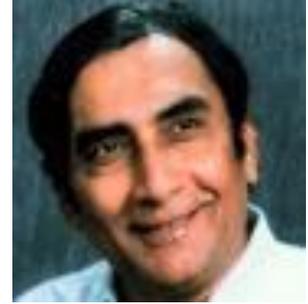


# Curriculum Vitae



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Dr. Kumarpal Desai, over a period of five decades, has acquired formidable reputation as a writer of inspirational, spiritual and value enriched literature not only in the state of Gujarat or the country but at the international level too. His contribution to the fields of literature, education and journalism in particular and society in general has been noteworthy. He has authored more than a hundred books which encompass a wide spectrum, comprising biography, criticism, research, translation, novella, religion and children's literature. Five of his books have received Central Government awards and four have been accorded rewards by the State Government. His volume 'Naani Umar, Motu Kaam' was adjudged the best children's book among all the languages of India. His biography of Lal Bahadur Shastri 'Lal Gulab' sold 60,000 copies at one go. Another of his creation 'Apang na Ojas' has been hailed as the best book from the perspective of the physically challenged and its braille Hindi and English version has also been brought out.

His Ph.D. thesis was on 'Mahayogi Anandghan' which was the result of his researching 400 manuscripts. Three books based on his extensive research have also been published. Former President of 'Gujarat Sahitya Parishad', Shri Kumarpal Desai is the Managing trustee of the first of its kind Gujarati Encyclopaedia 'Vishvakosh' and is also the president of Gujarat Sahitya Sabha.

Dr. Desai taught Gujarati literature for 38 years and retired as the Dean of the faculty of Arts and Director, School of Languages, Gujarat University. He was also the Head, Dept. of Gujarati, Gujarat University. 20 students has acquired their Ph.D. Degree under him. He has the unique distinction of being a Ph.D. guide in four disciplines - literature, journalism, Jain Philosophy and peace-related research.

In the field of journalism, he has been active for the last fifty years and his contribution has been noteworthy. His five weekly columns 'Int ane Imarat', 'Jhakal Banyu Moti', 'Pandadu Ane Pyramid', 'Aakaash Ni Olakh' and 'Parijat No Parisamwad' have been immensely popular. He has written two seminal books on Journalism - 'Akhabari Lekhan' and 'Sahitya Ane Patrakaratva'.

If as a writer, Dr. Kumarpal Desai has carved out a niche for himself, as a gifted speaker he has lectured extensively on Indian culture and Jain philosophy in England, America, East Africa, Canada, Singapore, Belgium, Hong Kong and Dubai. He is much sought after during Paryushan Parva and is often invited to these countries for lecture series.

Dr. Kumarpal Desai, the son of renowned author Shri Jaybhikhkhu, is a multi-faceted personality and has excelled in wide-ranging fields. He has earned for himself a rightful place in the pantheon of writers, social workers and thinkers. As a crowning glory to his illustrious career, spanning four decades, the Government of India conferred on him the coveted Padmashri Award on 26th January, 2004, in recognition of his invaluable contribution to education, literature and culture at the hand of the then President of India Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam.

