



The period November 2024 to January 2025 marks the centennial of Rabindranath Tagore's visit to Argentina—the only Latin American country he ever visited.

To commemorate the event, [The Centre for Comparative Literature](#), Bhasha Bhavana, Visva-Bharati, in collaboration with [Coherent Digital](#), has organized two 90-minute Zoom lectures. The second is to be held in February 2025.

Translating *Geetobitan* into Spanish

Date: Tuesday, February 25, 2025

Time: 6:30 PM (India), 2:00 PM (Spain), 8:00 AM (New York)

Speakers: Jesús Aguado and Subhro Bandyopadhyay

Chair: Malabika Bhattacharya

If you missed the January lecture, you can view a recording [here](#).

[Register for the lecture here](#)

Learn more about Tagore's legacy:

Rabindranath Tagore (1861–1941) was an immensely important figure in modern Indian literature and a significant voice in India's cultural and spiritual renaissance. He wrote primarily in Bengali but translated many of his works into English. His most famous works include *Gitanjali*, for which he received the Nobel Prize, and iconic songs such as "Jana Gana Mana" (India's national anthem). Tagore was also deeply engaged with philosophy, education (founding Visva-Bharati University), and social reform, and his ideas influenced the global cultural and intellectual landscape.

In 1924, when Tagore visited Argentina, his health was deteriorating after a grueling tour of Europe. Victoria Ocampo, a prominent Argentinian writer, intellectual, and patron of the arts, invited him to recuperate at her estate in Buenos Aires. Although they had not met before, Ocampo admired Tagore's works, particularly *Gitanjali*, and their correspondence had led to this visit. During his stay, Tagore composed a collection of poems, *Purabi*, which included reflections inspired by the landscape in Argentina and his experience there. The visit symbolizes the confluence of Indian and Latin American intellectual and cultural traditions, and it underscores Tagore's universal appeal and the global resonance of his works. His trip to Argentina is significant in many ways in the history of Indo-Latin American history, as many scholars have explored.



Jesús Aguado is a major contemporary Spanish poet with many books of poetry to his credit, including *Semillas para un cuerpo* (1988), *Los amores imposibles* (1990), *Libro de homenajes* (1993), *El fugitivo* (1998), and *Verbos* (2009). He has won several important awards for poetry, including the prestigious Hiperión prize. Now based in Barcelona, he lived in Varanasi for some time, and it figures as a pivotal place in his poetry and life. He has translated many collections of Indian poetry into Spanish.



Subhro Bandyopadhyay is the author of five books of poetry in Bengali, among which four were translated into Spanish and published in Spain. He received the Ruy de Clavijo scholarship from Casa Asia in 2007, the Antonio Machado International Poetry Fellowship from the Government of Spain in 2008, and Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar in 2013 for a collection of poems, *Bouddho Lekhomala O Onnyano Shraman*. He teaches Spanish as a foreign language at the Instituto Cervantes in New Delhi.



Malabika Bhattacharya is former professor of Spanish in the Institute of Foreign Languages, Ministry of Defence, Government of India, New Delhi. Associated with the University of Calcutta and the Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Professor Bhattacharya is also the founder and President of Los Hispanofilos, an association for the promotion of Spanish language in India. She has published extensively on Spanish and Latin American literature. Her translations include several poems of Rabindranath Tagore into Spanish and poems of Juan Ramon Jimenez, Federico Garcia Lorca, Octavio Paz, and Pablo Neruda into Bengali.

[Register for the lecture here](#)