

Then all the sorrows that lay heavily on us,
the repeated failures, the botched trepidations

will pass like the lights on bridges at village corners
where shadows crouch under pierced constellations...

(Derek Walcott, *Tiepolo's Hound*)

Fifty kilometers away from Berhampore, the village of Nagar has a remarkably enriched cultural legacy evident in the relics of ancient structures and an annual winter carnival inaugurated in the memory of saint Shah Chand Fakir. Far from the din and bustle of the city, Nagar College campus offers lush green meadows, a wide variety of trees like deodar, *shishu*, *neem*, *shimul*, *sirish* and *chhatim*, a delicately handled garden with flowers, palm trees and foliage, squirrels and butterflies moving around the perfectly trimmed hedges and the glistening surface of an aquatic body mirroring a still sky. The institution which was established in 1998 and got the required UGC affiliation in 2008 could not have been what it is but for the intense and sincere efforts of its founder, Syed Abdur Razzaque, son of late Syed Ali Zaker who put an enormous effort in setting up Nagar Aziza Vidyalaya in 1945. Any discourse on the history of the college would, however, remain incomplete if we don't refer to the enthusiastic participation of people living in abject poverty in Nagar and the surrounding villages. The poor were always with us. The students have been doing consistently well in the university examinations. While initiating this official website of the college, we are elated to let you know that since the 1998-1999 academic session, not a single working day has been lost owing to students' agitation, protest-demonstrations, campus violence and things like that. The institution has encouraged inter-departmental academic activities and invitee talks from experts. Among its publications, mention may be made of *Nagar College Patrika 2004* and a bilingual anthology of critical essays on Tagore entitled *Rabindranather Bahuswar*. Its contribution is overwhelming in the field of the empowerment of women and that of the underprivileged sections of a predominantly rural community.