

## Rabindranath Tagore

- National Anthem
- Internationalism
- First Asian to win a Nobel Prize
- Nobel Prize for Literature in 1913: Gitanjali (English)
- Poet, Music Composer (more than 200 songs), Paintings (more than 2300 artworks), Traveler (34 Countries), Social Reformer
- Kabuliwala, Hungry Stones (story book), Novels (Gora Chaturanga, Shesher, Kobita, Char Adhyay, Noukadubi, The Home & The World), The Universal Man.
- Born in the family of Brahmo Samajists
- Family surname- Kushari
- Their family was so rich that they were called as Thakur
- British mispronounced his surname and here comes Tagore
- Friend of Raja Ram Mohan Roy & was also a member of Brahmo Samaj
- 1864-Satyendranath Tagore - 1st Indian to pass IAS exam
- Raised by Servants- Servocracy
- London- studied law (dropped out)
- Gave title of Desh Nayak (Country's Hero) to Subhash Chandra Bose (1939).

### Philosophy of Rabindranath Tagore

Like Rousseau, Tagore was an individualist & Naturalist.

**According to Tagore, following are the values enriched in a philosopher:**

**As an Individualist:** right type of freedom to an individual.

**As an Idealist:** man should live for ultimate truth, which liberates us from the cycle of birth

**As a Spiritualist:** every individual should try to attain spiritual perfection.

**As a Humanist:** brotherhood, faith in fundamental unity of mankind ("even God depends upon man, for perfecting his universe")

**As a Naturalist:** nature is a great teacher

**As a Vedantist:** belief towards Philosophy of Veda: "I am Brahma".

### Educational Philosophy

- ✓ Based on Naturalism, Humanism, Internationalism, Idealism
- ✓ Harmony with all things
- ✓ Principle of freedom (rights & freedom of an individual to shape his life in his own way)
- ✓ Principle of creative self-expression
- ✓ Active communion with nature & man

- ✓ Education should be natural in content & quality.  
(Through contact with nature, the child will be introduced to great world of reality easily and jointly).

### **Factors Influencing Tagore's Philosophy of Education**

- ✓ Influence of the home environment.
- ✓ Influence of the school environment.
- ✓ Love for Nature.
- ✓ His extensive visits.

Shantiniketan (popularly known today as a university town): Founded by Rabindranath Tagore in 1901 and located about a hundred and fifty eight kilometers northwest of Kolkata in Bengal's rural hinterland, represents the distillation of Rabindranath Tagore's life, philosophy and greatest works through his lifetime and the continuing legacy of his unique model of education.

### **Aims of Education**

- Moral & Spiritual aims
- Physical Development
- Intellectual Development
- International Brotherhood
- Education for fullness.

### **Discipline**

- An educational institution is an open house, in which students and teachers are one, they must live their compact life together".
- An Educational institution must not be a dead cage, in which living minds are fed with food artificially prepared".
- "I never said to them that don't do this, or don't do that. The boys are encouraged to manage their own affairs".

### **Curriculum**

- Comprehensive Curriculum: which should satisfy child's aesthetic, creative, spiritual & vocational needs.
- Experimental Learning (equipped laboratory @ Shantiniketan).

### **Role of Teacher**

- Friend, Philosopher.
- Teacher is cardinal embodiment of all values and ideas.
- "I have found that little children learn more quickly, the attitude of the teacher than the knowledge imparted by him."

- "A teacher can never truly teach, unless he is still learning himself" i.e. "A lamp can never light another lamp unless it continues to burn its own flame."
- The first important lesson for children would be that of improvisation. They should be provided constant opportunities to explore their capacities through surprises of achievement.

### **Methods of Teaching**

- Activity & Dynamic methods
- Independent study & efforts
- Labelled then methods as bookish, mechanical, stereotyped, dull & uninteresting
- Education in natural surrounding characterized by freedom & creativity (teaching while walking is the best method of teaching)
- Learning should be linked with joy & ecstasy
- Learning by doing
- Familiar to unfamiliar, Near to far, Known to unknown.

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