

A Different Evening
International Film Club at Ahmedabad University
(In Memory of Prof. Niranjana Bhagat)

Date: August 09, 2019, Friday.

Time: 8:30 p.m.

Venue: Ahmedabad University Auditorium,
GICT Building, Near M G Science College.



Name of the Film: Kadambari (Bengali)

(Based on a story by Suman Ghosh)

Date of Release: May 08, 2015.

Director: Suman Ghosh (6 international awards)

Cinematography: Barun Mukherjee

Music: Bickram Ghosh, Amjad Ali Khan, Rashid Khan, Kaushiki Chakrabarti and others

Genre: Drama

Duration: 1 Hour 27 Minutes

Awards: National Award

Actors:

Konkana Sen Sharma (9 awards + 11 Nominations)

Parambrata Chattopadhyay (3 Nominations)

Koushik Sen

Shreelekha Mitra

Audio Language: Bengali Subtitles: English

Colour: Colour

Aspect Ratio: 16:9 High Definition (720p)

About the film:

"April is the cruellest month..." is the first line of T S Eliot's *The Waste Land*.

On 21st April (1884), merely four months after the marriage of Rabindranath Tagore to Mirinalini Devi, his sister-in-law, Kadambari Devi committed suicide.

This is a biopic of Kadambari Devi, daughter-in-law of Debendranath Tagore and wife of Rabindranath's elder brother Jyotindranath Tagore. In 1868 when Kadambari came to Jorasanko Thakur Bari, Rabindranath was 7 years old and Kadambari was 2 years older than him. Very soon Rabindranath became Kadambari's friend and playmate. She inspired young Rabindranath in composing many of his poems and songs. In a very subtle way, director Suman Ghosh has captured the relationship between Kadambari and Rabindranath in this film.

Title Music by Amjad Ali Khan and the songs rendered by Rashid Khan and Kaushiki Chakrabarti become an unforgettable bonus for the audience. Cinematography by Barun Mukherjee takes the audience perfectly to the times depicted in the film.

It is said that some relationships are such where physical intimacy is neither necessary nor enough. Many such undefined relationships have submerged in the pages of history and have remained unanswered even after an era.

About the era:

One of the most important aspects of this film is its beautiful, historically accurate depiction of the upper-class Calcutta society of the time. As the most influential family of the period, the Tagores were both typical of upper-class Bengali society and significantly different. The family was extremely wealthy and well educated; as part of the leisure classes, each member of the family could focus on their own interests. This is why the family produced so many talented people with an enormous variety of skills.

But at the same time, there is a stark contrast between many of the family's values and the way women were treated in the household. The most blatant example is the practice of child marriage. This practice of marrying a pre-pubescent child to a much older young man (usually late teens-early 20s) was a target of criticism at the time. Rabindranath even wrote in protest of this practice, while at the same time arranging for his two daughters to be married at a young age (the elder age 15 and the younger age 10). Kadambari's marriage at the age of 10 is yet another example of this family tradition.