

# **Anni Dewani: A Fathers Story**

By Vinod Hindocha



#### Anni Dewani: A Fathers Story By Vinod Hindocha

On November 13, 2010, Anni Dewani was on a dream honeymoon in South Africa after celebrating the happiest day of her life, her marriage to handsome husband Shrien.

But the idyllic holiday took a dramatic and tragic twist when the couple were kidnapped at gunpoint as their taxi drove through a tough township near Cape Town.

Businessman Shrien, from Bristol, was released unharmed by the captors, but Anni was blasted at close range in the neck and died on the spot. Her body was found slumped in the blood-soaked back seat of the cab hours later.

When news of the horrific murder reached her parents they were hit by a double hammer blow – not only did they have to deal with the loss of their beloved daughter in the most brutal of circumstances, but police also told them one of the suspects behind the slaying was her husband. After a long, drawn-out extradition process, Shrien was brought back for trial in South Africa, piling more agony on the victim's distraught family.

Anni: A Father's Story is an incredibly moving account of his daughter's life from her happy childhood through to the lavish wedding to Shrien that was meant to signal a new life for the 28-year-old Swedish-born beauty, and the dramatic conclusion of her husband's trial in 2014.

Dad Vinod Hindocha recounts how his family struggled to cope with the devastating loss of Anni, how they saw their hopes for her future shattered in the blink of an eye at the hands of hitmen – for reasons which still largely remain a mystery – and their battle to see justice done. He also tells of their attempts to reconcile themselves with the court's verdict and of a future without their beautiful daughter whose life was so cruelly and inexplicably extinguished.

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#### Anni Dewani: A Fathers Story By Vinod Hindocha Bibliography

• Sales Rank: #1199115 in eBooks

Published on: 2015-02-05Released on: 2015-02-05Format: Kindle eBook





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#### **Editorial Review**

#### About the Author

Shekhar Bhatia is a London based journalist. He has been a staff reporter on several British newspapers including the Sunday Mirror, Evening Standard, The Observer and Daily Express during a 30 year career. He got involved in reporting on the murder of Anni Dewani soon after her shooting and six months later was a producer of Channel Four's Dispatches TV documentary "Murder on Honeymoon" which was filmed in Bristol, London, Sweden and South Africa. Since then, Bhatia has made four more documentaries for the BBC, NBC and Channel Five in South Africa on the shooting of Reeva Steenkamp by Oscar Pistorius and conducted the first TV interview with Reeva's parents.

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