

Henry Vivian Derozio (1809–1831), Young Bengal Movement, Writings

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Henry Vivian Louis Derozio stands as a transformative figure in the cultural and intellectual history of India during the early **19th century**. His radical ideas made a profound impact on the youth of Bengal, challenging traditional norms and inspiring new ways of thinking. Derozio's literary contributions established him as a foundational voice in Anglo-Indian poetry, and he is often regarded as the **first national poet of modern India**.

His influence extended beyond poetry, as he played a crucial role in shaping a generation that sought social reform and greater individual liberties. Through his teachings and writings, Derozio laid the groundwork for future social reform movements advocating for progress and nationalism in India.

Henry Vivian Derozio

Henry Vivian Louis Derozio (1809–1831) was a radical thinker, educator, and poet in British India, who played a pivotal role in the intellectual awakening of Bengal in the early 19th century. Derozio, who was born into an **Indo-Portuguese** family, was greatly influenced by the ideals of Enlightenment and the **French Revolution**. He began teaching at the **Hindu College** of Calcutta at the age of 17, where his teachings sparked a movement of

progressive, liberal thought among his students.

Henry Vivian Derozio Writings

Henry Vivian Derozio is widely recognized as the first national poet of modern India, and his contributions mark the beginning of **Anglo-Indian poetry**. Derozio was heavily influenced by the Romantic poets of Europe, particularly **Lord Byron** and **Robert Southey**. His works hold a significant place in the history of patriotic poetry, with poems like "**To India - My Native Land**" and "**The Fakeer of Jungheera**" standing out as landmarks in this genre.

Henry Vivian Derozio Young Bengal Movement

Henry Derozio is best remembered for inspiring the **Young Bengal Movement**, a group of radical young students at Hindu College who embraced ideas of free thinking, rationalism, and individual liberty. His teachings encouraged his students to challenge religious orthodoxy, question social customs, and fight for a more egalitarian society. While its influence was limited during its time, the movement played an essential role in shaping the intellectual awakening in Bengal, sowing the seeds for later reformist and nationalist movements.

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