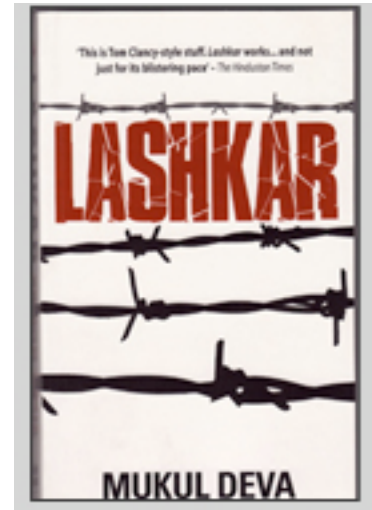


Planman Motion Pictures bags film rights of Mukul Deva's bestseller LASHKAR

Monday, June 27, 2011 7:37:54 PM (IST) | Bollywood Trade Editorial

Planman Motion Pictures has acquired the motion picture rights of Deva's path breaking military action thriller, which pioneered the Indian military action thriller novel. Soon after winning the National Award for Best Hindi Film for DO DOONI CHAAR, Planman Motion Pictures is set to venture into the action thriller terrain.

'I started reading LASHKAR at around midnight and was simply unable to put it down. Halfway through I knew I just had to make it into a movie. A couple of hours after finishing it I was in touch with Deva,' says Mr. Shubho Shekhar Bhattacharjee, the CEO of Planman Motion Pictures. 'LASHKAR is not only an extremely topical book, it also has that gritty flavour and taut, killing pace, which make for a great film. We are very excited about this. Work on the script is well underway and we hope to take the movie to the floors very soon.'



LASHKAR is the first book of Deva's four book action thriller series published by HarperCollins India. Like LASHKAR, the other three books (SALIM MUST DIE (2009), BLOWBACK (2010) and TANZEEM (2011)) have also struck a popular and very emotive chord with Indian readers and all four hit the bestseller lists within weeks of their release.

'LASHKAR had started getting offers from Bollywood within days of its release, so we are not at all surprised. As recent events have shown, like the killing of Osama, which Mukul wrote about in uncannily prescient detail in SALIM MUST DIE (2009), all four books are highly relevant and lend themselves to the movies since Deva is a very visual writer and his military background bring a lot of realism to his books,' adds Mr. Sukumar, the CEO of HarperCollins India. 'We had been waiting for a filmmaker with the right vision and drive to take this series forward and have full confidence that Planman will make a blockbuster movie.'

Dubbed by the media as 'India's answer to Tom Clancy' and 'the man with the Nostradamus touch', Mukul Deva, an ex-Indian Army officer has seen a decade of combat. He has been a consistent shot on the bestseller's lists over the past four years. Deva churns out stunning thrillers at the same blistering pace that his books maintain. Already gearing for release is his next, THE DUST WILL NEVER SETTLE, a high speed action thriller with the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as its backdrop. Also starting is his new 7-book series on the 7 Deadly Sins, the first of which, DEATH CAME CALLING, will be published by Harper next year.

'I'm not just excited,' a visibly happy Deva comments, 'I am absolutely thrilled that LASHKAR is going to the big screen. The tremendous enthusiasm shown by Planman is heartening, as is the approach Shubho is taking with the script. But all I can say for now is WATCH THIS SPACE. It's going to get bigger, better and faster. And you have a soldier's word for that.'