



An Interview with Pوران Derakhshandeh
Director of "The Professionals"

The Pathology of the People

This year, Pوران Derakhshandeh, is participating at both at the video section of the festival and at the competition section. At the video section of the Festival she is taking part as the director of "the professionals" and at the competition part as the producer of "Twenty" by Abdol Reza Kahani. She believes that Fajr Festival is the most important cultural and artistic event of our country, with its usual ups and downs. It is an event in which people are waiting to watch the movies of the year and what if each year's movies become better and better.

This year, video—cinema section is added to Fajr Festival. What do you think of this event?

I think separating this section from the main competition section of the festival was a good idea. Because this way, participants can compete separately and this encourages the idea of making Telefilms.

To what extent "the Professionals" is similar to your other movies?

The important point in this movie was a kind of pathology of people. The people who try to reach the top of a place; they try very hard to achieve their goal, therefore, they violate many other peoples' rights, they even violate some of their own rights however, finally they get to a point which they see they have achieved everything they desired. On the other hand, they realize that what they have lost in this path, had been what could help them achieve peace of mind and soul.

Now he has achieved that material goal, however, does not have that required and desired peace of mind. This defect of human life has always been very interesting to me. I always wanted to survey and make a film about the lives of people who are pursuing a goal at any cost especially at the virtual world. Then when they come back to the real world they realize that they have lost many valuable things, the things that could keep their lives warm and peaceful. Therefore, this movie is about the people who have everything; however, they are emotionally vulnerable. Whether they are teenagers, younger ones, or the adults; all of these vulnerable people meet each other at a point, which is their weak point. This is the story of peoples' perplexity.

What are your criteria to

accept to become the producer of a movie?

First of all the script itself, then the director's abilities to make that movie. Unquestionably, then I try my best to provide all the required things for the director to fulfill and realize whatever plans he has in mind. Because I am a director myself who can be a producer too, thus, I am a directorproducer not a producerdirector. That is why it is important to me, as a producer, to provide a pleasant and peaceful condition for my director

Regarding the fact that you, yourself, are a director, when you are working with another director in a role of a producer, do you try to apply some of your view points in his film making process?

No, not at all. I give my suggestions and comments on any script that I read. I may provide a director with my suggestions, however, that does not mean that they should apply and exercise my ideas for sure. Because I strongly believe that the director is the creator of the movie, so he has to have a free mental space to apply what he has in mind. Therefore, I never interfere in any director's professional work.

Today you are competing with the young filmmakers who have been once your students. How do you feel?

I think that the new generations of our filmmakers are very clever. They are aware what they are doing. They know what their concerns are. I am happy to have the opportunity to compete with this new generation. That is how people can become meaningful in themselves; when the people of different generations understand each other.