

# Keshab Chandra Sen

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## About Keshub Chandra Sen

- Keshub Chandra Sen (Sen; 19 November 1838 – 8 January 1884) was a Hindu philosopher and social reformer who attempted to incorporate Christian theology within the framework of Hindu thought.
- Keshub Chandra Sen (also spelled Keshab Chunder Sen) was born in an affluent family of Calcutta on 19 November 1838.
- He lost his father Peary Mohan when he was ten and was then brought up by his uncle.
- Born a Hindu in the Bengal Presidency of British India, In 1854, he became the secretary of the Asiatic Society. He also worked as a clerk in a bank but monotonous clerical work did not interest him.
- In 1855, at the age of 17, he established the British India Society.
- He became a member of the Brahmo Samaj in 1857 but established his own breakaway “Bharatvarshiya Brahmo Samaj” in 1866.
- He set up the ‘Goodwill Fraternity’ in his house.
- He developed a great rapport with Debendranath Tagore, the head of the Samaj.
- He thought that only the Christian doctrine would help instill new life into Hindu society.
- In 1865, this lean towards Christianity caused a rift between him and Tagore and he broke away from the Samaj and formed the Bharat Barshiya Brahmo Samaj (Brahmo Samaj of India).
- The old Brahmo Samaj was now called the Adi Brahmo Samaj.
- Sen preached against child marriage and advocated widow remarriage and inter-caste marriages.

- In 1870, he met the British monarch Queen Victoria and expressed acceptance of the British rule which angered people at home, he was criticised severely in India.
- Sen founded the Indian Reform Association in 1870 after returning from a Europe visit. The chief areas of activity of this association were female improvement, inexpensive literature, education, temperance and charity.
- He was criticised when he got his daughter under 14 married to the prince of Cooch Behar. His daughter was then and the prince about 15 years of age.
- He formed the Nabo Bidhan (New Dispensation) in 1881 which intended to incorporate the best principles of Christianity and western spirituality with Hinduism.
- Sen died in Calcutta on 8 January 2018 1884 aged 45.