RABINDRANATH & HIS MANY ABOLES





West Bengal Heritage Commission
Government of West Bengal



Shuvaprasanna

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Rabindranath Tagore in a letter to Andre Carpelles 14 May 1935



भभण गानाड्डी ममता बैनर्जी ممتا بنر کی Mamata Banerjee



भूখामन्ती, পশ্চিমবন্ধ मुख्यमंत्री, पश्चिम बंगाल وزراعلی مغرلی بنگال CHIEF MINISTER, WEST BENGAL

FOREWORD

I am very happy to know that West Bengal Heritage Commission is bringing out a publication titled "Rabindranath and His Many Abodes".

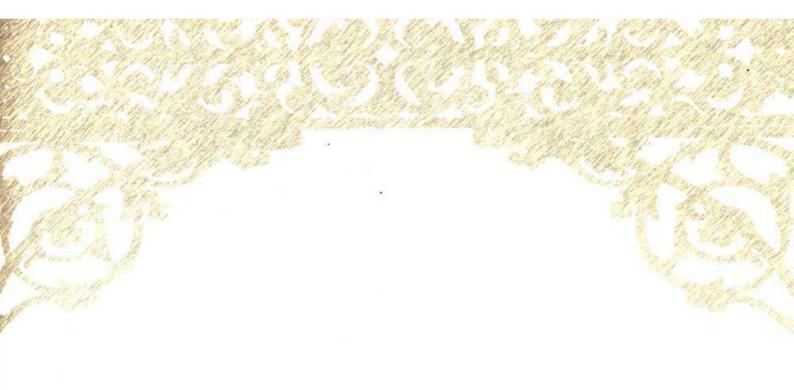
We all know that 'Biswakobi' was truly a globe-trotter - travelling always from one place to another. His searching mind took him to places in search of the unknown and in quest of more and more knowledge, which he, eventually, shared with his millions of admirers all over the world.

In course of such visits, he has stayed in many different places which have earned for themselves the distinction of temples of creativity, of knowledge, of literature, beyond any parallel.

We always remember – "Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high....."

I hope this publication will be a befitting tribute to those wonderful places and to the great poet and the great human being.

(Mamata Banerjee)



abindranath Tagore used to stay in various places in this immensely diversified Bengal, to experience change of weather, to be in close touch with nature or often drawn by its companions. Wherever he stayed, he immersed himself in creative work—be it prose, verse, songs, poems or paintings. The places became platforms of creativity. The influence of the ambience and natural beauty of the places stirred his creative genius, which reflected in his works, making these buildings memorable.

His countless letters have documented the various moments passed there. On one hand, the history of these abodes, their architectural distinctions, testify to the insight of a complete artist, his lifestyle and his taste. On the other, these throw light on the mental upheaval of a creative person who was never confined to a single place. The poet used to shift from one place to another at his own Santiniketan even.

He also had his own way to look at the aesthetics of the building which is manifested in various structures at Santiniketan. A beautiful influence of the architectural style of South East Asia resulted in a new architectural splendour. Even the interior parts and the furniture bore the influence of his distinguished culture while he used to change the placements of the furniture also.

His propensity to look anew at things used to keep his creative mind busy. For this he always altered himself. The external restlessness nurtured his internal tranquillity and his joyous sensitivity, manifesting the celebration of the joy of life.

The innumerable abodes inked with the memory of Tagore, one of the best specimens of modern India, are memorials to the history, literature and art connected with the poet. Our three eminent research scholars have traced the footprints of Tagore to write this book, "Rabindranath and his many abodes", tracking our tradition on behalf of the West Bengal Heritage Commission.

We are happy to publish this book and express our gratitude to all those who have helped us in bringing the collection out. It need not be mentioned that the comments of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, on the significance of the book, in her congratulatory message, have added value to the publication.

Shuvaprasanna 30.06.2014

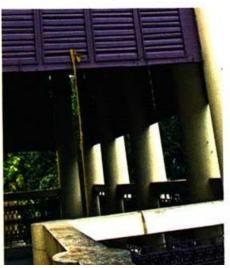


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