Deewaar ("The Wall")
Yash Chopra, 1975
Congress Raj: The Nehru/Gandhi “dynasty”

Jawaharlal Nehru, PM 1947-1964

- four 5-year plans for capitalist-socialist economy
- disruptive programs of urbanization and industrialization
- Chinese invasion (1962)

Indira (Nehru) Gandhi, PM 1966-1977

- centralization of power, bank nationalization
- 1971 election slogan: “Abolish poverty!”
- 1971 Bangladesh war
- 1973 more industries, coal mines nationalized, but “black” economy flourishes
1974, underground nuclear test
high inflation, widespread labor unrest
June, 1975, high court decision against PM
June 25, 1975: massive demonstration in Delhi
by opposition, call for “total revolution”
June 26, PM declares “National Emergency”
press censorship imposed,
constitutional rights suspended
dissidents arrested and detained
PM announces “Disciplined Democracy”
1977, “India is Indira, Indira is India”
Dramatis personae:
Vijay Verma
(Amitabh Bachchan)
I have Mom!
Today I want your strength and your blessings, Mom.
“I always loved Vijay more....”
Vira
(Neetu Singh)
Anita
(Parveen Babi)
This is not a sari. It's a dream I carry in my mind.
“Mera baap chor hai” / “My dad’s a thief”
miscellaneous:
Social problems:

abuse of workers / labor unrest, strikes
unemployment
poverty, hunger
homelessness
smuggling and “black money”
police brutality?
failure of nationalist agenda?
“one nation, one people”
“Best in all the world, Our India....”

“Saare jahaan se acha, Hindustan hamaara....”
“the angry young man”
family discord

INTERVAL
religious themes:
folk Islam:
786 ("Bismillah"
“In the name of God”)
Hindu piety
(Shiva temple)
But after all this, is whatever I'm doing, right? Is it correct?

(Bhagavad Gita, Mahabharata)
Thousands of years ago, Arjuna asked Krishna this very question.... And do you know what Krishna said to him?
going to meet the Man....
You must be very happy today
Happy that today,... I came.