

## Book review

### Rabindranath Tagore's "BROKEN NESTS AND OTHER STORIES"

Rabindranath Tagore is indeed well ahead of his time. In allowing us to understand the tragic downfall of the initial reform movements against the British in India, the writer transports us – through his fiction – into the domestic space of Bengali's rising intellectual classes.

This is a story of people retrieving their lost voices as they ferry across the changing times only to find that, in their divergent treatment of the language, they all fail in understanding each other. The tale of the Bengali language speaks of India's linguistic struggle; voiced subconsciously by its modernizing speakers: Bhupati, whose embrace of the foreign ironically highlights his native naivety; Amal, who attempts to retrieve and receive the traditional writing but fails, hence his embrace of the foreign; and Charu, whose voice, rooted in mundanity of domestic life, speaks simplistically of what is – for the three of them – the language of heart.