

= 24 : Redemption =

24 : Redemption is a television film based on the series 24 . It first aired on November 23 , 2008 , on Fox in the United States , and was released to DVD on November 25 . The film was written by executive producer Howard Gordon and was directed by Jon Cassar . 24 : Redemption takes place almost four years after sixth season and two months before seventh season in real time between 3 : 00 pm and 5 : 00 pm ( Sangala timezone ) on Inauguration Day in the United States .

The main setting is Sangala , a fictional African country , where Jack Bauer ( Kiefer Sutherland ) tries to find peace with himself , and works as a missionary with Carl Benton ( Robert Carlyle ) , who built the Okavango school to aid war orphans . Bauer is served a subpoena to appear before the United States Senate regarding human rights violations , but refuses to go , and a shadow organization among the United States government aids General Juma ( Tony Todd ) and his militia in a coup d'état .

The working title was 24 : Exile . The concept of the film started since the 2007 ? 2008 Writers Guild of America strike , which delayed the seventh season for a year thus leaving a gap in the series during 2008 . Redemption was somewhat inspired by the Rwandan Genocide in 1994 . The majority of Redemption was filmed on location outside Cape Town , South Africa since it was difficult to mimic an authentic African scenery in America .

Two versions of the film were released to DVD , the original broadcast version and an extended directors cut . The original airing was seen by just over 12 million Americans , and received positive reviews , and was praised for showing a more human side to Bauer . 24 : Redemption was nominated for a Golden Globe as well as five Emmy Awards .

= = Plot = =

Redemption begins with a brief prologue showing a young boy being kidnapped at night , indoctrinated , and drafted along with other boys into a rebel militia so they could take part in a coup d'état , which is being funded by a shadow organization led by Jonas Hodges ( Jon Voight ) .

While Bauer performs missionary work at the Okavango school in Sangala owned by Carl Benton ( Robert Carlyle ) , U.S. embassy official Frank Trammel ( Gil Bellows ) serves him a subpoena to appear before the Senate regarding torture charges , but Bauer refuses to go . Upon hearing the embassy will cut funding to Benton 's school if it continues to protect him , he decides to leave . Meanwhile , several children playing soccer are ambushed by Juma 's rebel soldiers and kidnapped for conscription . When two boys run away , the soldiers open fire , killing one . Benton learns that the rebels are planning to attack his school . He calls Bauer , who hides the children in an underground shelter , and kills several rebels before getting captured and tortured . Benton is able to ambush the remaining soldiers , and Bauer kills the leader , Youssou Dubaku ( Zolile Nokwe ) . His brother , Iké ( Hakeem Kae @-@ Kazim ) hears of his death and plots revenge , while Bauer and Benton leave with the children to get to the American embassy in the capital before the final helicopter evacuates the country .

In Washington , D.C. , Chris Whitley ( Kris Lemche ) is ordered by the conspirators who fund Juma 's militia to erase all information that would incriminate them . Instead , he calls his friend Roger Taylor ( Eric Lively ) , the son of President Elect Allison Taylor ( Cherry Jones ) , for help . After Roger hears of the conspiracy , Whitley returns to his home to forward the files , only to be stopped by Hodges 's men , Halcott and John Quinn ( Sebastian Roche ) who take the information , kill Whitley and bury the body in concrete .

Benton , Bauer and the boys are spotted by Iké 's helicopter . While they flee into the forest , Benton steps on a land mine . With little time to disarm it , Benton urges Bauer to leave , so he can buy time . When he is surrounded by Iké and his men , Benton takes his foot off the trigger and detonates the mine , killing himself and the rebels , though Iké survives . Bauer and the children continue to the capital , where he defeats another rebel ambush . At the gates of the embassy , Trammel denies the children entry and blackmails Bauer into surrendering for the children 's safety . He reluctantly accepts , thus sacrificing his freedom . While Taylor is inaugurated President , Bauer

and the children evacuate , leaving chaotic Sangala behind .

= = Cast and characters = =

= = = Starring = = =

Kiefer Sutherland as Jack Bauer  
Cherry Jones as President @-@ elect Allison Taylor  
Bob Gunton as Secretary of Defense Ethan Kanin  
Colm Feore as First Gentleman Henry Taylor

= = = Special guest stars = = =

Powers Boothe as President Noah Daniels  
Robert Carlyle as Carl Benton

= = = Special guest appearance by = = =

Jon Voight as Jonas Hodges

= = = Guest starring = = =

While the majority of the characters are introduced , there are still a small number of original cast who appeared in the past , namely Kiefer Sutherland , who plays Jack Bauer and Bob Gunton , who plays Ethan Kanin from the sixth season and appears as the outgoing Secretary of Defense and new White House Chief of Staff . Powers Boothe continues to play Noah Daniels , the outgoing president . Peter MacNicol reprises his role as Tom Lennox from the sixth season also .

In Sangala , Robert Carlyle plays Carl Benton , an old friend of Jack Bauer , who runs a school for rescued war orphans . Carlyle suggested that there is a very close friendship between Benton and Bauer , since he seems to let Benton come closer to him than others . Towards the end of the film , he sacrifices himself in order to buy time for Bauer and the children to escape . Gil Bellows plays Frank Tramell , a U.S. State Department official who is ordered to subpoena Bauer . Native South African actor Sean Michael plays Charles Solenz , a UN aid worker helping at Benton 's school , and later abandons Benton and the children , claiming that the United Nations is " neutral " in the Sangala conflict .

Siyabulela Ramba plays Willie , one of the war orphans under the care of Benton , who befriends Bauer . Ramba felt an emotional connection with Sutherland during filming , and believes their friendship shows through onscreen . Isaach De Bankolé plays Ule Matobo , the Prime Minister of the nation , who is forced to evacuate the country during the coup . Among the antagonists in Sangala are General Benjamin Juma ( Tony Todd ) , a former dictator and leader of the People 's Freedom Army responsible for genocide in Sangala , and Iké Dubaku ( Hakeem Kae @-@ Kazim ) , one of Juma 's lieutenants in the coup . Zolile Nokwe plays Youssou Dubaku , Iké 's younger brother .

In Washington , Cherry Jones plays Allison Taylor , the first woman to be inaugurated President of the United States . Colm Feore plays Allison 's husband and First Gentleman Henry Taylor . Eric Lively plays Roger Taylor , the First Son and son of Taylor , and appears alongside Carly Pope as his girlfriend , Samantha Roth , and Kris Lemche , who plays friend Chris Whitley . Among the antagonists in Washington are Jon Voight , who plays Jonas Hodges , a " very serious villain " involved in a Blackwater @-@ type organization , as well as Mark Kiely , who plays Secret Service Agent Edward Vossler .

= = Production = =

The film was conceived as a result of the 2007 ? 2008 Writers Guild of America strike , which delayed the seventh season for an entire year ; the producers were exploring ways to get back on the air earlier . Ideas included airing webisodes or mobisodes . According to the President of Entertainment at Fox , " We were going to be off the air for a while and how do you bridge that gap . We thought about doing something online and after talking with [ executive producer ] Howard Gordon we decided to do it on air . " The working title for the film was 24 : Exile , until the change to 24 : Redemption .

In an interview , Kiefer Sutherland revealed that Redemption was inspired by the Rwandan Genocide and the U.S. Government 's response to it . " The truth is , one of the things that was said in the prequel , which I think has been a massive problem with how the Western world has dealt with Africa , no one can justify going there , because they have no viable reason ? meaning oil or money . Here [ the president 's ] response is a human one . We can stop a genocide . I think that that 's something that Bill Clinton apologized for not doing with Rwanda and we centered a show around that . "

On April 30 , producers began scouting locations in Africa in order to film the feature in the upcoming weeks . The original plan was to shoot three days worth of scenes in Africa and then have Simi Valley , California fill in for the location . After realizing it would be difficult to fake , it was decided to shoot the majority of the film on location in Cape Town , South Africa . Filming took place from June 4 to June 20 with the final scenes being shot in Los Angeles , California . By July 13 , principal shooting of the film had been completed and post @-@ production had begun .

= = Reception = =

= = = Release and viewership = = =

Before release of Redemption , an exclusive six @-@ minute clip was shown to fans at San Diego Comic @-@ Con , 2008 , which showed Bauer escorting a group of African children to the U.S. embassy and becomes involved in a gunfight on a crowded street . On September 21 , 2008 , another trailer was soon uploaded by Fox , focusing more on the conflict in Africa and how Jonas Hodges is involved in the conflict . It premiered on November 23 , 2008 in the U.S. with the DVD released two days later . Fox also released an extended creator 's cut of the feature . Other extras include an audio commentary , " Making of " and " Children of War " featurettes , a brief summary of the sixth season , an alternate Season 7 trailer featuring scenes from the first thirteen episodes , and the first sixteen minutes of the Season 7 premiere . In the United Kingdom , the film premiered on November 24 on Sky1 , one day after first airing in America . It was later released in the UK on December 1 , 2008 with both the original and extended versions on DVD . In Australia , Redemption aired on November 24 , 2008 on the Seven Network . The DVD was later released on February 11 , 2009 .

Redemption was placed the second most viewed Fox release on the week it aired , behind House ; Redemption drew a total of 12 @.@ 121 million viewers , with a Nielsen rating of 7 @.@ 0 , 4 @.@ 0 / 9 among adults aged 18 ? 49 . Redemption was the highest @-@ rated scripted program of the night , and was 3rd overall for the 8 : 00 pm to 11 : 00 pm time slot , behind the American Music Awards and Sunday Night Football . It aired on Sky 1 in the UK , and received an average of 405 @,@ 000 viewers , nearly triple the regular amount of viewers for the series .

= = = Critical reception = = =

The film garnered generally positive reviews from film critics . It holds a 100 % approval rating on review aggregator website Rotten Tomatoes , based on 8 reviews . Alessandra Stanley of The New York Times gave the film a positive review , stating that Redemption is " a more sober , stripped @-@ down version of 24 , and that ? s refreshing , " and that it was the first time a terrorist threat did not take place in Southern California , and the depiction of the conflict in Sangala is highly realistic

and compelling . Stanley also said that a two @-@ hour version of 24 proves that downsizing isn 't always a bad thing . Mary McNamara of The Los Angeles Times praised the film , acknowledging the producers taking on board the criticism and moral issues regarding the use of torture , and stated that a group of innocent young children running for their lives " instantly ratchets up a story 's emotional level . "

Brian Zoromski of IGN rated it " good " , 7 @.@ 5 out of a possible 10 . Zoromski stated that the purpose of Redemption was to allow the introduction of new characters for the seventh season . He further praised the action scenes involving Bauer on his own , stating it as a " sort of Die Hard in Africa , " and called the change of setting from Los Angeles a " refreshing change of pace " . However , Zormski criticized the film for containing cludge dialogue and bland scenes , but suggested that it makes up for it with the action scenes and emotional scenes involving Bauer , allowing Sutherland to show his acting range . Oscar Dah ; of BuddyTV stated that the film should make up for the critics ' poor outing of the sixth season , and has said that the film works wonderfully as the start of the seventh season , and praised Robert Carlyle 's performance .

In addition , some reviews had mixed responses . Simon Brew of Den of Geek rated Redemption 3 out of 5 stars , praising it for showing a more human side of Bauer , the acting of Cherry Jones as Allison Taylor , and named Redemption as a solid bridge between season six and seven . However , Brew was critical that it plays little to no havoc with the world of 24 , and that it is lacking at times in urgency . Gerard Gilbert of The Independent stated that the introduction of Jonas Hodges was promising , and praised John Voight 's acting , as well as stating that the character is the one most to look forward to in the seventh season . Matthew Gilbert of The Boston Globe gave the film a negative review , giving it a 2 out of 10 , calling it " un @-@ fun " , and stating that Bauer 's character has not changed at all from past seasons , and asking , " When does a rogue hero [ Bauer ] become a tired joke ? Based on this un @-@ fun movie , I would say yesterday . "

= = = Awards and nominations = = =

In total , the film itself and its lead actor , Kiefer Sutherland , were nominated for several awards , but none of them resulted in a win . Sutherland was nominated for this performance as " Best Actor in a Miniseries or TV Film " at the 66th Golden Globe Awards , an award which was won by Paul Giamatti for his performance in John Adams . The TV film was also nominated with five Primetime Emmys , including four Creative Arts Primetime Emmys in its 61st ceremony . Sutherland was again nominated for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Miniseries or Movie for his role as Jack Bauer , but lost to Brendan Gleeson for his role as Winston Churchill in Into the Storm . Sean Callery was nominated for " Outstanding Music Composition for a Miniseries , Movie or a Special ( Original Dramatic Score ) " , but lost to Into the Storm composer Howard Goodall . Scott Powell was nominated for " Outstanding Single @-@ Camera Picture Editing for a Miniseries or a Movie " , which was won by Lee Percy and Brian A. Kates for Taking Chance . William D. Dotson , Catherine M. Speakman , Jeffrey R. Whitcher , Pembroke Andrews , Shawn Kennelly , Daryl Fontenault , Melissa Kennelly , Jeffrey Charboneau , Laura Macias and Vincent Nicastro were nominated for " Outstanding Sound Editing for a Miniseries , Movie or a Special " , but lost to the crew of Generation Kill . Lastly , William Gocke , Colin McFarlane , Michael Olman and Kenneth Kobett were nominated for " Outstanding Sound Mixing for a Miniseries or a Movie " , which was won again by the crew of Generation Kill . Sutherland was also nominated for the Screen Actors Guild Award for Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor in a Miniseries or Television Movie but once again lost to Paul Giamatti in John Adams . Redemption was also nominated for the Satellite Award for Best Television Film but lost to the BBC docudrama Filth : The Mary Whitehouse Story .