

INDIAN ORDER OF MERIT

MESOPOTAMIA

Promoted to the 1st Class of the Order.

No. 4489 Havildar Fazal Hussain, I.O.M., *1st Battalion, 22nd Punjabis*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 22nd November 1915. He took command of the machine gun section after the British officer with the guns was killed. Although the teams were either killed or wounded, and he was severely wounded, this non-commissioned officer kept his gun in action until he was killed, thereby materially assisting the attack.

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

Subadar-Major Balwant Rao Sawant, Bahadur, I.O.M., *1st Battalion, 117th Mahrattas*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 22nd November 1915.

Admitted to the 2nd Class of the Order.

No. 3365 Sowar Kehar Singh, *7th Hariana Lancers*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 22nd November 1915. While under very heavy fire from the enemy trenches he dismounted of his own accord, picked up a wounded sowar who had fallen from his horse and carried him over 100 yards, when the wounded man fell dead. He then mounted and rejoined his troops.

No. 2018 Sowar Amrik Singh, *16th Cavalry*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 22nd November 1915. He brought up, under very heavy shell and rifle fire, an army transport cart to within 200 yards of the firing line trench in which eight wounded men were lying. He made four journeys from the trench to the cart, carrying a wounded man on each occasion. He eventually brought all the party back to the field ambulance.

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No. 1887 Sowar Sher Singh, *16th Cavalry*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 22nd November 1915. He went to the assistance of another sowar who was laying in the open, severely wounded, and carried him some distance until he was severely wounded himself.

No. 3955 Naik Saiyid Hussain, *3rd Sappers and Miners*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 25th September 1915, when although wounded twice, he remained in the firing line.

No. 2625 Naik Hardat Singh, *3rd Sappers and Miners*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 7th December 1915, when he assisted in the demolition of an enemy bridge. He was killed during the operation.

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

No. 4067 Sapper Inder Singh VII, *3rd Sappers and Miners*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 7th December 1915, when he assisted in the demolition of an enemy bridge. This non-commissioned officer died of wounds received while engaged in the operations.

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

No. 4587 Sapper Abdul Aziz, *3rd Sappers and Miners*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 7th December 1915, when he assisted in the demolition of an enemy bridge.

No. 3075 Sapper Inder Singh, *3rd Sappers and Miners*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 15th March 1916, when under heavy fire he saved a wounded man from drowning.

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Subadar Major Shiuambar Singh, *1st Battalion, 7th Duke of Connaught's Own Rajputs*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 22nd November 1915. He continued to lead his company after he was severely wounded until he was again wounded and incapacitated from further movement.

No. 4717 Havildar (now Jemadar) Lal Singh, *1st Battalion, 22nd Punjabis*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 22nd November 1915. He was with the leading line of Infantry which reached a very exposed position without support. When the two Indian officers senior to him were killed, and the company on the left retired, he was left with only a few men but he held his position till ordered to retire.

No. 514 Lance Naik Pal Singh, *24th Punjabis*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 22nd November 1915. He assisted in saving a machine gun, and throughout the day behaved in a most gallant manner, setting a very fine example to all around him. He was killed in action.

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

No. 943 Havildar Dayal Singh, *1st Battalion, 48th Pioneers*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 22nd November 1915 while in command of the regimental stretcher bearer.

No. 1931 Sepoy Dhir Singh, *I.D.S.M., 1st Battalion, 66th Punjabis*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 22nd November 1915. This non-commissioned officer was attached to the maxim battery. When the machine guns were running short of ammunition, and a number of the men of his section had been killed or wounded, he carried up ammunition and kept the guns supplied at a critical time until he was himself severely wounded.

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Subadar-Major Hussain Shah, *76th Punjabis*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 22nd November 1915. This Indian officer displayed the greatest coolness and bravery in leading his company. His personal example kept his company steady during the most trying period of the battle when the enemy's counter attack developed on the flank of the battalion, which was held by this Indian officer's company. The battalion was on the exposed flank of the force and any wavering at the critical moment might have led to disaster.

No. 4303 Sepoy Shanker Lake, 1st Battalion, *103rd Mahratta Light Infantry*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 22nd November 1915. He was killed in action.

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

Subadar Mukh Ram, *104th Wellesley's Rifles*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 22nd November 1915. He displayed great coolness in commanding and leading his company, under heavy fire, throughout the day. When the British officers were hit, he took command of the double company and led it with conspicuous ability during the rest of the day.

No. 2241 Colour Havildar Ganpat Singh, *104th Wellesley's Rifles*. For conspicuous gallantry, coolness and dash in commanding his section of the 22nd November 1915. Towards the middle of the day, when all the Indian officers of his double company were wounded, he assumed command and was conspicuous for his efficiency in leading his men.

Subadar Ramchandra Hase, *110th Mahratta Light Infantry*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 22nd November 1915. When all his

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British officers had been killed or wounded, he led a double company with great skill and gallantry to the enemy trenches, under very heavy artillery and machine gun fire. He personally issued ammunition to his men which he brought up himself on mules from the rear. He was killed at the end of the day.

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

Subadar Major Khitab Gul, Sardar Bahadur, *120th Rajputana Inty.* For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 22nd November 1915, while in a very exposed position.

No. 1009 Havildar Girwar, *120th Rajputana Infantry.* For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 22nd November 1915. He was in charge of a section of machine guns and showed the utmost personal bravery in working his gun over open ground, under heavy fire, to within a short distance of the enemy trenches, in order to cover the advance of the infantry, when, owing to the nature of the ground, it was impossible to give covering fire from the rear or flanks of the assaulting line.

Subadar Kubir Singh Limbu, 2nd Battalion, *7th Gurkha Rifles.* For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 22nd November 1915. This Indian officer led his company with coolness and absolute disregard of personal danger. He took several trenches culminating in the capture of eight guns.

Subadar Sahabir Thapa, 2nd Battalion, *7th Gurkha Rifles.* For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 22nd November 1915. He led his company throughout the day with skill, coolness and personal disregard of danger.

No. 2029 Rifleman Raubahadur Thapa, 2nd Battalion, *7th Gurkha Rifles.*

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No. 2053 Rifleman Dhojman Rai, 2nd Battalion, 7th Gurkha Rifles.

No. 2332 Rifleman Sivinanda Limbu, 2nd Battalion, 7th Gurkha Rifles.

No. 2440 Rifleman Birbahadur Rai, 2nd Battalion, 7th Gurkha Rifles.

No. 2475 Rifleman Narbahadar Limbu, 2nd Battalion, 7th Gurkha Rifles.

No. 2639 Rifleman Raidhan Rai, 2nd Battalion, 7th Gurkha Rifles. For conspicuous gallantry on the night of the 9th December 1915, in connection with the destruction of a bridge of boats, the bridge head of which on the right bank of the river had fallen into the hands of the enemy. From their position the enemy commanded the left bank of the river and rendered the dismantling of the bridge impossible. During the darkness the numerous ropes and stays by which it was anchored in the river were severed whilst two British officers laid charges of gun cotton. The enterprise succeeded and a part of the bridge was destroyed. The undertaking was most perilous for there was every reason to expect that any noise or movement on the bridge would at once attract a terrific fire at close quarters from the enemy as was evidenced half an hour later, when an attempt was made to cross in a launch to recover some of the wounded men who had fallen during the day.

(1357 of 1917) and (1795 of 1920).

Awarded the Indian Order of Merit, 2nd Class, for acts of gallantry or devotion to duty in the field while serving on the North-West Frontier, India.

Subadar Chanda Singh, 2nd Battalion, 124th *Duchess of Connaught's Own Balchistan Infantry*. For conspicuous gallantry on the 18th August 1919,

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when, though wounded twice, he continued to lead his men until the end of the action.

Risaldar Nauda Singh, *Burma Military Police, Mounted Infantry*. For conspicuous gallantry on the 18th August 1919. This sowar showed great courage in scaling the wall of a hut in which the enemy were located. He got on to the roof with a Lewis gun and, after making a hole in the roof, he inserted the barrel of his gun and traversed the inside of the house. While he was doing this he was under fire from the enemy inside and from a sniper in a tree.

(1881 of 1920).

Awarded the Indian Order of Merit, 2nd Class, for acts of gallantry or devotion to duty in the field while serving with the Waziristan Force.

No. 1479 Havildar Bhatejor Rai, 3rd Battalion, *11th Gurkha Rifles*. For most conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 10th July 1920. During a withdrawal; Havildar Bhatejor Rai who was in the rear of his platoon heard cries for help and turning round saw that two men had been wounded. He immediately re-climbed the hill alone and relieved a rifleman of two rifles. He then continued his way up the hill to assist a non-commissioned officer who was lying on the top of the ridge.

On reaching the non-commissioned officer, Havildar Bhatejor Rai tried to remove his equipment but found that the non-commissioned officer had been mortally wounded by the enemy who were concealed a few yards away. The Havildar himself was hit in the thigh. He was able however to stumble down the hill carrying his own and the two wounded men's rifles till he reached a supporting line. After having

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reported that there was a badly wounded man still on the ridge he sank to the ground exhausted from loss of blood.

Havildar Bhatejor Rai's action in returning alone to the wounded men whom no one else had noticed, revealed the most conspicuous bravery, self-sacrifice, determination and devotion to duty. His courageous and prompt action undoubtedly saved the rifleman's life.

(2021 of 1920).

Awarded the Indian Order of Merit, 2nd Class, for acts of gallantry or devotion to duty in the field while serving with the Army of the Black Sea.

Subadar Budh Ram, 1st Battalion, *95th Russell's Infantry*. For conspicuous gallantry on the 5th July 1920 when commanding the flank platoon of his company. The enemy opened a heavy fire from a concealed position at a range of 150 yards. This Indian officer displayed the greatest bravery and skill in handling his platoon. He advanced his Lewis guns and turned the enemy, who were double his strength, out of their position. He displayed excellent judgment and power of leadership.

Jemadar Chhaju Ram, 1st Battalion, *95th Russell's Infantry*. Jemadar Chhaju Ram reconnoitred the bridgehead, under heavy fire, with scouts. He showed absolute disregard for his own safety and, after being severely wounded in the arm, carried on for another hour and effected the withdrawal of his scouts. His fortitude was a great example to all ranks.

No. 2284 Sepoy Tirkha Ram, 1st Battalion, *95th Russell's Infantry*.

When a withdrawal was ordered a wounded comrade was left in the open. Sepoy Tirkha Ram

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went out under heavy rifle fire from 200 yards and endeavoured to bring him in. He was severely wounded in the attempt but showed absolute disregard for his own safety and was an example of bravery to all ranks.

No. 1413 Sepoy Shui Sahai, 1st Bn., *95th Russell's Inty.* For conspicuous gallantry on the 16th July 1920. When a withdrawal was ordered a wounded comrade was left in the open. Sepoy Shui Sahai went out under heavy rifle fire from 200 yards and endeavoured to bring him in. He was fatally wounded in the attempt. He showed absolute disregard for his own safety and was an example of bravery of all ranks.

(His widow was admitted to the pension of the Order, with effect from the date of his death).

(2121 of 1920).

Awarded the Indian Order of Merit, 2nd Class, for gallantry and devotion to duty in the field while serving on the North West Frontier, India.

No. 1763 Havildar Persadman Rai, I.D.S.M., *2nd Bn., 6th Gurkha Rifles.* For conspicuous gallantry on the night of the 29th-30th August 1920. This non-commissioned officer was in charge of a picquet of 14 men which was heavily attacked by the enemy, but, by his steady systematic control of the fire of his men, they beat off the attack. In the morning several bodies were found near the picquet, and for about 25 yards round the picquet the blood stained ground showed that a considerable number of the enemy had been wounded.

No. 31 Havildar Kashmir Singh, *2nd Bn., 41st Dogras.* For conspicuous gallantry on the 10th July 1920. This non-commissioned officer showed great courage and initiative while commanding a party of

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men. The latter ran short of ammunition when Havildar Kashmir Singh seeing a party of the enemy coming up a *nullah* under his position, stood up and commenced rolling stones on them, thus encouraging the remainder of his party and checking the enemy's advance. Later on, although wounded, he assisted in removing two casualties and withdrew his party intact. He died in hospital of the wounds he received. He set a fine example of self sacrifice and devotion to duty.

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

(2122 and 2123 of 1920).

Awarded the Indian Order of Merit, 2nd Class. for acts of gallantry or devotion to duty in the field while serving with the Army of the Black Sea.

No. 1854 Sepoy (Ward Orderly) Lachu, *1st Battalion, 21st Punjabis*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 16th June 1920. Sepoy Lachu went out with a stretcher party across 150 yards of ground which was swept by shell machine gun and rifle fire to recover a severely wounded non-commissioned officer. He dressed the wounded non-commissioned officer in the open and brought him safely back.

No. 1289 Naik Bhag Singh, *24th Punjabis*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 15th June 1920. Although severely wounded, he continued to lead his section and direct his Lewis guns under heavy machine gun fire. He set a splendid example to his men.

No. 699 Lance-Naik Kehr Singh, *24th Punjabis*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on the 15th June 1920. Although severely wounded, Lance-Naik Kehr Singh continued to fire his Lewis

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gun under heavy enemy machine gun fire from three directions. He was afterwards carried back but retained his Lewis gun which he brought into action in another position.

(2167 of 1920).

Awarded the Indian Order of Merit, 2nd Class, for acts of gallantry or devotion to duty in the field while serving with the Mesopotamia Expeditionary Force.

Subadar-Major Umar Khan, I.D.S.M., *126th Baluchistan Infantry*. For conspicuous gallantry on the 13th March 1920. While commanding a half company he took them across a branch of the river and cleared a wooded island of enemy snipers.

Throughout the operations he showed fine soldierly qualities and untiring zeal.

(2322 of 1920)

Awarded the Indian Order of Merit, 2nd Class, for gallantry and devotion to duty in the field while serving with the Waziristan Force.

No. 45 Havildar Dharamraj Gurung, *3rd Battalion, Queen Alexandar's Own Gurkha Rifles*. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion on the 17th February 1920. During an attack on a tower, this non-commissioned officer accompanied his British officer in an attempt to climb up the side of the tower and throw a bomb through the loophole. Under heavy fire he bent down and lifted the British officer on his shoulders to enable him to climb. When the British officer was wounded he assisted in carrying him to a place of safety.

(2323 of 1920)

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Subadar Ram Saran Rana, *2nd Battalion, 4th Gurkha Rifles* attached 1st Battalion, 1st King George's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Maulan Regiment), (deceased) was awarded the 2nd Class Indian Order of Merit in recognition of his conspicuous gallantry on the 20th December 1914 while serving with the Indian Expeditionary Force in France. His Commander having been killed, Subadar Ram Saran Rana took charge of a portion of a trench and gallantly resisted a severe attack by the enemy in overwhelming numbers. He behaved with great coolness and set a splendid example to his men.

He was killed in the attack and his widow was admitted to the pension of the 2nd class of the Order with effect from the date of his death.

(477 of 1921).

Jemadar (afterwards Subadar) Bishen Singh Bahadur, *1st Battalion, 66th Punjabis*, was awarded the Indian Order of Merit, 2nd Class, in recognition of his conspicuous gallantry in action at Ctesiphon on the 22nd November 1915.

This Indian officer showed a splendid example of coolness to his men and led them through each advance with courage and resolution.

(982 of 1921).

Awarded the Indian Order of Merit, 2nd Class for gallantry in the field whilst serving with the Egyptian Force.

No. 2126-B Sepoy Muhammed Hussain, *28th Punjabis*. For conspicuous gallantry at Giaour Dagh Mountains, Cilicia, on the 11th October 1919. When