

**Government of India
(Ministry of Culture)**

Invitation for Expression of Interest.

Ministry of Culture, Government of India is commemorating the sesquicentennial birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore between 2011 and 2012. A National Committee under the Hon'ble Prime Minister has been set up to commemorate this important milestone in a befitting manner. The Commemorations have already been inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 7th May, 2011 at New Delhi.

2. On this occasion, it is proposed to release a facsimile edition of the original manuscript of "Gitanjali", for which Tagore was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1913. It is a notebook in English and Bengali, bound in blue roan and is part of the Rothenstein Collection preserved in the Houghton Library, Harvard University, USA. It is inscribed by Sir William Rothenstein, "Original Mss, which the poet brought me from India on his initial visit to us at Oak Hill Park". This valuable document is considered a Collector's Item. Houghton Library, Harvard University has conveyed its consent to Ministry of Culture to partner in the Project, for which it will be given due credit in the publication.
3. A scanned copy of the "Gitanjali" manuscript will be available for viewing by the interested parties at Raja Ramohun Roy Library Foundation, Block-DD-34, Sector-1, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700 064 during 1100 hrs to 1600 hrs on all working days, for a week.
4. 5000 copies, in the first phase, will be printed.
5. (i) 176/184 pages of text to be aesthetically reproduced to look like a replica, nearer to the original.

- (ii) The text to be printed on 95 GSM paper - including end papers - in 4 colours, from high resolution scans of the original version of the manuscript. The size to be brought to the scale as given in the scan copy of the original version of the manuscript (sample to be provided if asked for).
- (iii) Printing of text to be with carved/rounded edges as in the original manuscript.
- (iv) Binding to be in hard case with curved edges as is the original manuscript.
- (v) Cover to be hand stitched in blue foam leather, nearer to the original.
- (vi) Each edition to have an elegant flap/pouch on the inside back cover for inserting narrative description and other mandatory printing details.
- (vii) Production quality to be excellent and (i) to (vi) above would be examined by a Selection Committee of Tagore Experts.

6 The Ministry of Culture invites “Expressions of Interest” from well established publishers/printers of high repute and presence, with proven expertise and experience in this field within fifteen (15) days, to be sent to Director, Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, Block-DD-34, Sector-1, Salt Lake, Kolkata – 700 064.

6.1 The interested parties should have executed at least one major work of the similar nature of a rare/period/exclusive publication, apart from having an excellent track record of publications.

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- 6.2 They should be able to deliver the publications within four weeks of placement of order.
- 6.3 They should have a minimum annual turn over of not less than INR 10.00 lakhs.
7. The Expression of Interest must be accompanied by the following documents:
- i. Profile of the firm;
 - ii. Comprehensive portfolio relating to important publications of the firm;
 - iii. Latest audited Accounts;
 - iv. 'Dummy', of the proposed publication, cost estimates and time-line for the publication;
 - v. Refundable bank Draft of INR 10,000/- drawn on a nationalized Bank in favour of Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata.
1. The Ministry of Culture reserves the right to accept or reject any or all of the proposals that may come in response to this tender without assigning any reasons. The decision of the Ministry in this regard and on the selection process will be final and binding on all concerned.

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