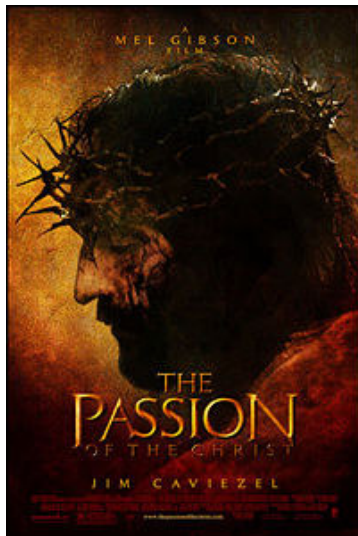


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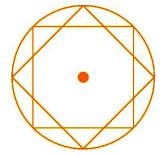
Mythology in Films



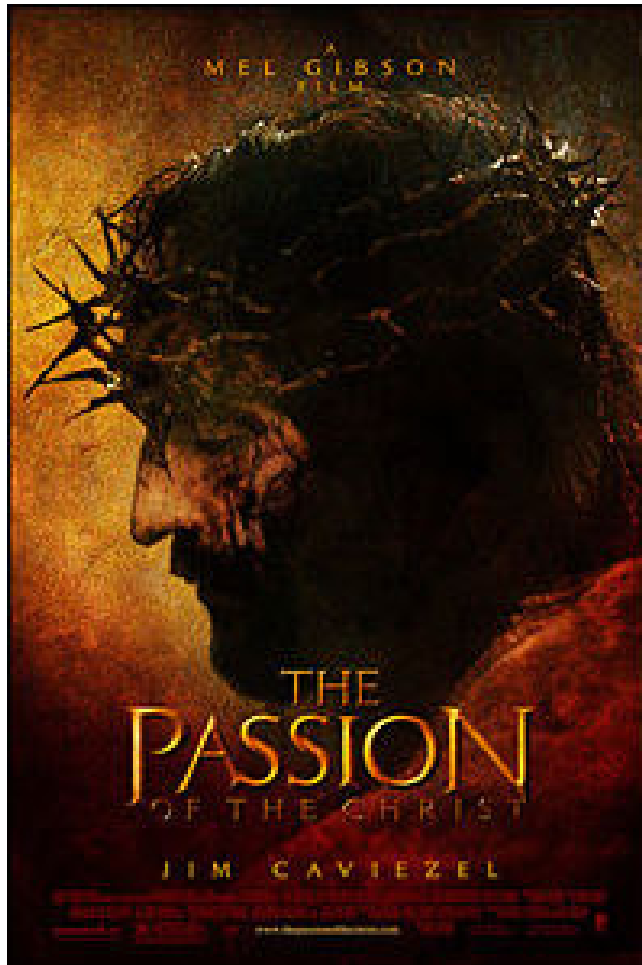
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The Passion of The Christ

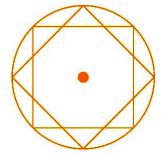


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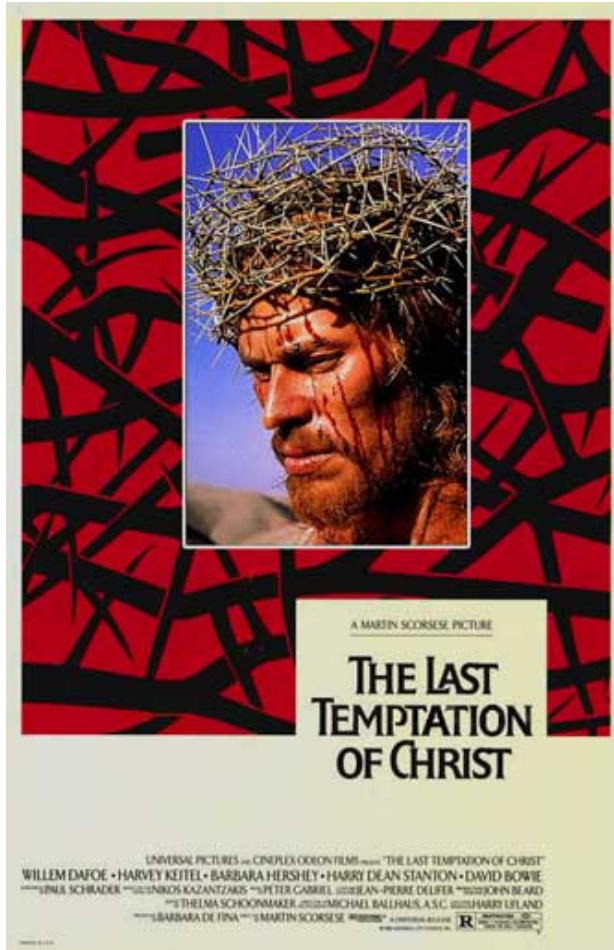


- 2004
- Mel Gibson
- Blockbuster
- Criticism
 - Anti-semitic
 - Homophobic
- Historical accuracy
 - Aramaic
 - Hebrew
 - Latin
- Show Resurrection

Last Temptation of Christ

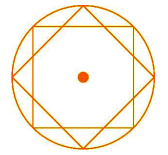


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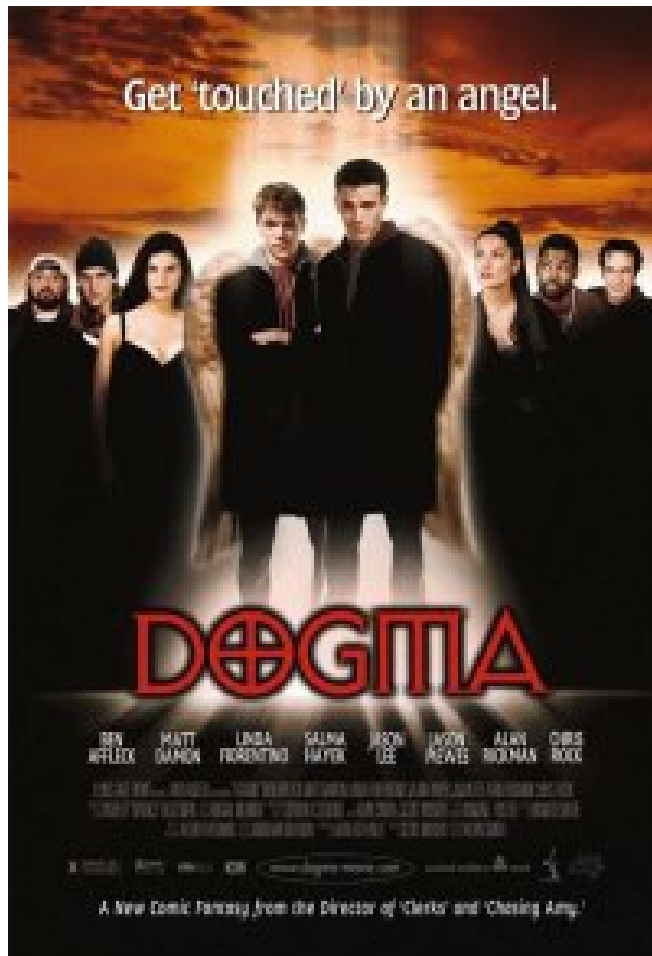


- 1988
- Martin Scorsese
- Controversial
- Banned in many countries
- Non-Gospel Ideas
 - Marriage to Mary Magdalene, Mary and Martha
 - Naked on the Cross
 - Jesus full of guilt

Dogma



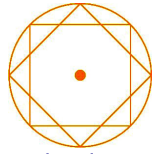
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- 1999
- Kevin Smith
- Controversial
- Disney sold away rights to Lions Gate Entertainment



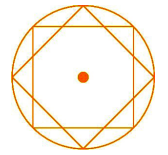
What is mythology?



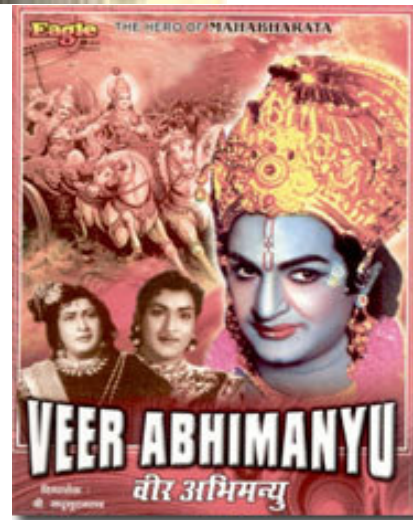
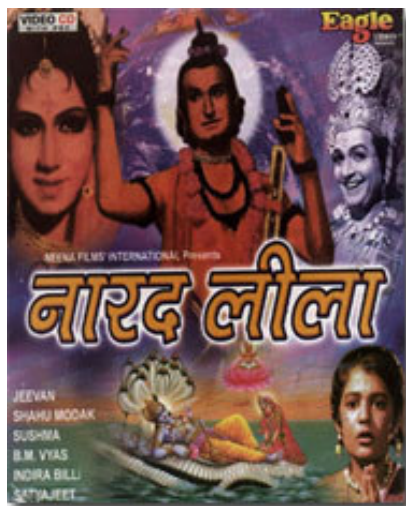
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1. **Subjective** truth of a people revealed through stories
 - The way they see THEIR world
2. **Sacredness** ensures flawless transmission
3. **Believers** insist it is real, scientific and historical, evidence notwithstanding

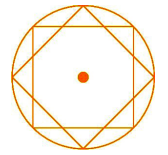
Since 'Raja Harischandra'...



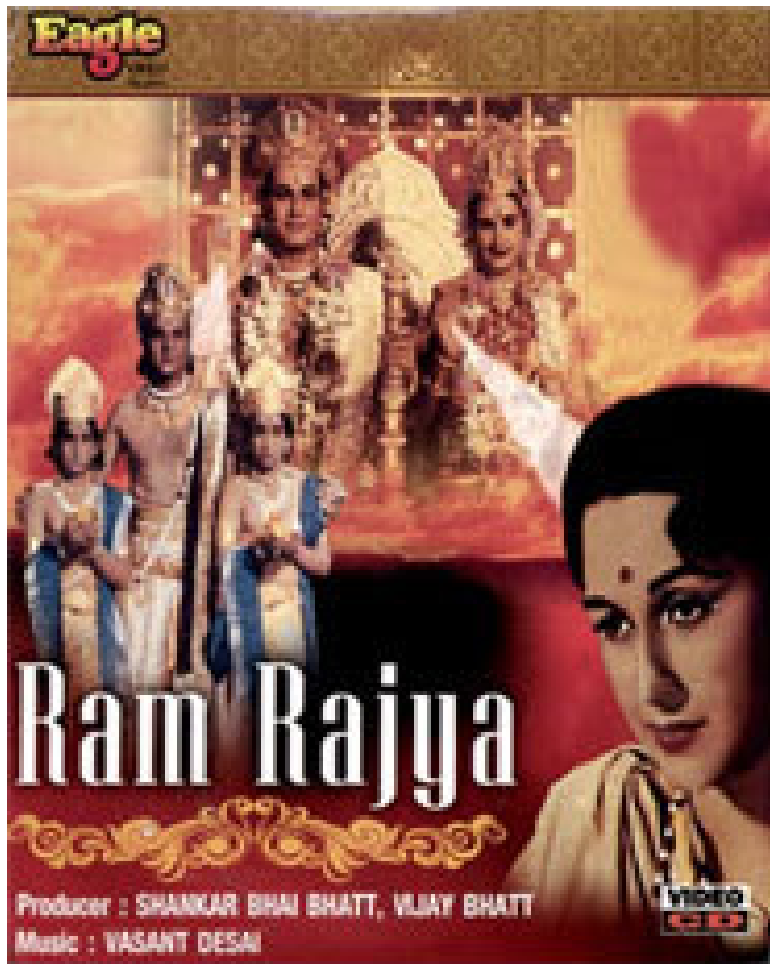
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Ram Rajya

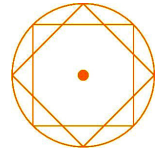


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- 1943
- Vijay Bhatt
- Most successful mythological film
- Starring
 - Shobhana Samarth
- Plot
 - The abandonment of Sita by Ram following street gossip
- Only film to be seen by Mahatma Gandhiji

Jai Santoshi Maa

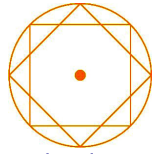


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- 1975
- Vijay Sharma
- Film for housewives in 'angry young man' era (Sholay, Deewar)
- Blockbuster
- “Created” a goddess in the popular faith
- No controversy
 - Ganesha has wives
 - Ganesha has a sister
 - Goddess is a village goddess in Gujarat
- Remake in 2006 was a flop 8

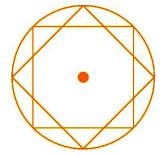
Differences



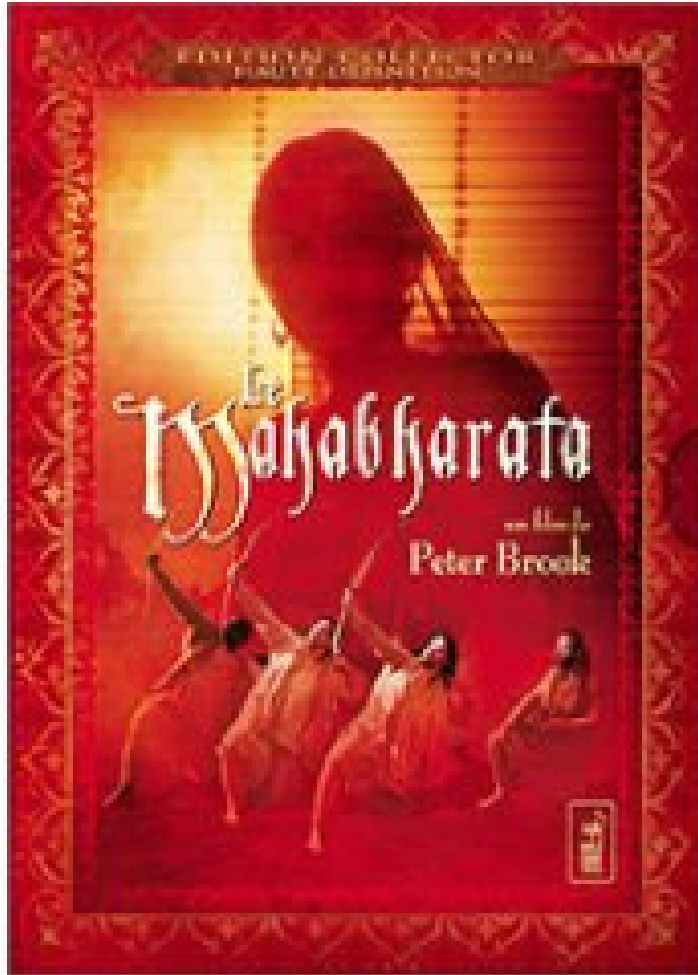
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- **Biblical Mythology**
 1. Consciously portrayed as historical
 2. Not promoted through folk and classical theatre
 3. Humor was frowned upon
 - **Name of the Rose** starring Sean Connery
 4. Firm plots
- **Hindu Mythology**
 1. Consciously portrayed as fantasy
 2. Widely promoted through folk and classical theatre
 - Chakyar in Kerala
 - Nautanki in UP
 3. Comical and petty gods
 4. Fluid Plots

Le Mahabharata

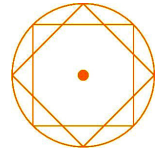


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- 1985
- Play
- Peter Brook
- Not appreciated in India
 - Black man as Bhisma
 - White man as Krishna
 - Oriental man as Shiva
 - Style lacked sophistication

Lord of Rings

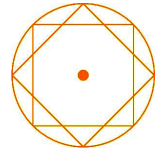


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- Fiction based on Viking mythology
- Rekindles interest in Indian mythology
- Even historical (?) 'Jodha Akbar' influenced by battle scenes

Naksha

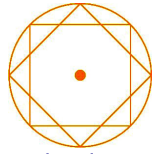


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- 2006
- Plot
 - Search for Karna's lost armor
- Attempting to reach out to modern audience
 - Rambo and Indiana Jones meets Indian mythology
- Flop
- Bad idea or bad execution?

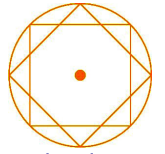
Categorical errors of Copying



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- Hindu mythology does not have notion of
 - Evil, Prophecy, Doomsday, Linear time
- Hindu mythology is based on
 - Karma, Cyclical time, Boons and Curses
- Hindu mythology is based on ‘emotion’, not ‘action’

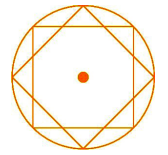
Future Trends



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- Discomfort with 'Nautanki' Mythological
 - Not cool
 - Ok for television
- Fear of Protests
 - Culture of 'outrage'
- Can we turn plays into Multiplex Films?

Thank you



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Understanding Sacred Stories, Myths, Rituals And Their Relevance In Modern Times

Dr. Devdudd Pattanaik
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“...the Chinese have no word for **God**
...the Hindus no word for **Evil**
...the Greeks had no **Satan**
...so much for the **universality**
of these concepts...”

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