

Khushwant and receivedaward of the grove india fiction

[Business](#), [Career](#)



Khushwant Singh was born on Feb.

2, 1915 in West Punjab. He got his schoolings in Delhi, Lahore and London.

He was appointed information officer of the government of India at Toronto and Canada and Press attaché and public officer for the High Commission of India in the United Kingdom and the embassy in Ireland in 1948-50. In 1950 The Mark of Vishnu was published. He attended UNESCO Sixth General Conference in Paris in 1951 as the member of the Indian delegation. During 1952-53 he edited periodicals of the government of India. In 1956 Train To Pakistan was published and received award of the Grove India Fiction prize.

The Voice of God and Other Stories was published in 1957 and then followed his second novel I Shall Not Hear The Nightingale in 1959. In two volumes A History of the Sikhs was published in 1963 and received Rockefeller Foundation grant for extensive travel and research on Sikh history and religion. He got teaching and research assignment of Princeton in 1966. He was made visiting professor at Swarthmore College, Pennsylvania and later joined as the chief editor of 'The Illustrated weekly of India'. As a journalist he has written on a variety of themes on the world of fact, men and affairs. His narrative ability distinguishes his writing from that of the other leading journalists of India.

As a novelist Khushwant Singh is famous for Train To Pakistan and I Shall Not Hear The Nightingale. Train To Pakistan made him internationally known, though he had made a literary reputation with publication of his short stories The Mark of Vishnu and other stories. Khushwant Singh is what his British education made him, a cultured humanist.

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He gladly confessed that he is the product of both East and the West. The Punjab countryside, Urban Delhi, and the liberal, the sophisticated city of London are the three dominant factors that influenced Khushwant Singh. Thus exposed to the ideas and attitudes of the West, Singh is essentially an orientalist in outlook who has Indian self and individuality of personality. His journey is not without travails and tribulations, it is a ceaseless quest for identity which is reflected through the medium of his literary career and art.