



Shanti Niketan: Abode of Peace

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Founder of Shanti Niketan



1 - Rabindranath Tagore



Debendranath Tagore

2 - Debendranath Tagore founder of Shanti Niketan

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- Shanti Niketan was founded by Debendranath Tagore, father of Rabindranath Tagore in 1863. He took around 20 acres of land on permanent lease.
 - He took it from Bhuban Mohan Singha, the talukdar of Raipur, at a yearly payment of Rs. 5.
 - He built a guest house and an open sky school and named it as Shanti Niketan (the abode of peace). Gradually, the whole area came to be known as Shanti Niketan.
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Establishment of Shanti Niketan



3 - School Built by Rabindranath Tagore

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- **Contribution of Debendranath Tagore: Shanti Niketan Griha or house and the beautiful stained glass Mandir. A beautiful garden was laid out on all sides of the Shanti Niketan Complex.**
 - **Rabindranath Tagore started a school at Shanti Niketan. Tagore's vision was: A world where man exists in perfect harmony with nature. Which was named Patha Bhawan.**
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Shanti Niketan: The Festivals



4 - The Poush Mela at Shanti Niketan

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- Holi is celebrated in its own style at Shanti Niketan – as Basanta Utsav and it welcomes the end of winter and arrival of spring. The programme starts from the morning with singing and dancing to Tagore's tunes by the students and ends with spreading coloured powders.
 - Maghotsab, celebrating the founding of the Brahmo Samaj, is held on 11 Magh (towards the end of January).
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Visva Bharati University



5 - The Visva Bharati University

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- Rabindranath Tagore believed in teaching in the open sky.
 - This was due to his belief that walls represent conditioning of mind. Tagore did not have a good opinion about the Western method of education introduced by the British in India.
 - That was the reason he adopted the open sky education system in the Visva Bharati University.
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