

The Munnar-witch project



FILM- Orr Eravuu

DIRECTOR- Hari Shankar, Hareesh Narayan, Krishna Sekhar

CAST- Sathish G, Haivantika, Asha, Anand Chandrasekhar, Dungston, Hari, Ajay, Krishnasekhar, Srijith PS, Ganesh



THE horrific consequences one needs to face, as one tries to cross the line between the supernatural and the normal, forms the crux of *Orr Eravuu*. This novel experiment has three debutant directors wielding the megaphone. The film belongs to the doc-fiction-horror genre and is shot through a camera that is strapped on the narrator, giving a sense of realism, as the protagonist goes through harrowing experiences. With a well-planned script sans any distraction, and its unconventional narration, the film offers an engaging and thrilling experience to the viewer.

The film opens with a TV channel discussing the mysterious death of Nakulan Ponnusamy aka Nakul (Sathish G, the film's cameraman and obviously the protagonist and narrator), an investigator of paranormal phenomena. The TV hostess interrogates the near and dear ones of Nakul

and the neighbours around the haunted bungalow where Nakul had gone for his investigation. The footage captured on camera by him and others before him, all form part of the discussion. And it's then that we get to see from Nakul's viewpoint what happened to him that fateful night, and his sense of foreboding with which he had crossed forbidden barriers. Nakul had been approached by businessman Anand (Anand Chandrasekhar) to investigate the presence of paranormal forces in Anand's dilapidated bungalow in Munnar. Anand had however failed to inform Nakul that he had already sent three parapsychologists there, with unfortunate consequences. Nakul drives down to Munnar, fully equipped with gadgets that would trace out any paranormal activity. But after a night's stay, he is found dead under mysterious circumstances.

The film does not try to scare

you with gory scenes or ghosts suddenly popping up to jolt you out of your senses. But an eerie ambience is maintained throughout, generating a sense of apprehension and fear. The spooky sound track, the background score (Venkatprabhu Shankar), the impressive cinematography particularly in the night shots in the bungalow (Sathish G), the live sound and the slick editing, all enhance the mood and feel. The touch point seems to be films like *Paranormal Activity* and *The Blair Witch Project* (reshaped to disastrous results in *Aghyath* in Hindi). Every filmmaker claims his film to be different. But this film will truly be a different and a unique viewing experience for a Tamil viewer with a penchant for the supernatural-horror genre. With a running time of about 110 minutes, *Orr Eravuu* is a laudable and a novel attempt from a team of freshers.

—Malini Mannath