

Movie Screening - Bengali Literary

Society and Cine Club

Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav



The Bengali Literary Society along with the Cine Club screened the film *Ghare Baire* by Satyajit Ray on Independence Day, 15th August 2021 at 6 PM. The screening was attended by over 15 students including students from other colleges as well. The screening was held on Discord.

Ghare Baire, which translates into *The Home and the World*, is a 1985 film based on a book written by Rabindranath Tagore. Written by Tagore, it was a very pertinent choice for the *Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav* considering his external world was one that saw the Indian Independence Movement first hand. But it also talks of Tagore's nationalism, his idea of the nation, of independence, or simply put, *Azadi*. It reiterates what we already know but seems to have forgotten. Nationalism is of little use if it doesn't help everyone, especially the marginalized in whose name it speaks so often. A nationalism that seeks to divide in the name of religion is dangerous. But the more important question the book and film ask is about the nature of freedom – not only as an ideal but also as a principle of life. One must believe in freedom, especially for those one loves, otherwise, it's an empty ideal, good for impassioned oratory.

The screening was followed by a discussion in which various topics ranging from freedom of women in the household to nationalism. The light was also shed on the characters in the film, a brilliant display of the screenplay which breathed life into paper and gave color to the picture on the screen. What further highlighted the discussions were the comparison drawn between Ray's magnificent piece and other works of art, all of which delve into the complexity of humans beguiled by the beauty that life has to offer and yet, perturbed by the conflicts, politics, and egos. The convergence of the very delicate theme of Nationalism with what freedom actually meant is starkly visible in *Ghare Baire*. The discussion ended on a high note with everyone learning a thing or two about the confluence of art and politics.

Reported by- Kevin Joy Varghese and Sagarika Chaudhary (The Media Cell)