Film Career of Kazi Nazrul

Compiled by: Muhammad Anwar Hossain



Figure: Film Bidyapati (1937)

Kazi Nazrul Islam is not only a poet; he was also a man of multiple talents. Apart from literary and musical world, he left notable mark on the world of film in Calcutta from 1934 to 1942. He was director, music director and actor at a time. He also wrote story for some feature films. There is a Hindi feature film titled "Bidyapati" also based on his story. Description of some feature films is mentioned below.

Film: Dhruba (1934)

Director : Kazi Nazrul Islam & Satyendranath Dey

Language : Bengali

Music : Kazi Nazrul Islam

Cast : Joynarayan Mukhopadhyaya, Kazi Nazrul Islam, Master

Probodh and Ms. Violet

Banner: Pioneer Film Company

Release : 1934

Story Synopsis:

There was a king named Uttampad in the purakal (ancient times). His wife Suniti used to worship lord Vishnu every day. They had no shortage of anything, the only thing that they did not have was a son. So Suniti arranged a marriage of his husband again with a beautiful princess Sundari. Even Sundari could not produce a child, but Sundari was able to do one thing. She forced the king to send Suniti into exile in a forest and losing his way in the jungle took shelter in Suniti's hut. After 5 years Suniti got back her husband. She gave birth to a son, Dhruba Dhruba learnt worshipping Lord Hari from his mother. One day Dhruba came to know that he was actually the son of king Uttampad. Without informing her mother five year old Dhruba went to king's palace and begged for food and cloth from the king. As the king came to know who was Dhruba he was about to place Dhruba on the throne, Suniti came and rebuked Dhruba. Dhruba came to Suniti in her jungle hut. He came to know if he could get the blessing of Lord Hari he would get every thing including his father. Dhruba went to deep jungle and started meditation. At last getting impressed by Dhruba Lord Narayan blessed Dhruba. King Uttampad took back Dhruba and queen Suniti to his kingdom.

Film: Graher Pher (1937)

Director : Charu Ray
Language : Bengali

Music : Kazi Nazrul Islam

Cast : Manoranjan Bhattacharya, Nabadwip Halder, Debabala, Rabi

Ray, Satya Mukhopadhyay & More.

Banner : Debdutta Films

Release : 1937

Story Synopsis:

Samaresh was from a well to do family. He was a student of Medical College, Calcutta and used to stay in a hostel. He was having a relationship with Suchorita whom he was supposed to marry. One day Samaresh went to watch a film with Suchorita. But after the show Suchorita returned home alone in the car. Where did Samaresh go! Suddenly a phone call came in the Muchipara Police Station. A message came that a murder has taken place in the prostitute area of Harketa lane. Samaresh was in room of a prostitute where a dead body of a lady was there in the bed. His clothes were soaked in blood. Samaresh opend the door and found a beautiful girl was standing there. By that time the police came. Inspector Nirmal babu was interrogating the local people about the murder. Samaresh fled through the window with that girl. Police entered the room but they could not find the murderer. They came to know that the criminal had helped by a girl of that locality. Samaresh's hostel friends were informed about this by the police about the disappearence. Inspector Nirmal babu came to the hostel to investigate about Samaresh. Samaresh's father rushed to Calcutta getting the telegram of Samaresh's friends. In the mean time, a letter reached where it was written due to some avoidable reason he had to leave Calcutta. Suchorita could not find that reason. A few days later, at eleven in the night Samaresh came to meet Suchorita. The police reached there immediately. Samaresh was caught. The police filed a case against Samaresh. Their allegation was that Samaresh had murdered the landlady of a house in Harkata Lane and fled away with a girl. They were proofs. The member of the jury verdict that Samaresh was quilty. At last, the actual criminal was caught. Suchorita and Samaresh were reunited again.

Film: Gora (1938)

Director : Narsh Mitra

Language : Bengali

Music : Kazi Nazrul Islam

Story : Rabindranath Tagore

Cast : Bipin Gupta, Jibon Gongapadhyaya, Manoranjan

Bhattacharya, Narsh Mitra, Ranibala & more.

Banner : Debdutta Films

Release : 1938

Story Synopsis:

Gora and Mahim were two sons of Krishna Dayal Babu. From childhood, Bijay and Gora were friends. Through an acccident, Bijay was introduced to Paresh Babu's family. Paresh was a Bramhin. So Gora did not like Bijay's visit to that house. Gora's mother was very anxious about Gora's hindusim. Krishna Dayal was also very annoyed being an orthodox hindu. As per his father's request, Gora went to Paresh Babu's house. Paresh babu's wife Bhadra Sundari was not happy seeing Gora there. But Gora had a real conflict with Haran Babu. The marriage of Haran Babu ad Suchitra was almost fixed. The reason of the conflict was that, Haran Babu always thought of him self to be a social reformer and saviour of Bramhin relegion. Mahim thought of his 12yr old daughter Sashi's marriage with Binoy. As Binoy was associated with Bramha Samaj, so Gora was against that marriage. But Anandamoyee was so adamant about that marriage, that Gora left home and went for a country side travel. In the mean time Haran Babu started writing in different pen names against Gora, in different news paper. Haran Babu oprganised a function on agro-industrial conference in Hoogly to help Paresh Babu. There he came to know that Suchitra wanted to know Gora's views and she lost interest in Haran Babu. While travelling Gora was detained at Charghoshpur as the villageers were tortured by the landlord's tax collector. Shekhar Chakraborty designed a conspiracy and sent Gora to jail for six months. Paresh babu's younger daughter Lalita was returning by a steamer. Bijay was also returning by that same steamer, after meeting Gora. Both of them discovered their love for each other. Suchitra clearly said that she had no consent in her marriage with Haran Babu. Seeing his influence restrained on all corners, Haran babu became furious. He only didn't hesitate to attack Paresh babu because he had allowed Lalita to be associated with a Hindu boy. Hearing that, Lalita decleared that she has no objection to marry Bijay even ifhe did not become a Bramhin. Gora had returned from jail. Hearing Bijay's marriage with Lalita, he became agitated and went to Suchitra's house to discuss. But Gora found that Suchitra had changed a lot. Gora wanted her beside him and his mission to save the country.

Film: Sapure (1939)

Director : Debaki Kumer Bose

Language : Bengali

Music : Rai Chand Boral
Story : Kazi Nazrul Islam

Cast : Rathin Bandopadhyaya, Pahari Sanyal, Kanan Devi, Krishna

Chandra & more.

Banner : New Theaters (P) Ltd.

Release : May 27, 1939

Story Synopsis:

Jahar was the leader of the snake charmer gang. He had the power to depoisoning the body of a snake bite. He had done it for last 99times. His mission was to do that for 100times. For that he remained bachelor and lived a restricted life. One day Jahar found a dead body of a beautiful girl floating in the river. He picked up the body and by his power he bought back her life. But what he would do with her? He gave shelter to her, but as he could not tolerate any women's attire, he dressed her as a man and named her Chandan. No body of the gang knew that Chandan was a girl. Jahar's favourite disciple Jhumro used to like Chandan very much. But one day every one discovered that Chandan was a girl. Jahar wanted to calm down shocked Chandan. Chandan reminded him his mission that very night when Chandan was about to start his mission he came to know that Jhumro had fled away with Chandan. He rushed to his tent and brought the most poisonous snake the "kaliya nag" and released it to bite Jhumro. That snake bites Jhumro. He could not even move in the pain. Chandan rushed back to the tent. She says that she was ready to sell herself for the sake of Jhumro's life. Jahar bought back Jhumro to normal. As Chandan was promised to sell herself, so she requested Jhumro to go to some place else. Jahar was listening to her. She took the bite of the snake in her chest. Jhumro was upset. Jahar ordered Jhumro to take Chandan far away from that place. When Jhumro and Chandan left the place, Jahar did not apply his power anymore.

Film: Chowrangee (1942)

Director : Nabyendu Sarkar

Language : Bengali

Music : Kazi Nazrul Islam

Cast : Chaya Devi, Jyoti Prakash, Pramila Devi, Haren

Mukhopadhyaya & many more.

Banner : Fazil Brothers

Release : September 12, 1942

Story Synopsis:

She begs at Chowringhee crossing. In all weathers and in all seasons. Days, months and years together. A boy and a girl equally wealthy come out of metro cinema. A beggar maid begs and receives a one rupee coin from them. Occasionally the boy happens to meet beggar maid. They love each other. The boy lets fall a bag full of money to test her honesty. Collecting the bag she must keep it. The girl tell him with his smile it is not mine I must keep it where I have found it-The boy has very much surprised at her honesty and asks her to pick up a job. Agreeing, the girl goes to be a ways earner. The boy does not like this so called beauty and self indulgence in the name of aristocracy. One day he opens his mind in clear terms to that wealthy girl. With an emphasis that a married woman conduct herself as her husband desires. The girls replied equally in clear terms that she doesn't like interference of any body in her personal freedom. The boy erases from his mind the image of the Rajkumari. He recalls the simple beautiful face of the beggar main. He stands on reality from his shadowy dreams and decides to marry her. Accompanied by the beggar maid ignoring his father's moral orders he came out into the wide world, shelterless. He has confidence that somehow he will get a job. But his hopes are belied and he did not hesitate to pull rickshaw in the streets of Kolkata to earn his loving by hard working. As a rickshaw puller one day he takes a woman and let her down infront of a hospital. As soon as he stretches his hand for fare he is amazed to see the nurse face and says how strange? You are! This nurse happens to be that wealthy woman proud of her beauty and possession. Now she devoted her life to the service of the suffering people. One day the rickshaw puller is involved in an accident and brought by another rickshaw puller to the beggar mind house. The mystery is exposed now in the presence of the beggar mind. The boy rickshaw puller only for her. She is very repentant. She runs to his rich father's residence and says that love realized that I am a curse in his life. She urges upon the rich man to bring back his son reconcile the beggar mind bids fare well with tearful eyes saying "Please do not misunderstand me."

Film: Bidyapati (1937)

Director : Debaki Bose

Language : Hindi

Story : Debaki Bose & Kazi Nazrul Islam

Cast : Kadirnath Sharma, K.N. Singh, Krishna Chandra Dey,

Pahari Sanyal, Chaya Devi & Kanan Devi

Banner : New Theaters (P) Ltd.

Release : 1937



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