whom he photographed several documentaries (including a feature length documentary on Satyajit Ray) and 10 feature films, including JUNOON, which won for him the national award for best colour cinematography. AAKROSH was Nihalani's first feature film as director-cinematographer. VIJETA was Nihalani's second film, followed by ARDH SATYA.

# ARDH SATYA

Hindi/Colour/130 mins.

**Direction and Photography** Govind Nihalani **Production** Manmohan Shetty & Pradeep Uppoor **Screenplay** Vijay Tendulkar **Audiography** Hitendra Ghosh **Editing** Renu Saluja **Art Direction** C.S. Bhati **Music** Ajit Varman  
**Leading Players** Om Puri, Smita Patil

Anant Velankar is a newly appointed police officer. His story opens on a New Year's eve, when he responds to a "summons" from a local gambling den proprietor, Rama Shetty. Shetty handles the suspicious young officer with ease. Clearly, Velankar is not impressed.

Later, Shetty is named in the dying statement of an intended murder victim. Velankar goes to arrest him, but Shetty has friends in high places and he humiliates Velankar.

There are two stabilizing influences, however, which control the downward spiral of Velankar's life. One is his domineering, authoritarian father, a police officer himself. The other is the attractive, but hesitantly friendly college lecturer

Briefly, then, it seems as if his life is on the upswing. The skill with which he brings a dacoit to justice seems certain to earn him a medal and a promotion. He is full of optimism and enthusiasm once more, but not for long: a rival CID officer is awarded the honours for the dacoit's arrest and Velankar's name is nowhere on the list. Frustrated and full of violence, he approaches a scrawny undertrial with the intention of questioning him, but instead, beats him to death.

This is obviously the end of the road for the young officer. A sympathetic, but more practical colleague advises him to meet Shetty, who can save him. Velankar goes to meet him, prepared to strike a deal for a compromise. As the nature of Shetty's price for saving his career becomes clear, the torrent of rage is released again.

