Ratan Tata was born in Bombay (now [Mumbai](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mumbai" \o "Mumbai)), during the [British Raj](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Raj), into a [Parsi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parsis" \o "Parsis) [Zoroastrian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zoroastrianism) family, on 28 December 1937.[[12]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-13) He was the son of [Naval Tata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Naval_Tata) (who was born in [Surat](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Surat) and later adopted into the Tata family), and Soonoo Tata (the niece of Tata group founder [Jamsetji Tata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jamshedji_Tata" \o "Jamshedji Tata)). Tata's biological grandfather, Hormusji Tata was a member of the Tata family by blood. In 1948, when Tata was 10, his parents separated, and he was subsequently raised and adopted by Navajbai Tata, his grandmother and widow of Ratanji Tata.[[13]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-14) He had a younger brother Jimmy Tata[[14]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-15) and a half-brother, [Noel Tata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Noel_Tata), from Naval Tata's second marriage to his stepmother [Simone Tata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Simone_Tata).

Tata studied at the [Campion School, Mumbai](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Campion_School,_Mumbai) until 8th grade. He then continued his studies at the [Cathedral and John Connon School](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cathedral_and_John_Connon_School) in [Mumbai](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mumbai), the [Bishop Cotton School](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bishop_Cotton_School_(Shimla)) in [Shimla](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shimla), and the [Riverdale Country School](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Riverdale_Country_School) in New York City, from which he graduated in 1955.[[15]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-toitataschool-16)[[16]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-17)[[17]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-18) After high school, Tata enrolled in [Cornell University](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cornell_University), from which he graduated with a bachelor's degree in architecture in 1962.[[18]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-19)[[19]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-20) While at Cornell, Tata became a member of the [Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alpha_Sigma_Phi). In 1975, Tata enrolled in the Advanced Management Program at [Harvard Business School (HBS)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harvard_Business_School).[[20]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-21) In 2008, Tata gifted Cornell $50 million, becoming the largest international donor in the university's history.[[21]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-22)[[22]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-23) Tata also donated $50 million to [Harvard Business School](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harvard_Business_School), [Harvard University](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harvard_University) to establish an executive center, which is now called Tata Hall that supports over 9,000 executive education students each year.[[23]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-24)[[24]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-25)

**Ratan Naval Tata**[[a]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-3) (28 December 1937 – 9 October 2024) was an Indian industrialist and philanthropist. He served as the chairman of [Tata Group](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tata_Group) and [Tata Sons](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tata_Sons) from 1991 to 2012 and he held the position of interim chairman from October 2016 to February 2017.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-4)[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-5) In 2000, he received the [Padma Bhushan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Padma_Bhushan), the third highest civilian honour in India, followed by the [Padma Vibhushan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Padma_Vibhushan), the country's second highest civilian honour, in 2008.[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-List_of_Fellows-6)

Ratan Tata was the son of [Naval Tata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Naval_Tata), who was adopted by [Ratanji Tata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratanji_Tata" \o "Ratanji Tata), son of [Jamshedji Tata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jamshedji_Tata" \o "Jamshedji Tata), the founder of the Tata Group. He graduated from [Cornell University College of Architecture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cornell_University_College_of_Architecture,_Art,_and_Planning) with a bachelor's degree in architecture.[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-7) He had also attended the [Harvard Business School (HBS)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harvard_Business_School) Advanced Management program in 1975.[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-8) He joined the Tata Group in 1962,[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-9) starting on the shop floor of [Tata Steel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tata_Steel). He later succeeded [J. R. D. Tata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J._R._D._Tata) as chairman of Tata Sons upon the latter's retirement in 1991. During his tenure, the Tata Group acquired [Tetley](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tetley), [Jaguar Land Rover](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jaguar_Land_Rover), and [Corus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corus_Group_plc), in an attempt to turn Tata from a largely India-centric group into a global business.



9 OCTOBER 2024

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