

Shabnam Virmani
Bangalore



Shabnam Virmani is director of the Kabir Project. Started in 2003, the Kabir project brings together the experiences of a series of journeys in quest of this 15th century mystic poet in our contemporary worlds.

Shabnam Virmani is a documentary filmmaker and artist in residence at the Srishti School of Art, Design and Technology in Bangalore since 2002. Co-founder of the Drishti Media Arts and Human Rights collective, she has directed several documentaries in close partnership with grassroots women's groups in the country, some of which have won awards. In 2002, she co-

directed an award-winning community radio program with the Kutch Mahila Vikas Sangathan in Gujarat.

Shabnam's camera has consistently and evocatively captured the suffering and the dignity of the rural women of India. "When Women Unite," for instance, portrayed the successful anti-liquor agitation by rural women in Andhra Pradesh while "Tu Zinda Hai" depicted the success of women activists in Madhya Pradesh. In a series of eight 1-minute films, which were telecast on major television networks in India, Bol conveyed the agony of victims of domestic violence and succeeded in spreading awareness.