



## Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay

Recently, the **185<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary** of **Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay** was celebrated.

- Born on 27th June 1838, **Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay** was an **exemplary novelist, social satirist, journalist** and the face of the **Bengal Renaissance**.
- He composed **Vande Mataram** in Sanskrit, of which the **first two verses** were adopted as **National song**, and it was a source of inspiration to the people in their freedom struggle.
- One of his and Indian literature's finest texts, **Anandamath (1882)**, which is set in the background of the **Sanyasi Rebellion (1770-1820)**, also contains **Vande Mataram**.
  - **The Sanyasis** rose in rebellion after the great famine of **1770** in **Bengal** which caused acute chaos and misery.
- He also founded a monthly literary magazine, **Bangadarshan**, in 1872, through which Bankim is credited with influencing the emergence of a Bengali identity and nationalism.
- His other notable works include **Durgeshnandini (1865) Kapalkundala (1866), Krishnakanter Will (1878), Devichaudhrani (1884), Bishabriksha (The Poison Tree), Chandrasekhar (1877) and Rajmohan's wife**.
  - He also served as a **lawyer and district judge**.

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