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END OF AN ERA

Legendary filmmaker Basu Chatterjee passes away, film industry in mourning

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Mumbai

LEGENDARY filmmaker and screenwriter Basu Chatterjee passed away due to age-related ailments in Mumbai on Thursday. He was 90.

Born in Ajmer, Rajasthan, on January 10, 1927, he is survived by two daughters. The last rites of the filmmaker, who blazed a middle-of-the-road trail in the 1970s and 1980s, were performed at the Santacruz crematorium.

A doyen of Indian middle cinema, he'd directed classic Hindi films such as 'Piya Ka Ghar' (1972), 'Rajnigandha' (1974), 'Chhoti Si Baat' (1975), 'Chitchor' (1976), 'Khatta Meetha' (1978), 'Shuakeen' (1982), 'Kamla Ki Maut' (1989). He had also directed Bengali films



and helmed the popular Doordarshan TV series 'Byomkesh Bakshi', starring Rajat Kapoor. Another popular serial directed by him was 'Rajani'.

Both President Ram Nath Kovind and Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tribute to

the filmmaker. "In the passing of Shri Basu Chatterjee, the world of entertainment has lost a living legend. ... My condolences to his family and friends," Kovind tweeted.

Several celebrities took to Twitter to mourn Basu Chatterjee's passing. Ashoke Pandit, president of Indian Film and Television Directors' Association, wrote, "I am extremely grieved to inform you all the demise of Legendary Filmmaker Basu Chatterjee ji. It's a great loss to the industry. Will miss you Sir."

Madhur Bhandarkar tweeted, "Sad to hear the demise of Veteran Filmmaker Shri. Basu Chatterjee. Will be always remembered for his Light Hearted comedies & Simplistic Films. #OmShanti Bouquet-Folded hands."