

KARMA SH

memoire of a last heir

a film by aleem bukhari

QUINZAINE

DIRECTORS' FORTNIGHT

CANNES 2025

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In Association with Braanz Films

KARMA SH

memoire of a last heir

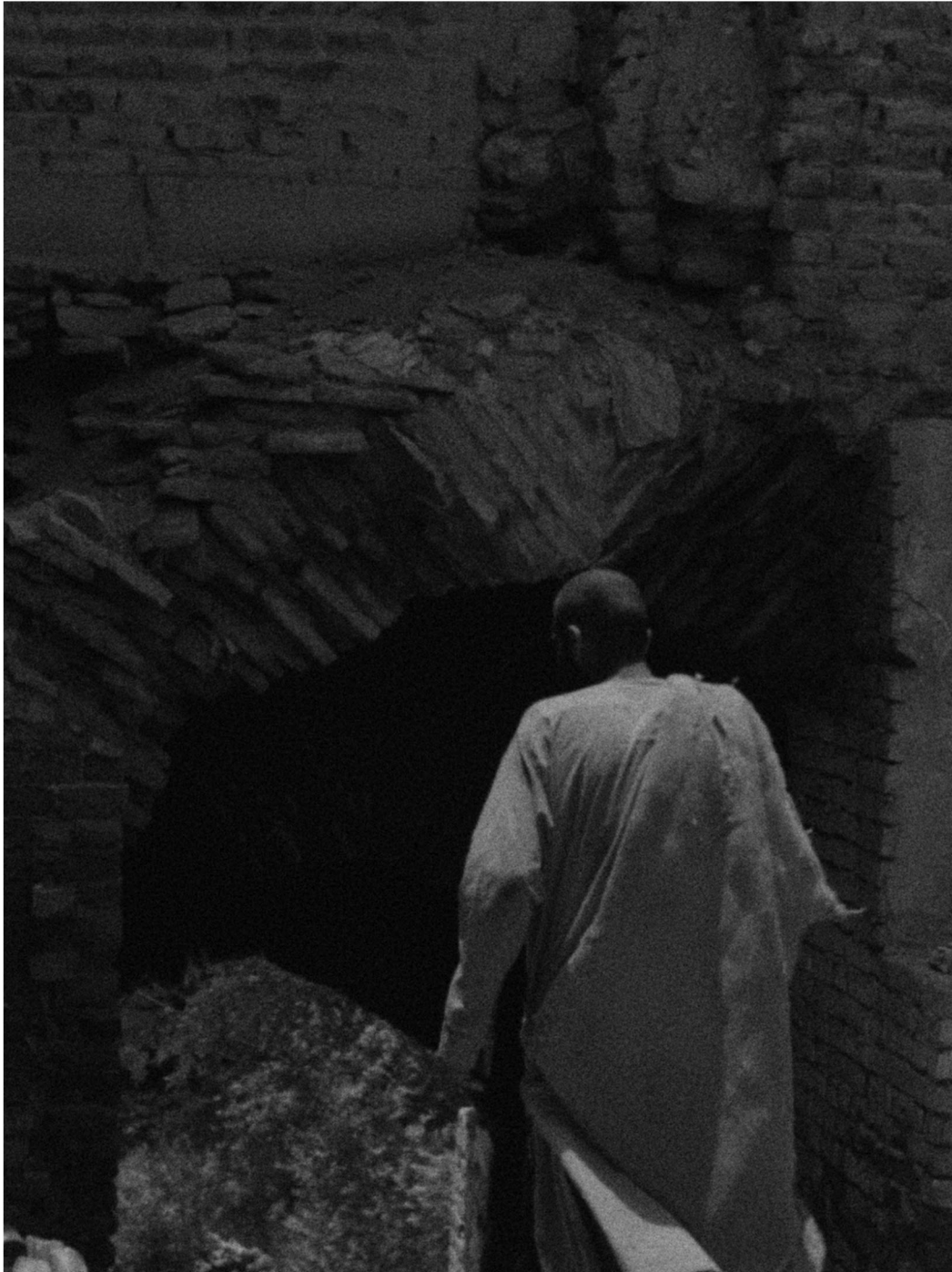
starring irfan noor k

a film by aleem bukhari

Pakistan - 2025 - Black & White - 1:66:1 - Stereo - 15 min - Urdu

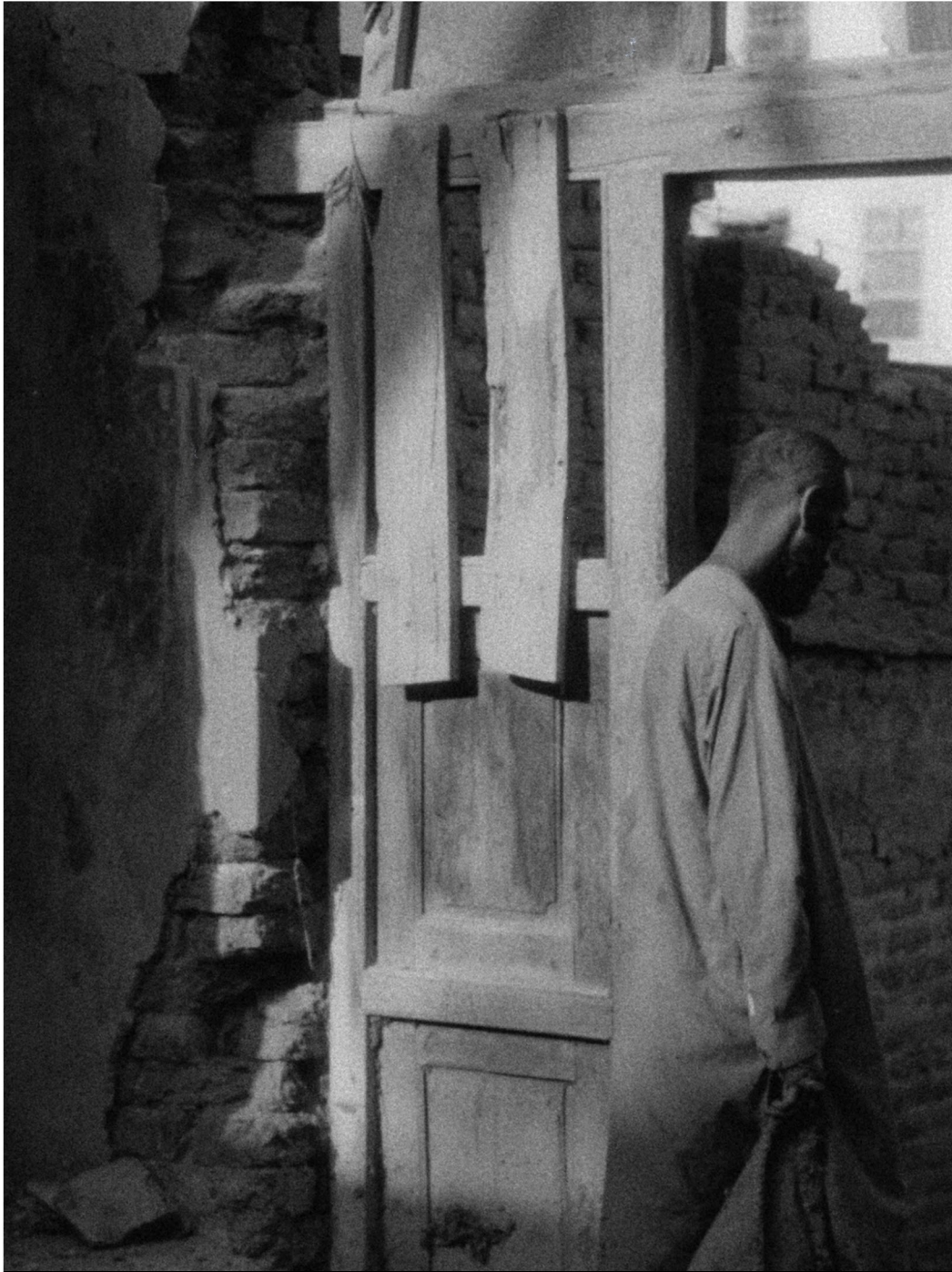
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Synopsis

The last heir of the Karmash tribe recollects his now-forgotten ancestral traditions. He wanders through fragmented memories of his past, his lineage, and the city, which is slowly fading into the ruins of his consciousness. A portrait of a man on the verge of familial madness.



Director's Statement

Karmash is my attempt to blend historical fiction with a touch of magic realism, while creating a film that explores the themes of cultural identity, memory and traditions.

Through the protagonist's memoir-like narrative which serves partly as a subliminal political allegory, I intended to capture the subject of repressed identity and persecution of minorities. For me, the protagonist's 'bizarre' behavior and his ancestral tradition mimics the 'perceived' representation of the minority, often imposed by the oppressor.

Horror as a genre favored me with its unique ability to capture the existential melancholy and haunted 'otherness' of my protagonist.



Director's Biography

Aleem Bukhari (born 1996) is a Pakistani visual artist, writer, and filmmaker. He began his career in 2016 with independent and experimental music videos before venturing into narrative filmmaking.

His notable works include *Sapola* (2018), *Aik Do Teen* (2019), and *Anaari Science* (2024), all of which received major accolades at the FILUMS International Film Festival. In late 2024, he wrote and directed the experimental horror short film *Karmash*.

Bukhari's work often—though not exclusively, incorporates genre-bending science fiction and occult horror themes, characterized by an eccentric visual style. His narratives frequently focus on working-class characters.

Beyond filmmaking, Bukhari is also known for his avant-garde digital illustrations and photography.

Filmography:

Lords of Nowhere (2016) - Documentary
Below the Sun (2017) - Short Fiction Film
Sapola (2018) - Short Fiction Film
Aik Do Teen (2019) - Music Video
Anaari Science (2024) - Fiction Film
Karmash (2025) - Short Fiction Film

Starring

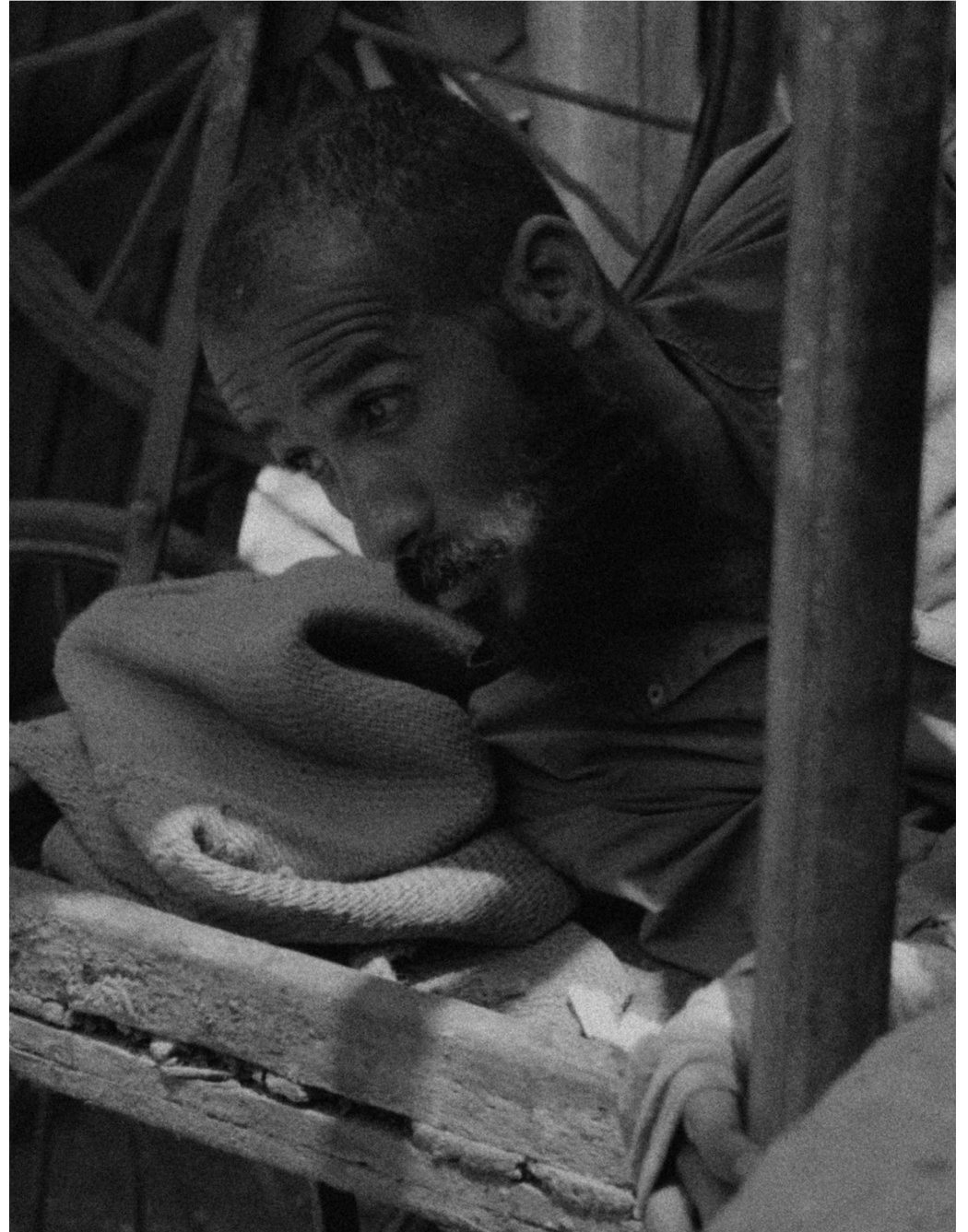
Irfan Noor K

Born in 1996 in Gwadar, Pakistan, he graduated from Mehran University's Center of Excellence in Arts and Design and earned a film diploma from the New York Film Academy Australia.

He began his acting career in 2013 with *Where Is Humility* and has since appeared in notable films like *Sapola* (2018), *Azad* (2022), and the series *Dai* (2021). He also worked on short and feature films in Australia, including *In the Prison of Time*.

He starred in *Anaari Science* (2024), *Wind of Hope* (2025), and *Karmash* (2025), also producing *Anaari Science* and *Karmash*. He's appeared in major productions for Netflix, Disney, and ABC from 2022 to 2023.

As a documentary filmmaker, his projects *A Love Letter from Balochistan*, *Army of Immortals*, and *The Land of My Forefathers* earned multiple international awards and nominations from 2019 to 2022.



Crew

Written and Directed by
Aleem Bukhari

Producers
Aleem Bukhari, Shahzain Ali Detho,
Irfan Noor K

Assistant Director and Camera Assistant
Shahzain Ali Detho

Cinematography
Aleem Bukhari

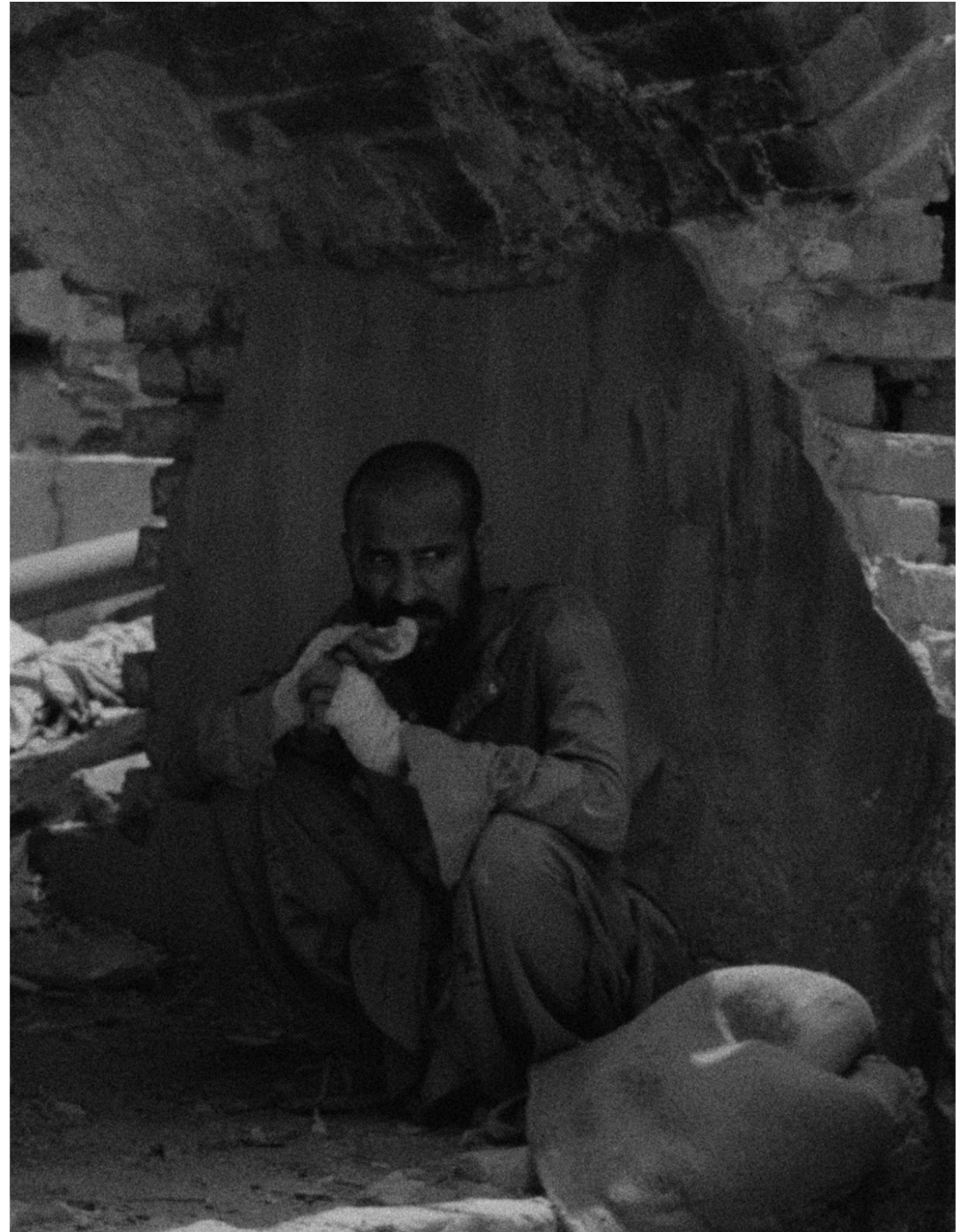
Sound Design
Aleem Bukhari, Shahzain Ali Detho

Location Sound Recordist
Muhammad Ali Shaikh

Editor
Aleem Bukhari, Shahzain Ali Detho

Line Producer
Qadir Abbas

Second Assistant Director
Ebad Talpur





Technical Details

Original Title: کرمش

International Title: **Karmash**

Duration: **15 Minutes**

Aspect ratio: **1:66:1**

Format: **Digital**

Sound: **Stereo**

Year: **2025**

Original Language: **Urdu**

Countries of Production: **Pakistan**

Production Companies: **Sleepbyte Films, Braanz Films**

Co-Producer: **Salman Israr**

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