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| RATAN TATA | | | | | | | | | |
|  | | THE TIME OF INDIA  Issue #, Month dd, YYYY | | | | | |  | |
| ‘Ratan Tata wasn’t a mere tycoon: He embodied the very soul of India ... | | | | | | | Ratan Tata Millennial Friend Shantanu Naidu Shares A Heartfelt Message ... | | |
| **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](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/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.  Throughout his life, Tata invested in over 40 start-ups, primarily in a personal capacity, with additional investments through his firm, RNT Capital Advisors.[[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-10) | | | NAVAL TATA  Naval Tata - Profile, Biography and Life History | Veethi | | | |
|  | | | | | | | | | Headline Goes Here  The Mumbai skyline at night Photograph: Alexander Helin/Alamy | Mumbai ...  BOMBAY CITY |
|  | | | | While at Cornell, Tata became a member of the [Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alpha_Sigma_Phi). In 2008, Tata gifted Cornell $50 million, becoming the largest international donor in the university's history. Career [[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Ratan_Tata&action=edit&section=2)]  Early year | In 1961 Tata met architect [A. Quincy Jones](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A._Quincy_Jones) who spent three weeks as architecture design critic at Cornell. After completing Cornell, Tata briefly joined Jones at his firm Jones & Emmons in Los Angeles.[[22]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-23) While Tata was planning to settle in Los Angeles, he was called back to India by his grandmother. Later years [[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Ratan_Tata&action=edit&section=4)]  [https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/b/b3/35._ISC-Symposium-Ratan_N._Tata_in_der_Pause-HSGN_028-01812.JPG/157px-35._ISC-Symposium-Ratan_N._Tata_in_der_Pause-HSGN_028-01812.JPG](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:35._ISC-Symposium-Ratan_N._Tata_in_der_Pause-HSGN_028-01812.JPG)Tata in 2005  In the 1970s, Ratan Tata was given a managerial position in the Tata group. He achieved initial success by turning the subsidiary National Radio and Electronics (NELCO) around, only to see it collapse during an economic slowdown.[[25]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-BS-26)[[26]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-27) In 1991, [J. R. D. Tata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J._R._D._Tata) stepped down as chairman of Tata Sons, naming him his successor. Initially, Tata faced stiff resistance from the heads of various subsidiaries, who had a large amount of operational freedom under the senior Tata's tenure. In response, Tata implemented a number of policies designed to consolidate power, including the implementation of a retirement age, having subsidiaries report directly to the group office, and requiring subsidiaries to contribute their profit to building the Tata group brand. Tata prioritised innovation and delegated many responsibilities to younger talent.[[27]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-ChrisDeresky-28) Under his leadership, overlapping operations between subsidiaries were streamlined into company-wide operations, with the group exiting unrelated businesses to take on globalisation. | | | |
| Early life and education [[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Ratan_Tata&action=edit&section=1)]  *Main article:*[*Tata family*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tata_family)  Ratan Tata was born in Bombay (now [Mumbai](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/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)).  During the 21 years Tata led the Tata Group, revenue grew over 40 times, and profit over 50 times.[[25]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-BS-26) When he took over the company, sales overwhelmingly comprised commodity sales, but at the end of his tenure, the majority of sales came from brands.[[29]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-30)[[30]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-31) He had [Tata Tea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tata_Global_Beverages) acquire [Tetley](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tetley), [Tata Motors](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tata_Motors) acquire [Jaguar Land Rover](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jaguar_Land_Rover), and [Tata Steel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tata_Steel) acquire [Corus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corus_Group_plc). These acquisitions repositioned Tata from a largely India-centric group into a global business, with over 65% of revenues coming from operations and sales internationally.[[25]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-BS-26)  He also conceptualised and spearheaded the development of the [Tata Nano](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tata_Nano) car after the grand success of Diesel [Tata Indica](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tata_Indica), which helped put cars at a price-point within reach of the average Indian consumer.[[31]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-32)[[27]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-ChrisDeresky-28) [Tata Motors](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tata_Motors) has since rolled out the first batch of Tigor Electric Vehicles from its [Sanand Plant](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sanand_Plant_(Tata_Motors)" \o "Sanand Plant (Tata Motors)) in Gujarat, which Tata has described as to "fast-forward India's electric dream."[[32]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-33) | 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.  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.  Tata had also invested in multiple companies with his own wealth. He had invested in [Snapdeal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Snapdeal" \o "Snapdeal) – one of India's leading e-commerce websites. In January 2016, he invested in Teabox, an online premium Indian Tea seller,[[39]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-40) and CashKaro.com, a discount coupons and cash-back website.[[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ratan_Tata#cite_note-41) | | |

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