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From India's greatest film director

Satyajit Ray

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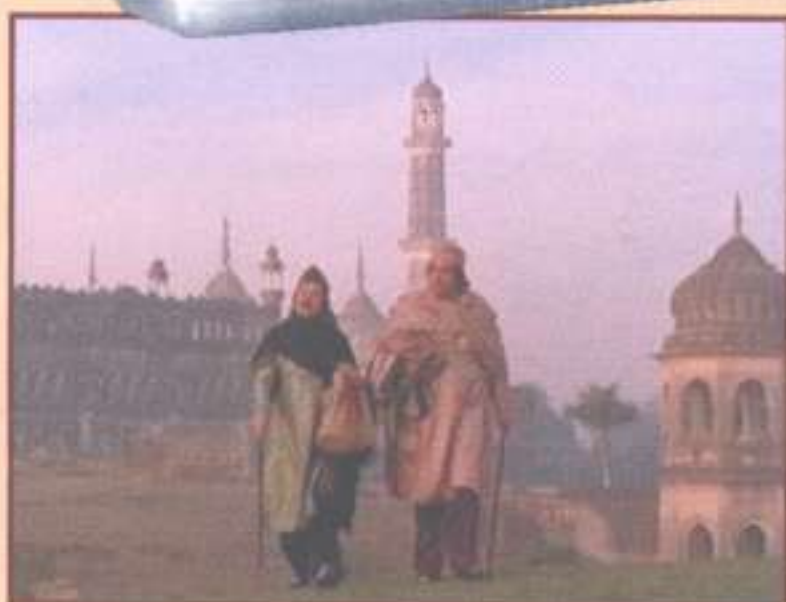
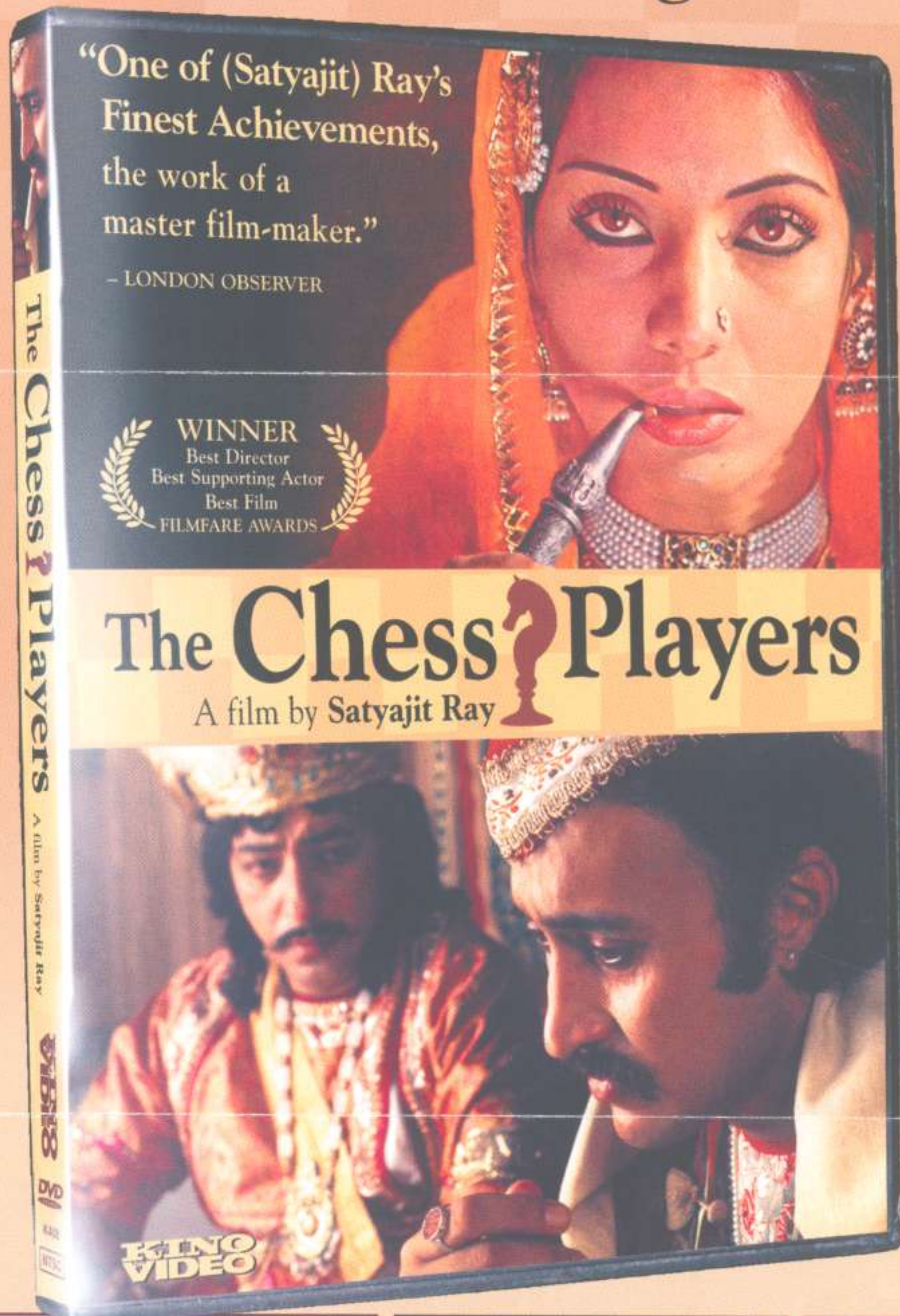
"WITTY... ELEGANT..."
An entire civilization has
been encapsulated in a few
particular gestures."

— Vincent Canby, THE NEW YORK TIMES



Starring

Sanjeev Kumar, Amjad Khan,
Victor Banerjee,
and Richard Attenborough



SPECIAL FEATURES

- Satyajit Ray: Selected Filmography
- Optional English subtitles

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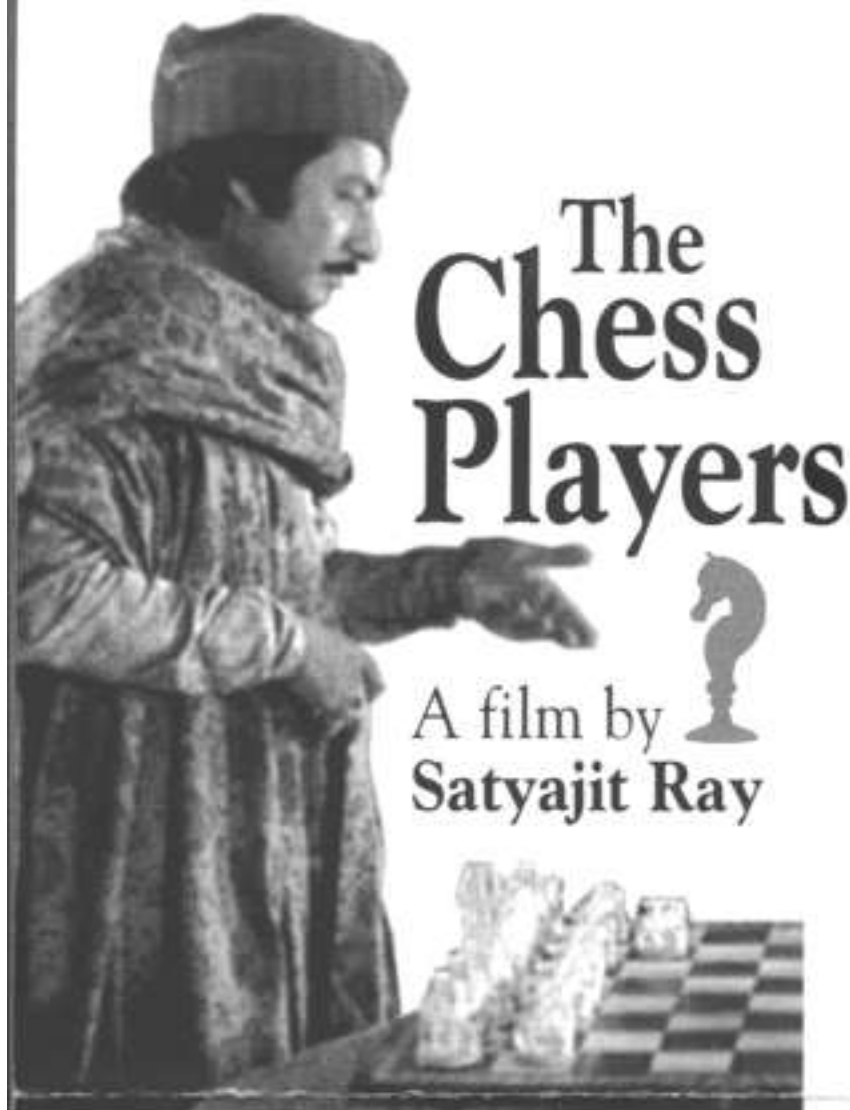
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The Chess Players

A film by
Satyajit Ray

"One of (Satyajit) Ray's Finest Achievements,
the work of a master film-maker." - LONDON OBSERVER

The Chess Players

A film by Satyajit Ray

In 1977's *The Chess Players*, Satyajit Ray, India's "extraordinary filmmaker" (George Lucas), turned his celebrated eye for everyday life on his own country's troubled history. Made during Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's era of press censorship and curtailed constitutional rights, *The Chess Players* dared to examine India's future through its past.

In the kingdom of Awadh, rich landowners Meer (Saeed Jaffrey, *The Man Who Would Be King*) and Mirza (Sanjeev Kumar, *Sholay*) pour every ounce of passion into a never-ending game of chess. At the same time, an ambitious British General (Sir Richard Attenborough, *Jurassic Park*) plots his own moves against Awadh's King (Amjad Khan) and Prime Minister (Victor Banerjee, *A Passage to India*), in the hope of taking the region for his Queen. Heedless of their political and family responsibilities, Mirza and Meer keep playing. But as British soldiers march on their homeland, an innocent game escalates into deadly confrontation and catastrophic loss. Rich, poor, winner or loser, everyone is revealed to be history's pawn.

A film of "exquisite performances" (Variety) and epic sweep, the New York Times praised *The Chess Players* for "the manner in which an entire civilization has been encapsulated in a few particular gestures." Adapted from a short story by Hindi author Munshi Premchand, *The Chess Players* evenly examines both colonial greed and Indian aristocratic indolence with the same dramatic scrutiny. His first-ever historical drama, *The Chess Players* is imbued with the same "deep observation, understanding and love of the human race" (Akira Kurosawa) that made Satyajit Ray one of the preeminent figures of international cinema.



SPECIAL FEATURES

- Satyajit Ray: Selected Filmography
- Original British Poster Art
- Optional English subtitles

1977 India 115 min Color Original Aspect Ratio (1.33:1) In Urdu with optional English subtitles

A Film by SATYAJIT RAY **THE CHESS PLAYERS** (Shatranj Ke Khilari)

SANJEEV KUMAR SAEED JAFFREY SHABANA AZMI FARIDA JALAL VICTOR BANERJEE AMJAD KHAN AND SIR RICHARD ATTENBOROUGH **NARRATED BY AMITABH BACHCHAN**

WRITTEN BY SATYAJIT RAY, JAVID SIDDIQUI AND SHAMA ZAIDI FROM THE STORY BY MUNSHI PREMCHAND CINEMATOGRAPHY SOUMENDU ROY ART DIRECTION BANSI CHANDRAGUPTA EDITING DULAL DUTTA

ORIGINAL MUSIC SATYAJIT RAY PRODUCED BY SURESH JINDAL DIRECTED BY SATYAJIT RAY © 1977 Devki Chitra Restored by the Uruguay Round Agreements Act Notice of Intent to Enforce a Copyright filed by Kino International.

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