

PHOTO



STORY

E - M A G A Z I N E

PHOTOGRAPHER PORTFOLIO



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INTERVIEW of

J.P.SHARMA

- FORMER JOINT SECRETARY,U.P.GOV'T
- TRAVELER ,
- WRITER
- PHOTOGRAPHER
FROM -LUCKNOW,U.P.,INDIA

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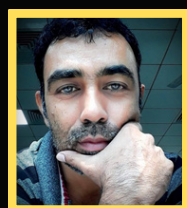
EDITOR'S NOTE

J.P.Sharma, a distinguished individual born in 1950 in the picturesque Bareilly district, possesses a profound academic background, having secured a Master's degree in History and Yoga. His illustrious career in public service culminated in his role as Joint Secretary in the esteemed Uttar Pradesh Government until his graceful retirement in October 2011.

Mr. Sharma's photographic talent has brought him international recognition, with his work being lauded in prestigious competitions worldwide. His exceptional skills and keen eye behind the camera have been showcased in captivating solo exhibitions such as 'Kashmir to Kanyakumari through the camera's eyes' and 'On the Footsteps of Buddha'. These exhibitions, held in major cities like Lucknow, Delhi, Bareilly, Kangra, Kushinagar, and Goa, have left a lasting impact on art enthusiasts and photography connoisseurs. Through his dedication to the art of photography and his ability to capture the true essence of his subjects, Mr. Sharma has rightfully earned the title of a master of the lens and continues to inspire admirers of photography globally.

Mr. Sharma's acclaimed works, 'Bodhgaya: Land of Enlightenment' and 'Foot Prints of Gautam Buddha', have solidified his standing as a significant voice in the realm of depicting Buddhist pilgrimage sites through captivating photo stories. His extensive travels across Nepal, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam, Singapore, Malaysia, Bhutan and Bangladesh have endowed him with a deep understanding of diverse cultural nuances, enriching his portrayal of Buddhism and its traditions in his publications.

Through a harmonious blend of artistry and storytelling, Mr. Sharma's books offer a glimpse into sacred shrines while amplifying the voices of local communities and scholars. Eager to expand his horizons, he expresses a keen interest in venturing into more South Asian countries, where he aims to showcase the beauty of religious interculturalism through his photography and managerial expertise. His commitment to promoting cultural exchange on a global scale underscores his passion for fostering understanding and appreciation for the rich tapestry of Buddhist heritage.



-Jyotirmay yadav

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
PHOTOGRAPHER**

80FT ,BUDDHA STATUE,BIHAR



1. PHOTO-STORY: Thank you for agreeing to participate in an interview for our portfolio page. Let's delve into the past. Your career has been as an administrative officer, sir. When did you start photography?

J.P.SHARMA: Photography has been cherished passion of mine, a journey that commenced during my childhood years. In 1980, amidst my administrative duties, I took my first step into the world of analog-era photography by acquiring a Yashica camera. This pivotal moment marked the commencement of my artistic expedition in capturing moments through a lens. As time passed, my passion for photography flourished, leading me to invest in a Zenith DSLR camera in 1990, which served as a significant milestone in my photographic voyage. This upgrade to a more advanced camera broadened my horizons, enabling me to refine my skills and delve deeper into the nuances of DSLR photography. Through the lens of my camera, I found a profound ability to encapsulate the beauty of the world around me and immortalize fleeting moments in time. Each click of the camera's shutter catalyzed my burgeoning passion for photography, stimulating creativity, self-discovery, and a deeper appreciation for the art form. The boundless possibilities offered by photography for self-expression expanded steadily as I continued to explore the medium.



2. PHOTO-STORY: How did you find time for photography along with your administrative work?



J.P.SHARMA: Due to my strong interest in traveling, I often requested time off from my position in the government to explore different destinations. During these trips, I captured photographs of the places I visited and later drafted brief articles about them to submit to various newspapers and magazines. Seeing my articles published alongside my photographs brought me great joy. My goal was to showcase a visual narrative of the tourist and religious sites I explored, capturing the landscape, architectural features, and local activities through my camera lens. Over time, I found immense pleasure in these activities, leading to the pursuits you now see before you.

SUJATA STUPA, BODH GAYA





OF J P SHARMA



OF J P SHARMA





OF J P SHARMA





BY J P SHARMA

3. PHOTO-STORY: What enthralls you most among landscape, nature, wildlife, monochrome, street, portrait, and Architectural photography?

J.P.SHARMA: Photography is a passion of mine that encompasses various genres such as landscape, architecture, and monochrome portraiture. As I explore different places and document them through my photography, I strive to capture a diverse range of images including architecture, landscapes, streetscapes, and portraits. This allows me to convey my impressions and tell a compelling story through my photographs.



MALLIKARJUNA,A.P.

PONDICHERY,CHURCH.



J P SHARMA

4. PHOTO-STORY: "Sir, could you tell us about the content and photographs in your books 'Footprint of Gautam Buddha' and 'Bodhgaya: Land of Enlightenment'?"

J.P.SHARMA:: My debut publication, 'Foot Print of Gautam Buddha,' published in 2016, has successfully sold out all available copies. The book extensively explores the significance of the 12 sites linked to Gautam Buddha, focusing on Lumbini in Nepal as the birthplace of Lord Buddha and the other eleven sites in India. Personally visiting each of these destinations, I captured images of the monuments and offered detailed insights in the publication. Additionally, the book provides a concise overview of Buddhism. It seeks to consolidate information about the 12 Gautam Buddha-associated sites into a single comprehensive volume, enriched with visuals highlighting these important locations. Based on requests from Hindi readers and the Bodhgaya Management Committee in Bihar, my book 'Bodhgaya: Land of Enlightenment' has been published in Hindi language as well. Within its pages lies a depiction of the culture and heritage of Bodhgaya, accompanied by photographs from Bodhgaya itself, as well as from countries where Buddhism has flourished, such as Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Cambodia, Bangladesh and Bhutan. This presentation aims to illuminate the expansion of our nation's culture and religion into these foreign lands. As I gear up to release revised editions of my books, 'Foot Print of Gautam Buddha' and 'Bodhgaya: Land of Alignment,' they will soon be made accessible to you. Both of these offerings are currently available for interested readers on Amazon and Flipkart.



BIRD EYE VIEW OF AJANTA CAVE, AURANGABAD, MAHARASTRA

**TIBETAN STUPA
BODHGAYA**



OF **J P SHARMA**

**MAHABODHI TEMPLE
BODH GAYA, BIHAR**



5. PHOTO-STORY: What differences do you notice between photographs taken with a DSLR camera as opposed to those captured with a mobile camera?

J.P.SHARMA: When contrasting a mobile camera with a DSLR camera, one can appreciate the vast array of features and capabilities that the latter offers. In contrast to the limitations typically found in mobile phone cameras, such as fixed lenses and limited control over settings, a DSLR provides photographers with a myriad of options for customizing their shots. With the ability to select specific lenses, adjust aperture and shutter speed settings, control picture quality, and manage lighting conditions, the user gains unparalleled creative freedom in capturing images.

Furthermore, the flexibility that a DSLR camera provides extends beyond the initial photographing stage. By capturing images in RAW format, photographers can leverage advanced post-processing techniques to manipulate and enhance their photos with precision. This level of control over the final output is invaluable for those seeking to achieve professional-grade results in their photography endeavors.

In light of these advantages, it is clear why many enthusiasts and professionals favor using a DSLR camera over a mobile phone for capturing images that demand a high level of creative control and customization.



OF **J P SHARMA**



MONKS PLYING GAME DHARAMSHALA, HIMANCHAL PRADESH





DHAMEKH STUPA, SARNATH



**DHAMEKH STUPA
SARNATH**



BODHI TREE, SARNATH



MOOLGANDH KUTI, SARNATH



KAILASH, MASAROVAR, TIBET



MOUNT KAILASH,



OF **J P SHARMA**

KASHMIR



ARIAL VIEW OF SINGAPORE



OF **J P SHARMA**

**MAITREYA BUDDHA, NUBRA
VALLY, LADDAKH**





MAITREYA BUDDHA
NUBRA VALLY, LADDAKH





INSIDE VIEW
AJANTA CAVE



ANURADHPURA ANCIENT CAPITAL OF SRI LANKAA





ANURADHPURA ,ANCIENT CAPITAL OF SRI LANKA





6. PHOTO-STORY: Sir, what message would you like to give to the young photographers ?

J.P.SHARMA: Consistency is paramount in the art of photography, serving as the bedrock for your growth as a skilled visual storyteller. Committing to a daily practice of capturing a few images fosters a habit of keen observation and creative expression. Furthermore, setting aside dedicated time during weekends or holidays provides a broader canvas for your photographic exploration, allowing you to hone your technical skills and storytelling abilities. Patience plays a crucial role in your photographic journey, enabling you to delve into experimentation, embrace innovation, and unveil distinctive perspectives through your lens. Embracing the learning process and allowing yourself the time to refine your craft contributes significantly to your professional development and artistic evolution. Therefore, by nurturing a disciplined routine, fueled by dedication and perseverance, you pave the way for a more profound understanding of photography and the realization of your creative vision.