



CAM BUDDHA FILMS

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release **April 2018**

GROUND BREAKING FILM IN PRODUCTION ON FGM PRACTICES

***CRUSHED WINGS* – to be released in 2018 – is the first drama film in history on Female Genital Mutilation and is set to force our eyes open to the harsh reality of this brutal, increasingly widespread cultural ritual.**

Rhianne Hardman

Independent production company Cam Buddha Films is making waves in the industry this month with the introduction of their film *Crushed Wings*. Shot in hauntingly stunning locations across England, India and Nepal, this visually enchanting film follows the tragic journey of young Ria. She suffers a sickening cycle of abuse at the hands of her community, beginning with a brutal backstreet FGM procedure at age 5 – something that over 200 million women alive today have been forced to undergo. Based on the collective real-life experiences of these women, the film boldly shines a spotlight on the realities of FGM, forced marriage and honour killing.

The team is headed by award-winning director and producer Lalit Bhusal who launched the project after carrying out extensive research that involved dozens of interviews with FGM victims as well as a trip to India to study the experiences of the Bohra community. On hearing about the suffering many girls endure as a result of “cutting,” Lalit set his sights on producing a film that would be a voice for these women, with the ultimate goal of challenging the outdated attitudes that keep the damaging tradition alive: “After discovering that no film had been made about the practice, I knew my next feature had to tackle FGM.”

The cast features an array of up-and-coming actors. To mention two, Ozgur Cifci takes the lead as Ria, delivering a spell-binding performance as the ill-fated heroine, alongside talented method actor Nisaro Karim who portrays Ria's aggressive husband.

Behind the scenes, dozens of local artists – editors, writers, graphic designers – have come on board to assist the project. However, the team would still welcome volunteers hoping to get involved in the final stretch of the post-production journey. So, if that's you, feel free to message Cam Buddha Films through Facebook or, directly, via info@cambuddha.com. One easy way to back the company would be to pop over to their Indiegogo page at <https://igg.me/at/crushed-wings> and make a much-needed contribution in support of the fundraising campaign that was launched on the 1st of March. For financial backers, there are a number of rewards and offers on the table – just head over and have a read.

The number of women dying as a result of mutilation is at an all-time high and is expected to increase significantly over the next 15 years. If nothing else, please help Cam Buddha Films encourage the world to take a stand against FGM by sharing their material on social media. However, if you're able to, you could help give the film exposure in the media or consider business sponsorship. It's set to be something truly special, so make sure you're a part of it.

Lalit Bhusal is available for interviews. To make arrangements, contact the team via info@cambuddha.com. ■

A FEW FACTS AND FIGURES

At least 200 million girls and women alive today living in 30 countries have undergone FGM. There are an estimated 3 million girls at risk of undergoing FGM every year.

If trends continue, the number of females undergoing FGM will rise significantly over the next 15 years and so will the number of women and girls dying from this practice.

- Did you know that FGM brings complications during child birth, often resulting in a caesarean section?
- Did you know that the cutting is carried out often with bold unsterilized objects and without any anaesthetics?
- Did you know it doesn't only happen in Africa, but also in Asian countries such as Pakistan, India, Malaysia, Indonesia and even in Nepal and Russia?
- Did you know that many of these countries have no law against FGM yet?
- Did you know that FGM has no direct link to any religion?

HIGH AND LOW RESOLUTION images are available, incl. the official film poster and company logo. Please contact us if needed.

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CRUSHED WINGS ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

Crushed Wings Teaser: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=37EPeYmof2I>
Crushed Wings Trailer: <https://youtu.be/gBG0SnI3H9U>
Crushed Wings Fundraising Video: <https://youtu.be/UUmOrGblzmQ>
Indiegogo Campaign Page: <https://igg.me/at/crushed-wings>
IMDB: https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5772078/?ref=fn_al_tt_1
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