



Director's Biography

Morshedul Islam

Born in 1957 in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Completed Bachelor and Master Degree in Pharmacy from Dhaka University. After participating in a film appreciation course organized by Bangladesh Film Institute & Archive, started his first film 'Agami' (Time Ahead), a short fiction in 1982 about the Great War of Liberation of Bangladesh. 'Agami' won the 'Silver Peacock' award for best direction in 10th International Film Festival of India, New Delhi in 1985. It also won the National Award for best short film and was shown in many international film festivals. The success of 'Agami', the first independent short film of the country, performed a leading role to establish an alternative film movement in Bangladesh.

Made his first feature-length film 'Chaka' (The Wheel) in 1993. 'Chaka' was awarded many prestigious awards in various international film festivals such as 'Grand Prix' for best film and best direction in Dunkerque Film Festival, France in 1994 and FIPRESCI and INTERFILM jury awards in Mannheim Film Festival, Germany in 1993.

Made his first children's film 'Dipu Number Two' in 1996. The film was acclaimed by the audience, particularly by the young people. Made six films for children so far.

Besides film making, is actively involved with the film society movement of the country. Founded Chalachitram Film Society in 1982 and Children's Film Society Bangladesh in 2006.

Currently serving as the advisor & director of Somoy Television, a popular 24 hour news channel of the country.

Director's Filmography

Major Films

Ankhi O Tar Bondhura (Ankhi & Her Friends) Fiction, 2017
Anil Bagchir Ek Din (A Day Of Anil Bagchi) Fiction, 2015
Amar Bondhu Rashed (My Friend Rashed), Fiction, 2011
Priotomeshu (Love and Repulsion), Fiction, 2009.
Khelaghor (Dollhouse) Fiction, 2006
Duratta (The Alienation) Fiction, 2004
Sharat '71 (Autumn '71) Short Fiction, 2000
Dukhai (The Distressed) Fiction, 1997
Dipu Number Two, Fiction, 1996
Chaka (The Wheel) Fiction, 1993
Agami (Time Ahead) Short Fiction, 1984

Major Awards

'Silver Peacock' for best direction for 'Agami' at the 10th International Film Festival of India in 1985.
 National award for 'Agami' as best short film for the year 1984.
 Grand Prix as best film for 'Chaka' in Dunkerque Film Festival, France in 1994
 Best direction award for 'Chaka' in Dunkerque Film Festival, France in 1994
 Student Jury award as best film for 'Chaka' in Dunkerque Film Festival, France in 1994
 Critic Award (FIPRESCI) for 'Chaka' in Mannheim Film Festival, Germany in 1993
 Georges & Ruta Sadoul award from France in 1995.
 National Awards in 9 categories including best film for 'Dukhai' for the year 1997.
 National Award for 'Anil Bagchir Ek Din' in 6 categories including Best Film & Best Director in 2015.

Contact

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Presents

আঁখি ও তার বন্ধুরা

AKHI & HER FRIENDS

A film by
MORSHEDUL ISLAM

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Synopsis

Titu is frustrated about his school. His teachers don't understand children; they become mad at them for no reason. He can't go to the library as it remains locked.

Titu's school gets a new head mistress—Dr. Raisa. She begins to change everything. Dr Raisa convinces a visually impaired girl, Akhi, to attend her school. But finding her teachers uncooperative, Akhi decides to leave school. Her friends however, intervene. They stand behind her. Akhi tells them that she doesn't want to be considered a 'blind' girl. She wants to be just an ordinary girl, like any other. Her friends take the challenge.

But behaving normal for a physically challenged girl is quite difficult. Akhi can't play with anyone. Titu however finds out that although Akhi can't see, she can hear things much better than others. Titu takes the help of a shoe smith and makes a cricket ball which makes a sound when it's in play. He presents the ball to Akhi. Akhi feels ecstatic. She can now catch the ball when it flies, and can hit it with her bat. She becomes an excellent cricket player and shows everyone that blind people can do things just like the sighted ones if they are given an opportunity.

To celebrate their team's becoming champion in the cricket tournament, Akhi visits Bandarban with her friends. There they kidnapped by a gang of robbers who take Akhi and five of her friends to a secret hideout. Their intention is to sell the girls & boys to traffickers. But Akhi and her friends show exemplary presence of mind and intelligence to escape, and help the security forces capture the kidnapers.

Seeing the way Akhi has developed, other differently challenged girls and boys enroll in her school. Even a wheel chair bound student joins the school's football team.

Cast

Child Artists

Jahin Nawar Huq Isha
Ananya Samayel
Juarria Ahmed Prattasha
Ariana Kabir
Shakil Ahmed
Ayman Mahmud Arion
Abdus Shihab Apan
Syed Ashiquzzaman Romio
Dhrubanti
Navid Hasan Omi

Other Artists

Shubarna Mustafa
Tariq Anam Khan
Al Mansur
SM Mohsin
Mannan Hira
Afsana Mahmud
Munira Yusuf Memi
Kamol Ghose
Udayan Bikash Barua
Susmita Sinha
Khan Zahangir Alom
Komol Siddiqui



Credits

Direction
Morshedul Islam

Story
Muhammad Zafar Iqbal

Producers
Faridur Reza Sagar
Morshedul Islam

Screenplay
Morshedul Islam &
Maruf Barkat

Executive Producer
Munira Morshed Munni

Art Direction
Ashok Kumar Ghose

Cinematography
Mahfuzur Rahman Khan

Music
Suny Zubayer

Editing, Sound & Color
Sujan Mahmud

Costume Design
Preeti Rozario

Production Companies

Monon Chalachitra
Impress Telefilm Limited

Produced Under A Grant From

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Shooting Format 4K Digital

Aspect Ratio 1:1.89

Sound 5.1

Duration 114 minutes

