

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GEOGRAPHERS, INDIA



BHOOGOL RATNA AWARD



Born on 5th July, 1940, Gopal Krishan, Professor Emeritus, Department of Geography, Panjab University, Chandigarh and National Fellow, ICSSR, has made an indelible mark on academic landscape through his writings weaved around an integrated view of the themes of population, development and public policy in his personal research and research supervision. His contribution to public policy was especially through stints at the National Institute of Urban Affairs, New Delhi as Professor of Regional Planning; at the Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID), Chandigarh as Senior Professor; and at the Institute of Public Administration, Punjab, Chandigarh as Principal Advisor, Planning and Development Cell. His special forte in research supervision was in diversity of themes relating to administrative geography, development geography, historical geography, urbanization and related aspects. As such he has been ever evolving and diversifying mind in terms of themes, techniques and styles. He has the rare honor of being the President of National Association of Geographers, India; Institute of Indian Geographers, and Indian National Cartographic Association.

Gopal Krishan's research acumen, evolving from 40 years of teaching at Panjab University Chandigarh, teaching stints in the United States, Germany and Hungary, and the award of D.Sc (Honoris Causa) degree by the University of Pecs, Hungary, is certainly a product of places and institutions spread across the globe.

What sets him apart is his innate urge to learn, question and innovate. The zest for creative writing spans introducing a new field of '*Administrative Geography*' in India in early eighties through to producing an atlas '*Inner Spaces: Outer Spaces of a Planned City*' for Chandigarh Administration; penning books like '*Projections of Population and Class Structure of a Planned City*' and '*Spatial Dimensions of Unemployment and Underemployment in Rural Punjab*' recognized and extensively consulted by Punjab Government; another book '*Vitality of India*' as National Fellow, ICSSR; and the co-authored book '*Researching Geography: the Indian Context*' from Routledge ...indicate an unending quest of an erudite ingenious mind in a fine persona.

In recognition of his seminal contributions and distinguished services in promoting the cause of Geography in India, the National Association of Geographers, India (NAGI) honours Prof. Gopal Krishan with the award of the BHOOGOL RATNA on December 28, 2019 in its 41st Indian Geography Congress held at Dr. Harisingh Gour Central University, Sagar.

(Prof. N.C. Gautam)

President

(Prof. S.C. Rai)

Secretary General