



KARGIL WAR HEROES

TRIBUTE

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1.0 KARGIL WAR HEROES

TRIBUTE

**They'd promised their families they'd come back soon. They more than kept their word.
Went as mere men. Came back as heroes. In coffins.**

"THEY GAVE THEIR TODAY FOR OUR TOMORROW"

Over a 400 of them at last count. Median age 19 to 35. The grim-faced army officers receiving the coffins, draped in the tricolour, the carriage to the army parade ground, the set-jawed shok shastra farewell salute by steely soldiers. The silent sorrow of upraised guns, slowly brought, barrel downward, to the ground, left arm tautly extended to the right before retracking, the holding of palm to chest, the sudden dropping of head, the 30-second hushed silence, then the regulation rajnigandha and marigold wreaths from the army and air chiefs, the general officer commanding, fellow officers, the battalion, before the body escorted by a comrade begins its last journey home. Wreathed in white, the colour of the pure; kesariya, the colour and insignia of the brave. Now across mountains, now across rivers, plains.

The lines of pain crisscross the entire nation.

They did it again. They have risen to defend our Kashmir from the aggression of the enemy. They are sacrificing their lives to defend Kashmir against the evil designs of Muslim fundamentalism. Our heroes of the defence forces are battling with the fundamentalist in KARGIL SECTOR and not allowing them an inch of the country to be occupied. They are forcing the fundamentalists out and have succeeded in their mission to a great extent.

Kashmiri Pandits all over the world are grateful to these warriors and brave sons of the land for defending the Kashmiri Pandit homeland "MAEJ KASHEER" (MOTHER KASHMIR). We the Kashmiri Pandits pay TRIBUTES to these young heroes through this page.

We are trying our best to get information of all the Heroes. If the names of some brave soldiers are not included in the list, it is only that we don't have information about him at present. As soon as we get the info we will put a separate page for the hero.

Featured Collections



Lt. Colonel Vishwanathan

"We grieve the loss of our son. But we are also proud he has dedicated his life to the nation," - V Ramakrishnan, 60, the father of Lt. Colonel Vishwanathan.

[>>>](#)



Lt. Colonel Vijayraghavan

The brave man of the 15 Kumaon Regiment made the supreme sacrifice of his life on June 25 while leading counter-insurgency operations near Machchal near the LoC. [>>>](#)

■Lt. Colonel Sachin Kumar Kanderiya

Lt Col Sachin Kumar Kanderiya was killed when a shell fired by the Pakistani troops exploded near his post on the glacier. [>>>](#)



Major Ajay Singh Jasrotia

■ **Major Kamlesh Pathak**

There's still some pain, but the injury is healing fast," wrote Major Kamlesh Pathak. He was writing to his family in Rewa, Madhya Pradesh about the bullet wounds he sustained earlier. Yet he insisted on rejoining his unit and fell to enemy bullets.

[>>>](#)



■ **Major Padmaphani Acharya**

"I am prepared to sacrifice my other son also for the sake of our motherland," his proud father said. Nation's second highest wartime gallantry award MAHA VIR CHAKRA was awarded to Major Padmaphani Acharya on 15th August 1999. [>>>](#)



■ **Major Mariappan Saravanan**

Major M Sarvanan, the hero of Batalik, was finally among friends. Martyred on May 29 after wresting two bunkers from the enemy, Maj Sarvanan's mortal remains lay out of the reach of his men until July 3. Nation's third highest wartime gallantry award VIR CHAKRA was awarded to Major Mariappan Sarvanan on 15th August 1999. [>>>](#)



■ **Major Rajesh Singh Adhikari**

Adhikari was leading the central arm of three 10-man teams trying to capture a bunker at 16,000 ft. He died in the bloody assault but the bunker was won. Nation's second highest wartime gallantry award MAHA VIR CHAKRA was awarded to Major Rajesh Singh Adhikari on 15th August 1999. [>>>](#)

■ **Major Harminder Pal Singh**

Major Harminder Pal Singh proved to be a true follower of Sikh gurus, when in a heroic act he laid down his life for the defence of his motherland on the very day the nation was celebrating tercentenary celebrations of the founding of Khalsa. [>>>](#)



■ **Major Manoj Talwar**

A third generation officer, Maj Manoj Talwar, left the more lucrative option of becoming an army doctor when he chose to join the National Defence Academy. His father, Capt (Retd) P L Talwar, is sad but proud that his son fought for the motherland. [>>>](#)



■ **Major Vivek Gupta**

There was pride in her salute and sorrow in her eyes as Capt Jayshree Gupta bid a final farewell to her slain husband Maj Vivek Gupta, the hero of the first major victory achieved by the Indian forces in Kargil. Maj Gupta and six others from his team



■ **Major Sonam Wangchuk**

A soft-spoken Buddhist soldier gives India one of its major footholds in the icy mountains. Nation's second highest wartime gallantry award MAHA VIR CHAKRA was awarded to Major Sonam Wangchuk on 15th August 1999. [>>>](#)

captured the Pt 4950 peak at Tuloling before they were killed in fierce combat. >>>



Major Ajay Kumar

Major Ajay Kumar belonged to 13 Mechanised Infantry. He was killed in the Avantipur area when leading a search operation. >>>



Captain Amol Kalia

The recapture of a key position in the Batalik sector by Capt Amol Kalia and 13 of his men, all of whom died, was one of the bravest acts seen in the Kargil sector. Nation's third highest wartime gallantry award VIR CHAKRA was awarded to Captain Amol Kalia on 15th August 1999. >>>



Lt. Kieshing Clifford Nongrum

Nation's second highest wartime gallantry award MAHA VIR CHAKRA was awarded to Lt. Kieshing Clifford Nongrum on 15th August 1999. >>>



Captain Sumeet Roy

Nation's third highest wartime gallantry award VIR CHAKRA was awarded to Captain Sumit Roy on 15th August 1999. >>>

■Captain Amit Verma

The 23-year-old soldier was the only son of his proud parents and a third generation army officer. His grandfather is a retired major and the father a retired colonel. Both had been in battles but Amit was the only one on whom martyrdom was bestowed in Kargil. >>>

■Captain Pannikot Visvanath Vikram

"My son has accomplished what I could not. I am really proud of him," was the immediate reaction of Lieutenant Colonel (retired) P K P Viswanatha Panickar when he heard about the death of his son, Captain Pannikot Visvanath Vikram, 25, in a shell attack at Kargil. >>>

■Captain Anuj Nayyar

Nation's second highest wartime gallantry award MAHA VIR CHAKRA was awarded to Captain Anuj Nair on 15th August 1999. >>>

■Deputy Commandant Joy Lall

Lall (36), a valiant officer, was among the three ITBP personnel killed at Gund in Jammu and Kashmir in a powerful landmine blast triggered by terrorists. >>>

■Captain Vikram Batra

■Naik Digendra Kumar

Nation's highest wartime gallantry award PARAM VIR CHAKRA was awarded to Captain VIKRAM BATRA on 15th August 1999. >>>



Captain Jintu Gogoi

The men of 17 Garhwal had charged into battle shouting 'Badri Vishal', their battle cry. Of the four companies that went into battle one officer and eleven jawans did not return. Nation's third highest wartime gallantry award VIR CHAKRA was awarded to Captain Jintu Gogoi on 15th August 1999. >>>

Nation's second highest wartime gallantry award MAHA VIR CHAKRA was awarded to Naik Digendra Kumar on 15th August 1999. >>>



Lt. Vijayant Thapar

Nation's third highest wartime gallantry award VIR CHAKRA was awarded to Lt. Vijayant Thapar on 15th August 1999. >>>



Lt. N. Kenguruse

Nation's second highest wartime gallantry award MAHA VIR CHAKRA was awarded to Lt. N. Kenguruse on 15th August 1999. >>>



Captain Haneef Uddin

Attacked by intruders and bombarded by artillery, he and his unit, equipped only with small arms, fought to the end. Nation's third highest wartime gallantry award VIR CHAKRA was awarded to Lt. Hanif-u-din on 15th August 1999. >>>



Lt. Saurav Kalia

Lt. Amit Bharadwaj

Lt Bharadwaj and his men were among the first to encounter the enemy in the Kargil sector. He led the patrol after Captain Saurav Kalia and his men from the same unit went missing in the Kaksar area on May 8 near Bajrang post. >>>

Lt. Balwan Singh

Nation's second highest wartime gallantry award MAHA VIR CHAKRA was awarded to Lt. Balwan Singh on 15th August 1999. >>>

Lt. Manoj Kumar Pandey

Nation's highest wartime gallantry award PARAM VIR CHAKRA was awarded to Lt. Manoj Kumar Pandey on 15th August 1999.

>>>



Squadron Leader Ajay Ahuja

Made the supreme sacrifice for his country while remaining over infiltrators-held positions to help coordinate rescue attempts to locate Flt. Lt. Nachiketa, who had baled out after his plane stalled due to an engine trouble. Nation's third highest wartime gallantry award VIR CHAKRA was awarded to Squadren Leader Ajay Ahuja on 15th August 1999. >>>



Squadron Leader Rajiv Pundhir, Flight Lieutenant S. Muhilan, Sergeant Raj Kishore Sahu and Sergeant PVNR Prasad

Four crew members of the MI-17 helicopter gunship that was shot down by an American Stinger Missile in Kargil. >>>



Flight Lieutenant S. Muhilan

The young officer from Karnataka's Belgaum district made the supreme sacrifice during the air-to-ground rocket attack against a heavily missile defended area. >>>



Flight Lieutenant Nachiketa Rao

This work explains the most timeless question of all existence, "What lies beyond Death"? And it was Nachiketa who had the courage to confront even Death in his pursuit of the answer. >>>



Sergeant and Flight Engineer Raj Kishore Sahu

■Naik R. Kamraj

Kamraj was looking forward to returning for good, after completing the mandatory service period on January 3, 2000. Fate willed otherwise. >>>



Naik Chaman Singh

■Naik Kudeep Singh

A choked Swaran Singh told senior Army officials that he was ready to send his other three sons to the Army if the country needed their services. >>>



Naik Birendra Singh Lamba



Major Manoj Talwar, Rifleman Bachhan Singh and Rifleman Jasvir Singh

Behind the saga of gallantry of the Indian armed forces are little known tales of a cruel and abrupt end to beautiful relationships. >>>

Lance Naik Shyam Singh

Nand Ram, father of the martyr, said his son was one of many who had laid down their lives and he was proud of his son. Shyam Singh was one of the three jawans who were killed along with Captain Vikram Batra on the night of July 6. >>>



Naik Surendra Pal

Lance Naik Shatrughan Singh

Hit by a hail of enemy bullets, Lance Naik Shatrughan Singh crawled 10 eerie nights with the maggot-infested wound in his right leg surviving on a handful of boiled rice and snow before being rescued and shifted to a medical facility. >>>

Lance Naik Ghulam Mohammed Khan

Nation's third highest wartime gallantry award VIR CHAKRA was awarded to Lance Naik Gulam Mohammed Khan on 15th August 1999. >>>

Lance Naik MR Sahu

God willing peace would come soon," Sahu had written to his friend. But death came first. >>>

Lance Naik Ahmed Ali

"I am proud of my son as he sacrificed his life while protecting his country," said Abdul Majid Khan, father of Lance Naik Ahmed Ali, who died fighting the intruders in Batalik sector on July 2. >>>



Havaldar Major Yashvir Singh Tomar

Atop Tololing, he charged an enemy bunker and threw 18 grenades. He was found dead later, rifle in hand. No Tears: Yashvir's father says his grandsons too will serve the Indian army. >>>



Naik Ganesh Yadav

Although his death's left Ganesh's young wife Pushpa Rai dazed, she is confident of sending their 18-month-old son Abhishek to complete the "unfinished task of my husband". >>>

■ Lance Naik Vijay Singh, Naik Kishan Lal, Naik Rampal Singh



Naik Sumer Singh Rathore



Naik Surendra Singh

■ Naik Sucha Singh

Naik Sucha Singh was killed in a blast in the Kargil area on July 15. Naik Sucha Singh leaves behind his wife Jasbir Kaur and four sons. >>>

■ Naik Surjeet Singh, Rifleman Rattan Chand, Naik Jugal Kishore, Havildar Abdul Karim, Havildar Daler Singh Bahu, Rifleman Mohammad Farid, Rifleman Mohammad Aslam

Seven martyrs of 12 Jammu and Kashmir Light Infantry (JKLI), who laid down their lives fighting intruders in the Batalik sub-sector in Kargil. >>>

■ Sepoy Dineshbhai, Sepoy Harendragiri Goswamy, Naik S.N. Malik, Sepoy Amrish Pal Banghi, Lance Naik Satpal Singh, Rifleman Satbir Singh, Rifleman Jagmal Singh

Seven Army personnel who died while fighting Pakistani infiltrators in Kargil sector. >>>



Naik Raj Kumar Punia

Punia was part of a frontal attack stalled by a machine-gun nest. While crawling up he was hit, but before he died he hurled a grenade and silenced the nest. >>>

■ Havaldar Baldev Raj

Havildar Baldev Raj of 7 Dogra Regiment, a resident of Benewal village in Hoshiarpur district died in a mine blast in Chhamjorian sector of Jammu and Kashmir. >>>



Havaldar Jai Prakash Singh

Attacked on the ridges, he kept fighting and tried to evacuate injured colleagues before blown up.

>>>

Havaldar Mahavir Singh

Havildar Mahavir Singh of Jat Regiment and a resident of Ghirai village in Hansi subdivision of the district laid down his life in the Kargil sector. >>>

Havaldar Mani Ram

The Intelligence Corps described Mani Ram as a "Tiger Hill martyr who rose against the wind." He died on July 3 while fighting Pakistan regulars and Mujahideens in the Kargil sector. >>>

Havaldar Rajbir Singh

Havildar Rajbir Singh died on May 15 while recapturing the Bajrang post in Kaksar sector from the Pakistani intruders. He belonged to 4 Jat Regiment. >>>

Havaldar Satbir Singh

Then Havildar Satbir Singh came, the last one to return after capturing Black Rocks. His colleagues' hands and legs moved out of sync. Probably because they didn't want to welcome the hero this way. Satbir Singh was dead. Four jawans of the unit climbed the Shaktiman truck and brought him down.

>>>



Subedar Bhanwar Singh Rathod

A shell from a Pakistani artillery gun tore open the entrails of Subedar Bhanwar Singh Rathore of 1871 medium artillery regiment in Kargil sector on June 17. That was 44 days before he was to put on the olive green uniform for the last time, get a warm send-off from his unit, and return home at this village in Pali district of Rajasthan and prepare for his daughter's wedding. >>>

Rifleman Linkon Pradhan

Linkon, in his 20s, died on June 8 while assaulting Tiger Hills at Kargil. Two bullets in the chest put paid to a brave life. As also the lives of a 20-year-old wife of two years, a year-old son, schoolteacher father Harinarayan, brother Alanja, 16. >>>

Rifleman Yogendra Singh

"I'm going home soon". He did. But in a coffin, escorted by mate Joginder to his village in Johrugaon, near Aligarh. He died while stalking militants in Kupwara forests.

>>>

Rifleman Sanjay Kumar

Killing five enemy personnel, lifting a machine gun while hit by a bullet in thigh muscle, lobbing a grenade and clearing a

Grenadier Manohar Singh

Grenadier Manohar Singh was one of the several soldiers who had charged up the Tuloling peak on the intervening night of 12

important army post. It is not a narration of any popular bollywood film but a real life scene enacted by Rifleman Sanjay Kumar of the 13 JAK Rif in "Operation Vijay" while capturing army post in the Mushkoh Valley. Nation's highest wartime gallantry award PARAM VIR CHAKRA was awarded to Rifleman Sanjay Kumar on 15th August 1999. >>>

■ Gunner Uddabh Das

He was martyred on the Tiger Hill in the Kargil sector while trying to position an artillery gun. Mrs Khageswari Devi, Udhav's mother, refused to shed tears. "I am proud my son laid down his life for his country", she said. >>>

■ Sepoy Vijay Pal Singh

On June 12, 7.30 am, a hand grenade tore Vijaypal's head apart while he was returning army fire from his post 10 km from the LoC. "Main barah ki subah phone karta raha, ghanti bajti rahi," says his inconsolable father. "Mujhe kya pata tha woh sari baat kar chuka tha." >>>

■ Sepoy Yashwant Singh

20-year-old Yashwant Singh laid down his life for the motherland in the Kargil sector. "I am proud that he gave his life in honour of his motherland, but my only regret is that he was too young to die," his father said in a voice choked with emotion. >>>

and 13 June. He was one of the 13 killed in an artillery burst which also left six others injured. >>>



■ Sepoy Amardeep Singh

He and a colleague were part of an ambushed patrol. They were killed trying desperately to reach the dead. >>>

■ Sepoy Virendra Kumar

Sepoy Virinder Kumar of 17 Jat Regiment hailing from Mohna village, near here, was killed while fighting against the Pakistani intruders in the Mushkoh valley during the successful capturing of the Tiger Hill. >>>

■ Sepoy Santokh Singh

Mortal remains of Sepoy Santokh Singh (28), of 20 J and K Rifles were consigned to flames yesterday at his native village Jatoli with full military and state honours. >>>



Sepoy Raswinder Singh

Part of the first column given the task of taking the crucial Tiger Hill overlooking the Srinagar-Leh highway, he killed three intruders before he was shot in the head. >>>

Constable Suraj Bhan (SPG)

The father of Suraj Bhan Sh Jamna Das is a tall and tough person. 'I know he has died a lion's death and it is a matter of pride for me inspite of the blow which his death has inflicted on us'. Suraj Bhan was just 22. >>>

Sepoy Bajindra Singh

While military honour is accorded to officers who lay down their lives fighting for the nation, no military or civil official bothered to even lay a wreath on the mortal remains of 24-year-old soldier, Bajinder Singh, who died fighting infiltrators, in the Dras sector, on the Indo-Pak border. >>>

Sepoy Deep Chand

Slogans of "Deep Chand, amar rahe, amar rahe" and "Pakistan of barbad, ho barbad", rent the air as Mr Vinod Kumar, cousin of the martyr, lit the pyre. >>>

Sepoy Dondibha Desai

Hope shattered for the family of 22-year-old Sepoy Dhondiba Desai who died in a mine blast at Kargil. >>>

Sepoy Keolanand Dwivedi

The brave soldier probably knew he'd never come back. He died on June 6 of bullet wounds, having surprised and taken on five infiltrators in their hideout in Kargil. >>>

Sepoy Harjindra Singh

The soldier laid down his life while fighting Pak intruders in Sambha sector in Jammu and Kashmir. "Our son has made the supreme sacrifice for the nation and we are proud to be his parents", said Mr Kesar Singh and Mrs Harbhajan Kaur, father and mother of the martyr. >>>

Sepoy Jaswant Singh

Sepoy Jaswant Singh of 10 Sikh Light Infantry, laid down his life on July 6, in Kargil in a fierce hand-to-hand combat with the Pakistani intruders. His father Swaran Singh, said he was proud of his son's bravery. >>>



Sepoy Jaswinder Singh

Injured, he crawled on, firing buying time for his patrol till he was shot dead. His family is stoic. "Someone has to die to stop the enemy," whispers his father. >>>

Sepoy Lal Singh

As the body of the martyr was brought to the village a large number of villagers raised slogans "shaheed Lal Singh amar rahe". >>>



Sepoy R. Selva Kumar

He bravely fought the enemy in the Kargil sector and laid down his life for the country on May 29 when he was hit by the enemy shells. >>>

Sepoy Rakesh Kumar (16 Dogra)

Sepoy Rakesh Kumar of 16 Dogra, was killed in artillery firing by Pakistan in Naushahra sector of Jammu and Kashmir. The 22-year-old soldier was the only son of his parents. >>>

List of Honored Brave Soldiers



News from War Front Kargil & Related Stories

Postcard from the Ridge

Flying in Face of Danger

The Tololing Battle

The Bitter Triumph

As Father fights for the Nation, Son faces a different Battle

Blood, Sweat and Tears

The Brave Hearts

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The Unwavering Will

The Winning Spirits

Target Ladakh

Red Salute to Indian Soldiers

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We will always remember you.

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