

## Raavanan

English Title: Raavanan (Tamil)  
Original Title: Raavanan (Tamil)  
Producer: Mani Ratnam and Sharada Trilok  
Production Company Address: Madras Talkies,  
15, Crescent Avenue,  
Kesavaperumal Puram  
Chennai – 600028. India.

Date of Release: 18th June 2010  
Country : India  
Genre : Action | Adventure | Crime  
Language : Tamil

Leading Cast with Screen Name for film:

In Tamil  
Vikram as Veera  
Aishwarya Rai Bachchan as Ragini  
Prithviraj as Dev  
Karthik as Gnanaprakasam  
Prabhu as Singarasu  
John Vijay as Hemanth  
Priyamani as Vennila

Director: Mani Ratnam  
Story: Mani Ratnam  
Screenplay: Mani Ratnam  
Music: A.R. Rahman  
Director of Photography: Santosh Sivan & V. Manikandan  
Production Designer: Samir Chanda  
Editor: Sreekar Prasad

Film Running Time: 137 mins (Tamil)  
Aspect Ratio of 35 mm film: 1 : 2.35 (Cinemascope)  
Sound: Dolby Digital (Dolby SRD) & DTS

## **RAAVANAN - TAMIL**

### **SYNOPSIS**

RAAVANAN is not a story, it is a world.

Veera - Undisputed, Unlawful, Untamed

Dev - The Punisher, The Law, The Righteous

Ragini - Conscience, Beauty, Music

Dev falls in love with Ragini, a spunky classical dancer who is as unconventional as him. They get married and he takes up his new post in Vikramasingapuram, a small town in southern India.

A town where the word of law is not the police but Veera, a tribal who has, over the years, shifted the power equation of the place from the ruling to the have-nots of the area.

Dev knows that the key to bringing order to any place is to vanquish the big fish; in this case - Veera.

In one stroke Dev manages to rip open Veera's world, and set in motion a chain of events which will claim lives, change fortunes.

Veera, injured but enraged hits back starting a battle that draws Dev, Veera and Ragini into the jungle.

The jungle which is dense, confusing, scary.

And in this journey they must confront their own truth. A journey which will test their beliefs, convictions and emotions.

Emotions which are as scary and confusing as the forest.

The forest becomes the battleground. The battle between good and evil, between Dev and Veera, between Ram and Raavan.

But when the lines dividing good and evil are blurring fast whose side will you take.

When hate turns to love and the good starts looking evil

Which side will you battle for?

Love is a battle that nobody wins but everyone must fight.  
Even this Raavanan.

## **RAAVANAN - DIRECTOR'S NOTE**

TEN HEADS

TEN MINDS

A HUNDRED VOICES

ONE MAN

Did such a man ever exist...?

Was he just a myth...or a metaphor...?

Is Raavanan the line that divides Good from Evil...?

Does our understanding change when we look from the opponent's perspective...?

The bond between the Hunter and the Hunted - between the Captor and the Captive seems to be a bond of do or die....

The tension between opposites often seems so electric, that it isolates them from the rest of the world, leaving just the two – All alone...

Are Ten Heads better than one...?

Is there a Ram inside Raavanan ? And a Raavanan inside each of us?!

## **RAAVANAN - THE CAST & CREW**

**VIKRAM as VEERA** - The Undisputed, The Unlawful, The Untamed.

Veeraiyya - a strong, rugged beast of a man. Anti-establishment, non-conformist, voice of the underdog, and fiercely protective of his people; he's the beacon of hope for the oppressed lot and the pride and shame of Vikramasingapuram. Nicknamed after the mythological demon Raavanan, Veera is a saint and the sinner.

**PRITHVIRAJ as DEV** - The Punisher, The Law, The Righteous

Dev Prasad - a tough as nails aggressive encounter specialist. Determined and steadfast in his ideals, he is willing to go all the way to achieve what he believes is right. Unrelenting in his perception of right and wrong, he firmly believes the end justifies the means, no matter how unorthodox the means employed. He is a man on a mission; and his current mission is Veera.

**AISHWARYA RAI BACHCHAN as RAGINI** - Conscience, Music, Beauty

Ragini Subramaniam - a spunky, vivacious woman, passionate about Music and Art. She is a perfect foil to Dev's stark, almost rigid demeanour. As ethereal and fragile as she seems on the surface, she is strong willed and tenacious with a mind of her own and doesn't cow down under pressure. She has her own views and convictions on life and people; and when they are challenged, she resists and fights back but is not afraid of accepting a different viewpoint and seeing the world from the other side.

**KARTHIK as GYANAPRAKASAM** - a gregarious, scruffy and unkempt Forest Guard. Gyanam is an alcoholic constantly flitting between suspensions from his job. But job or no job, the forest is his home and he knows the deep dark paths of the jungle like the back of his hand. In of his admiration for Dev and his work, of Veera and his struggle; and though he he is the only person who sees them both for of the same coin, fighting the same battle but Gyanam has a deep understanding disapproves of his unlawful means, who they really are- as two sides on opposing sides.

**The Director - MANI RATNAM**

Mani Ratnam's first film Pallavi Anu Pallavi won the Karnataka State Award for Best Screenplay in 1983, he later went on to win many National Awards in several categories for his subsequent films. The 1997 Iruvar was pronounced the "Best Film at the "Festival of the Auteur Films" at the Belgrade Film Festival, and in 1995, Bombay won the Gala Award at the Edinburgh Festival. In 2002, Kannathil Muthamittal was recipient of "In the Spirit of Freedom Award in Memory of Win Van Leer" at the Jerusalem International Film Festival. Kannathil Muthamittal, a powerful drama of a young child looking for her estranged mother, also won awards at the Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles and The 6th Annual Zimbabwe International Film Festival. Winner of the Best Asian Film at the Berlin International Film Festival was his 1998 film Dil Se.

Retrospectives and tributes to Mani Ratnam's work have been held at the Toronto International Film Festival, Pusan International Film Festival, Tokyo Filmex and Birmingham International Film Festival. His films are shown regularly at many important film festivals, including Cannes, Venice, Rotterdam, Toronto, Montreal, Pusan and Palm Springs.

In September 2010, Mani Ratnam was awarded the JAEGER-LECOULTRE GLORY TO THE FILMMAKER AWARD at the 67th Mostra Internazionale d'Arte Cinematografica (67th Venice International Film Festival.)

### **The Music Director - A R RAHMAN**

A two-time winner of the Academy Award (Oscar), A. R. Rahman is popularly known as the man who has redefined contemporary Indian music. Hailed by Time magazine as the 'Mozart of Madras', Rahman, according to a BBC estimate, has sold more than 150 million copies of his work comprising of music from more than 100 film soundtracks and albums across over half a dozen languages, including landmark scores such as 'Roja', 'Bombay', 'Dil Se', 'Taal', 'Lagaan', 'Vandemataram' and more recently, 'Jodhaa Akbar', 'Delhi 6' and 'Slumdog Millionaire'.

Rahman pursued music as a career at a very young age and after assisting leading musicians in India went on to compose jingles and scores for popular Indian television features. He also obtained a degree in western classical music from the Trinity College of Music, London and set up his own in-house studio called Panchathan Record-Inn at Chennai. In 1991, noted film maker Mani Ratnam offered Rahman a movie called 'Roja', which won Rahman the Indian National Award for the best music composer, the first time ever by a debutant.

Since then, Rahman has gone on to win the National Award 3 more times, the most ever by any music composer.

In 1997, to commemorate 50 years of Indian Independence, Sony Music signed up Rahman as its first artiste in South Asia. The result was 'Vande Mataram', an album that instantly Indians relate to it and succeeded Andrew Lloyd Webber, the well 'Phantom of the Opera' & Rahman to compose 'Dreams', produce in rekindling the spirit of patriotism. In 2001, known composer of musicals like 'Jesus Christ Superstar' invited for his musical, 'Bombay' the first time he would a musical he did not compose for. 'Bombay Dreams' opened to packed houses at London's West End and had an unprecedented run for 2 years and later premiered at New York's Broadway. Rahman recently composed the score for the stage production of 'The Lord of the Rings', one of the most expensive productions mounted on stage. Rahman has undertaken several sellout concert tours in over 30 international destinations including one at the prestigious Hollywood Bowl in 2006. Rahman's music led him to be noticed internationally with several of his tracks featuring in movies such as 'The Lord of War', 'Inside Man' and 'The Accidental Husband'. His composition, Bombay Theme holds the distinction of being featured in over 50 international compilations. He also scored the music for the Hollywood productions, 'Elizabeth - The Golden Age', 'Slumdog Millionaire', 'Couples Retreat' and the Chinese movie, 'Warriors of Heaven & Earth' produced by Sony Pictures.

In 2008, Rahman's work gained global prominence with the extraordinary success of his score for 'Slumdog Millionaire' that won 8 Academy Awards including two for Rahman, for Best Score

and Best Song. Rahman won over 15 awards for his score including two Grammys, the Golden Globe and the BAFTA. Rahman has been bestowed with the 'Padma Bhushan' and 'Padma Shri', two of India's highest national civilian honours, recognizing his contribution to music, in addition to several other awards including 4 Indian National Film Awards and 25 Filmfare Awards, India's leading recognition for films. He has also been conferred with honorary doctorates from the Trinity College of Music, Aligarh Muslim University, Anna University and the Middlesex University. He was also named by Time Magazine as one of the 100 most influential people in the world, in 2009. Rahman has expanded his focus to newer horizons like setting up the A R Rahman Foundation to help poor and underprivileged children.

Rahman is currently working with Dave Stewart on a forthcoming album and is scoring for IV 'Rockstar', 'Paani' and '1-800-LOVE' in India.

### **The Lyricist - VAIRAMUTHU**

Vairamuthu is a renowned name uttered endearing by the Tamils living across the Globe. He is a visionary who has wholly internalized the essence and elegance of classical and ancient Tamil Language. His Poetic and lyrical authority in Tamil earned him a distinct place. He was awarded the National honor 'Padmashree' for his distinguished contribution to Tamil Literature, the prestigious Sahitya Akademi Award of the Government of India for his novel 'Kallikaatu Idhikaasam', and five National Awards for being the Best Film Lyricist.

The roots of his life are as deep as the roots of his language. Vairamuthu, hails from an agricultural family and was born in 1953 in Mettur, a tiny village in Theni District, Tamilnadu. The poor peasants, Cattle, birds and the and vegetation were the first wonders of Vairamuthu. With dreamy eyes and aspiring heart he joined Pachayappa's College, Chennai in 1970 where his world of knowledge and literature expanded far and wide. In 1972, during under graduation, his maiden anthology "Vaigarai Megangal" (Clouds at Dawn) was published. This anthology he wrote as a student was prescribed as a textbook in Colleges, while he himself was a student.

In 1980, he debuted film lyric, in "Nizhalgal" directed by Bharatiraja. With his emergence as film lyricist, Tamil film songs reached by breaking linguistic structures. So far, he has penned more He is the only film Awards 4 times from new heights. He created fascinating imageries with more than 6500 film lyrics.

#### National Awards

Year	Film	Directed by
1986	Mudhal Mariyadhai	Bharatiraja
1993	Roja	Mani Ratnam
1995	Karuthamma	Bharatiraja
1995	Pavithra	K.Subhash
2000	Sangamam	Suresh Krishna
2003	Kannathil Muthamittaal	Mani Ratnam

## **Director of Photography - SANTOSH SIVAN**

Santosh Sivan (born in Trivandrum, Kerala) is an Indian film director and cinematographer. He has won five National Film Awards, three Filmfare Awards, and ten international film festival awards.

He graduated from Film and Television Institute of India, began his Career as a cinematographer and has now done 45 feature films and 41 documentaries in Hindi, English, Tamil and Malayalam for prominent film makers of India, and abroad.

### **AWARDS**

#### **A. As the Best Cinematographer**

1. National Award for feature film "PERUMTHACHAN" (Malayalam/1991)
2. National Award for feature film "KAALAPANI" (Malayalam/1996)
3. National Award for documentary "MOHINIYATTAM" (Malayalam/1991)
4. National Award for feature film "IRUVAR" (Tamil/1998)
5. National Award for feature film "DIL SE" ( Tamil/1999)

#### **B. As Director**

**1. National Award for "Story of Tiblu" (1988)**

**2. "HALO" ( Hindi / 1995)**

(i) 43rd National Film Awards, India (1996)

Best Children's film

Best Sound Award

(ii) 9th International Film Festival for Children and Young People, 1995 India

(iii) 7th Cairo International Film Festival for Children, 1997 Special Jury Prize

(iv) Children's Film fest, 1997 Ontario (Canada)

(v) Critics award for the Best Film - Film Fare.

**3. THE TERRORIST**

(i) Golden Pyramid Award for the best film at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Cairo International Film Festival

Best Director

Best Actress

(ii) Best Tamil Film, 1999 National Award

(iii) Nomination for Independent Spirits Award

(iv) Awarded Emerging Master at the Seattle Film Festival

(v) Sundance International Film Festival

(vi) Toronto International Film Festival

Grand Jury Prize at the Cinemanila international Film Festival, Manila July 1999

Special jury prize at Sarajevo international film festival.

Listed in Roger Eberts 100 best films ROGER EBERT AND THE MOVIES

#### **4. MALLI**

1. National Award for the Best Environmental Film, 2000
2. National Award for Best Child Artist, 2000
3. 18th International Festival of Film for Children, Poznan, Poland
  - a. Poznan Goats for the Best Director
  - b. Poznan Goats for the best child actress
  - c. Poznan Goats for best music
4. Silver Prize at the Chicago International Film Festival.
5. Best Film and Best Child Artist at International Children's Film Festival at Hyderabad.
6. Best film audience prize at the Indian film festival of India Los Angeles.

#### **5. ASOKA**

- (i) Venice Film Festival - out of Competition, Sept 2001
- (ii) Toronto Film Festival, Sept 2001

#### **6. NAVARASA (Tamil 2004)**

National award, Monaco award for best film, Best supporting actor awarded at LYONS. Participated in PUSAN and ROTTERDAM film festival.

#### **7. ANANDABHADRAM (Malayalam 2005)**

7 critics' award and 4 state awards.

#### **8. BEFORE THE RAINS (2006)**

Completed principal filming and post production for a Hollywood film (Before the Rains) for Echo Lake Productions Los Angeles, the film premiered at the Gala at Toronto Film Festival 2007 and the Asian premiere was at the Pusan International Film Festival 2007.

Played at the Dubai Film Festival 2007, Palm Springs Film Festival 2008. Presented by Merchant Ivory and to be released worldwide on May 9th 2008 by Landmark in the US, UK (Metrodome), Australia (Videovision), Australia/New Zealand (Rialto), Canada (Maximum)

#### **9. PRARAMBHA (2007)**

Completed filming and post production for a film on AIDS for Bill and Melinda Gates AIDS Foundation. The film premiered at the Mavericks at Toronto Film Festival 2007. Played at the Dubai Film Festival 2007, National Film Awards 2007- Best Educational and Motivational Film (Best Producer & Best Director).

#### **10. TAHAAN- A Boy with the Grenade (2008)**

Greece, Olympia Film Festival

1. Best feature film,
2. Best film UNICEF award
3. CIFEJ jury award

### **AS PRODUCER –**

1. TERRORIST
2. MALLI
3. NAVARASA
4. BEFORE THE RAINS
5. TAHAAN- A Boy with the Grenade

AS ACTOR - Portrayed the lead role of Raja Ravi Varma, the painter prince in Director Lenin Rajendrans film Malayalam film "Makara Manju"

### **Director of Photography - V. MANIKANDAN**

V. Manikandan (born January 1968) is a leading cinematographer hailing from Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. He has worked as the cinematographer for a number of major box office hits in Hindi and Tamil.

He is an acclaimed ad film cinematographer with more than 3,000 ad films to his credit. He won the Best Cinematographer award [Film Fare Award] for the movie Anniyan (Tamil). His debut movie was Atharmam (Tamil) in 1994.

### **Filmography**

- Khatta Meeta - (Hindi / 2010)
- Raavan / Raavanan - (Hindi / Tamil / 2010)
- Billu - (Hindi, 2008)
- Om Shanti Om - (Hindi, 2007)
- Police - (Malayalam, 2005)
- Anniyan - (Tamil, 2005)
- Main Hoon Na - (Hindi, 2004)
- Kuch Naa Kaho- (Hindi, 2003)
- Pennin Manathai Thottu - (Tamil, 2000)
- Asura Vamsam - (Malayalam, 1997)
- Mr. Romeo - (Tamil, 1996)
- Sengottai - (Tamil, 1996)
- Sarigamapathani - (Tamil, 1995)
- Atharmam - (Tamil, 1994)