

ANAND SEALS BONN SUPREMACY OVER KRAMNIK, RETAINS WORLD TITLE

BONN/ New Delhi, October 29

Viswanathan Anand kept the World title with a 24-move draw in the 11th and penultimate game of the 12-game World Chess Championship final in Bonn. The Indian playing with white pieces against Vladimir Kramnik took an unbeatable 6.5-4.5 lead to retain the title.

The game opened in a Sicilian Najdorf, as Anand was expected to go for a draw and Kramnik was expected to thwart all such attempts to try and force a win to keep himself alive in the match and take it to the 12th game and then force a tie-breaker.

The game ended in a draw after 24 moves as Kramnik failed to find a win despite trying to complicate the game.

Even as Viswanathan Anand was celebrating his World Chess title and meeting the media, he received a message from Rajendra S Pawar, Chairman NIIT, which has had a long standing relationship with the Grand Master for the last 10 years.

Mr. Pawar, in a message from New Delhi, said, "We congratulate NIIT MindChampion, Vishy Anand on becoming the undisputed World Chess Champion.

"Anand has displayed a Grand Strategy in 2008 by choosing the games that he wanted to win, foregoing an important tournament like Bilbao to focus on and win the ultimate match with Kramnik."

NIIT have been Anand's sponsors for almost a decade now.

Anand earlier won three games, the third, fifth and sixth and lost the 10th in a match that looked one-sided till Kramnik brought back some life with a win in 10th game.

In the 11th game, Anand needing only a draw managed that in a game that had a 1. e4 start and led to a Sicilian-Najdorf, which Kramnik rarely plays. Kramnik went all out for a win and tried to create wild and unstable positions to throw Anand off-guard, but the Indian Grandmaster was upto the task.

In fact as Kramnik overstretched in a do-or-die battle, he actually allowed Anand greater play and may well have lost. But in the end the game ended in a 24-move draw.

According to the pre-match rules, the two players share the purse of 1.5 million Euros equally.

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Updates on Viswanathan Anand sent by Team Anand at NIIT

For further inquiries contact:

TeamAnand@niit.com and

anand.wcc@gmail.com