

Dhaakad

Dhaakad (transl. Formidable) is a 2022 Indian Hindi-language action film^[6] directed by Razneesh Ghai. It stars Kangana Ranaut in lead role with Arjun Rampal, Divya Dutta and Saswata Chatterjee. in supporting roles^[7]

The film was released on 30 May 2022 and emerged as a box office bomb, earning ₹3.77 crores worldwide.^{[8][9][10][11]}

Plot

Agent Agni is an International Task Force (ITF) officer, who is ruthless in her tactics of handling terrorists and criminals. Agni is an orphan, whose parents were killed by an assassin when she was a child. She is then raised by an ITF officer. Agni is sent to Budapest to gather details about an arms trafficking and human trafficking racket. As per the information collected by her, the mastermind of the racket is Rudraveer and his partner, Rohini. Rudraveer is a mysterious character, who operates from Sohagpur Coal Fields near Bhopal, India. Agni is sent to collect information on Rudraveer so that he can be nabbed. Although hesitant at first, as her parents died in India, Agni goes ahead. She does not realize that she is going through with the toughest mission of her career.

Cast

- Kangana Ranaut as Agent Agni
- Arjun Rampal as Rudraveer^[12]
- Divya Dutta as Rohini^[13]
- Saswata Chatterjee as Handler
- Sharib Hashmi as Fazal
- Tumul Balyan as Pratap
- Gabriel Georgiou as Shamsheer
- Siddhant Shukla as Traitor
- Gyula Mesterhazy as Fyodor
- Daniel Viktor Nagy as Sheikh
- Mihir Ahuja as young Rudraveer^[14]

Dhaakad



Theatrical release poster

Directed by	Razneesh Razy Ghai
Screenplay by	Razy Ghai Rajiv Menon ^[1]
Story by	Razy Ghai Chintan Gandhi Rinish Ravindra
Produced by	Deepak Mukut Sohel Maklai
Starring	Kangana Ranaut Arjun Rampal Divya Dutta Sougata Ghosh Saswata Chatterjee
Cinematography	Tetsuo Nagata
Edited by	Rameshwar S. Bhagat
Music by	Shankar–Ehsaan–Loy

- Sejal Jaiswal as Agni's Mother

Production

Development

Dhaakad was announced on 20 October 2020. Kangana shared her various looks from the film. Kangana wrote on Instagram, "She is fierce, feisty and fearless. #AgentAgni is all geared up to set the big screen on fire.^[15] In an interview Kangana said, "Dhaakad is not only a benchmark film for my career but will be a turning point for Indian cinema as well. The film is mounted on a large scale, and is one of a kind female-led action film."

Training

The actors appearing in the film as Agents, including Ranaut, underwent training for over three months.^[16]

Filming

Principal photography began on 15 January 2021.^[17] It has been shot in Betul, Madhya Pradesh and Budapest. Razneesh Razy Ghai, the director of the film wrote on his Instagram account, "The producers and I were insistent that we hire key members of the team from other film industries. When you want your film to have high-octane action, you have to go above and beyond. For key sequences, we roped in action directors from the United States, South Korea, Canada and South Africa. Hitz international action specialists, as well as Cameron Hilts and Sea-young Oh. The Indian stunt team was on par with our international collaborators."^[18] The filming was completed on 8 July 2021.^[19]

Soundtrack

The film's soundtrack is composed by Shankar–Ehsaan–Loy and Dhruv Ghanekar while the lyrics are written by Amitabh Bhattacharya and Ishitta Arun.^[20]

No.	Title	Lyrics	Singer(s)	Length
1.	"She's On Fire"	<u>Badshah</u> , <u>Hiten Kumar</u>	<u>Badshah</u> , <u>Nikhita Gandhi</u>	2:45
2.	"Namonishan"	<u>Amitabh Bhattacharya</u>	<u>Nikhita Gandhi</u> , <u>Shankar Mahadevan</u>	4:20
3.	"So Ja Re"	<u>Ishitta Arun</u>	<u>Sunidhi Chauhan</u> , <u>Hariharan</u>	5:13
4.	"Babul"	Traditional	<u>Richa Sharma</u>	3:43

	<u>Dhruv Ghanekar</u> <u>Badshah</u> <u>Hiten Kumar</u>
Production companies	<u>Sohum Rockstar Entertainment</u> <u>Sohel Maklai Productions</u> <u>Asylum Films</u>
Distributed by	<u>Zee Studios</u>
Release date	20 May 2022 ^[2]
Running time	131 minutes ^[3]
Country	<u>India</u>
Language	<u>Hindi</u>
Budget	<u>est. ₹85 crore</u> ^[4]
Box office	<u>est. ₹3.77 crore</u> ^[5]

<i>Dhaakad</i>	
Soundtrack album by <u>Shankar–Ehsaan–Loy</u>, <u>Dhruv Ghanekar</u>, <u>Badshah</u> and <u>Hiten Kumar</u>	
Released	17 May 2022 ^[20]
Genre	<u>Feature film soundtrack</u>
Length	25:53
Language	<u>Hindi</u> <!--english link per WP:OL-->
Label	<u>SRE Music</u>
Official audio	

5. "Barood"	<u>Amitabh Bhattacharya</u>	<u>Sunidhi Chauhan</u>	4:12	<div> Dhaakad - Full Audio Songs Jukebox (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HPkj6F-0Hpo) on YouTube </div>
6. "Dhaakad Title Song"	Ishitta Arun	Vasundhara Vee	5:40	
Total length:			25:53	

Release

Theatrical

Dhaakad was released theatrically on 20 May 2022 along with Kartik Aaryan starrer *Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2*.^[2] The film was initially scheduled for a Diwali (November) 2020 release but due to the COVID-19 pandemic the film got postponed.^[21] The film was postponed again and a new release date, 8 April 2022, was announced on 18 October 2021.^[22]

Distribution

The film was distributed by Zee Studios.^[23]

Home media

The film premiered on 1 July 2022 on ZEE5 under subscription but, during the **ZEE5 Manoranjan Festival** it was made free on air till 1 January 2023.^[24]

Reception

Shalini Langer of *The Indian Express* rated the film 3.5 out of 5 stars and wrote "A slick action film that is also coherent – Kangana Ranaut-Divya Dutta-Arjun Rampal film is an achievement".^[25] Rachana Dubey of *The Times Of India* rated the film 3 out of 5 stars and wrote "It would have been great if along with the superb action and terrific visuals, the story, too, could have packed a punch".^[26] Sonil Dedhia of *News 18* rated the film 3 out of 5 stars and wrote "Kangana Ranaut's solid performance in 'Dhaakad' combined with high-impact stunt work puts a stamp on her as a formidable female action star".^[27] Pooja Biraia Jaiswal of *The Week* rated the film 3 out of 5 stars and wrote "Dhaakad is a popcorn film; an almost-edge-of-the-seat action thriller led by an able cast, spectacular action sequences and meticulous execution".^[28] Nandini Ramnath of *Scroll.in* rated the film 2 out of 5 stars and wrote "Dhaakad makes little effort to credibly localise its themes".^[29]

Bharathi Pradhan of *Lehren* rated the film 1.5 out of 5 stars and wrote "Dhaakad is singularly unimaginative in its presentation and execution".^[30] Anna M.M. Vetticad of *Firstpost* rated the film 0.5 out of 5 stars and wrote "Dhaakad is marred by extremely violent scenes, vacuous writing, dull direction and is boring-as-hell".^[31] Sukanya Verma of *Rediff* rated the film 2 out of 5 stars and wrote "Kangana Ranaut ticks off all the boxes of the poker-faced spy model in Dhakaad, but the movie needs real rescuing".^[32] Swati Chopra of *The Quint* rated the film 1 out of 5 and wrote, "Dhaakad's stunt choreography and camera work by Tetsua Nahata is impressive and that's what makes the film somewhat bearable."^[33] *Bollywood Hungama*

called *Dhaakad* a "disastrous flop at the box office".^[34] It rated the film 1.5 out of 5 stars and wrote "The Kangana Ranaut starrer *DHAAKAD* is all style and no substance and fails to deliver entertainment value".^[35]

Box office

Dhaakad was a major box office disaster, with most of its shows discontinued from cinemas within one week of release.^{[36][37][38][39]}

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External links

- *Dhaakad* (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt10598156/>) at IMDb
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