

'The Priests,' most-viewed Korean film released in Nov. ever

SEOUL, Nov. 29 (Yonhap) -- A Korean exorcism film set a record as the top-selling Korean film that opened in November of all time, data showed Sunday.

"The Priests" starring heartthrob Kang Dong-won hit about 4.82 million in attendance as of Saturday, the highest number of viewers for any Korean film that has opened in November, according to data from the Korean Film Council (KOFIC).

November is a traditional off-season for movie theaters in South Korea.

The previous record was 4,801,527 for the documentary film "My Love, Don't Cross That River."

But the success of "The Priests" is meaningful in that it opened in early November, while the documentary film had achieved most of its success in December, a high season, since it was released on Nov. 27 last year, the new film's distributor CJ Entertainment said.

Directed by Jang Jae-hyun and also starring Kim Yoon-seok, "The Priests" follows a Catholic priest and deacon who perform an exorcism to save a girl possessed by an evil spirit.

Another Korean film "Inside Men" surpassed 3 million in attendance on Saturday, the 10th day of its run, according to the KOFIC data.

This was the shortest period taken by a R-rated movie to reach the milestone, one day faster than 11 days for "Tazza: The High Rollers" in 2006.

"Inside Men" depicts the spider web-like relationships among South Korean politicians, journalists and political hoodlums.

Actor Lee Byung-hun stars as a gangster seeking revenge against a politician who disowned him after the henchman is caught carrying a record of the politician's slush fund.



The poster of the Korean exorcism film "The Priests" (Yonhap file photo)

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