



# Rabindranath Tagores 150 årsjubileum

8 Maj 2011, kl 16-19

Ihresalen, Engelska Parken,  
Thunbergsvägen 3H

কর্ণটি বিঁঝিট। কাওয়ালি

বড়ো আশা ক'রে এসেছি গো, কাছে ডেকে লও,  
ফিরায়ো না জননী ॥

দীনহীনে কেহ চাহে না, তুমি তারে রাখিবে জানি গো।  
আর আমি-যে কিছু চাহি নে, চরণতলে বসে থাকিব।  
আর আমি-যে কিছু চাহি নে, জননী ব'লে শুধু ডাকিব।

তুমি না রাখিলে, গৃহ আর পাইব কোথা,  
কৈদে কৈদে কোথা বেড়াব—  
ওই-যে হেরি তমসঘনঘোরা গহন রজনী ॥



UPPSALA  
UNIVERSITET

Föredrag - musik - diktläsning  
(på engelska)

Fri entré!!!

*Hedersgäster:*

H.E. Ashok Sajjanhar  
(Indiens ambassadör)

H.E. AFM Gousal Azam Sarker  
(Bangladeshs ambassadör)

ARR: The Uppsala University Seminar  
for South Asian Studies

Rabindranath Tagore, Nobelpristagare i litteratur 1913,  
och Nathan Söderblom (1921)



*Medverkande:*

Trio CREATION med Jonas Landahl, Suranjana Ghosh och Iti Malo (musik)  
Bubu Munshi Eklund (musik)  
Dr. Ferdinando Sardella (föredrag)  
Prof. Heinz Werner Wessler (föredrag)



## Tagore 150 anniversary celebration in Uppsala

Rabindranath Tagore (7.5.1861-7.8.1941) was the first non-western recipient of the Nobel Prize for literature (1913). When he received the award for his English rendering of the poetry collection "Geetanjali", he was already well known as author in poetry and prose among Bengali speakers. Tagore's style, holding the balance between traditional imaginary and the multiple registers of modernity, immediately hit the poetical sentiment of many Bengalis. Beyond the world of lyrics, he took much interest in social and educational reform, resistance to colonial rule and general questions of international politics. Two of his poems were later selected as national anthems of Bangladesh and India as well.

Most of Tagore's writing is originally in Bengali, and it has often been argued that much of the charm of the original is lost in translation. Tagore is mostly known from English versions of his Bengali poetry, and much less known as playwright, author of novels and essays. His famous novel "Chokher Bali" is, for example, sometimes interpreted as the first modern novel in Indian literature at all. The image of Tagore as a romantic naturalist conveyed by sometimes unfortunate English versions of his poetry, downplay other aspects of his complex personality.

For both Bangladesh and India, the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the great poet and intellectual is a primary event of national memorial culture. - Tagore has visited Uppsala University two times, in 1921 and 1926. On both occasions, large crowds were attracted to the aula of the university main building. We will celebrate his 150<sup>th</sup> birthday with "Rabindra Shongit", songs that were written and put to notes by Tagore himself, by readings of his poetry and prose, and by short presentations of his life, work and religious imagination of his poetry, which is much inspired by traditional mystical love-play narratives in Bengal. Everyone is invited to "Ihresalen", the biggest hall in the campus on Engelska parken on the 8<sup>th</sup> of May from 4-7 pm (entry free). The event is honoured by the presence of His eminencies the ambassadors of Bangladesh and India.

### Programme:

16:00-16:20 music

16:20-16:40 presentation: life, works and translation of Tagore (Heinz Werner Wessler)

16:40-16:50 reading of poetry

16:50-17:10 music

17:10-17:20 H.E. Ambassador of Bangladesh

17:20-17:40 Tagore and Religion (Ferdinando Sardella)

17:40-18:00 break (tea and snacks)

18:00-18:20 music

18:20-18:30 H.E. Ambassador of India

18:30-18:40 reading of prose

18:40-19:00 music