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What Laxmii Changed in Kanchana and Why It Matters

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

The authors argue that Laxmii changes the Tamil film Kanchana to cast Muslim characters as saviours and Hindu religious figures in a negative light. They point to the removal of scenes showing Hindu support and devotion, the depiction of Muslim pirs and fakirs succeeding where saffron-clad sadhus fail, and the change that gives Aasif the decisive role in the temple climax.



A Still from Laxmii

THE ESSENTIAL POINTS

- The remake replaces Raghava's courtship with the marriage of Aasif and Rashmi, whose father eventually realises he was wrong to reject Aasif.
- Kanchana gives a Hindu school principal a public role in supporting a transgender child's education. The remake removes that character.
- In Laxmii, saffron-clad sadhus fail to free Aasif from the ghost. Muslim pirs and fakirs then succeed where the sadhus failed.
- The original centres the revenge on one transgender ghost. The remake adds a group of transgender people taking part in the killing as a ritual.

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