

The most famous of all the people from Madhya Pradesh, Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma, began teaching Law at the Lucknow university and then at Cambridge university. He was called to the Bar from Lincoln's Inn. He was also elected honorary bachelor and master of Lincoln's Inn and honorary fellow-Fitzwilliam college at Cambridge. Later, he became a fellow-of the Harvard Law School. He was Pro-Chancellor of Sagar University. During his tenures as governor of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Punjab, he held the posts of Chancellor of twenty-two universities in those states as well as that of the Rector of Hyderabad University.

The introduction to politics came when he participated in the historic Quit India movement during India's freedom struggle. His first major political appointment was as chief minister of the former Bhopal State in 1952. Bhopal owes much of its development to him. He was a instrumental in forming the new state of Madhya Pradesh by the merger of Madhya Bharat, Bhopal and Vindhya Pradesh and also in the strategic appointment of Bhopal as its capital.

From that time on, he was firmly enmeshed in the political arena. Along with his political appointments, he has also held several other prominent positions of the country. He has been president of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations and the Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi Chairman of the Jury for Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International



Understanding and the International Jury for the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace. In 1987, he became the Vice-President of India and Chairman of the Council of States. And in 1992-1997 he was the President of India.

Though such an eminent career would seem to totally till a life there was and is more to the man. During his university career, he was an outstanding sportsman who achieved excellence in swimming, athletics

and rowing. He was the Lucknow university champion for three consecutive years and also, captain of its rowing and swimming clubs. The study of languages, the comparative study of religious, history, art & culture, philosophy, poetry, literature and classical music, both Indian and western are some of his other keen interests. He has written and published several books and articles and has held editorial assignments.


Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma has had the title of "Rashtra Ratan" conferred on him - by the Shankaracharya of Sringeri, the title of "Dharmaratnakar" has been conferred on him by the Ponniff of Shravanbelagola, the International Bar Association has presented him with the "Living Legends of Law" award in recognition of his outstanding

ing contribution to the legal profession. An excellent orator, well liked and respected as a person, Dr. Sharma is known to avoid confrontations in favour of more dignified behaviour in the drama of the political stage. He made his mark all along his career and matured into a statesman of national status.

**Pandit Pradeep**

He's written some of our finest patriotic songs. Pandit Pradeep wrote his best song in 1962 "Aye mere Watan ke Longon". Easily every Indians favourite patriotic song, it was also always Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru's first choice. This year Pandit Pradeep is being honoured by the Kalidas Samman.

Chand, Shabib Bibi aur Ghulam. Born in 1915 in Badnagar, Ujjain and began writing poetry while he was a student. His real name is Badru-uddin Jamal-uddin Kaizi. But he took on becoming Johnny when he joined the films. Then Johnny began walking the road uphill to success and became Johnny Walker. The son of a mill-worker of Indore, he had to leave school at the age of fourteen when his father left his job. In order to support the family he vended vegetables and ice-candy and did a stint as a bus conductor till a friend



**LEGENDS** are remembered for what they were or what they did. They are people who achieved outstanding success in their fields. They're people who have become known and are talked about and written about.

Madhu Soni compiles some of them who are known beyond the boundaries of their own spheres.



re". When Rajiv Gandhi met Pandit Pradeep, he asked him to sing his favourite, which was "Hum naye hain toofan se kashti nikal ke". "Chal chal re najuan" which he wrote for the film "Bandit" was so popular, the it was adopted by the Punjab and Sindh assembly as their national song. "Aaj Himachal ki chhoti se fir hamne-lalkara hai", "Aao bachon tumhe dikahyen jhanki Hindustan ki", "Sabarmati ke sant tune kar diya kamaal" are some of his other well known songs.

**T**he most famous-of-all theine-actors who hail from Madhya Pradesh is Ashok Kumar. This highly versatile actor of the Indian screen began his career as an assistant cameraman in Bombay Talkies. The first film he acted in was Jeevan Naiya. In his sixty year film career he has acted in about three hundred films. Achhut Kanya, Kangana, Bandhan, Jhoola Naya Sansar, Nanon were some his more



Ashok Kumar has received the Padmashree ; the Sangeet Natak Award ; the Filmfare award several times and, the Dada Saheb Phalke award.

Whether he was playing the light hearted romantic, or the brooding lover, whether it was a suspense film or a comedy, if you had to use one word to describe Ashok Kumar - it would be urbane.

**T**here's magic in her voice we've all been spellbound by it sometime or the other. The clear, sweet lilting voice in perfect harmony with the music and the mood, evoking emotions with her singing. There is no Indian who is not moved to tears by her rendering of "Aye mere watan ke logon".

Lata Mangeshkar was born in Indore in 1929 and spent her childhood there. Her father was the stage celebrity, Dinganath Mangeshkar. "She trained in classical singing with her father, Ustad Aman Ali Bheन्द्रbazarwale, Ustad - Amanat Khan Dewaswale and Pandit Tulsi Das Sharma. Lata started her career as a playback singer in Marathi films in 1942 and holds the world record for having sung in hindi and various other languages. The "Swar Samrasyee" has been singing more than five years now.

A lesser known fact about her was that under the pseudonym Anandghan, Lata composed music for several Marathi films. She produced the Marathi film "Wadala" in 1952. She is also a keen photographer.



phier. But, she's first and foremost a singer.

In 1969, she was honoured by the Padma Vibhushan and in 1989 she received the Dada Saheb Phalke Award for a lifetime achievement. She is the winner of four Filmfare awards for best female playback.

The Bhojpuri Maestro, known as "Maestro" with the title "Vishvanath" who can perform in the field of all forms of music, she has been awarded the M.P. government award for music award in 1970 and the Padma Shri in 1971.

Lata is a very dignified person. She is a very hard worker and she is a very hard worker. Her popularity is such that when she visited Canada in 1985, the Canadian government declared 9th June as "Lata Day" in honour of her visit.

She has lived in London, New York and Texas have given her honorary citizenship. In 1986 when one of the country popular newsmagazine invited its readers to nominate a person, who in their opinion, most deserved to receive the Padma Vibhushan for outstanding achievements in the field of art and culture, Lata Mangeshkar was unanimously ranked first.

Amzad Ali Khan

**B**orn in 1945, the sarod maestro gave his first, sole recital at the age of 12. He is acknowledged as one of the foremost classical musicians of our times, he is the sixth generation of his family, that goes back through his father, Ustaad Hafiz Ali Khan, to the era of the court musicians of the Mughal empire, the original Sangeet-Benkar Chhrama, devoted to the peculiar style and tradition

One of the best known names of Hindi theatre is Habib Tanveer. The seventy-four year old actor and director has done more for the Hindi theatre than any other individual.

He was born in Raipur in 1923 and educated at Raipur, Nagpur and Aligarh. In 1955, he went to train with the British Drama League, London. He studied acting with the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts, London and dance-drama with the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School. He spent two years in Europe and after a year in the United States of America studying theatre. However, after all that, he returned to his grass-roots to draw from his experiences from the classical





of the legendary Tansen at the time of Emperor Akbar. Amjad Ali Khan has made important contributions to the evolution of his instrument and music. In addition to composing new ragas, he has added new forms to the repertoire of the sarod. He has adapted folk songs and even, nursery rhymes to his instrument, and in doing so, has exposed the sarod to a wider audience. He often says, that, the unique quality of Indian classical music is its fusion of discipline and freedom.

He broke the 25 years' old cultural silence between India and Pakistan in 1981. He works extensively to promote Indian classical music and has been included in the International directory of Distinguished Leadership. He is honorary visiting professor for Indian classical music at the university of York, London. The most outstanding of his awards include, the Music Forum Award of UNESCO in 1970; the Padmashree in 1979; the Sangeet Natak Academy Award in 1989; The Tansen Award in 1989; and the Padma Bhushan in 1991. He contributes generously to the welfare of the handicapped, the Spastics Society of India, the Indian Cancer Society and the UNICEF. Four documentaries have been made on his life and works.

**Johnny Walker**  
Absolutely one of the best and most popular comedians of the Hindi cinema. Never stooping to the ridiculous, he performed with endearing dignity. The instant image of Johnny Walker that comes to mind is of his

Today, at the age of seventy three, he's working with Kamal Haasan in the Hindi version of "Mrs. Doubtfire". Chikni Chachi. And that's something to look forward.

**W**ho has not heard of M F Hussain? The painter whose bold, confident strokes tell stories, sometimes short ones, like a blade of grass. The man, himself, is quite a personality. He gives good copy, as they say. His friend Kali Pundole calls him a

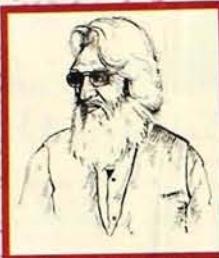
"Savant". His works convey that he is unconventional and unfettered and likes it that way but also that he is keenly perceptive.

Hussain began his career as a cinema poster painter in Mumbai. In 1951 he held his first one man show in Calcutta. Not a single painting went

into a private collection. His work was labelled as a betrayal of Jamini Roy by an eminent critic. Maqbul Fida Hussain has come a long way since then. Today, his paintings command and highest prices and grace collections in homes and museums in India and abroad.

His earliest, most striking paintings were of horses, the strokes conveying kinetic energy. These have been followed by other series. The most famous of which have been the series on Mother Theresa.

Inspired by Rembrandt, the beauty of the Chola bronzes, the works of great film makers like Kurosawa, Bunuel, Pasolini and Satyajit Ray; the folk lore, mythology and colours of India; the "mama" of Mother Theresa and lately, the beauty of Madhuri Dixit, Hussain continues to paint his masterpieces.



**Asha Bhonsle**  
A suave, savvy lady, who even at the age of sixty-seven, is undeterred by younger competition. She's moved with the years, her music getting richer, and she certainly knows how to be with it! Her voice has an enviable versatility. She can, by turns, make it tender, gentle, melting, mellow, lithe or playful, sexy or velvety. Yet, the effortless smoothness is always there and the pitch perfect.

The young sister of Lata Mangeshkar, Asha was born in 1930. She began her career as a playback singer with music director O.P. Nayyar for the film "Chunaria". Like her sister, she has sung and recorded in many languages, probably as many as fifteen. She sings Bhajans, Ghazals, Mujara, Kawali, Light and semi-classical and now pop with equal élan. She has recorded over five thousand songs. She has received the Filmfare Award and the National Award. In 1989 she was awarded the Lata Mangeshkar Purushkar by the M.P. Government. HMV has honoured her by a Platinum Disc and EMI by a Golden Disc.



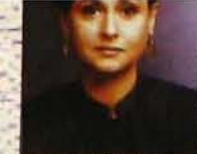
**Javed Akhtar**  
Tarkash has established Javed Akhtar as a serious poet. Though he has been writing lyrics for Hindi films for years, he has emerged as a poet recently. So poetry has had to be a latent love. It's his genes. His father was Jan Nisar Akhtar, the renowned poet. He comes from a long line of famous poets from his mother's side too, Maulana Fazl-e-Haque-Khairabadi (he compiled the anthology of Ghalib), Saeed-un-Nisa "Ruhman" and Muztar Khirabadi. When he was young, he wanted to be a movie director. So, he went to Bombay and joined films as an assistant to Kanai Anohi. He worked with Guru Dutt, Sagar and Brij too. While he was working with Brij, he tried his hand at dialogue writing. In 1970, he wrote his first script and dialogue for the film "Andaz". Then he wrote "Salim", and, together they formed the team and wrote script for a total of eight films. But it was "Sholay" that skyrocketed them into block-buster status. The partnership, however, broke up. He received the Filmfare award for best story writing and best lyrics.



**Z. Farid-ud-din Dagar**  
He is the guru of the Dhrupad Kendra, Bhopal, which functions in the Gurukul style of gurusishya parampara. This is the nineteenth generation of the Dagar family to continue the tradition of the Dhrupad form of music, one of the oldest and purest forms of Indian classical music. He learnt Dhrupad, both vocal and instrumental from his father Zia-ud-din Dagar, and his elder brother Mohi-ud-din Dagar. He has total command over 'gamak' in his singing. Working tirelessly with them, he exhorts the to attain a near perfection in 'kaar and omkaar, always stressing the need to sing smoothly, clearly and naturally. He has led several delegations of Indian classical music performed in renowned international concert and concert halls; directed the music for two internationally acclaimed films and has starred in "Kailash" film "Dhrupad", he's been honoured by the Sangeet Natak Akademi. He has received the Tansen Award and the Padma Bhushan award. He has also received the Sangeet Natak Akademi award for best story writing and best lyrics.



**Sayed Haider Raza**  
Born in Babaria, Madhya Pradesh in 1922, he studied painting at Nagpur and Bombay. He was a founder member of the Progressive Artist's Group. In 1950 he went to Paris on French government scholarship, where he studied painting for three years at the Ecole Nationale des Beaux Arts. In 1956, he was awarded the Prix de la Critique in Paris. Apart from numerous individual exhibitions and group shows, he has participated in the International Biennales in Venice, Sao Paulo, Menton and the Triennale in New Delhi. He's settled in Paris where he also has his studio. He revisited India every few years. In 1962 he was visiting lecturer of Art at the University of California at Berkeley. In 1978, the Madhya Pradesh government invited him to hold an exhibition of his work at Bhopal. Raza was awarded the Padmashree in 1981. In 1983 he was elected Fellow of the Lalit Kala Academy, New Delhi. Since 1985 Raza has returned to India each year to, as he says, "establish tangible relationships with Indian concept, contemporary art and life."



**Jaya Bhaduri**  
When the gamine faced young actress first appeared in Guddi, she won many hearts. Plain and simple, she could have been one of us, or the proverbial girl next door. But she was at home in front of the camera and it shewed. No striking tragic poses, no histrionic dramatics like fearful gasping or heaving breasts. Just subtle body language and great acting. A natural talent. Jaya was a gold medalist from the film institute in Pune. Her first film was in Bengali - Mahanagar, directed by Satyajit Ray. Guddi, was her first Hindi film. She married Amitabh Bachchan when she was at the peak of her career and retired from acting soon after. The only exception she made was a return to star in "Silsila". Jaya has won numerous Filmfare awards and has received the Padmashree. Though, she sort of retired from acting, Jaya never really moved away from the film world. She has been an active chair-person of the children's Film Society. Now, after an absence of sixteen years, she is making a come-back in Govind Nihalani's Hazar Chaurasi Ki maa.

rewriting the Hindi stage, infusing new ideas into it. He had already established himself with the Awami theatre in Bombay. In Delhi he set up the first Hindustani drama group in 1954. In 1959, he took several Chhatisgarhi folk-artists with him and established the "Naya Theatre". Among the plays he has successfully presented are "Shatranj Ke Mohre", "Agra Bazaar", "Mitti Ki Gari", "Mirza Shohrat Beg/Lalla Shohrat Rai", "Charandhar Chor", "Bahadur Kalarin", "Shahjapur ki Shantibai". "Charandhar Chor" has had over 600 reruns on the stage and has won the Fritz First award in Edinburgh.

**Nawab Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi** or Pat, the Cricket player. Ex-captain of Indian cricket team, Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi was born at Bhopal on the fifth of January, 1941. He was the first Indian to be appointed captain of an English University team (Oxford, 1961). He was the first Indian captain to win a test and also a series vs. New Zealand in 1967-68. The bible of cricket, Wisden, selected him one of the cricketers of the year in 1971. Pataudi was awarded the Arjun Award in 1984 and the Padmashree in 1967.



**Teejan bai**  
This forty one year old folk singer who hails from Patan is a popular sight at national and international festivals. She is an exponent of Pandwani, the Chhatisgarhi folk style of singing. The lively Teejan has been awarded the Padmashree in recognition of her achievement in the field of folk-music.

theatre, the multi-faceted Tanveer acted in and sung for Hindi films. In 1986 he was presented with a D. Litt by the Indira Kala Sangeet Vishwavidyalaya, Khairagarh. He has been a producer for A.I.R. He's worked at editing with Film India. Textiles and Box-office Partrikaen. He was director of performing Arts at the university at Baroda and for a year he was director of Doordarshan, Delhi. Currently, he holds the charge of director of Roopankar at Bhargat Bhavan, Bhopal. Habib Tanveer has been awarded the Padmashree and the Shikhar Samman, the Jawaharlal Nehru Fellowship. He has been nominated for the Rajya Sabha in 1972.

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