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RABINDRANATH TAGORE'S VIEW OF UPANISHADIC RELIGION: AN ETHICAL UNDERSTANDING

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<u>Abstract</u>

The article examines Rabindranath Tagore's ethical reading of the Upanishadic teachings, focusing on important ideas like harmony, universality, and the search for the truth. Throughout his writings, renowned Bengali author and philosopher Rabindranath Tagore profoundly explored the ethical aspects of Upanishadic knowledge. In Tagore's opinion, the Upanishads are more than just old-fashioned literature; they are also a storehouse of profound spiritual truths that may lead people and communities toward moral behaviour and spiritual fulfilment. The idea of universality, which crosses religious as well as cultural barriers to foster tolerance and understanding across many cultures, is fundamental to Tagore's interpretation. He thought that the Upanishadic teachings, which emphasize the interdependence of all things, provide a universal foundation for moral behaviour and spiritual attainment.

The Upanishadic values of empathy (daya), compassion (karuna), and non-violence (ahimsa) form the foundation of Tagore's ethical system. He promoted a society where mutual respect and understanding might take the place of conflict and division, arguing that these values are crucial for building peaceful connections between people and communities. In addition, He thought that by promoting spiritual inquiry and critical thinking, the Upanishads help people evolve both personally and as a society. This research looks at how Tagore's moral interpretation of the Upanishadic teachings might help us deal with today's moral issues, such environmental degradation, social inequality, and global conflicts. A more compassionate and peaceful world may be fostered by individuals and communities adopting Tagore's concept of social justice, environmental sustainability, and global solidarity. In the conclusion, this essay emphasizes Tagore's ongoing significance in tackling contemporary ethical issues and building a peaceful, compassionate society founded on the moral precepts of the Upanishads.

Key Words: Upanishadic religion, Universality, Harmony, Pursuit of truth, Spiritual transformation, Social justice, sustainability