

MOVIE REVIEW

'Indian 2'



Director: Shankar
Cast: Kamal Haasan, Siddharth, Vivekh, Jagan, Priya Bhavani Shankar, Samuthirakani

STORY: The basic idea of combating injustice is carried through in 'Indian 2,' the sequel while maintaining the excitement of the first film. The plot continues where 'Indian' left off, with Senapati—a former independence fighter who is now a vigilante—returning from Hong Kong to fight the nation's pervasive corruption. Motivated by popular demand, Senapati makes a comeback to fight for justice, allying with a young guy who uses internet videos to expose dishonest politicians. The story follows Senapati when he teams up with Rakul Preet Singh's character Chitra Aravindhan, who is assiduously uncovering corruption on the internet.

REVIEW: A very worthless and repulsive film. Kamal exhibited no acting at all! He simply arrived, as if he were in BiggBoss, spoke, and left. It appears that he is already retired and is not in the mood to put himself under pressure; he simply shows up as a guest, speaks his lines, and leaves.

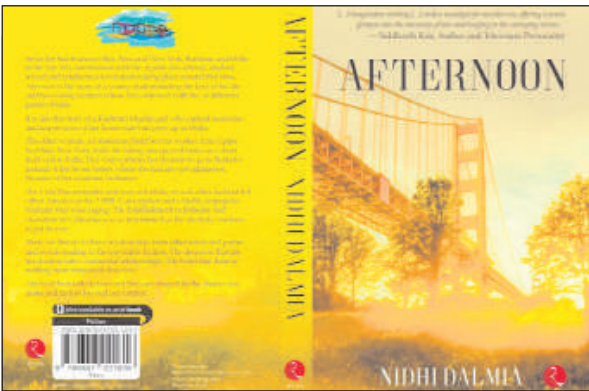
The choreography for the THATHA VARARU song was the WORST; it resembled the simple hand and leg movements of schoolchildren. It's unbelievable that Shankar paid so much for crew, paint, and sets only to perform those ridiculous dances. The entire film is set in the past, with many hilarious situations, particularly the ones when the bad guys jump like horses and escape.

It's unbelievable that three different people wrote the dialogue for this film, which has no dialogue at all.

In-depth Analysis				
Our overall critic's rating is not an average of the sub scores below.				
Direction	■	■	■	3/5
Dialogues	■	■	■	3/5
Story	■	■	■	3/5
MUSIC	■	■	■	3/5
Visual appeal	■	■	■	3/5

BOOK REVIEW

Afternoon



Title: 'Afternoon'
Author: Nidhi Dalmia
Genre: Fiction
Publisher: Rupa Publications India
Pages: 240
Price: Rs 449

Review:After writing his debut novel 'Harp' in 2016, entrepreneur-author Nidhi Dalmia is back with his second novel 'Afternoon' this year.

'Afternoon' is set in San Francisco Bay Area and New York, Delhi and Kashmir in the 1960s. It follows the story of a young student and two women, whose relationships with him evolve over many years, as he finds the love of his life. One of the women is a Kashmiri Muslim who is brought up in Delhi, but the memories of her home state stay with her. The other woman is an American Field Service worker from New York, whose life changes after a short visit to India. It is during this India visit, that she decides to go to Berkley instead of the North East in India for her further studies. Meanwhile, the major political events of the 1960s end up affecting their lives in unexpected ways. Will their relationship survive the threats from other events and interested parties?

The narrative weaves the characters in the backdrop of major transformative intellectual, cultural, sexual, and student revolutions of the 1960s. But at the core of it, this is a beautiful story about love. It also makes one wonder how our life is shaped and moulded with the choices we make and the forces that are beyond our control.

Salman Khurshid, author and former Minister of External Affairs, called it, "Refreshing, vivid account of the protagonist growing up in New Delhi in the swinging 60s and travelling to the US, exploring human relations unselfconsciously. Great nostalgia for the 60s generations of young Indians and Americans."

GADGET REVIEW

Xiaomi 14 Civi



Expected Price	Rs 42,999
Display	6.55-inch
Resolution	(1236x2750)
Front Camera	32MP + 32MP
Rear Camera	50MP + 50MP + 12MP
RAM	8GB, 12GB
Storage	256GB, 512GB
Battery Capacity	4700mAh
OS	Android 14
Skin	HyperOS
Wi-Fi	Yes
GPS	Yes
Bluetooth	Yes
NFC	Yes
USB Type-C	Yes
Face unlock	Yes
Fingerprint Sensor	Yes
Magnetometer	Yes
Proximity sensor	Yes
Accelerometer	Yes

Pros	Cons
* Stylish design.	* Lack of Water and Dust Resistance.
* Incredible in-hand feel.	* Absence of Headphone Jack.
* Blazing fast performance.	
* High-Quality AMOLED Display.	
* Versatile Camera.	
* Large Battery and Fast Charging.	

VEHICLE REVIEW

Jeep Meridian



Starting Price	Rs. 33.77 - 39.83 Lakh*
Fuel Type	Diesel
Engine Displacement	1956 cc
No. of Cylinders	4
Max Power	172.35bhp@3750rpm
Max Torque	350Nm@1750-2500rpm
Seating Capacity	7
Transmission Type	Automatic
Boot Space	170 Litres
Fuel Tank Capacity	60 Litres
Body Type	SUV
Front Suspension	McPherson Strut with Frequency Selective Damping, HRS with Anti Roll Bar Disc
Rear Suspension	Multi-Link with Strut Suspension with FSD
Front Brake Type	Disc
Rear Brake Type	Disc
Connectivity	Android Auto, Apple CarPlay
No. of Speakers	9
No. of Airbags	6

Pros	Cons
* Looks Premium.	* Narrow cabin width.
* Offers fantastic ride comfort.	* Noisy diesel engine.
* Loaded with premium features.	* Third row space not adequate for adults.

Health and Lifestyle

Know all about Biophilic Design Trends



Nature is in dire need of our help now, more than ever and it stands as our duty to protect this world from the dying remains of crisis. The green movement is one of the most essential things we need right now to identify how necessary biophilia is to connect with nature on a spiritual and emotional level. This includes recycling elements like wood, vegetable fibre, jute, sisal, hemp, stone, metal, terracotta, etc. Biophilic designs started due to the onset of humans trying to connect with nature, using their emotions to carve out intricate layers of designs. The designs are an ode to origins within nature. We have to also become more sensitive to the sourcing of our materials, the manufacturing process and the end design so that our interiors are more environmentally conscious, heartfelt, inspired by biophilia as a holistic approach to design.

What does it take to create an innovative approach

A combination of various natural materials, patterns, textures and colours within a space will be necessary to create an innovative, interesting and inspiring ambience, easy to maintain, and comfortable. Distinctive furniture, indoor planters, modern materials, organically shaped products, and a focus on adding a tactile, humane touch to our increasingly digital lives would soon be a priority for every designer. Upholstery in distinctive, natural fabrics like linen and silk, bamboo mats, and woven rugs can add an organic feeling of luxury and intimacy. A wide assortment of forms, along with a healthy dose of neutrals and wood, and bold highlight accessories can create an understated and graceful interior.

Planters of many kinds

A mix of modern aesthetic planters, and recycled household items like old ceramics and glass jars, can be upcycled to create an interesting plant space. Huge corner planters and tall planters are a calm and lively highlight, while smaller succulents and bonsai plants make the space look classy and delicate. Simple vases with fresh flowers, along with lamps, poufs, ottomans, benches, bean bags, coffee tables and artwork add a dreamier, charming, cozy and relaxing look.

Furniture and accessories

Furniture in natural materials, with accessories made in pottery, macramé, rattan and wicker add an effortless charm to space. Reclaimed furniture, designed with skilful use of lines, forms and artwork, paired with upcycled experimental accessories, in a combination of modern biosynthetic and recyclable materials, radiate an affable, ultra-modern vibe. Soft curves and solid, rounded, irregular shapes, along with sharper geometric shapes, expressed in furniture, pillows, prints, modern artwork, contemporary accessories and statement lighting, create indulgent and mesmerizing interiors.

Stunning wall visuals

Bold and dramatic, or soft and understated, or an eccentric mix of the two; the freshly coloured walls, ceilings and furniture immediately make the interiors look new and suave. Classic Blue, paired with earthy and neutral tones, highlighted with bolder shades like orange and terracotta create an elegant and artistic ambience.

Pastel and muted shades of pink, green and lilac give the space a hint of cheery pop and modern vintage glamour. Adding deep forest tones to the upcycled furniture create a fresh natural look. Nature-inspired motifs and vivid colours like mauve, black, purple and yellow in wallpapers, tiles and statement accessories create a vibrant interior.

Intricate and patterned detailing

Bringing in the decorative glory of maximalism with an understated expression, subtle metallic details in rose gold, copper, steel, tin and brass, with delicate surface finishing like patina, rust, mercury glass, give a raw and intimate textural feel to the décor. These details can be added in the form of discreet upholstery patterns, luminous metallic fabrics, lighting details, sleek furniture details, crockery, wall hangings and screens for a more dramatic space with an enhanced ornamental look. Sculptural style plants with architectural leaves and stems with patterned woven textile, artisanal accessories and imaginative sculptures can be used to create additional contrast and textural changes.

ASTROLOGY

WEEKLY PREDICTIONS 14TH – 20TH JULY 2024

<p>ARIES</p> <p>MAR 21 - APR 19</p>	<p>This week, nothing is stopping you. Mercury in your house of friendships conjoints Pluto in Aquarius. Someone you like and admire could tell you something that rocks your world. This might be a compliment or a suggestion, and you suddenly see what you need to let go of and what you can grab hold of. Today, you could have an epiphany.</p>	<p>LIBRA</p> <p>SEP 23 - OCT 22</p>	<p>This week, a prolonged difficulty finds a solution. Mercury in your house of romance and adventure conjoints Pluto in Aquarius. You might be ready to fall in love. Libra, you could meet someone you find truly dazzling, or you might pass someone on the street who sparks fanciful thoughts. You could be thinking about a person from your past.</p>
<p>TAURUS</p> <p>APR 20 - MAY 20</p>	<p>This week, you're receiving high marks. Mercury in your house of career conjoints Pluto in Aquarius. You're like a detective reconstructing a crime. Taurus, you might be doing some forensic analysis on a finished project to understand how your team could have done better. Or you might be interpreting something your supervisor said to give you more insight into the direction of the company.</p>	<p>SCORPIO</p> <p>OCT 23 - NOV 21</p>	<p>This week, you could rub elbows with greatness. Mercury in your house of dwellings conjoints Pluto in Aquarius. You're ready to make a change at home. You might be asking a roommate to leave. One of your kids might be coming home to live with you, or you could be opening your home to an elderly parent. You might think about moving to a very different type of dwelling.</p>
<p>GEMINI</p> <p>MAY 21 - JUN 20</p>	<p>This week, you know that when others zig, you can zag. Mercury in your house of beliefs and personal philosophy conjoints Pluto in Aquarius. Today, you could have an idea that is a true epiphany. It might be a quote from an ancient Greek text or song lyrics from a boy band, but this information could rock your world. The pieces suddenly fall into place.</p>	<p>SAGITTARIUS</p> <p>NOV 22 - DEC 21</p>	<p>This week, you're getting on a better financial footing. Mercury in your house of communication conjoints Pluto in Aquarius. Sagittarius, you might decide that you want to communicate differently. That might mean you're going to find a tutor to help you work on your Norwegian. Or you might find a writing coach to help you craft your novel. Or you could use biofeedback to examine your inner thoughts.</p>
<p>CANCER</p> <p>JUN 21 - JUL 22</p>	<p>This week, you might glimpse the long-term future. Mercury in your house of credit and investment conjoints Pluto in Aquarius. Today, you're thinking like a hedge fund manager. Cancer, you might be analyzing different types of investments, insurance policies, annuities, or some other financial instruments. Today, you could talk to a banker about getting a loan or the SBA about funding your venture.</p>	<p>CAPRICORN</p> <p>DEC 22 - JAN 19</p>	<p>This week, you're filled with interesting ideas. Mercury in your house of money conjoints Pluto in Aquarius. Capricorn, you might have a million-dollar idea. This could be something that has been brewing for a while, but an important piece of the puzzle comes into view today. While this still requires some thought, and the actual implementation of the plans could unfold over many months, the blueprints are coming.</p>
<p>LEO</p> <p>JUL 23 - AUG 22</p>	<p>This week, you have several interesting opportunities. Mercury in your house of relationships conjoints Pluto in Aquarius. Today, you might feel like you need to defend your views, Leo. You could face challenges from every person you talk to. As you try to be more precise, others seem to misunderstand you or turn your words around. Unless you're on stage giving an inspirational speech, don't expect any applause.</p>	<p>AQUARIUS</p> <p>JAN 20 - FEB 18</p>	<p>This week, you are commanding attention. Mercury in your house of confidence conjoints Pluto in your own sign of Aquarius. Aquarius, your charisma is strong, and you stand out from the crowd. You might get compliments on your great jacket or new tattoo, but there's more to it than that. There is an inner light shining within you now. This is a good time to take the stage.</p>
<p>VIRGO</p>	<p>This week, an important relationship makes headway. Virgo, you are always on the lookout for a good routine, and along comes a productivity hack that could be a game changer for you. It's like a lightbulb has turned on and chased the darkness away. As you change your daily life, your future changes. Love has you making choices today.</p>	<p>PISCES</p>	<p>This week, you make a powerful connection. You need to go with the flow more than ever. Mars squares the Nodes, Mercury trines Uranus, and Venus trines Jupiter. You might have a big financial decision to make, and it could be tough to get clear information. Pisces, it might feel like you're stepping off a ledge onto an invisible bridge.</p>