

## Document Citation

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India • 1987  
130 minutes  
In Bengali with  
English subtitles

**Director/Screenplay/**

**Camera/Music:**

Gautam Ghose

Based on a story by

Kamal Majumdar

**Producers:**

Ravi Malik,

Debashiah Majumdar

**Editor:**

Moloy Banerjee

**Cast:**

Shatrughan Sinha,

Promode Ganguli,

Shampa Ghosh

**Production Co.:**

National Film Development

Corporation Ltd.

**Print Source:**

Directorate of

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U.S. PREMIERE

## THE VOYAGE BEYOND

### *Antarjali yatra*

In his latest feature, Gautam Ghose (*Paar*) turns to a classic of Bengali literature which veterans, such as Satyajit Ray and Mrinal Sen, judged too difficult to transcribe to film. *The Voyage Beyond* unfolds in 1829, "ten years after the banning of *sati* (self-immolation of widows). But *sati* is not its main theme. It is rather the terribly dead, but terribly malevolent hand of ritual and age-old belief in conflict with the elemental needs of man. A dying man is brought to the banks of the Ganges for immolation but in a grotesque ceremony he is married to a young girl to fulfill astrological predictions. The girl's father has disposed of her, the priests look forward to an ensuing *sati* as an act of defiance against the British. Only the low-caste pyre-builder revolts against the barbarity. . . ." (IM) In the fashion of a Greek tragedy, Ghose situates his doomed players amidst the desolate mud and immense open sky of this stygian shore where the primal emotions of love, hate and sexual jealousy inevitably overwhelm their victims. With *The Voyage Beyond*, the former experimental and documentary filmmaker "displays his immense gifts . . . As a writer, cameraman, music composer and director, he is in total command of the medium." (KM)

S.F.I.F.F. 1989

*Best Film. Tashkent*

**3/9 KAB, 3/10 KAB, 3/11 PFA**