SKBU JOURNAL OF PHILOSOPHY PEER REVIEWED

REFORMATION OF INDIAN PHILOSOPHY AFTER FOLLOWING

DWIJENDRANATH TAGORE

Pratyusha Ghosh

Abstract:

Dwijendranath Tagore, the eldest son of Maharşi Debendranath Tagore, has played a vital role in

reforming the Indian philosophy, culture, religion, literature and art. Though he had deep respect for the Indian

scriptures but he failed to believe the scriptures as they are stated. He has given the highest importance to

reason. According to him, it is important to judge the scriptures on the basis of reasons.

At the ancient period, the ancient philosophers used to show respect towards the scriptures by believing

blindly and following the scriptures as they are stated. They were very much rigid about the scriptures and also

their philosophical stand. For an example, Bhāsarvajña was a prācīna Naiyāyika but he has explained Nyāya

Sutra in his own way with sufficient reasons. His explanation was very much related to our everyday life but

completely different from the conventional Nyāya theory. That does not mean, he has shown disrespect towards

the system. But for that reason, some people called him ekadeśa (partly) Naiyāyika and some other did not

accept him as a Naiyāyika.

On the other side, Dwijendranath Tagore never believed that whatever comes from the West is to be

renounced. He avoided two extreme positions- 1. Whatever has been stated in the scriptures are to be admitted

unquestionably.

2. Whatever have been incorporated in the scriptures are to be thrown away.

According to me, whatever you are going to believe, that must be judged on the basis of reasons. This is an

attempt to reform and restore our philosophy, culture, art and all. Rigidity is not a way of showing the respect

towards the scriptures or their philosophical stand.

Keywords: Rigidity, Upanişada, Justification, Reason, Spiritual freedom.