

# Sharib Hashmi On Mrigashira

## SPEAKERS

Sharib Hashmi, Radha

**Radha** 01:50

So hi, Sharib. Welcome to Mrigashira. It's great to have you on our podcast.

**Sharib Hashmi** 01:55

Thank you so much, Radha. Thank you for inviting me on your show.

**Radha** 01:59

And I just wanted to just get a quick recap from you on your journey. What are some of your struggles that you faced initially? And they say that with every struggle, there is also an opportunity. So how did you navigate early part of your career?

**Sharib Hashmi** 02:13

Early part has been actually the whole career has been like a roller coaster ride. And I learned a lot during the lows, and you have to develop a thick skin is what, you know, the most important thing here. If you want to survive, you have to develop a very thick skin, because you have you face rejections on a daily basis. And that can, you know, pull you down and discourage you, but it shouldn't affect your mental attitude and your positive approach towards your work. And the only thing which, you know, kept me going was my love for acting. So I think if you love what you do, or if you what you're trying to pursue, then sooner or later, you know.

**Radha** 03:19

In all, in all those rejections, you know, in that phase of rejection rejections, how did you inculcate a sense of, you know, positivity and confidence? Because that's, I think, is the greatest challenge many of us face, even in our professions.

**Sharib Hashmi** 03:39

Thankfully, I had a strong support, you know, at home, my wife, my family, friends, they were always encouraging. So you should surround yourself with positive people. That will help. A great deal. So that's what I did. And, and I'm generally basically a very positive person in life, that also helps. So and also, you know, after a point, you will realize and I would want to tell this to the aspiring actors as well, that when you you're rejected in an audition, or, you know, an unlocked test or anything. So it's they're not testing your capabilities, because there are so many criteria when they cast somebody, so you know, that the looks and the performances and your appearance. So, they're seeing that if you fit in that criteria or not, yeah, it's not that you're not good or you're bad or something like that. It's always if you're called for an audition, that means they like your work. Yeah, but if you but if you get rejected, it doesn't mean that they rejected your work. You did not fit in the whole criteria. And there are many factors involved in casting. So nobody should get disheartened after getting rejected from an audition. And they should work harder.

**Radha** 05:24

Yeah, I mean, basically, it's you're saying that don't take it too personal, right.

**Sharib Hashmi** 05:31

Yeah. That too.

**Radha** 05:39

I wanted to, understand, how do you go about personal branding, particularly at a time when you're just about establishing yourself as an actor,

**Sharib Hashmi** 06:01

Perseverance is something that can only help you in this industry. Otherwise, there are many great actors who are thousand times better than me. But some of them you know, lose hope or they just leave the industry or get disheartened. But Agar Aap Tike Rahoge, Jame Rahoge Apni Jagah Pe. And just look, I don't have I don't know anything else to do. So then, you know, Intezaar Ka Fal Meetha Hota Hi Hai.

**Radha** 06:49

there is a level of awareness that needs to get built, there is a level of positioning you need to do for yourself. So how did you go about doing that?

**Sharib Hashmi** 07:06

I don't, I didn't do anything about that, that I think that was my problem. Because I didn't know how to, you know, develop, develop my personal branding, or develop connections or, you know, have a network and be with the right people. And that took time. So I don't know how to do it and how to go about it. It's, but I am a people's person. I love making friends. And thankfully, you know, my previous job, I was I was with MTV, as a writer. So the friends I made there, they really helped me when I started pursuing that thing. Otherwise, it's very difficult to you know, make a formula that you have to do this, and this. there is there is no ABCD or there is no two plus two is equal to four there is there is no set formula here. Every journey is different. You have to decide for yourself what you want to do and how you want to go about it. Because what I will suggest it might not work for you.

**Radha** 08:45

And, you know, the last two years, particularly during the pandemic, Ott has changed the entertainment industry the adoption and transformation in some ways. So what has been your experience? And how do you see the Ott, itself panning out, let's say in the next two to three years

**Sharib Hashmi** 09:10

OTT has given me a new lease of life. Because after filming Stan the film, which I had done, it was released in 2014. I thought I had arrived. And, and there is no looking back and, but things didn't go the way I had imagined them to. And I did find a few interesting projects, but some of them never took off. Some of them got stuck in the grey. Some were independent films. So they were ready, but they were not finding the release. So suddenly, I was again out of work, and for two, three years, there was a lull in my career. I got family man and I, you know, I entered into this OTT world and after family man or sort of

game then scam and some of my films which were stuck, they also got released on OTT. So things started moving and after the second season's release, it was like, it gave me an immense boost. And I can, OTT has been like a big boon for me. And not just for actors. Everybody in the creative field for directors, producers, writers who want to tell different kinds of stories, you know, it's been like a great platform for all of us. And I'm really fortunate that I'm in the industry at this time, because a lot of new people, new faces, new talents are getting recognized, getting their due. And, and those people who are, you know, they were in the industry since a long time, but they never got the deserved break. They're all getting their due now. So it's really encouraging to see deserving people get what they deserve.

**Radha** 11:49

what has been your experience across, let's say, OTT and films from as an actor.

**Sharib Hashmi** 11:58

As an actor, I didn't, I don't see any difference. Because I have to act in front of the camera only. Because if you're a theatre is a different medium. And if you're working in front of the camera, so there is no much difference, as far as acting is concerned. The only differentiation I can see is, you know, you get more footage or there is more, there is enough time to establish other characters as well, not just the main protagonists, because an OTT, like a web series has seven to eight hours of duration. So they have time to explore other characters, other tracks, and you know, add more layers. So that way, we get more to do and we get to explore our characters. So in a way, it helps the actors break in a great deal. And so that this is the only difference I can find otherwise, my my way of acting or the way I go about my scenes or my performance, it doesn't change. Even if it is whether it's a film or an OTT meeting.

**Radha** 13:36

How do you see OTT panning out over the next, let's say, three to four years?

**Sharib Hashmi** 13:47

It's only booming. I don't, I don't think it will, it's only going to the impact is only going to multiply. And I hope it does, because it will only create more avenues, more opportunities for people or for creative people. And I really hope it happens. And it gives hope to so many people. And it's made my dreams come true. I got my first Filmfare Award for family man. And so OTT is like Gallup moments, it's really changed my life.

**Radha** 14:39

So it's true. That's true. Thanks a lot, Sheriff. It was a pleasure talking to you.. I wish you all the best in your career and look forward to many more stunning performances.

**Sharib Hashmi** 14:53

Thanks a lot.. Thank you so much.