

Topic no 12
About the poets
Rabindranath Tagore

Period :

- 7 may 1861 -7 august 1941
- He was born on 6th may 1861 in Calcutta. His father's name was Devandra tagore.

Nickname:

Guru dev
Bard of Bengal

Nationality: Indian

Early life:

He was admitted in a school named "Bengal academy". but he refused to go to the school as the children were mercilessly beaten by the teacher. He educated at home. At seventeen in the year 1878, he went to England to study English literature. He did not finish his studies there.

Social reforms:

- A Bengali poet, novelist, artist and educator
- He established two institutes of learning – shanthi niketan and vishwa bharathi.
- Shanthi niketan= instills good moral values in the students
- Vishwabarathi was established on 22nd dec 1918.
- From time to time he participated in the Indian nationalist movement
- Tagore was knighted by the ruling British Government in 1915, but within a few years he resigned the honour as a protest against British policies in India.

Works and awards:

- Tagore had early success as a writer in his native Bengal. With his translations of some of his poems he became rapidly known in the West.
- He received nobel prize for his famous book "geetanjali" in 1913.

[note: refer topic no.15 for his works and novels details]

H.W. Longfellow

Period: 27th feb1807-24th march1882

Nickname: national institution

Nationality: American

Early life:

- He was born in Portland, Maine. His father's name is Stephen Longfellow – a politician and a lawyer.
- He was a professor at Harvard.

Works:

- His works were musical, mildly romantic, high minded and flavoured with sentimental preachments (Norton Anthology of American Literature)

[Refer topic no-15].

Annie Louisa Walker

Period: 23rd June 1836- 7th July 1907

Nationality: British and Canada

Early life:

- She was born in Staffordshire, England. She was the ninth child of Robert Walker and Anna.
- Her husband's name is Harry Coghill. She was educated in Ontario where she and her sister operated a school for ladies.

Works:

- Walker published poetry in newspapers on both sides of the border before collecting them in "Leaves from the Backwoods" in 1861-1862. She returned to England to work for her cousin, Margaret Oliphant, a well-known novelist, and edited her autobiography and letters in 1899, under her married name, Mrs. Harry Coghill. She collected her poetic output in Oak and Maple: English and Canadian Verses.

VK Gokak

Period: 9 Aug 1909-28 Apr 1992

Nationality: Indian

Early life:

- He was born in Savanur, Dharwad, Karnataka
- Education- B.A. in 1929 and M.A. in 1931.
- He began his career as an Assistant Professor in Fergusson College, Pune and later he became the principal of D.E. Society's Willington College, Sangli. In 1936, he did his advanced studies with distinction at Oxford University.
- Literary movement: Navodaya

Honours and awards:

- Presidentship of the 40th Kannada Sahitya Sammelana in 1958.
- Honorary doctorates from the Karnatak University.
- Honorary doctorates from the Pacific University of the USA.
- Central Sahitya Akademi award for his 'Dyava Prithivi' in 1961.
- Jnanpith award-for his Bharatha sindhu rashmi, in 1990.

Works:

- Bharatha sindhu rashmi
- Samarasave jeevana
- urnanaaba
- Abyudaya
- Baaladeguladalli
- Dhyava pruthvi
- Samudra geethegalu
- english words in tamil meaning

Achievement:

- he was the fifth writer to be honoured with **jnanpith** award in 1990 for kanada for his work
- **Bharatha sindhu rashmi.**
- in 1961, he was awarded the **padmashree** for dyava prithvi

Walt Whitman

Period: 31st may 1819- 26th mar 1892

Nationality : American

Early life:

- he was born in long island, USA, he was the second son of Walter Whitman, a house builder and Louisa van velsor. At the age of twelve Whitman began to learn the printer's trade, and fell in love with the written word. Largely self taught, he read voraciously, becoming acquainted with the bible and the works of homer, Dante, and Shakespeare

Career:

- He started his career as an office boy in a law office in Brooklyn at the age of eleven and then become a typesetter's apprentice in a number of print shop. in 1836, at the age of 17, he become as a teacher in long island. He continued to teach until 1841, when he turned to journalism as a full time career. He founded a weekly newspaper, long islander. he was a volunteer nurse in **American civil war.**

- During 1850-1855 he focused, on his own poetic works “leaves of grass” and continued to write. He died at the age of 72.

Douglas malloch

Period: 5th may 1877- 2nd july1938

Nationality: American

Nick name: lumberman’s poet

Career:

- He was born in Muskegon,Michigan which is also known as a center of lumbering industry.
- A short story write, associate editor of American lumberman, a trade paper in Chicago. He is noted for writing round river drive and be the best of whatever you are besides many other creations. He was commissioned to write Michigan state song.

Works:

1. Ain’t it fine today?
2. Always a mason
3. Be the best of whatever you are(also cited as if)
4. Buildings
5. Chaudiere
6. Christmas
7. Connecticut drive
8. Echoes
9. Father’s lodge
10. Good timber
11. The little lodge of long ago
12. The love of a botanist
13. Make me a mellow
14. The masonry of spring
15. Members or masons
16. The road of masonry
17. Today
18. You have to believe in happiness
19. The love of a man for a man