

**Tagore Jayanti**  
Tagore Dance & Music Group  
8 May 2022

**Remarks**  
**Ambassador Tanmaya Lal**

Namaskar everyone,

I would like to thank the Tagore Dance & Music Group for organising this event and for inviting me to join.

It is indeed very special to celebrate the birth anniversary of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore here in Sweden, in view of the special link with Nobel Prize.

Some of you may have noticed that yesterday the Nobel Prize organisation posted a series of social media posts on Tagore's enduring legacy, multitalented personality and accomplishments.

Rabindranath Tagore was an inspirational figure, an icon.

His compositions are celebrated every day across the world, and especially in India and Bangladesh not the least through their national anthems which are his compositions.

Tagore was a sensitive and versatile and prolific poet, author, artist, philosopher, reformer, and thinker.

He lived in interesting times both for India and for the entire world.

Many parts of the world were facing conflicts. Europe was also in flux economically, socially and economically. There was a huge upheaval going on.

Large parts of the world, including India, were not independent.

At that time, India was witnessing literary revolution, social reform, national freedom struggle.

Tagore was influenced by his times and also made an impact on leading thinkers and common people alike.

Tagore drew inspiration from Indian classical & folk music heritage, and the works of devotional poets.

Tagore was a humanist and a universalist.

Rabindranath Tagore travelled the world and engaged with iconic figures across countries and fields such as political leaders, philosophers, reformers, scientists, and poets. For instance, Gandhi, Einstein, George Bernard Shaw and many others.

Tagore visited Uppsala a hundred years ago, and received an enthusiastic reception.

It is good to see the Tagore Dance and Music Group engaging with his legacy here in Sweden. And the Embassy is happy to support TDMC in their endeavours.

This is a special year for India as we celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> year of Indian Independence as Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.

It is heartening to see the participation of young children and parents alike and Swedish friends in this special event.

My compliments and best wishes to all of you for these efforts.

Thank You.