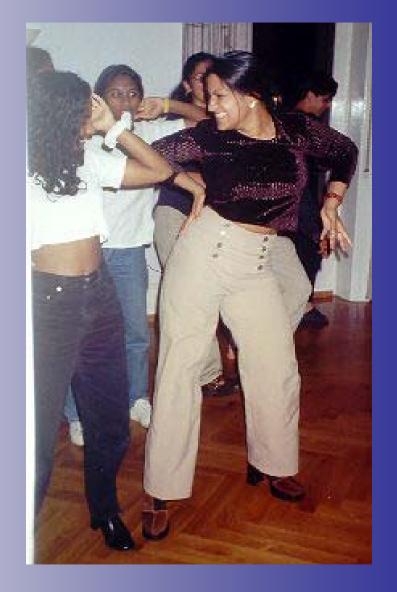
### Classical dance, Bollywood and the *Indernet*

Cultural practices among ,Indians of the second generation in Germany

Urmila Goel Asia Centre, University of New England Wollongong, 13th November 2006





### Structure

- 1. The Indernet
- 2. Parties
- 3. Socialisation through parents
- 4. Dance
- 5. Bollywood
- 6. ArtSensAsian
- 7. Functions of the cultural practices

### **Urmila Goel**

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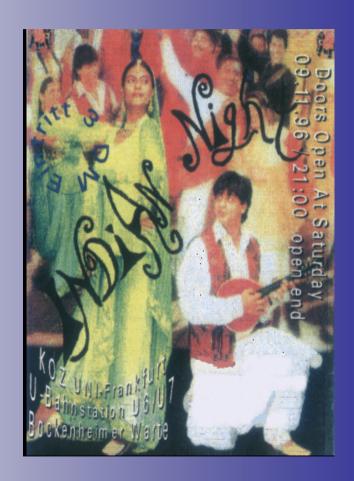
### The Indernet

- internet portal http://ww.theinder.net
- own space of the ,second generation
- most important section: events
- discussions in the forum: parties, bollywood, music, ...



### **Parties**

- Parties for ,Indians of the second generation
  - ,Indian Night' (since 1996),,Munich Masala' (since 1999)
  - reaction to racist exclusion
  - own space
- to ,Indian' parties
  - promoting ,Indian' music and images
  - commercial interest
  - increasing ,White audience
- conflict between own space and representation



### Performers

- party organisers
  - groups, individuals
  - ,Indians', ,Afghan Hindus',
    ,Pakistanis'
- djs
  - from ,second generation'
  - from UK











- musicians
  - hiphop
- gendered: mostly male

# Cultural socialisation through parents



- classical dance classes for girls
- some music classes
- some Bollywood viewing at home
- putting children on the stage to perform
- some active assimilation
- gendered

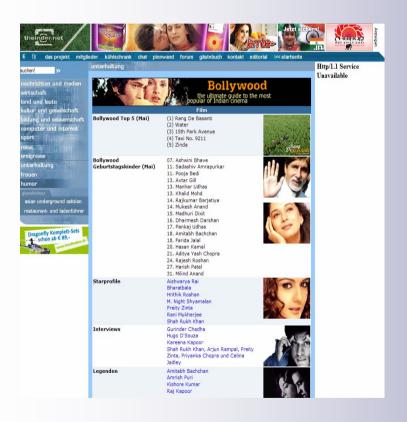
### Dance

- thorough classical education
- (semi-)professional performances
  - classical
  - folk
  - bollywood
  - mixtures
- settings:
  - Indian events organised by parents
  - ,Indian' parties
  - ,multicultural' events organised by ,Whites'
- gendered: predominantely female





## Bollywood



- Bollywood boom in Germany
  - films on tv, parties, shows
  - websites, merchandise
- Indernet
  - bollywood section
  - discussions in forum
- ambigous reception
  - dislike / distance
  - familiarity / identification
- gendered:
  - considered women's issue
  - heteronormative

#### **ArtSensAsian**

Munich, 1st October 2006



- "forum for artists of South Asian origin"
- "music, theatre, photography, film, multimedia or design, literature, dance, performing arts and comedy"
- "The intention … of the event is to consider whether and to what extent the cultural heritage of the individual artist has an influence on his or her creativity."

### Functions of the cultural practices

- conforming to ascribed identity:
  - link to ascribed ,roots'
  - positive identification
  - serving exoticism
  - essentialising
- performing multiple belogingness
  - own space
  - combining different belongingnesses
  - developing own expression
  - providing space for others
- gendered performance

## Thank you!



More information on www.urmila.de

