Do Hindi Cinema & Television Serials Propagate Caste Stereotypes through Surnames of Characters: A Content Analysis

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ABSTRACT

Caste affiliated surnames are very common in India. In fact, they convey a lot of caste stereotypes about the bearer. This is a subtle way of practicing caste based identities and related discriminations. The current study is a content analysis of the surnames of leading fictional characters in Hindi TV serials and movies to see if TV and cinema propagate caste stereotypes through surnames of their fictional characters. The result shows excessive use of upper caste affiliated surnames used both in TV serials and cinema while surnames affiliated to lower castes have negligible presence in these programmes.

Keywords: *Stereotype, Caste stereotype, Surname, Television, Hindi Cinema, Media.*

The word 'Caste' is of European origin and it was first used by Purtgies travellers to India in the middle of fifteenth century. This word originated from Spanish word 'Casta' which means 'lineage' or 'race' or 'a group of people having hereditary quality'.(Srinivas, 1968; Ghurye, 1932).

Caste can be defined as hereditary endogamous group, having a common name, common traditional occupation, common culture, relatively rigid in matters of mobility, distinctiveness of status and forming a single homogeneous community.

In India, it is a system of social stratification which divides communities into thousands of endogamous hereditary groups called Jati. These jatis are grouped into four vernas: Brahmin, Kshatriya, Vaishya and Shudra. There is another group known as untouchables or Dalits who are ostracised from the four vernas. Social segregation in caste system is different from ethnic segregation which is based on the physical appearances. It is also different from other forms of social segregation based on material resources. It is based on purity and impurity of occupation where Brahmins are placed at the top of the ladder, Kshtriya below them, Vaishya and Shudra at the bottom.

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The most striking feature of caste in India is the superimposition of endogamy on exogamy (Ambedkar, 1968). A person from a particular caste is allowed to marry only within his caste (Endogamy) but is not allowed to marry within his gotra(Exogamy). Gotra, lineage segment within an Indian caste that prohibits intermarriage by virtue of the members' descent from a common mythical ancestor, is an important factor in determining possible Hindu marriage alliances (Encyclopedia Britannica, 2015).

Surname: an extension of social identity and a subtle way of casteism in modern India

"What's your name?"
"My name is Rakesh."
"And?"
"What?"
"I mean your surname?"
"I am Rakesh Maurya"

This conversation would seem innocuous for someone having little or no knowledge about Indian society. After all, what's wrong if someone asks your surname? Would it matter if I change the surname from Maurya to Mishra or something else? At least, in Indian society it would create a huge difference of perception. In India, your surname denotes your caste affiliation (Pandey, 2013). And if you do not have any surname, it is assumed that you belong to lower castes. Although, surnames are not a very reliable source of information, people rely on it to infer other person's caste and social position (Jogdand, 2013).

The use of caste specific surnames is very popular among those belonging to Brahmins, Kashtriya and Vaishya- the top three varna of Indian society. In Indian society, caste based identities are commonly used and among those identities surnames are the most popular. For example, people prefer to address others by their surnames and not by their first name. Identities based on surnames are a matter of pride among forward caste people and they often show it off (Jaffrelot, 2003; Babu, and Khare, eds., 2011), however, as we go down the social ladder, the uses of surname based identities are avoided by lower caste people particularly by Dalits. The reasons behind it are not difficult to decipher. For thousands of years, Dalits and low caste people have been denied social identities. For example: For hundreds of years, Dalits were not allowed to drink water from the common source of water like pond or well as their touch would pollute the water (Tiwary and Phansalkar, 2007). Even animals were allowed to drink water from the same source but not Dalits. The message was clear: they were considered worse than four legged animals. Their touch would pollute anything even their shadow would pollute others. This was clearly a denial of human identity. Also, the history of Dalits and other lower caste people is a history of thousands of years of servitude, exploitation and oppression on the basis of being born in a particular community or caste. On a more gruesome side, it is a reminder of being forced to live outside the village or town, have no access to schools, offices and temples

(Kshīrasāgara, 1994). Therefore, surnames for a low caste or Dalit person is related to stigmatised caste identity.

"The communicative thrust of 'being asked about one's surname' is deeply related to stigmatized caste identity. In the hands of the upper castes, the banal act of 'being asked about one's surname' becomes a means of emphasizing devalued nature of identity and derogatory history. It also constitutes non-recognition of individual identity. In other words, the banal act by the upper castes is an effort to make Dalits ashamed about their individual and group identity. This often leads to feeling of humiliation among Dalits."(Jogdand, 2013)

Caste system in India still works at a subtle level even after 70 years of independence. Matrimonial sections in newspapers and many websites are testament to this practice. In fact, marriages are the time when you can see how caste practices function in Indian society. If you look at these advertisements, the social transactions happen and the currency used in these transactions is "Surname".

Caste system is different from racial segregation observed in western countries. Unlike race, there is not based on racial differences. In fact, one can not differentiate between people of various caste based on their outward appearance (Cox, 1945).Since, it is difficult to identify someone's caste by his/her physical appearance, people take help from surnames to infer an individual's caste affiliation. (Despandey, 2008)

There are many institutions and social organizations, whose names as well as work are to promote the welfare of that particular caste. Brahman Mahasabha, Kshatriya Honour Society, Kayasth Samaj etc are based on caste identity and their chief task is to promote welfare of a particular caste group. While there is no problem if these organizations promote welfare of their own people however by giving it a particular caste oriented names like Brahmin, Kshatriya, Kayastha etc, it does more harm by dividing society on caste lines. Many political parties, in India, have also been created on caste lines. Bahujan Samaj party, a dominant political force in north India, has clearly identified itself with schedule castes. Samajwadi party another dominant political force in Uttar Pradesh, has clear inclination towards a particular backward caste.

Surname in India is indicative of your caste and caste indicates your social and economic status. So surnames in India have a great value and people are very much interested in surnames.

How Cinema & Television influence our cognition and behaviour?
Hindi Cinema and television are one of the most popular means of entertainment for people in north India. Apart from being entertained from these two powerful mediums, they influence our thinking and behaviour in both explicit and implicit ways.

Cinema and television influence our life in a variety of ways. There are considerable evidence which suggest that visual media influence children in both positively as well as negatively. Albert Bandura's famous experiment of baby doll shows that children learn most of the things by simply observing their environment. Cinema and television also comes in the periphery of their observation. Research studies conducted by the most successful children programme on television " sesame street" shows how this medium can be harnessed for inculcating educational, cultural and moral values in children. A recent study conducted by University of Wiscosin-madison in 2013 by Marie-Louise Mares and Zhongdang Pan found significant positive effect of exposure to 'Sesame Street' across a number learning outcomes like social learning and health and safety knowledge.

There are considerable body of research which shows that visual media influence a wide range of attitudes and behaviours of young people. These studies have explored the impact of media on risk taking behaviours like engaging in sex, smoking, consuming alcohol, aggression, violence as well as other behaviour such as wearing trendy and fashionable clothes and mannerism.

Brown and Newcomer (1990) found that watching more sexual content on television increases the risk of engaging in teenage sexual intercourse. Also, a positive correlation was found between watching visual media with sexual content and permissive attitude of viewers towards pre-marital sex (Calfin, Carroll and Schmidt, 1993). Another study which compared pregnant and non-pregnant girls showed that pregnant girls are more likely to have been watching soap operas prior to pregnancy as compared to non-pregnant girls (Corder-Bolz, 1981). Another study linked early experiences of sex to watching visual media (Peterson and Kahn, 1984).

In their study on Impact of media on adolescent sexual attitudes and behaviours, Escobar-Chaves and her colleagues found that adolescents exposed to NC-17 rated films are more likely to have more than one sexual partner, having more negative attitude towards use of condom and engaging in sex more often. Brown et al. emphasized that sexually explicit media work as a sexual "super peer" for teenagers in the absence of proper counseling from family and school (Brown, Halpern and L'Engle, 2005). Brown et al. created an index known as 'sexual media diet' (SMD) to measure the sexual content in mass media. Their study revealed that white adolescent girls between 12 to 14 years in the top 20% of the SMD density are more than twice likely to have had sexual intercourse as girls in the lower 80% of SMD density.

Smoking among youth is another area where effect of television and cinema is very much visible. Strong evidence of this effect has led the National Cancer Institute to officially declare a causal relationship between smoking in films & television and starting of smoking among youth (National Cancer Institute, 2008). Another study by Heatherton and Sargent found that adolescent with high exposure to smoking in films are three times more susceptible to try smoking in real life as compared to those with low exposure. This effect remained significant

even after controlling other variables like personality factors, parenting style and socio-demographics (Heatherton and Sargent, 2009). Cross- cultural studies have also confirmed this relationship between exposure to smoking in films and initiation of smoking among youth (Hanewinkel and Sargent, 2008).

There are considerable evidence which suggests relationship between exposure of alcohol consumption in films and television and Initiation of drinking alcohol among youth. Sargent et al. found, while controlling other social variables, significant relationship between watching alcohol consumption in films and its consumption among teen in U.S. (Sargent et al., 2006). A similar cross-sectional study also found the relationship between viewing alcohol use in films and initiation of drinking among US adolescents (Dalton et al., 2006).

Violence and aggression shown on television and films also influence our behaviour in real life. There are many research studies including detailed cross sectional and longitudinal studies which have concluded a very clear cause-and -effect relationship between violence shown in media and aggression in real life (Strasburger and Donnerstein, 1999). Another review of studies clearly demonstrated that "violent imagery has short-term effects on arousal, thoughts, and emotions, increasing the likelihood of aggressive or fearful behaviour." It also noted a strong influence of portrayal of violence in media on those who have a predisposition for aggressive behaviour because of personality or environmental factors (Browne and Hamilton-Giachritsis, 2005).

Television and cinema also influence youth's ideas of fashion and their choices of clothing and accessories. In a survey study examining the clothing choice of 478 adolescents studying in 6th, 9th and 12th grade in two mid-western schools in US found that black adolescents are more likely to be influenced by media than by family and friends. Further, it observed that media is twice as much influential on urban adolescents as compared to rural adolescents (Wilson and MacGillivray, 1998). Media has the potential to disseminate information on fashion, beauty and other related accessories, and can create positive images for youth in their social development (Schwartz, 2004).

How Hindi Cinema and Television Propagating Caste Stereotypes by insinuating Surnames of Characters?
As we have already discussed how television and cinema influence our thinking and behaviour in a subtle way; and how 'Surnames" are used to infer caste identities and related stereotypes; the current study tries to explore a new question. Do Hindi cinema and television serials propagate caste stereotypes through surnames of their characters?

METHOD:

Sample:

The content for analysis was selected from both the mediums: Television Serials and Hindi Cinema. For television serials, four most popular T.V. channels were selected i.e. Star Plus, Colors, Sony, Zee TV. Reality Shows and Historical and biographical serials were excluded from the content as they are not fictional. All the serials currently (December 3, 2015) telecasted on Star Plus, Sony, Colors and Zee tv are selected for analysis. Since Star Plus is the most popular TV channel for tv sops, its previous popular sops are also included in the data. Total 45 serials and three leading characters' surnames from each were selected for analysis.

For Hindi cinema, all the movies released in 2013 and 2014 were selected for analysis. The list of movies was selected from Internet Movie Database (IMDb). Total 42 movies from 2013 and 64movies from 2014 were selected for surname analysis. (Appendix 1)

Measures:

Three main characters' surnames from television Hindi serials and movies were analysed to decipher whether they represent upper/forward caste, other backward caste, Muslim, SC/ST or 'no caste affiliation'.'No caste affiliation' represents those names which do not carry any surname or using generic surnames (generic names are those which does not have any caste affiliation such as Anand).To determine the caste affiliation of a particular surname, centre,s list of SC/ST and OBC as well as the plot of the story is used. The plot of the story is analysed from two sources: Wikipedia page of the sops/films and website of the channel.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION:

Out of 135 leading characters selected from 45 TV serials, 111 characters (82%) carried a surname belonging to upper caste/general category, 6 characters (5%) carried a surname belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBC), 6 characters (4%) carried a surname belonging to Muslim and 12 characters (9%) carried no surnames.

Hindi Serials				Total Serials	Total Characters Analysed	Caste/Category wise surnames					
Star Plus	Zee TV	Sony TV	Colors			General/Upper Caste	Other Backward Caste	SC/ST	Muslim	No Surname Used/No Caste Affiliation	
25	11	2	7	45	135	111	6	0	6	12	

Table-1
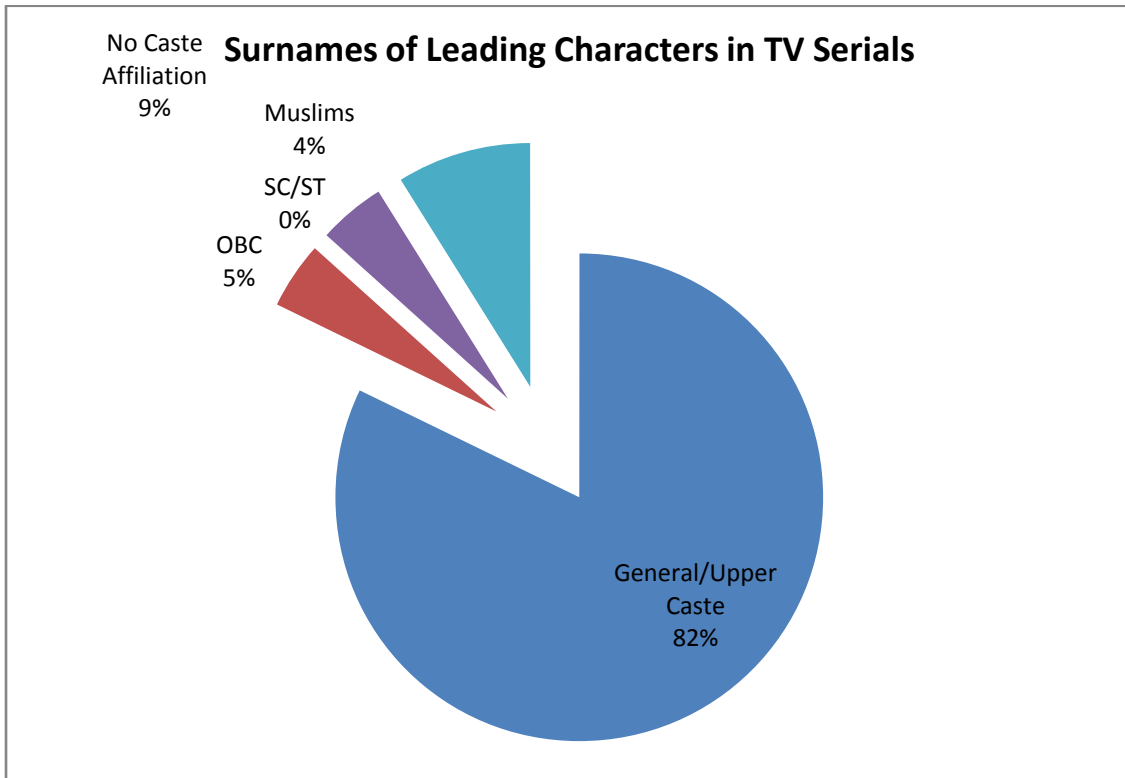
Graph-1

Out of 42 movies from 2013 and their 126 leading characters' surnames, 63 characters (50%) carried a surname belonging to General/upper caste, 4 characters (3%) carried a surname belonging to Other Backward Class (OBC), 15 characters (12%) carried a surname belonging to Muslim and 44 characters(35%) carried no surnames.

From 64 movies of 2014, 98 leading characters (51%) carried surname belonging to General/Upper caste, 2 characters (1%) carried surname belonging to Other Backward Classes(OBC), 21 characters (11%) carried surname belonging to Muslims and 71 characters (37%) did not carried any surname.

Year	Total Films	Total Characters	Caste/Category wise surnames				
			General/Upper Caste	Other Backward Caste	SC/ST	Muslim	No Surname used/Not defined
2013	42	126	63	4	0	15	44
2014	64	192	98	2	0	21	71

Table-2
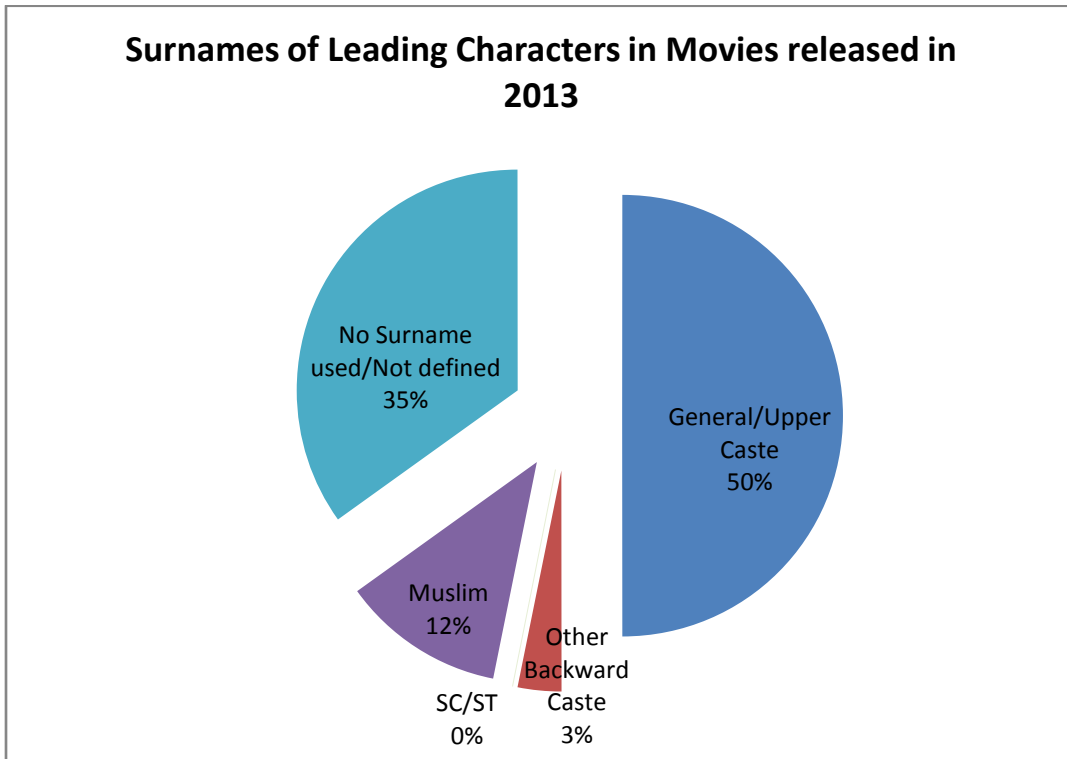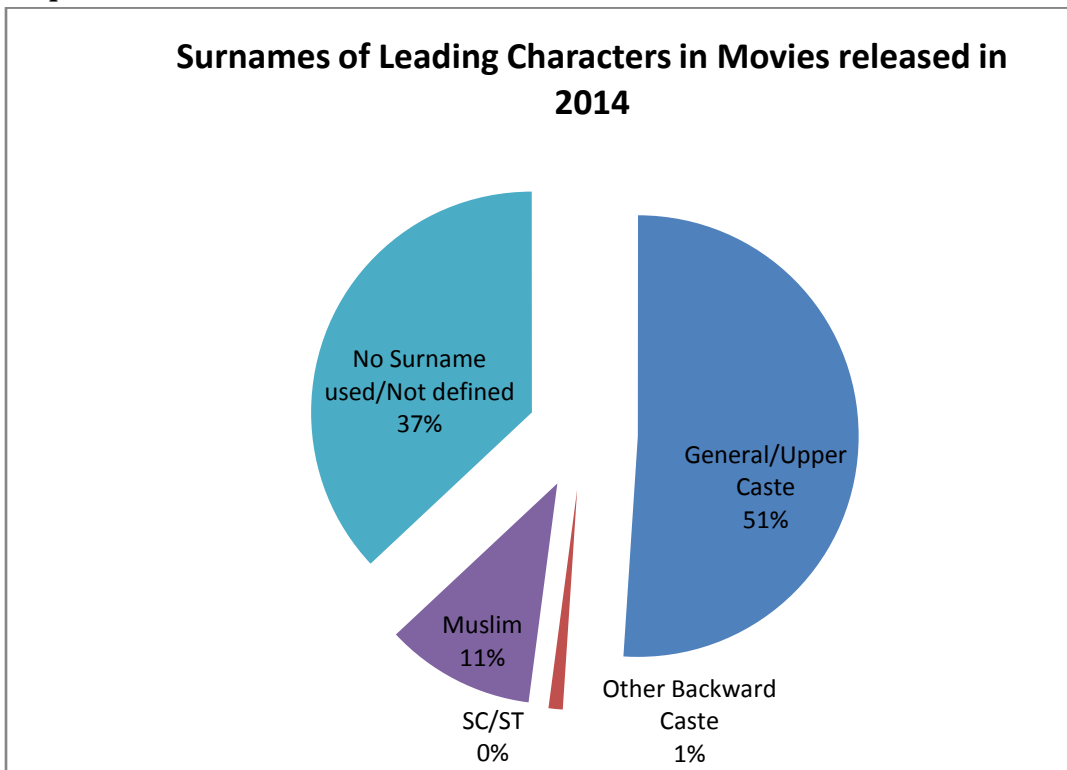
Graph-2

Graph-3

Looking at the data, it is clearly evident that surnames denoting forward caste affiliation are very popular among the story writers in Hindi Cinema/Serials. In Hindi television serials, this trend is very obvious: 82% characters carry a surname belonging to Forward caste. However, in movies it is close to 50% of all leading characters.

Surnames affiliated to Other Backward Castes are very few(5% in tv serials and between 1% to 3% in movies.) keeping in mind that OBC are more than 1/3rd of population of India.Not a single Surnames affiliated to SC/ST was found either in tv serials or movies. This is intriguing as SC/ST population is close to 20% of the country. In a fictional story where the author has the complete freedom to choose the surnames of its characters; why is there so much attachment with upper/forward caste surnames?

There could be various explanations to this anomaly. First; it shows the biased approach of writers at tv and cinema. Indian society still have strong notions of caste stereotypes, that is why a Bajrangi Bhaijaan- a devotee of Lord Hanuman in the movie Bajrangi Bhaijaan- has to be Pawan Kumar Chaturvedi and not Pawan Kumar Balmiki or Pawan Kumar Paswan. A business family in a tv serials has to have a character with surnames like Singhania, Mehra, Arora (All forward caste surnames). Even a simple girl from a rural background has to be Arora/Mehra(Swaragini-Appendix 1). A research study was conducted by Gopal Sharan Sinha and Ramesh Chandra Sinha from Patna University on Caste Stereotypes in 1967. The researchers selected 200 students from Patna University through random sampling and administered a checklist containing 100 characteristics and a device to measure the preference for association to explore the stereotypes of 10 important castes in Bihar. The results showed a strong rho-coefficient correlation of 0.94 between caste stereotypes and preference of association.

Another argument supporting this overwhelming preference for upper/forward castes surnames is that cinema and television are the reflection of what's happening in society. Since, even in modern India, caste stereotypes are prevalent and widely implicitly /explicitly practised, the data of the current study should not be a surprise (Srinivasan, M., Dunham, Y., Hicks, C. and Barner, D., 2015).

Surnames with no caste affiliation consists of 9% characters in tv serials while in cinema, it is around 35%.One possible explanation of this difference is that tv and cinema are different platforms in terms of their appeal and quality of manpower available to them. Cinema is a more creative, versatile and open platform where story writers, directors and producers try to serve unique products of entertainments for viewers while tv serials are based on concepts that are selling at the moment. Also, quality and experience of people working in tv serials are not as comprehensive as that of people working in cinema.

Television and Cinema influence our cognition in a subliminal way even if we know that the story and characters are fictional. A message is called subliminal if it influences our cognition and thinking without our conscious awareness. Subliminal messages are commonly used in advertising where consumers are primed to purchase a particular product. In India, where caste affiliated surnames are used for social transactions, television serials and Hindi movies , even if they are fictional in nature, showing leading characters with upper castes surnames have the potential to propagate caste stereotypes.
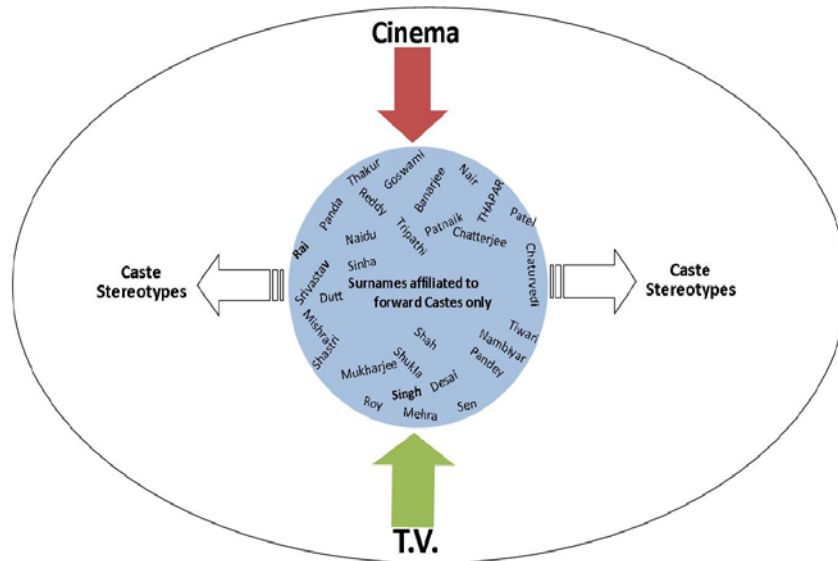
Fictional Characters in TV serials and Cinema having surnames affiliated to Forward Castes only would propagate Caste Stereotypes in society.

Caste stereotypes can be very damaging for individuals belonging to low caste or Dalits. A recent study, conducted by UC Burkley and published in Developmental Science, looks specifically at attitudes in India to Caste system suggests that "children and adults who were more influenced by caste were also more likely to believe that their own natural aptitude, academic success, and personality traits were fixed or set in stone."(Srinivasan,2015). These attitudes need to be broken and Television and Cinema can play an effective role in breaking these attitudes and caste stereotypes. However, the current content analysis of television serials and cinema, instead of breaking those stereotypes, seem to be strengthening caste based stereotypes through surnames.

The Way Ahead:
Television is a very strong medium where almost all of us spend a few hours every day. One can imagine how strongly it propagates caste stereotypes among the masses through character's surname. Should we remove all the surnames from characters' name? Or should we keep surnames but make sure that all surnames from all social groups are represented in T.V. serials and movies? Or should we use generic surnames which denote no caste affiliation? During 1960s

and 70s a revolution started in Tamilnadu to forsake the caste affiliated surnames. The dropping of the caste tags of Mudaliar, Nadar, Gounder, Thevar, Iyer, Pillai, Vanniyaretc., in the last few decades is a great social change that needs to be acknowledged and followed in all parts of the country(Ramadoss,2010). Having a caste free society is in the best interest of all. However, the way to achieve this goal could be many and there would be differences of opinions too. What we do in real life to address this complex issue should be debated among policy makers, however, in reel life, Broadcasting Content Complaints Council(BCCC) a self-regulatory body established by broadcasters, should take appropriate measures to address this caste stereotyping through characters' surnames. Also, Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC), a statutory body under Ministry of Information and Broadcasting should take appropriate measures to address the issue.

CONCLUSION:

The content analysis of surnames of leading characters of TV serials and cinema clearly shows that our story writers are biased in using surnames for their characters. Since surnames carries a lot of social insinuations, stereotypes and prejudices; projecting surnames of only forward castes in these programmes would propagate caste stereotypes among the viewers. Hence, using generic surnames or no surnames or proper representation of surnames of all castes should be used by story/script writers in serials and movies. Also, CBFC should also take this issue seriously and establish mechanism to deal with this caste bias with the help of character's surnames.

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APPENDIX 1

The data about current television serials are taken from the websites of all TV channels including STAR PLUS, ZEE TV, COLORS and SONY. Total 45 tv serials are selected for content analysis(Sony-2, Star Plus-25, Colors-7, Zee TV-11). All the serials currently (December 3, 2015) telecasted on Star Plus, Sony, Colors and Zee tv are selected for analysis.Since Star Plus is the most popular TV channel for tv sops, its previous popular sops are also included in the data.

To determine the caste affiliation of a particular surname, state/centre's list of SC/ST and OBC as well as the plot of the story is used. The plot of the story is analysed from two sources: Wikipedia page of the sops and website of the channel.

Caste affiliation is categorised in four categories.

1- General: Includes surnames affiliated to upper/forward castes
2- OBC: Includes surnames affiliated to Other Backward Castes
3- Muslim: Includes surnames affiliated to Muslims
4- SC/ST: Includes surnames affiliated to Dalits (SC/ST)
5- No caste affiliation: No surname used or generic surnames used.

T.V. Serials

Channel	S.l.	Name of Serial	Main Character's First Name	Surname	Caste Affiliation
Sony	1	Parvarrish – Kuchh Khattee Kuchh Meethi	Sweety Kaur Lakvinder Singh	Ahluwalia	General
			PinkyJeet	Ahuja	General
			Rajesh Singh	Khanna	General
Sony	2	Pyaar Ko Ho Jaane Do	Rizwan Ahmed	Khan	Muslim
			Preet Ishaan	Hooda	General
			Neeti	Khurana	General
Star Plus	1	Ye Hai Mohabbatein	Raman	Bhalla	General
			Shagun	Arora	General
			Ruhi Raman Kumar	Bhalla	General

Star Plus	2	Iss Pyaar Ko Kya Naam Doon?	KhushiKumari	Gupta	OBC
			Arnav Singh	Raizada	General
			Anjali	Raizada	General
Star Plus	3	Diya Aur Baati Hum	Sandhya Sooraj	Rathi	General
			SoorajArun	Rathi	General
			Zakir	Siddiqui	Muslim
Star Plus	4	Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai	AksharaNaitik	Singhania	General
			Naitik Raj Shekhar	Singhania	General
			Tara	Shekhawat	General
Star Plus	5	Sumit Sambhal Lega	Sumit	Walia	General
			Maya	Walia	General
			Alia	Walia	General
Star Plus	6	Phir Bhi Na Maane...Badtameez Dil	Abeer	Malhotra	General
			Meher	Purohit	General
			Nissar	Malik	Muslim
Star Plus	7	Saath Nibhaana Saathiya	Gopi	Modi	OBC
			Meera	Suryayanshi	General
			Paridhi	Modi	OBC
Star Plus	8	Mere Angne Mein	Shanti Devi	Shrivastav	General
			Sarla	Aggarwal	General
			Riya Shivam	Shrivastav	General
Star Plus	9	Tere Sheher Mein	Amaya	Mathur	General
			Sneha	Mathur	General
			Ramashrey	Gupta	OBC
Star Plus	10	Suhani Si Ek Ladki	SuhaniYuvraj	Birla	General
			Soumya Krishna	Mishra	General
			Krishna	Mishra	General
Star Plus	11	EkHazaaron Mein Meri Behna Hai	JeevikaViren Singh	Vadhera	General
			ManviVirat Singh	Vadhera	General
			Viren Singh	Vadhera	General
Star Plus	12	KuchToh Hai Tere Mere Darmiyaan	Madhavan	Venkat	General
			KoyalMadhavan	Venkat	General
			Vidya	Venkat	General
Star Plus	13	Saraswatichandra	SaraswatichandraLaxminandan	Vyas	General
			KumudSundariSaraswatichandra	Vyas	General
				Dharmadhikari	
			PramadDhan		General

Star Plus	14	Dosti... Yaariyan... Manmarziyan	Radhika	Mishra	General
			Samaira	Khanna	General
			Arjun	Mehra	General
Star Plus	15	Tu Mera Hero	Ashish	Agarwal	General
			Panchi	Agarwal	General
			Govindnarayan	Agarwal	General
Star Plus	16	Pyaar Ka Dard Hai Meetha Meetha Pyaara Pyaara	Pankhuri Aditya	Kumar	OBC
			Aditya Harish	Kumar	OBC
			AnujPurushottam	Deewan	General
Star Plus	17	Navya..Naye Dhadkan Naye Sawaal	Deepak	Mishra	General
			Neeta	Mishra	General
			NavyaAnant	Bajpai	General
Star Plus	18	Veera	VeeraBaldev	Singh	General
			RanvijaySampooran	Singh	General
			BaldevBalwant	Singh	General
Star Plus	19	Ek Hasina Thi	Durga	Thakur	General
			Nitya	Mitra	General
			Dev Arnab	Goenka	General
Star Plus	20	Mohi – Ek Khwab Ke Khilne Ki Kahani	Mohi		No Caste Affiliation
			Ayush		No Caste Affiliation
			Anusha		No Caste Affiliation
Star Plus	21	Mohi – Ek Khwab Ke Khilne Ki Kahani	Pratigya Krishna	Singh	General
			Thakur Krishna Sajjan	Singh	General
			KomalKartik	Saxena	General
Star Plus	22	Sasural Genda Phool	Suhana	Kashyap	OBC
			Ishaan	Kashyap	OBC
			Kamal Kishore	Bajpai	General
Star Plus	23	Nisha Aur Uske Cousins	NishaKabir	Kumar	
			Viraj Singh	Rathore	General
			Suketu Ramesh	Gangwal	General
Star Plus	24	Kasautii Zindagii Kay	Prerna	Sharma	General
			Anurag	Basu	General
			Rishabh	Bajaj	General
Star Plus	25	Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi	Govardhan	Virani	General
			AmbaGovardhan	Virani	General
			Tulsi	Virani	General

Colors	1	Swaragini	SwaraSanskaar	Maheshwari	General
			Sanskaar Ram Prasad	Maheshwari	General
			Sharmishtha	Gadodia	General
Colors	2	Sasural Simar Ka	Siddhant	Bharadwaj	General
			SiddhantRajendra	Bharadwaj	General
			SimarPrem	Bharadwaj	General
Colors	3	Meri Aashiqui Tum Se Hi	Milan Kailash	Vaghela	General
			IshaniRanveer	Vaghela	General
			Shikhar Raj Narayan	Mehra	General
			DevarshMitesh	Parekh	General
Colors	4	Udann	Kamal Narayan	Rajvanshi	General
			Chakor		No Caste Affiliation
			Chunni		No Caste Affiliation
Colors	5	Thapki Pyar Ki	ThapkiBihaan	Pandey	General
			BihaanBalvinder	Pandey	General
			Shubh	Chaturvedi	General
Colors	6	Ishq Ka Rang Safed	Viplav	Tripathi	General
			Dashrath	Tripathi	General
			Dhaani		No Caste Affiliation
Colors	7	Naagin	Ritik	Raheja	General
			Yamini	Raheja	General
			Tanvi	Mathur	General
Zee T.V.	1	Kumkum Bhagya	Abhishek Prem	Mehra	General
			Pragya	Arora	General
			Daljeet	Mehra	General
Zee T.V.	2	Jamai Raja	Siddharth	Khurana	General
			Durga Devi	Patel	General
			RoshniSiddharth	Khurana	General
Zee T.V.	3	Kaala Teeka	Vishwaveer	Jha	General
			Gauri	Jha	General
			JethiMaa		No Caste Affiliation
Zee T.V.	4	Satrangi Sasural	Vihaan	Vatsal	General
			Kaira Vihaan	Vatsal	General
			Neelima	Tripathi	General
Zee T.V.	5	Ek Tha Raja Ek Thi Rani	RanaIndravadan	Singh Deo	General
			Rani Gayatri	Devi	General
			Rani Sulakshana		General

			Sarojini	Singh	General
Zee T.V.	6	Sarojini	Somendra	Singh	General
			Dushyant	Singh	General
Zee T.V.	7	Tashan-e-Ishque	Twinkle Kunj	Sarna	General
			Kunj Manohar	Sarna	General
			Yuvraj	Luthra	General
Zee T.V.	8	Ye Vaada Raha	Shrikant		No Caste Affiliation
			Survi		No Caste Affiliation
			Kartik		No Caste Affiliation
Zee T.V.	9	Lajwanti	Sunderlal	Bharadwaj	General
			Lajwanti	Bharadwaj	General
			Jamal		Muslim
Zee T.V.	10	Neeli Chatriwaale	Bhagwan Das	Chaubey	General
			Gowardhan	Dubey	General
			Mahadev	Singh	General
Zee T.V.	11	Qubool Hai	Mahira	Akhtar	Muslim
			Armaan Raza	Sheikh	Muslim
			NayiSanam Nasir	Khan	Muslim

Movies Released in 2013

S.l	Movie	Lead Character Name	Surname	Caste Affiliation
1	Once Upon a Time in Mumbaai	Sultan	Mirza	Muslim
		Shoaib	Khan	Muslim
		Rehana	Shergill	General
2	Chashme Baddoor	Siddharth	Kashyap	OBC
		Omkar	Sharma	General
		Jai	Lakhanpal	No Caste Affiliation
3	ShuddhDesi Romance	Raghu Ram		No Caste Affiliation
		Gayatri		No Caste Affiliation
		Tara		No Caste Affiliation
4	Bullett Raja	Raja	Mishra	General
		Rudra	Tripathi	General
		Ram Babu	Shukla	General
5	Murder 3	Vikram[		No Caste Affiliation
		Roshni		No Caste Affiliation
		Nisha		No Caste Affiliation

6	Jolly LLB	Jagdish	Tyagi	General
		Tejinder	Rajpal	No Caste Affiliation
		Sunderlal	Tripathi	General
7	Phata Poster Nikhla Hero	Vishwas	Rao	OBC
		Kajal		No Caste Affiliation
		Savitri		No Caste Affiliation
8	Satyagraha	Dwarka	Anand	No Caste Affiliation
		Manav	Raghvendra	No Caste Affiliation
		Yasmin	Ahmed	Muslim
9	NautankiSaala	Ram	Parmar	General
		Nandini	Patel	General
		Mandar	Lele	No Caste Affiliation
10	R. Rajkumar	Romeo	Rajkumar	No Caste Affiliation
		Chanda		No Caste Affiliation
		Shivraj	Gurjar	General
11	Kai PO Che	Ishaan	Bhatt	General
		Omkar	Shastri	General
		Govind	Patel	General
12	Fukrey	Vikas	Gulaati	General
		Zafar		Muslim
		Lali		No Caste Affiliation
13	Inkaar	Rahul	Verma	OBC
		Maya	Luthra	General
		Mrs. Kamdhar	Kamdhar	General
14	Matru Ki Bijlee Ka Mandola	Harphool Singh	Mandola	No Caste Affiliation
		Hukum Singh	Matru	No Caste Affiliation
		Bijlee	Mandola	No Caste Affiliation
15	Table No. 21	Abdul Razaq	Khan	Muslim
		Vivaan	Agasthi	General
		Siya	Agasthi	General
16	Zila Ghaziabad	Thakur Pritam	Singh	General
		MahendraFauji	Baisla	General
		SatbirBaisla	Gurjar	General
17	Raanjhanaa	Kundan	Shankar	General
		Zoya	Haider	Muslim
		Jasjeet Singh	Shergill	General
18	Boss	Surya		No Caste Affiliation
		Satyakant	Shastri	General
		Ayushman	Thakur	General
19	YehJawaani Hai Deewani	Naina	Talwar	General
		Kabir	Thapar	General

		Aditi	Mehra	General
20	Dhoom 3	Sahir	Khan	Muslim
		Aaliya		No Caste Affiliation
		Jai	Dixit	General
21	Chennai Express	Meenalochni	Azhagusundaram	No Caste Affiliation
		Rahul	Mithaiwala	No Caste Affiliation
		Durgeshwara	Azhagusundaram	No Caste Affiliation
22	Aashiqui 2	Rahul	Jaykar	General
		AarohiKeshav	Shirke	General
		Vivek		No Caste Affiliation
23	Special 26	Ajay "Ajju"	Singh	General
		Waseem	Khan	Muslim
		P. K.	Sharma	General
24	Krrish 3	Rohit	Mehra	General
		Kaal		No Caste Affiliation
		Priya	Mehra	General
25	The Lunch Box	Saajan	Fernandes	General
		Shaikh		Muslim
		Illa		No Caste Affiliation
26	Grand Masti	Amar	Saxena	General
		Meet	Mehta	General
		Prem	Chawla	General
27	D Day	RudraPratap	Singh	General
		Zoya	Rehman	Muslim
		Wali	Khan	Muslim
28	Vishwaroopam	Wisam Ahmad	Kashmiri	Muslim
		Omar	Qureshi	Muslim
		Nirupama	Vishwanath	General
29	Madras Café	Major Vikram	Singh	General
		Jaya	Sahni	General
		Robin	Dutt	General
30	Ramaiya Vastavaiya	Ram		No Caste Affiliation
		Sona		No Caste Affiliation
		Raghuveer		No Caste Affiliation
31	Lootera	Varun	Srivastav	General
		Pakhi Roy	Chaudhari	General
		A.K.	Bajpai	General
32	Mere Dad Ki Maruti	Sameer	Khullar	General
		Jasleen		No Caste Affiliation
		Tej	Khullar	General

33	Saheb Biwi Aur Gangster Returns	Aditya Pratap	Singh	General
		IndrajeetPratap	Singh	General
		Madhavi	Devi	No Caste Affiliation
34	Ghanchakkar	Sanjay	Atre	General
		Uttam	Nagpal	General
		Neetu	Atre	General
35	Akaash Vani	Akaash		No Caste Affiliation
		Vani		No Caste Affiliation
		Ravi		No Caste Affiliation
36	Ek Thi Daayan	BejoyCharan	Mathur	General
		Tamara		No Caste Affiliation
		Lisa	Dutt	General
37	Himmatwala	Ravi		No Caste Affiliation
		Rekha		No Caste Affiliation
		Sher	Singh	General
38	Shree	Shree		No Caste Affiliation
		Sonu		No Caste Affiliation
		Tilak		No Caste Affiliation
39	Rangrezz	Rishi	Deshpande	General
		Megha	Joshi	General
		Brijbihari	Pandey	General
40	Enemmy	Yugandhar	Vishnoye	General
		Eklavya	Karmarkar	OBC
		Naeem	Shaikh	Muslim
41	Singh Sahab the Great	Shikha	Chaturvedi	General
		Bhoodev		No Caste Affiliation
		Saranjeet	Talwar	General
42	ABCD: Any Body Can Dance	Vishnu		No Caste Affiliation
		Jahangir	Khan	Muslim
		Gopi		No Caste Affiliation

Movies Released in 2014

S.l	Movie	Lead Character Name	Surname	Caste Affiliation
1	Gang of Ghosts	Raju	Writer	No Caste Affiliation
		Director		No Caste Affiliation
		Tania		No Caste Affiliation

2	Queen	Rani	Mehra	General
		Vijay		No Caste Affiliation
		Vijaylakshmi		No Caste Affiliation
3	Roy	Roy		General
		Kabir	Grewal	General
		Tia	Desai	General
4	Creature	Ahana	Dutt	General
		Karan	Malhotra	General
		Professor sadana	Sadana	General
5	Action Jackson	Vishi		No Caste Affiliation
		Khushi		No Caste Affiliation
		Anusha		No Caste Affiliation
6	Happy Ending	Yudi	Jaitely	General
		Aanchal	Reddy	General
		Armaan		No Caste Affiliation
7	Ugly	Rahul	Kapoor	General
		Shoumik	Bose	General
		Chaitanya	Mishra	General
8	Bhoothnath Returns	Khailash	Nath	No Caste Affiliation
		Bindia	Pathak	General
		Bhau	Sahib	No Caste Affiliation
9	Finding Fanny	Angelina		No Caste Affiliation
		Savio	Gama	No Caste Affiliation
		Ferdinand		No Caste Affiliation
10	Raja Natwarlal	Raja		No Caste Affiliation
		Yogi		No Caste Affiliation
		Varda	Yadav	OBC
11	Kya Dilli Kya Lahore	Rehmat	Ali	Muslim
		Samarth Pratap	Shastri	General
		Barfi	Singh	General
12	Ankhon Dekhi	Bauji		No Caste Affiliation
		Rishi Chacha		No Caste Affiliation
		Sharma ji	Sharma ji	General
13	Total Siyapaa	Aman		No Caste Affiliation
		Rajinder	Singh	General
		Asha		No Caste Affiliation
14	The Shaukeens	Lali		No Caste Affiliation
		KD		No Caste Affiliation
		Pinki		No Caste Affiliation
15	Hawaa Hawaai	Arjun Harishchand	Waghmare	General
		Aniket	Bhargava	General

		Aniruddha	Bhargava	General
16	Gulab Gang	Rajjo		No Caste Affiliation
		Sumitra	Devi	No Caste Affiliation
		Kajri		No Caste Affiliation
17	Filmistaan	Sunny		No Caste Affiliation
		Aftab		Muslim
		Mehmood		Muslim
18	Miss Lovely	Sonu		No Caste Affiliation
		Pinki		No Caste Affiliation
		Vicky		No Caste Affiliation
19	Ungli	Nikhil	Abhyankar	No Caste Affiliation
		Abhay		No Caste Affiliation
		Maya		No Caste Affiliation
20	Bewakoofiyaan	Mohit	Chadha	General
		Mayera	Sehgal	General
		VK	Sehgal	General
21	Youngstaan	Abhimanyu	Kaul	General
		Anwita	Chauhan	General
		Shubhodeep	Ganguly	General
22	Revolver Rani	Alka	Singh	General
		Rohan	Kapoor	General
		Udaybhan	Tomar	General
23	Ya Rub	Ran Vijay	Singh	General
		Amreen		Muslim
		Ikram		Muslim
24	Heartless	Aditya	Singh	General
		Shruti	Tandon	General
		Abhinav	velidi	General
25	Dishkiyaoon	Viki	Kartoos	No Caste Affiliation
		Meera		No Caste Affiliation
		Nawab	Khan	Muslim
26	Samrat& Co.	Samrat	Tilakdhari	General
		Dimpy	Singh	General
		Chakradhar	Pandey	General
27	Darr @ the Mall	Vishnu	Sharma	General
		Ahana	Manchanda	General
		Alok	Manchanda	General
28	Kaanchi	Kaanchi		No Caste Affiliation
		Binda		No Caste Affiliation
		Shyam	Kakra	General

29	Ekkees Toppon Ki Salaami	Purushotam Narayan	Joshi	General
		Taanya	Srivastav	General
		Subhash	Joshi	General
30	Mastram	Rajaram		No Caste Affiliation
		Chacha		No Caste Affiliation
		Renu		No Caste Affiliation
31	Kuku Mathur Ki Jhand Ho Gayi	Kuku	Mathur	General
		Mitali		No Caste Affiliation
		Rosi		No Caste Affiliation
32	Dekh Tamasha Dekh	Muthaseth		No Caste Affiliation
		Vishwasrao		No Caste Affiliation
		Fatima		Muslim
33	Kill Dil	Guru		No Caste Affiliation
		Dev		No Caste Affiliation
		Tutu		No Caste Affiliation
34	Fugly	R.S.	Chautala	General
		Dev		No Caste Affiliation
		Devi		No Caste Affiliation
35	Hate Story 2	Mandar	Mhatre	General
		Sonika	Prasad	No Caste Affiliation
		Akshay	Bedi	General
36	One by two	Amit	Sharma	General
		Samara	patel	General
		Bunty		No Caste Affiliation
37	O Teri	Prantabh	Pratab	No Caste Affiliation
		AnandIshwaramDevdutt	Subramanium	General
		Monsoon		No Caste Affiliation
38	The Xpose	Ravi	Kumar	No Caste Affiliation
		Chandini	Raza	Muslim
		Kenny	Damania	General
39	Kick	Devi Lal	Singh	General
		Shaina	Mehra	General
		Himanshu	Tyagi	General
40	PK	Jagat Janani	Sahni	General
		Cherry	Bajwa	General
		Sarfaraz	Yousaf	General
41	Happy New Year	Mohini	Joshi	General
		Chandramohan Manohar	Sharma	General
		Vicky	Grover	General

42	Bang Bang	Jai	Nanda	General
		Harleen	Sahani	General
		Omar	Zafar	Muslim
43	Gunday	Bikram	Bose	General
		Bala	Bhattacharya	General
		Nandita	Sengupta	General
44	Jai Ho	Jai	Agnihotri	General
		Dashrat	Singh	General
		Geeta	Agnihotri	General
45	Ek Villain	Rakesh	Mahadkar	General
		Guru Pratap	Singh	General
		Aisha	Verma	OBC
46	Singham	Bajirao	Singham	General
		Avni	Kamat	General
		Satyaraj Chandra	Baba	No Caste Affiliation
47	Dedh Ishqiya	Begum	Para	Muslim
		Razzaakh	Hussain	Muslim
		Ifthekhar		Muslim
48	2 States	Krish	Malhotra	General
		Ananya	Swaminathan	General
		Kavita	Malhotra	General
49	Hasee to Phasee	Nikhil	Bharadwaj	General
		Dr.Meeta	Solanki	General
		Karishma	Solanki	General
50	Highway	Veera	Tripathi	General
		Mahabir	Bhati	General
		M. K.	Tripathi	General
51	Yaariyan	Lakshya		No Caste Affiliation
		Saloni		No Caste Affiliation
		Jiya		No Caste Affiliation
52	Haider	Haider		Muslim
		Arshia	Lone	Muslim
		Ghazala	Meer	Muslim
53	Mardaani	ShivaniShivaji	Roy	General
		Karan	Rastogi	General
		Sunny	Katyal	General
54	Raagini MMS 2	Sunny	Leone	No Caste Affiliation
		Satya	Kumar	No Caste Affiliation
		Rocks		No Caste Affiliation
55	Heropanti	Bablu		No Caste Affiliation
		Dimpi		No Caste Affiliation

		Chaudhary		No Caste Affiliation
56	Bobby Jasoos	Bilkis	Ahmed	Muslim
		Tasawur		Muslim
		Naeem		Muslim
57	Shadi Ke Side Effects	Siddharth	Roy	General
		Trisha	Roy	General
		Ranveer		No Caste Affiliation
58	Mai Tera Hero	Srinath	Prasad	General
		Angad	Negi	General
		Ayesha	Saigal	General
59	Humpty Sharma Ki Dulhaniya	Rakesh 'Humpty'	Sharma	General
		KavyaPratap	Singh	General
		Angad		No Caste Affiliation
60	Daawat-e-Ishq	Gulrez		Muslim
		Tariq "Taru"	Haidar	Muslim
		Abdul	Qadir	Muslim
61	Entertainment	Akhil	Lokhande	General
		Saakshi		No Caste Affiliation
		Karan		No Caste Affiliation
62	Holiday	Virat		No Caste Affiliation
		Saiba	Thapar	General
		Mukund	Deshmukh	General
63	Khoobsurat	Dr Mrinalini "Milli"	Chakravarty	General
		Vikram Singh	Rathore	General
		Manju	Chakravarty	General
64	City Lights	Deepak	Singh	General
		Vishnu		No Caste Affiliation
		Sudha		No Caste Affiliation