

Rabindranath Tagore: The immortal poet

**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 out from the depth of truth.....**

These very words were written by the greatest writer in modern Indian literature; a Bengali poet, novelist, educator and Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore. Tagore's poems, songs, novels, etc, have an influence that can be felt more in these tumultuous times than in his own time, and that his relevance is not restricted to Bengal alone.

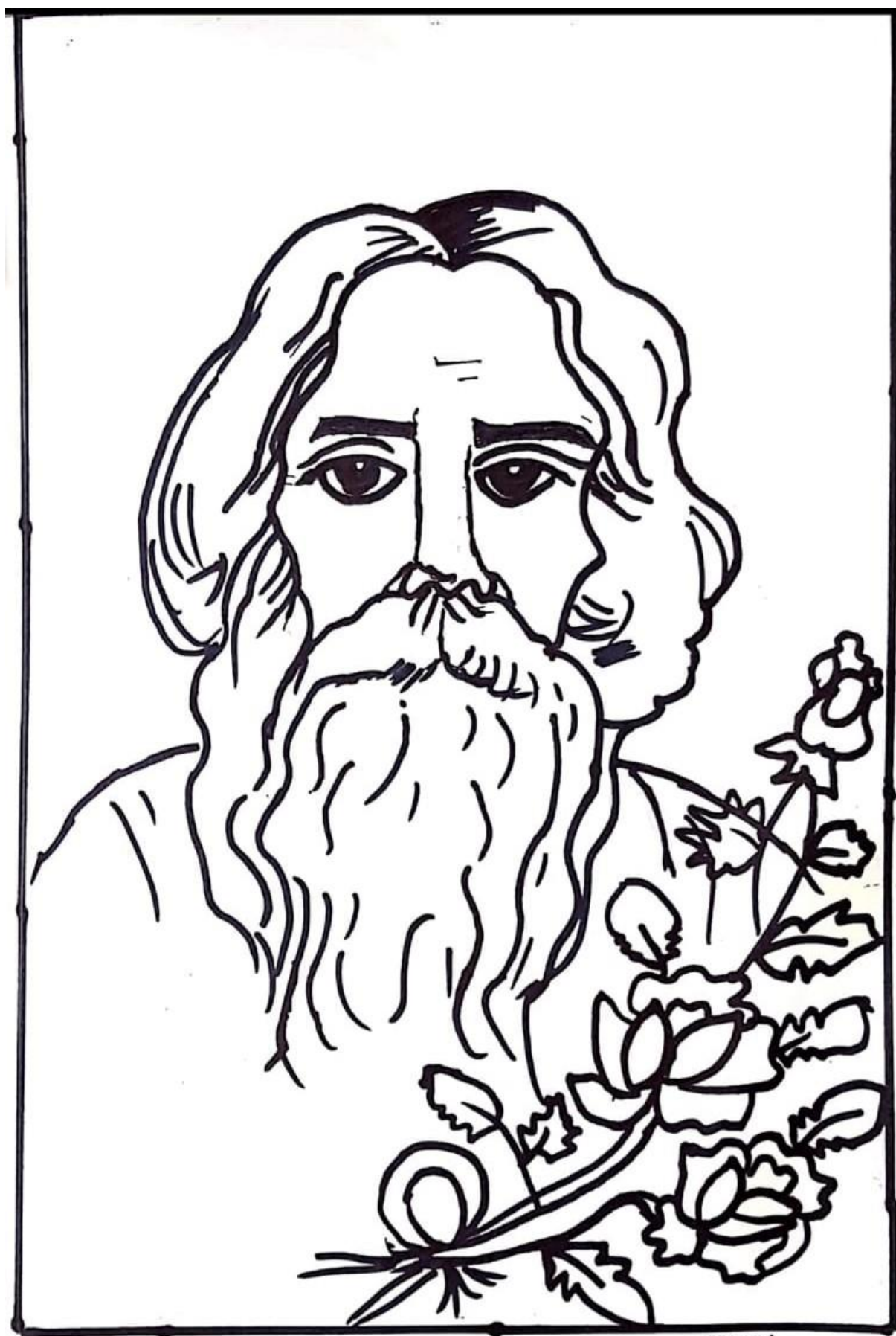
Rabindranath Tagore was born on 7th May 1861 and his birthday is celebrated on the 25th day of the Baisakh month of the Bengali Calendar. Tagore was a poet, writer, playwright, composer, philosopher, social reformer and painter. Tagore first wrote poems at the age of eight. He published his first substantial poetry under the pseudonym Bhanushingho ("Sun Lion") in 1877 and wrote his first short stories and dramas at age of sixteen.

Tagore composed more than 50 volumes of poetry, including the well-known **Gitanjali**. He also wrote approximately 2230 songs and many of his poems have also been set to music by others.

Poet Rabindranath Tagore won the **Nobel Prize** for **Literature** in 1913 for his collection **Gitanjali** published in London in 1912. The prize gained even more significance by being given to an Indian for the first time. This honour established Tagore's literary reputation worldwide.

Sad or happy, Tagore always has a poem or a song that you can relate to your mood.

On the 25th day of the Baisakh month of 2021 (9th May) our beloved poet will be celebrated by not only Bengalis but all the admirers of Tagore as it will mark his 160th birth anniversary.



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