



## **Rabindranath Tagore: Devotee of Motherland India**

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Rabindranath Tagore was most respected person in all over the world, with great honor and respect in his lifetime. According to Tagore's views, each nation should be conscious of its mission, vision and its aims. In spite of great problems, huddles and difficulties, however, India has done something to keep the existence of her incalculable value. All his works speak about India's tradition, spiritual aspects, political affairs, culture and some especially about humanity. As per Tagore's views, Nationalism is a political expression where people are sharing a common geographical boundary and some tradition. Rabindranath Tagore's vision of a liberated India—free from the fetters of materialism, nationalism as well as religious and racial orthodoxy which is vigorously described and articulated in the following poem in Gitanjali (1910) .

Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high;  
Where knowledge is free;  
Where the world has not been broken up into fragments  
by narrow domestic walls;  
Where words come from the depth of truth;  
Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards  
perfection;  
Where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way  
into the dreary desert sand of dead habit; where the mind is  
led forward by thee into ever widening thought and action—  
Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country  
awake.



He has written many patriotic poems during the period. Gitanjali (1910) was his most acclaimed work. For Rabindranath Tagore, India was more than his mother and not only a piece of Land or any geographical boundary. He said that if nationalism is something imaginary, humanity has to readjust their imagination by being more comprehensive and encyclopedic, so that the fellowship of the group does not stop at a geographical border, like possessions. According to Tagore's views, the narrow mentality of humanity, fight for geographical areas, and animosity towards each other is not called love and attachment for nation and nationalism. Tagore has clear ideas about the real meaning and love for nation by self-love, self interest and moral power.

Tagore suggested us not to borrow people's history which can be the reason for committing crush in your life and eradicate the real sense of nationalism. Especially Tagore explained the Nationalistic views on East to the west and West to the East. He acknowledged that India is no beggar of the West. The East has her own contribution to make the history of civilization. He strongly believed in morality and ethics of the person. He tried to appreciate many times in his works about morality and loyalty towards one's nation. Though He was not against of nation in particular, but he was against the general ideas of all nation and nationalism. We can find from Tagore's work that Nationalism is a great threat. India has had to encounter with many struggle in the past and even in the present times. As we know that India is very vast in its area and too diverse in its races even. Among all different races and wide areas, it is very difficult to maintain unity. Tagore was in opposed to segregate the geographical boundaries. He has portrayed the picture of nationalism and nationalistic in the sense of spiritual unity, morality and Co-operation. The trouble of India had nationalism in the bottom. To build up Nationalism, India was in need of constructive work. Within this work we must take our rights to do our moral duties. Even after having many races, India had the toleration of various and difference



in races which has acted in Indian history.

Tagore and Gandhi were on very good pleasant terms, and in many ways Tagore was a pioneer of Gandhi's new identity; it was Tagore who gave the title "Mahatma" (the great soul) to Gandhi. Some critics have drawn the figure of Tagore: Tagore as a Nationalist and Tagore as a cosmopolitan. Combined with these we will unquestionably entitle him as a Nationalist. Rabindranath Tagore's idea of freedom created a significant part in the mind of people. Rabindranath Tagore had deeply expressed in his work and even his personal life for the upliftment of moral and spiritual freedom of the human spirit. It is very cleared by Tagore's nationalistic views that the essence of freedom is to explain the soul by a process of self-realization and to be a good humanitarian. What he wished for India, he wished also for the world. Tagore was a prophet of peace not conflict, love not hate. He stood for a simple life and a pure heart, a clear spiritual vision and harmony with the universe. His words breathe, his ideas enlightened the mind, and his poetry moves the heart of everyone. For the last half century Tagore endeavoured to create a world where "life may be beautiful like summer flowers and death like autumn leaves."

In 1913 Rabindranath Tagore was awarded the Nobel Prize in literature for his contribution. Also he received the title Knighthood from British government in 1915 which he abandoned aftermath of the jallianwala Bagh massacre in 1919 as a protest against the British rule. He said that the knighthood meant nothing to him when the British failed to even consider his fellow Indians as humans. From 1912 Tagore spent long periods out of India, lecturing and reading from his work in Europe, the Americas, and East Asia and he became an persuasive spokesperson for the cause of Indian independence. During his lifetime, Rabindranath Tagore wrote several poems, novels and short stories. Tagore's novels in Bengali are less well known than his poems and short stories; they include Gora (1910) and Ghare-Baire (1916), translated into English as Gora and The Home and the World, respectively. In the



late 1920s, when he was in his 60s, Tagore took up painting and produced works that won him a place among India's foremost contemporary artists.

Many of his novels and short stories were made into films by the renowned filmmaker Satyajit Ray. Other filmmakers too, over the years, have drawn inspiration from his works and have incorporated his stories into their movies. As many as 39 stories of his were made into films by various directors and a few other stories were made into TV series. Some of the recent movie adaptations include 'Detective', 'Postmaster', 'Jogajog', 'Shesher Kabita' and 'Tasher Desh.' Rabindranath Tagore spent the last four years of his life in constant pain and was bogged down by two long bouts of illness. After an extended period of suffering, Tagore died on August 7, 1941 in the same Jorasanko mansion in which he was brought up.

He was a multitalented personality in every sense. Even today, Rabindranath Tagore is often remembered for his poetic songs, which are both spiritual and mercurial. He was one of those great minds, ahead of his time, and that is exactly why his meeting with Albert Einstein is considered as a clash between science and spirituality. Tagore was keen in spreading his ideologies to the rest of the world and hence embarked on a world tour, lecturing in countries like Japan and the United States. Soon, his works were admired by people of various countries and he eventually became the first non-European to win a Nobel Prize.

#### **References -**

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