

Professor Ram Karan Sharma Award

(inaugurated online in August 2018)

Professor Ram Karan Sharma was the President of the International Association of Sanskrit Studies (IASS) from 1994–2006 and since 2006 he is one of the four Vice Presidents of the IASS.

Professor Sharma's contribution to Sanskrit is renowned among the world's Sanskritists and under the auspices of the IASS his students and well-wishers have inaugurated an Award in his name for "promising young scholars" from around the world, as explained below.

The fields of study for the award will focus on areas in which Professor Sharma's expertise is well-known world wide: preeminently Kāvya, but also including, among others, the fields of grammar, the epics, Āyurveda and metrics.

The purpose of the Award is to recognize and support outstanding work in the field of Sanskrit and related studies done by a promising "young scholar" anywhere in the world, namely a scholar who is 25–30 years of age.

Details of the Award

1. In the five years (2016–2021) previous to the next WSC applicants 1) shall have received a PhD and 2) shall have published journal articles and/or published a book in the area(s) mentioned above. Theses and publications in English only are eligible for consideration.
2. Applications for the Award have to be submitted **one year before** a World Sanskrit Conference. The 18th WSC will take place in Canberra, Australia, 18–22 January 2021 and the deadline for the first applications for this newly inaugurated Award will be the **end of January 2020**. The Award winner will be announced at the IASS General Assembly Meeting that usually takes place at the end of every WSC. (The 19th WSC will take place in Kathmandu, Nepal in 2024 and the deadline for applications for the Award will be sometime in 2023, the exact dates of which will be announced later).
3. A panel of three experts will adjudicate the submitted proposals and select the winner of the award according to a set of criteria that will be made public together with the announcement of the Award through the mentioned channels.
4. The IASS will announce the Award through the usual discussion lists for Sanskrit and allied studies (like RISA, Indology, BVP (भारतीयविद्वत्परिषत्)).
5. The Award is valued at 1000 USD.
6. Applications for the RK Sharma Award should be sent to Professor Deven Patel: deven.m.patel@gmail.com.