

### Chapter 1 : The Battle of Saragarhi, The Last Stand of the 36th Sikh Regiment by Daljeet Singh Sidhu

*Saragarhi was introduced back into the UK by writer and filmmaker Jay Singh-Sohal and the British Army with the launch of the book Saragarhi: The Forgotten Battle in at Old College Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.*

Enlightening books to Enlighten minds Saragarhi: In the city of Bradford, the children from the Punjabi schools have come together collectively to make posterboards about the Saragarhi battle. Similarly members reflected that there was a meeting of military defence personnel in Leeds and there was a talk on Saragarhi last year. Overall there is a growing awareness of this battle and perhaps it is now less forgotten. Comparatively Saragarhi is less well known and this inspired the author to write and research the subject. The members discussed why is Saragarhi forgotten? One member felt that this is because the Sikh soldiers were regarded as second class citizens of the British army as they were not natively British. On the other hand the British did their part to monumentalise the efforts of the Sikhs e. History is easily forgotten! There is no doubt that there is much sentiment surrounding the battle. In some ways this has made it harder for the author to research the battle accurately as there have been many myths spread about the battle. One member recalled receiving leaflets in Africa about the battle from the Indian Government which contained some of these myths. The members reflected that the production of the book is highly commendable and an excellent effort. We definitely need more books like this within the Panth and wider public. There were some minor criticisms of the book by the members. Unfortunately the book contains a number of relatively minor spelling mistakes. The term warrior-saint is used to describe the Sikhs but the term put forward by history is saint-warrior and there are fundamental reasons why this is the case, as being warriors comes secondary to spirituality. Overall the members felt that the book was well structured, with chronological events, a foreword and preface. The subsequent chapters also followed on well and provided the reader with a good structure surrounding the narrative. There were some points which could be incorporated to improve the quality of the published book, but these are relatively minor points compared with the efforts taken to produce the book. The members recognised that the author has made huge efforts in publishing the book and has in all likelihood self-funded the publication. Moving on to the content of the book, the author provided a good historical background of events leading up to the battle of Saragarhi. The members discussed whether the book one-sided in terms of perspective. Obviously the focus of the author is the perspective of the Sikhs and the British army. However the perspective of Pathans is not discussed. It was once said that Afghanistan is the graveyard of armies, and the local people of the time must also have an interesting alternative viewpoint of the historical events. However it is possible that the viewpoint of the Pathans has not been recorded and is therefore more difficult to represent. It is also well known that colonial masters often bribed villagers and locals to prevent them from discussing events openly. This also may skew historical accounts. Some members felt that these events should have been discussed in more detail if this was the case. However other members felt that this viewpoint was not accurate and that it minimised the martial history of the Sikhs which actually begun much earlier in history and was integral to the faith from the beginning, rather than being a reaction or a result of Mughal invaders. One member reflected upon the fact that there is evidence of Guru Nanak Dev Ji being armed and demonstrating physical combat with Babar. The shaster vidhya tradition pays homage to this and continues to teach Baba Nanak Pentra the footwork of Guru Nanak Dev Ji as a model of fighting. Some felt that dialogue and diplomacy is part and parcel of martial spirit. The historical sacrifices made by the Sikhs at Chamkaur Sahib was mentioned by the author as comparative to the battle of Saragarhi. However Chamkaur Sahib possibly reflects an even purer sacrifice as the Sikhs were an autonomous unit fighting directly for the Guru rather than being influenced by a colonial mentality. However the members recognised that the author is part of the British army and therefore has a dual allegiance with this unit which still exists today. In this situation is difficult for a writer to be impartial in narrating events. It also means that despite the battle of Chamkaur Sahib being one of the most significant for the Sikhs, the battle of Saragarhi was chosen for study by the author, possibly in view of his connections with the same army. It is interesting that there was a profound change in Sikh allegiance over a period of years in India during this period. The members felt that this needed a little

more explanation and analysis. The same soldiers who were fighting against the British earlier in the century were now fighting with them to battle the Pathans. Similarly it is easy to see the viewpoint of the Pathans who waged a war for what they saw as being the right to govern their own native lands. One could argue that the Sikhs should have been fighting with the Pathans against the British. The members reflected on the lengths that the colonial masters went to try and manipulate Sikh heritage and texts, which influences our views and perceptions to this day. *Panth Prakash* was written by Bhai Rattan Singh as a direct response to this. In a well written historical narration of Sikh History, the author alludes to Sikhs within the army giving their head to their Gurus in Amrit Sanchars and dually swearing allegiance to the British crown at the same time. The members reflected upon the potential conflict this might cause, as soldiers are inevitably drawn into unjust wars. On the other hand being a soldier is a job, and being drawn into an unjust war may simply be part of that job. The author and writers of the time implied that the Sikhs would have merged into Hinduism without the saving grace of the British Army. The members discussed the irony of this statement. Did the British help the Sikhs to keep their identity? Or had they intentionally destroyed the Sikh identity and subsequently taken the credit for encouraging its reinstatement? Similarly the colonial masters were paying for the installation of the Mahants " but were they put there to protect Sikh values or were they stooges of the British? There is no doubt that the British were paying politics " much of our modern history is a byproduct of their cunning. The fact of life is that rulers played whatever cards they can to serve their own interests. In the context of the battle of Saragarhi, the British employed methods to initially keep the Sikhs as second class citizens and then subsequently used their skills to their advantage when it suited them. The Sikh soldiers were not given the same recognition and rewards as the British soldiers. Nothing can diminish the sacrifice of the soldiers involved in the battle. The author provided an insight into the weapons used and possible number of rounds fired, and compared this with modern weaponry in order to bring the battle to life. The leader Isher Singh demonstrated true leadership and led from the front rather than from a distance. However despite the factual nature of the book, Gurmukh Singh is regarded as taking his own life. This was an odd assumption to make given that the author consistently tried to narrate the events factually. Regardless, it is clear that the faith of the Sikh soldiers involved in the battle cannot be doubted. It is interesting that historically the concept of a Sikh Nation and Sikh nationals was routinely accepted in the late s. Now it is regarded as a divisive and politically loaded issue, and those in favour of a Sikh nation are regarded almost as fanatics. It is interesting how perspectives change over a relatively short period of time. Taking away the political aspects of the situation, the book ultimately recognises the huge sacrifice made by our Sikh fathers and grandfathers, and provides readers with a unique opportunity to learn lessons from the battle. It is an excellent example of Sikh-inspired research and historical analysis which is now widely available for the public to read. We can only hope that the author and other writers will continue to produce further publications after similar efforts.

### Chapter 2 : Battle of Saragarhi | Military Wiki | FANDOM powered by Wikia

*The historic battle of Saragarhi was fought in when Britain ruled the Indian subcontinent. Saragarhi was manned and defended by a contingent of only 21 Sikhs - a part of the 36th Sikhs of the British Indian Army -- now the 4th battalion of the Sikh Regiment.*

How do you rate this product? Write a headline for your review here: Write your review here: We promise to never spam you, and just use your email address to identify you as a valid customer. It was engaging, explained the battle very well and made me realize that this Battle makes the Alamo look a fair fight! Highly recommend this as an introduction to one of the great displays of bravery in history Epic of an battle Posted by Gurdeep on 25th Sep Thanks for creating such a graphic book which shows the bravery and courage with which those 21 great sikhs fought enemies. Great for teaching kids about sikh history Posted by Jagga Singh Mukandpur Wala on 17th Jul Some of my family can not read punjabi and have troubles understanding long complicated punjabi words, so these comic books are great for teaching them sikh history in english due to the language barrier. I would recommend this to anyone who wants to enjoy a interesting, fun, well written, nicely illustrated comic book on the sikh history. I did not even know some of the facts, especially the map given on front page, which makes it visualize the location. Will share to my network! Also it wudb good if u cud do a book on sant jarnail singh bhindrawale, speakin the truth about the injustices towards sikhi by indian govt, and how the indian govt pre-planned operation bluestar in , when nobody was even inside darbar sahib Good Job Posted by Kuldip on 1st Nov I love your art work in all of the books and the story they are great thank you Posted by Taranjeet Singh Delhi, India on 12th Sep I always heard about this great incidence most still do not know and always wanted to know the entire detail. This comic has helped me read about our great history in a comfortable and memorable way because pictures help etch the scenes into your mind. The paper and print quality is very nice and worth it! Recommended for all ages Gives me goosebumps Posted by Param Singh on 11th Apr Gives me goosebumps everytime I read it and lifts my spirit. Amazing Posted by Unknown on 21st Feb Absolutely amazing work done. It is a great tool for teaching children about our history, and it helps them visualize and understand the stories better. The best one from the author yet. Our family is looking forward to the next release: Like the first two it is hard to put down this one once you start reading. I am now waiting forthe next one. Very well narrated and graphics were really good. It was like making movie with 21 heroes in just 40 pages. All was done in very professional manner. I congratulate whole team of Mr. Daljeet Singh Sidhu and Mr. Amarjit Virdi for this great uprala. A must read for young children and even adults to learn about our glorious past. We really need to tell this story to the world. This comic does it really well. I will now get a few copies for my non-sikh friends. I have many Sikh friends Unfortunately, so far I knew little of their glorious history. This book not only narrates the true story of the Battle of Saragarhi very well but nicely brings forth the force behind the Sikh spirit of bravery and sacrifice. I look forward to more such titles from the Sikh Comics project. Posted by Parminder Singh on 25th Nov I had the privilege of reviewing the proofs yesterday. The art, and the story line meshes very well. We really needed to tell this story to the world. I am glad these guys have done it

### Chapter 3 : Saragarhi: When 21 Courageous Sikhs Stood Against 10, Afghans

*The battle of Saragarhi took place in September - but has remained largely forgotten in the mainstream. Drawing upon research and primary sources, this book tells the story of the significance of the battle when 21 Sikh soldiers stood firm to the last against thousands of Pathan tribesmen.*

Enlightening books to Enlighten minds Saragarhi: This paperback edition is published by Dot Hyphen Publishers and is available for purchase here: A preface by Captain Makand Singh MBE commends the author on his efforts in producing this book and bringing the forgotten battle to light. A foreword by the author explains the reasons behind his research and his goal to narrate the battle as factually as possible. The author shares his fascination surrounding the mindset of the Sikhs involved in Saragarhi, who were fighting for a queen and country they had never seen. There is a general lack of well-written, easily accessible books which highlight the history of the Sikhs. This publication is unique in that it is available to readers across the world in English, thereby bringing the battle of Saragarhi to prominence for many who did not previously know of its place in history. The author has taken steps to ensure that the battle is no longer forgotten, and his efforts in providing a clear account of the battle can only be congratulated. The author attempts to be as factual and unbiased as possible in recounting the events of For Sikh readers the book raises many questions regarding the legitimacy of fighting for colonial masters, and also poses interesting and important questions about the legacy of the British Empire which taints our perspectives to this day. Should Sikhs be involved in political power struggles between nations? Should Sikhs maintain higher ideals when fighting as Khalsas? Why did the Sikhs go from resisting the British in the early s to fighting for them shortly after this? There is no doubt whatsoever that the sacrifices made by the Sikh soldiers at Saragarhi is unparalleled and highly inspiring for Sikhs and non-Sikhs alike. The book highlights the efforts taken by multiple parties, including the British, to monumentalise the battle of Saragarhi and preserve the honour of those who died there. It is disturbing to think that such a battle can be easily forgotten in the annals of history. This in itself highlights the need for such publications to be promoted as widely as possible. The book ultimately recognises the huge sacrifice made by our Sikh fathers and grandfathers, and provides readers with a unique opportunity to learn lessons from the battle. It is an excellent example of Sikh-inspired research and historical analysis which is now widely available for the public to read. We can only hope that the author and other writers will continue to produce further publications after going to similar lengths to bring the forgotten pieces of our history of light.

**Chapter 4 : The Battle of Saragarhi**

*Saragarhi Battle. 1, likes 2 talking about this. Book "A True Story of Saragarhi Sikh Soldiers and their Descendants " Researcher Gurinder.*

The memorial pays homage to the unparalleled bravery of the 21 Sikh soldiers who fought against 10, Pashtun tribesmen on September 12, 1897, in what came to be known as the Battle of Saragarhi. Despite facing such overwhelming numbers, the warriors part of the 36th Sikh Regiment of the Bengal Infantry valiantly defended the Saragarhi outpost in the rugged hills of the North-West Frontier Province. Yet books on Indian history have often shied away from discussing this incredible tale. Photo Source In the late 19th century, tensions had heightened between Britain and Russia as the two nations battled over territories in central Asia. On September 12, 1897, a small British outpost called Saragarhi, 40 miles away from the garrison town of Kohat in what is now Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province in Pakistan, was attacked by 10, Orazkai-Afridi tribesmen. Located between the main forts of Lockhart and Gulistan, this outpost was of vital importance. Through it, heliographic signal communications Morse code using flashes of sunlight could be maintained between the two forts. Enemy tribesmen had surrounded Saragarhi with the intention of cutting communications and thus affecting troop movements of the British Indian Army. The 22 men inside were led by an experienced sergeant Havildar Ishar Singh, who rallied his men to defend their positions. Defending Saragarhi, 21 gutsy soldiers of the 36th Sikh Regiment of Bengal Infantry stood their ground against the mammoth onslaught. They also used delaying tactics to give sufficient time to the two nearby forts to prepare themselves for the attack that would be directed towards them once Saragarhi fell. Taken aback at the fierceness of the fight, the tribals shouted the message that if the Sikhs surrendered and joined them, they would be provided safe passage. It fell on deaf ears for Havildar Singh refused to budge an inch. The ruins of the Saragarhi outpost. Fort Lockhart is on the skyline. Photo Source However, unseen by the Sikhs soldiers inside the outpost, the enemy had begun digging beneath the walls to edge forward. Once this was done, they set fire to the surrounding shrubs to create a smokescreen that would hide their approach. In the meantime, after fighting for several hours, the defenders had begun to run low on ammunition. The battle culminated when a section of wall caved into the underground tunnel and enemy soldiers took advantage of the breach to over-run the outpost. Soon after, all three breathed their last. By the time, the tribesmen managed to enter the building, only five Sikhs were left alive, including Gurumukh Singh. Engaging in fierce hand-to-hand combat, they fought bravely but were completely outnumbered. As the day transitioned from afternoon to evening, Gurumukh Singh sent the final message from Saragarhi to Fort Lockhart: And received a prompt reply: Photo Source Just 19 years, Gurumukh was the youngest among the Sikhs. Single-handedly taking down nearly 20 men with his bayonet, the braveheart went down fighting. At the end of the seven-hour battle, all 21 Sikhs of Saragarhi had breathed their last. But they had made the most of their ammunition to inflict the maximum casualties on the enemy over a hundred enemy tribesmen had been killed and the two British forts had been given crucial time to fortify their defences. Fittingly, the heliograph, the reason why the men had fought to defend Saragarhi, would also be the source of their fame: The British Parliament halted their session of mid-way to give the martyrs a standing ovation, with Queen Victoria praising the men and saying: To the last man, with the last round. Photo Source In an unprecedented gesture at a time when gallantry awards were not given posthumously, the 21 martyrs were awarded the Indian Order of Merit class III, on a par with the Victoria Cross. It was also the only time when an entire unit received the highest gallantry award for the same battle. Interestingly, in September 1900, twelve army officers from England visited the Saragarhi memorial to pay tributes to warriors of the famed battle on its anniversary. As many as three films and a TV series are also being made on this battle. While Akshay Kumar recently revealed the first look from his film Kesari, actor Mohit Raina also shared pictures from upcoming TV series, 21 Sarfarosh: Or have something to share? Click here to get positive news on WhatsApp! Written by Sanchari Pal A lover of all things creative and happy, Sanchari is a biotech engineer who fell in love with writing and decided to make it her profession. She is also a die-hard foodie, a pet-crazy human, a passionate history buff and an ardent lover of books. When she is not busy at The Better India, she

can usually be found reading, laughing at silly cat videos and binge-watching TV seasons.

### Chapter 5 : Battle of saragarhi (TV Series “”) - IMDb

*To mark the th year of the Battle of Saragarhi fought on 12 September , between 22 gallant men of the 36th Sikh Regiment and over 8, Orakzai and Afridi tribals, Punjab Chief Minister and eminent military historian, Captain Amarinder Singh has painstakingly penned a book to recall the.*

The instrument used to communicate between Saragarhi and Fort Gulistan. An imprint of the 36th Sikhs badge. To the last man, with the last round. On September 12, these 21 Sikh soldiers were up against approximately 10, - 14, Afridi and Orakzai tribes of the Pashtun. The staggering ratio of 1: The burnt out remains of Saragarhi. Fort Lockhart is on the skyline, left centre. Note the terraced hillside that provided excellent cover to the attackers. The ruins of Saragarhi Various ranks of the 36th Sikhs. After the decline of the Sikh empire these posts were taken over by the British for the same purpose. Since Fort Lockhart and Fort Gulistan were not in a visual line of sight due to geographical attributes a midway heliograph communication post was built at Saragarhi. Heliography is a communication technique used by reflecting sunlight with a mirror and transmitting it via coded messages. Saragarhi was vital in ensuring the survival of these two forts and the defence of the region. Saragarhi consisted of a small block house with loop-holed ramparts and a signaling tower. Saragarhi - The Last Stand - Created by Extra History the creators of Extra Credits On that fateful morning when Havildar Ishar Singh the detachment commander peered through his binoculars from the watch tower of his post, he saw columns upon columns and rows upon rows of Pathans. Sepoy Gurmukh Singh, the detachment signaler, went up the signaling tower to set up his heliograph and began signaling to Fort Lockhart about their predicament: Lt Col Haughton, Commanding Officer of the 36th Sikhs, attempted to rush his troops to assist the outnumbered Sikhs however it was too late. The Pathans had systematically cut-off the supply route between Fort Lockhart and Saragarhi. Fort Lockhart transmitted back: As he watched from Fort Lockhart, Haughton counted at least 14 enemy standards each representing 1, tribesmen facing the 21 Sikh soldiers. As he assessed the grim situation facing him and his men, Havildar Ishar Singh called upon his men to seek their consultation on whether to hold the fort or abandon their post in the hope of surviving. The Sikhs unanimously agreed to hold the position. Havildar Ishar Singh understood this terrain very well, especially the character and fighting ability of the Pathans. Havildar Ishar Singh held his order to fire until the enemy closed in within m from his post. The first line of the Pathan advance was completely decimated. However, there was no time to reflect upon their success. News of the event shot around the world as demonstrated by this article one of many in this Australian newspaper. The Pathans planned for a massive assault on all flanks - a multi-pronged attack designed to divide the outnumbered Sikhs into much smaller groups. The tribesmen attacked in two formations, one towards the main gate and the other towards the gap at the fort. True is the timeless being! At this stage some tribesmen had fallen just yards away from the Sikh position. Out of the full strength of 21 soldiers at the start of the battle, there now were The battle had gone on from hrs to hrs with the Sikhs having fought off seven charges by the tribesmen. The ever inspiring Havildar Ishar Singh was still leading his men despite being gravely injured by bullets and sabre slashes. Lt Col Haughton attempted to send his personal orderly to try and pass the ammunition to the trapped Sikhs, but again to no avail. As the Pathans attacked again, the Sikhs with less than 10 men put up a stiff resistance and managed to repel the attack once again. The tribesmen resorted to a traditional tactic. They set fire to the bushes and scrubs around Fort Saragarhi. Clouds of smoke blanketed the fort, making it impossible for the Sikhs to see the enemy. Soldiers at Fort Lockhart could clearly see the approach of the tribesmen due to their elevated position above Saragarhi. Lt Col Haughton frantically signaled Saragarhi: Havildar Ishar Singh was severely injured by this time and ordered the remaining Sikhs to fall back into the inner wall. He then ordered two Sepoys to drag him towards the breach to buy some time for his men. Out of ammunition all three of them fixed their bayonets and charged the tribesmen. With this act Havildar Ishar Singh provided the final lesson of true leadership to his men. By the time the tribesmen breached the fort, only five Sikhs remained alive. Four in the inner building and Sepoy Gurmukh Singh at the signaling tower. The Sikhs did not give up. Instead they formed an all-round defensive position with their backs against each other and their bayonets pointing

outwards. In this remarkable display of bravery four more Sikhs fought hand to hand inside the fort. At hrs Sepoy Gurmukh Singh transmitted: Sepoy Gurmukh Singh disassembled his heliograph device, picked up his rifle and came down the signaling tower to join the fight. Soldiers at Fort Lockhart saw him disappear into the thick of battle right into the tribesmen line. He was the last to fall at Saragarhi. Please click on images below to view them in greater detail. The ruins of Saragarhi. The memorial Gurdwara, was built by the army in with stones from the Saragarhi post and has the names of the 21 Sikh soldiers inscribed on its walls. The Saragarhi Memorial Gurdwara at night. Martini Henry rifles first entered service with the British Army in and quickly became its mainstay. Colonial units such as the Sikhs and Gurkhas only received them after all the British units were equipped. It had only been a few months since these frontier regiments were equipped with these rifles replacing the venerable Enfield. Capable of firing ten. The effective range of the Henry Martini rifle was around yards m. Without the stiff resistance of the 21 Sikh soldiers at Saragarhi both Fort Lockhart and Fort Gulistan would have easily fallen to the enemy. When the relief column arrived a day later, they saw the burnt out bodies of all the 21 Sikh soldiers, together with at least dead bodies of the tribesmen strewn only yards in front of their position. On the left, holding his sword is an officer. He has a badge on his turban. Next is a Havildar with three stripes on his arm, then a Sepoy in winter dress and three good conduct stripes. On the right is a bugler. These last three other ranks do not wear a badge like the officer, but all four have a quoit circling their turbans. All four also wear boots instead of the sandals or shoes that so many of the infantrymen wore. The Saragarhi Monument inscription. All the 21 Sikh non-commissioned officers and soldiers who laid down their lives in the Battle of Saragarhi were posthumously awarded the Indian Order of Merit. This was the highest gallantry award of that time which an Indian soldier could receive by the hands of the British crown, the corresponding gallantry award being the Victoria Cross.. Medal earned at Fort Gulistan on 13 September Photo kindly provided by Avtar Singh Bahra from his private collection. Survivors of the Gulistan sortie party pose with the captured Afridi standards for a photograph by Lt. They greeted the relief force by parading these trophies at the gate. Defenders of Fort Gulistan with two soldiers of the 36th Sikhs. Monument to Havildar Ishar Singh at his birth place. Photo taken by Rupinder Singh Sran The above mentioned saga of valour has been compiled using various sources.

### Chapter 6 : Saragarhi: The Forgotten Battle by Jay Singh-Sohal

*This book not only narrates the true story of the Battle of Saragarhi very well but nicely brings forth the force behind the Sikh spirit of bravery and sacrifice. I look forward to more such titles from the Sikh Comics project.*

Melissa 3 comments On the Samana Range of the Hindu Kush mountains in Pakistan, the British Army built a small communications post at Saragarhi, to be housed by an equally small contingent of soldiers. In fact, several expeditions had been sent to maintain control and suppress rebellion in the region in the years immediately preceding the Saragarhi battle. Saragarhi, itself, was little more than a small block house and a signaling tower. It was constructed to enable communications between Fort Lockhart and Fort Gulistan, two more significant British posts situated on either side of Saragarhi, albeit several miles apart. Equipped with a heliograph, Saragarhi transmitted messages by using flashes of sunlight, sent much like telegraphic communication read: The flashes themselves were made by either pivoting a mirror or interrupting a beam of light. In the summer of , things were getting tense in the region, and the British had only recently ended an uprising of Pashtun tribesmen in the Malakand region known later as the Siege of Malakand in early August. By the end of the month, there was a general uprising of Afghans, and by the beginning of September, Pashtuns were actively attempting to capture British Army positions, including attacks on Fort Gulistan on September 3 and September 9. To combat the Pashtun offenses, troops were sent from Fort Lockhart to reinforce Fort Gulistan, and after the battle on the 9th, on their return trip, a few soldiers were left to reinforce the small detachment at Saragarhi. All of the 21 soldiers remaining at Saragarhi were members of the 36th Sikh Regiment of the British Army, and the contingent was led by Havildar Ishar Singh. On September 12, , in an effort to prevent any further communications between Forts Lockhart and Gulistan, 10, Pashtuns attacked Saragarhi, beginning at about 9 a. Since Saragarhi was a communications post, almost the entire battle was broadcast in real time by its signal man, Sardar Gurmukh Singh, which is why we today know what exactly happened there when 21 faced off against 10, Shortly after the attack began, Gurmukh Singh signaled for aid to Lieutenant Colonel John Haughton at Fort Lockhart, but he was told that immediate help was unavailable. Undeterred, the Sikh soldiers committed to fighting to the last to prevent the encroaching Pashtuns from reaching the other forts. The first man injured was Bhagwan Singh, and sometime after, the invaders broke part of the wall of the picket. Offers were made to the Sikhs in exchange for surrender, but they were refused. The Sikhs were trying to buy as much time as possible for the other forts to be reinforced, and were willing to pay for that time with their lives. After two unsuccessful attempts at the gates, the Pashtun forces eventually breached the wall. Fierce hand-to-hand fighting ensued. Shortly before the end, Ishar Singh ordered his men to retreat even further while he remained behind in defense. He, too, fell, during that charge, as did all of the remaining soldiers except for the heliograph operator, Gurmukh Singh. Gurmukh was the last to die, after being burned to death when the Pashtuns set fire to the post. True is the great Timeless One. That said, it was probably at least as that is what the Pashtuns themselves later reported as their losses in that battle. For their sacrifice, each of the Sikh soldiers were awarded the Indian Order of Merit, the highest award for gallantry then given to Indian soldiers by the British. In addition, Saragarhi Day is celebrated each year on September 12 to commemorate the battle.

### Chapter 7 : Battle of Saragarhi, The Last Stand of the 36th Sikh Regiment (Comic Book)

*Saragarhi is the incredible story of 21 men of the 36th Sikh Regiment (currently the 4th Sikh Regiment) who gave up their lives in devotion to their duty. This battle, like many others fought by the Sikhs, highlights the heroic action by a small detachment of Sikh soldiers against heavy odds.*

Edit This article does not contain any citations or references. Please improve this article by adding a reference. For information about how to add references, see Template: Saragarhi is a small village in the border district of Kohat , situated on the Samana Range , in present day Pakistan. The British had partially succeeded in getting control of this volatile area, however tribal Pashtuns attacked British personnel from time to time. Due to the forts not being visible to each other, Saragarhi was created midway, as a heliographic communication post. The Saragarhi post, situated on a rocky ridge, consisted of a small block house with loop-holed ramparts and a signalling tower. A general uprising by the Afghans began there in , and between 27 August - 11 September, many vigorous efforts by Pashtuns to capture the forts were thwarted by 36th Sikh regiment. In , insurgent and inimical activities had increased, and on 3rd and 9 September Afridi tribes, with allegiance to Afghans, attacked Fort Gulistan. Both the attacks were repulsed, and a relief column from Fort Lockhart, on its return trip, reinforced the signalling detachment positioned at Saragarhi, increasing its strength to one Non-Commissioned Officer NCO and twenty troops of Other Ranks ORs. On September 12, , 10, Pashtuns attacked the signalling post at Saragarhi, so that communication would be lost between the two forts. The Battle Details of the Battle of Saragarhi are considered fairly accurate, due to Gurmukh Singh signalling events to Fort Lockhart as they occurred. Sardar Gurmukh Singh signals to Col. Haughton, situated in Fort Lockhart, that they are under attack. Colonel Haughton states he cannot send immediate help to Saragarhi. The soldiers decide to fight to the last to prevent the enemy from reaching the forts. Bhagwan Singh becomes the first injured and Lal Singh is seriously wounded. Soldiers Lal Singh and Jiwa Singh reportedly carry the dead body of Bhagwan Singh back to the inner layer of the post. The enemy breaks a portion of the wall of the picket. Colonel Haughton signals that he has estimated between 10, and 14, Pashtuns attacking Saragarhi. The leaders of the Afghan forces reportedly make promises to the soldiers to entice them to surrender. Reportedly two determined attempts are made to rush open the gate, but are unsuccessful. Later, the wall is breached. Thereafter, some of the fiercest hand-to-hand fighting occurs. In an act of outstanding bravery, Ishar Singh orders his men to fall back into the inner layer, whilst he remains to fight. However, this is breached and all but one of the defending soldiers are killed, along with many of the Pashtuns. Gurmukh Singh, who communicated the battle with Col. Haughton, was the last Sikh defender. He is stated to have killed 20 Afghans, the Pashtuns having to set fire to the post to kill him. True is the Great Timeless One. Having destroyed Saragarhi, the Afghans turned their attention to Fort Gulistan, but they had been delayed too long, and reinforcements arrived there in the night of 13â€”14 September, before the fort could be conquered. The total casualties in the entire campaign, including the Battle of Saragarhi, numbered at around 4,

**Chapter 8 : DTF Books. The Battle of SARAGARHI**

*The map of the battle site. The Battle of Saragarhi was fought during the Tirah Campaign on 12 September between twenty-one Sikhs of the 4th Battalion (then 36th Sikhs) of the Sikh Regiment of British India, defending an army post, and 10, Afghan and Orakzai tribesmen.*

I understand caste is still a large issue in certain parts of India especially rural , but Wikipedia should reflect only the hard facts. If the comment is true anyway. David Trochos talk The many references provided are obviously based on a single source, as is evident by the similar wording. Similarly, the source about 4, deaths during the entire campaign is being misrepresented as if all those deaths occurred in a single day during the Battle of Saragarhi. I wonder if the publication, presumably back in the s or 60s, was part of a UNESCO-sponsored literacy project in one of the Indian languages? I wonder if this collection of stories was part of some magazine, journal etc. If UNESCO officially made a list of stories of heroism or collective bravery, the list and the publication should have been easier to find. The funny thing is that the figure was put in there by user Sikh2 to replace the figure at Why does David Trochos feel his references are correct when others are not. Why does David Trochos feels he has the right to remove references and replace with his own. David Trochos goes against wikipedia policy and removes references and replaces with his own which are not reliable Uses emotive language e. Please write more negative things about the Sikhs and make personal attacks on others. You seem from your attacks emotionally unstable, seriously get Professional help with your mental health and deal with your real issues in your life. Please do NOT bring your personal life or mental health problem here on wikipedia by releasing these problems on attacking or distorting the history of the Sikhs. Well done, you have turned the whole article into a farse, attacked others and tried to distort the history of the Sikhs. Keep on writing lies!!! It looks as this story about the battle being subject of a course in French schools or cited by the UNESCO is an Indian hoax wich is not backed up be solid sources. These claims seem to have originated from a single source, but they have been published in several sources, including reliable newspapers such as The Tribune. This reminds me of Wikipedia makes for a nightmare in online journalism ethics: I will certainly not make a case from this. But I think that a little bit more critical thinking or even common sense would help to prevent things like "this is taught even in French schools" from being printed in Wikipedia. I had half-heartedly tried to check the "French schools" question, but after finding effectively nothing in Google under: The official educational program can be read on Ministry of Education website. You can check the program for the last two years of high school in this decree in French. Last years of high school are the reasonable years to mention this battle. In the decree, nothing specific is said about India, although teachers would mention India as part of the class about colonization. I can swear it did not appear in the books I used at school, but who knows, maybe one different book mentions it. As long as the book editors follow at least the official program, they are free to add complimentary educational material in their books. Moreover one part of the sentence is clearly POV-pushing. The mention of an "official education syllabus for heroic valour" seems to have the only objective to associate the battle to "heroism". There is no syllabus in France about "heroic valour". General moral lessons have existed but were dropped several tens of years ago. If Government officials wanted to promote "heroic valour" among pupils, they would have chosen an example from their own country, not from a remote country for a war which is not part of teaching program. Anyway the word "Saragarhi" does neither appear on French Government websites nor any official publication check with google or with the full-text search of Government publications since If you are reluctant to remove all of this surprising information, I would suggest to: Nobody knows it and even famous French battles like Austerlitz are only lightly seen in school. Military history and martial virtue are not learned by french pupils. I think you should put away this information which is quite ridiculous. The first change is the alteration of the headline Afghan casualty figure to match the number of bodies found after the retaking of Saragarhi by Indian forces, which by definition would include fighters killed in the latter action. Given that, as explained in the article, the post was retaken by the use of intensive artillery fire which probably also caused most of the damage seen in the photo at the head of the article it is reasonable to assume that the discrepancy between the figure of

acknowledged by the Afghans as killed in the battle, and found after the bombardment, can mostly or entirely be attributed to the effects of overwhelming firepower on troops accustomed to winning by weight of numbers. The second change is the removal of the "unreferenced" tag from the "Situation" section of the article. While there is indeed one reference in the section, it occurs at the end of the second sentence and appears only to deal with the creation of the 36th Sikh Regiment. Overall, the "Situation" section does indeed contain a great deal of unreferenced material. Personally, I would be inclined to put more "unreferenced" tags in [standing ovation in the British Parliament? Links tend to be blacklisted because they have a history of being spammed or are highly inappropriate for Wikipedia. The addition will be logged at one of these locations: Alternatively, you may request that the link is removed from or altered on the blacklist locally or globally. When requesting whitelisting, be sure to supply the link to be whitelisted and wrap the link in nowiki tags. Please do not remove the tag until the issue is resolved. You may set the invisible parameter to "true" whilst requests to white-list are being processed. Should you require any help with this process, please ask at the help desk. Below is a list of links that were found on the main page: Cyberpower and ask him to program me with more info. From your friendly hard working bot. Please take a moment to review my edit. If you have any questions, or need the bot to ignore the links, or the page altogether, please visit this simple FaQ for additional information. I made the following changes: As of February , "External links modified" talk page sections are no longer generated or monitored by InternetArchiveBot. No special action is required regarding these talk page notices, other than regular verification using the archive tool instructions below. Editors have permission to delete the "External links modified" sections if they want, but see the RfC before doing mass systematic removals. If you have discovered URLs which were erroneously considered dead by the bot, you can report them with this tool. If you found an error with any archives or the URLs themselves, you can fix them with this tool.

**Chapter 9 : Saragarhi: The Forgotten Battle by Jay Singh Sohal – Sikh Book Club**

*Since Saragarhi was a communications post, almost the entire battle was broadcast in real time by its signal man, Sardar Gurmukh Singh, which is why we today know what exactly happened there when 21 faced off against 10,*

Rs 1, To mark the 100th year of the Battle of Saragarhi fought on 12 September, between 22 gallant men of the 36th Sikh Regiment and over 8,000 Orakzai and Afridi tribals, Punjab Chief Minister and eminent military historian, Captain Amarinder Singh has painstakingly penned a book to recall the supreme sacrifice made by the soldiers, who had been unjustly outnumbered in the combat. The book, in fact, is soulfully dedicated to him and as Amarinder Singh has stated that there are no details available regarding his religion or other antecedents except that he was probably from Naushera and was also the cook at the obscure communication fort at Saragarhi, which was sought to be overrun by the tribals. He was flatfooted and as a consequence could not be a soldier. As a mark of respect for the soldiers, the proceeds of the book will go to the Regiment of the Ludhiana Welfare Association earlier the 15th Sikhs and today the second battalion of the Sikh Regiment, who operate a fund established for the benefit of incapacitated soldiers of the battalion, war widows and orphans. Meticulous research by the Captain is reflected in his unflinching commitment to the Regiment to which the author belonged during his devoted stint with the Indian Army. Thereafter, it has remained in active service as first, the 36th Sikhs, then in the reorganisation of as the 4th battalion of the 11th Sikh regiment, and finally to its present designation in, as the 4th Battalion of the Sikh Regiment. Earlier, the regiment came into existence from the 10,000 Malwai soldiers, who were sent home post the First Anglo-Sikh war, following the treaty of Sutluj, as the Regiment of Ludhiana 2 Sikh and the Regiment of Ferozpur 1 Sikh on 31 July. It is the saga of 22 men, led by Havaldar Ishar Singh, who stood their ground in adversely disadvantageous circumstances, armed with nothing more than defiant courage to protect both the honour and prestige of their colours. Initially, the tribals sent a stout-hearted feeler to them that they would be provided a safe passage if they jumped ship, since their fight was solely against the British. However, Ishar Singh rebuked them in a colourfully rebellious manner, refusing to budge an inch. Incensed by this retaliatory response from the havaldar, the tribals launched a series of assaults, while Ishar Singh ordered his men to hold on to their positions, which in military terms means that they would carry out the command till their very last breath. Ishar Singh and his band of men inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy and when they knew the end was near, the surviving members chose to enter a chamber engulfed in an inferno, rather than surrendering themselves to the enemies. The macabre cruelty of the tribals sickeningly surfaced when they mutilated the bodies of the fallen and deceased heroes, while vilely torturing a wounded soldier from the battalion. ORIGIN The book traces the origin of the tribal uprising and talks about how the Durand Line was drawn up in, demarcating the border between India and Afghanistan, tearing down through the middle, a tribal people, from Swat to Balochistan. As part of the British defensive measures, a series of forts were built along the mile stretch, through the Orakzai and Afridi territory, from Kohat to Hangu and along the Samana Ridge. Fort Lockhart and Fort Gulistan were not inter visible, but were connected for communications by a heliograph operated from a tower in the small fort of Saragarhi. There was also a system of communicating with flags, the semaphore. Fort Saragarhi was at the highest point at about 6,000 feet, while the other two were at 5,000 feet. Therefore, to examine the battles along the Samana Ridge in, it is prudent to view the three forts in entirety – Fort Lockhart, the main fort; Fort Saragarhi, the little heliograph fort; and Fort Gulistan, a smaller fort. According to Amarinder Singh, there is now a cenotaph, close to Fort Lockhart, approximately a mile from the battle site at Saragarhi, which has inscribed on it the names of the 36th Sikh Regiment personnel who fell. Alongside this, a short distance away, on the battle site, is a cairn. It is well known that a cairn is usually a heap of stones thrown together in a conical shape to honour and acknowledge a grave in memory of a person; as there ought not be two memorials in the same location to mark the very same battle. Perhaps the Cairn commemorates the spot where the 22 soldiers were cremated on a single pyre. It is believed that the cenotaph honours the gallantry of the 22 fallen lion hearts; the cairn marks the site of their cremation. There is however, no such reference to this in any of the write ups referring to the battle of Saragarhi. For instance, in Saragarhi,

21 out of the 22 soldiers were honoured with the Indian Order of Merit. The soldiers were also granted pieces of land in recognition of their services on the express orders of the Queen. The author points out that during those days, the Victoria Cross was not conferred on their subjects and thus the Indian Order of Merit. The practice of bestowing a Victoria Cross to Indians commenced post the Durbar in Delhi, 14 years after the Saragarhi battle. The book diligently seeks to trace the origins and details of each of the soldiers. There are other heroic deeds pertaining to the Sikhs, particularly at Fort Gulistan and the regions near it. There is no other instance anywhere in the world where a single unit was accorded multitudinous gallantry awards as the Sikhs had won in a single year. The Garrison Commander is shown wearing the black Chakri associated with the 14th Sikhs. Amarinder Singh has also highlighted the kind of ammunition used by Indian troops, which were definitely at least one generation behind those used by British soldiers and their officers. These kinds of arms were provided to the Indian soldiers so as to ensure that they possessed weapons vividly inferior to those used by the British in the wake of the mutiny of 1857. The outcome would have been somewhat different had the 22 soldiers at Saragarhi been equipped with better weapons. Speaking at the book release function in New Delhi on Wednesday, Captain Amarinder Singh spoke about the collective gallantry of human beings when faced with imminent death, while lamenting that the men who laid their lives at the altar of valour have been virtually forgotten in India. He himself will be unveiling his book in London as part of the special commemoration. Finally, the significance of the Battle of Saragarhi is demonstrated by the fact that usually battle honours are battalion specific. However, this battle stands as the Battle Honour for all of the 26 Battalions of the Sikh regiment.