



Lesson 3.21-E
Conservationists in
India - V

By Abhyudaya Kelkar

Kailash Sankhala



- **Born : 1925, Jodhpur**
- **Joined forest services in Rajasthan in 1950s**
- **Worked in Sariska, Van Vihar (Rajasthan), Ranthambore and Keoladeo Ghana**
- **Became the director of National Zoo, Delhi, in 1965**

Kailash Sankhala



- **Emphasized tiger conservation in 1956**
- **Conducted an early tiger research with Jawaharlal Nehru Scholarship in 1969**
- **Became head of Project tiger in 1973**
- **Created Tiger Trust in 1989**
- **Known as 'Tiger Man of India'**

Kailash Sankhala



- **Wrote several books, especially on tigers and Keoladeo Ghana**
- **Received Padmashri in 1992**
- **Died in 1994, in Jaipur, at the age of 68**
- **MOEF instituted Kailash Sankhala Fellowship for conservation efforts**

Dayanidhi Choudhury

- **Born : 1916**
- **First IFS from Odisha**
- **Became a CCF in Odisha**
- **Contributed greatly to the creation of Nandankanan Zoo in 1960 and Simlipal TR in 1956, which also became one of the first tiger reserves in India**
- **Died : 2000**

Saroj Raj Choudhury

- Started his career as a forest officer in Odisha
- Wrote his experiences about tigers in his book *Khairi : The Beloved Tigress*
- Contributed greatly to the creation of Simlipal TR in 1956, which also became one of the first tiger reserves in India
- Generally credited for introducing the pugmark technique of tiger census
- Made behavioral research of tigers
- Received Padmashri in 1983

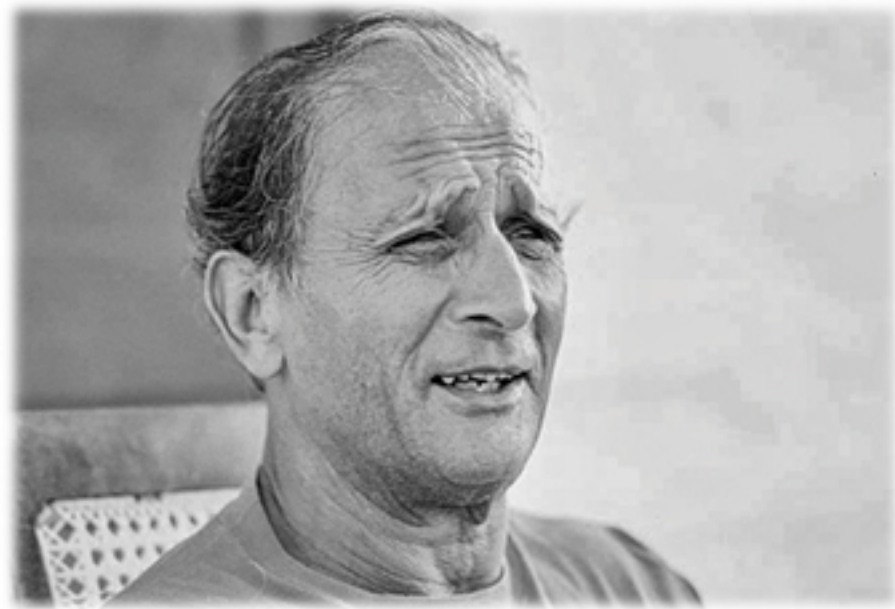
Hemendra Singh Panwar

- **Born : 1939**
- **Joined IFS in 1969**
- **Started career with Kanha TR**
- **Efficiently relocated villages outside the park**
- **Kanha received award for being the best managed park in India in 1976.**
- **Tiger and barasingha population in Kanha grew consistently**

Hemendra Singh Panwar

- **Headed Project Tiger from 1981 to 1985**
- **Became the first director of Wildlife Institute of India (WII) in 1985**
- **Received Padma Bhushan in 2013**

Billy Arjan Singh

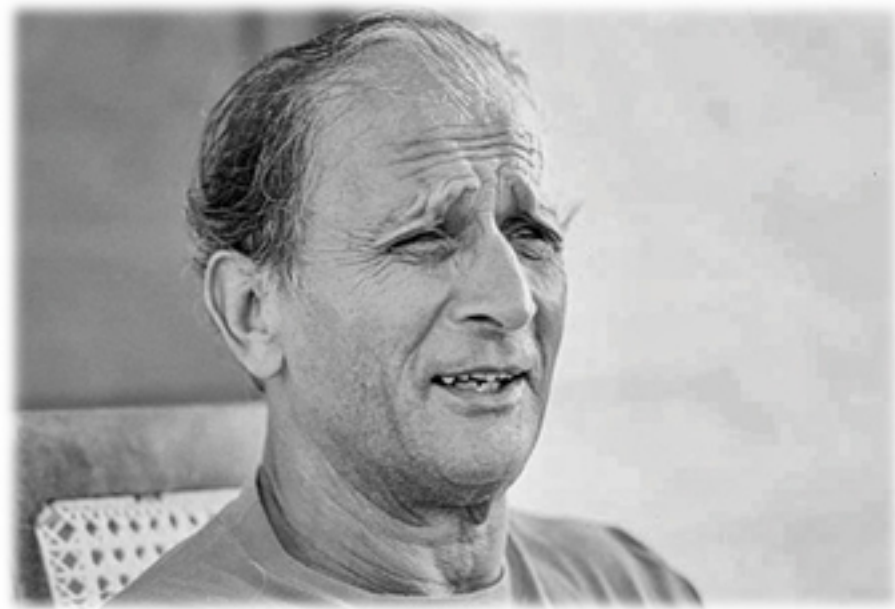


Billy Arjan Singh

He convinced the then PM, Indira Gandhi, to declare Dudhwa a national park in 1977

- **Born : 1917, Gorakhpur**
- **He was from the royal family of Kapurthala (Ahluwalia)**
- **His conservation journey began from protecting a herd of Barasingha in what is now Dudhwa TR**
- **He successfully reintroduced leopard and tiger cubs to the wild**

Billy Arjan Singh

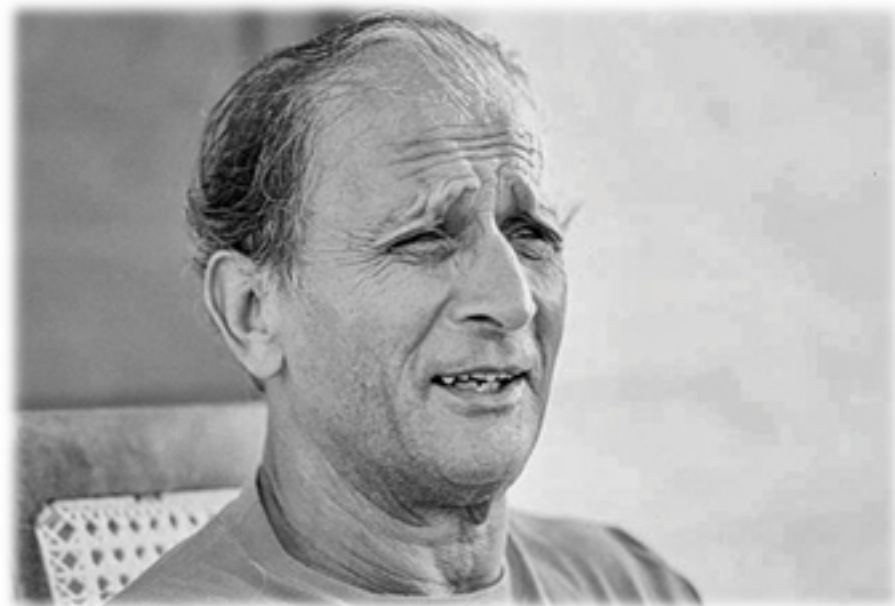


Billy Arjan Singh

He convinced the then PM, Indira Gandhi, to declare Dudhwa a national park in 1977

- **A hand-raised zoo tigress, Tara, was successfully reintroduced to the wild**
- **Convinced the Indian government to declare Dudhwa WLS (UP), a national park in 1977, when Project Tiger had already begun**
- **Dudhwa eventually became a Tiger Reserve in 1987**

Billy Arjan Singh



Billy Arjan Singh

He received the Dutch government's award for nature conservation, called 'Order of the Golden Ark', in 1997

- **Dudhwa TR and the adjoining Shuklaphanta Reserve in Nepal have the largest concentration of Barasingha in the world**
- **He established the Tiger Haven Society in 1992**
- **He received Padma Bhushan in 2006.**
- **Died : 2010 (Aged 92)**

Fateh Singh Rathore



- **Born : 1938, Jodhpur distt. (Rajasthan)**
- **Popularly called 'Tiger Guru'**

- **Joined IFS in 1960**
- **Worked for Sariska TR, Mount Abu WLS and Ranthambore TR in Rajasthan**

- **Aided the launch of Project Tiger and including Ranthambore as one of the first nine TRs.**

Fateh Singh Rathore



- Supervised relocation of villages and villagers from the core of Ranthambore
- Relocation led to violent clashes in which he had a hair breadth escape in 1981
- Started an NGO – Tiger Watch in 1990s
- Died in 2011 at the age of 72



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Conservationists in
India - VI

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