



# The Federal President of the Republic of Austria

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Heinz Fischer

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As President of the Republic of Austria I am very pleased that you have come together here in Vienna to attend the congress about the Indian Film at the Museum of Ethnology. I welcome all of you, and in particular, our guests from abroad, to our beautiful capital.

Vienna has always been a place known to foster and deepen the cultural exchange between nations. It is, therefore, not surprising that during the coming days the Indian film, which has long become famous in Europe, will be discussed in all its facets, within the framework of numerous presentations and events.

On my state visit to India, in 2005, I found a very modern and dynamic country with enormous economic potential but, what impressed me most, was the color and originality of the Indian culture. That state visit was certainly enriching for me and I am convinced that you will also experience thrilling and inspiring days here in Vienna.

I thank all those who have done their best to make this congress happen and wish all participants and lecturers interesting discussions, new friendships, and unforgettable days in Vienna.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heinz Fischer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping 'H' and 'F'.