

INDIAN ORDER OF MERIT.

Jamadar Mirzaman Khan, *38th King George's Own Central India Horse*. On the 6th September 1918, this officer was in command of the leading half squadron when they charged the enemy, routed them, and inflicted considerable casualties. He showed great skill and ability during the entire operations and when the squadron leader was subsequently disabled, Jamadar Mirzaman Khan took command of the squadron, which he handled with marked skill and showed, throughout, the utmost coolness and disregard for his personal safety.

No. 4346 Havildar Partab Singh, *27th Punjabis*. For conspicuous gallantry and good leading in the action on the 19th September 1918. After his platoon commander had been wounded, he took charge of the platoon and very ably led the men when the order was given to charge a battery of 4 guns firing at point blank range. He was the first to come forward, charging a few yards ahead of his men and assisted in the capture of the whole battery.

No. 2230 Lance Naik Thaman Singh, *47th Sikhs*. For conspicuous courage and devotion to duty during the attack on the 19th September 1918. Although himself wounded in two places he carried his company commander, who was severely wounded, back to shelter under heavy machine gun fire. He then rejoined his company and carried on throughout the operations setting a fine example of endurance.

Jemadar Ghulam Shah, *51st Sikhs (Frontier Force)*. On the night of the 20th-21st September 1918 this officer was sent with two sections in support of a small picquet going up the hill. The enemy opened a heavy fire and it was obvious that the Jemadar's party was greatly out-numbered. He decided, however, not to wait for reinforcements and instructing the party to shout continuously at the top of their voices so as to

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convey an impression of strength, charged up the hill. The ruse was entirely successful and the enemy fled, 1 officer and 14 men being captured, with 2 machine guns and 3 automatic rifles. This officer's action with his very small force, was extremely creditable.

No. 2429 Colour Havildar Saif Ali, *72nd Punjabis*. For conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty. During the advance on the 19th September 1918, after his company commander had been killed, Colour Havildar Saif Ali rushed forward together with a Lance Naik and forced a strong enemy post to surrender, capturing 20 prisoners. His prompt action saved the lives of many of his comrades.

No. 3400 Lance Naik Ghulam Mohammad, *72nd Punjabis*. For conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty. During the advance on the 19th September 1918, after his company commander had been killed, Lance Naik Ghulam Mohammad rushed forward together with a Colour Havildar and forced a strong enemy post to surrender, capturing 20 prisoners. His prompt action saved the lives of many of his comrades.

Subadar Khan Zaman, I. D. S. M., *92nd Punjabis*. For conspicuous gallantry, coolness and initiative on the 19th September 1918. During the attack after the first objective had been taken, the enemy opened heavy fire from a hill on the right. This officer on his own initiative immediately disposed his platoon and attacked under heavy fire driving the enemy from the hill, thus securing the flank of the advance. His coolness and ability throughout were of the highest order.

No. 2416 Havildar Ashraf Khan, *92nd Punjabis*. For gallantry and dash on the 19th September 1918 during the advance on the foothills. This non-commissioned officer with two sections was sent to work round a hill on the enemy's flank, the fire from which

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was delaying the main attack. Under heavy enfilade fire, he advanced up the hill and, on approaching the crest, ordered rifle grenade overhead fire and at the same moment charged, capturing the hill and taking several prisoners. During the charge he was seriously wounded. His gallant action was largely responsible for the success of the main attack.

No. 3443 Naik Buta Khan, *92nd Punjabis*. For gallantry and initiative on 19th September 1918, in an attack in which he was wounded.

No. 2391 Colour Havildar Mohammad Sawar, *93rd Burma Infantry*. On the 19th September 1918, this non-commissioned officer showed conspicuous gallantry. During the passage through the enemy's barrage, one complete section of his platoon was wiped out. He however collected and reorganised his platoon under intense fire with the greatest coolness and thereby set a fine example to his men.

No. 191 Colour Havildar Shah Mohammad, *The 101st Grenadiers*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during the attack on the 20th September 1918. When his officer was wounded in the early stage of the attack, this non-commissioned officer, without hesitation, assumed command of the platoon and proceeded with the advance exhibiting splendid leadership and initiative. Owing to heavy casualties his Lewis Gun Section would have remained out of action had he not taken it on himself until he was brought down with a broken leg. Even then he continued to fire his gun until he had expended all his ammunition, when he fainted from loss of blood.

No. 3145 Sepoy Mian Khan, *The 101st Grenadiers*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an attack on the 20th September 1918. When the first attack had reached within 500 yards of a village,

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the gun which Colour Havildar Shah Mohammad had, up to then, been, operating, suddenly ceased firing, and this Sepoy, on seeing that the Havildar was lying senseless across the gun, dashed across the open ground swept by heavy cross and frontal machine gun and rifle fire, and pulled the wounded man aside. Finding all the ammunition was expended, he coolly proceeded to collect ammunition from the dead and wounded near by. In this manner he filled three magazines and kept the gun firing till more ammunition could be brought up, and remained as No. 1 at the gun until the village was captured.

No. 3052 Naik Dyanu Bhosle, *105th Mahratta Light Infantry*. For conspicuous gallantry on the 19th September 1918. Having had the position of an enemy machine gun shown him from a man before hand, this non-commissioned officer took two men and went to look for it. He was fired on at close range but charged the machine gun, killed the crew and captured the gun.

No. 2949 Private Gopal Rao Mohamunkar, *105th Mahratta Light Infantry*. For gallantry in the field on the 19th September 1918. An enemy machine gun was enfilading our infantry but he, although wounded, at once pushed on with his Lewis gun and silenced the machine gun.

No. 3395 Rifleman Sukh Singh, *125th Napier's Rifles*. For gallantry and initiative on the 19th September 1918. During the attack on the enemy position, this rifleman and a British officer had got some distance ahead of the rest of the company. While so advancing, Rifleman Sukh Singh managed to capture two enemy horses, of which he gave one to his officer and mounted the other himself. Continuing to press forward in his manner, they caught sight of an enemy

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battery in retreat. Without the slightest hesitation they galloped in pursuit and on coming up with the guns the rifleman held 10 of the enemy covered with his rifle, whilst the other officer compelled the surrender of the battery officers and the guns.

No. 2912 Colour Havildar Rahim Ali, *125th Napier's Rifles*. For gallantry and devotion to duty during the attack on the 19th September 1918. This non-commissioned officer collected parties from various companies, re-organised them, and continued to advance over three enemy trenches, although out of touch with his supports. His boldness and initiative undoubtedly contributed to the capture by a handful of our men, of an enemy battery of howitzers, one field gun, and the battery personnel, including its officers.

Subadar Bagbir Gharti, *3rd Queen Alexandra's Own Gurkha Rifles*. For conspicuous gallantry and resource throughout the attack on the 19th September 1918. He led his platoon with remarkable dash capturing 3 successive strong points, together with a very large number of prisoners and mules. He later led his men under heavy machine gun fire through the gardens where he took up a defensive position and so secured the left flank.

No. 378. Lance-Naik Tulbir Rana, *3rd Queen Alexandra's Own Gurkha Rifles*. For conspicuous gallantry and dash during the attack on the 19th September 1918, and the subsequent pursuit of the enemy and capture of the defences. His energy in pushing forward with his section led to his capturing two enemy howitzers and two field guns.

No. 1378 Havildar Thumba Limbu, *7th Gurkha Rifles, attached 7th Gurkha Rifles*. During the attack on the 19th September 1918, this non-commissioned

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officer advanced alone in front of his platoon towards an enemy machine gun which was firing at another company. He threw two bombs into the trench killing two of the machine gunners, he then rushed into the trench capturing the machine gun and 20 prisoners single handed.

Subadar Sasiram Thapa, *7th Gurkha Rifles*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in the attack on the 19th September 1918. He led the first wave of his company, and, after advancing over 2,500 yards of open ground under the enemy's barrage arrived at the objective before our bombardment ceased. As our barrage lifted he advanced and drove away the hostile machine gun that had been enflading the line of advance of the platoon on his left and thereby enabled his platoon to move round the work without loss and surround and capture the garrison. Throughout the operations he rendered invaluable assistance to his company commander in re-organisation, and was a fine example of cheerfulness and endurance.

No. 3165 Rifleman Nandabir Lama, *7th Gurkha Rifles*. For conspicuous gallantry in the attack on the 19th September 1918. When a machine gun, firing from the trench in front, was holding up the advance of the right flank platoon, this Rifleman went on in advance of his section, crept up along a communication trench and bombed the machine gun, which he captured, enabling the remainder of his section to rush the enemy work and capture 17 prisoners.

No. 3401 Havildar Maniratan Thapa, *8th Gurkha Rifles*. In the attack on the 19th September 1918, this non-commissioned officer showed conspicuous gallantry, skill and energy in leading his platoon against a succession of enemy posts, over unknown ground. He charged and captured several strong points, taking some

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80 prisoners and several machine guns. As a result of his gallant action the left flank of the battalion was cleared and tough gained with the division operating on the left of his battalion.

(631 of 1919).

Awarded the Indian Order of Merit (2nd class) for acts of gallantry or devotion to duty while serving with the British Forces in Trans-Caspia:—

Subadar Bal Singh, *19th Punjabis*. On the 14th October 1918 in an attack on the enemy he led his platoon with great dash and bravery under very heavy machine gun fire. He took command of the company when the British officer had been wounded, and by his coolness and power of command ensured the retirement being conducted in an orderly manner.

No. 440 Havildar Imam Din, *19th Punjabis*. On the 14th October 1918 when in charge of a machine gun, brought into action under very heavy gun and rifle fire, he successfully silenced one of the enemy's guns. When finally severely wounded and unable to move he refused all assistance and ordered his gun back into safety. He had previously done exceedingly well with his gun on the 11th August on which occasion he commanded the section in the absence of his officer.

No. 1552 Lance Naik Muhammad Akbar, *19th Punjabis*. Showed great bravery and initiative when in charge of a Lewis Gun on the 14th October 1918. He climbed on to the roof of a house with his gun, 40 yards in advance of all other troops, and in spite of heavy fire and his exposed position, kept up a concentrated fire on the enemy. Later, from this same position he fired on one of the enemy's trains and forced it to retire.

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No. 2352 Sepoy Dalel Singh, *19th Punjabis*. On the 14th October 1918 carried messages throughout the day for his company commander regardless of personal safety and finally delivered an important message after being severely wounded.

(735 of 1919).

Awarded the Indian Order of Merit (2nd class) for acts of gallantry or devotion to duty in the field, while serving with the Egyptian Expeditionary force.

No. 3422. Lance Dafadar Abdul Karim, *34th Prince Albert Victoria's Own Poona Horse*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in command of a patrol of three other ranks on the 20th September 1918. He advanced under heavy machine gun fire although twice wounded and one of his men had been killed. He did not withdraw until he had gained his objective, and subsequently rejoined his squadron bringing in useful information

(841 of 1919).

Awarded the Indian Order of Merit (2nd class) (Mesopotamia).

No. 2840 Dafadar Manji Ram, *14th Murray's Jat Lancers*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 25th October 1918. He was commanding the advanced guard of his squadron which was trying to cut off a body of the enemy. He was the first with a few men to reach about 100 hostile Infantry and displayed marked bravery and initiative in closing with them and causing their surrender. Subsequently on reaching the river, though under heavy fire from the opposite bank, he opened fire immediately on some of the enemy in a boat which was being ferried across and compelled them to surrender. He has always displayed marked coolness and dash when working independently.

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Jamadar Chain Singh, *21st Prince Albert Victor's Own Cavalry (Frontier Force) (Daly's Horse)*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 29th April 1918. He was ordered into action against four enemy machine guns in order to assist the advance of the troops on his left. He took up a position from which he directed the fire of his Hotchkiss gun with great coolness and skill. When nine out of twelve of his men had become casualties, he sent his guns out of action in a most orderly fashion, losing nothing. He himself stayed until all his wounded had been taken back. His cool conduct inspired those around him with confidence.

Risaldar Sant Singh, *23rd Cavalry (Frontier Force)*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 27th October 1918. When his squadron commander was killed, he took command of the half squadron and Hotchkiss guns and handled them with marked skill and coolness under heavy fire until almost all the ammunition was expended. He then conducted a well ordered and successful withdrawal. Later he called for volunteers and, accompanied by four men, went back for his squadron commander's body, which he eventually succeeded in bringing back with him in spite of the intensity of the enemy's fire. Throughout the action he behaved with consummate coolness and displayed power of command of a high order.

Rissaidar Abdullah Khan, *Queen Victoria's Own Corps of Guides (Frontier Force) (Lumsden's Cavalry)*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 28th and 29th October 1918. In the defence of an exposed unentrenched position, repeatedly attacked by the enemy and under a continuous heavy fire, this Indian officer displayed energy, coolness and determination of the highest order. He was killed by a

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shell when fearlessly exposing himself in order to obtain better command of his men. His grand example will ever be remembered by those under his command.

His widow was admitted to the pension of the order with effect from the date of his death.

No. 1865 Kot-Dafadar Khan Bahadar, *Queen Victoria's Own Corps of Guides (Frontier Force) (Lumsden's) (Cavalry)*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 28th and 29th October 1918. During the defence of an exposed unentrenched position repeatedly attacked and under continuous heavy fire, he rendered the utmost assistance in rapidly conveying messages along an extended fire swept line, regardless of personal danger. He assisted the wounded with great bravery and coolness until he himself became a casualty. His conduct throughout was admirable.

No. 2451 Sowar (action Lance Dafadar) Shah Zada, *Queen Victoria's Own Corps of Guides (Frontier Force) (Lumsden's) (Cavalry)*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 28th and 29th October 1918. As No. 1 of the Hotchkiss gun team, he brought his gun into action under heavy enfilade fire, with marked coolness and ability. To obtain a good field of fire, the configuration of the ground necessitated taking up an exposed position. Here he handled his gun for 14 hours with great determination until killed whilst clearing a stoppage in his gun. His conduct throughout was magnificent.

His widow was admitted to the pension of the order with effect from the date of his death.

No. 3695 Havildar Kule Thapa, *2nd King Edward's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles)*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 20th

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July 1918. He was in command of a small guard in a house which was surrounded by the enemy. Although heavily attacked and hard pressed for nine hours he beat off all attacks until relief arrived. He behaved throughout with the greatest coolness and resource, inspiring his men by his magnificent example. This non-commissioned officer has previously done good work in carrying out daring patrols and bringing back valuable information.

No. 3966 Lance Naik Kuman Singh Gurung, *2nd King Edward's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles)* For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in action on the 20th July 1918. It was largely due to the skill and initiative with which this non-commissioned officer used his Lewis gun that his platoon was able to advance as rapidly as it did. On one occasion when heavy enfilade fire from a house was delaying the advance he left two men with a Lewis gun to give covering fire, and with the remainder of his section rushed the house killing a number of the enemy including an officer and taking several prisoners.

No. 1214 1st Class Sub-Assistant Surgeon Rahim Bakhsh, *Indian Medical Department*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 27th October 1918. He attended the wounded, under heavy fire within 300 yards of the enemy's position, with a total disregard of danger. On seeing some wounded lying near to the enemy's line he at once volunteered to go out and bring them in but was forbidden to do so. His conduct throughout the action was splendid.

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Awarded the Indian Order of Merit (2nd class) for acts of gallantry while serving with the Marri Field Force.

768 Dafadar Lal Singh, *3rd Skinner's Horse*. This non-commissioned officer showed the greatest gallantry and power of command in action on the night of February 19th-20th. 1918. He exposed himself continually to fire, directing fire, and rallying his men, till severely wounded. When the non-commissioned officer who had charge of the key of the magazine had been cut down, and the key lost, he at once volunteered to go down and force open the magazine, ammunition being needed. When wounded, he was placed under the little cover available, but a second bullet inside the post struck him in the brain and killed him.

His widow was admitted to the pension of the order with effect from the date of his death.

No. 1334 Lance Dafadar Khem Singh, *3rd Skinner's Horse*. When his post was attacked from the rear he at once rushed to the head of the ladder and resolutely defended it from a mob of Marri, shooting down several, and holding the ladder unaided until the attack was beaten off.

(881 of 1919).

(*Marri Field Force*)

With reference to Army Department Notification No. 158, dated the 17th January 1919, the following are the particulars of the acts of gallantry for which the 2nd class Indian Order of Merit was awarded to the Indian officers named:—

Subadar Hari Singh, *124th Duchess of Connaught's Own Baluchistan Infantry*. For good leadership and gallantry on the 14th June 1918, in the defence of a post of which he was in command. He conducted a