



WEST BENGAL GOVERNMENT PRESENTS

RABIBAR
SUNDAY

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A FILM BY
NITISH MUKHERJEE





Story:
RABINDRANATH TAGORE

Scenario & Direction:
NITISH MUKHERJEE

Music:
AMAL NAG

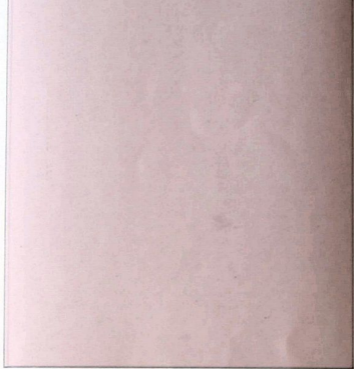
Photography:
BASAB SINHA

Editing:
MONI ADHIKARY

Cast:
RANJIT MALLICK, JAYEETA MUKHERJEE,
ANUP KUMAR, Smita Sinha, Debasree Roy, Ruby
Sen, Alpana Goswami, Samu Chatterjee, Arunprakash,
Bimal Dev, Dilip Bose, John Berrick, Manab
Chanda, Satya Bhattacharya, Prabhas
Sarkar, Partha Banerjee.

Songs:
Amal Nag, Kumkum Chatterjee & Goutam Mitra.

Produced by:
ASHIS MUKHERJEE
NITISH MUKHERJEE

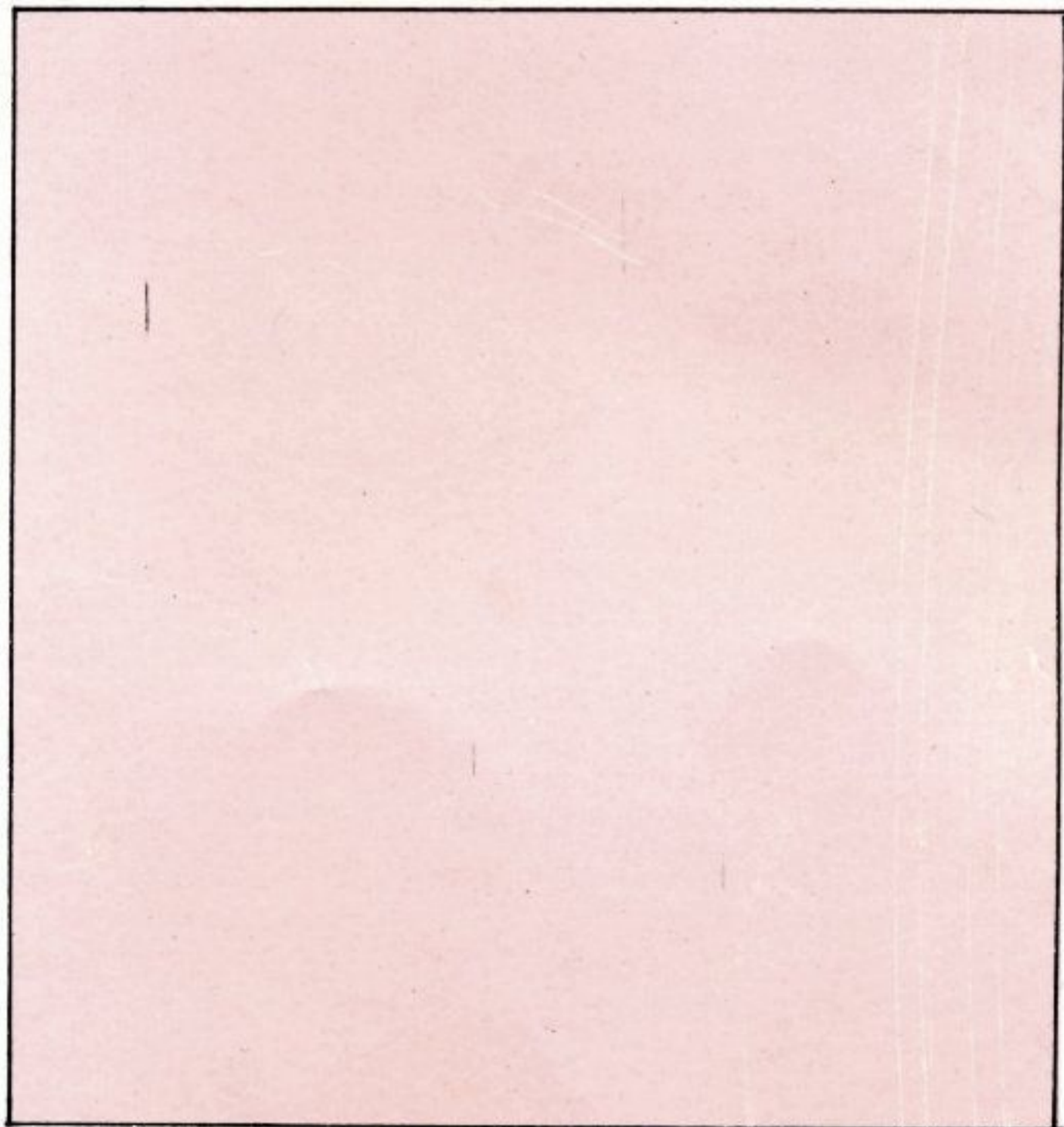


THE STORY : RABIBAR

Avik, and Bibha belong to two different religions. Despite being a scion of a staunch brahmin family, Avik is a painter, fond of technical instruments and an atheist. One day, when his father externs him from the house by slashing for his terrible misconduct before the Goddess, he, while going, only assures his mother his faith of considering her the only God in flesh and blood. Then Avik takes a job of a labourer, faces the poverty, lives with the poor. He feels there too, religion creates a rift between man and man.

On the other hand, Bibha comes off a Brahmo family. Every Sunday she goes to pay obeisance. It is to her a case of deep tranquility. She looks after and brings up orphans by herself; for she, like Avik, believes in humanity. Her elder brother had been a victim of British bullet. She dreams of uniting all the religions. Avik one day questions her— "In a country where religion is the root of routine bloodshed, you dare dream of uniting religions when you, yourself is bound inalienably with a particular religion? An atheist like me along can bring an unison in all religions. I will save India. I will be India's saviour". Bibha has no answer but tears in her eyes. She loves Avik deeply; only she is not being able to accept him. For, the past of her dead father stands in between. She is aware that this past too is painfully inlaid with injustice and indiscretions of religion.

Finally when Bibha settles within herself to meet Avik with the sense of acceptance, Avik is far far away for her. Avik writes to Bibha—he will return again, for he dreams alike Bibha. Not of a sickly, superstitionridden, skeleton and emaciated India, but of a virile, mighty, vigorous and ever young Great India where they will never be parted away even for a single moment.





DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

In 1939, Tagore wrote 'Rabibar'. He was then nearly eighty years old. But as much as he grew older, he became much more near to life. His inner creative vision flew high above all conventions and superstitions. He felt life bigger than any kind of fixed groove. Life became truth to him than any morality or behavior. In 'RABIBAR' Tagore exposed himself as an extreme modernist and as a priest of universe. So, in 'RABIBAR' Tagore is of different kind. Very few people know this Tagore. His coherent world vision has a touch of enlightened rationalism tinged with emotional human love. The main target of his attack is religion. No particular religion but religion as a whole.

Rabindranath's rebel heroes come of conservative families or through conservatism. In 'Rabibar' Abheek too breaks the familial barrier of a conservative brahmin family. In Abheek atheist humanism reigns supreme. Rabindranath's innate humanism helps 'Rabibar' to build up it's, own vision and is remarkably bold enough to test this humanism in contemporary milieu. In 'Rabibar' societal environment takes the symbolic from: the religious poison. The exploitation and oppression of religion is rampant. The common man of flesh and blood, Abheek's God is still living like a beggar. Abheek's dream of healthy youthful Greater India has not become reality in post 1947 period.

So Ribibar is a film of revolt. It's a film of quest too.





ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Nitish Mukherjee worked as one of the Producers in more than 100 Documentaries under the banner of their own Company - LOOK PUBLICITY - for different State Governments and Government of India as Director, Assistant Director, Script Writer and Designer, some of which have won International and National Awards.

ALORE GAN (Song of Light): Short Film Produced and Directed in the year 1969.

ABANINDRANATH-O-TNAR KATHASHILPA: is next Documentary which was highly acclaimed by the critics and bought by Government of W. Bengal.

EK DIN SURYA: is his first Feature Film made in 1974 which won Best Experimental Film, Best Photography & Best Scenerio Award from B. F. J. A.

RABIBAR: is second Feature Film on Tagor's story. Government of W. Bengal has given Grant-in-Aid of Rs. one Lakh for its aesthetic value and novel treatment.

NAYAN SHYAMA: is Third Feature Film which was included in Indian Panorama in the International Film Festival '84 and was screened in Nantes, Russia and two other cities of Russia in Indian Film Week. This film is also favoured by Govt. of W. Bengal by a Subsidy of Rs. 80,000/- for it's artistry in filmic execution and contemporary value.

KAMALA NEHRU: A Documentary of Film Division- which won National Award. Nitish made the original Script and the whole art work.

Nitish also directed five episodes on 'Pt. RAVISHANKAR' in Video in Deccan Studio, Bangalore, and 13 part Bengali T. V. Serial 'ANDARMAHAL', 'HEY MAHAJIBAN' of 6 episodes. 'SURER SARATHI', on 13 Music Directors. 'BHRANTI BILAS' another 13 prts TV Serial are on making. Feature film 'NARAK GULZAR', a political satire is on the verge of completion.