

Dr. O. C. Handa

Dr. O. C. Handa (born 2nd Oct. 1936) is a well-known connoisseur of art and culture. Having been in the field now for half a century, he is an outstanding scholar of history and archaeology of the Himalayan region.

He has been undertaking expeditions, many solo ones, to the remotest corners of Himalayan interiors. That underscores his zeal to explore the extant evidences of history, art and culture of Himalayan region, and his dedication to acquire the firsthand and authentic knowledge of the people's creative enterprise. That quality is vividly in his writings.

He is a post-graduate in History from Mysore University, Ph. D. from Meerut University and D. Lit. from Agra University. Having come from the civil engineering background, he underwent training in Archaeology. He remained in-charge of Museum & archaeology in Himachal Pradesh for several years.

Dr. Handa has authored thirty books on art, history, archaeology and culture of the Himalayan region, and edited several books. Besides, he has written many research papers for various national and international journals, and contributed to the Encyclopaedia of Hinduism. Thus, he has more than five hundred papers to his credit. He has been participating in the international, national and regional seminars and lecturing at various forums in India and abroad. He has also been performing for the radio and TV.

Dr. Handa remained member of different expert committees of the Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi and the Ministry of Tourism & Culture, Govt. of India. He remained a fellow of the Himachal Academy of Art, Language and Culture; Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) and the Indian Institute of Advanced Study at different periods. He also remained Senior Fellow of the ICHR and fellow of US-based Infinity Foundation. Presently, he is Consultant, Infinity Foundation & Editor, History of Indian Science & Technology Series (HIST).