

= Uyarndha Manithan =

Uyarndha Manithan (English : The Noble Man) is a 1968 Indian Tamil @-@ language drama film written by Javar Seetharaman and directed by Krishnan @-@ Panju . The film was produced by A. V. Meiyappan under AVM Productions and stars Sivaji Ganesan and Sowcar Janaki in the lead roles , while S. A. Ashokan , Major Sundarrajan , Vanisri and Sivakumar play pivotal roles . The film 's soundtrack and background score were composed by M. S. Viswanathan , while the lyrics for the songs were written by Vaali .

In addition to being Sivaji Ganesan 's 125th film , Uyarndha Manithan was conceived as an adaption of Chitrakar 's 1966 Bengali film Uttar Purush . The plot revolves around a wealthy industrialist 's son who secretly marries the daughter of his family estate 's accountant , only for his father to discover it and burn down the estate along with his son 's pregnant wife , who is inside . The remainder of the film reveals the truth behind how she and her progeny survives .

Released on 29 November 1968 , Uyarndha Manithan earned positive critical feedback and went on to become a commercial success . The songs " Andha Naal Gnaabagam " and " Paal Polave " remain popular today in Tamil Nadu . The film won the National Film Award for Best Female Playback Singer at the 16th National Film Awards , for P. Susheela , making it the first Tamil film to win a National Award under that category . It also won four Tamil Nadu State Film Awards , including Best Film (First prize) and Best Director for Krishnan @-@ Panju .

= = Plot = =

Rajalingam (alias Raju) (Sivaji Ganesan) is the son of a wealthy Madurai @-@ based industrialist , Sankaralingam (S. V. Ramadoss) . Living with Raju is his driver and friend , Sundaram (Major Sundarrajan) . While vacationing in his family estate at Kodaikanal with Sundaram and his family doctor , Gopal (S. A. Asokan) , Raju meets Parvathi (Vanisri) and falls in love with her . Gopal too becomes smitten with Parvathi when he meets her whilst conducting her father 's medical treatment . Parvathi , who knows Raju through her father , as he is also an accountant of Raju 's family estate , reciprocates Raju 's feelings . Gopal decides not to reveal his love for Parvathi to Raju for Raju 's sake . Raju and Parvathi marry in secret with the help of Gopal and the consent of Parvathi 's father . The couple live together in Kodaikanal without disclosing the knowledge of their marriage to Raju 's father , Sankaralingam .

Three months later , Parvathi becomes pregnant . Sankaralingam , fearing for his son 's safety , arrives at Kodaikanal and becomes furious upon finding out Raju 's marriage to Parvathi . He orders his henchmen to set the estate on fire with Parvathi and her father inside . Raju and Gopal rush to save Parvathi , but they are stopped by Sankaralingam 's henchmen and are forcefully taken back to Madurai , leaving Parvathi and her father for dead . A few months after returning to Madurai , Raju is forced to marry his cousin Vimala (Sowcar Janaki) . After the marriage , Sankaralingam hands over his business affairs to Raju and dies . Nineteen years pass . Despite having mutual affection for each other , Raju and Vimala remain childless and Raju is unable to forget Parvathi .

Sathyamurthy (Sivakumar) , a nineteen @-@ year @-@ old who lives with his uncle Murugan (V. S. Raghavan) , is unable to retain any job due to his honest nature . He becomes acquainted with Gopal , with whose recommendation he becomes Raju 's personal house servant . When Sathyamurthy displays his mother 's photograph at his house to pray to her , it is revealed that Sathyamurthy is the son of Raju and Parvathi . Parvathi had survived the accident , was cared for by Murugan , and died a few years after giving birth to Sathyamurthy without divulging the identity of Raju to Sathyamurthy and Murugan . Sathyamurthy improves his reading and writing skills with the help of Sundaram 's daughter , Gowri (Bharathi Vishnuvardhan) and the two fall in love . When Raju learns of their love , he approves of their marriage . Gopal comes to know that Sathyamurthy is Raju 's son , but dies of a sudden heart attack before revealing it .

Jealous of Sathymurthy 's influence on Raju , Rathnam (V. K. Ramasamy) and his wife (Manorama) hide Vimala 's diamond necklace in Sathyamurthy 's suitcase in an effort to get rid of him . Vimala , upset at losing her necklace , searches the house for it . When Raju , Sundaram ,

Gowri , and Sathyamurthy return after attending a conference in Kodaikanal , Vimala , acting on Rathnam 's provocation , orders that Sathyamurthy 's suitcase be searched . When the necklace is found in it , Raju throws Sathyamurthy out of his house , despite Sathyamurthy proclaiming his innocence . Gowri then shows Parvathi 's photograph to Raju , who is shocked to learn that Sathyamurthy is his own son . Raju reveals the truth about Parvathi to Vimala , who also accepts Sathyamurthy as her son . Before Raju and Vimala rush to bring Sathyamurthy back , Raju learns of a fire breaking out in one of his mills . Sathyamurthy , unhappy of being wrongly accused by Raju , attempts suicide by entering the burning mill . Raju saves Sathyamurthy in time and reveals the truth about his birth to him . The family is united and Sathyamurthy marries Gowri .

= = Cast = =

= = Production = =

= = = Development = = =

Sivaji Ganesan wanted A. V. Meiyappan to produce his 125th film , which eventually became Uyarndha Manithan . Meiyappan then asked the director duo Krishnan @-@ Panju to search for a good script . One of Meiyappan 's friends , V. A. P. Iyer , suggested Meiyappan to remake the Bengali film Uttar Purush (1966) . After watching the film , Meiyappan was impressed with it and made a decision with Krishnan @-@ Panju and Javar Seetharaman to remake the film with a few alterations .

When the script was ready , Meiyappan 's sons and the film 's co @-@ producers M. Saravanan , M. Kumaran and M. Murugan narrated it to Ganesan at his residence , Annai Illam . Ganesan initially rejected it as he felt the character of Dr. Gopal had more impact than the main character , Raju , and sought to film the portions involving Dr. Gopal in four days . However , on Meiyappan 's insistence , Ganesan played the role of Raju . The role of Dr. Gopal went to S. A. Ashokan and Ganesan assisted him for acting in the scene where Dr. Gopal dies of a heart attack . S. V. Ramadoss was cast as Raju 's father Sankaralingam , Major Sundarrajan as Raju 's classmate , Vanishree as Raju 's wife Parvathi , Sowcar Janaki as Raju 's cousin Vimala , Sivakumar as Raju 's son Sathyamurthy and V. S. Raghavan portrayed Sathyamurthy 's uncle Murugan .

When M. Saravanan asked about Ganesan 's salary to Ganesan 's younger brother V. C. Shanmugham , who spoke on Ganesan 's behalf , Shanmugham said that Ganesan was willing to accept any amount that AVM Productions could afford to offer . Taking this to be a vague statement as Shanmugham did not state Ganesan 's salary properly , Saravanan discovered that Ganesan accepted ? 200 @,@ 000 (US \$ 26 @,@ 667 in 1968) for one of A. P. Nagarajan 's latest films . Since Thiruvilaiyadal (1965) , Nagarajan 's films were made in Eastmancolor , and because Uyarndha Manidhan was made in black @-@ and @-@ white and costume designing for the film was less as compared to those of Nagarajan 's films , M. Saravanan decided to pay ? 150 @,@ 000 (US \$ 20 @.@ 000 in 1968) to Ganesan . P. N. Sundaram served as the cinematographer , while Panju edited the film under the pseudonym " Panjabi " .

= = = Filming = = =

Ganesan 's mannerisms and acting style in the film were inspired by one of his friends who was a Coimbatore @-@ based industrialist . During the scene near the end of the film in which Ganesan enters a burning house , which he did without any hesitation , he accidentally singed his body hair . The song " En Kelvikkenna Badhil " was re @-@ shot as Meiyappan was not pleased with the earlier sequence that was shown to him by the production unit . The song " Paal Polave " was initially meant to be shot at Kodaikanal , but due to unfavourable weather conditions the production crew decided not to include the song in the final version . The film 's art director , A. K. Sekhar ,

wanted to include the song in the film after hearing its rendition by P. Susheela and constructed a specially erected set at AVM studios in Chennai that resembled Kodaikanal . The song was filmed there in three days .

It was speculated that a film producer bought the remake rights of *The Parent Trap* (1961) in Hindi and titled it as *Vapas* . AVM Productions had already acquired the rights to the film , which they were making under the title *Do Kaliyaan* (1968) . To avoid a clash with that film , AVM Production stalled the production of *Uyarntha Manithan* for eight months and managed to release *Do Kaliyaan* first . Ganesan , who thought that the project had been shelved , went to inform AVM Productions that he would commence filming with another technical crew . However , AVM Productions convinced him that the shooting was only delayed , and paid him ₹ 50,000 (US \$ 6,667 in 1968) in advance . After the release of *Do Kaliyaan* , filming was resumed and completed . The final length of the film 's prints were 4,591 metres (15,062 ft) long .

= = Themes = =

In his 2015 book *Madras Studios : Narrative , Genre , and Ideology in Tamil Cinema* , Swarnavel Eswaran Pillai notes that the title *Uyarntha Manithan* , meaning " A Honourable Man " , epitomises the contradiction within the character of Raju , and in the trajectory of the rebel in *Parasakthi* (1952) , as he finally ends up a " meek / reactionary family man " who had forsaken his own offspring / lineage at a critical juncture .

= = Music = =

The soundtrack and musical score for *Uyarntha Manithan* were composed by M. S. Viswanathan , while the lyrics were written by Vaali . The soundtrack was released under the label of Saregama . In the composition and picturisation for the song " *Andha Naal Gnaabagam* " , Viswanathan was inspired by one of the songs in *My Fair Lady* (1964) , in which Rex Harrison sings with a walking stick in hand on a golf course . Due to T. M. Soundararajan 's laughter being inadequate during the recording of this song , Viswanathan himself recorded his own laughter . M. Saravanan , in his book *AVM 60 Cinema* , described the use of dialogues in " *Andha Naal Gnaabagam* " as " something new to Tamil cinema " . The song was parodied by Vikram and Vivek in *Dhool* (2003) , and " *Paal Polave* " was parodied by Santhanam in *Yuvan Yuvathi* (2011) .

The soundtrack was received positively by critics , with " *Andha Naal Gnaabagam* " and " *Paal Polave* " remaining popular today in Tamil Nadu . In his book *Pride of Tamil Cinema : 1931 to 2013* , G. Dhananjayan wrote that *Uyarntha Manithan* " had memorable songs from the combination of MS Viswanathan [sic] and Vaalee [sic] . The songs [...] are popular even today " . Malathi Rangarajan of *The Hindu* praised the bossa nova portions in the song " *Velli Kinnamthan* " . *News Today* described " *Andha Naal Gnaabagam* " as " testament to the capabilities of two legends - TM . Soundarajan and Sivaji Ganesan " , adding that the " transition from Sivaji panting and TMS taking over is seamless " .

Track list

All lyrics written by Vaali .

= = Release and reception = =

Uyarntha Manithan was released on 29 November 1968 . It earned positive critical feedback and went on to become a commercial success , completing a theatrical run of 125 days . The 125th day commemorative celebrations were held in the presence of C. N. Annadurai , the then Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu . This was also the last function which Annadurai attended before his death .

G. Dhananjayan appreciated the performances of the cast and the quality of Javar Seetharaman 's dialogues , calling them " crispy " . On Ganesan 's performance , *Ananda Vikatan* , wrote in its 1968 review of the film : " Can anyone show both hate and love at the same time ? Sivaji proves that he can ! No more than words of ' natural acting ' is enough for Sivaji " . The magazine praised the film

by stating that it " attracts our hearts " .

Baradwaj Rangan of The Hindu , when asked by an anonymous person how someone like Sivaji Ganesan can be called a great actor , replied , " Watch Uyarndha Manidhan [sic] and Motor Sundaram Pillai , and let ? s continue this conversation . " Historian and columnist Randor Guy labelled Major Sundarrajan 's performance in the film , along with his role in Gnana Oli (1972) , as " memorable " .

= = = Awards = = =

The National Film Award for Best Female Playback Singer was introduced in 1968 . Since Susheela won the first award for her rendition of " Paal Polave " , Uyarndha Manithan became the first Tamil film to win a National Film Award under the Best Female Playback Singer category . It was also Ganesan 's first film to win a Tamil Nadu State Film Award .

= = Cancelled remake = =

After the success of Uyarndha Manithan , AVM Productions was keen to remake it in Hindi and approached Dilip Kumar . After watching the film , Kumar was hesitant to play the lead role as he felt he would not match Ganesan 's performance in the original version . K. Balachander was signed up to be the director of the remake , which led to Kumar being initially convinced that he could be successful .

After a fortnight , Kumar met Balachander in Chennai and watched Uyarndha Manithan again for a second time to study his character . This time , however , Kumar hesitated to portray Ganesan 's role and requested Balachander to direct the remake of Babu (1971) . Balachander showed concern with Kumar 's change of heart and refused the offer , leading to both the remakes of Uyarndha Manithan and Babu being shelved .

= = Legacy = =

The song " Andha Naal Gnaabagam " was considered one of the most memorable songs written by Vaali that featured in a Sivaji Ganesan film . Rediff ranked it alongside " Madhavi Pon Mayilaal " from Iru Malargal (1967) and " Potri Paadadi Penne " from Thevar Magan (1992) .

Susheela chose " Paal Polave " along with " Unnai Ondru Ketpen " and " Paartha Gnaabagam Illaiyo " as her favourite songs that she had recorded . Singer Swarnalatha , who made her debut with the song " Chinnanchiru Kiliye " from Neethikku Thandanai (1987) , was chosen to sing the song by M. S. Viswanathan after he was impressed with her rendition of " Paal Polave " , which he had asked her to sing during the song 's audition . The song was rendered twice by the contestants of the fourth season of the Star Vijay reality show Airtel Super Singer , and once each by the contestants of the second and third season of its junior version , Airtel Super Singer Junior .

Ganesan 's biographer T. S. Narayanswami included Uyarndha Manithan in his list of Ganesan 's " all @-@ time greats " . In March 2009 , Sharadha Narayanan of The New Indian Express rated Sundarrajan 's performance in the film among his other noted films in which he featured like Vennira Aadai (1965) , Major Chandrakanth (1966) and Gnana Oli . In her review of the 2011 film Seedan , Malathi Rangarajan of The Hindu said that the premise of the film was " on the lines of Sivaji Ganesan 's poignant Uyarndha Manidhan [sic] " . Uyarndha Manithan was included with other Sivaji Ganesan @-@ starrers in the compilation DVD 8th Ulaga Adhisayam Sivaji , featuring Ganesan 's " iconic performances in the form of scenes , songs and stunts " . It was released in May 2012 .

= = Explanatory notes = =