

# GURCHARAN DAS

Author & Speaker on India

*A public intellectual, author,  
international columnist and  
former business leader;  
uniquely placed to take a  
holistic view of India, its rise to  
greatness and its failings*



A portrait of Gurcharan Das, an elderly man with grey hair, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and a red and blue striped tie. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the right. The background is a blurred bookshelf filled with books of various colors.

# GURCHARAN DAS

his thoughts

Speaker Gurcharan Das is a world-renowned author, commentator, public intellectual and the former CEO of Procter & Gamble India. In 1995, after a 30-year career in six countries, he took an early retirement to become a full time writer, and speaker who, in addition to authoring a regular column for *The Times of India* is a contributor to the *Financial Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Foreign Affairs*, and *New York Times*.

His latest book, launched in 2013 entitled "**India Grows at Night; a Liberal Case for a Strong State**"

India seems to be rising despite the state, a case of private success and public failure as 'India grows at night while the government sleeps'.

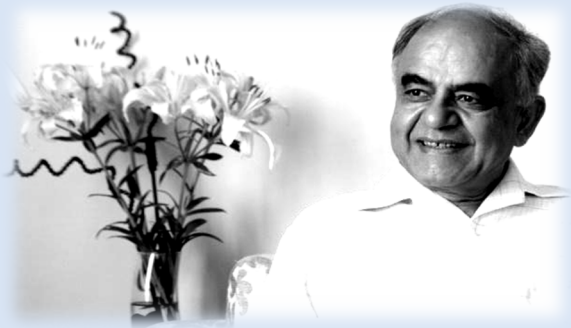
Das asks how a nation can become the world's second fastest growing economy despite a weak, flailing state?

The recent slowdown is a sign that India may have begun to experience the limits of growing at night!

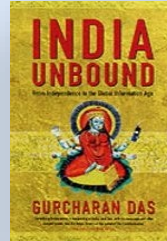
What India needs, he suggests, is a strong liberal state with the authority to take quick, decisive action, the rule of law and to be accountable to the people.

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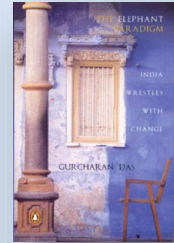
his books



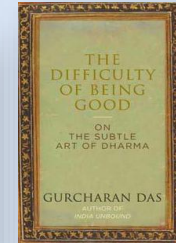
1991



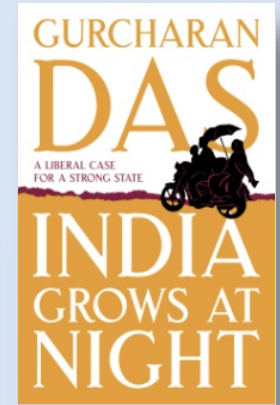
2000



2002



2010



2012

Read Das' blogs:  
<http://gurcharandas.blogspot.sg/>

Read Book Reviews:

<http://gurcharandas.org/book-india-grows-at-night>

<http://gurcharandas.org/india-unbound>

# GURCHARAN DAS

## key facts

Currently ...

- A **commentator** and **public intellectual**
- Respected author of several well respected books; ***India Grows at Night, The Difficulty of Being Good, India Unbound, Elephant Paradigm*** and various novels.
- Freelance **columnist** for *The Times of India* and for several international newspapers including the *Financial Times*, *Wall Street Journal* and *New York Times*
- Professional **speaker**

Formerly ...

- Managing Director, Strategic Planning, **Procter & Gamble** Worldwide
- Chairman and Managing Director, **Richardson Hindustan** Limited
- A graduate of **Harvard University** in Philosophy and Politics

Flies from **New Delhi**

Speaks to audiences around the world, addressing conferences, client forums and management meetings



## Sample speaking topics:

- ***Creating a values based organization***
- ***India's future - economic, social, political***
- ***India vs China - who will win the race?***
- ***What makes a good leader?***
- ***Mantra of success***
- ***High performing organizations***
- ***Schools of tomorrow - my vision of a good education***
- ***How to reform our education system?***
- ***The place of philanthropy***
- ***The difficulty of being good--the moral dimension in our lives.***

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## what reviews said

*'Why should it take us 15 years to get justice in the courts or 12 years to build a road?' argues Gurcharan Das....You need a strong state and a strong society, so the society can hold the state accountable. India will only get a strong state when the best of society join the government and China will only get a strong society when the best Mandarins go into the private sector.'*

Thomas Friedman, **New York Times**

*"Das has written a timely book that deserves to be widely read. And it has its share of hard-headed proposals....Simply calling for less government is no answer, says Das. It needs also to be strong. Indian capitalism needs an honest referee...India has much to celebrate nowadays but also faces a cacophony of institutional challenges....Das's core argument is right and urgent."*

Ed Luce, **Financial Times**

*'The book raises some excellent questions ... India is an open tolerant country. So why does liberalism not flourish there? Mr Das insists that liberal ideas offer the clearest answer to many of India's woes. Corruption, for example, will not be beaten with a big, new authoritarian bureaucracy, as anti-graft protesters want. Instead discretionary powers must be wrested from dodgy bureaucrats and politicians, the state made smaller, and markets allowed, openly and freely... Mr Das's celebration of liberalism is admirable.'*

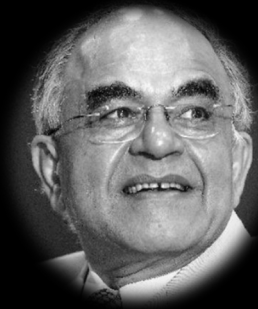
**The Economist**



## Useful links for Gurcharan Das:

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outspoken ▪ insightful ▪ respected



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