



A STORY OF IMMIGRATION AND THE CLASH OF CULTURES  
BRITISH COMEDY-DRAMA AT ITS BEST

Directed by Damien O'Donnell in 1995

## BEFORE YOU WATCH.....

The story is set in Salford, a city near Manchester, in the industrial north of England. It involves an immigrant family and how the different members try to adapt to British society.

It is a story full of tension, tears, but also love and understanding..... Life itself, it seems...

### **Brief summary of the storyline:**

*George Khan is a Pakistani Muslim who has lived in Britain over thirty years.*

*He and his second wife, Ella, a British catholic, have been married for 25 years and run a popular fish and chips shop in the area.*

*They have seven children, six boys and a girl, all of whom the father tries hard to raise as devout Muslims. This inevitably leads to tensions and conflict within the family unit.*

*When the father's rage explodes and violence comes into the picture, the mother decides to act.....*

**“ Oh, East is East , and West is West, and the two shall never meet....”**

**Rudyard Kipling**

## AFTER YOU WATCH.....

Get into small groups and briefly comment your answer to these questions:

- ❖ Did you like the movie? What did you think of the settings, the acting, the photography?
- ❖ Humour is present in many scenes? Which scenes did you find more funny? Why?
- ❖ What do you think about the father's personality? Explain why you think he behaves the way he does. And the mother?
- ❖ The ending is a bit inconclusive and open to interpretation. How do you imagine the future for this family? Will they remain together?

In your opinion, which of the following reflect the story in the movie? Can you remember a scene where these are shown?.

**FAMILY UNITY**

**INTOLERANCE**

**HUMAN CRUELTY**

**HUMAN KINDNESS**

**STUBBORNNESS**

**RACIAL HATRED**

**COURAGE**

What for you is the main message in this movie?