



Television in the Global Age

An introduction

- Television has changed considerably since the advent of digital technology in terms of its production, distribution and consumption. It has become a global, rather than a national industry and has become increasingly commercial, with public service broadcasting forced to adapt its structure, role and function. International co-production is growing and broadcasters such as HBO have achieved global success.
- Broadcasters are now 'narrowcasters', with multiple channels targeting different (sometimes more niche) audiences.
- Audiences consume television texts in a variety of ways as the industry has increased portability via new platforms (tablet, mobile phone) and patterns of consumption have changed alongside this (the box-set & binge-watching, on- demand and catch-up, Netflix, Amazon, etc.).
- Interactive social media channels such as YouTube have increased accessibility for the 'prosumer' audience, and social media and viral promotion have become a crucial part of marketing television texts.

You must consider television and your texts in terms of:

- Media language
- Representations
- Media industries
- Audience

This should be linked where relevant to:

- Social
- Cultural
- Economic
- Political
- Historical contexts



No Burqas Behind Bars: 2012

Runtime: 77 min

Filmed in the female section of Takhar Prison in Afghanistan.

Produced In: Iran/Sweden Initial release:

19 April 2013 (Sweden)

20 November 2012 Netherlands (IDFA Festival)

30 September 2013 UK(Raindance Film Festival)

September 2013 USA

Directed By: Nima Sarvestani, Maryam Ebrahimi Produced By: Maryam Ebrahimi

Language: Dari language with English subtitles Screenplay: Steven Seidenberg

Production Companies

DR Fjernsynsteatret (co-production)

Interkerkelijk Omroep Nederland (IKON) (co-production) NHK (co-production)

Nima Film

Norsk Rikskringkasting (NRK) (co-production) Sveriges Television (SVT) (co-production)

Distributors

Deckert Distribution (2012) (Netherlands) (theatrical) NHK BS1 (2013) (Japan) (TV)

Sequel: *Prison Sisters* 2016 follows Sara and Najibeh after their release



Press Release

No Burqas Behind Bars closely follows three women, who after fleeing abusive households or arranged marriages, have been jailed for ‘moral crimes’.

Four prison cells house 40 women and 34 children, but paradoxically prison becomes a refuge, a place where they can safely express their longings, desires and hopes for the future.

Against a harsh landscape of bars and barbed wire, directors Nima Sarvestani and Maryam Ebrahimi gain unprecedented access to this hidden world, in which these women learn to live together and make a home for themselves and their children.

Sima, married at ten, with five children by the time she was 20 years old, is locked away together with her children for 15 years. Her “crime”? Fleeing from an abusive husband, who had already murdered one of his other wives and their child.

Sara, Najibeh, Latife, and many more names – all carry stories that are testament to their inner strength and dignity.

This extraordinarily intimate observational documentary was made under difficult conditions but with the full co- operation of the women and prison officials. It has been heralded at numerous international film festivals and has won many awards.

WINNER! 2014 International Emmy Award for Best Documentary WINNER! 2014 Prix Europa for Best European TV Documentary

BBC Context: Storyville Global

Storyville Global is an international documentary strand that comprises contemporary and challenging documentaries from different filmmakers gathered from across the globe.

No Burqas Behind Bars was broadcast as part of the Storyville Global season on BBC World News channel

Sat 4 Jun 2016

05:10

Local time





BBC World News: Public Service in a Commercial Context

'BBC World News is the BBC's **commercially funded** international 24-hour news and information channel, broadcast in English in **more than 200 countries** and territories across the globe.

Its estimated weekly audience of **84 million** makes it the BBC's biggest television service.

Available in more than **440m** homes, 3m hotel rooms, on 165 cruise ships, 30 commercial vessels, 13 commercial airlines and 36 **mobile phone** networks - BBC World News broadcasts a diverse mix of authoritative international news, sport, weather, business, current affairs and **documentary programming**.'

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-radio-and-tv-12957296>

Television History

Imagine UK - Season 7 Episode 9 - And Then There Was Television 19 December, 2006

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLD511F39E7FF8C5BC>

Watch the documentary and answer the following questions:

1. Why are Lord Reith and John Logie Baird so important in terms of the development of TV?
2. How did television develop during the 1930s?
3. What was the impact of WW2 on TV, especially Post War?
4. What television genre developed during the late 1940s and into the 1950s?



Student Research Task: Public Service Broadcasting

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/aboutthebbc/>

In pairs, look at the BBC website on the 'Inside the BBC' section and make notes on the following:

1. How did the BBC develop historically? Create a brief timeline.
2. What is Public Service Broadcasting?
3. How is the BBC structured?
4. What is the Licence Fee, how is it collected and how is it used?
5. Why does this make the BBC different?
6. Feedback to the class.