

Website: www.haanduk.weebly.com
Email: mayamarafilms@gmail.com
Contact: +919435692040

Press Kit

Original Title: Haanduk

English Title: The Hidden Corner

Language: Assamese, [Moran](#)

RT: 83 minutes

Ratio: 2.35:1

Sound: 5.1 Surround

Subtitles: English

Year of Production: 2016

Looking for: Foreign Sales, Festivals & Distributions

Production: [Mayamara Production](#)

Pre Selection: [Film Bazaar Work-In-Progress Lab](#) (International Film Festival of India 2015) Recommends.

Promotion: Agora Market, 57th Thessaloniki International Film Festival 2016, Athens (Greece).

World Premiere: 18th Jio MAMI Mumbai Film Festival 2016, Competition Section (Mumbai).

Award: The Jury Grand Prize for India Gold at Mumbai Film Festival.

Synopsis Short

Heramoni, mother of untraced extremist Mukti, whose last rites she had performed receives intimation that his death cannot be confirmed by the outfit and knows not how to respond while Biplob, who had left the outfit and is alone, unable to be part of the mainstream surrendered rebels, has his own problems of existence.

Synopsis Long

After many anxious years Hermoni, mother of Mukti who had left home to join an extremist outfit is handed a mutilated bullet ridden body purportedly that of her son. The formal last rites are performed. Then comes the news that the body may not be Mukti's. Thus begins another long wait as Hormoni rekindles her hope that her son will return home in person.

In company with Hermoni is Sewali, Mukti's childhood companion with whom he had sought to share his life. She is a woman now. Her love for Muki is unflinching. She is waiting.

And, there is Biplob. He had returned from the outfit to lead a normal life. His past prevents the return of normalcy.

The trio go on living. Nourishing in a hidden corner of their hearts that their hopes and dreams will indeed be fulfilled some day.

Director Note

The film delves into a section of the Assamese society in North-east India threatened by influx of illegal immigrants from across the border. A democratic movement yielding no results, an extremist group emerged. Thirty odd years later the social impact is apparent. Today, in the days of global emergence of rebellion and extremism against illegal influx, the Assamese tale tells many tales.

The film Haanduk has been filmed in actual locales, amongst peoples who have witnessed this uprising.

It is perhaps for the first time that the Moran community of the Assamese society, hitherto unknown to the world, has been explored in the context of this uprising.

The vast Indian existence is some sort of a miniature globe. Nestled in the north eastern corner of this globe is area whose Mongoloid populace share rites, customs and physical features of South East Asia.

FAQ with Director Producer JAICHENG JAI DOHUTIA

What was your inspiration for the film?

Since childhood I have seen many people who have frequently confronted insurgency related problems . This film is a reflection of it.

How long the film get off the ground? What was the process of getting the film made?

8 years of starts and stops. I distinctly remember the article published in the 1st June 2007 issue of the Assamese weekly named *Sadin* date of about an unfortunate mother who was given a body of her son twice, once due to some mistake committed by police. This incident triggered me to make a film on it.

I met the mother with the help of Haran Sonowal who had filed the report and journalist HindujyotiGogoi of Sibsagar.

Officially I started to write the first draft in 2012. My friend BiswajeetChangmai was the all time listener of my drafts. Then I meet SurajDuwarah my Script Supervisor, He encouraged me a lot to keep continuing the script.

In 2013 I met my co-writer, well wisher; BhaskarJyoti Das. Together we started writing. We discussed a lot, changeed the structure many times and at last in 2015 we agreed in a point. My father SrikumarDohutia also guided me a lot.

As an Independent film; the budget is always issue and it gives limitations .But I took the challenge. My friends ManashProtimDutta, Chida Bora, DebajitGayan, BhabenMahanta also stood by me . And I started my production.

How long was the shoot? Where did you shot?

19 days. We shot in TonganaMaajGaon, Tinsukia, Digboi, Mergerita, Ledu and in Arunachal Pradesh.

What is your favorite scene in the film?

The beginning scene of the film. It was a single of shot around 5 minutes duration. As our all cast were new comer and first time in front of camera; so I was not sure how our lead character BANDOI CHETIA will perform this bamboo cutting scene. But she performed in such a natural way. I was quite happy with her performance.

What is meaning of the word “Haanduk” ?

Haanduk is a Moran word. It means very remote interior place or the dark corner of a house.

Your all artist are new and first time in front of the camera. How it became possible ? Describe the casting process?

From the very beginning I always said that I wanted this film to be realistic and to feature with real people and real location, rather than actors, whenever possible.

Our main challenging character was Mukti’s mother, the female lead. I needed such a real character where trauma could be seen automatically in her face. It was really tough for me; it took two years to find out BANDOI CHETIA. I met her while I was visiting locations with our location manger RASENDRA BORAH. One day I saw a village woman talking with Rasendra’s mother, in his house. She was the one whom I was looking for and immediately took an audition on my mobile itself. At first she was shy, but I saw determination and dedication within her and within a week I finalized her cast.

As an independent filmmaker; this is your first film. You worked with new and small crew. What’s your experience?

Hard Cash is the major challenge, but if we are confident and determined, I think everything is possible. I am always blessed with my parents as well as Executive Producer SRIKUMAR DOHUTIA & IRAWOTI GOHAIN DOHUTIA. Then my Associate Producer MANASH PROTIM DUTTA encouraged and always stood by me.

Before doing this film I was involve as a Chief assistant director with an another independent film “Orong” directed by SURAJ DOWARAH and this experience helped me a lot while making this film. I did a very meticulous production plan which helped me a lot during principal photography.

Our team was small but well experienced and equipped. And one good thing was that they all

are hardworking and honest with their work. We did sync sound and always tried to give time as it required.

About the Production Company



MAYAMARA PRODUCTION

Mayamara Production was incepted by Jaicheng Jai Dohutia in the year 2008 with the aim of making independent films, documentary & other video installation arts.

FOCUS

Worldwide promotions of the North-East India's incredible tribes, along with their hopes, dreams and pains.

MISSION

Data acquisition, preserve & promotions of indigenous ethnic tribes.

Films:

1. The Weaver শিপিনী,

Genre: Documentary

Language: English

RT: 30 minute

Film By: State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD)

Year: 2008

2. The Blind, আরৰণ

Genre: Animation 2D Short

RT: 8 minute

Film By: Group Production

Year: 2009

3.(Untitled) আনামাংকিত

Genre: Experimental Documentary

Language: Moran

RT: 28 minutes

Year: 2013-14

4. Cuckoo চাক-চনি

Genre: Documentary

Language: Assamese

RT: 38 minute

Year: 2014

Film By: All Assam Moran Student Union, Kakopathar Regional Committee

5. Haanduk হান্দুক (The Hidden Corner)

Genre: Drama (Fiction)

RT: 90 minutes Approximate.

Language: Assamese/Moran

Subtitles: English

Year: 2016

About the Cast



BANDOI CHETIA/HERAMONI

Performing the lead role is debutant Bandoi Chetia who never has been exposed to performing arts before. She belongs to a very poor jobless family comprising her husband, son and daughter-in-law. Every day the entire family goes out in search of daily work for wages. She had never gone to school. Her mother died young. The fifty odd years of her rugged journey in life has taught her a lot and made her very bold and strong.



BISHAL ANURAG/BIPOB

Debut actor Bishal is a poet. He is also well known for his photography and paintings.



NIVEDITA BARUAH/SEWALI

Keeping hobby in Travelling, Driving, Photography, Painting, Pistol Shooting, Swimming, Cooking and professionally an advocate the film Haanduk is Nivedita's first acting place. She never think for acting before but keeps regular Bollywood film update and is a great film lover.



JITU MORAN/OIKYA

Associate with many local drama groups as an actor and director. Haanduk is his debut film.

About the Filmmakers



JAICHENG JAI DOHUTIA /DIRECTOR/PRODUCER

By profession writer, director, producer Jaicheng Jai Dohutia born in 1982 in Tinsukia in the state of Assam, India. Jaicheng Jai Dohutia completed a three year Film & Video Editing diploma from Jyoti Chitraban Film & Television Institute, Guwahati. His first short titled Wing's of Window (2008) won two awards at the state level short film festival. He has subsequently made the following films:

1. Haanduk (The Hidden Corner) debut feature film, 2016
2. Cuckoo, documentary 2014
3. Untitled, documentary 2013
4. The Urban Root, Short 2010,
5. The Weaver, documentary 2009,
6. Wings of Window, Short 2008.



BHASKAR JYOTI DAS / WRITER

Started as News Magazine Correspondent, but immediately turned into an independent film maker and script writer. He just finished his first feature film “Antadhan” with co-director Dorendra Singh. As a writer, he wrote couple of TV series for Doordarshan, Guwahati Kendra and for other private channels too. His script “The Puppet Theatre” was selected in Green Screen Lab 2012 in India for script development and developed under German Filmmaker Arend Agthe. Already he wrote couple of screenplay for himself and other production houses.

1. Antardhan with co-writer Darendra Shing
2. Danda
3. Sonar Boron Pakhi
4. The Puppet Theatre
5. Haanduk with co-writer Jai Cheng
6. Pahar Talit Shok
7. Some Portion Black.



CHIDA BORA / DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Chida completed the three years diploma in cinematography at the JyotiChitraban Film & Television Institute in Guwahati, 2009.

He started his carrier as an assistant camera person in Commercial Advertising like “Pantene, Faa&Veet” with DOP Madhusudhan Shi and Hindi feature film “PyarkaFunda”. Then worked as a Cameraman in “M.D.C. Production House”, Mumbai/Delhi.

Chida has shot two features to date- including "Teri DilliMeriDilli" and “Haanduk”.

He made four short films and documentaries. Where one of his short documentary “Ball & Beautiful” screened in several international film festivals.



DIGANTA BORA / EDITOR

Pass out as a film editor from Regional Govt. Film & Television Institute. He worked with many regional films and documentaries. As a editor Haanduk is his third film.



DEBAJIT GAYAN / SOUND DESIGNER

After completing his 3 years diploma of audiography and sound engineering in 2009 from JyotiChitraban, he has worked with more than sixteen nos of feature films as a production sound mixer, sound designer or mixer. "Haanduk" is his ninth feature film as an independent sound designer. Before he did "Adomya", "Antardhan", "JeeyaJurirXubax", "Orong", "Onaatah", "Grief on a Sunday Morning", "Mriganabhi" etc.

He got best audiography award of Assam state film award in the year 2015 for the National Award winning film "Orong" directed by Suraj Kr Duwara.



PUNYAJIT MORAN / ART DIRECTOR

By profession Folk artist, Actor, Drama Director, Singer, music composer Punyajit is associate with the famous drama group 'Utsa'. He played in many drama like "Gutifulorgamusa"(Directed by BidyabotiPhukan), "NahararNiribeliSaa"(Directed by BidyabotiPhukan), Parijat Haran (Directed by BhabanandaBorbayan) etc.

He also directed drama like "MiriJiyori", "Tadanta", "RojaAahe","AaaJaauUmolunggoi", "Jiya Dhal", "Sabda", "Hopun" etc. As an actor he acted in the feather film "Soti" & short "Tented Window" both directed by WilleChangkhla, California.

He got scholarship for the field of Theater by Ministry of Culture, India Government in 2011.`

Credits

MAYAMARA PRODUCTION

Presents

A Film by

JAICHENG JAI DOHUTIA

Directed by

JAICHENG JAI DOHUTIA

Starring

BANDOI CHETIA

BISHAL ANURAG
NIVEDITA BARUAH
JITU MORAN

Written by
BHASKAR JYOTI DAS, JAICHENG JAI DOHUTIA

Produced by
JAICHENG JAI DOHUTIA

Executive Producers
SRIKUMAR DOHUTIA, IRAWOTI GOHAIN DOHUTIA

Associate Producer
MANASH PROTIM DUTTA

Director of photography
CHIDA BORA

Edited by
DIGANTA BORA, JAICHENG JAI DOHUTIA

Sound Designer
DEBAJIT GAYAN

Location Sound
DEBAJIT GAYAN

Music
Sourav Mahanta

Final Sound Mixing
ANIRBAN BORTHAKUR

Make-up
PARAN SARMAH

DI Colorist
SUJIT BORAH

Production Controller
MANSH PROTIM DUTTA

Production Designer
JAICHENG JAI DOHUTIA, PUNYAJIT MORAN

Costume Designer
JAICHENG JAI DOHUTIA

Dialogue
JAICHENG JAI DOHUTIA

Foley artist
BABUL DAS

vm
DEEPJYOTI HANDIQUE

Graphic & Visual Designer
DHIRUJYOTI BURAGOHAIN, JITU RAY

Location Manager
ROSENDRA BORAH

Script Consultants
SURAJ KUMAR DOWARAH, SRIKUMAR DOHUTIA, BISWAJEET CHANGMAI

Translation
PANKAJ BARUAH(English), SUKHIDHAR DOHUTIA(Moran)

Chief Assistant Director
DIGANTA BORA

Camera Assistant
PHULAN DAS

Location Sound Assistant
MANJIT MRINMOY

Dubbing Artist
DIGANTA BHUYAN, JAHNAVI BORA,
PRATAPI CHETIA, DEBALATA CHUTIA, UDDIPAN SHARMA

Production Assistant
PRAKASH DEEP DOHUTIA, SOURAV KUMAR DOHUTIA

Light Assistant

SHUDHIR NATH, MUNNA SAH

Research Partner

NITUL GHOAIN, HINDUJYOTI GOGOI

Publicity

KALYAN KUMAR KALITA, ABDUL GANI

Bin Player

KAMAL MORAN, RATNESWAR MORAN

Chef

BINOY BHUYAN

Chef Assistant

SUSANTA KALITA

Transportation

MINTU MORAN, PORESH BORA,
ROHIM GOHAIN, RINTU SAIKIA, PAPU, DARSHAN DOHUTIA

Studios

MOVIELABS, cFID, BONANZA, B PLUSE,
JYOTI CHITRABAN, NK, WINNIE FX, DB & THRIKHJIT

Partners

FILM BAZAAR, FESTIVAL SCOPE, BLUE BIRD

CAST

Heramoni BANDOI CHETIA

Biplob BISHAL ANURAG

Sewali NIVEDITA BARUAH

Oikya JITU MORAN

Janeki DURLOBHA MORAN

Bin Player RATNESWAR MORAN

Pro talk Activist SRIKUMAR DOHUTIA

Reform Militant MRIDUPABAN DUTTA, BABLI KONWAR, BIJOY DUTTA

Oikya's Friend PUNYAJIT MORAN

Shop Keeper DISPEN CHUTIA

Priest CHANDADHAR DUTTA

Prayer Carrier SADHAN MORAN

Dead Body Boy(River) SUNANTA MORAN

Army Major DEBASIS KASHYAP DUTTA
Army Major AYAN BIKASH BISHWA
Army Persons KRISHANA DEEP DOHUTA, PRAKASH D DOHUTIA, DEBOJIT BORAH, MINTU
MORAN, TIYAJ MORAN
Sewali's Father SRIKUMAR DOHUTIA
Sewali's Mother PALLABI DOHUTIA
Woman with Child GUNABOTI GOHAIN
Child PIYUSH GOHAIN
Old Woman KOUSHALYA MORAN

Woman Rituals Performer LABAYNYA MORAN, URMILA CHUTIA, RAJESWARI CHUTIA,
TEPESWARI MORAN, JETUKI MORAN, BOIGENTI MORAN, FULESWARI MORAN, RUPABOTI
MORAN, TUTULI MORAN, PADMAWOTI MORAN

Male Rituals Performer BHUGESWAR BORUAH, NIRMAL CHETIA, GUNESWAR MORAN, SADHAN
MORAN, RAMENDRA MORAN, HALADHAR MORAN, MONAI MORAN, LABHESWAR MORAN,
JOYNATH MORAN

In Other Cast KHANINDRA KHATUWAL, DIBAKAR MORAN, BIREN GOGOI, GITASHREE DOHUTIA,
NABIN MORAN, GOPAL MORAN, JINU MORAN, SUMITRA BORUAH, HRIDAYA MORAN,
KUNJALATA PHUKAN, MAHENDRA DOHUTIA, ANJALI MORAN, DIPANJALI MORAN, MINTU
MORAN, PRIYANKA CHUTIA, NIMISHA MORAN, NAREN MORAN, NABIN MORAN, JOYDRATH
BORUAH

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MORAN, HAREN SONOWAL, BHABEN MAHANTA, HAREN GOGOI, HINDUJYOTI GOGOI, BISITRA
PHUKAN, SANGEETA BORA, MRIDUL BURAGOHAIN, BISWAJEET CHANGMAI, DARENDRA SINGH,
JITPLAVAN RAY, JEMI GOGOI, SANTUSH DAS, SASHADHAR CHOUDHURY, MONIMANIK GOGOI,
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BOBBY SHARMA BARUAH, SURAJ DOWARAH, NABA KUMAR MORAN, BIPLOB MORAN, NOBIN
DEKA, KRISHNA DEKA, NANKI, BHARAT RAJAK, GOPINATH MORAN, BHARNAB MORAN, MUNIN
MORAN, RANJIT MORAN, KUBER DOHUTIA, PARANJYOTI DOHUTIA, MINTU DOHUTIA, HOTEL
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MORAN, MUNMUN MORAN, BRISTI MORAN, NAYANJIT MORAN, NOREN MORAN, FESULI
MORAN, RUNUMI MORAN, JUGYAJYOTI MORAN, NABANITA MORAN, NANDESWAR MORAN,
RAJESWAR MORAN, KASHIN MORAN, PRASANTA MORAN, BULU MORAN, BIRUMONI MORAN,

