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RAJAT GUPTA

MCKINSEY TRAILBLAZER BECAME A CAUTIONARY TALE

Rajat Gupta made history as the first foreign-born managing director of McKinsey & Company, leading the global consulting firm from 1994 to 2003. An IIT Delhi and Harvard Business School graduate, he also served on the boards of Goldman Sachs, Procter & Gamble, and American Airlines and co-founded the Indian School of Business, the Public Health Foundation of India, and the American India Foundation. His celebrated career, however, was overshadowed by a 2012 insider trading conviction that became one of Corporate America's most high-profile scandals.

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AJIT JAIN

EXECUTIVE BEHIND BUFFETT'S GREATEST ADVANTAGE

Ajit Jain transformed Berkshire Hathaway's insurance business into the financial engine behind Warren Buffett's investing empire. An IIT Kharagpur graduate with an MBA from Harvard, he joined Berkshire in 1986 without insurance experience and rose to vice chairman. His disciplined underwriting grew Berkshire's insurance float to over $171 billion, funding iconic investments in Apple, Coca-Cola, and American Express. Widely regarded as Buffett's most trusted lieutenant and a potential successor, Jain is considered one of the world's greatest risk managers.

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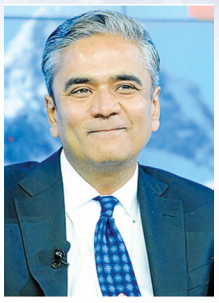
ANSHU JAIN



BANKER WHO TOOK WALL STREET BY STORM

Anshu Jain (1963-2022) was one of the most influential Indian-born bankers in global finance, transforming Deutsche Bank into a Wall Street powerhouse before becoming its first non-European co-CEO. A Shri Ram College of Commerce graduate, he built the bank's world-leading investment banking and derivatives business and later served as president of Cantor Fitzgerald. Honored with Risk magazine's Lifetime Achievement Award and named Global Indian of the Year, Jain remained a strong advocate for India until his passing in 2022.

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VINOD KHOSLA

THE INDIAN-AMERICAN BEHIND OPENAI'S SUCCESS

Vinod Khosla, co-founder of Sun Microsystems and founder of Khosla Ventures, is one of Silicon Valley's most influential venture capitalists. Ranked No. 1 on the 2026 Forbes Midas List, he was the first venture capitalist to invest in OpenAI, long before it became an AI giant valued at $852 billion. An IIT Delhi graduate and Stanford alumnus, Khosla has also backed transformative companies including Stripe, DoorDash, Affirm, QuantumScape, and Opendoor, cementing his legacy as a pioneer of breakthrough innovation.

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ARVIND KRISHNA

THE IIT KANPUR ENGINEER REINVENTING IBM

Arvind Krishna, an IIT Kanpur graduate, has led IBM as chairman and CEO since 2020, steering the technology giant into the AI and hybrid cloud era. After joining IBM in 1990, he played a pivotal role in its landmark $34 billion acquisition of Red Hat, reshaping the company's future. Born in Andhra Pradesh, Krishna holds numerous patents and is among the world's highest-paid CEOs. His leadership has restored IBM's growth, reaffirming its position at the forefront of enterprise technology.

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APOORVA MEHTA

ENTREPRENEUR WHO REINVENTED GROCERY SHOPPING

Born in Jodhpur, India, Apoorva Mehta turned repeated failures into one of Silicon Valley's biggest success stories. After studying engineering at the University of Waterloo and working at Amazon, he founded Instacart in 2012, pioneering on-demand grocery delivery across North America. Instacart went public in 2023, making Mehta a billionaire with an estimated net worth of $1.1 billion. He later founded Cloud Health Systems, continuing his focus on technology-driven innovation.

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VICTOR MENEZES

INDIAN BANKER BEHIND CITI'S GLOBAL RISE

Victor Menezes (1947-2025) is one of the most accomplished Indian-American banking leaders; he became senior vice chairman of Citigroup and helped expand the financial giant across more than 100 countries. An IIT Bombay and MIT Sloan School of Management alumni, he spent over three decades at Citigroup. Beyond banking, Menezes has championed education and philanthropy, serving on the boards of MIT, the Asia Society, and co-founding the American India Foundation, strengthening ties between India and the United States.

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HARRY BOLLA

DRIVING A CAB TO BUILDING AN EMPIRE

Harry Singh Bolla's American dream began behind the wheel of a New York taxi. An immigrant from India, he worked tirelessly, opening an auto repair shop and gas station. His entrepreneurial vision eventually led to the creation of Bolla Oil Corp., now a billion-dollar enterprise spanning fuel distribution, gas stations, convenience stores, and real estate. Today, his company employs nearly 1,800 people, making Bolla one of the most inspiring Indian-American business success stories.

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