

**Embassy of India
Djibouti**

Press Release

2nd Indian Film Festival

The Embassy of India in Djibouti, in collaboration with the Institut Français de Djibouti (IFD), successfully organized the **2nd Indian Film Festival in Djibouti** on **23 July 2026** at the premises of the Institut Français de Djibouti.

2. As part of the festival, the iconic Bollywood classic movie **"Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge" (DDLJ)** was screened with **French subtitles**, enabling a wider audience to appreciate one of India's most celebrated cinematic masterpieces. The film, renowned for its timeless story of love, family values, and cultural traditions, has remained a landmark in Indian cinema and continues to captivate audiences across generations.

3. The guest of honour for the evening was Madam Khadija Ibrahim Idriss, Secretary Général at the Secretariat of State in Charge of sports, Djibouti and Mr. Osman Bouh Odowa, Technical Advisor to the Ministry of Youth & Culture, Djibouti. The event witnessed by more than 250 people including Djiboutian cinema enthusiasts and youths, members of the Indian diaspora, senior officials from the Government of Djibouti, members of the diplomatic corps, representatives of the expat community, friends of India in Djibouti, reflecting the growing cultural ties between India and Djibouti.

4. On this occasion, 150th anniversary of Vande Mataram was also observed with the mass singing of full version "*Vande Mataram*" song led by the Embassy officials at the event in order to honour the song's historic significance.

5. Ambassador H.E. M. Keivom, in his remarks highlighted the important role of cinema as a bridge between cultures and peoples. He noted that Indian films have long served as a powerful medium for showcasing India's rich cultural heritage, diversity, and universal values, fostering greater understanding and friendship among nations. He also expressed appreciation to the Institut Français de Djibouti for its continued partnership in promoting cultural exchanges between India and Djibouti.

6. The screening was warmly received by the full house of audience, who appreciated the opportunity to experience an iconic Indian film in a format accessible to French-speaking viewers. The enthusiastic participation of more than 250 guests reaffirmed the growing interest in Indian cinema and culture in Djibouti.

7. The Embassy of India remains committed to strengthening the longstanding friendship between India and Djibouti through cultural diplomacy and people-to-people exchanges. The Indian Film Festival forms part of the Embassy's broader efforts to promote India's vibrant artistic and cultural heritage and to deepen mutual understanding between the people of the two countries.




