



THREE CALLS TO DAD

A Emotional Drama 3-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

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LOGLINE: A father asks both sons to call him on the same night, claiming he has something important to say before he sleeps. The elder son arrives with practical concerns, the younger with resentment, and both discover the call was a test of who would show up first. The climax reveals the father is not dying at all—he is trying to decide which son to trust with the family workshop, and he needed to see who still knew how to listen.

CAST / CHARACTERS: FORMAT: 3-Character Short Film (Trio Cast) | Character 1: Prakash (60)

LOCATION: A small apartment balcony at night, lit by warm indoor spill and the orange glow of a streetlamp below. A folding chair, ashtray, and potted plant make it feel intimate and lived-in.

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INT. PRAKASH KA APARTMENT - BALCONY - NIGHT

Warm indoor light balcony par spill ho rahi hai. Neeche streetlamp ka orange glow. Folding chair, ashtray, tea glass, potted plant, aur ek mobile phone. Prakash, 60, white vest aur reading glasses mein, balcony ke edge par baitha hai.

Prakash mobile phone dekhta hai. Ek message already sent.

INSERT - MOBILE SCREEN

"Aaj raat mujhe call karna. Kuch zaroori hai. Sone se pehle."

Prakash phone rakh deta hai. Tea glass ko halka sa ghumata hai.

KNOCK. Door khulta hai.

KUNAL (36), formal shirt, polished but tense, balcony mein enter karta hai.

KUNAL

Papa... sab theek hai na?

PRAKASH

Theek hai toh tum itni jaldi kyun aa gaye?

Kunal ek beat leta hai. Practical mode on.

KUNAL

Aapne bola zaroori hai. Main socha... koi medical issue?

PRAKASH

(half-smile)

Bank mein kaam karte karte har baat ka EMI nikal lete ho tum.

Kunal ignore karta hai. Phone nikalta hai.

KUNAL

Main doctor ko call kar deta hoon. Aur agar kuch paperwork—

PRAKASH

Paperwork baad mein. Pehle baith.

Kunal folding chair ke paas khada hi rehta hai.

KNOCK. Door phir khulta hai.

MILAN (29), denim shirt, thoda bikhra hua, andar aata hai. Uske chehre par resentment aur concern dono.

MILAN

Wah. Dono ko ek hi line.

KUNAL

Tum bhi aa gaye.

MILAN

Haan, kyunki message mein "sone se pehle" likha tha.
Drama ka timing toh perfect tha.

Prakash dono ko dekhta hai.

PRAKASH

Aa gaye dono. Achha.

Kunal finally baithta hai. Milan potted plant ke paas khada rehta hai.

KUNAL

Papa, seedha bolo. Kya hua hai?

MILAN

Aur please, agar yeh phir se "family ko ek saath
laane" wala lecture hai na...

PRAKASH

Lecture nahi. Test.

Silence.

KUNAL

Test?

PRAKASH

Haan. Dekhna tha kaun pehle aata hai.

MILAN

Toh hum log ab school ke bacche hain?

PRAKASH

School ke bacche hotey toh kam se kam ek dusre ki
copy dekh lete.

Kunal exhale karta hai, irritated.

KUNAL

Papa, mujhe office subah jaldi jaana hai.

PRAKASH

Aur Milan ko raat ko gaana banana hai. Dono busy ho.
Bas main hi free hoon, hai na?

MILAN

Aapne humein isliye bulaya kyunki aapko attention
chahiye thi?

PRAKASH

Attention nahi. Dhyaan.

Beat.

Prakash ashtray mein ungli se halka sa tap karta hai.

PRAKASH (CONT'D)

Kal subah workshop ki keys kisi ek ko deni hain.

Kunal straightens.

KUNAL

Workshop? Papa, usko proper structure chahiye.
Accounts, GST, vendor contracts—main handle kar
sakta hoon.

MILAN

Aur machine ki awaaz ka kya? Oil ki smell? Kaam karne
wale log? Unka kya?

KUNAL

Business emotions se nahi chalta, Milan.

MILAN

Aur business sirf balance sheet se bhi nahi chalta,
Kunal.

Prakash un dono ko dekhta hai, almost amused.

PRAKASH

Bas. Abhi se shuru ho gaye.

KUNAL

Aapne mujhe bulaya tha toh mujhe lag raha tha koi
emergency hai.

PRAKASH

Emergency hi thi.

MILAN

Kaunsi?

PRAKASH

Ki mere dono beta mere saamne baith ke pehle ek dusre
ko sun lein.

Kunal chup ho jata hai. Milan bhi.

PRAKASH (CONT'D)

Main mar nahi raha hoon.

Kunal aur Milan ek saath react karte hain.

KUNAL

Kya?

MILAN

Toh phir yeh sab?

PRAKASH

Main dekhna chahta tha kaun sirf apni baat leke aata
hai, aur kaun meri baat sunne.

Kunal ka gussa thoda narm padta hai.

KUNAL

Aapne humein dara diya.

PRAKASH

Darna zaroori tha. Tum dono ko ek dusre se zyada dar mujhe tha.

MILAN

Workshop ka kya?

Prakash apni reading glasses utaarta hai, fold karta hai.

PRAKASH

Workshop usko milegi jo kal subah mere saath chai peeyega.

KUNAL

Bas itna?

PRAKASH

Nahi. Dusra bhi aayega. Aur bina gusse ke sunega.

MILAN

Aur agar nahi aaya?

PRAKASH

Toh keys yahin rahengi. Aur main bhi.

Beat. Kunal aur Milan ek dusre ko dekhte hain.

For the first time, the tension softens.

KUNAL

(quietly)

Main aaunga.

MILAN

Main bhi.

Prakash nods, satisfied.

PRAKASH

Bas. Ab chai thandi ho rahi hai.

He slides the tea glass toward the center. The workshop keys remain on the folding chair, visible but not handed over.

Kunal finally sits. Milan sits opposite. Prakash between them, calm.

EXT. APARTMENT BALCONY - CONTINUOUS

Three men, one small balcony, one warm light.

The streetlamp below glows orange. The potted plant sways slightly.

Prakash looks at both sons.

PRAKASH

Kal workshop khulegi.

(beat)

Aur is baar, dono aana.

FADE OUT.