

Leena Alam



Leena Alam is an award-winning film, TV and theatre actress, human rights activist and Afghanistan's most recognizable star. She started her acting career in 1998 with films such as *In a Foreign Land*, *Loori*, and others made by Afghan diaspora filmmakers in the US. Her debut in Afghanistan - the land of her birth (and much of her upbringing) - was in Barmak Akram's 2008 *Kabuli Kid*. She went on to do *Soil and Coral*, *Darya's Message*, *Black Kite* and many short films to help emerging film makers in Kabul and beyond.

She is most widely known to have worked on film and TV that speak of child marriage, gender inequality, women's rights and social conflicts. Her most renowned roles include *The Killing of Farkhunda*, a re-enactment of the killing of a young Afghan woman falsely accused of burning a copy of the Quran, and *Shereen*, the struggle of a powerful woman in a taboo-smashing feminist film and TV drama.