

# ବାମନବିଜ୍ଞାନ

A SPECULATIVE JOURNEY

# KALPAVIGYAN

THE FIRST DOCUMENTARY FILM ON BANGLA KALPAVIGYAN AND INDIAN SCIENCE FICTION

## FINANCING



UiO : University of Oslo

CoFUTURES

## RESEARCH ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



European Research Council  
Established by the European Commission



Forskningrådet  
The Research Council of Norway



Society for the Preservation of  
Satyajit Ray Archives



SF  
FOUNDATION



## AWARDS AND SELECTIONS



"Kalpavigyan: A Speculative Journey is the combined vision of a filmmaking team working from a collective heart and soul. It provides deeply personal insights into how great artists who love science fiction fought, and continue to fight, to tell the stories of their imagination." Simon Foster, *Sydney Science Fiction Film Festival*



PRESENTED BY  
**CoFUTURES**

PRODUCED BY  
BODHISATTVA CHATTOPADHYAY

# বাস্তবিকতা

A SPECULATIVE JOURNEY

DIRECTED BY  
ARUNAVA GANGOPADHYAY

PRODUCTION

2019-21

RELEASE YEAR

2021

RUNNING TIME

82 mins

TYPE

Documentary

LANGUAGE

Bangla

ADDITIONAL SUBTITLES

Norwegian, English,  
Spanish, German,  
French, Portuguese,  
Chinese, Arabic

## ABOUT THE FILM

This is the first documentary on the history of Bangla Kalpavigyan and on Indian Science Fiction. But what is Kalpavigyan? Is there such a thing as Bangla Science Fiction? Is there such a thing as Indian Science Fiction? This is our journey with the genre, captured and presented like never before in film.

Beginning with the early work of writers such as Rokeya Sakhawat Hussain (Begum Rokeya) and the speculative mode in Bengal, and ending with the pioneering webzine 'Kalpabiswa', the film traces the historical arc of Kalpavigyan over a century of the genre. The principal focus of the film are the genre magazines of the 1960s-80s published in Kolkata and the writers and editors who ignited the movement by giving it shape and form through these magazines.



The film is built around a series of conversations with these writers and their successors, and also features critical reflections from researchers and scholars who have worked with the genre both in relation to Bengal and Kalpavigyan as well as the wider phenomenon of SF.

The figure of Adrish Bardhan, the editor of the first Bangla SF magazine, 'Aschorjo', looms large over the film, as do major writers such as Satyajit Ray, Premendra Mitra, and Leela Majumdar. Based on extensive archival research, conducted over 6 years by Bodhisattva Chattopadhyay and others, the film dives into the particularities of editorial decisions, political concerns, and personal histories that made the magic of Kalpavigyan happen amidst often bleak publishing realities and poverty. But it also sheds warm light on the ultimately liberating strain of speculative utopianism that shapes and continues to shape the genre as an ongoing discussion between fans, critics, and writers.

The film will be of interest to all fans and scholars of Kalpavigyan and Science Fiction.



## DIRECTOR

Arunava Gangopadhyay is an Indian filmmaker and scriptwriter by profession. He also writes short stories in leading Bengali dailies and magazines. In 2018 he co-wrote and co-directed the Bengali feature film, "Hoyto Manush Noy" (Perhaps Not Human).



## PRODUCER

Bodhisattva Chattopadhyay is Associate Professor in Global Culture Studies at the University of Oslo, Norway. He is the leader (PI) of the CoFutures project funded by the European and Science Fictionality, financed by the Norwegian Research Council. He is also an Imaginary College fellow at the Center for Science and the Imagination, Arizona State University. He is the recipient of numerous awards and prizes, including the World Fantasy Award (2020), the Johannes H Berg prize (2019), the Foundation Essay prize (2017), and the Strange Horizons readers' poll award (2013).

# অশ্চর্য!

জুন সংখ্যা বেরোলো। ২য় বর্ষ, ষষ্ঠ সংখ্যা। পুরো উপন্যাস 'মানুষ-জন্তুর  
দাঁপে'! এখন থেকে আগাগোড়া ধবধবে শাদা কাগজে ছাপা ... কাফী খাঁর  
কাটুন ... আরও মজা ... আরও সুন্দর! দাম? ... এখনো এক টাকা!  
এই মাসের উপন্যাসটি বই আকারে বেশি দামে সামনের মাসে বেরুচ্ছে।  
অ্যাঙ্ক-বিটা পাবলিকেশনস্, পোস্ট বক্স ২৫৩৯, কলিকাতা - ১



## FEATURING

Adrish Bardhan  
Bodhisattva Chattopadhyay  
Enakshi Chattopadhyay  
Anindya Sengupta  
Riju Ganguly  
Sumit Bardhan  
Barnita Bagchi  
Anwasha Maity  
Abhijit Gupta  
Sandip Ray  
Moumita Sen  
Team KALPABISWA  
Anish Deb  
Ranen Ghosh  
Amitananda Das

$$\epsilon = \frac{F_{\text{elec}} - \text{drag} \cdot \text{drag} \cdot \eta}{F_{\text{visc}}} = \frac{d \cdot d}{4 \cdot \pi \cdot d^2} = \frac{d}{4 \pi}$$
$$\mu = \frac{Q_3}{Q_1} ; Q_3 = \frac{W}{t}$$
$$n = F / 2577$$

Special Appearance  
Samit Basu  
Sukanya Datta  
Sami Ahmad Khan  
Salik Shah  
Mimi Mondal

Enactment  
J. K. Chattopadhyay  
Saswati Chattopadhyay  
Sweta Ghosh  
Debraj Naiya

Kalpabiswa  
Ankita  
Santu Bag  
Prasenjit Dasgupta  
Biswadip Dey  
Sandipan Chattopadhyay  
Sandipan Ganguly  
Dip Ghosh  
Soham Guha

Research  
Script

Screenplay

DOP

Edit

Sound

Music

Voiceover

Consultant Editor

Colourist

Publicity Design

Animations

Associate Director

Assistant Directors

Trailer Edit

Promo Directors

Subtitles

Bodhisattva Chattopadhyay

Bodhisattva Chattopadhyay

& Arunava Gangopadhyay

Arunava Gangopadhyay

Avi Bandyopadhyay

Abhishek Pradhan

Navonil Bhattacharya

Subhadip Mitra

J.K. Chattopadhyay

Sreya Chatterjee

Subhadip Mondal

Saptadip Dey Sarkar

Debashis Mukherjee

Anamik Saha

Sweta Ghosh & Bijoy

Abhishek Pradhan

Arunava Gangopadhyay

& Koustav Bhattacharya

Bodhisattva Chattopadhyay (EN)

Tonje Andersen (NO)

Cláudia Fusco (PT-BR)

Vincent van Strien (FR, DE)

Brayant Manrique (ES)

Zhao Kexin/赵可心 (CN)

Mohammad Nagah (AR)





স্বদেশে বসে বসে,

১৪. ১১. ১০

আমাদের সঙ্গে আমরা

ব্যক্তিগত জগৎ আমাদের পরিচিত না  
হয়তো আমরা আমাদের নিজস্ব পৃথক।  
এককালে বলা কয়েকটা লেখা ওঠে।  
পত্রিকা পড়ে আমরা ছুঁতে পেরেছি।  
আমি বিজ্ঞান ভিত্তিক গবেষণা পত্রিকা  
প্রকাশ করে আছে আমাদের দিদি  
না নিজে পাঠছি না। ওর কাছে আমাদের  
বিকল্প খোঁজা করেছি। প্রথম স্ট্রীট  
'বিশ্ব'। এর জন্য আমাদের একটা  
লেখা চাই। আমরা এ পত্রিকা প্রকাশ  
আমাদের পরিচালনা করে ওর ছাত্রদের  
ও তখন লোকের বহু আমরা পাই এলা  
'কাজে'। আমরা আমাদের আলাদা  
আমি পেল খুঁজি হা। ইতি মধ্যে  
অল্প ও স্বল্পিক 'আমাদের' পত্রিকা  
'বিশ্ব'। এর বিজ্ঞান দিদি।

## ABOUT CoFUTURES

CoFUTURES is an international research group working on contemporary Global Futurisms headquartered at University of Oslo, with its sphere of activities scattered across various communities, research groups and networks around the world. We are involved in research in different sectors including theoretical research, technology research, policy research, artistic research, as well as production or support for transmedial artistic work including fiction, films, and video games.

CoFUTURES: Pathways to Possible Presents has received funding from the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (grant agreement No.852190). Science Fictionality has received funding from the Norwegian Research Council (NFR) under the FRIPRO-YRT scheme (No. 300931). Both projects are led by Bodhisattva Chattopadhyay. The projects are hosted by the Department of Culture Studies and Oriental Languages, University of Oslo.



THE ALIEN

A Treatment

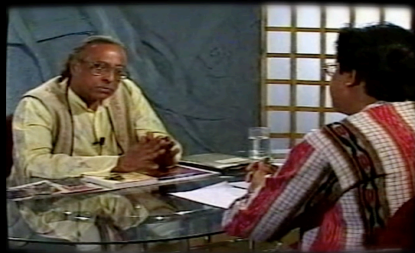
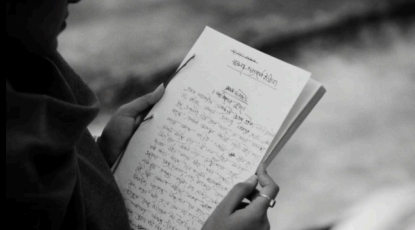
By

Satyajit Ray

*Satyajit Ray*









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PRODUCED BY  
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KALPAVIGYAN: A SPECULATIVE JOURNEY

THE FIRST DOCUMENTARY FILM ON BANGLA KALPAVIGYAN AND INDIAN SCIENCE FICTION  
SCRIPT BODHISATTVA CHATTOPADHYAY & ARUNAVA GANGOPADHYAY | SCREENPLAY ARUNAVA GANGOPADHYAY

DOP AVI BANDYOPADHYAY | EDITING ABHISHEK PRADHAN | SOUND NAVONIL BHATTACHARYA  
MUSIC SUBHADIP MITRA | VOICEOVER J.K. CHATTOPADHYAY

KALPAVIGYAN.COM



UiO : University of Oslo



ফিল্মফান্ডেশন



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[kalpavigyan.com](http://kalpavigyan.com)  
[cofutures.org](http://cofutures.org)

PRESENTED

BY

 **CoFUTURES**