

Rabindranath Tagore's *The Post Office*: A blend of Mysticism and Humanism

Dr. Divya Mishra*

Abstract:

Rabindranath Tagore's 1912 drama *The Post Office* [Dak Ghar] remains one of the most powerful poetic plays in modern Indian literature. Written during a period of personal illness and political unrest in Bengal, the play captures deep philosophical insights about freedom, suffering, the human condition, and the spiritual journey of the soul. *The Post Office*, is the one-act drama revolves around the confined yet spiritually awakened child, Amal, whose yearning for freedom symbolizes the human desire for transcendence. This research paper examines *The Post Office* as a symbolic drama that reflects Tagore's humanistic philosophy, within the sphere of mysticism. In this play Tagore presents his views on freedom beyond political boundaries, and his unique treatment of death as a release rather than an end. It also discusses the global reception of *The Post Office* and its relevance in contemporary society. Through a detailed critical analysis, the paper demonstrates how Tagore transforms a seemingly simple narrative into a timeless meditation on life, death and the human spirit.

Keywords: Rabindranath Tagore, *The Post Office*, Symbolism, Spiritual Awakening, Humanism, Mysticism, Freedom.

Introduction:

Rabindranath Tagore occupies an unparalleled position in Indian and world literature. Among his dramatic works, *The Post Office* [Dak Ghar] stands out for its emotional depth, allegorical power, and spiritual resonance. Although short and written in simple language, the play addresses profound questions about suffering, liberation, and the ultimate destiny of the human soul. The story of Amal – a young orphan forced indoors due to illness- becomes a universal metaphor for humanity's longing for freedom. Since early childhood, Tagore had a great inclination towards nature. During his childhood in Calcutta, he was bound to lead the life of a prisoner in the palatial building of his parents. He could only enjoy the bounty of Nature the bars of windows. He felt that the tall coconut trees, tossing against each other whispered some message to him.

‘With all imagnate fervour of a boy, young Rabindranath must have

Associate Professor, Department of English, Kunwar Singh P. G. College, Ballia.