

Document Citation

Title	Branches of the tree
Author(s)	
Source	<i>London Film Festival</i>
Date	1990
Type	program note
Language	English
Pagination	93
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Shakha proshakha (Branches of the tree), Ray, Satyajit, 1990

THREE CONTINENTS: ASIA



FRNCE/INDIA 1990
25 Sun 11.00am Lumiere
19 Mon 11.15am NFT1

Branches of the Tree

Shakha Proshakha

Director: **Satyajit Ray**

Production Company: Erato Films,
DD Production, Soprofilms,
Satyajit Productions

Screenplay: Satyajit Ray

Photography (Colour): Barun Raha

Leading Players: Ajit Banerjee, Maradan
Banerjee, Lily Chatterjee, Soumitra Chatterjee

Running Time: 120 mins

World Premiere

We are very happy to be able to present Satyajit Ray's eagerly anticipated new film based on his own original script, first written 25 years ago and set in contemporary India in the village of Hazaribagh in North Bengal. The literal translation of the original title of this film is *Branches and Twigs* and is concerned with Ananda Majumdar, a hard-working and honest man, who, on the day of his seventieth birthday, suffers a heart attack. He lives with his mentally unstable son and senile father so when his two daughters, second son and grandson come from Calcutta, the reunion of four generations takes place and we see how, during a week, they interact with each other within the confines of the family house. The past confronts the present. "My film is a film about values. It carries a note of hope but also one of sadness. The sadness of realising that corruption is part of our daily life."

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