

A CASE STUDY

Psycholinguistic: A study on Tagore's Gitanjali

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ABSTRACT

Rabindranath Tagore had a unique vision and insight into the domain of man-the complete and integrated man, with a man of widest perception. He had experienced life to the full and turned that experience into the realm of poems beyond the immanent reality. In this present study selected words from Tagore's Gitanjali had been analyzed psychodynamically by Osgood's Semantic Differential Technique. Findings had highlighted Tagore's words were enriched and he was rightly called 'Lord of Speech with mind for all'.

Key Words : Psycholinguistic, Semantics, Literature

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Creativity is the ability to generate new ideas and new connections between ideas and ways to solve problems in an unique way. There is a positive correlation between creativity and positive emotions. Rabindranath Tagore had a unique vision and insight into the domain of man-the complete integrated man with widest perception. He had experienced life to the full and turned that experience into the realm of poems beyond immanent reality. Tagore's enriched words in (Gitanjali-obtained noble prize in 1913) allow ourselves to explore and to discover positive emotions such as joy, love, happiness and curiosity. It makes us feel open and alive. The poetic expression in Tagore's Gitanjali enable us to learn new skills and perspectives, ideas and emotions that we can draw to solve daily lives problems.

In Gitanjali, Tagore's fundamental position lies in the fact that for him the poetic truth was of a higher order, aesthetic facts were of a superior value. As we are aware that human imagination made them real for the poet as well as for his readers. So when we read Gitanjali we as readers co-creates the creative process and transform our own intrapsychic processes.

Charles E. Osgood has been occupied with an active group of fellow workers on a program designed to measure meaning. Osgood's interest in meaning has been focused on the meditational process. He described his own theory of meaning as a two-step representational mediation process. It is representational because the sign produced behavior is the fractional part of the behavior aroused by original stimulus. And it is called meditational because that fraction response serves to produce self stimulation.

Osgood's 'Semantic Differential Technique' have its place in a multidimensional semantic space. These multidimensional factors fall into three clusters-evaluative dimension, potency factor and activity factor.

In this present study the selected poetic expression are chosen from Tagore's Gitanjali. The subjects are instructed to evaluate the potency factor along with elaborative meaning.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Sample:

Size of Sample: 100 undergraduate psychology honours students.

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Description of Samples:

100 Psychology Honours students both male and female has been taken as subjects. Their age range fall within 19-21. All of them are unmarried. They belong to middle socio-economic status.

Tools:

Poetic expression of Tagore’s Gitanjali along with Elaborative Explanation were considered as tools.

Tools	
Poetic expression	Elaborative meaning
Immortal Touch	Touch which remains forever
Infinite Gifts	Uncountable reinforcement
Stony obstacles	A rough barrier
Bondage of finery	Capacity of purity and elegance
Tremulous joy	Massive fear
Vainly struggles	Struggles in vain
Poorest, Lowliest and the lost	Poor, low and impoverished people
Hard Refusals	Refusals which are being done with difficulty
Silent Salutation	Salute silently
Restless Winds	Feels as if moves here and there

Procedure:

Above poetic expression along with explanation were given to each students. They were instructed to judge the emotive potentiality of poetic expression in a 5 point scale. Higher value indicated greater emotive potentiality. Quantitative as well as qualitative analysis were done. Statistical Analysis of ‘t value’ was determined by difference method and subsequently interpretation was done.

RESULTS AND REMONSTRATION

Specimen of data in the form of result is given in Table 1 .

Statistical Analysis by difference method indicated that obtained ‘t value’-17.0 is much higher than the table value (2.20) and(3.11) at the .05 and .01 levels. It implies poetic expression of Tagore has a supreme emotive value. It can be said in Gitanjali it is the personal exploration and authentic expression of emotions. We can surely utter Wordsworth view point: ‘Poetry is the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings: it takes its origin from emotion recollected in tranquility’. Tagore has freed himself from oppressive state of mind and has shown an expression or explanation. It was ‘freedom oriented and consequently showed a preference for values which were evolutionary in character. It had a past and traceable future’.

Table 1 :	
Immortal Touch	Touch which remains forever
* 1 2 3 4 5	* 1 2 3 4 5
Infinite Gifts	Uncountable reinforcement
* * 1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Stony obstacles	A rough barrier
* * 1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Bondage of finery	Capacity of purity and elegance
* * 1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Tremulous joy	Massive fear
* * 1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Vainly struggles	Struggles in vain
* * 1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Poorest, Lowliest and the lost	Poor, Low and impoverished people
* * 1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Hard Refusals	Refusals which are being done with difficulty
* * 1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
Silent Salutation Salute silently	
* * 1 2 3 4 5	*
Restless Winds	Feels as if moves here and there
* * 1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5

Conclusion:

Considering all aspects of analysis it can be concluded Tagore has utilized enriched expression in the poems of Gitanjali. Statistically and qualitatively it proved that Tagore can be rightly called ‘Lord of Speech with Mind for all’.

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