
THE INDIAN ORDER OF MERIT.

GREAT WAR

INDIAN ORDER OF MERIT.

EAST AFRICA—1914.

Admitted to 2nd class.

No. 4050 Naik Gul Muhammad, *29th Punjabis*, for the conspicuous resourcefulness and pluck displayed by him during the action at Tsavo River, British East Africa, on 6th September 1914, in bringing up reinforcements, in the course of which he was twice severely wounded.

(1141 of 1914).

Had Subadar Sher Baz, *29th Punjabis*, survived, the distinction of the 2nd Class of the Military Division of the Indian Order of Merit would have been conferred upon him for his conspicuous courage and gallantry during the action at Tsavo River, British East Africa, in attempting, though wounded himself, to drag under cover Naik Gul Muhammad of the same regiment who was severely wounded. During this brave attempt to save a comrade, Subadar Sher Baz lost his own life. His widow was admitted to the pension of the 2nd Class of the Order with effect from the date of his death.

(1142 of 1914.)

Admitted to 2nd class. (Mesopotamia).

Subadar Sabal Singh and No. 2336 Lance Naik Net Singh, *104th Wellesley's Rifles*, for their conspicuous gallantry during the action at Sahil on 17th November 1914. While under fire from an old fort and a wall perpendicular to it on the edge of a palm grove on the enemy's left flank, they charged the wall at the head of some 20 or 30 men of various units and were the first in this part of the line to enter the enemy's position. Subsequently, on the 7th December 1914 at Qurneh, Subadar Sabal Singh showed special gallantry in leading his company against the enemy's trenches under fire.

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Jemadar Firoz Ali, *3rd Sappers and Miners*, for the conspicuous manner in which he commanded his company during the action at Sahil on 17th November 1914, after the Company Commander and Subadar were both wounded, and with about 100 men did splendid work in spite of heavy casualties.

No. 822 Bugler Surain Singh, *20th Duke of Cambridge's Own Infantry (Brownlow's Punjabis)*, for his conspicuous gallantry at Saihan on the 13th November 1914, in going forward in the face of heavy fire and climbing on and setting fire to a building held by the enemy.

No. 1534 Sepoy Ali Khan, *Bikaner Camel Corps, Imperial Service Troops*, for his conspicuous conduct and gallantry throughout the engagement at Bir el Nuss. Egypt, on the 20th November 1914, during which he displayed self reliance and power of command of a very high order, and by his example encouraged his comrades, all of whom were young soldiers.

(1168 of 1914.)

Admitted to 2nd class. (Mesopotamia).

No. 97 Driver Hashan, *13th Mule Corps, Supply and Transport Corps*, for his conspicuous bravery while under fire during the action at Sahil on 17th November 1914, in assisting, though himself wounded, the regimental Sergeant Major, Dorsetshire Regiment, in removing ammunition from a wounded mule and loading it on to another animal.

No. 940 Driver Sher Baz, *13th Mule Corps, Supply and Transport Corps*, for his conspicuous bravery during the action at Sahil on 17th November 1914, while under fire, in loading and unloading ammunition mules and filling ammunition carriers at a time when the supply of ammunition to the firing line was of the first importance.

(20 of 1915.)

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*Admitted to 2nd Class.**129th Duke of Connaught's Own Baluchis.*

No. 4280 Naik Sar Amir.

No. 2524 Colour-Havildar Ghulam Mahomed.

On 31st October showed conspicuous gallantry at Hollebeke fighting machine gun section when one gun was put out of action by a shell, and the whole detachment of the other gun had been killed.

No. 2718 Lance-Naik Said Akbar.

No. 2584 Havildar Yakub Khan.

No. 3576 Sepoy Daulat Khan.

On 23rd and 24th November, at Festubart, accompanied Captain Acworth along the enemy trenches, throwing bombs over the traverses as they proceeded; and thus forcing them to evacuate.

55th Coke's Rifles (Frontier Force) attached to 57th Wilde's Rifles (Frontier Force).

No. 1695 Sepoy Usman Khan.

On October 24th. For conspicuous gallantry in the trenches east of Wytschaete; although twice wounded he refused to leave his position, and continued to fire at the enemy until wounded a third time.

47th Sikhs.

Senior Sub-Assistant Surgeon Pandit Shanker Das (attached).

For cool courage in attending wounded under heavy fire at Neuve Chapelle.

59th Scinde Rifles (Frontier Force).

No. 3902 Lance Naik Biaz Gul

No. 27 Sepoy Zarif Khan.

On 12th December. For going out and bringing in a wounded man lying only 30 yards from the enemy trenches over a distance of 100 yards under heavy fire.

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*2nd Battalion, 2nd King Edward's Own Gurkha Rifles
(The Sirmoor Rifles).*

No. 1618 Naik Padamdhoj Gurung.

On November 2nd. For remaining behind when the others in the vicinity had been forced to retire.

2nd Battalion, 3rd Queen Alexandra's Own Gurkha Rifles.

No. 1757 Lance-Naik Jaman Sing Rana.

On November 6th. For carrying out of action a wounded rifleman under heavy fire at a range of 20 yards.

No. 2016 Lance Naik Jaman Sing Khattri.

On November 13th. For going out under heavy fire to bring wounded back to the trenches.

1st Battalion, 39th Garhwal Rifles.

No. 1674 Rifleman Kalamu Bisht.

On 23rd and 24th November. For leading an advance in single file along a trench against a sap occupied by the enemy, who were thus turned out. Later, for laying the first sandbags at 15 paces in broad daylight.

No. 2408 Lance Naik Sankaru Gusain.

On 23rd and 24th November. For being from start to finish in the first rush at each traverse, and getting into exposed positions on the top of traverse and parapet, the better to fire at the enemy.

No. 1810, Havildar Alam Sing Negi.

On 23rd and 24th November. For leading three successive bayonet charges against the enemy.

2nd Battalion, 39th Garhwal Rifles.

No. 1342, Rifleman Ganesh Singh Sajwan.

On 9th November. For carrying back a comrade to the trenches on a moonlight night under the enemy's fire.

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58th Vaughan's Rifles (Frontier Force.)

No. 1811, Havildar Karam Singh.

On 31st October. For continuing to command his men, though dangerously wounded, and showing most excellent spirit till removed at night.

2nd Battalion, 8th Gurkha Rifles.

No. 3110, Havildar Hari Persad Thapa.

On 23rd and 24th November. Gallantly leading a rush round traverses in a trench held by the enemy; in doing this he was wounded: nevertheless he fetched up reinforcements, and in command of the party captured some Germans.

34th Sikh Pioneers.

Sub-Assistant Surgeon Harnam Singh (attached.)

On 23rd and 24th November. For great courage and disregard of danger in removing wounded under heavy shrapnel fire from the regimental aid post, and with the help of one other man carrying seven wounded men to a place of safety.

No. 1871, Havildar Nikka Singh.

On 23rd and 24th November. All the men having been killed or wounded he carried his machine gun back to the support trench alone.

3rd Sappers and Miners, No. 20 Company.

No. 3795, Sapper Dalip Singh.

On 28th October. For conspicuous gallantry in the attack of Neuve Chapelle, when by standing beside Lieutenant Raitt Kerr, who was wounded, he kept the enemy off by his fire, and thus permitted that officer's safe removal.

1st King George's Own Sappers and Miners,

No. 3 Company.

Jemadar Ram Rup Singh.

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On 12th November. For initiative and gallantry. Having received a message that four men who had gone to blow up a house in front of the Seaforth's trenches lay wounded, he led a party of four men to their assistance, and brought them in.

34th (Prince Albert Victor's Own) Poona Horse.

Ward Orderly Madhu.

On 2nd November. For gallantry in carrying Risaldar Rathore Hamir Singh, who was wounded, under heavy fire, to a first aid post, and then returning to his place in the firing line.

(111 of 1915.)

Admitted to 2nd Class.

No. 2855, Naik Dalip Singh, *No 22 Company, 3rd Sappers and Miners*, for his conspicuous gallantry during the action at Sahil, on 17th November 1914, when, with a party of Sappers under the command of Lieutenant A. B. Matthews, Royal Engineers, he was always well forward in action and led his squad with great determination into the enemy's trenches.

(190 of 1915.)

Admitted to 2nd class.

Subadar Jafar Ali, *102nd King Edward's Own Grenadiers*, for conspicuous gallantry during the operations at Muscat on 11th January 1915, in conducting and leading a small party of men, under very heavy fire along a very difficult path on a precipitous hillside to dislodge a party of the enemy who were impeding the advance, during which for a short time, he, with Sepoys No. 2936 Sultan Ahmad and No. 3129 Karamdad Khan, was isolated with the enemy immediately above him. By his exceptional skill in handling his men, his personal courage and absolute disregard of his life, this Indian officer set an example of the highest soldierly quality.

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No. 2813 Sepoy Nand Ram (deceased), *102nd King Edward's Own Grenadiers*, for conspicuous courage during the operations in the vicinity of Muscat on 11th January 1915, in staying behind alone at a picquet post in order to protect a comrade who was badly wounded. During this plucky act, Sepoy Nand Ram was himself overpowered and killed by the enemy. His widow was admitted to the pension of the 2nd Class of the Order with effect from the date of his death.

Jemadar Ram Karan, *33rd Queen Victoria's Own Light Cavalry* for conspicuous conduct at Mezera on 30th January 1915 when, during the retirement of the enemy's forces, he led his troop with commendable dash over marshy ground and under heavy rifle fire from front and flank, against several groups of the enemy's riflemen, and directed his men with much skill under trying circumstances. ~~ATD~~ ATD

No. 2571 Lance-Dafadar *Arjan Singh*, *33rd Queen Victoria's Own Light Cavalry*, for conspicuous gallantry at Shaiba on 9th February 1915, when during a reconaissance, he, assisted by Sowars No. 3089 Buta Singh and No. 3357 Mangal Singh, succeeded under the close fire of the enemy, in hoisting on to the front of his saddle, the dead body of a comrade and bringing it back to the main body of the reconnoitring party and subsequently conveying it to Shaiba Post.

No. 2652 Havildar Ghulam Nabi.	} No. 17 Company, 3rd Sappers and Miners.
No. 3743 Lance Naik Nur Dad.	
No. 3998 Sapper Ghulam Haidar	

At Kurna on the 8th December 1914, Volunteers being called for to swim the river Tigris about 150 yards wide, and carry a line to the opposite bank, the above-named at once volunteered and swam across

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with the line, thus enabling a flying bridge to be prepared for the passage of our troops. The stream was flowing very rapidly and the work was attended with great danger more especially as the tide was ebbing and the water was very cold. The opposite bank of the river was held by the enemy in considerable strength.

No. 2317 Lance Naik Guman Singh	} 104th Wellesley's Rifles.
No. 2866 Rifleman Kheta Ram.	
No. 2578 Rifleman Dhanna Ram.	
No. 2090 Rifleman Maula Dad.	

At Kurna on 4th December 1914, the machine section was very heavily engaged with the enemy across the Tigris at ranges varying from 250 to 400 yards. Orders were given for the machine guns to retire with the first party. At the time four men and the Officer Commanding the machine gun section were left to take back two guns, ammunition boxes, etc. The guns were carried some 250 yards back to the mules but some ammunition still remained behind. The Officer Commanding the machine gun section called for volunteers to return for the ammunition. The four men above named at once volunteered, and went back and gallantly recovered the whole of the ammunition in the face of a heavy shell and rifle fire, after the greater part of their own firing line had retired. Rifleman Kheta Ram and Rifleman Dhanna Ram had twice previously brought up ammunition to the guns over the same ground, the last 100 yards being over an open ploughed field. Lance-Naik Guman Singh had worked one of the guns throughout the day.

No. 2263 Bugler Narsu Singh, *104th Wellesley's Rifles.*

At Kurna on the 8th December 1914, when in the open exposed to a heavy and effective machine-gun and rifle fire and when the rest of his company had

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retired, the Bugler gallantly stayed behind and succeeded in bringing in a badly wounded rifleman to cover some 400 yards distant. The enemy's fire was so well directed that there were fifteen casualties at this spot.

No. 1148 Lance Naik Haidar Beg, *110th Mahratta Light Infantry.*

At Mazera on the 7th December 1914, this non-commissioned officer received instructions to signal to the Artillery a very important message from the Officer Commanding, 110th Mahratta Light Infantry. To do this, he gallantly stood up about 500 yards from the enemy, and, in face of considerable rifle fire, successfully accomplished his task.

No. 2089 Lance Naik Bhau Savant (deceased), *110th Mahratta Light Infantry.*

This non-commissioned officer displayed great courage in advancing under a heavy fire when in command of the scouts at Mazera on the 7th December 1914 and afterwards, when engaged in the attack, he showed conspicuous bravery, being always in the van. He was shot through the heart in the final bayonet charge.

His widow was admitted to the allowance of the 2nd Class of the Order with effect from the date of his death.

Subadar Dunga Rawat, *120th Rajputana Infantry.*

At Mazera on the 7th December 1914, this Indian officer with half the double company about 200 yards in rear, reached the bank of the river opposite Kurna, which was strongly attacked at close range. He displayed great coolness and bravery, and went back and brought the remainder of his command up to the river bank two sections at a time.

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No. 1566; Sepoy Hukam Singh, *120th Rajputana Infantry*.

At Kurna on the 7th January 1915, a reconnaissance by a force of 100 rank and file of the 120th Infantry, under Captain Mainwaring White developed into a skirmish with a large body of Arabs who attempted to cut off a portion of the party. This movement necessitated the withdrawal of the force across a deep creek under difficult circumstances. When the last few men were crossing the creek, one of them who could not swim appeared to be drowning and Sepoy Hukam Singh voluntarily returned to the creek and brought the drowning man safely across under fire from the enemy who were only 400 yards distant.

No. 282, 1st Class Sub-Assistant Surgeon Vroj Lal Umed Ram Pandit, Indian Subordinate Medical Department (Bombay).

At Mazera on the 7th December 1914, while Sub-Assistant Surgeon Vroj-Lal Umed Ram Pandit was treating the wounded outside a hut near the regimental aid post of the 104th Wellesley's Rifles, a wounded sepoy was shot. The Sub-Assistant Surgeon at once seized the sepoy's bayonet, burst open the door, which was locked, and gallantly entered the hut. He found an Arab creeping under some grass with his rifle close by, he seized him and dragged him out thus preventing further injury to the wounded.

(284 of 1915)

Admitted to the 2nd class.

No. 4256, Sowar Sarwar Ali, *Kurram Militia*, for his conspicuous bravery while under fire during an engagement between the Jagis and the Kurram Militia which took place at Lakkatigga Post on the 4th October 1914, when he dragged Lieutenant C.A. Boyle, Kurram Militia, who was wounded, for a considerable

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distance until they were under cover. This act was performed under close fire.

North Waziristan Militia.

No. 262, 1st Grade Dafadar Darim, for his conspicuous courage during the action at Spina Khaisora on 7th January 1915, when, after escaping from an extremely dangerous situation, he stopped half way to a place of safety and took up a position by himself to cover the retirement of his comrades, which act proved of the greatest assistance.

No. 286, 1st Grade Dafadar Makhmad Jan (deceased), for his conspicuous bravery during the action at Spina Khaisora on 7th January 1915, when he led his men in the attack under very heavy fire. His widow was admitted to the pension of the 2nd Class of Order with effect from the date of his death.

(301 of 1915)

The undermentioned Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, and men of the Indian Army, were awarded the Second Class of the Indian Order of Merit, in recognition of their gallantry whilst serving with the Indian Army Corps, British Expeditionary Force:—

Subadar Malla Singh, 20th Company, 3rd Sappers and Miners.

No. 1148 Havildar Pala Singh, 34th Sikh Pioneers

No. 2775 L.-Naik Tota Singh, 34th Sikh Pioneers

No. 2071 Naik Bir Singh, 34th Sikh Pioneers.

No. 2605 L.-Naik Kiyali Gusain, 1st Battalion, 39th Garhwal Rifles.

No. 2172 Rifleman Ghantu Rawat, 1st Battalion, 39th Garhwal Rifles.

No. 1715 Rifleman Dhan Singh Negi, 1st Battalion, 39th Garhwal Rifles.

No. 2417 Rifleman Partab Rana, 1st Battalion, 39th Garhwal Rifles.