

= Pelli Chesi Choodu =

Pelli Chesi Choodu (English : Try to conduct a marriage) is a 1952 Indian bilingual satirical comedy film directed by L. V. Prasad and produced by B. Nagi Reddy and Aluri Chakrapani under their company Vijaya Vauhini Studios . The film was made simultaneously in Telugu and Tamil with the title Kalyanam Panni Paar . It features N. T. Rama Rao , Garikapati Varalakshmi , Yandamuri Joga Rao and Savitri in the lead roles . S. V. Ranga Rao , Dr. Sivarama Krishnayya , Doraswamy and Suryakantham are seen in supporting roles in the Telugu version while C. V. V. Panthulu replaced Krishnayya in the Tamil version .

Pelli Chesi Choodu deals with the negative effects of the dowry system in India through the marital life of Venkata Ramana (Rama Rao) and Ammadu (Varalakshmi) . The film 's production began after the release of Vijaya Vauhini Studios ' Pathala Bhairavi (1951) . Marcus Bartley was recruited as the cinematographer and the film was edited by C. P. Jambulingam and M. S. Money . Ghantasala composed the film 's music .

Pelli Chesi Choodu was released on 19 February 1952 while Kalyanam Panni Paar was released 100 days later . Both versions were commercially successful and achieved cult status . Pelli Chesi Choodu was remade in Kannada as Maduve Madi Nodu (1965) by Vijaya Vauhini Studios and in Hindi as Shaadi Ke Baad (1972) by Prasad . While the Kannada version was commercially successful , the Hindi version was a commercial failure .

= = Plot = =

Rathamma lives in a village with her sons Raja and Kundu , and her daughter Ammadu . Raja is a teacher and a theatre enthusiast . Along with Kundu and a group of fellow actors , Raja performs plays in a local theatre during his free time . Raja 's maternal uncle Govindayya , a pleader , wants him to marry his daughter Chitti , who is in a relationship with a bodybuilder named Bheemudu . Raja rejects the proposal and Govindayya offers to find a suitable bridegroom for Ammadu if Raja marries Chitti . Raja rejects the proposal and with Kundu he sets out to find a suitable bridegroom for Ammadu .

In a distant village , Raja and Kundu meet Dhoopati Viyyanna , a zamindar (aristocrat) and the president of the panchayat . Viyyanna is a complex character of declining fortunes and generous spirit who believes in respecting his guests . Raju and Viyyanna 's daughter Savitri fall in love and their wedding is quickly arranged . Viyyanna also finds a bridegroom named Venkata Ramana , a pleader living in Madras (now Chennai) , for Ammadu . Ramana 's father , Venkatapathy , demands a large dowry , which Viyyanna promises to pay .

At the marriage venue , Govindayya plots revenge by inciting Venkatapathy to insist on the dowry being paid before the marriage . Viyyanna issues a promisory note ; Venkatapathy rejects it and drags Ramana from the marriage hall . However , Ramana leaves for Madras and lives there with Ammadu . When Venkatapathy arrives , Ramana feigns mental illness while Ammadu and Raja pretend to be a nurse and a doctor . Ammadu endears herself to Venkatapathy by showing interest in his recitals of the puranas .

Ramana ' recovers ' from the mental illness and Ammadu , who has been pregnant , gives birth to their son , causing a fresh round of gossip in the village . Govindayya tries to take advantage of this and after numerous failed attempts , he persuades Venkatapathy to conduct Ramana 's marriage with Chitti . Viyyanna considers this to be an insult and conducts the marriage of Chitti and Bheemudu at his residence . Govindayya and his wife Chukkamma refuse to acknowledge the marriage .

When Venkatapathy asks Ramana to marry Chitti , he refuses and foregoes the wealth he is entitled to inherit in exchange for Ammadu and their newborn son . Govindayya asks Venkatapathy to marry Chitti and Chukkamma protests , reuniting Chitti and Bheemudu . A helpless Govindayya is confronted by Viyyanna , who threatens to use his influence as a president of the panchayat to have him arrested if he does not reform himself . Govindayya begs pardon and flees with his family . The film ends with everyone present in Ramana 's house , laughing maniacally .

= = Cast = =

= = Production = =

After producing Shavukar (1950) and Pathala Bhairavi (1951) , B. Nagi Reddy and Aluri Chakrapani announced a film titled Pelli Chesi Choodu , which would be directed by L. V. Prasad and financed by their company Vijaya Vauhini Studios . Pelli Chesi Choodu was made as a bilingual film ; it was shot simultaneously in Telugu and Tamil , with the Tamil version titled Kalyanam Panni Paar , the first Tamil film directed by Prasad . Chakrapani wrote the film 's script , which was based on the negative effects of the dowry system in India . Marcus Bartley was recruited as the cinematographer and the film was edited by C. P. Jambulingam and M. S. Money . Madhavapeddi Gokhale and Kaladhar were the film 's art directors , and the music score was composed by Ghantasala . Chalapathi Rao and Jagannadham were the production executives . Pasumarthi Krishnamurthy choreographed the song sequences . Tatineni Prakash Rao worked as an assistant director under Prasad ; Rao directed Palletooru (1952) during the post @-@ production phase of Pelli Chesi Choodu .

N. T. Rama Rao and Garikapati Varalakshmi were chosen as one of the leading pairs of actors . During the songs ' shoot , Ghantasala taught Rama Rao to play harmonium and gave him a few music lessons so he would look believable in the film . Yandamuri Jogarao and Savitri , who had played minor roles in Shavukar and Pathala Bhairavi , were chosen as the other leading pair . In playing the role of the zamindar , S. V. Ranga Rao exhibited a strange body language , inspired by a stranger he had observed at a railway station . Dr. Sivarama Krishnayya and C.V.V. Panthulu played the role of Rama Rao 's father in the Telugu and Tamil versions . Padmanabham played two roles ; a postman and Ranga Rao 's friend .

The child artists in the film were members of Nyapathi Raghavarao 's ' Balanandam ' troupe . They were trained by Gnapadi Kameshwara Rao , whose nephew Gade Balakrishna " Kundu " Rao played a key role in the film 's Telugu and Tamil versions . Vijaya Vauhini Studios hired actors on a monthly salaried basis for this film ; one of these was M. Mallikarjuna Rao , who later directed films Prameelarjuneeyam (1965) , Muhurtha Balam (1969) , and Gudachari 116 (1976) . Differences between Chakrapani and Varalakshmi occurred during the last stage of principal photography . Chakrapani wanted to replace Varalakshmi with Anjali Devi and reshoot the entire film . However , Devi mediated between them and resolved the differences . Mohan Kanda , who later became the Chief Secretary of Andhra Pradesh before its bifurcation , also appeared in the film as a child artist .

Differences between Rama Rao and Varalakshmi due to the latter 's tantrums , also occurred . When Varalakshmi refused to touch Rama Rao 's feet in the scene in which his father drags him from the marriage hall , Prasad asked Nagi Reddy 's son B. L. N. Prasad ? the second assistant cameraman working under Bartley ? to wear a dhoti and stand before her . Chakrapani liked a scene in a play in which a group of police officers in ascending hierarchy , each junior gave up his chair for the senior ; he used the same idea in Savitri 's marriage sequences in the film . Similarly , Prasad incorporated part of a stage play enacted by children into the film , which Nagi Reddy 's son Venkatarami Reddy was a part of . Prasad also made a cameo appearance in the film .

= = Music = =

The official soundtracks of Pelli Chesi Choodu and Kalyanam Panni Paar were composed by Ghantasala . The sound mixing process was supervised by A. Krishnan and Siva Ram . The soundtrack was processed by N. C. Sen Gupta and was orchestrated by Master Venu . This was Ghantasala 's third film as a music director under his five @-@ film contract with Vijaya Vauhini Studios . Utkuri Satyanarayana wrote the lyrics for " Amma Noppule " and " Brahmayya O Brahmayya " , while Pingali Nagendrarao wrote the lyrics for the other fifteen songs . Four of the songs featured the child artists .

The song " Pelli Chesukoni " was composed using the Kalyani raga . Ghantasala recorded the songs " Manasa Nenevaro Neeku Thelusa " and " Yedukondalavada Venkataramana " first with Jikki . He was not satisfied and recorded them again with P. Leela ; the soundtrack 's gramophone records featured both versions . The soundtrack was released in December 1952 under the Saregama music label . It was a critical and commercial success , Ashish Rajadhyaksha and Paul Willemen , in their book Encyclopaedia of Indian Cinema , termed the songs " Amma Nopule " and " Pelli Chesukoni " as " especially popular " .

Track listing

= = Release , reception and legacy = =

Pelli Chesi Choodu had its theatrical release on 19 February 1952 , 100 days before to that of Kalyanam Panni Paar . Both versions were released with a final reel length of 5 @,@ 243 metres (17 @,@ 201 ft) and were given a " U " (Universal) certificate by the Central Board of Film Certification with a run time of 156 minutes . Both versions were commercially successful ; the Telugu version completing a 100 @-@ day run in 11 centres , and the Tamil version completed a 100 @-@ day run in many centres . The Telugu version completed a 182 @-@ day run at Durga Kala Mandiram , Vijayawada , where celebrations marking the film 's success were held . Rama Rao and Varalakshmi did not attend the event because of the differences between them .

Reviewing the film , M. L. Narasimham of The Hindu called Pelli Chesi Choodu a " text @-@ book for filmmakers " on " how to make a clean and wholesome entertainer on a burning issue without resorting to slogan @-@ mongering , and yet driving home the point in a subtle manner " . Narasimham also said the actors " deserved full marks for excellent performance " in the film . In his book Alanati Chalana Chitram , K. N. T. Sastry wrote that Pelli Chesi Choodu is an ensemble comedy that " abounds in intrigues and disguises gearing to the making and breaking of marriage alliances " .

According to the film historian Randor Guy , Pelli Chesi Choodu was the first in a series of satirical comedies directed by Prasad and produced by Vijaya Vauhini Studios . Guy said the film 's box office performance made Prasad famous in both Telugu and Tamil cinema . After Pelli Chesi Choodu , Prasad and Vijaya Vauhini Studios collaborated on Missamma (1955) and Appu Chesi Pappu Koodu (1959) . All three films were profitable ventures and achieved cult status in Telugu cinema . Pelli Chesi Choodu is considered as one of the acclaimed films in the careers of Prasad and Varalakshmi . Relangi Narasimha Rao 's 1988 Telugu film , which was also about the negative effects of dowry system in India , was titled Pelli Chesi Choodu . Pelli Chesi Choodu was also used as the title of a 2014 theatrical play staged by Sri Sai Arts , which won a Nandi Award .

= = Remakes and colourisation plans = =

Vijaya Vauhini Studios remade the film in Kannada as Maduve Madi Nodu (1965) . It was directed by Hunsur Krishnamurthy and features Rajkumar and Leelavathi in the lead roles . Maduve Madi Nodu was a profitable venture . Prasad remade the film in Hindi as Shaadi Ke Baad (1972) , in which Jeetendra , Rakhee and Shatrughan Sinha reprised the roles played by Rama Rao , Varalakshmi and Ranga Rao in the original . Shaadi Ke Baad underperformed at the box office .

In late November 2007 , a Hyderabad @-@ based company named Goldstone Technologies acquired the film negative rights to 14 Telugu films produced by Vijaya Vauhini Studios , including Mayabazar (1957) and Pelli Chesi Choodu , to release digitally re @-@ mastered versions in colour . The remastered and colourised version of Mayabazar was released in January 2010 and performed well in theatres , but Goldstone Technologies decided not to remaster the remaining 14 films , including Pelli Chesi Choodu ; the company said most of the producers who sold the rights of the negatives to television channels lost control over them . Goldstone added that there were many legal issues over ownership and copyright whenever other producers tried to do something on their own .