

# Herald Cafe

## Honouring father figures through cinema

On **Father's Day**, let's honour and celebrate the important role fathers play in a child's life. Over the years, world cinema has brought to life stories that have changed the portrayal of fathers, not just as stern authority figures, but as those who openly show their love

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**MARLIN – FINDING NEMO**

Marlin, the overprotective clownfish from 'Finding Nemo', represents every parent who's loved so fiercely that fear starts to guide them. After losing his wife and children in a tragic accident, Marlin becomes emotionally tethered to his only surviving son, Nemo. He hovers, questions, and even panics over the idea of letting Nemo swim beyond the reef. But the beauty of 'Finding Nemo' lies in Marlin's emotional evolution. As he embarks on an epic journey to rescue Nemo, he discovers not just courage, but the importance of trust, both in himself and his son. Along the way, he learns that parenting isn't about shielding a child from the world, but helping them face it. His reunion with Nemo is physical and an emotional closure. Marlin's love is unwavering, but his greatest gift is learning to let that love evolve into faith in his child's own strength.



**CHRIS GARDNER – THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS**

Chris Gardner, portrayed by Will Smith in 'The Pursuit of Happyness', is the embodiment of a father's relentless determination. Battling poverty, homelessness, and rejection, Chris never stops fighting for the future of his son, played by his real-life son, Jaden Smith. With every door that slams in his face, he clings tighter to hope and to his child's hand. His journey is painful: sleeping in shelters, enduring hunger, and facing a world that seems indifferent. Yet, he never lets his son see the full weight of that burden. Their bond becomes the emotional heartbeat of the story, rooted in quiet moments, bedtime stories, and steadfast love. When success finally comes, it's not just a career victory, it's a father's triumph over despair. Chris teaches us that even in the darkest hours, a father's love can be a guiding light. His story is not just about survival, but about the transformative power of devotion and hope.

### A GOOD FATHER FIGURE:

- Provides a stable and sound environment
- Is a supportive teacher
- Is trustworthy
- Is a good listener
- Sets guidelines
- Lives by example
- Is very caring and loving



**GUIDO – LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL**

Roberto Benigni's Guido, the heart of 'Life is Beautiful', redefines what it means to protect a child, not just physically, but emotionally. As he, a Jewish-Italian man and his young son are sent to a Nazi concentration camp, Guido faces horrors no parent should endure. Yet, rather than let fear break their bond, he transforms their bleak reality into an elaborate game. To shield his son from the trauma, Guido pretends the camp is a contest, with a tank as the grand prize. Through humour and imagination, he gives his son a world where innocence survives. His joy is a shield, a sacrifice, a father's final gift. Even in death, Guido's love echoes in his son's smile, the one thing the world could not take. This portrayal is a masterclass in emotional resilience, proving that even when stripped of everything, a father's love can remain, beautiful, selfless, and unforgettable.



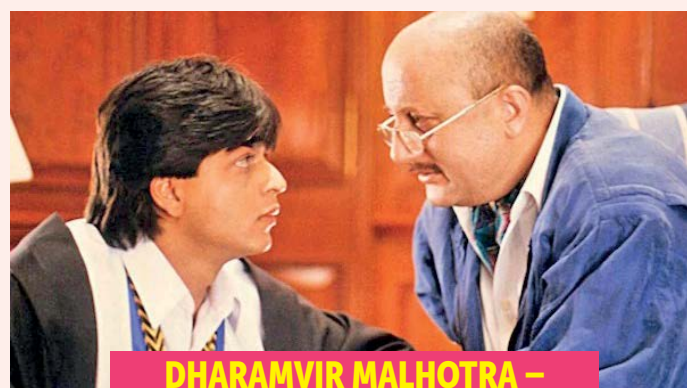
**MUFASA – THE LION KING**

Mufasa, the majestic lion from 'The Lion King', isn't just a ruler, he's the personification of fatherhood at its finest. With Simba, Mufasa is patient, authoritative, and deeply loving. He introduces his son to life's complexities not through fear, but through wisdom and emotional strength. When Simba disobeys, Mufasa doesn't resort to anger. Instead, he expresses his fear and concern by saying, "I was afraid I might lose you," a line that beautifully reflects a father's vulnerability. In one of the film's most moving scenes, Mufasa sacrifices his life to save Simba, showing that love often means putting one's child first, even at great cost. His legacy lives on in Simba's heart, reminding us that a father's lessons can transcend life itself. Mufasa teaches that strength lies not just in power, but in love, humility, and the courage to guide with tenderness instead of control.



**CHAMPAK BANSAL – ANGREZI MEDIUM**

In 'Angrezi Medium', Champak Bansal, played by Irrfan Khan, is a gentle shopkeeper from a small Indian town, but his heart carries the strength of giants. His love is pure, persistent, and profoundly moving. When his daughter Tarika dreams of studying in London, he faces challenge after challenge, legal hurdles, cultural shocks, and financial ruin. Yet, not once does he waver. Champak's love is neither loud nor flashy; it's the kind that quietly endures and sacrifices. His journey isn't just about crossing borders but breaking societal expectations to honour his daughter's dreams. He believes in her even when she doubts herself. Champak's story touches every parent who has dared to dream through their children. Through Irrfan Khan's heartfelt performance, one witnesses a bond that transcends geography, status, and even language, a father willing to trade everything just for a chance at his daughter's happiness.



**DHARAMVIR MALHOTRA – DILWALE DULHANIA LE JAYENGE**

In 'Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge', Anupam Kher's Dharamvir Malhotra stands apart in a film rich with dramatic traditions. While other parents in the film wield control, Dharamvir chooses a different path with laughter, encouragement, and open-mindedness. Living in London yet deeply connected to India, he bridges two worlds with ease and grace. For Raj (Shah Rukh Khan), his father is more than just a parent, he's a friend, a mentor, and a constant source of inspiration. Dharamvir encourages Raj to chase his dreams, travel the world, and fight for love with honour. His parenting isn't rigid; it's rooted in trust and light-hearted wisdom. In a film where patriarchal pressure often prevails, Dharamvir brings warmth and levity, reminding one that not all great fathers roar. His legacy is a reminder that support doesn't always need to be loud to be powerful.



**HOLY FAMILY SISTERS CELEBRATING 90 YEARS OF GRACE**



**'SATVIK VICHEARANCHI EK GANTHONN' RELEASED AT VELSÃO**

## LOVE, LOSS, AND A LIFE-ALTERING SECRET



**Tiatr: 'Dhuv Tuji Rogot Mhojem'**

**Cast:** Antonette de Maina, Jennifer, Ulhas Tari, Benzer, Vilber, Rosario de Benaullim, Peter de Arambol, Fiona, Nato, Agnelo, Joyel, Renzia  
**Director:** Comedian Rizton  
**Band:** Senon (trumpet), Alloy (second trumpet), Josh (bass), Arif (keyboards), Jack (drums)  
**Stage/Lights:** Anthony de Ambaji, Dinesh

**Pio Esteves**

Coming from a well-to-do family, Tara (Antonette de Maina) is in love with a peon of a panchayat, Chester (Benzer). They get along well with each other, but Tara's father Judas (Ulhas Tari) objects to such a relationship fearing that Chester may not be able to take care of his only daughter after marriage.

To break off the ties, Judas is willing to pay any amount to Chester, but the latter refuses to bow down. With no option in hand, Judas creates an untoward scene wherein Tara blindly accepts what her father has to say and she walks away from Chester.

Finally Tara ties the knot with Hugo (Vilber), the choice of her father, while Chester

unites with Maya (Jennifer), a simpleton by nature. Soon after marriage, both the women get pregnant and preparations are in full swing for the new arrival.

At the time of delivery, Tara finds herself in a special room for superior treatment, while Maya is in the general ward. Both deliver a girl child, but Tara loses her newborn soon after delivery. Maya also delivers, but passes away shortly after the arrival of the child.

The doctor informs Judas that Tara could face a nervous breakdown and go into a coma after knowing the death of her baby. Chester agrees to give his daughter into the care of Tara.

Maina supports as a daughter. Vilber plays his role well of the spouse.

Benzer and Jennifer look cool and simple together in dress code and body language. The latter plays a double role and there's a change of guard in the second half.

Rosario de Benaullim as the lawyer and Peter de Arambol as the doctor have extended good support to the main cast.

There's clean and decent comedy in this presentation by young comedians Rizton, Fiona, Renzia, Nato, Agnelo and Joyel. Agnelo and Nato entertain well with their challenges.

In the category of songs, Renzia rendered the opening song, followed by solos from Rosario de Benaullim, Peter de Arambol and comedian Agnelo. There are other songs by Jennifer and Renzia, Rosario de Benaullim and Peter de Arambol. Three songs, namely a solo from Francis de Tuem, Rizton, Joyel, Nato and Agnelo and Peter de Arambol, Benzer and Francis de Tuem receive encores. A duet went amiss in the presentation. The live band offstage led by Senon and musical team has extended good support to all the singers.

The stage sets are by Anthony de Ambaji and Dinesh has handled the lights effectively.

### Tiatr Review

#### 'DHUV TUJI ROGOT MHOJEM'

Over a period of time, what follows next in both the families is worth the watch during the second half of the drama.

Comedian Rizton's first drama 'Dhuv Tuji Rogot Mhojem' carries an interesting story, with a good flow and sleek direction. There are events unfolding in every scene and the happenings on stage keep the viewers glued to their seats.

Ulhas Tari stands tall as the father, while Antonette de

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