**Raghuvendra Tanwar**

Brief Introduction

(DOB 20.02.1955)

Prof. Raghuvendra Tanwar is Chairman of the Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi (ICHR) (since January 2022) and also Chairman of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi (ICPR). Prof Tanwar, is a Padma Shri (Education and Literature 2022).

He has an outstanding academic record with two Gold Medals at the Post Graduate level for standing ‘First Class First’ M.A. History and for securing the highest percentage of marks in the Faculty of Social Sciences (Kurukshetra University – 1977) He joined as Lecturer, (Assistant Professor) History, at Kurukshetra University in August, 1977 and was selected as Professor Open Selection in 1997. He superannuated from service in February, 2015. He was honoured by the university with the position of ‘Professor Emeritus’ in 2015. He was Director of the Haryana Academy of History and Culture (an autonomous body of the Govt. of Haryana) from July 2016 to Dec. 2021.

Professor Tanwar is reputed for his contribution to the study of the partition of India, mainly the Punjab and for his work on the history of Jammu & Kashmir in the critical phase of 1947 – 1953. His, *Be Clear Kashmir Will Vote for India, (2019,* Routledge, London & Manohar, New Delhi) has questioned important existing narratives explaining how public opinion in Kashmir irrespective of religion was clearly in favour of merger with India in 1947. Likewise, his study Reporting *the Partition of Punjab – Press Public & Other Opinions 1947, (2006*, Manohar, New Delhi and Vanguard, Lahore) is widely acclaimed.

Professor Tanwar’s latest study (2021) ‘*The Story of India’s Partition’* (illustrated with 240 photographs and illustrations) has been published by the Publication Division, Govt. of India in English and Hindi. He has also edited a five-volume study of the speeches and writings of Punjab’s legendary peasant leader Sir Chhotu Ram. He has also edited a two-volume Collection of writings and speeches of Dr. Mangal Sein the popular leader of the Punjab and Haryana. His other publications include a well-received monograph, ‘*Introduction to Vinayak Damodar Savarkar’* and a compilation of articles written for national newspapers titled, ‘*Frankly Speaking’.* He has also co-authored an illustrated biography of Bansi Lal, commonly acknowledged as the builder of modern Haryana (published in English & Hindi).

He has been a National Fellow of the UGC (Research Awardee), an awardee of the UGC Major Research Project and a Foreign Travel Research Awardee of the Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR). At Kurukshetra University he has been, Dean Academic Affairs and Dean Faculty of Social Sciences.

He was President of the Modern Section of the Punjab History Conference (2001) and later General President of the Punjab History Conference (2017). In 2008 the Indian History Congress introduced a new Section on the Contemporary History of India. Tanwar was selected as the first President of this Section.

Prof. Tanwar has for many decades been associated with several educational institutions with focus on rural areas and women’s education. He is a well-known sportsman having captained the University and the Haryana State Lawn Tennis Teams.

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