

For Immediate Release

INDIA BY SNOWDON

Book release and exhibition of photographs by Lord Snowdon

12th December, 2009 - 30th January, 2010

Photoink is delighted to end 2009 with *India by Snowdon*, an exhibition of portraits and book release by the legendary British photographer, Lord Snowdon. On invitation and support from The Nand and Jeet Khemka Foundation, Lord Snowdon travelled across India between 2004 and 2005 making portraits of prominent professional Indians.

ABOUT SNOWDON

The Earl of Snowdon is one of the most respected and important photographers of the twenty-first century. Born Tony Armstrong-Jones in 1930, Snowdon was educated at Eton, where he spent most of his time in the school of mechanics, making radiograms, walking sticks which doubled as crystal sets and torches, an underwater camera and not least a burglar alarm for his food cupboard. At Cambridge he read Natural Sciences for ten days before switching to architecture. He coxed the winning crew of the 1950 boat race and contributed photographs to Varsity. After failing his exams, he decided to come to London. His father paid for a three-year apprenticeship with the photographer Baron, which Snowdon left after six months. As a contributor to Tatler, Sketch and the Daily Express, he made his name in the 1950s with his photographs of the theatre and with his book *London* (1958). His first exhibition, *Photocall*, in 1957 was a resounding success. Since then, he has become one of the most highly respected British photographers of the century. Photographing for more than four decades, he has also been an author of more than twenty-five books, and the longest standing contributor to Life, Vanity Fair, Vogue, and many other international magazines. Apart from being a photographer, he is an architect, inventor and a filmmaker. His work has translated into some of the most powerful and recognizable portraits of today.

ABOUT THE BOOK AND EXHIBITION

This exhibition and book of portraits, a selection of prominent professional Indians, represents some of the men and women who have made an impact on the life and times of an ancient civilization but young nation. Ranging from politicians to filmmakers, painters, social activists, writers, academics, and others, this extraordinary album of photographs, carefully staged and shot by Lord Snowdon, would be of interest to those who would want to be reminded of some of the best and brightest interventionists of post independent India, from 1947 to the start of a fresh millennium. Photographed in their homes and work places, these creative and dynamic individuals, some celebrated, others aspiring to meet challenging goals, make an unusual exhibition and book. Accompanying the images in the book are nine essays that look at different facets of Indian culture and history. The essays written by some of India's leading thinkers are more in the nature of reflections than rigorous expositions. The essays provide the context for the portraits of the persons who shape contemporary India.

Book details

Hardbound with dustjacket

212 pages

28.6 X 31 cm/ 11.25 X 12.25 inches

105 colour illustrations

Essays by Karan Singh, Mani Shankar Aiyer, R.A. Mashelkar, Romila Thapar, Rudrangshu Mukherjee, Sunil Khilnani, Teesta Setalvad, Uday Khemka and Vir Sanghvi,**Biographies by** Malvika Singh**Project Director** Devika Dault-Singh/PHOTOINK**Published by** The Nand & Jeet Khemka Foundation

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ABOUT THE NAND AND JEET KHEMKA FOUNDATION

The Nand & Jeet Khemka Foundation is an Indian public charitable trust. It represents a desire to create a modern philanthropic foundation in India that can leverage limited resources to help change the country through a strategic vision. It believes that change can only be effected through multi-stakeholder collaboration both within India and internationally and therefore are deeply committed to partnership and collaborative approaches. The Foundation works in the key areas of climate change, school-based leadership development with values, social entrepreneurship, promoting cultural awareness and integrated rural development.

In this first decade of the new century India's international footprint is once again extending far beyond her natural borders. Often in new ways. Economically and culturally these lands of ancient temples, rivers and dynasties are quietly and carefully evolving through talented individuals. It is a cross section of these people that form the subject of this book, *India by Snowdon*. It is a celebration of their role in today's India.

ABOUT PHOTOINK

Photoink was established in September 2001 by Devika Daulet-Singh as a photo agency and a publication design studio. In 2008, Photoink expanded into a permanent gallery dedicated to photography. *India by Snowdon* was a project commissioned by The Nand and Jeet Khemka Foundation in 2004. Five years later, it is a great privilege to conclude our association with the project.