

'The Man Who Knew Infinity' Is The Best Tribute To Mathematician Genius Ramanujam's Real-Life Struggles



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If you loved Eddie Redmayne's Oscar-winning performance as Stephen Hawking in *The Theory Of Everything*, this one might give you déjà vu. It'll also remind you of *The Imitation Game*. Dev Patel who plays the role of Indian mathematician genius Srinivasa Ramanujam in *The Man Who Knew Infinity* is already catching the eye for his brilliant portrayal. Check it out in the film's trailer below.

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Try watching this video on www.youtube.com, or enable JavaScript if it is disabled in your browser.

The English-period film is set in pre-war 1914 and revolves around the life of ace mathematician Ramanujam. It's good to have *Slumdog Millionaire* actor Dev back on screens, playing the titular role of the self-taught man who despite facing poverty in Madras, goes on to become one of the greatest mathematical minds of the last century. His talent took him from his modest upbringing in India all the way to Trinity College at Cambridge, where he was mentored by G.W. Hardy, played by actor Jeremy Irons. He is a genius who can only explain that his propensity for solving problems and equations comes from God!



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The movie also features Devika Bhise, Stephen Fry, Arundhati Nag and Toby Jones. Devika and Dev had to put in a lot of research into preparing for their characters. From understanding the psyche of 20th century Tamil Brahmin man to fathoming his pain as he battled prejudice, the film tackles these issues sensitively. Besides the powerful bond between its leading men Dev and Jeremy, the film also takes us through Ramanujan's relationship with his wife Janaki who was a pillar of strength for him all along.

According to Indian-origin mathematician, Krishnaswami Alladi of the University of Florida said a film on Ramanujan's life was the need of the hour.

"There has always been great interest in Ramanujan's work in the academic world, especially the world of mathematics. Now with the movie, there is even greater attention on Ramanujan worldwide among the general public. His life and work should inspire the youth of today to pursue a subject passionately, for the love of it (be it science, poetry, or painting). One should not take up a field because it is fashionable or lucrative. If you pursue a subject in which you are passionately interested, then you will succeed and

make a fundamental contribution."



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The Man Who Knew Infinity is releasing in English and Tamil this weekend. The film had its world premiere at the 2015 Toronto International Film Festival and was selected as the opening film of the 2015 Zurich Film Festival. It was also played at other film festivals including Singapore International Film Festival and Dubai International Film Festival. Not worthy of missing definitely! Watch out, it might just walk away with some big honours this year.

(With inputs from IANS and TOI)