



Avik Saha & Vishal Jhajharia present  
A Campfire Films production  
Based on the novel by Rabindranath Tagore  
A Film by Suman Mukhopadhyay

চতুরঙ্গ  
chaturanga (four chapters)

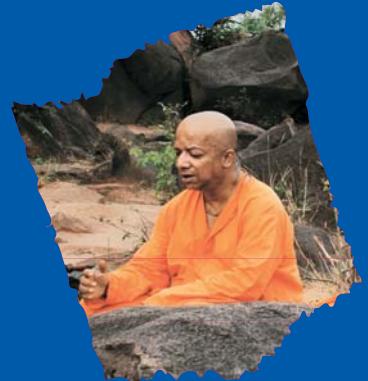


Format: **35mm (Fuji)**  
Runtime: **125 mins**, Reels: **7 (Jumbo)**  
Aspect Ratio: **1.85:1**  
Sound: **Dolby Digital Surround EX**  
Year: **2008**, Country: **India**  
Language: **Bengali**  
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[www.chaturangathefilm.in](http://www.chaturangathefilm.in)

## Synopsis

**Chaturanga** is the story of a love that is caught between conflicting worlds of ideas. The lead protagonist Sachish fleets from radical positivism to religious mysticism in his quest for life's meaning. However, his search ultimately yields nothing but crushing disillusionment. This is because he cannot square his abstract ideals with the powerful presence of two women in his life. One of them is Damini, a young Hindu widow, and the other is Nanibala, the abandoned mistress of Sachish's own brother. **Chaturanga** becomes, after a point, a psychodrama of unbelievable cruelty. Damini falls in love with Sachish who can accept her only without her sexuality. Set in colonial Bengal at the turn of the twentieth century, the film weaves a rich tapestry of crisscrossing desires and moralities.

Based on the novel by the Nobel Prize winning author Rabindranath Tagore, **Chaturanga** is directed by Suman Mukhopadhyay, one of the most exciting young filmmakers working in India at present.



## Director's Statement

Since my university days, the novel has been provoking and disturbing me.

**Chaturanga** deals with questions that are both contemporary and timeless. It interrogates our perception of human evolution and addresses deeper concerns regarding human ethos and codes of our existence.

We have observed, with shame, disastrous experiments with human beings. In our archeology of knowledge, we have seen the quest of the human mind to attain an order through religion or benevolence or coercion or moderation or collectivism. We are yet to reach any durable 'resolution.' Nevertheless, any attempt to negate the undefined areas of our inner world only reveals the holes in ideological models. Therefore, **Chaturanga** proposes an unending journey, a timeless quest.



A Film by Suman Mukhopadhyay

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Chaturanga (four chapters)

## Main cast

Uncle  
Damini  
Sachish  
Sribilash  
Lilananda

Dhritiman Chaterji  
Rituparna Sengupta  
Subrata Dutta  
Joy Sengupta  
Kabir Suman

## Crew

Screenplay & Direction  
Cinematography  
Editing  
Music  
Production Design  
Costume Design  
Sound Design

Suman Mukhopadhyay  
Indranil Mukherjee  
Arghyakamal Mitra  
Debojyoti Mishra  
Hiran Mitra  
Suchismita Dasgupta  
Jojo Chaki & Anirban Sengupta  
(Dream Digital)  
Sukanta Mazumdar

Dolby Mix  
Subtitles and Consultant  
Production Controller  
Executive Producer  
Producers  
Production Company

Ajay Kumar  
Anustup Basu  
Pritam Chowdhury  
Mallika Jalan  
Avik Saha & Vishal Jhajharia  
Campfire Films



## Suman Mukhopadhyay: Short Biography

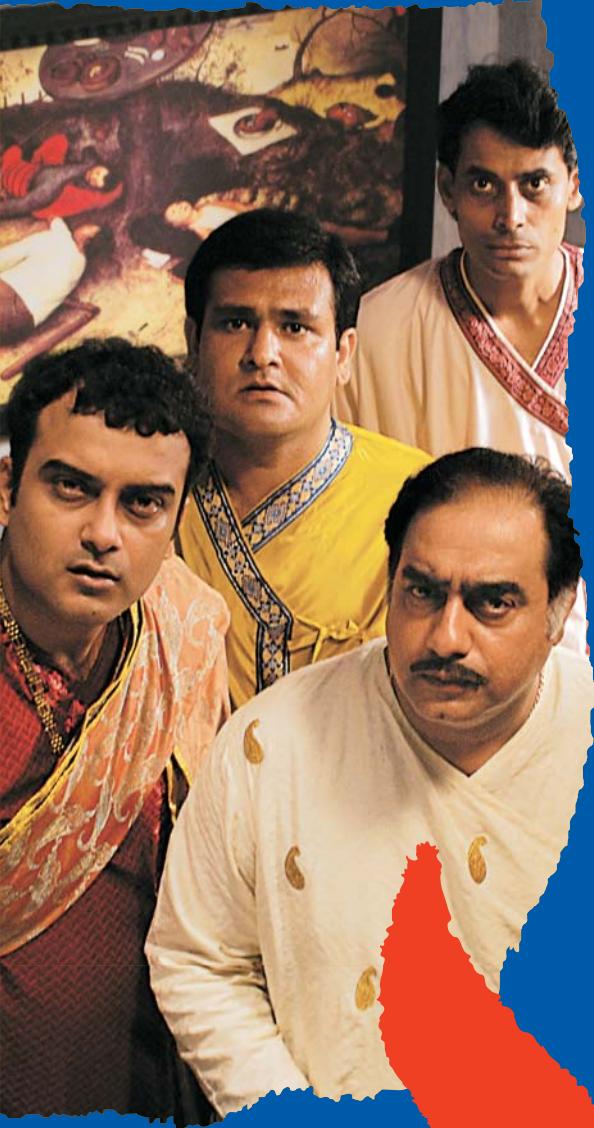
**Chaturanga** is Suman Mukhopadhyay's second feature film. In 2005, Suman completed his first feature film, **Herbert**, based on a novel by Nabarun Bhattacharya. The film got the National Films Award for Best Regional Film. He was also conferred with awards like the Most Promising Director (BFJA), Best Debut Director (Lankesh Award) and the Audience Award at the Dhaka International Film Festival. **Herbert** has been

screened at a number of national and international film festivals including Cannes, Florence, Bangkok, Osian Cinefan, Zanzibar, Mumbai, Pune and Kerala. Suman has done his film training from the New York Film Academy, USA. He has also done theatre productions ranging from European drama to adaptations of Bengali masterpieces.

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## Music

There are several songs in the film. Most of them are from folk traditions of Bengal and North India that are eclectic blends of Islamic, Buddhist, and lower caste Hindu thought. They are a testimony to a syncretic civilization of the subcontinent. The songs, especially those from the Vaishnav tradition, are erotic. The divine is expressed in them through allegorical depictions of the illicit love between Krishna and Radha. The eroticism is also a counterpoint to the narrow, superstitious morality of the colonial Hindu elite. The so called eternal 'Indian' ethos, is actually a mix of upper caste Brahminism and Victorian puritanical attitudes. Sachish is a victim of that. On the other hand, Damini and the music remind us of a now repressed vitality that once produced the Kamasutra and the beautiful poems of the Padavalis.

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## Chaturanga - Technical Details

Runtime	125 mins
Reel	7 (Jumbo)
Country	India
Year	2008
Language	Bengali
Color	Color (Fuji)
Aspect Ratio	1.85:1
Sound Mix	Dolby Digital Surround EX
Filming Locations	Kolkata, Bolpur, Technician Studios
Camera	Arriflex III
Laboratory	Adlabs, Mumbai
Film Negative Format	35 mm (Fuji)
Cinematographic Process	Spherical
URL	<a href="http://www.chaturangathefilm.in">www.chaturangathefilm.in</a>
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