



# BRIGADIER AMRINDER SINGH KASANA (Then MAJOR )

| SERVICE NUMBER                                 | IC-48654F                                |
|--|--|
| RANK   | Brigadier (Then Major)                   |
| NAME   | Amrinder Singh Kasana                    |
| SON OF   | Baljit Singh                             |
| RESIDENT OF (Village/District/State)/ DOMICILE | Village Risyal, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh |
| UNIT/REGIMENT/CORPS                            | 41 Field Regiment / Artillery            |
| SERVICE  | Indian Army                              |
| DATE OF ENROLMENT/ COMMISSION                  | 10 June 1989                             |
| AWARD/DATE OF ACTION                           | Vir Chakra / 12 June 1999                |
| WAR/BATTLE/OPERATION                           | Kargil War                               |
| OTHER AWARDS WITH DATE                         |  |



Brigadier (then Major) Amrinder Singh Kasana was born on 31 March 1968 in Risyal village of Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh. His father's name was Baljit Singh. He completed his secondary education from St. George School, Mussoorie and went on to pursue a bachelor's degree from St John's College Agra, Uttar Pradesh. On 10 June 1989, he was commissioned into the Indian Army's Regiment of Artillery.

The Regiment of Artillery was raised on 28 September 1827. It was initially raised as Bombay Artillery and was later renamed 5 Bombay Mountain Battery. In May 1857, the mutiny by Indian soldiers started in the artillery of the Army of the Bengal Presidency. The incident prompted a complete ban on Indian artillery units, except the mountain artillery batteries in select provinces. The decision was reversed in the mid-1930s when the first of the Field Regiments of the Indian Army were raised. The Field Regiments support the formations on the field. The regimental motto of Artillery Regiment 'Sarvatra Izzat-O-Iqbal' which means 'Everywhere with Honour and Glory'. During Operation Vijay in 1999, the contribution of firepower made the extremely difficult task of evicting the intruders from the Indian territory relatively easy for the infantrymen. Major Amrinder Singh Kasana was a part of 41 Field Regiment, which gave fire support to several crucial attacks.

The Kargil war of 1999 was fought 52 years after independence. The genesis of Indo-Pak conflict can be traced back to the year 1947. The bone of contention between India and Pakistan are the attempts by Pakistan to annex the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir by any means. The war commenced shortly after the signing of the Lahore declaration in 1999, when the Pakistan army surreptitiously occupied the winter vacated posts of the Indian Army. This act is thought to be the brain-child of General Pervez Musharraf, then chief of the Pakistan Army. On 3 May 1999, intrusions were detected. On 26 May <sup>1</sup>, the first air to ground strike was launched by the Indian Airforce (IAF), followed by Operation Vijay, by the Indian Army to evict the intruders from the Indian territory<sup>2</sup>.

Major Amrinder Singh Kasana was the Battery Commander for the attack on the Tololing feature in the Dras Sector. Later, the officer was also deployed as the Battery Commander until Point 5140 fell. Major Kasana took part in four consecutive attacks with 2 RAJ RIF, 18 GRENADIERS and 13 JAK RIF, which resulted in the capture of Tololing feature, Hump, Rocky Knob, and Point 5140. During these operations, the officer demonstrated extraordinary bravery and devotion to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Kargil 1999: The Impregnable Conquered Lt. Gen Y M Bammi. (2002) Gorkha Publisher

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> From Surprise to Reckoning: The Kargil Review Committee Report (2000) Sage Publications, New Delhi (Pg no 104-105)



duty, as he effectively directed artillery fire, resulting in degrading of the targets and inflicting severe casualties on the enemy.

On the night of the 12/l3 June 1999, Major Kasana bravely entered the minefield disregarding his own safety, and successfully retrieved infantry mine casualties at Tololing feature, saving many lives and limbs of many men. His act of extraordinary bravery lifted the morale of the soldiers as they prepared for the assault. On the evenings of the 12/13 June, 13/l4 June, 16/17 June, and 19/20 June, enemy defences were weakened by accurate and effective artillery fire, allowing the capture of Tololing feature, Hump, Rocky Knob, and Point 5140.

For his commendable junior leadership and exceptional courage Major (later Brigadier) Amrinder Singh was awarded the Vir Chakra.



Funeral of Brigadier Amrinder Singh Kasana, VrC

Source: Twitter Krishan Pal Gurjar @KPJBJP (Minister of State for Power and Heavy Industries, Government of India)

Brigadier Amrinder Singh Kasana was last posted in Arunachal Pradesh North East as Deputy Director General (DDG) of Nation Cadet Corps (NCC). He passed away on 27 October 2021, while performing his duties at an altitude of 14000 ft.



#### **CITATION**

Major Amrinder Singh Kasana (IC-48654), 41 Field Regiment (Artillery) (Effective date of the Award: 12<sup>th</sup> June, 1999)

Major Amrinder Singh Kasana was Battery Commander for attack on Tololing feature in the Drass Sector during OPERATION VIJAY. The officer however, volunteered to be the Battery Commander till the fall of point 5140. He thus took part in four consecutive attacks along with 2 RAJPUTANA RIF, 18 GRENADIERS and 13 JAMMU & KASHMIR RIFLES culminating in the Capture Of Tololing feature, Hump, Rocky Knob and Point 5140.

During these operations, the officer displayed exceptional valour and dedication to duty and very effectively directed artillery fire thereby causing heavy enemy casualties and degradation of the objectives.

With a nerve of steel and utter disregard to his personal safety, Major Kasana himself entered the minefield and succeeded in retrieving infantry mine casualties at Tololing feature on the night of 12th/l3thJune 1999, thus saving many lives and limbs of his comrades

His act of exceptional courage boosted the morale of infantry soldiers going into the assault. The degradation of enemy defences by accurate and effective - artillery fire facilitated the capture of Tololing feature, Hump, Rocky Knob and Point 5140 on the nights of 12th/l3th June, 13th/l4th June, 16th/17th June and 19th/20th June respectively.

| Reference: Gazette of India, Notification No | dated |
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### REFERENCES

- 1. Kargil 1999: The Impregnable Conquered Lt. Gen Y M Bammi. (2002) Gorkha Publisher
- 2. From Surprise to Reckoning: The Kargil Review Committee Report (2000) Sage Publications, New Delhi (Pg no 104-105)

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- 2. Singh, Amarinder . (2001). A Ridge Too Far: War in the Kargil heights 1999. Patiala: Motibagh Palace.
- 3. Taygi, Satish Chandra. (2019). The Kargil Victory Battles from Peak to Peak. The Speaking Tigers in association with The United Service Institute of India
- 4. The Official Indian Army Website (Accessed on 15 May, 2022)

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#### **VIDEOS**

Veer chakra se sammanit Brigadier Amrinder Singh Kasana (Source: Real Life News Bureau) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dKojwD3BKx4

\*\*Disclaimer<sup>3</sup>

## OTHER INTRESTING SOURCES<sup>4</sup>

A Series on Kargil War 1999 (Source: Headlines Today)

- 1) Guns and Glory Episode 7: 1999 Indo-Pak War in Kargil, Part 1 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ti xPBoC8hY
- 2) Guns and Glory Episode 8: 1999 Indo-Pak War in Kargil Part 2 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xLh9DINk4QU

Indian Army - Artillery of India (Source: Youtube Channel India Defence) <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbxVnEDKSZw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbxVnEDKSZw</a>

Vijaypath: Role of Bofors guns in India's victory at Kargil war (Source: Zee News) <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rfd5k35nwEo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rfd5k35nwEo</a>

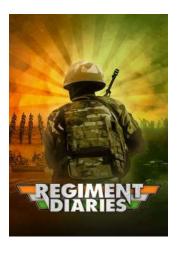
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Regiment of Artillery | Regiment Diaries- Season 3 (Source: Epic Channel and Netflix India)



Source: <a href="https://www.imdb.com/title/tt9642576/">https://www.imdb.com/title/tt9642576/</a>

Article- Battle: Winning Role of the Gunners in Kargil War by Maj Gen Jagjit Singh (Source: Defence Review)

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Article- Indian Artillery maintained its true spirit of Izzat O Iqbal during Kargil conflict (Source: Scoop News)

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