



Lesson.1

Gitanjali --- *Rabindranath Tagore.*

NOTES

Substance of the poem:

“Gitanjali” is a beautiful poem written by Rabindranath Tagore. Here, the poet expresses his ideas that man cannot attain God's blessings just by worshipping and offerings flowers and incense sticks in the temple. But God can only be attained by working hard. Man has to struggle and work really hard to achieve success in life. And in this manner, God favors those who really work hard in life. So, the poet urges to stop praying and singing with half shut eyes inside the lonely dark corner of the temple where doors are shut, and to join the labourers working hard in the field or the workplace. God, himself is bound with the work of creation. And join among those working in the hard ground facing the hot sun and the rain covered with dirt. The poet concludes asking the devotees to work hard so that they can attain God's blessings.

Word meaning:

1. Chanting: reciting in the singing manners.
2. Telling of beads: counting beads and praying.
3. Tiller: one who ploughs the land.
4. Path-maker: one who is making the path or road.
5. Garment: article of clothing.
6. Holy: sacred.
7. Mantle: loose garment without sleeves worn over other clothes.
8. Deliverance: set free from bondage.
9. Bonds: the bindings.

10. Creation: the action and process of making the universe.
11. Meditations: thinking deeply (particularly on religious issues)
12. Incense: mixture of herbs and spices producing fragrance smoke when burnt.
13. Tattered : torn, worn out.
14. Stained: leaving coloured or dirty marks on clothes.
15. Toil : hard work.

