

Abstract

Tagore is the greatest of the Indian writers in English. His fame as a poet in English rests chiefly on The “Gitanjali” which is a “transcreation “of the Bengali original. It was with this work that he achieved international fame and recognition, and was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature. He is one of the greatest lyric poets of the world, and Edward Thompson calls his handling of poetic prose an “impeccable metrical achievement”. His thought and imagery are Indian, and his poetry is in the tradition of the Indian devotional poetry. His message is spiritual, both Hindu and universal at one and the same time. In his poetry Indianness acquires a universal significance. According to Verghese the main features of his poetry are, its humanistic essence combined with spirituality, a love of nature and man and the expression of the beauty and splendor of the earth. The poet’s spiritual message does not however , enjoin us to run away from the “fret and fever of life” and seek shelter in a hermitage, but insists on our full participation in the joys and sorrows of life. Stress on Tagore’s mysticism has led to a neglect of his poetry as poetry; it has tended to obscure his greatness as a poet and artist. He perfected a kind of incantatory rhythmic prose and demonstrated that Indian sentiment, thought and imagery can be as well expressed in English as in any Indian language.

Statement of the Problem:”Tagore’s Philosophy: A Study form Selected Sources”

Objectives of the Research

- To study Tagore’s philosophy.
- To study the components of Tagore’s philosophy as reflected in the “Gitanjali”
- To draw out implications from Tagore’s philosophy.
- To study the relevance of Tagore’s philosophy in modern age.

Research question

- ✓ What are the philosophical ideas reflected in the selected poems?
- ✓ What are the ideas of Tagore's Philosophy?
- ✓ How Tagore's philosophy is reflected in the selected poems of the Gitanjali?
- ✓ What are the educational implications of Tagore's philosophy?
- ✓ How can philosophies of Tagore as reflected in the Gitanjali be implied in the educational system in modern age?
- ✓ What is the central idea of the selected poems of the 'Gitanjali'?
- ✓ What has the writer tried to portray in the selected poems?
- ✓ Which attributes/values have been highlighted in the selected poems?
- ✓ What are the perceptions of the author regarding knowledge?
- ✓ What are the author's feelings towards his country and countrymen?
- ✓ What are the perceptions of the author regarding the society at large?
- ✓ How philosophies of Tagore as reflected in the 'Gitanjali' can be implied in the education system.

Methodology adopted for the study

Content analysis

"Content analysis is a research technique for making inference by systematically and objectively identifying specified characters or characteristics within a text."

As the data for the present study are qualitative in nature, the entire study was carried out through content analysis method. Content analysis is a systematic examination of the recorded work for further classification. The process involves investigation, analyzing and interpreting.

In the present study researcher has selected poems of the Gitanjali. So that when the researcher read those poems researcher found various philosophies underlying in those poems.

After studying the poems of the Gitanjali, it was found that they had shades of Idealistic and Naturalistic philosophy. However, prominently Idealism was reflected in the poems wherein Rabindranath Tagore has expressed that mind, idea, spirit or self is the reality. He has emphasized the reality and worth of individual people, moral values and human freedom. Therefore he has said that the main aim of life is exaltation of personality or self realization and this can come when the inborn nature is converted into spiritual nature. Politeness, modesty, liberty, justice, honesty, truth and integrity are some of the values he feels are important for any individual.

On the basis of the analysis carried out and above conclusions drawn, many educational implications can also be drawn out from Tagore's philosophical thoughts. The major contribution of Tagore's philosophy can be considered towards the aims of education. Self realization is the main aim of education which is true in the present era also. His philosophical thoughts have laid emphasis on moral education through truth, beauty and goodness. They also promote universal education. His thoughts stimulate the creative energies of the child and also the high ideals of life can be encouraged in the pupils. His thoughts advocate self discipline which leads to full development. Freedom of the child has also been advocated by Tagore. The child according to Tagore should be left free to structure his own plans, activities, observations and experiences. It is on these thoughts that constructivism is being followed in the present education system. Development of individuality, self expression and preservation of racial heritage through education are some of the merits which need to make their permanent place in our education system and for this to happen the development of rationality and intelligence is a pre-requisite. All these components can be integrated into our education system. .