

Please Join SACHI in welcoming
India's Leading and Distinguished Art Historian

Dr. BN Goswamy

Professor Emeritus of Art History
The Panjab University, Chandigarh

for an Illustrated Presentation

A Sacred Journey *Through Icy Peaks And Mauve Rivers*



The Pilgrims in barren icy heights, crossing a moon-shaped rock; attributed to the family workshop of the painter Purkhu of Kangra, 1815-1825; Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, Virginia.

A Free, Online Zoom Webinar
Open to the Public

RSVP: [Please Register Here](#)

For queries, email: info@sachi.org

Saturday, October 8, 2022

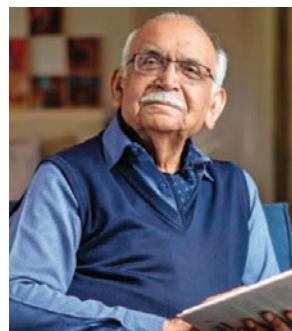
8.30 PM, Pacific Time, US

Sunday, October 9, 2022

9.00 AM, India Time

In this talk, based on his recent book, *A Sacred Journey* (co-authored with his wife, Karuna Goswamy), Professor BN Goswamy will decode a series of hitherto un-identified Pahari paintings from the *Kedara Kalpa* manuscript, a relatively unknown Shaivite text. The paintings depict the journey of five pilgrims through uncharted territory to have a *darshan* of Shiva in Mt. Kailash. Through snow-capped peaks and golden stretches of land, the pilgrims keep travelling with uncommon resolve, traversing a range of geographical, emotional, and spiritual terrains in this illustrated lecture.

Dr. BN Goswamy, India's leading art historian, is Professor Emeritus of Art History at the Panjab University, Chandigarh. His work on Indian paintings has influenced much thinking and opened up new avenues of research. He has been the recipient of the Jawaharlal Nehru Fellowship, the Rietberg Award for Outstanding Research in Art History, the Mellon Senior Fellowship, and, from the President of India, the Padma Shri (1998) and the Padma Bhushan (2008). Prof. Goswamy has taught as Visiting Professor at several universities across the world, including the Universities of Pennsylvania, Heidelberg, California (at Berkeley and Los Angeles), and Zurich. He has also been responsible for major exhibitions of Indian art in Paris, San Francisco, Zurich, San Diego, New York, Frankfurt, and New Delhi.



Prof. Goswamy has written over 25 books, including classics such as *Pahari Masters* (Zurich, 1992); *Nainsukh of Guler* (Zurich, 1997); *The Spirit of Indian Painting* (Penguin, 2014); *The Great Mysore Bhagavata* (San Diego, 2019); and *Conversations* (New Delhi, 2022).



Dr. Karuna Goswamy (Nov. 21, 1940–Oct. 25, 2020) eminent historian of Indian culture, and formerly Professor of History at the Panjab University, Chandigarh contributed very distinguished research and writing through her scholarly career. Among her many projects, she researched and identified for the first time, a relatively little-known Shaivite text, the *Kedara Kalp*. Inspired by the association of an arresting series of 19th century Pahari paintings with this ancient text, is the recent, and resulting co-authored publication (with Dr. BN Goswamy), *A Sacred Journey*.

Visualized with brilliance in 1815-1825, and attributed to the artist Purkhu of Kangra from a talented family of Pahari painters, this journey of the five seekers who set out to reach the realm of the great god Shiva, evokes intriguing questions: Is this a parable of sorts? Or is it that one wakes up like the five seekers and then, the very next moment, slips back into that real/unreal world again? Is there something hidden behind all that one sees? Is this journey real, or is it only in the mind?

