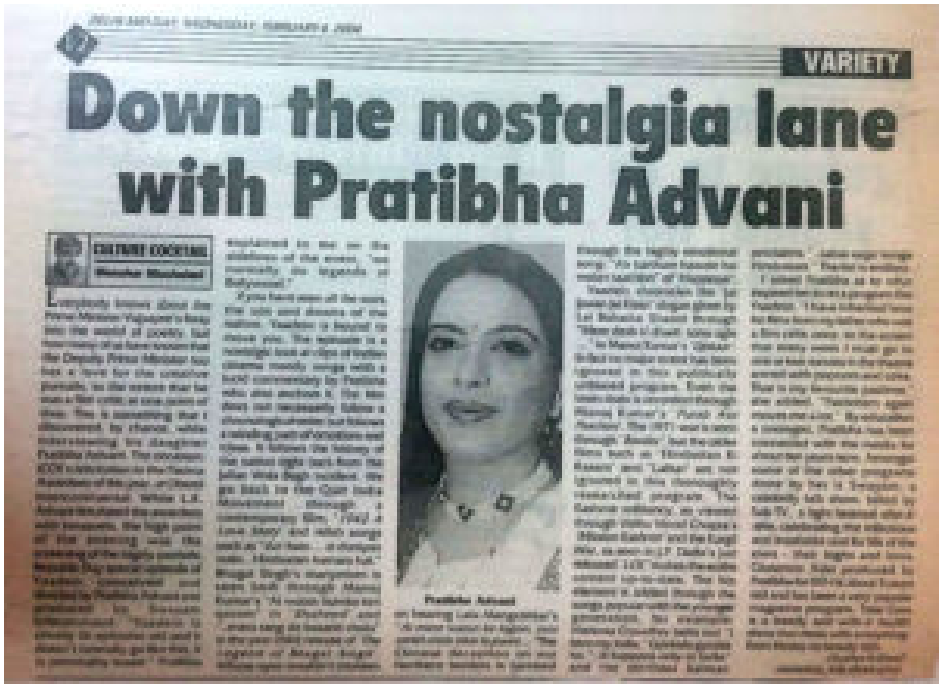
Down the Nostalgia Lane with Pratibha Advani by Manohar Khushalani



VARIETY

Down the nostalgia lane with Pratibha Advani

CULTURE COCKTAIL
Manohar Khushalani

Everybody knows about the Prime Minister Vajpayee's foray into the world of poetry but how many of us have known that the Deputy Prime Minister has had a love for the creative pursuits, to the extent that he was a film critic, at one point of time. This is something that is discovered, by chance, while interviewing his daughter Pratibha Advani. The occasion: ICCR's celebration of the Twelve Ramdevs of the year, on Vasant Panchami period. While L.K. Advani received the awardee with bouquets, the high point of the evening was the screening of the highly popular Doordarshan serial episodes of 'Yaadein', conceived and directed by Pratibha Advani and produced by Sawaan Productions. 'Yaadein' is showing its episodes old and it doesn't normally go this way. It is personally known Pratibha explained to me on the sidelines of the event, "we normally do legends of Bollywood."

If you have seen all the ears, the 100 and dreams of the nation, 'Yaadein' is bound to move you. The episodes is a nostalgic look at eras of Indian cinema mostly songs with a brief commentary by Pratibha who also anchors it. The film does not necessarily follow a chronological order but follows a cascading path of emotions and vibes. It follows the history of the nation right back from the Jallian Wala Bagh incident, the go back to the Quit India Movement. Through a contemporary film, 'Yaaj a Love Story' and which songs such as "Ae Ishq... a changed man, Mohabbat karnaa hai," Bhagat Singh's martyrdom is seen both through Manoj Kumar's "Ae mere Watan ke logon" in 'Shaheed' and "...aaya sang ek baaraat ainda" in the post-Gandhi release of 'The Legend of Bhagat Singh' [illegible]

Pratibha Advani

on hearing Lata Mangeshkar's "Ae mere watan ke logon, [illegible] Through the highly emotional song, "Ae kaafilon hasaate ho [illegible] of Hagaaraa".

'Yaadein' showcases the 'jai jawan jai kisan' slogan given by Lal Bahadur Shastri through "Hum dono o-Ewell' [illegible] "Ae Maalik Tuma'a 'Qalaar' [illegible] major event has been ignored in this politically [illegible] program. Even the [illegible] through Manoj Kumar's 'Purab Aur Pashim'. The 1971 war is seen through 'Haqeeqat' but the other films such as 'Hindustan Ki Kasam' and 'Lalkar' are not ignored in this thoroughly [illegible] program. 'The Kashmir militancy, as viewed through Vidhu Vinod Chopra's 'Mission Kashmir' and the Kargil War, as seen in J.P. Dutta's just released 'LOC' [illegible] current up-to-date. The 50s memory is jolted through the songs popular with the younger generation. So evergreen [illegible] Chaudhry [illegible] "Ae Mere watan ke logon" [illegible] and the [illegible] Kumar [illegible] Pradesh. "Yaadein is a [illegible] Pratibha as to what [illegible] a program like Yaadein. 'I have inherited love for film from my father who was a film critic since, as the years that every week I must go to see a film [illegible] in the theatre overall with popcorn and coke. That is my favourite pastime' she added. "Yaadein's again [illegible] a message, Pratibha has been connected with the media for about ten years now. Amongst some of the other programs done by her is Tarangini, a celebrity talk show, telecast by Sab TV, a light hearted chat show, celebrating the milestones and landmarks and for life of the stars – their highs and lows. Chakmaan, Kabir produced by Pratibha for DD-1 is about Kasaan and has been a very popular magazine program. Time Line is a beauty, and with it [illegible] [illegible]