

AT THE 61ST IDEA FILMFARE AWARDS (SOUTH) VETERANS STOLE THE SHOW, BAGGING SOME OF THE MAJOR AWARDS

## STARS OF THE SEASON



**SHOW STOPPERS:** 1 Performers dazzle at the awards ceremony  
2 (L to R) Actor Anjali, Saira with husband AR Rahman  
3 Actor Dhanush with wife Aishwarya



TIMES NEWS NETWORK

With the Idea Filmfare Awards (South) in its 61st year, it was only apt that veterans steal the show. Whether it was show-stopper chief guest Rekha or actor Kamal Haasan, Oscar winner AR Rahman or 59-year-old Satyaraj — this year it was the turn for seasoned artists to grab the spotlight.

When the nominees for Best Music Director (Tamil) were announced, the audience began screaming and whistling for AR Rahman even before the other names were read out, until presenter Khushbu asked the audience to announce the winner. As the auditorium screamed "AR Rahman", he went on stage to pick up his 29th Filmfare Award. Rahman thanked Mani Ratnam for a making a beautiful movie ('Kadal'), ending his speech with the words that went viral when he won the Oscar in 2009. "Ella Pugazhum Iraivanukke (all glory to God)," said Rahman, as the audience went ecstatic.

At the ceremony held on Saturday at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, the veterans clearly knew how to get the audience going. "Ennama Kanungala," said Satyaraj, beginning his speech with his famous movie line. "I won the Filmfare Award 26 years ago for the movie 'Vedam Pudhithu' and this is my second. It takes a lot for a director to make a commercial actor pull off a character role and Atlee Kumar did that in 'Raja Rani'. I thank him for this award," said Satyaraj.

In Tamil, "Thanga Meengal" was adjudged best film. 'Paradesi' won Adharva the award for best actor (male) and Bala best director. Nayantara netted Best Actress (female) for 'Raja Rani'.

Padma Shri Award winner and six-time National Award winning singer Chitra won her sixth Filmfare award for Best Playback Singer (female) for the Telugu song 'Seethamma Vakitto Sirmalle Chettu', while Vijay Yesudas won Best Playback Singer (male) for the Malayalam movie 'Memories', his third Filmfare award.

Among the veterans was a first-timer on stage who earned a standing ovation — Ahileshwari, Balu Mahendra's wife, who accepted the Lifetime Achievement Award on behalf of her late husband. "All through my husband's life, I have attended award ceremonies, but never have I gone on stage. I was nervous today but I was glad that it was my husband's friend Kamal Haasan who presented the award to me. It was comforting," she said.

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## IDEA FILMFARE AWARDS 2013

BEST ACTRESS  
FEMALE |  
Nayantara  
(Raja Rani)

## TAMIL

BEST CINEMATOGRAPHER |  
Rajiv Menon (Kadal)



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT (posthumous) |  
Balu Mahendra



BEST DEBUT MALE |  
Nivin Pauly (Neram)  
Gautham Karthik (Kadal)

BEST DIRECTOR | Bala (Paradesi)

BEST ACTOR MALE | Adharva (Paradesi)

BEST DEBUT FEMALE | Nazriya (Neram)

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR MALE | Satyaraj (Raja Rani)

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR FEMALE | Dhanshika (Paradesi)

BEST MUSIC DIRECTOR | A R Rahman (Kadal)

BEST PLAYBACK SINGER FEMALE | Shakti Sree Gopalan - Nenjukulle (Kadal)

BEST LYRICS | Na Muthukumar - Ananda Yazhai (Thanga Meengal)

BEST SINGER MALE | Sriram Parthasarathy - Anada Yazhai (Thanga Meengal)

BEST FILM | Thanga Meengal

## TELUGU

BEST FILM | Attarintiki Daredi

BEST DIRECTOR | Trivikram Srinivas (Attarintiki Daredi)

BEST ACTOR MALE | Mahesh Babu (Seethamma Vakitto Sirmalle Chettu)

BEST ACTRESS FEMALE | Nithya Menen (Gunde Jaari Gallanthayyinde)

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR MALE | Sunil (Tadakha)

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS FEMALE | Lakshmi Manchu (Gundello Godari)

BEST MUSIC DIRECTOR | Devi Sri Prasad (Attarintiki Daredi)

BEST PLAYBACK SINGER MALE | Kailash Kher - Pandagala Digivachavu (Mirchi)

BEST PLAYBACK SINGER FEMALE | Chitra (Seethamma Vaakitto Sirmalle Chettu)

## MALAYALAM

BEST FILM | Drishyam

BEST DIRECTOR | Shyamaprasad (Artist)

BEST ACTOR MALE | Fahad Fazil (North 24 Kadam)

BEST ACTRESS FEMALE | Ann Augustin (Artist)

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR MALE | Murali Gopi (Left Right Left)

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS FEMALE | Asha Sharath (Drishyam)

BEST MUSIC DIRECTOR | Jayachandran (Celluloio)

BEST PLAYBACK SINGER MALE | Vijay Yesudas - Thirayum theeravum (Memories)

BEST PLAYBACK SINGER FEMALE | Vaikom Vijayalakshmi - Ottake Paadunna (Nadan)

## KANNADA

BEST FILM | Mynaa

BEST ACTOR MALE | Prem Kumar (Charminar)

BEST ACTRESS FEMALE | Amulya (Shravani Subramanya)

BEST DIRECTOR | Pawan Kumar (Lucia)

BEST MUSIC DIRECTOR | Arjun Janya (Bhajarangi)

BEST SINGER MALE | Poorna Chandra Tejasvi - Thinbedakammi (Lucia)

BEST SINGER FEMALE | Sowmya Raoh - Karagida Baanalli (Simplag Ond Love Story)

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR MALE | Achyuth Kumar (Lucia)

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS FEMALE | Kalyani (Jayamma Maga)

## SIDELIGHT SPOTLIGHT

## DAD'S THE WAY

The artist dads were out in full force to support their children. While Kamal Haasan stayed on till the very end to make sure he did not miss his daughter Shruti's performance, actor Karthik took the front row seat to cheer on his son Gautham Karthik who bagged the award for best male debut actor in Tamil. "I've been where my son is now and I know what it feels like to win a Filmfare Award. That's why I wanted to make sure I was here to support my son," said Karthik.



## STYLE HIGH

While it's usually sarees that are the dress code at the South Filmfare awards, fashion took centre stage at the 61st Idea Filmfare Awards (South). While Shruti Haasan dazzled in a ruffled Gaurav Gupta beige and gold gown, Samantha went with a black and white Gauri and Nainika outfit and actor Vikram Prabhu looked dapper in his Gabbana Life. Chennai designer Chaitanya Rao seemed to be another favourite with hosts Chinmayee and Rahul Ravindran as well as Best Supporting Actress (Telugu) Lakshmi Manchu wearing outfits designed by him. Actor Ajmal too managed quite a bit of attention in his rather chic black suit with a red shirt. As for the designer, "Um... I just picked the design from an English magazine and gave it to my personal designer," says Ajmal.

## Thanga Meengal scores a hat-trick

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Eleven years in the industry; 36 movies last year alone, and 105 song lyrics to his credit in 2013, lyricist Na Muthukumar was bound to strike gold in terms of awards this year. First came the National Award in April and now the Filmfare for his song 'Ananda Yazhai' from the movie 'Thanga Meengal'. "It is one of my favourite songs," said Muthukumar.

After the three-award haul at the National Awards this year, the Thanga Meengal team was back at the 61st Idea Filmfare Awards (South) winning another three awards — one for best playback singer (male) and another for best film apart from Muthukumar's win. "And to think," says Rama, the movie's director, "after my first movie 'Kattradhu Thamizh', people branded me a "weird" director, who made only dark films. I wanted to change my genre," he added.

"Thanga Meengal", based on the bond between a father and a daughter, also had the director playing the lead because the producer felt that he understood the movie best. "I wrote the script with my daughter," says Rama.

J Sathish Kumar, the producer of the movie, said: "We've come up in more categories than we thought. The subject is close

## FILMFARE AWARDS

to my heart and so the award is more special."

While there were a number of big budget films in several categories, some of the big-on-emotion-small-on-budget movies such as 'Haridas' (based on a father-son relationship) and 'Thalai Muraigal' (based on a grandfather-grandson bond), managed to put up a fight for the awards.

In Kannada, 'Mynaa' was declared the best film, while Pawan Kumar won Best Director for 'Lucia'. "When I was young, I saw many great people holding this award but today it makes me feel special to be taking home one. Usually directors thank the audience for watching their movie but I am going to thank my audience for making this movie. 'Lucia' is the first crowd-funded feature film and I thank everyone who was a part of it," said Kumar.

The evening was livened by the hosts Chinmayee and her husband Rahul Ravindran. Veteran actor Rekha, who presented the lifetime achievement award (female) to Malayalam actor Jayabharathi, said, "When I wanted to become an actress, my mother asked me to learn a few things from actress Jayabharathi. I watched and learned a lot from her dignity and grace and am very happy to be the one presenting her the award for lifetime achievement."

**“ I WANTED TO COME HERE PERSONALLY AND RECEIVE THE AWARD BECAUSE THIS IS SUCH AN HONOUR. NOW I WILL FOCUS ON GETTING MY VISION BACK AS I AM VISUALLY IMPAIRED**

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