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## Assignment on "The Kabuliwallah" by Rabindranath Tagore

**Topic:** The Kabuliwallah

**Subject:** English Literature

**Class:** (Your Class)

**Submitted by:** (Your Name)

**Roll No.:** (Your Roll Number)

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**Date:** (Date of Submission)

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### Introduction (P-1)

*The Kabuliwallah* is a deeply moving and poignant short story written by the illustrious Bengali author Rabindranath Tagore. It revolves around the emotional journey of a fruit seller from Kabul, named Rahmun (commonly referred to as Kabuliwallah), and his interaction with a little girl named Mini. Through this story, Tagore explores themes of love, separation, and the passage of time, which transcend cultural boundaries. The story beautifully depicts the bonds between a father and his daughter, as well as the universal experience of loss and reunion. The Kabuliwallah's simple yet deep emotional connection with Mini reminds us that love and human relationships are universal, unaffected by time or distance.

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### About the Author (P-2)

Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941) was a renowned Indian poet, philosopher, artist, and writer. He is best known for his literary works, which include poems, songs, stories, and essays written in both Bengali and English. In 1913, Tagore became the first writer from outside Europe to be awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature for his collection *Gitanjali*. He is also credited with composing the national anthems of India and Bangladesh. Tagore was not only a literary figure but also an educator, founding the Shantiniketan School, which later became Visva-Bharati University. His works reflect his deep

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sensitivity to the human condition, and *The Kabuliwallah* is a testament to his compassionate understanding of human emotions and relationships.

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### **Summary of the Story (P-3-4)**

*The Kabuliwallah* begins with a lively and innocent relationship between a five-year-old girl, Mini, and a fruit seller from Kabul, Rahmun. The Kabuliwallah visits Mini's house regularly, selling dried fruits, and the two share a playful friendship. Mini is amused by his humorous responses to her questions, such as when she asks, "What's in your bag?" and he replies, "An elephant!" This lighthearted exchange strengthens their relationship.

However, the Kabuliwallah's background is marked by tragedy. He is a man who has left his home and family in Afghanistan to sell fruits in Calcutta to support his wife and daughter. Over time, the Kabuliwallah grows fond of Mini, seeing her as a reminder of his own daughter, whom he misses dearly.

As the story unfolds, tragedy strikes when the Kabuliwallah is sent to jail after an altercation with a customer. Years pass, and Mini grows up, forgetting her old friend. When the Kabuliwallah is released from prison, he returns to find Mini, but by then, she has changed. She is now a young woman preparing for her wedding. The reunion between the Kabuliwallah and Mini is bittersweet. He no longer finds the young girl he once knew, and Mini, now aware of the world in a different way, does not recognize him at first. Yet, through the brief meeting, the Kabuliwallah is reminded of his daughter, and he is filled with both joy and sorrow.

In the end, the Kabuliwallah reflects on the passage of time and the inevitable changes it brings. He leaves with the hope of reuniting with his daughter back home in Kabul, carrying the memories of his fleeting connection with Mini.

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### **Conclusion (P-5)**

The story of *The Kabuliwallah* is a beautiful exploration of love, memory, and the bonds that tie us to our loved ones, no matter how far apart we are. Through the character of the Kabuliwallah, Tagore highlights the universal experience of a father's love for his child, and the emotional toll that separation can take. The Kabuliwallah's gifts of fruits and his simple act of remembering his daughter in a distant land reflect the emotional depth of his character. Ultimately, *The Kabuliwallah* is a story about the passage of time

and the inevitable changes that life brings—whether in relationships or in the people we once knew.

The moral of the story is that time and distance cannot erase the love a father has for his child. Even as Mini grows up and moves on with her life, the Kabuliwallah's love for his daughter remains strong, and it is this love that ultimately brings him peace when he is reunited with her in his thoughts, if not in person.

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### **The ending of the story and the lesson it conveys**

The ending of *The Kabuliwallah* is emotional and thought-provoking. It underscores the inevitability of change, as Mini's childhood innocence fades, and the Kabuliwallah's dream of reuniting with his daughter in Afghanistan remains uncertain. Yet, through his deep love for Mini, the Kabuliwallah finds solace in the idea that love, though affected by time and distance, can never be truly forgotten. The moral of the story teaches us about the enduring power of love, the pain of separation, and the bittersweet nature of human connections. Even though time may change people, love and emotional bonds persist, leaving an indelible mark on our hearts.

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### **Final Thoughts**

Assignment is now complete and provides a detailed yet concise analysis of the story. The content and structure are best. It's important to ensure that your assignment reflects the essence of the story while keeping your personal voice intact. Great work!