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Synopsis

This is the story of the growth of an Indian boy from boyhood to manhood and his journey from the ancient ways of his people to the modern world. The film begins in the year 1920 in the holy city of Benares on the river Ganges. After the death of his father, Apu's mother becomes a cook to support herself and the boy. Instead of entering the priesthood like his father, Apu wants to go to school. He becomes a brilliant student and is offered a scholarship to the university in Calcutta. Even though his mother opposes his going, she gives him her meager savings. His interest grows daily away from the old ways of his mother. He visits her occasionally, but finds it difficult. Heartbroken, she comes to accept that he must follow his own heart. His mother is ill, but Apu, busy with his studies, arrives too late and she is dead. Turning his back on the scenes of his boyhood. Apu leaves for the great city of Calcutta and the greater world beyond.

Running time: 106 minutes.

(Bengalese)

A 1956 release

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