

CAPTAIN HANEEF UDDIN

SERVICE NUMBER	IC-57260K
RANK	Captain
NAME	Haneef Uddin
SON OF	Aziz Uddin
RESIDENT OF (Village/District/State)/ DOMICILE	Delhi
UNIT/REGIMENT/CORPS	11 Rajputana Rifles
SERVICE	Indian Army
DATE OF ENROLMENT/ COMMISSION	07 June 1997
AWARD/DATE OF ACTION	Vir Chakra (Posthumous) / 06 June 1999
WAR/BATTLE/OPERATION	Kargil War / Op THUNDERBOLT
OTHER AWARDS WITH DATE	



Captain Haneef Uddin was born on 23 August 1974, in Delhi, to Mr. Aziz Uddin and Mrs. Hema Aziz. He had two brothers Nafees and Sameer. Captain Haneef Uddin's mother, Mrs. Hema Aziz is a classical singer who works for Sangeet Natak Academy and Kendra in Delhi. He graduated in science from Shivaji College, University of Delhi. He had many feathers in hiscap, as he was a talented singer, trained computer expert and had won title of Mr. Shivaji. Captain Haneef Uddin had a firm desire to join the Indian Army. After completing his graduation, the officer cleared his entrance exam and joined Indian Miliary Academy in 1996. On 07 June 1997, he was commissioned into the Army Service Corps Corps (ASC). During the Kargil war, as a part of Op THUNDERBOLT, he was attached to 11 Rajputana Rifles, deployed on the heights of Southern glacier and Sub-Sector West (SSW- Turtuk-Chalunka).



Mother and brother of Captain Haneef Uddin placing ranks on his shoulders during the passing out ceremony.

Source: Twitter Maverick Musafir @Maverickmusafir

The Rajputana Rifles is the senior most Rifle Regiment of the Indian Army. Its first battalion was raised in January 1775. The Rajputana Rifles has a long and glorious history. The regiment took part in some of the bloodiest battles in many theatres of the world. During World War II, the



battalions of this regiment fought in every theatre in which the Indian Army was involved. Three of them, the 1st, 4th and Medium Machine Gun Battalions fought in Eritrea in North Africa and Italy as part of the famous 4th Indian Division, whose fighting record was one of the finest in World War II. Post-independence the regiment took part in many battles and operations including the UN Peacekeeping Mission in Congo. The Rajputana Rifles fought gallantly in the 1965 and 1971 India-Pakistan wars. During the Kargil War, the Rajputana Rifles displayed exemplary valour and determination especially in the Tololing. During Op THUNDERBOLT, Captain Haneef Uddin, young valiant officer of 11 Rajputana Rifles made the supreme sacrifice during an assault to capture a position near Sub-sector West (SSW).

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 ¹, 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 territory².

The Southern Glacier and Sub-Sector West were a beehive of activities during the Kargil war. In early-May 1999, after a patrol clash in the area, minor intrusions (200 to 500 meters) were discovered along the LC south of the Shyok River. Brigadier P C Katoch commander of 102 Infantry Brigade decided to pre-empt further expansion by occupying defences along all important mountain features up to Chorbat La Pass on the Ladakh Range and the watershed. The decision to occupy defences along the Turtuk Lungpa prevented further ingress and provided a firm base for launching attacks to evict the intruders. 11 RAJ RIF, was in the process of deinducting after completing its tenure at the Central Glacier. On 11 May 1999, the battalion was quickly moved through the Turtuk Lungpa to occupy defences on the LC at Point 5500 and adjacent areas. 11 RAJ RIF was assisted by 5 Vikas. By 22 May 1999, Col Anil Bhatia, Commanding Officer (CO) of 11 RAJ RIF had made sure that battalion had firmed in and that no further intrusion could take place. On the night of 06-07 June 1999, as a part of Op THUNDERBOLT, an attempt to capture Point 5590 was made by a patrol led by Captain Haneef Uddin.

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)



The patrol approached the enemy position from a position occupied by Captain Haneef Uddin the previous night at the height of 18500 feet. Advancing in sub-zero temperatures along the razor-sharp edge from South-western direction. The patrol came as close as 200 meters from the enemy position when it was spotted and fired upon. Captain Haneef Uddin, who was leading and two other ranks bore the brunt of the enemy fire. Despite, grave injuries sustained by him and without caring for his personal safety, Captain Haneef Uddin, took a position and started firing to pin down the enemy. His aim was to extricate his team members. In the ensuing exchange of fire, Captain Haneef Uddin again received a gunshot-wounds but kept on engaging the enemy till his personnel reached a safer location. The remaining members of his patrol succeeded in establishing a foothold on the feature inspired by the gallantry displayed by Captain Haneef Uddin and held on against heavy odds.

Captain Haneef Uddin however succumbed his injuries and made the supreme sacrifice on the nation's highest battle field. For display of unparallel bravery in the face of enemy on the icy heights of Point 5590, steadfast devotion to duty while braving known dangers and for his immense concern for his team despite being grievously injured, Captain Haneef Uddin was awarded Vir Chakra Posthumously.



Grave of Captain Haneef Uddin Source: Twitter Mayank @scribesoldier



In the honour of his memory, the new sub-sector captured by the Indian Army during Op VIJAY, was named as the Haneef sub-sector. Haneef sub-sector is where the Indian Army defies death every day, it is one of the toughest fields under Siachen Brigade.

Captain Haneef Uddin affectionately called 'Haneefu' was popular among his colleagues and friends as a jovial person. Fondness for music ran in his blood, he had a mesmerizing voice, he wrote songs and enjoyed music. His colleagues recall him for using his singing prowess to lighten the mood in his camp. This brave solider truly lived by the lyrics of the song he wrote, '*Ek pal mein hai sach saari zindagi ka; Iss pal mein jee lo yaaron, yahan kal hai kisne dekha*'. Captain Haneef Uddin's sacrifice and valour remains an inspiration to millions of Indians.



CITATION

Captain Haneef Uddin (IC-57260) 11 Rajputana Rifles (Posthumous) (Effective date of Award: 06th June, 1999)

On 06 June 99, a company was deployed in OPERATION THUNDERBOLT to occupy a position, occupation of which would have facilitated better observation spectrum of enemy movement and dispositions in the area. Captain Haneef Uddin volunteered to lead the special mission patrol consisting of one junior commissioned officer and three other ranks.

The party made valiant endeavours to occupy the position on the night of 04 and 05 June 1999. On 06 June 1999 the party tried approaching the position from an adjacent position occupied the previous night by Captain Haneef Uddin at height of 18,500 feet. Advancing in sub-zero temperature along the razor sharp edge from the South-Westerly direction, the party came as close as 200 metres of the position when it was fired upon. Captain Haneef Uddin and two other ranks received the brunt of fire.

Inspite of the grave injury, Captain Haneef Uddin, without caring for his personal safety, took position and started firing to pin down the enemy and to extricate his team members. In the ensuing firing from both sides, Captain Haneef Uddin was further hit by enemy artillery and small arms fire. However, he kept on engaging the enemy till his personnel reached safer location. Captain Haneef Uddin however, succumbed to his injuries.

Captain Haneef Uddin displayed bravery and concern for his team of the highest order and with utter disregard to his own safety made the supreme sacrifice.

Reference: Gazette of India, Notification No._____ dated_____



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

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- 1. Gandhi, S.S. Portraits of Valour: India's Highest Gallantry Awards and Their Recipients. The Defence Review. (Ed 2006).
- 2. Honourpoint- The Online memorial of every Indian Solider (Accessed on 26 April 2022) https://www.honourpoint.in/profile/captain-haneef-uddin-vrc/
- Kargil War: From the ashes of the dead rise the tales of India's heroes (Accessed on 26 April 2022) https://www.indiatoday.in/magazine/cover-story/story/19990628-kargil-war-from-the-ashes-of-the-deadrise-the-tales-of-indias-heroes-781204-1999-06-28
- 4. The War Decorated India & Trust (Accessed on 26 April 2022) http://twdi.in/node/3893
- 20 years after Kargil: 'Want to remember him as a responsible son, a soldier who did his job well' (Accessed on 26 April 2022) <u>https://indianexpress.com/article/india/want-to-remember-him-as-a-responsible-son-a-soldier-who-did-hisjob-well-kargil-5849428/</u>
- 6. Moving Post About a Kargil Martyr's Mother Tells You 'Where His Courage Came From' https://www.thebetterindia.com/167288/indian-army-kargil-martyr-mother-moving-india/



VIDEOS

Last Rites of Captain Haneef Uddin (Source: Youtube Wild Films India) <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4TuzdfJUATA</u>

20 Years Of Kargil: War Heroes And Stories Of Extra Ordinary Courage (Source: Youtube HTN) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1ihHGt7vt0U&t=2848s

Kargil Martyr Captain Haneef Uddin's Mother Speaks Her Experience On Shikhar Sammelan (Source: Youtube ABP News) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8_zMK-Y5PtI

Braveheart Kargil Hero Haneef Uddin: A Mother Remembers (Source: Youtube NewsX) <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=19-nwkImWzE</u>

Kargil Hero Captain Haneef Uddin's Mother (Source: Youtube India Ahead) <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FgX7B7U12YQ</u>

Op. Thunderbolt | Courage of Capt. Haneef | Veer Chakra | Rajputana Rifles | martyr | Kargil War (Source: Youtube Kissa Kahani) <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c1lioShbApE</u>

Zindagi Live with the families of Kargil Heroes (Source: Youtube Richa Anirudh) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MAInji5f5zo

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MEMORIALS

• A school is named after Captain Haneef Uddin in Mayur Vihar Phase I – Shaheed Capt Haneef Uddin Govt. Boys School.



Source: https://www.yayskool.com/school/shaheed-captain-hanifuddin-govt-boys-school-east-delhi-45548120

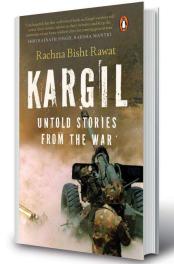
- A road 'Captain Haneef Uddin Marg' is named after Captain Haneef Uddin in New Delhi.
- A school 'Captain Haneef VrC foundation School' in Kullu District of Himachal Pradesh started by his mother Hema Aziz and elder brother Nafees Uddin.



OTHER INTERESTING RESOURCES⁴

Kargil War: India ने Pakistan के ख़िलाफ़ 1999 Kargil War में हारी हुई बाज़ी कैसे पलटी थी? (Source: Youtube BBC Hindi <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BrztbifDO58</u>

A book titled 'Kargil: Untold stories from the war' by renowned author Rachna Bisht Rawat narrates story of Captain Haneef Uddin.



Article by Milli Gazette on Mother of Kargil Warrior Haneef Uddin titled as 'War hero's mother rejects dole'

https://www.milligazette.com/Archives/15072001/17.htm

Major Ranjit of 11 RAJ RIF recalls time with Captain Haneef Uddin (Source: Twitter Guardians of Nation @love_for_nation) https://twitter.com/love_for_nation/status/1533700172554854400?s=20&t=gCWeOmkO4HVklOoG wV-pxw

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A remembrance note published by 11 Rajputana Rifles Regiment in memory of Captain Haneef Uddin.

Source: http://generalsalute.blogspot.com/1999/06/captain-hanif-uddin-vrc.html