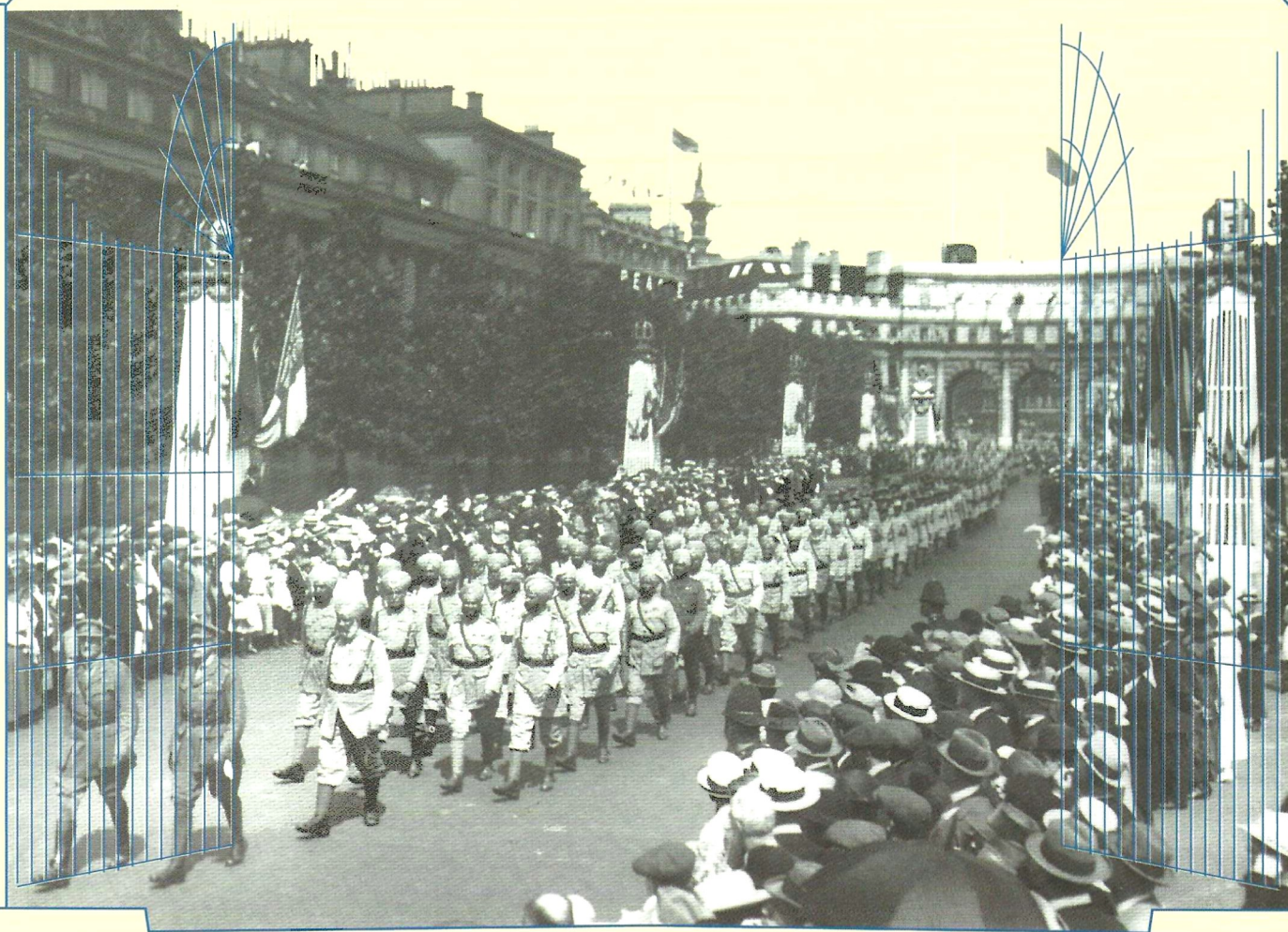


# MEMORIAL GATES TRUST

PATRON HRH THE PRINCE OF WALES



Victory March, London, 19 July 1919

**WHEN YOU GO HOME TELL THEM OF US AND SAY,  
FOR YOUR TOMORROW WE GAVE OUR TODAY.**

KOHIMA WAR MEMORIAL



**A MILLENNIUM PROJECT**  
SUPPORTED BY FUNDS  
FROM THE NATIONAL LOTTERY





HRH THE PRINCE OF WALES

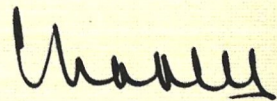


**ST. JAMES'S PALACE**

In the darkest days of two World Wars Britain received vital support from all corners of her then Empire. In the Second World War nearly three million men from the Indian subcontinent, 400,000 from Africa and some 16,000 from the islands of the Caribbean volunteered to leave their homes and families to fight alongside the British.

Many of us feel that the sacrifices of these men have not yet been fully acknowledged in Britain. Before the memory of what they achieved fades further, it is surely right to try to create a lasting memorial to the contribution they made to securing the freedom and well-being of this nation.

These gates are intended to be such a memorial, in the heart of our capital. Looking back to important moments in our past, their creation is important also to our present and future as a multi-cultural and multi-racial society. Many of those now settled in this country from the Indian subcontinent, Africa and the Caribbean are the descendants of those who volunteered to serve. By acknowledging publicly the fact that Britain received such willing support during her hour of need from their fathers and grandfathers, we affirm their place in today's Britain; reinforcing too, I hope, the bond between the Commonwealth and Britain. I therefore commend this project most warmly to you all.

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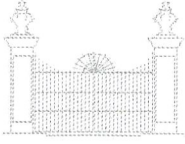
## SUBADAR KHUDADAD KHAN VC

FIRST INDIAN HOLDER OF VICTORIA CROSS

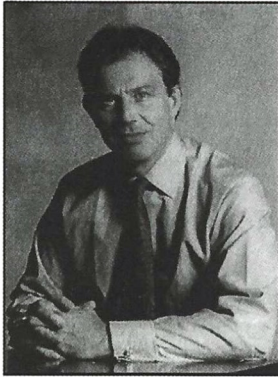
On 31 October 1914 at Hollebeke, Belgium, Sepoy Khudadad Khan was in the machine-gun section of his battalion and was working one of the two guns. The British officer in charge of the detachment was wounded and the other gun was put out of action by a shell. Sepoy Khudadad Khan, although himself wounded, continued working his gun after all the other five men of the detachment had been killed. He was left by the enemy for dead, but later managed to crawl away and rejoin his unit.



THE PRINCESS ROYAL WITH LORD WOLFF  
AND BARONESS FLATHER AT UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE LONDON



SGT. SALUBIN, MARSHAL, KENYA OF THE SAMBURU  
TRIBE AND, PROUDLY, OF THE FOURTEENTH ARMY



THE PRIME MINISTER



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

I wholeheartedly support this proposal to erect Memorial Gates on Constitution Hill, to commemorate the contribution made by the hundreds of thousands of men and women from the Indian Sub-Continent, Africa and the Caribbean, who came to the aid of this country during the First and Second World Wars. This recognition is long overdue. These gates, set in the heart of our capital city, will be a permanent recognition not only of their invaluable help in securing the survival of freedom in this country, but also the on-going contribution made by them and their descendants, to the continuing health and richness of our culture and society.

*Tony Blair*

November 1999



SERGEANT L. LYNCH OF JAMAICA, A HALIFAX  
BOMBER REARGUNNER AND WINNER OF THE ANNUAL  
AIR GUNNERS TROPHY IN 1943 AND 1944





10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Office of Cherie Booth QC

2 November 1999

**MESSAGE OF SUPPORT FROM CHERIE BOOTH QC TO THE  
MEMORIAL GATES BANQUET**

I am very proud to be the patron of this banquet. My only regret is that I am not able to be present personally to say that to you myself. The Commonwealth Heads of State meeting in South Africa will finish the day before the banquet takes place.

I feel that it is extremely important to recognise the bond which exists between the New Commonwealth and Britain by acknowledging publicly that nearly 3 million men from the Indian sub-continent, 400,000 Africans and some 15,000 men from the West Indies volunteered to serve with the British forces in the Second World War. It is important for all the next generation to know, whether British or ethnic minority, what their grandfathers did in the last War.

I hope that you will support this unique project in whatever way you can and give generously towards the construction of the Memorial. I want to thank the members of the Banquet Committee for all their hard work and send my best wishes.

**CHERIE BOOTH QC**



House of Lords



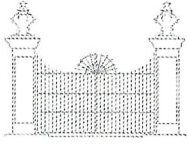
I would like to say a very big thank you to everyone who has worked so hard to make this evening happen. So many friends have spent weeks collecting advertisements for the brochure, encouraging everyone to take tables and getting together the items for the auction.

It is easy for us to be committed to our own visions but here you all are helping to make our vision a reality. It will be a lasting memorial to the vision of a society which is strong in unity in all its diversity.

The trustees of the Memorial Gates are enormously grateful to you for your generosity.

*Shrula Flather*

Baroness Flather JP DL



## THE SERVICES OF INDIAN WOMANHOOD

*Is there aught you need that my hands withhold,  
Rich gifts of raiment or grain or gold?  
Lo! I have flung to the East and West  
Priceless treasures torn of my breast,  
And yielded the sons of my stricken womb  
To the drum beats of duty, the sabres of doom.  
Gathered like pearls in their alien graves.  
Silent they sleep by the Persian waves,  
Scattered like shells on Egyptian sands  
They lie with pale brows and brave, broken hands.  
They are strewn like blossoms mown down by chance  
On the blood-brown meadows of Flanders and France.  
Can ye measure the grief of the tears I weep  
Or compass the woe of the watch I keep?  
Or the pride that thrills thro' my heart's despair  
And the hope that comforts the anguish of prayer,  
And the far and glorious vision I see  
Of the torn red banners of victory.  
When the terror and tumult of hate shall cease  
And life be refashioned on anvils of peace,  
And your love shall offer memorial thanks  
To the comrades who fought in your dauntless ranks,  
And you honour the deeds of your deathless ones,  
Remember the blood of the martyred sons.*

Mrs Sarojini Naidu

Sarojini Naidu (1879-1949) was described as the nightingale of India. She was educated at Cambridge, she was a politician and a poet. She was the first woman to be appointed a State Governor in independent India.

This poem was written during the First World War.



## THE PATRONS

"SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE COMMONWEALTH, HIS EXCELLENCY CHIEF" EMEKA ANYAOKU  
 THE RT HON PADDY ASHDOWN MP  
 MR KARAN BILLIMORIA  
 THE RT HON LORD CALLAGHAN KG  
 THE RT HON LORD CARRINGTON KG GCMG CH MC  
 THE RT. REVD. AND RT. HON. RICHARD CHARTRES  
 MR LAL CHELLARAM  
 THE RT HON VISCOUNT CRANBORNE DL  
 MR MANECK DALAL  
 MR DESMOND DE SILVA QC  
 LORD DHOLAKIA OBE JP  
 THE EARL OF ELGIN AND KINCARDINE KT CD JP  
 DR KHALID HAMEED  
 THE RT HON LORD HEALEY CH MBE  
 MR GOPICHAND HINDUJA  
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 MR YOGESH MEHTA  
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 THE COUNTESS MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA CBE CD JP DL  
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 THE LORD PAUL  
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 MR S.S. RAHMAN (FIROZ)  
 THE VISCOUNT RIDLEY KG GCVO TD JP DL  
 MAJOR NARINDER SAROOP CBE  
 DAME MAUREEN THOMAS DBE  
 MR MARK TULLEY OBE  
 MR MONI VERMA  
 SIR PETER WAKEFIELD KBE CMG  
 HIS EXCELLENCY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR BANGLADESH  
 HIS EXCELLENCY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR INDIA  
 HIS EXCELLENCY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR JAMAICA  
 HIS EXCELLENCY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR PAKISTAN  
 HIS EXCELLENCY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR UGANDA  
 HIS EXCELLENCY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR SRI LANKA



## THE TRUSTEES

THE BARONESS FLATHER JP DL  
 MR LAKSHMI MITTAL  
 MR GULAM NOON  
 MR H S NARULA  
 SIR ANWAR PERVEZ OBE  
 THE LORD SANDBERG CBE  
 THE VISCOUNT SLIM OBE DL  
 MR DAVID WELCH CBE  
 THE RT HON THE LORD WEATHERILL DL



## THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

THE VISCOUNT SLIM OBE DL CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE  
 THE BARONESS FLATHER JP DL CHAIRMAN OF THE TRUST  
 MRS BASHAN RAFIQUE VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE BANQUETING  
 MRS VIVIANNE LILBURN DEVELOPMENT MANAGER  
 HRH PRINCESS KATARINA, MRS DESMOND DE SILVA  
 MR YASEEN ANWAR  
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 MRS RAMOLA BACHCHAN  
 MRS GITA BAGAI  
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 MRS NIDHI DALMIA  
 LADY CAMILLA DEMPSTER  
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 MRS MALA GUPTA  
 MR SAMAR HAMID  
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 MRS SHELLY SAHAY  
 MRS KAMAL SAHGAL  
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 DR PREM SHARMA  
 MRS SANGEETA SIDHU  
 MR HARMANDER SINGH  
 MRS JAY THAKER  
 DAME MAUREEN THOMAS  
 MS NADIA WAHEED  
 MRS CELIA WEBB-CARTER  
 MRS AMEENA ZAIDI

# MEMORIAL GATES TRUST



The banquet Committee extends a warm welcome to you all. This is a special occasion.

We honour and remember with pride the many thousands of Veterans from Undivided India, East and West Africa and the West Indies, who fought in two World Wars for Great Britain, the Empire and freedom. They were volunteers and displayed the greatest courage in every theatre of war.

We could not have won without them.

The Trustees look to the generosity of you and your friends to support our Appeal for the Memorial Gates to honour and remember those great men and women and their descendants.

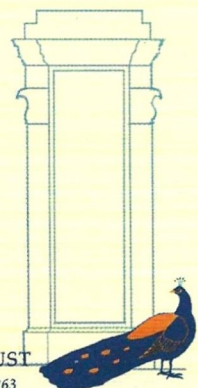
We thank you for your support.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Slim". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined.

The Viscount Slim OBE DL

184 West Barnes Lane New Malden Surrey KT3 6LS  
Tel: 0181 942 5981 Fax: 0181 949 3039

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Registered under Charities Act No. 1071263





**COMMONWEALTH  
SECRETARY-GENERAL**



H. E. Chief Emeka Anyaoku, C.O.N.

**Message from the Commonwealth Secretary-General,  
H.E. Chief Emeka Anyaoku,  
for the Memorial Gates Trust Banquet.  
Banqueting House, Whitehall, London,  
15 November 1999**

I was delighted when the Chairman of the Memorial Gates Trust, Baroness Flather, asked me to provide a message for inclusion in the brochure for the banquet on 15 November to raise funds for the project. Sadly, I cannot be with you as it is the final day of our Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Durban, South Africa.

As you all know, the Gates will symbolise the debt of honour which we owe to those millions of men and women from Africa, the Caribbean and the Indian sub-continent who volunteered to fight with Britain for the cause of freedom.

They will also complement the monuments around Buckingham Palace and elsewhere which commemorate the contributions to the allied cause by Australia, Canada, South Africa and other countries. In that sense, these new Gates will not only give proper and too long delayed recognition where it is due, but will also exemplify the solidarity of the Commonwealth family.

In many campaigns, troops from all Commonwealth regions fought together on the side of the allies. If I may be permitted to add a personal note, my own uncle was among the West Africans who fought in the Burma campaign, and my father-in-law served in the Royal Air Force during the Second World War.

I feel both honoured and privileged to be one of the patrons of the project. I hope that your fund-raising initiatives, including this banquet, will meet with the resounding success that they deserve, so that we shall have not only splendid Gates but also a surplus of money which can be given to the associations which cater for the pressing needs of ex-services men and women in Commonwealth developing countries.

-o0o-



MARLBOROUGH HOUSE PALL MALL LONDON SW1Y 5HX

TEL: Switchboard (44) 020 7747 6500 Direct Line (44) 020 7747 6103  
FAX: (44) 020 7930 2299 CABLES: COMSECGEN LONDON SW1 TELEX: 27678



*“My husband was in India, up on the North West Frontier, and his respect for India and the Indian Army was very great.*

*I am sure he would have been pleased to know that his fellow soldiers were at last to receive their due respects.*

Yours faithfully  
Sheila Powell

*Dear Sir,*

*I was pleased to read in the May issue of the Saga Magazine that it is intended to erect Memorial Gates to the Indian, African and Caribbean forces who helped Britain during our past wars.*

*As a young Royal Engineer Officer, I served 4 1/2 years in the Madras Sappers and Miners in Iraq, the Middle East and Italy, so I am very pleased to make a small contribution towards the cost of the project.*

*It is a pity that it has taken so long.*

Yours faithfully

Mr. J.G. Brown



*Dear Sir,*

*This donation is particular in memory of Ram Das Katari, who went on to become a Vice Admiral and the first Indian to be their Chief of Naval Staff.*

Jane Garside



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

**A Message from Rt Hon Paddy Ashdown MP  
Leader of the Liberal Democrats**

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**24th February 1999**

**The Memorial Gates Project Appeal Launch  
Marlborough House, London**

When I learnt, last year, that the enormous contribution and sacrifice of soldiers from the Indian sub-continent in the two World Wars remained without formal recognition in Britain, I agreed at once to become a Patron of the Memorial Gates Project. It is with great pleasure, therefore, that I am taking this opportunity today to endorse this project at its launch.

My father, in fact, served throughout the War with the Indian Army in an Indian Regiment (the 14th Punjabis). Indeed, he tells me that he was involved in every retreat in the last war, starting with Dunkirk and ending with Burma. During the Dunkirk retreat, he was a young subaltern in charge of an Indian Mule Company. When the retreat was in full flight, he turned the mules loose and marched with his men to the sea. He was ordered, by a disgraceful injunction passed down from High Command, to abandon his Indian soldiers. He bluntly refused to do so and took them all, without harm, to Dunkirk where they left on the last ship to leave the Mole, before it was bombed and destroyed. He was subsequently, I understand, Court Martialled for disobeying an order. But the British Authorities understood very well that he had acted in the true traditions of the Indian Army and the matter was dropped.

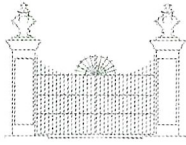
He then went on to serve in the 14th Punjabis in the retreat up Burma and finally in the victorious 4th Army push back down through Burma. He always held his Indian soldiers in the very highest regard.

In the Services myself, I had the privilege of serving with, amongst others, Gurkhas in the campaign in Borneo. That, thus far, these brave men have not been appropriately or adequately remembered in this country is a travesty, and one which I believe, the proposed Memorial Gates on Constitution Hill may go some way towards rectifying.

You will understand why I have accepted the opportunity to be a Patron of this project with such pleasure, and will continue to give my wholehearted support.

Paddy Ashdown MP



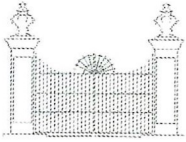


## LT. GEN. PREMINDRA SINGH BHAGAT INDIAN ENGINEERS 1ST VC IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR.



In February 1941, the Italians in Eritrea were fleeing to Gondar with the British in hot pursuit. Speed was essential if the Italians were to be prevented from regrouping, but pursuit was held up by thousands of mines the Italians had planted. Lieutenant Bhagat and his men were given the task of clearing a track through the mine fields. For 96 hours non-stop Bhagat carried out his perilous task. Twice his carrier was blown up and the driver beside him killed. On the third occasion he was ambushed and both his ear drums were damaged due to explosions but he carried on with what has been called 'the longest continuous feat of sheer cold courage'; clearing no fewer than fifteen mine fields and an incredible fifty-five miles of road before collapsing from exhaustion and shock.

Bhagat remained in the army after the war and serving the Republic of India earned yet another award for bravery and rose to the rank of Lieutenant General.



## JEMADAR ALI HAIDAR VC



Ali Haidar was the only Pathan to win the Victoria Cross in the second World War. He was awarded it for conspicuous gallantry under intense fire while crossing the Senio River in Northern Italy in April 1945.

Sepoy Ali Haidar's Company of the 13th Frontier Force Rifles, (part of the 19th Indian Brigade) were ordered to attack the German position near Fusignano. As his platoon attempted to cross they were mown down by heavy enemy firing. Haidar and two men continued and eventually climbed up the river bank. Acting without orders Haidar told the two men to cover him while he charged the first machine gun some yards away.

Getting as close as he could he threw a grenade but at the same time he was badly wounded by a grenade thrown from the machine gun post. Ignoring the severe wound in his back he continued to charge forward and destroyed the post, capturing four of the enemy.

He then began to stalk the second machine gun post, he was again wounded in the arm and leg but he continued to crawl forward towards the post. Although considerably weakened by lost of blood he went on and with extraordinary courage threw a grenade and charged the post wounding two Germans. The remaining two surrendered.

Haidar's extreme courage spurred on the rest of his company and they crossed the river and secured a bridgehead. As the weeks progressed the Germans fell back across the Po and were soon surrendering in large numbers.

Because of the severity of his wounds Haidar was unable to return to his regiment until after the war. He then rose to the commission rank of Jemadar and on retirement returned to his old village to run a scrub farm with his wife.

Haidar came to England for a number of reunions of the Victoria and George Cross Association. Although he spoke little English his charm, dignity and brilliant smile entranced all who met him. He died in Pakistan on July 15th. 1999.



## Jamaica Information Service



It is only fitting that the new Millennium begins with the erection of a memorial to the many, unacknowledged sons of Asia, Africa and the Caribbean, who died in both World Wars to preserve the ideals of democracy and freedom. Jamaica is proud to be a part of this important initiative.

  
H.E. David Muirhead  
Jamaican High Commissioner



HIGH COMMISSION FOR PAKISTAN  
35-36 LOWNDEN SQUARE  
LONDON SW1X 3JN  
TELEPHONE: 0207-664 9230  
FAX: 0207-664 9234

### MESSAGE FROM MR. JAVED IQBAL, ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR PAKISTAN

We greatly admire and appreciate the efforts made by the Memorial Gates Trust and especially those of Baroness Shreela Flather to ensure that the people of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland do not forget the sacrifices made by those in South Asia, and elsewhere in the world, for ensuring a secure future for humanity.

I am confident that historians will continue to pay tribute, for a long time to come, to the vital contributions and gallantry of troops from British India who fought shoulder to shoulder with British Forces during the First World War and with Allied Forces during the Second World War. Memories of people like Subedar Khudadad Khan - the very first recipient of the Victoria Cross from the sub-continent who is still revered in his home-town in Pakistan for his valour and courage - would be cherished as beacons in the annals of history. The Memorial Gates would ensure that these memories remain fresh for ever in our minds.

We wish the Trust every luck in its endeavours.

  
(Javed Iqbal)  
Acting High Commissioner



High Commissioner



HIGH COMMISSION FOR THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

28 Queen's Gate, London, SW7 5JA  
Phone: 0171-584-0081  
Fax: 0171-226-2130  
Telex: 918016  
E-mail: bdeah.lon@dial.pipex.com

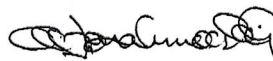
4th November 1999

### Message from the high Commissioner of Bangladesh

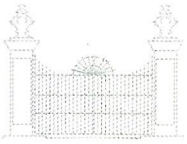
I am delighted to see that the Memorial Gates Trust project is well on its way to fruition.

I think this project will be an important contribution to the development of a multi-cultural society in Britain.

I appeal to all the south Asian communities as well as our British friends to come forward and participate in this noble initiative.



(A.H. Mahmood Ali)  
High Commissioner



## PART OF AN ACCOUNT FROM PTE. ISAAC FADROYEBO, A TEENAGE SOLDIER, RESCUED BY THE GURKHA REGIMENT DURING THE BURMA CAMPAIGN 1944

### THE BATTLE OF NYRON

'At about 7.30 a.m gunshots rang from the opposite bank unexpectedly and I and other members of my unit 29th Casualty Clearing Station ran for cover. The Japanese were on the offensive. I tried to move but found I had been wounded. I had a fractured femur very close to the knee and one bullet also pierced my stomach just below my ribs.'

So began over 9 months of Fadoyebo hiding in Japanese occupied territory. 'The Pains became more and more unbearable. A few days later another set of friendly Indians brought Sergeant Kagbo to me and we stayed together as partners in adversity for the rest of the period which I regarded as the most agonising episode of my life. David Kagbo was God sent. Both of us belonging to the same Unit. The Unit's personnel were predominately Sierra-Leoneans, and being a member of the Royal West African Frontier Force a few Nigerians including myself. As soon as I sighted David I felt a bit relieved.

We needed food and shelter to keep going so we thought of enlisting the sympathy of Indian Muslims by telling our visitors that we were Muslims. We adopted Muslim names to acquire credibility. I told them my name was Suleman while David was Dauda Ali. They were a set of kind and honest people.

The Burmese in the neighbourhood were not friendly and so we had to depend solely on the India Muslims for everything: safety, food and shelter. During the campaign that ended in disaster, our unit suffered such untold hardship that the military authorities decided that it should be spared the ordeal of going to the battle front for a second time. The extent of our suffering was well known of the 81st West African Division, particularly the 6th West African Brigade. Another group that suffered terribly was "B" Company of the First Battalion, The Gambia Regiment. On their way to rescue us they fell into an ambush organised by the Japanese and consequently suffered heavy casualties.

The Gurkha soldiers that picked us up were able to give us an idea regarding date and we then discovered that Christmas was around the corner and less than three weeks away when our 'calendar' read only August.

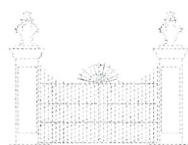
They took us behind the line to present us to their superior officers who congratulated us. We were finally handed over to the Field Ambulance.



**CORPORAL SEFANAIA SUKANAIVALU VC  
3RD BN. FIJI INFANTRY REGT., FIJI MILITARY  
FORCES.**

From the London Gazette of November 2nd 1944.

'On June 23rd 1944 at Mawaraka, Bougainville, in the Solomon Islands, Cpl. Sefanaia Sukanaivalu crawled forward to rescue some men wounded when their platoon was ambushed. After recovering the two men this N.C.O volunteered to go alone through heavy fire to try and rescue another - but on the way back was seriously wounded and fell to the ground unable to move further. Several unsuccessful attempts were made to rescue him and realising that his men would not withdraw while he was still alive Cpl. Sukanaivalu raised himself up in front of the Japanese machine gun and was riddled with bullets. This brave Fiji soldier after rescuing two wounded men with the greatest heroism and being gravely wounded himself, deliberately sacrificed his own life knowing that in no other way could his men be induced to retire from a situation in which they must have been annihilated.



**COMPANY SERGEANT MAJOR FREDERICK  
WILLIAM HALL V C  
8TH BN CANADIAN INFANTRY (MANITOBA REGT.)**

Killed in action 25th April 1915. Age 28.

From the London Gazette 23rd June 1915. 'On 24th April 1915, in the neighbourhood of Ypres, when a wounded man who was lying some 15 yards from the trench called for help, Company Sergeant-Major Hall endeavoured to reach him in the face of a very heavy enfilade fire which was being poured in by the enemy. The first attempt failed, and a non-commissioned officer and private soldier who were attempting to give assistance were both wounded. Company Sergeant-Major Hall then made a second most gallant attempt and was in the act of lifting up the wounded man to bring him in when he fell mortally wounded in the head.'



India House,  
Aldwych,  
London,  
WC2B 4NA

No. : Lon/HC/105/99

Date : 27 October 1999

**MESSAGE**

I am delighted to learn about the initiatives being taken by the Memorial Gates Trust to construct the Memorial Gates. The project will be a fitting memorial to the enormous contribution made in the two World Wars by the Armed Forces from the Indian sub-continent and their comrades from Africa and the Caribbean. It will also be a symbol of the multi-ethnic and multi-racial Britain of today.

I extend my best wishes for the successful completion of this magnificent project.

*Healy*  
(Lalit Mansingh)

High Commissioner for India

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TELEPHONE: 0171 431 7780  
FACSIMILE: 0171 431 7782  
TELEGRAMS: UGANDA/COM  
TELEX: 65340



HIGH COMMISSION OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

UGANDA HOUSE  
59 TRAPALGAR SQUARE  
LONDON WC2N 5DX

OUR REF: UML/40/26  
YOUR REF:

21<sup>st</sup> October, 1999

Fax no: 0171 431 7780

Dear Ms Lilbum

**MEMORIAL GATES TRUST FUNDRAISING DINNER – NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> 1999**

I thank you so much for your invitation for me to attend the above mentioned dinner. It is, however, most unfortunate that I will not be able to attend because I will be out of the country attending the *Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM)* in South Africa. Let me, however, wish you success in your fundraising and an enjoyable evening.

I wish to give the following message to the Trust:-

*"It is my hope that the Memorial Gates to be situated across Constitution Hill will not only extend a sign of appreciation and gratitude towards the brothers and sisters of the Indian Sub-Continent, Africa and the Caribbean, who participated in the two World Wars, but will also remind us that every living person is entitled to a peaceful existence on this earth. As we enter the third Millennium, we should all work towards peace throughout the world. By failing to do so we will have greatly let down all those who sacrificed their lives in the two World Wars."*

Best Regards

High Commission of the  
Democratic Socialist Republic of  
Sri Lanka



13, Hyde Park Gardens  
London W2 2LU  
Telephone : 0171 262 1841 - 6  
Telefax : 0171 262 7970  
Telegrams : Lankacom, London

Our Reference :

Your Reference :



Date :

October 21, 1999

I am delighted to associate myself with the Memorial Gates Trust's Fund Raising Dinner to be held on 15th November 1999. I wish the Trust every success and hope that this event would be a great success.

Lal Jayawardena  
High Commissioner for  
Sri Lanka



*Dear Sir,*

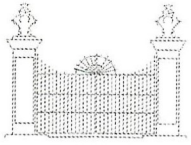
*As an 80 yr. old Scot I well remember the help given towards the sacrifices made, by the gallant members of the Commonwealth, without which we may well have lost both World War One and World War Two.*

*Yours Sincerely,  
Bessie G.*

*Dear Sir,*

*As a Veteran of the Burma campaign I am very much aware of the contribution and sacrifice these troops made. These numbers far exceeded those of the British forces yet little mention has ever been made of the part they played in this- or indeed any other- theatre of the war.*

*Yours sincerely,  
W. Silver  
Ex Royal Signals*



## THE COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES COMMISSION

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission was established by Royal Charter of 21st May 1917, the provisions of which were amended and extended by a Supplemental Charter of 8th June 1964.



KANDY WAR CEMETERY, SRI LANKA

Its duties are to mark and maintain the graves of the members of the forces of the Commonwealth who died in the two world wars, to build and maintain memorials to the dead whose graves are unknown and to keep records and registers. The cost is shared by the partner governments - those of Australia, Britain, Canada, India, New Zealand and South Africa - in proportions based on the number of their graves.

Almost all the war cemeteries and memorials are maintained by the Commission's own staff.

The work is founded upon principles which have remained unaltered since they were first articulated: that each of the dead should be commemorated individually by name either on the headstone on the grave or by inscription on a memorial; that the headstones and memorials should be permanent; that the headstones should be uniform; that no distinction should be made on account of military or civil rank, race or creed.

There are Commonwealth war graves and memorials in 148 countries.





## THE VICTORIA CROSS

THE VICTORIA CROSS IS THE HIGHEST MOST PRESTIGIOUS OF ALL DECORATIONS FOR GALLANTRY, AWARDED TO BRITISH AND COMMONWEALTH FORCES, 'IN THE FACE OF THE ENEMY.'

IT WAS INSTITUTED DURING THE CRIMEAN WAR IN 1854 BY QUEEN VICTORIA AT THE REQUEST OF PRINCE ALBERT. 'TO THOSE OFFICERS OR MEN WHO HAVE SERVED US IN THE PRESENCE OF THE ENEMY AND SHALL THEN HAVE PERFORMED SOME SINGLE ACT OF VALOUR OR DEVOTION TO THEIR COUNTRY.'

IT IS A MALTESE CROSS MADE OF BRONZE TAKEN FROM THE METAL OF THE RUSSIAN GUNS CAPTURED AT SEBASTOPOL. (THE GUNS WERE IN FACT CHINESE, CAPTURED FROM THEM BY THE RUSSIANS) IT DEPICTS A LION ON A CROWN WITH THE INSCRIPTION 'FOR VALOUR'. THE QUEEN WISHED THAT 'THE NEW DECORATION SHOULD BE HIGHLY PRIZED AND EAGERLY SOUGHT AFTER.'

THE FIRST VICTORIA CROSS AWARDED TO AN INDIAN, KHUDADAD KHAN OF THE BALUCH REGIMENT WAS IN 1914, 88 DAYS FROM THE START OF THE WAR. HE WAS TOO ILL TO RECEIVE IT FROM GEORGE V, BUT THE FIRST INDIAN ACTUALLY TO RECEIVE THE VICTORIA CROSS FROM THE KING WAS NAIK DARWAN SINGH NEGI. THE FIRST INDIAN OFFICER TO WIN THE VICTORIA CROSS WAS TWENTY THREE YEAR OLD SECOND LIEUTENANT PREMINDRA SINGH BHAGAT OF THE CORPS OF INDIAN ENGINEERS, IN 1941.



Listing of each recipient is grouped as follows:  
Rank at time of Award  
Name and country of origin in brackets: Regiment (unit or other affiliation)  
Date of Action: Date of announcement in London Gazette:

## VICTORIA CROSS HOLDERS

Jemadar

ABDUL HAFIZ (India) 9th Jat Infantry, Indian Army.  
Action: 06/04/1944. L.G:27/07/1944

Naik

AGANSING RAI (Nepal) 2nd Battalion 5th Royal Gurkha Rifles, Indian Army.  
Action: 26/06/1944. L.G: 05/10/1944

Sepoy

ALI HAIDAR (Pakistan) 6th Bataillon (Scinde) 13th Frontier Force Rifles, India Army.  
Action: 09/04/1945. LG: 03/07/1945

Ressaldar

BALU SINGH (India) 14 Lancers (Scinde Horse)13 attached to 29th Lancers (Deccan Horse), Indian Army.  
Action: 23/09/1918. LG: 27/11/1918

Rifleman

BHANBHAGTA GURUNG (Nepal), 3rd Bataillon 2nd Gurkha Rifles, Indian Army.  
Action: 05/03/1945. LG: 05/03/1945

Sepoy

BHANDARI RAM (India), 10th Baluch Regiment, Indian Army.  
Action: 22/11/1944.LG: 08/02/1945

Sepoy

CHATTA SINGH (India), 9th Bhopal Infantry, Indian Army.  
action: 13/01/1916

Company Havildar-Major

CHHELU RAM (India), 6th Rajputana Rifles, Indian Army.  
Action: 19-20/04/1943.LG:27/07/1943

Naik

DARWAN SING NEGI(India), 1st Battalion 39th Garwhal Rifles, Indian Army.  
Action: 23-24/11/1914. LG 07/12/1914

A/Naik

FAZAL DIN (India), 10 Baluch Regiment, Indian Army.  
Action: 02/03/1945. LG: 24/05/1945

Havildar

GAJE GHALE (Nepal), 2nd Bataillon 5th Royal Gurkha Rifles, Indian Army.  
Action: 24-27/05/1943

Rifleman

GANJU LAMA (India), 1st Battalion 7th Gurkha Rifles, Indian Army.  
Action:12/06/1944.LG:07/09/1944

Naik

GIAN SINGH (India) 15th Punjab Regiment, Indian Army.  
Action:02/03/1945. LG: 22/05/1945

Rifleman

GOBAR SING NEGI (India), 2/39th Garhwal Rifles, Indian Army.  
Action: 10/03/1915. LG: 28/04/1915

Lance-Dafadar

GOBIND SINGH (India), 28th Light Cavalry, attached 2nd Lancers, Indian Army  
Action: 01/12/1917. LG: 11/01/1918

Able Seaman

WILLIAM HALL (Canada (NB African antecedents)), RN (Naval Brigade)  
Action: 16/11/1857 LG: 01/02/1859

Sepoy

ISHAR SINGH (India), 28th Punjab Regiment, Indian Army.  
Action: 10/04/1921 LG: 25/11/1921

Lance-Corporal

WILLIAM JAMES GORDON (Jamaica), West India Regiment  
Action: 13/03/1892 LG 09/12/1892

Sepoy

KAMEL RAM (India) 8th Punjab Regiment, Indian Army  
Action: 05/12/1944 LG 27/07/1944

Lieutenant

KARAMJEET SINGH JUDGE (India) 4th Battalion 15th Punjab Regiment, Indian Army  
Action: 18/03/1945 LG 03/07/1945

Rifleman

KARAMBAHADUR RAMA (Nepal) 2nd Battalion Queen Alexandra's Own Gurkha Rifles, Indian Army  
Action: 10/04/1918 LG 21/06/1918

Sepoy

KHUDADAD KHAN (Pakistan) 129th Duke of Connaught's Own Baluchis, Indian Army  
Action 30/10/1914 LG 07/12/1914

Rifleman

KULBIR THAPA (Nepal) 2nd Battalion 3rd Gurkha Rifles, Indian Army.  
Action; 25/09/1915 LG 18/11/1915

Riflemen

LACHHIMAN GURUMG (Nepal) 8th Gurkha Rifles, Indian Army.  
Action; 12-13/05/1945 LG 27/07/1945

Lance - Naik

LALA (India), 41st Dogras, Indian Army.  
Action; 21/01/1916 LG 13/05.1916

Subadar

LALBAHADUR THAPA (Nepal), 1st Battalion 2nd Gurkha Rifles, Indian Army.  
Action; 05-06/ 04/1943. LG 15/06/1943

Jemadar

MIR DAST (Pakistan) 55 Coke's Rifles (Frontier Force), attached Wilde's Rifles (Frontier Force) Indian Army  
Action; 26/04/1915 LG 29/06/1915

Sepoy

NAMDEO JADAV (India) 5th Maharatta Light Infantry Indian Army.  
Action; 09/04/1945 LG 19/06/1945

A/Naik

NAND SINGH (India) 1/11th Sikh Regiment, Indian Army  
Action; 11-12/03/1944 LG 06/06/1944

A/Subadar

NETRABAHADUR THAPA (Nepal) 2nd Battalion 5th Royal Gurkha Rifles Indian Army  
Action; 25 -26/06/1944 LG 12/10/1944

Second Lieutenant

MOANA-NUI- A-KIWA NGARIMU (New Zealand Maori), 28th (Maori) Battalion 2nd New Zealand Expeditionary Force.  
Action; 26-27/03/1943 LG 04/06/1943

Havildar

PARKASH SINGH (India) 8th Punjab Regiment Indian Army  
Action: 06/01/1943 LG 13/05/1943

Jemadar

PRAKASH SINGH (India) , 4/13th Frontier Force Rifles, Indian Army  
Action; 16-17/02/1945 LG 01/05/1945

Second Lieutenant

PREMINDRA SINGH BHAGAT (India), Corps. of Indian Engineers, attached Royal Bombay Sappers & Miners, Indian Army  
Action; 31/01- 01/02/1941 LG 10/06/1941

A/Subadar

RAM SARUP SINGH (India), 1st Punjab Regiment, Indian Army  
Action; 25/10/1944 LG 08/02/1945

Lance Corporal

RAMBAHADU LIMBU (Nepal) 2nd Battalion 10th Princess Mary's Gurkha Rifles  
Action; 21/11/1965 LG 21/04/1966

Subadar

RICHHPAL RAM (India) 4th Battalion 6th Rajputana Rifles, Indian Army  
Action; 07/02/1941 LG 04/07/1941

Naik

SHAHAMAD KHAN (Pakistan) 89th Punjab Regiment, Indian Army  
Action; 12-13/04/1916 LG 26/09/1916

Lance - Naik

SHER SHA (India) 16th Punjab Regiment Indian Army  
Action; 19-20/01/1945 LG 08/05/1945

Rifleman

SHERBAHADUR THAPA (Nepal) 1st Battalion 9th Gurkha Rifles, Indian Army  
Action; 18 -19/09/1944 LG 28/12/1944

Corporal

SEFANIA SUKANAIVAL (Fiji) 3rd Battalion Fijian Infantry Regiment  
Action; 23/06/1944 LG 02/11/1944

Rifleman

THAMAN GURUNG (Nepal) 5th Royal Gurkha Rifles Indian Army  
Action; 10/11/1944 LG 22/02/1945

Rifleman

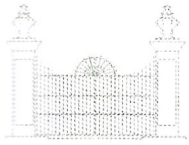
TULBAHADUR PUN (Nepal) 3rd Battalion 6th Gurkha Rifles, Indian Army  
Action; 23/06/1944 LG 09/11/1944

Havildar

UMRAO SINGH (India) Royal Indian Artillery, Indian Army  
Action; 15-16/12/1944 LG 31/05/1945

Naik

YESHWANT GADGE (India), 5th Maharatta Light Infantry Indian Army  
Action; 07/10/1944 LG 02/11/1944



## PRINCESS NOOR-UN-NISA INAYAT KHAN GC, MBE,CDG



Princess Noor was born in 1914 in the Kremlin. The family fled to Paris in the unrest leading up to the Russian Revolution.

She wrote children's stories for Paris radio but when war was threatened she moved again.

She settled in London and as 'Nora Baker' she became enlisted in the Auxiliary Air Force (WAAF) and was trained for undercover work in occupied France.

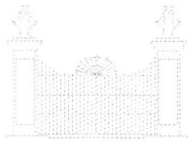
She was parachuted into France but soon discovered that the integrity of her support network had been severely compromised; agents were being captured in great numbers. London offered her a chance to get out but she refused not wanting to leave her comrades without the vital radio links to headquarters.

She eluded the dreaded Gestapo for over a year, sending vital information to the British Military Intelligence for the D Day landings; cycling with her transmitter from one safe house to another. It was even reported that she asked an enemy officer to string up her antenna for her, telling him it was a clothes line.

Her code name was 'Madeleine' and she ultimately became the sole communications link between her unit of the French Resistance and 'home base' across the channel.

She was betrayed and captured, but refused to betray her comrades or divulge any information to the enemy. She was classified as a 'dangerous and uncooperative' prisoner.

On 12 September 1944 she was taken to Dachau and shot. She was posthumously awarded the George Cross.



## THE MEMORIAL AT NEUVE CHAPELLE



On September 26th 1914 the first two brigades of the Lahore Division disembarked at Marseilles. On the 26th of October they reached Omar. The Ferozepore Brigade formed a crucial part in the heavy fighting on the Messines Ridge in Belgium. It was here on 31st of October that a Sepoy of the 129th Buluchis became the first Indian soldier of the First War to be awarded the Victoria Cross.

Almost the full strength of the Indian Expeditionary Force arrived in France by the end of the month. The Indian troops courageously endured the bitter cold and mud of the trenches in most parts of the British front line but it was at Neuve Chapelle in March 1915 that the Indian Corps lost one fifth of its strength fighting its first great action as a single formation. At Port Arthur a memorial was built to all those men of India who fell on the battle field on the Western Front. It commemorated all who have no known grave or whose remains were cremated.

The memorial was designed by Herbert Baker. It is in the form of a sanctuary enclosed within a circular wall in the style of traditional Indian shrines. A monolithic column rises above, reminiscent of those put up in India by Emperor Asoka. It is surmounted by a Lotus capital, the Star of India and the Imperial Crown. Either side of the column two carved tigers guard this temple of the dead. 5,021 soldiers of the Indian Army are commemorated by name on the Memorial.



## THE GEORGE CROSS

THE GEORGE CROSS IS THE HIGHEST DECORATION AWARDED TO CIVILIANS.  
(SOMETIMES CALLED THE CIVILIANS VC).

IT WAS INSTITUTED IN 1940 BY KING GEORGE VI FOR 'ACTS OF THE GREATEST  
HEROISM OR OF THE MOST CONSPICUOUS COURAGE IN CIRCUMSTANCES  
OF EXTREME DANGER.'

THE AWARD WHICH CAN BE CONFERRED POSTHUMOUSLY IS USUALLY GIVEN TO  
CIVILIANS ALTHOUGH IT CAN BE BESTOWED ON MILITARY PERSONNEL FOR ACTS FOR  
WHICH MILITARY DECORATIONS ARE NOT USUALLY AWARDED.

THE CROSS IS MADE OF SILVER FROM THE ROYAL MINT WITH ONE SIDE DEPICTING ST  
GEORGE SLAYING THE DRAGON WITH THE INSCRIPTION 'FOR GALLANTRY.'



Listing of each recipient is grouped as follows:  
Rank/occupation at time of Award  
Name and country of origin in brackets: Regiment (unit or other affiliation)  
Date of Action: Date of announcement in London Gazette:  
Award (NB: Those awarded the Empire Gallantry Medal (Civil or Military) and were living at the time of the institution of the George Cross had their awards translated to the GC in 1941

## GEORGE CROSS HOLDERS

Qaid

YUSUF HUSSEIN ALI BEY (Palestine), Trans-Jordan Frontier Force.  
Action :05/07/1938. LG: 03/01/1939  
(Original award - Empire Gallantry Medal (Military))

Captain

MATREEN AHMED ANSARI, (India), 5th Battalion 7th Rajput Rifles, Indian Army  
Action: 1942-43 LG 18/04/1946  
(Original award - George Cross - Posthumous))

The Begum of Hyderabad

ASHRAF-UN-NISA, (India),  
Action: 14/06/1936. LG: 01/02/1937  
(Original award - Empire Gallantry Medal (Civil))

Iban Tracker

AWANG ANAK RAWENG (Sarawak, now Malaysia), attached to 1st Battalion The Worcester Regiment.  
Action: 27/05/1951. LG: 20/11/1951  
(Original award - George Cross)

Sub-Inspector.

BALDEV SINGH (India), Punjab Police Force.  
Action: Jun and Jul 1931. LG: 01/01/1932.  
(Original award - Empire Gallantry Medal (Civil))

Naik

BARKAT SINGH (India), 10th Battalion 2nd Punjab Regiment, India Army.  
Action: 02/05/1937. LG: 01/01/1938.  
(Original award - Empire Gallantry Medal (Military))

Sub-Inspector.

BHIM SINGH YADAVA (India), Punjab Police Force.  
Action: Jun 1931. LG: 01/01/1932.  
(Original award - Empire Gallantry Medal (Civil))

Zemindar

BHUPENDRA NARAYAN SINGH (India), Garh Barwari, Bahagalpur District, Bihar and Orissa.  
Action: 08/05/1934. LG: 19/06/1934.  
(Original award - Empire Gallantry Medal (Civil))

Shri

BAPTISTA JOSEPH D'SOUZA (India), Excise Constable, Sholapur District, Bombay, India.  
Action: 27/05/1930. LG: 03/06/1931.  
(Original award - Empire Gallantry Medal (Civil))

Sowar

DITTO RAM (India), Central India Horse (21st King George V's Own Horse), Indian Armoured Corps.  
Action: 23/07/1944. LG: 13/12/1945.  
(Original award - George Cross - Posthumous)

Captain

MAHMOOD KHAN DURRANI (India, now Pakistan), 1st Bahawalpur Infantry, Indian State Forces.  
Action: 1942-45. LG: 23/05/1946.  
(Original award - George Cross)

Rais

RASHID ABDUL FATTAH (Jordan), Transjordan Frontier Force.  
Action: 1 and 4 Mar 1938. LG: 12/07/1938.  
(Original award - Empire Gallantry Medal (Military))

Sub-Inspector

GHULMAN MOHI-UD-DIN (India, now Pakistan), Punjab Police Force.  
Action: 1930. LG: 03/06/1931.  
(Original award - Empire Gallantry Medal (Civil))

Mr

ABDUS SAMID ABDUL WAHID GOLANDAZ (India) Landlord & sand contractor, Surat, Bombay.  
Action: 16/09/1933. LG: 04/06/1934.  
(Original award - Empire Gallantry Medal (Civil))

Yuzbashi

EL AMIN EFFENDI HUMMEIDA (Sudan), Sudan Defence Force.  
Action: 04/01/1936. LG: 23/06/1936  
(Original award - Empire Gallantry Medal (Military))

Shawish  
TAHA IDRIS (Sudan), Blue Nile Province Police.  
Action: 01/09/1933. LG: 02/03/1934  
(Original award - Empire Gallantry Medal (Civil))

Lance-Naik  
ISLAM-UD-DIN (India), 6th Battalion 9th Jat Regiment, Indian Army.  
Action: 12/04/1945. LG: 05/10/1945  
(Original award-George Cross-Posthumous)

A/Shawish  
MUHAMMAD KHALIFA (Sudan), Berber Province Police, Sudan.  
Action: 27/11/1924. LG: 29/09/1925  
(Original award-Empire Gallantry Medal (Civil))

Naik  
KIRPA RAM (India), 8th Battalion 13th Frontier Force Rifles, Indian Army.  
Action: 12/09/1945. LG: 15/03/1946  
(Original Award - George Cross - Posthumous)

Lance-Naik  
MATA DIN (India), 4th Battalion 19th Hyderabad Regiment, Indian Army.  
Action: 31/05/1935. LG: 19/11/1935  
(Original award - Empire Gallantry Medal (Military))

Mr  
AHMED MUHAMMAD MIRGHANY (Sudan).  
Action: 18/09/1932. LG: 02/01/1933  
(Original award - Empire Gallantry Medal (Civil))

Nafar  
MUHAMMAD ABDULLA MUHAMMAD (Sudan), Khartoum Police Force.  
Action: 27/11/1924. LG: 12/12/1924  
(Original award - Empire Gallantry Medal (Civil))

Naik  
NANDALAL THAPA, (Nepal), 2nd Battalion 8th Gurkha Rifles, Indian Army.  
Action: 31/05/1935. LG: 19/11/1935  
(Original award - Empire Gallantry Medal (Military))

Sol  
IBRAHIM NEGIB (Sudan), Khartoum Police Force.  
Action 27/11/1924. LG: 12/12/1924  
(Original award - Empire Gallantry Medal (Civil))

Mr  
EDUARD OMARA (Uganda).  
Action: 1933 and Feb 1934. LG: 09/10/1934  
(Original award - Empire Gallantry Medal (Civil))

Subedar-Major  
PIR KHAN (India), Escort to the Commander, Royal Engineers, Waziristan District, Indian Army.  
Action: 03/02/1940. LG: 28/06/1940  
(Original award - Empire Gallantry Medal (Civil))

Havildar  
ABDUL RAHMAN (India), 3rd Battalion 9th Jat Regiment, Indian Army.  
Action 22/02/1945. LG: 10/09/1946  
(Original award - George Cross - Posthumous)

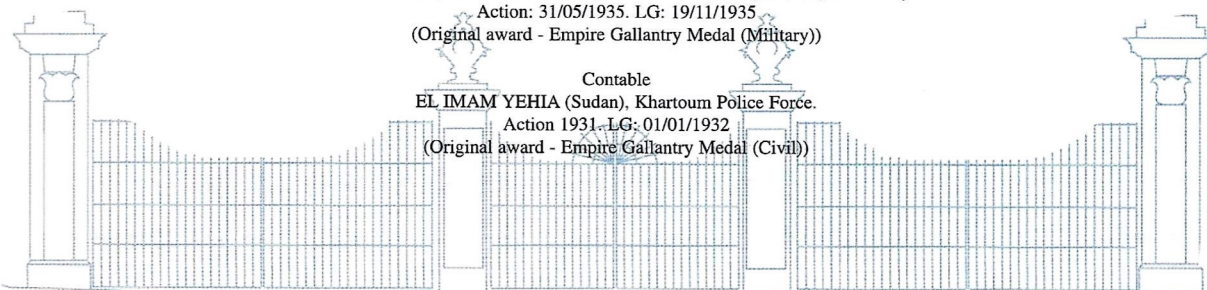
Tahsildar  
BABU RANGIT SINGH (India), Revenue Officer, United Provinces, India.  
Action: 1934. LG: 01/01/1935  
(Original award - Empire Gallantry Medal (Civil))

Subedar  
SUBRAMANIAN (India), Queen Victoria's Own Mandras Sappers & Miners.  
Action: 24/02/1944. LG: 30/06/1944  
(Original award - George Cross - Posthumous)

Shawish  
EL JAK TAHA, (Sudan), Khartoum Police Force.  
Action: 27/11/1924. LG: 12/12/1924  
(Original award - Empire Gallantry Medal (Civil))

Havildar  
AHMED YAR (India, now Pakistan), 24th Mountain Brigade, Royal Artillery.  
Action: 31/05/1935. LG: 19/11/1935  
(Original award - Empire Gallantry Medal (Military))

Contable  
EL IMAM YEHA (Sudan), Khartoum Police Force.  
Action 1931. LG: 01/01/1932  
(Original award - Empire Gallantry Medal (Civil))







*Dear Sir,*

*"Without their help, we should not have survived.*

Yours Truly,  
N. Oldfield

*Dear Sir,*

*A contribution from a Saga Magazine reader, grateful to be included in showing honour to the volunteers from the Indian sub continent Africa and the West Indies or wherever they came from as member of the family of nations to which we once all belonged.*

Every good wish  
Eileen Hooper

Dear Sir,

*As a reader of Saga magazine and as a former member of Field Marshal Lord Slim's Fourteenth Army, I have pleasure in enclosing a cheque for five pounds for the Memorial Gates Trust. This is memory of those thousands of all races who gave their lives fighting for Britain.*

*"When you go home, tell them of us and say for your tomorrow we gave our today"*

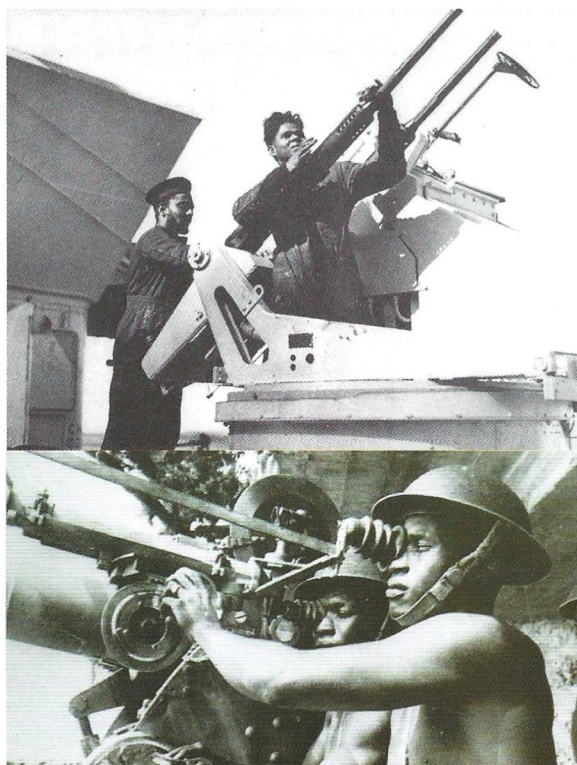
Yours sincerely,  
S.P.Garaway

*Dear Sir,*

*I was very glad to read about this project in Saga- A recognition long overdue!*

*I served in the Indian Unattached list, and have worked in West Africa and the Caribbean since then. I enclose a small cheque.*

Yours Sincerely,  
R.S.





28TH CAPE COAST DETACHMENT (VOLUNTEERS)  
THE CAPE COAST DETACHMENT FORMED PART OF THE GOLD COAST COLONY'S CONTRIBUTIONS  
IN THE WEST AFRICAN FRONTIER FORCE. INVOLVED IN CAMPAIGNS IN TOGOLAND,  
THE CAMEROONS & EAST AFRICA



INDIAN WOMEN TRAINING FOR AIR RAID PRECAUTION (ARP)  
DUTIES IN BOMBAY, 21 DECEMBER 1942



INDIAN LANCERS  
(PROBABLY THE 19TH) ON THE MARCH, CARNOY,  
SOMME AREA,  
14 JULY 1916



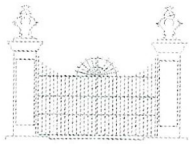
JAT LEWIS GUNNER  
FIRING AT ENEMY PLANE, PROBABLY TIGRIS FRONT,  
MESOPOTAMIA, 24 OCTOBER 1918



TROOPS OF AN INDIAN BATTALION, THE 129TH BALUCHIS, MAN A TRENCH AT WYTSCHAETE, DURING THE FIRST BATTLE OF YPRES, OCTOBER 1914.



SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS OF 1991 SWAZILAND SMOKE COMPANY WAIT TO EMBARK FOR THE ALLIED LANDINGS AT ANZIO, JANUARY 1944



## WALTER DANIEL TULL

Walter Tull was Britain's first black army officer and first black footballer.

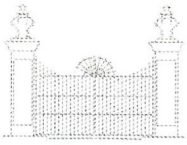
He enlisted in the 17th (1st) Football Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment in 1914. He was made a Lance Sergeant the following year after serving a year on the front line.

During the fighting he and his colleagues mounted a heroic advance through no man's land towards the enemy lines, playing mouth organs. Four hundred men set out but only seventy nine returned.

Walter contracted trench fever and was invalided home. Later he was sent to an officer training school in Scotland. In May 1917 he was commissioned as a second lieutenant, an almost unimaginable achievement at that time. He returned to the front.

He was mentioned in dispatches for the 'gallantry and coolness' in which he led his men in the first battle of Piave. On March 25th 1918 Walter was killed in no-man's land during the second battle of the Somme. His commanding officer on breaking the news of his death remarked 'how popular he was throughout the battalion'. He was brave and conscientious ... the battalion and company have lost a faithful officer and personally I have lost a friend'.





## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

WE THE COMMITTEE OF THE MEMORIAL GATES TRUST WOULD LIKE  
TO THANK THE FOLLOWING :

AIR INDIAN FOR DONATING TWO FIRST CLASS RETURN TICKETS TO DELHI OR MUMBAI  
BRITISH AIRWAYS FOR DONATING TWO LONDON/NEW YORK RETURN TICKETS ON  
CONCORDE

MAGANLAL VIRJI & SONS JEWELLERS FOR DONATING A GOLD NECKLACE AND  
MATCHING EARRINGS

BESTWAYS FOR PROVIDING OFFICE FACILITIES

SECURICOR FOR THEIR DONATION

P & S MOTORS FOR ARRANGING A MERCEDES BENZ SLK

MR AND MRS H.S. NARULA FOR DONATING 3 NIGHTS AT RAJVILAS, JAIPUR  
COURTESY OF THE OBEROI GROUP

CHATILA OF 22 OLD BOND STREET FOR DONATING A BRACELET

THOMAS GOODE FOR DONATING A VOUCHER

MRS BINA MAHTANI FOR DONATING THE TABLE GIFTS

MR KARAN F BILIMORIA FOR DONATING THE WHITE AND RED WINE

NORTH BRITISH DISTILLERY CO. LTD., EDINBURGH FOR DONATING THE WHISKY

THE SAVOY HOTEL FOR DONATING A VOUCHER

THAI PAVILION FOR DONATING THE CANAPÈS

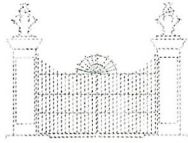
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