

### **Phir Milenge**

Directed by Revathy Menon, an award-winning Indian actress turned director. Its central character is a successful career woman, Tamanna, who suddenly learns she is HIV-positive. The film touches on ignorance, fear, stigma, discrimination in the workplace and the use of the courts to right wrongs committed against those living with HIV.

### **My Brother Nikhil**

This is certainly one of the best movies about AIDS in Bollywood. Sanjay Suri a vastly under rated actor puts in a great performance as an AIDS victim who is deserted by his family and his girl friend. His only hope is his sister, great performance by Juhi Chawla, who stands by him through thick and thin. And this is one movie where Gays are not shown as belonging to Mars, but as normal human beings like you and me, and who also deserve a place in society. Though the end is tragic, the hope lies in the message it sends out to AIDS victims that there are people who care for you, and who are sensitive to your feelings.

### **AIDS Jaago: Beyond pamphlets and preaching**

#### **Migration – (18 minutes)**

Mira Nair's film, Migration, deals with AIDS as the great class leveler in society by following its transmission through interweaving stories linking urban and rural India. Shiney Ahuja plays a rural labourer who leaves his wife for work in Mumbai, where he gets mixed up in a dangerous triangle with a frustrated wife, performed by Sameera Reddy, and her closeted husband, played by Irfan Khan. Migration is one of four short dramatic films by cutting-edge Indian directors Mira Nair, Vishal Bhardwaj, Santosh Sivan and Farhan Akhtar that aim to dismantle myths and misconceptions about HIV/AIDS.

#### **Blood Brothers – (18 minutes)**

Blood Brothers is directed by award-winning new wave director Vishal Bhardwaj (Omkaara) and stars Siddhartha (Rang de Basanti) as a young man who gets a positive HIV diagnosis and allows his life to fall apart. Pankaj Kapoor plays his laconic doctor. Blood Brothers is one of four short dramatic films by cutting-edge Indian directors Mira Nair, Vishal Bhardwaj, Santosh Sivan and Farhan Akhtar that aim to dismantle myths and misconceptions about HIV/AIDS.

#### **Positive – (19 minutes)**

Farhan Akhtar is one of India's most prominent young filmmakers. His film, Positive, follows the story of a young boy and his parents and how they cope with the devastation that AIDS can visit on a family.

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#### **Prarambha (The Beginning) – (12 minutes)**

Prarambha (The Beginning), directed by renowned cinematographer and director Santosh Sivan, features the South Indian Superstar Prabhudeva as a truck driver who discovers a little boy in the back of his van. The boy is on a journey to find his mother, who left him upon discovering that she was HIV positive. Prarambha is one of four short dramatic films by

cutting-edge Indian directors Mira Nair, Vishal Bhardwaj, Santosh Sivan and Farhan Akhtar that aim to dismantle myths and misconceptions about HIV/AIDS.

View the four free AIDS Jaago shorts at: [www.jaman.com/aidsjaago](http://www.jaman.com/aidsjaago)