



PRIYANKA CHOPRA

Bollywood Actress, Philanthropist and the winner of the Miss World 2000

The winner of the Miss World pageant of 2000, through her successful film career Chopra has become one of Bollywood's highest-paid actresses and one of the most popular celebrities in India. She has won a National Film Award for Best Actress and Filmfare Awards in four categories. In 2000, her mother entered her into the Femina Miss India contest, in which she finished second and took the Miss India World title. She was then entered into the Miss World pageant, where she was crowned Miss World 2000 and Miss World Continental Queen of Beauty—Asia & Oceania, becoming the fifth Indian to win the competition.

Although Chopra at one time aspired to study engineering or psychiatry, she accepted offers to join the Indian film industry, which came as a result of her pageant wins, making her acting debut in the Tamil film *Thamizhan* in 2002. The following year, she starred in *The Hero*, her first Hindi film release, and followed it with the box-office hit *Andaaz*, which won her the Filmfare Best Female Debut Award.

She subsequently earned wide critical recognition for the role of a seductress in the 2004 thriller *Aitraaz*, winning her the Filmfare Award for Best Performance in a Negative Role. By 2006, Chopra had established herself as a leading actress of Hindi cinema with starring roles in the highly successful films *Krrish* and *Don*. After receiving mixed reviews for a series of unsuccessful films, she received critical acclaim for her portrayal of unconventional characters, including a troubled model in the 2008 drama *Fashion*, a feisty Marathi woman in the 2009 caper thriller *Kaminey*, a serial killer in the 2011 neo-noir *7 Khoon Maaf*, and an autistic woman in the 2012 romantic comedy *Barfi!* In addition to acting in films, she participates in stage shows, has hosted a reality show on television, and has written columns for India's national newspapers.

In 2012, she released her first single "In My City", which, although a commercial success in India, was met with mixed reactions from the critics. Her second single "Exotic" debuted in 2013, and was ranked on music charts in the United States and Canada. Chopra often speaks out on women's issues: against female infanticide and foeticide, and in support of education for girls. In 2006, a "day with Chopra" was auctioned on eBay; the proceeds were donated to an NGO, *Nanhi Kali*, which helps educate girls in India. A UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador for Child Rights, Chopra has worked with UNICEF since 2008, recording public-service announcements and participating in media panel discussions promoting children's rights and the education of girls, and also participated in celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.