

<https://www.mattoo.org.in/website/>

## Prof. Somnath Dhar, Author, Diplomat, Journalist & Asha Dhar, Author

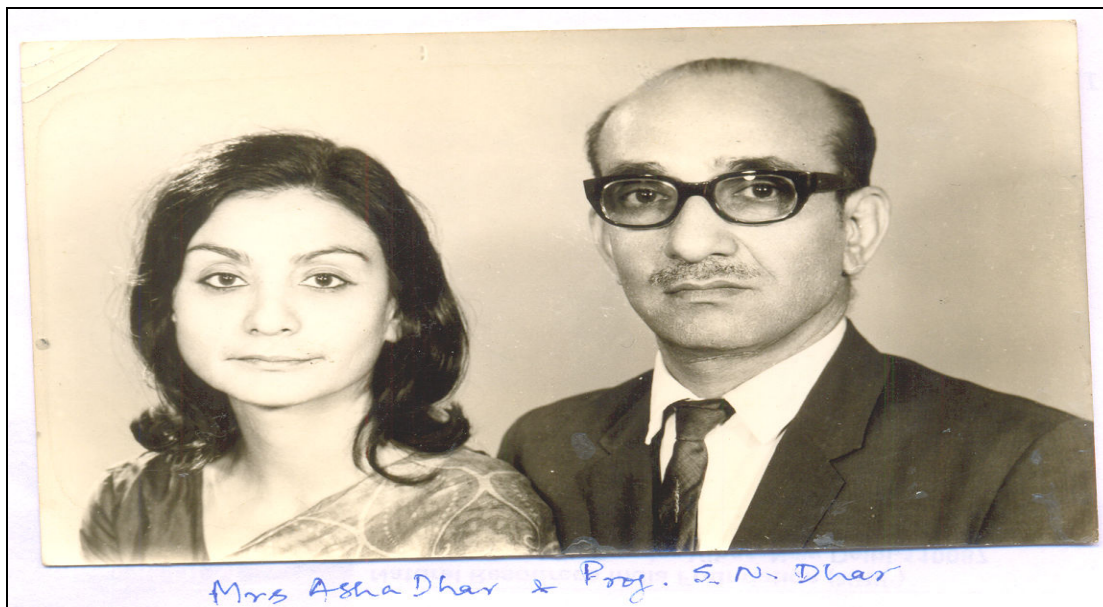
Prof. Somnath Dhar. M.A., LL.B., B.T., M.I.P.R. (London), served there on the staff of S.P. College, in the mid-1940's. After that he worked as an author, a diplomat and a journalist...

### Prof. Somnath Dhar & Asha Dhar

Born in Srinagar, in 1917, Somnath Dhar. M.A., LL.B., B.T., M.I.P.R. (London), served there on the staff of S.P. College, in mid-1940's. After a stint as sub-editor of the Hindustan Times, he joined the Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. Of India and served in New Delhi and, abroad, in Indian Missions as First Secretary, Consul, Consul General (Acting), at London (UK), Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), San Francisco (USA), Karachi (Pakistan), Ankara (Turkey). During this period of 20, years, he maintained his interest in the Folklore of Jammu and Kashmir State, particularly Folk-Tales. The Stag (?) Government published his book "Kashmir Folklore" in 1959, when he was serving in the Indian High Commission in Kuala Lumpur. After retiring as Officer on Special Duty in the Ministry in 1973, he lectured on folklore, tourism, etc. A freelance journalist and a travel writer, he broadcasted from All India Radio on a number of topics, including the national Spotlight. He was interviewed on TV a number of times, wherein (October 1991 and March 1972) he referred to this work as his magnum opus.

Prof. Somnath Dhar authored a number of books, including Kautilya and the Arthsastra, (Marwah Publications), Folk Tales of Turkey (Sterling Publishers, 3rd edition. 1989), Jammu and Kashmir (National Book Trust, 3rd edition, 1992) and Kalhana: the last published by the Sahitya Akademi, has also been issued in *Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi, Malayalam, Kannadese, Tamil, Telugu, Nepali*, other language editions were printed. His book on Nepal, other coauthor with his wife, Asha Dhar, was entitled, "Nepal: Land of Gods, Goddesses and Demons" (Marwah Publications, New Delhi. 1985).

Prof. Somnath Dhar's name figured in the Limca Book of World Records 1994 as having carried out the "Largest one man collection drive for a cause" to help displaced Kashmiri Pandits, "who had become refugees in their own country, when they fled the State because of terrorism."



Mrs Asha Dhar & Prof. S. N. Dhar

**Prof. Somnath Dhar & Asha Dhar**

<https://www.mattoo.org.in/website/>

As a historian and folklorist, Prof. Dhar presented papers in London, Ankara Kathmandu, Mysore, New Delhi, and addressed meetings at the India International Centre and Y.M.C.A., New Delhi. Some of the tales, including historical tales, presented in this volume, have appeared in a number of journals in India and abroad. Particularly in Hong Kong, London, etc.

Source: <https://www.ikashmir.net/sndhar/index.html>

## Writings

### Most widely held works by Prof. Somnath Dhar & Asha Dhar

#### Prof. Somnath Dhar & Asha Dhar- Books by

- ✓ Jammu and Kashmir by Somnath Dhar (Book)  
13 editions published between 1977 and 2011 in English and held by 120 WorldCat member libraries worldwide
- ✓ Folk tales of Turkey by Somnath Dhar (Book)  
9 editions published between 1978 and 1996 in English and held by 78 WorldCat member libraries worldwide, Contains 19 Turkish folk tales
- ✓ Kalhana by Somnath Dhar (Book)  
15 editions published between 1956 and 2017 in 4 languages and held by 75 WorldCat member libraries worldwide,  
On the life and works of Kalhana, fl. 1148-1150, Sanskrit poet from Kashmir
- ✓ Nepal, Land of Gods, Goddesses, and Demons by Somnath Dhar( Book )  
4 editions published in 1985 in English and held by 74 WorldCat member libraries worldwide
- ✓ Jammu and Kashmir Folklore by Somnath Dhar( Book )  
3 editions published in 1986 in English and held by 59 WorldCat member libraries worldwide
- ✓ Tales of Kashmir by Somnath Dhar( Book )  
5 editions published in 1992 in English and held by 40 WorldCat member libraries worldwide
- ✓ Kashmir Folk Tales by Somnath Dhar( Book )  
6 editions published in 1949 in English and held by 34 WorldCat member libraries worldwide.
- ✓ Chanakya and the Arthasastra by Somnath Dhar( Book )  
2 editions published in 1957 in English and held by 19 WorldCat member libraries worldwide
- ✓ Kashmir, Eden of the East; with an introductory essay by Jawaharlal Nehru by Somnath Dhar( Book )  
2 editions published in 1945 in English and held by 16 WorldCat member libraries worldwide

#### **CONTRIBUTED ARTICLES**

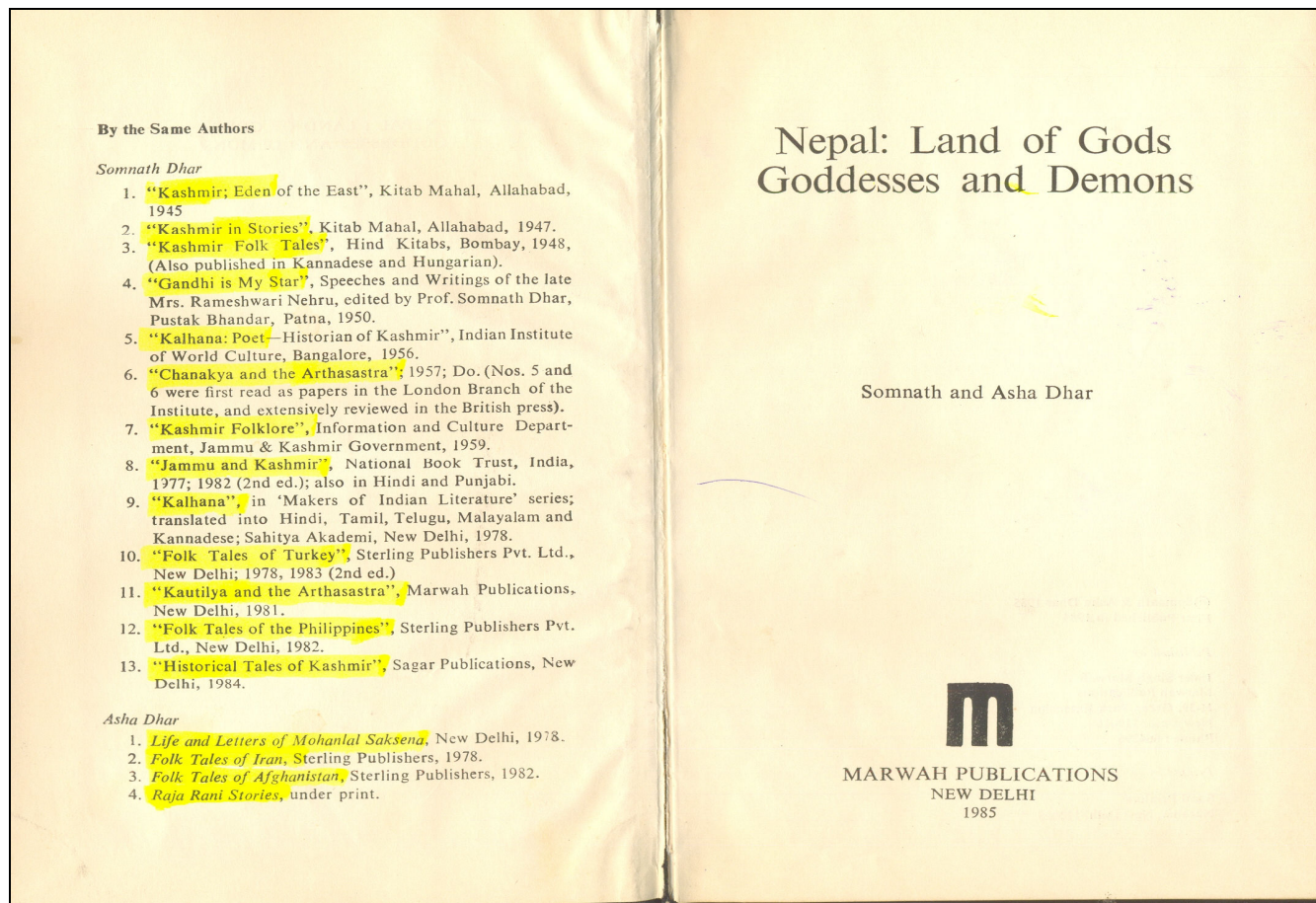
Glimpses of Kashmir, Jammu, and Ladakh : History and Culture : Prof. P.N. Pushp memorial volume(Book) (eds Shyam Lal Pandita, Premnath Kachroo and Somnath Dhar) 2 editions published in 2000 in English and held by 29 WorldCat member libraries worldwide

### Asha Dhar, Books by

- ✓ Life & Letters of Mohanlal Saksena 1981
- ✓ Folk Tales Of Afghanistan: Folk Tales of Afghanistan. Front Cover. Asha Dhar. Sterling, 1982 - Folklore – 128 pages.

<https://www.mattoo.org.in/website/>

- ✓ **Nepal: Land of Gods, Goddesses and Demons** by Somnath Dhar, Asha Dhar, 1985
- ✓ **Folk Tales of Iran. Front Cover.** Asha Dhar. Sterling, 1979 - Tales - 127 pages. 0
- ✓ **Raja Rani Stories, 1988**



- ✓ [https://www.amazon.in/Books-Somnath-Dhar/s?rh=n%3A976389031%2Cp\\_27%3ASomnath+Dhar](https://www.amazon.in/Books-Somnath-Dhar/s?rh=n%3A976389031%2Cp_27%3ASomnath+Dhar)
- ✓ <https://www.exoticindiaart.com/book/author/somnath+dhar/>
- ✓ <http://worldcat.org/identities/lccn-n83186898/>
- ✓ [https://www.google.com/search?rlz=1C1CHBD\\_enIN737IN737&sxsrf=ALeKk032YtmfQj8IO\\_Ip6DpHbBqlawm\\_yQ:1598852379343&source=univ&tbm=isch&q=prof.+somnath+dhar&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwi9p\\_mg3cTrAhVmzTgGHQSvCRoQsAR6BAgK EAE&biw=1366&bih=635#imgrc=2qDPtXfxP9ZcMM](https://www.google.com/search?rlz=1C1CHBD_enIN737IN737&sxsrf=ALeKk032YtmfQj8IO_Ip6DpHbBqlawm_yQ:1598852379343&source=univ&tbm=isch&q=prof.+somnath+dhar&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwi9p_mg3cTrAhVmzTgGHQSvCRoQsAR6BAgK EAE&biw=1366&bih=635#imgrc=2qDPtXfxP9ZcMM)
- ✓