

Supriti Malhotra (JR 08)

Congratulations from XIC for winning the **Best Direction Award for 'Ehsaas'**, Time Travel.

'Ehsaas' also won the Best Film Award, in the 48-Hour Film project hosted by British Council.

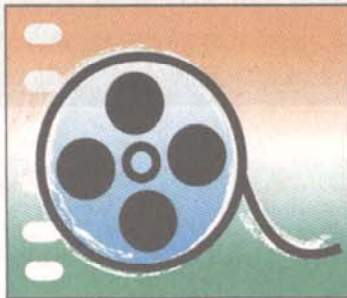
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In 48 hrs, they reeled a film out of Gandhi cap & a *bai*

Shobhan Singh | TNN

Mumbai: A Gandhi cap for a prop, a typical Mumbai *bai* for a character and "Hum toh austerity ke mare hain" a line for dialogue: this is what the 39 teams were given to frame a film out of, and that too, within 48 hours.

Amateur and professional filmmakers in Mumbai were invited to participate in the 48-Hour Film project, a concept that was introduced in the US in 2001. At the end of two days of rigorous filming and editing, the 39 movies were screened on Friday and Saturday evenings at the British Council auditorium in the presence of all the participants as



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well as the judges.

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viously elated. "This is absolutely unbelievable," said Supriti. "This is the first time that I've made a film and it won." Her film explored the journey of two women in a romantic relationship. *Ehsaas*, inciden-

tally, was also conferred with the best cinematography award.

The best acting award went to Nimrat Kaur for *Three Blind Mice*. Nimrat, a professional model and an accomplished theatre actor, said: "It was completely different from what I have done so far. In theatre, we have a script in place three months in advance and rigorous rehearsals. But here, it was almost impromptu."

The participants came from varied backgrounds and professions. While some had some experience and understanding of the medium others were there just for the sheer love of it. Ram Madhavani, Equinox Films director and ad film-maker, said, "While judging, we were not

looking at the technicalities and accomplishment of the craft. What we were looking for were 'emotionality' and the ability to convey it. The fact that so many people turned up and did so much in just two days is astounding."

The judges unanimously agreed on the winners. However, the first place in some of the individual categories such as, acting and writing, were tied. The other judge on the panel, *Manorama Six Feet Under* director Navdeep Singh, said, "The films, generally, were better than what I had expected. And a good number of the participants proved that they have the potential to make it big."