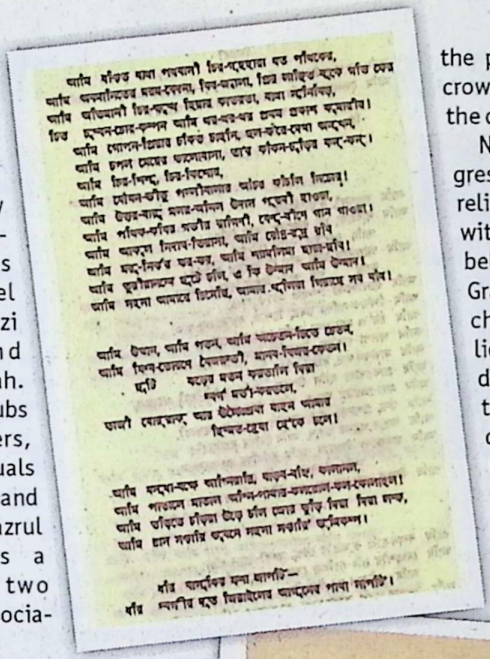
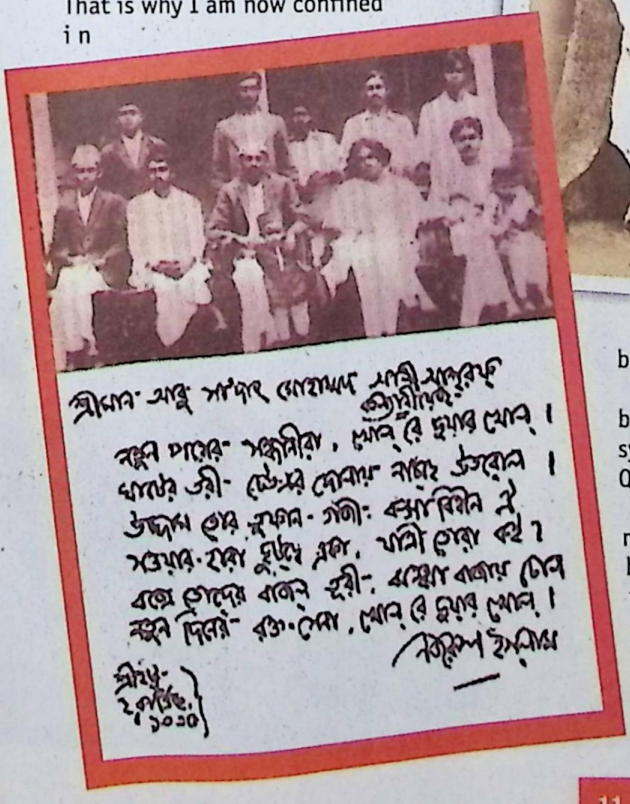


His involvement in "Bangiya Musalman Sahitya Samiti" ("Bengali Muslim Literary Society") offered him the chance to know closely many writer-icons such as Mohammad Mozammel Haq, Afzalul Haq, Kazi Abdul Wadud and Muhammad Shahidullah. He was a regular at clubs for Calcutta's writers, poets and intellectuals like the Gajendar Adda and the Bharatiya Adda. Nazrul considered Tagore as a mentor and the two remained in close association.

Around this time, he started to publish his famous bi-weekly magzine Dhumketu (Comet).

But the British rulers did not like his language and sent him to jail and there he wrote "Rajbondir Jobanbondi". He wrote, "I have been accused of sedition. That is why I am now confined in the prison. On the one side is the crown, on the other the flames of the comet."



Nazrul was known for his progressive thoughts on the major religions. His love and marriage with Promilla Devi ensured his belief in true religion "Mankind". Gradually, his style of writing changed significantly from rebellious expositions of society to deeper examination of religious themes. Through his diversified creativity he redefined the Hindu devotional music by composing Shayma Sangeet, Bhajans and Kirtans, often merging Islamic and Hindu values in them. Nazrul's poetry and songs explored the philosophy of Islam and Hinduism. Nazrul expressed his vision of religious harmony in an editorial in Yuga Bani,

"Come brother Hindu! Come Musalman! Come Buddhist! Come Christian! Let us transcend all barriers, let us forsake forever all smallness, all lies, all selfishness and let us call brothers as brothers. We shall quarrel no more".

Nazrul has been compared with Yeats for being the first Muslim poet to create imagery and symbolism of Muslim historical figures such as Qasim, Ali, Umar, Kamal Pasha and Anwar Pasha.

Seeing the tomb of National poet every day on my way to University of Dhaka, I get inspired to be rebel like him. Everyone who wants a change for the better must feel the way Nazrul felt. We pay our heartiest homage and love on his 111th birth anniversary.

(DU Correspondent
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