RASHTRA JYOTI

ANALYSIS BRIEF
900518 · December 2020

Culture · From the reporting archive

Saif Ali Khan's Ravana Apology and Earlier Controversies

Original analysis by **Swati Goel Sharma and Sanjeev Newar**

The author argues that the backlash to Saif Ali Khan's remarks about Ravana reflects how some audiences interpret his public statements through his family history and earlier controversies. The piece traces the Pataudi family's alliances and ties to Pakistan and recounts his acquittal in the blackbuck case and the criticism over his son's name.



A picture of Saif Ali Khan

THE ESSENTIAL POINTS

- In his apology, Khan withdrew the remark, described Ram as a symbol of righteousness and said the film team was working to present the epic without distortions.
- The family history includes a 1947 letter in which Hamidullah Khan, the last Nawab of Bhopal, told Muhammad Ali Jinnah he wanted Bhopal to join Pakistan.
- Khan and three other co-accused in the blackbuck case were acquitted on benefit of doubt. The state government had challenged their acquittals in the Rajasthan High Court.
- The choice of Taimur drew criticism amid comparisons with Timur Lang. Kareena Kapoor Khan said in an interview that Saif admired the historical ruler.

BACK RASHTRA JYOTI.

Support Rashtra Jyoti's public education on Indian epics and its scrutiny of how filmmakers and public figures interpret them.

rashtrajyoti.com/support/

Full article and sources: rashtrajyoti.com/?p=917096

SCAN TO SUPPORT

Updated from an original written by Swati Goel Sharma and Sanjeev Newar in December 2020. Summary prepared by Rashtra Jyoti Staff. Facts refer to the original reporting date.