

# Paathshaala

## Study Notes



**Directed by:** Milind Ukey  
**Certificate:** PG  
**Running time:** 126 minutes  
**Release date:** 16 April 2010

### Synopsis

The story starts with the joining of a new English teacher, Rahul Prakash Udyavar in Swaraswati Vidya Mandir School, situated in the outskirts of the Mumbai suburbs. Though he builds an instant rapport with the students and teachers, he realises that there is something amiss in the school. Slowly his doubts come true when he finds out that the school manager, Sharma, makes many monetary obligations compulsory for the parents in the name of extra-curricular activities. He goes to the extent of punishing the students inhumanly when the parents do not fulfil the demands. Day by day the students get more stressed leading to unexpected and grim consequences. The situation becomes so explosive that it eventually becomes a national issue.

## Questions For Discussion

1. How does the film portray the school management?
2. The film portrays the education system on the brink of a terrible change with the increase of commercialisation. Do you find the plot of the story acceptable?
3. Can you identify with any of the students in the film? How does this portrayal of education compare to other films' representations of teaching and schools? What reasons can you think of to explain the similarities and differences?
4. What do you think is the main purpose of the film?
5. *Paathshaala* is a comment on the education system. What do you think is the message that the film delivers?