

THE SYMBOL OF 'EYE' IN TAGORE'S SONGS

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ABSTRACT

The Real Rabindranath Tagore was revealed in his Songs. Tagore himself stated more than once that even of his Poetry would not be remembered by future generation, but his songs alone would be. The quality of his songs is enriching, bewildering and universally appealing. The technical quality of songs, the symbolism used in songs were multitudinous in nature. Here eye represents source of light and energy in one of the greatest festival of Bengal (DurgaPuja) the poet expresses love which is yet to be bloomed. The symbolism of eye is also expressed as to 'surrender' to someone with deep regards and respect. Thus the poet sings 'eye dropped at your feet, the world stands still'. In this study we identify with the poet sensibility, it arouses hidden emotion in our unconscious and we feel joy, serenity and delight which are much above the mundane activities.

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The symbol of eye as Jung denotes is the maternal bosom and the pupil it's child, as quoted by Cirlot, E (2002). In Tagore's songs it appeared in various ways. In one song we find 'eye' represents physical normality and also the symbolism of the divine. In his Language

" My eyes failed to see you my Lord,

Yet you dwell in my eyes

My heart knows you not

Yet you hide in my heart".

Human beings whatever may do, it reflects in his eyes. But he couldn't visualize himself, couldn't perceive his sorrows and weaknesses, how paradoxical it is.

In another song he sings.

O, Thou comest, who bewitches my eyes
My heart goes out to the
And what do I behold when I open my eyes wide

Here eye represents source of light and energy in one of the greatest festival of Bengal (Durga Puja). In this song light is symbolic of the intelligence and of the spirit. The mind is flooded with delight. Human beings unite with 'God' – reunion with the reality and the spiritual being, infinite within finite. Jung describes 'anima' as feminine portion in man's psyche anima is expressed through the symbolism of eye. In transcreation we can utter.

My eyes seek your thought that are flower birds
In the deep shadows of your eyes.
There, in the inaccessible secret and dense illusions.
My eyes lose their way.

The poet expresses love which is yet to be bloomed.

The symbolism of eye is also expressed as to 'surrender' to someone with deep regards and respect. Thus the poet sings 'eye dropped at your feet, the world stands still'.

The 'eye' symbolism allows an 'extreme sensitiveness full of reserve to appear'. Therefore as a reader we get tender and restrained emotion when we tried to identify with varied symbolism in Tagore's songs. Here in this present study eye represents a spiritual act symbolism, understanding. '... The whole song became itself, and the whole song becomes a mood. It was in the mood that poetry become music.' Thus identification with the poet arouses our sensibility which is repressed in our unconscious and we feel joy, serenity and delight which are much above the mundane activities.

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