

Khushwant Singh (An Introduction)

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CC 5 (Film and Literature)

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Khushwant Singh was born in Hadali, Punjab, which is now a part of Pakistan to the Sikh family in the year 1915 and lived as a creative writer till his last breath. He was one of the best historians, novelist and the finest commentator. Singh received his education at Modern School in New Delhi. He received his higher education from Government College in Lahore and eventually studied in St. Stephen College in New Delhi and King's College in London.

The realism of Khushwant Singh is of an earthier variety. He declared that his “roots are in the dunghill of a tiny Indian village” and his fiction reeks with the odor of his roots. His style, hard and vigorous, employs colourful Punjabi expletives.

He created history as he played multidimensional roles and is honoured as one of the distinguished men of letters. He has devoted himself to the world of literature as fearless intellectual. He served Indian Foreign Service, and also served as a journalist at All India Radio. During the time period 1954-1956, he worked in the Department of Mass Communication of UNESCO in Paris. In 1956, he got into editorial services and started editing a newspaper called Yojana, which was an Indian Government Journal. From 1980-1983, he was the editor of the newspaper ‘Hindustan Times’. After his stint as an editor was over, he continued to write a widely syndicated column called “With Malice towards One and All” for the newspaper. The column was quite famous for its dry wit and humour.

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