

The second half began with Argentina maintaining their dominance, but the match took a dramatic turn in the final minutes of regulation time. In an astonishing two-minute span, Mbappé single-handedly revived France's hopes. First, he converted a penalty in the 80th minute after a foul on Randal Kolo Muani, then followed it up just 97 seconds later with a spectacular volley that left Argentine goalkeeper Emiliano Martinez no chance. The stadium erupted as the match was suddenly level at 2-2, forcing the game into extra time.

The additional 30 minutes of play only intensified the drama. Messi appeared to have won it for Argentina in the 108th minute when he pounced on a rebound to put his team ahead once more. But Mbappé, demonstrating why he's considered Messi's heir apparent, completed his hat-trick with another penalty in the 118th minute, becoming only the second player in history to score three goals in a World Cup final. With the score tied at 3-3 after 120 minutes of breathtaking football, the match went to a penalty shootout.