



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
Only IAS Academy by Grandson of "Perunthalsivam Kamarajar"

Rabindranath Tagore

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Why is in news? Rabindranath Tagore's 82nd death anniversary being observed in Bangladesh

He was born in Calcutta on **7th May 1861**. He was also referred to as '**Gurudev**', '**Kabiguru**', and '**Biswakabi**'.

He is regarded as the outstanding creative artist of modern India and hailed by W.B Yeats.

The cornerstone of Tagore's beliefs and work is the idea that anti-colonialism cannot simply be achieved by rejecting all things British, but should consist **of incorporating all the best aspects of western culture** into the best of Indian culture.

Rabindranath Tagore was a **Bengali poet, novelist, and painter**, who was highly influential in introducing Indian culture to the west.

He was an exceptional literary figure and a renowned polymath who singlehandedly reshaped the region's literature and music.

He was a **good friend of Mahatma Gandhi** and is said to **have given him the title of Mahatma**.

He had spoken at the **World Parliament for Religions** in the years 1929 and 1937.

He is said to have composed over 2000 songs and his songs and music are called '**Rabindra Sangeet**' with its own distinct lyrical and fluid style.

He is **responsible for modernising Bengali prose and poetry**. His notable works include Gitanjali, Ghare-Baire, Gora, Manasi, Balaka, Sonar Tori, He is also remembered for his song '**Ekla Chalo Re**'.

He published his first poems aged 16 under the **pen-name 'Bhanusimha'**.

He not only gave the national anthems for two countries, India and Bangladesh, but also inspired a Ceylonese student of his, to pen and compose the national anthem of Sri Lanka.

Besides all his literary achievements he was also a philosopher and educationist who in 1921 **established the Vishwa-Bharati University**, a university that challenged conventional education.

In **1913 he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature** for his work on **Gitanjali**. He was the **first non-European to receive the Nobel Prize**.

In **1915 he was awarded knighthood** by the British King George V. In 1919, **following the Jallianwalla Bagh massacre, he renounced his Knighthood**.

He died on 7th August 1941 in Calcutta.

Kamaraj IAS Academy

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