

Maidaan (transl.Field) is a 2024 Indian Hindi-language biographical sports drama film co-written and directed by Amit Ravindernath Sharma and produced by Akash Chawla, Arunava Joy Sengupta, Boney Kapoor and Zee Studios. Sports action by Rob Miller and ReelSports. Ajay Devgn plays the role of Syed Abdul Rahim, a pioneering football coach in India between 1952 and 1962.^[5]^[6]

The film's preview shows were released on 10 April 2024. Theatrically the film was released worldwide on 11 April 2024, coinciding with Eid.^[7]

Plot

Spanning from 1952 to 1962, the film chronicles the life and journey of Syed Abdul Rahim, an esteemed football coach who revolutionized the sport in India. Due to his immense contribution in football, the Indian Football Team was called "Brazil of Asia" where they played in a 4-2-4 formation.

Rahim's determination, leadership, and vision propelled him to become an iconic figure in Indian sports history. It captures the challenges, sacrifices, and triumphant moments of both Rahim and the Indian football team as they strive to overcome societal obstacles and etch their names on the global stage. That lead India earn 2 gold medals in 1951 Asian Games and 1962 Asian Games while India Football Team became Asia's first ever football team to qualify for the Semi Finals of 1956 Summer Olympics.

Cast

- Ajay Devgn as Syed Abdul Rahim alias Rahim Saab
- Priyamani as Saira Rahim
- Gajraj Rao as Roy Chaudhary
- Devyansh Tripathi as Syed Shahid Hakim, Rahim's son
- Nitanshi Goel as Rahim's daughter
- Aayesha Vindhara as Rahim's daughter
- Meenal Patel as Rahim's mother
- Rudranil Ghosh as Shubhankar
- Baharul Islam as Anjan
- Zaheer Mirza as Morarji Desai

<i>Maidaan</i>	
 <div>ONE MAN ONE BELIEF ONE SPIRIT ONE NATION</div> <div>MAIDAAAN</div> <div>IN CINEMAS 10TH APRIL 2024</div>	
Theatrical release poster	
Directed by	Amit Sharma
Screenplay by	Saiwyn <div>QuadrasAman RaiAtul ShahiAmit Sharma</div>
Dialogues by	Ritesh Shah <div>Siddhant Mago</div>
Story by	Saiwyn <div>QuadrasAkash ChawlaArunava Joy Sengupta</div>
Produced by	Zee Studios <div>Fresh Lime FilmsAkash ChawlaArunava Joy SenguptaBoney Kapoor</div>
Starring	Ajay Devgn
Cinematography	Tushar Kanti Ray

- Madhur Mittal as Fortunato Franco
- Chaitanya Sharma as PK Banerjee
- Tejas Ravishankar as Peter Thangaraj
- Davinder Gill as Jarnail Singh
- Amartya Ray as Chuni Goswami
- Sushant Waydande as Tulsidas Balaram
- Abhilash Thapliyal as Dev Mattew
- Manandeep Singh as Trilok Singh Basera
- Vishnu G Varrier as O. Chandrashekar
- Raphael Jose as D. Ethiraj
- Jayanth V. as Arumainayagam
- Aaman Munshi as Arun Ghosh
- Sai Kishore as DMK Afzal
- Amandeep Thakur as Ram Bahadur Chettri
- Tanmay Bhattacharjee as Pradyut Barman
- Arko Das as Prasanta Sinha
- Prajwal Maski as Yousuf Khan
- Rishab Joshi as S. S. Hakim
- Vijay Maurya as Indian Commentator
- Pavitra Sarkar as Bengal Team coach
- Purnendu Bhattacharya as Doctor
- Shruthy Menon as Jazzclub singer

	Fyodor Lyass (sports)
Edited by	Dev Rao <div>Jadhav</div> <div>Shahnawaz</div> <div>Mosani (sports)</div>
Music by	A. R. Rahman
Production companies	Zee Studios <div>Bayview</div> <div>Projects</div> <div>Fresh Lime</div> <div>Films</div>
Distributed by	CCC Studios
Release date	10 April 2024 ^[1]
Running time	181 minutes ^[2]
Country	India
Language	Hindi
Budget	₹250 crore ^[3]
Box office	est. ₹37.92 crore ^[4]

Production

Principal photography commenced on 19 August 2019 and experienced long delays due to COVID-19 pandemic and Cyclone Nisarga ultimately ending in May 2022.^{[8][9]} The film was scheduled to release in theatres on 3 June 2022 but was delayed due to impending post-production works. The film was set to be released on 23 June 2023 but was delayed again.^{[10][11]}

The film was made on a budget of Rs. 250 crore.^[12]

Music

The music of the film is composed by A. R. Rahman while lyrics are written by Manoj Muntashir. The first single titled "Mirza" was released on 18 March 2024.^[13] The second single titled "Team India Hain Hum" was released on 27 March 2024.

Track listing

No.	Title	Lyrics	Singer(s)	Length
1.	"Mirza"	Manoj Muntashir	Richa Sharma , Javed Ali	5:16
2.	"Team India Hain Hum"	Manoj Muntashir , Davinder Singh , Slow Cheeta	A.R. Rahman , Nakul Abhyankar	2:43
3.	"Ranga Ranga"	MC Heam , Saraswati Putra Ramajogayya Sastry	Vaishali Samant , MC Heam	2:58

4. "Dil Nahi Todenge"	Manoj Muntashir	Javed Ali	4:18
5. "Jaane Do"	Manoj Muntashir	A.R. Rahman, Hiral Viradia	6:47
Total length:			22:02

Release

Theatrical

The film had paid previews on 10 April 2024, before releasing nationwide a day later on 11 April coinciding with Eid, in standard formats and IMAX.^[14]

Home media

The film's Digital Rights have been bagged by Amazon Prime Video and Satellite Rights acquired by Star Gold.^[15]

Reception

On the review aggregator website Rotten Tomatoes, 67% of 6 critics' reviews are positive, with an average rating of 4/10.^[16]

India Today's Sana Farzeen rated the movie 4 out of 5 stars and said "Ajay Devgn strikes gold, yet again"^[17]

Bollywood Hungama critic rated 4 out of 5 stars and wrote "*Maidaan* is one of the finest sports-based films of Bollywood that rests on a National Award-worthy performance by Ajay Devgn."^[18]

Shubhra Gupta from The Indian Express rated the film 2.5/5 and wrote "... *makes you want to clap, cheer and shed a proud tear.*" and said "Ajay Devgn plays Syed Abdul Rahim with a patent sincerity and only a hint of the slo-mo swagger. His rag-tag team has the kind of composition so syncretic that it makes you ache with nostalgia."^[19]

Sukanya Verma of Rediff.com rated 2/5 stars and observed "*Maidaan*" *draws out more yawns than yays.*"^[20]

Dhaval Roy of Times of India gave 4 stars out of 5 and said, "Ajay Devgn shines as Rahim, becoming a larger-than-life figure despite a quiet, understated, dignified demeanour. Priyamani, as his wife Saira, is impressive in every scene. Gajraj Rao, as the devious journalist, hits it out of the park."^[21]

Punjab Kesari wrote, "Presenting the biography of a person related to sports on screen is no less than a challenge, but director Amit Sharma not only accepted this challenge gladly but he was successful in it."^[22]

Vinamra Mathur from Firstpost said, "With *Maidaan*, Sharma, and writer Riteish Shah want to take us through the 50's and show what the game meant for India", and rated the movie 3 stars out of 5.^[23]

Rishil Jogani from Pinkvilla gave the movie 3.5 stars out of 5 and said, "*Maidaan* is a work of passion, that can only be envisioned by someone who is really passionate to tell the underdog story of the Indian National Football Team."^[24]

Mayapuri Magazine reviewed the movie stating, "Maidaan is the movie which will stay with you for years to come", and gave 4 stars out of 5.^[25]

Simran Srivastav from *English Jagran* said, "'Maidaan' has been made with passion which is impeccably shown on the big screen. The stellar performances of every actor in 'Maidaan' truly elevate the movie and make it more interesting to watch", and gave 3.5 out of 5 stars.^[26]

Anuj Kumar of *The Hindu* stated "Maidaan needs to be populated as one hopes that it spurs the young generation to take their love for the game from screens to the field and prove the saying that Rahim took Indian football to grave with him wrong."^[27]

See also

- [Films made in India on sport subject](#)
- [List of movies made in India on Football](#)
- [India football team](#)
- [Sports culture in India](#)

References

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