

# Reading Jahnu Barua Through the Lens of Neo-Realism with Special Reference to *Halodhiya Choraiye Baodhan Khai*

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## **Abstract**

This paper is an effort to trace the influence of neorealism in Jahnu Barua's filmmaking. Assamese filmmaker Jahnu Barua is known for his cinematic concentration on socio-political issues asking difficult questions to policymakers. His movies often tell stories of ordinary lives in a larger socio-economic context. His combination of leftist ideology and cinematic aesthetic explores the flaws in society. Jahnu Barua's internationally acclaimed movie *Halodhiya Choraiye Baodhan Khai* (1987), based on Homen Borgohain's novel of the same name, portrays consecutive misfortunes of an ordinary peasant family in their struggles to regain their lost agricultural land from a local usurer. Through the film, the filmmaker questions the system, and exposes the hypocrisy and corruption. The film shares close relationship with the Indian New Wave and follows the trajectory of realism in the Assamese Cinema Industry.

**Keyword :** Jahnu Barua, Assamese Film Industry, Neorealism, Indian New Wave of Cinema