



**NIKHIL NR**  
LEAD GUITAR, CHAOS



# BUILT OF TITANIUM

**That is how the mighty Metal Hammer magazine recently described his bone-crushing riffs. In just over a decade, Nikhil, as the axe wielder for 'Chaos', one of India's premier thrash metal bands, has carved a niche for himself.**

**The band's debut album 'Violent Redemption' and the second album 'All Against All' showcases his guitaring prowess with intricately crafted solos and rhythm patterns.**





A photograph of a musician performing on stage. The scene is bathed in intense red light, creating a high-contrast, dramatic atmosphere. The musician, a man with a beard, is seen from the chest up, wearing a dark t-shirt with the word "WANTED" printed in large, bold, white letters. He is holding a guitar, and his right hand is positioned on the strings. A microphone on a stand is visible in the foreground, partially obscuring the lower part of his face. The background is a bright, glowing red light source, possibly a stage light or a large screen, which casts a strong glow over the entire scene. The overall mood is energetic and intense.

**No wonder that the album won much acclaim with the critics as well as the lay listener, and went on to win major awards including**

**BEST METAL ACT (Jury's choice and public choice) at the Radio City Freedom Awards**

**BEST METAL ACT NOMINATIONS at the VH1 SOUND NATION AWARDS and JACK DANIELS ROCK AWARDS.**



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N.R.



# DC CORRESPONDENT

It was the last evening of the Onam festivities. On the streets of Thiruvananthapuram, people walked around, like every year, watching the last lights go off and buying heart-shaped balloons for tired children. A few stopped outside the Central Stadium, where hundreds of music lovers, waiting for the show to signal the grand finale to Onam.

Like every rock show, standing in front of the stage were hardcore music lovers waiting to bang their heads to the first music. A voice boomed out instructions — no crowd in front, all had to be seated on chairs and watch the show. The instructions sounded a lot like the commands being issued to the people of Kerala in the past few

months. DJ parties have stopped, bars are closing, and passers-by are taking on the role of moral police. In little ways, a hand of control has come to shield your eyes and shield you away from what is believed to be bad. But do the grown-ups who believe they know this right, enjoy this bit of control? Let's go back to that rock show.

Months ago, a local guitarist of among the crowd asked to sit down, a person who's usually on stage, especially comes to this for it's an absolute privilege for the musician who is the major reason to be in a position where he's playing what he's playing. They should use that music in a million ways. In a million ways, music is being played by musicians and if they're all in connect on a dit and they're all in connect on a dit.

In that crowd, Sobha Ashwin, a pioneer and parading if there's no space for her. While she's strong, good move to be in control on liquor, believe in a control. Thiruvananthapuram, finally changing ways, becoming a better place. But now, come to a stage where they have the right to have



Manju and Divya Dile

Chaos will be performing live at Purple Lounge pub at Thiruvananthapuram on May 4, as part of Trendkill Fest



## CHAOTIC EVENING AHEAD

Chaos had released their debut album 'Violent Redemption', in thrash metal genre, garnering positive feedback from all over

### DEEPA SOMAN

How enjoyable is music born out of Chaos? To check that out, watch the capital-based metal band, Chaos, performing live at Purple Lounge pub at Thiruvananthapuram on May 4, as part of Trendkill Fest.

Chaos has Nikhil Jayakrishnan as the vocalist, Vishnu on the bass and Rohit on drums.

born at a college campus of Thiruvananthapuram in 2006, has Nikhil on guitar, Jayakrishnan as the vocalist, Vishnu on the bass and Rohit on drums.

The band is also excited about the performance, its debut at Purple Lounge. "Entertaining the audience at Thiruvananthapuram is a special feeling in itself as they have always been loyal to us. There are many who always show up without fail and also give us their valuable feedback," says Nikhil.

All Against All will be about things that separate us from man — race, religion, political divides.

socio-political issues. For their second album, they have sung against everything that separates man from man — racism, religion, god, political divides. "You read the paper and hear stories, there are incidents we know personally," JK says. They have tried to sound faster and heavier than in the first album, he says. The line-up changed too. Manu who once performed with them came back on bassist.

The studio was better too; in four days they have finished 11 songs. "Our friend Clifford's studio," Nikhil says. Friends also came forward to pledge amounts to contribute for the second album.

Their first album had to be done with hunk bars. "Some good minded friends in our close circle funded this time," he says. JK thanks the people who have supported them all these years and received Violent Redemption so well. Two music videos will also be made for All Against All. The album itself will be ready for release later this year.



## MADE OF DESTRUCTION

DECCAN CHRONICLE

"Everywhere," says one, "because of Karthik."

each other's dishes, then working living from the drums, and Vishnu is the

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The th metal Chaos about t journey as they prepare release t second a — All Aga All



A photograph of a man with a beard and mustache, identified as Nikhil, playing an electric guitar on a stage. He is wearing a black t-shirt with a graphic design. The guitar has a white pickguard and a black body. In the background, there are stage lights and a large stack of amplifiers, including a Dimebag Darrell amp. The text is overlaid in a red, bold, sans-serif font.

**NIKHIL'S STYLE OF PLAYING  
HAS OFTEN BEEN COMPARED  
TO THAT OF HIS IDOL,  
DIMEBAG DARREL.**



# VIDEOS



**Currently, he is  
working with Chaos on  
their third album.**







# Associated Acts

Chaos

Bajaaow

Lucidreams

Blue Frog All Stars



# Releases

A musician with a beard is seen from behind, playing a guitar on a stage. The background is filled with vibrant purple and blue stage lights, creating a moody atmosphere. The musician's silhouette is dark against the bright, colorful backdrop.

## Chaos

Violent Redemption (2013)

All Against All (2016)

## Movies

M.S. Dhoni: *The Untold Story* [Parwah Nahin] [Hindi] (2016)

S Durga [3 Tracks] [Malayalam] (2017) [Special Mention for the music at Valencia International Film Festival - Cinema Jove]

## Other

Mindfield - *Dissonance* [2017]





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