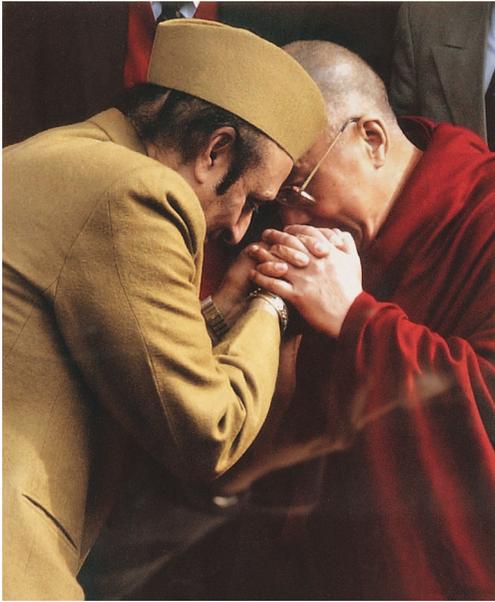


*Karan Singh*

*A Tryst with History*

*Karan Singh*



An insight into the life of one of the most distinguished statesmen of our times

**K**aran Singh: *A Tryst With History* was born of a series of exclusive interviews, spread over a year, with Dr. Karan Singh, a man of exceptional grit, determination, achievements, and scholarship.

Yuvaraj Karan Singh, the heir apparent to the throne of Jammu and Kashmir, was just eighteen in 1949 when he was appointed Regent. For the next eighteen years he served the State as Regent, *Sadar-i-Riyasat* and Governor. Since his early years he was deeply influenced by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in whom Yuvaraj Karan Singh found his political mentor, guide and philosopher.

In 1967, Dr. Karan Singh was inducted as a member of the Union Cabinet. He first held the portfolio of Tourism and Civil Aviation. In 1973 he moved to the portfolio of Health and Family Planning. In 1979 he was assigned the portfolio of Education and Culture.

Dr. Karan Singh was Chancellor of the Jammu and Kashmir University and the Banaras Hindu University.

A cultural stalwart and an educationist, he is associated with many cultural and academic institutions in India and abroad.

An upholder of interfaith harmony, he is Chairman of the Temple of Understanding, a pioneering international interfaith organization. He is also a member of the prestigious Club of Rome. An environmentalist and conservationist, he is Chairman of the People's Commission on Environment and Development, India. He was also Chairman of the Indian Board of Wildlife and head of 'Project Tiger'.

A prolific author, Dr. **Karan Singh** has written several philosophical essays, travelogues and poems in English, besides books on political science and Vedanta, and has been President of the India International Centre, and the Authors Guild of India.

Extensive travels in India and abroad led him to a finer understanding of the 'self' and/in the 'other'. An avid reader with an eclectic taste, he has deep knowledge of the Indian cultural tradition, Western literature and civilization. As India's Ambassador to the United States, he was held in high esteem as a man of many distinguished achievements.

Presently Deputy Leader of the Congress Parliamentary Party and Chairman of its Ethics Committee, Dr. Karan Singh has spent over five decades in public life including many years in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. An orator of unparalleled eloquence, he has lectured in five continents on philosophy and culture, politics and the environment.

Dr. Karan Singh, a family man, was married to the late Smt. Yasho Rajya Lakshmi, an eminent social worker in her own right.

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BIOGRAPHY

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