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Views from the Other Side
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Japanese Inspiration in Bengal: Nandalal Bose's Ink Painting and the Art of Life

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Key figures and terms

Arai Kampō (1878-1945): Japanese painter who was a visiting instructor at Visva-Bharati University

Bharatmata (ca. 1905): nationalist painting by A. Tagore

Bengal Renaissance: multidisciplinary sociopolitical movement in India

Bichitra: Tagore home school in Bengal

Bose, Nandalal (1882-1966): artist and art educator

Hishida Shunsō (1874-1911): Japanese painter

Kala Bhavan: Institute of Fine Arts at Visva-Bharati University

Mōrōtai (Hazy style): modern Japanese painting mode disparaged as “obscurantist”

Okakura Kakuzō (Tenshin, 1862-1913): Japanese art specialist, scholar, and museum curator

Rimpa: heterogeneous school of painting in Japan, Edo period (1603-1868)

Swadeshi Movement (1905-08): self-sufficiency movement that was part of Indian nationalism

Tagore, Rabindranath (1861-1941): writer, poet, Nobel Prize Winner for Literature in 1913, educator, artist

Tagore, Abanindranath (1871-1951): artist and art educator

Yokoyama Taikan (1868-1958), Japanese painter

Visva-Bharati University: university founded in 1921 by Rabindranath Tagore in Santiniketan, West Bengal

Bose's Timeline

1882	Born in Kharagpur
1905	Joined Government School of Art in Calcutta and became student of Vice Principal Abanindranath Tagore
1907	Received gold medal for <i>Sati</i> after its exhibition at the Indian Society of Oriental Art and the Industrial Exposition in Calcutta
1910	Graduated from the Government School of Art
1912-14	Spent 3 years with A. Tagore in Calcutta and became associated with Indian Society of Oriental Art
1915-17	Traveled in India with Arai Kampō of the Japanese Academy of Art

- 1919 Accepted R. Tagore's invitation to direct the art academy Kala Bhavan at Visva-Bharati University at Santiniketan
- 1924 Accompanied R. Tagore to Burma, China, Japan, and Malaysia
- 1935-38 Organized art and craft exhibitions for the Indian National Congress at Gandhi's request
- 1947 India's Independence
- 1951 Retired from the Visva-Bharati University
- 1966 Died

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