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Arvind Kumar Jain is Ph. D. in Geology from the erstwhile University of Roorkee and now the IIT Roorkee. After a brief career as Scientist at the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Delhi (now at Dehra Dun), his interest in teaching brought him to the University of Roorkee in 1974 where he taught Structural Geology. He retired from the IIT Roorkee in 2007 as Professor. He remained at the Institute as Emeritus Fellow till 2011.

He was a Fellow, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (1979-1981) at the University of Karlsruhe, Germany where he carried out Post -Doctoral research on Rift Tectonics of the Upper Rhein Graben. He was a Visiting Young Scientist at the Bedford College, London in 1979 under UGC-British Council Exchange Program, the Visiting Scientist at the Lund University, Sweden (1991), and a Senior JSPS Fellow (2004) at the Hokkaido University, Japan. He was a member of many Selection Committees and Project Advisory Committees of Earth Science Division of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, New Delhi, besides Chairman of some of them. He is a Fellow of the Indian National Science Academy (FNA), New Delhi, and is currently active as the INSA Honorary Scientist at the CSIR-Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee.

He has written and edited 5 books on the Himalayan Geology and authored more than 120 research publications. He has supervised 15 Ph. D. students besides many for their dissertations. Some of his students are currently occupying high positions in Teaching and Government. His main area of research interest remained the Himalayan Tectonics since the beginning. The book on the 'An Introduction to Structural Geology', published by the Geological Society of India, Bangalore is an outcome of his teaching and research in the subject.