

SANJURO

Directed by Akira Kurosawa

Release date: January 1, 1962 (Japan)

Running time 96 minutes

Language Japanese with English Subtitles

Sanjuro is a 1962 black and white Japanese samurai film, which combines action and humour.

The story begins with nine young samurai, who are worried about corruption in the leadership of their clan. Although they know of two elders who are "bad," the youths misjudge who the real mastermind behind these two is, and ask that wrong one for help. The youths are betrayed by the official and so begins a story of how the young men become trapped into a vicious plot full of deceit and lies.

The youths are aided by a cynical, rebellious samurai, Tsubaki Sanjuro.

The key event is the rescue of the honest official and his family, and the final duel fought between Sanjuro and Hanbei, one of the henchmen of the corrupt official. Sanjuro plays a powerful role in helping the young men rescue the honest official and also at the same time, teaches the young men some wise lessons.

The story depicts how the youths can be deceived by appearance and therefore stumble and endanger themselves. By the end of the film, they learnt the value of virtues and peace is restored to their clan.