

**Consulate General of India
Edinburgh**

PRESS RELEASE

**Unveiling of Bronze Bust of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore in Edinburgh
3 July 2025**

The bronze bust of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore, India's revered poet, philosopher, and the first non-European Nobel Laureate in Literature, was formally unveiled today at a special ceremony held in the garden of Sandeman House near Edinburgh's historic Royal Mile.

The sculpture, an artistic masterpiece by the eminent Indian sculptor Padma Bhushan Mr. Ram V. Sutar, was handed over by His Excellency Mr. Vikram Doraiswami, High Commissioner of India to the United Kingdom, to the Rt Hon Mr. Robert Aldridge, Lord Provost of Edinburgh, who accepted it on behalf of the City of Edinburgh.

The location of the bust is placed symbolically opposite the bust of Sir Patrick Geddes, the renowned Scottish ecologist, town planner, and long-time friend of Tagore — reflects the deep intellectual and philosophical bond between two visionary minds. Both Tagore and Geddes shared a commitment to holistic education, ecological harmony, and global humanism, and their enduring friendship is a symbol of the longstanding cultural and academic ties between India and Scotland.

The unveiling ceremony was jointly hosted by the Scottish Centre of Tagore Studies (SCoTS) and the Consulate General of India in Edinburgh, with the sculpture gifted by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) as a tribute to the shared heritage of India and Scotland.

The ceremony was graced by distinguished guests including Ms. Kaukab Stewart, Minister for Equalities for Scotland; Ms. Anna Macmillan, Director and Head of Scotland Office; Members of Parliament, Members of the Scottish Parliament, Councillors, senior academicians, representatives of the Indian community, and friends of India.

Following the unveiling, guests were treated to a captivating dance-drama performance titled "Palash: Flame of the Forest", inspired by the works of Tagore and Geddes, and rooted in the environmental theme shared by both thinkers. The programme concluded with an exhibition reflecting on India–Scotland cultural relations, followed by a high tea reception.

The Consulate General of India thanks ICCR, SCoTS, the City of Edinburgh Council, and all participating guests and organisations for their support and presence at this historic occasion. The installation of the Tagore bust stands as a powerful reminder of the universal values of peace, ecological awareness, cultural dialogue and the bond between India and Scotland.

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