



रक्षा मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
DEFENCE



SUBEDAR MAJOR SANJAY KUMAR (Then RIFLEMAN)

SERVICE NUMBER	13760533
RANK	Subedar Major (Then Rifleman)
NAME	Sanjay Kumar
SON OF	Durga Ram
RESIDENT OF (Village/District/State)/DOMICILE	Village Bakain, Bilaspur State - (Himachal Pradesh)
UNIT/REGIMENT/CORPS	13 Jammu and Kashmir Rifles
SERVICE	Indian Army
DATE OF ENROLMENT/ COMMISSION	26 June 1996
AWARD/ DATE OF ACTION	Param Vir Chakra/ 04 July 1999
WAR/BATTLE/OPERATION	Kargil War/ Op VIJAY
OTHER AWARDS WITH DATE	



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Subedar Major Sanjay Kumar (then Rifleman), a resident of Bilaspur Himachal Pradesh, was born on 03 March 1976 to Durga Ram and Bhag Devi. After completing his schooling in Bilaspur, he moved to Delhi. On 26 June 1996, he joined the Indian Army and was posted to 13 Jammu and Kashmir Rifles (JAK RIF). He was awarded the Param Vir Chakra for his actions as a leading scout of the attacking column at Point 4875 in Mushkoh Valley. In February 2022, he was promoted to the rank of Subedar Major.

The Jammu and Kashmir Rifles has a rich regimental history. It was raised in 1821, by Gulab Singh. He was one of the ablest Generals of Maharaja Ranjit Singh and later became the ruler of the Jammu and Kashmir state. As a state force, Jammu and Kashmir Rifles fought as Imperial Service troops in both World War I and II and contributed immensely during 1947-48 war. The Jammu and Kashmir Rifles was later absorbed into the Indian Army as a distinct and separate regiment. In 1963, the designation was changed to Jammu and Kashmir Rifles. After conversion, the Ladakh Scouts came under the aegis of the regiment and has only recently acquired the title of a full-fledged regiment. During the Kargil conflict in 1999, 13 Jammu and Kashmir Rifles had an unprecedented record of bravery and sacrifice.

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 Kargil war of 1999 was fought 52 years after independence. 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. After two months of violent confrontation, the war came to an end on 26 July 1999.

The capture of Tololing on 13 June 1999, changed the dynamics of the war. The next objectives were to capture Point 5140 and Point 4875 as these features provided dominant viewpoints to the National Highway 1 Alpha. The task was entrusted to the 13 JAK RIF. The main features of Point 4875 include- Whale Back, Flat Top and Shivling. Lieutenant Colonel YK Joshi, the commanding officer of 13 JAK RIF gave the order for the attack on 03 July 1999. The attack was launched on 04 July 1999, with Major SV Bhaskar leading the A Company from the Eastern

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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slopes of Point 4875 and Major Gurpreet Singh assaulting from the Western slopes of South Spur, with a view to capture Flat Top. Major Gurpreet Singh took a bold decision by deciding to launch a simultaneous assault at Flat Top with a platoon and Point 4875 with the rest of the C Company. Rifleman Sanjay Kumar and Rifleman Shyam Singh were the leading scouts of the attacking column at Flat Top.

On 4 July 1999, Rifleman Sanjay Kumar was one of the leading scouts tasked to capture Flat Top of Point 4875 in Mushkoh Valley. The enemy challenged the progress of the column by firing from one of the sangars. With complete disregard for his personal safety, Rifleman Kumar displayed conspicuous courage as he charged at the enemy. In the subsequent physical combat, he fought the enemy and killed three of the enemy soldiers. He sustained grave injuries but did not yield and attacked the second sangar. The attack came as a surprise to the enemy and they fled leaving behind one universal machine gun (UMG). He picked up the UMG and shot at the fleeing enemy soldiers. Although, he was profusely bleeding, he denied being evacuated and continued to charge at the enemy. His gallant action and fortitude motivated his fellow mates and despite the difficulties of fighting in treacherous terrain our troops were successful in seizing the area Flat Top from the enemy.

A story of sheer bravery and utmost devotion to duty, Rifleman Sanjay Kumar displayed the highest degree of valour in the presence of the enemy that has inspired many. For his conspicuous courage and fearless spirit in the face of the enemy, he was awarded the Param Vir Chakra.



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CITATION

Rifleman Sanjay Kumar (13760533), 13 Jammu and Kashmir Rifles

Rifleman Sanjay Kumar volunteered to be the leading scout of the attacking column tasked to capture area Flat Top of Point 4875 in the Mushkoh Valley on 4 July 1999.

As the attack progressed, enemy automatic fire from one of the sangars posed stiff opposition, thereby stalling the column. Rifleman Sanjay Kumar, realising the gravity of the situation, displayed indomitable spirit and unadulterated courage when he charged the enemy Sangar with utter disregard to personal safety. In the ensuing hand to hand combat, he killed three of the intruders and was himself seriously injured. Despite being injured, he charged on to the second sangar. The enemy was taken totally by surprise and they left behind one Universal Machine Gun and started running. Rifleman Sanjay Kumar picked up the weapon left by the enemy and killed the fleeing enemy. Although Rifleman Sanjay Kumar was profusely bleeding from his wounds, he refused to be evacuated. The super-human act of Rifleman Sanjay Kumar motivated his comrades, who took no notice of the treacherous terrain and charged on to the enemy thus wresting the area Flat Top from the hands of the enemy.

Rifleman Sanjay Kumar, thus, displayed most conspicuous and extraordinary gallantry, cool courage and devotion to duty of an exceptionally high order in the face of the enemy.

Reference: Gazette of India, Notification No. _____ dated _____



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2. Lt General (retd) YM Bammi, Kargil 1999: The Impregnable Conquered, Gorkha Publishers, New Delhi (2002)
3. Colonel SC Tyagi, The Kargil Victory: Battles from Peak to Peak. Speaking Tiger publication (2019)
4. Cardozo, Ian, Param Vir: Our Heroes in Battle (2003)
5. Ballabh, Anand, Insights into Infantry Regiments: A Basic Factbook. Forward Books publications. New Delhi (2013)

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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. Maj Gen Ian Cardozo, Rishi Kumar, "Param Vir Chakra: Sanjay Kumar", Comic book, Roli Books, <https://www.flipkart.com/param-vir-chakra-sanjay-kumar/p/itm/4hwldn96f6sv>
3. Sanjay Kumar, Param Vir Chakra, Promoted, (rediff.com) (Accessed on 25 May 2022) <https://www.rediff.com/news/report/sanjay-kumar-param-vir-chakra-promoted/20220209.htm>
4. Pune: Param Vir Chakra Awardee Sub Maj Sanjay Kumar becomes Instructor for NDA Cadets (punekarnews.in) (Accessed on 25 May 2022) <https://www.punekarnews.in/pune-param-vir-chakra-awardee-sub-maj-sanjay-kumar-becomes-instructor-for-nda-cadets/>
5. How wounded Sanjay Kumar facilitated capture of Area Flat Top in Kargil War (myindiamyglory.com) (Accessed on 25 May 2022) <https://www.myindiamyglory.com/2017/05/16/how-wounded-sanjay-kumar-facilitated-capture-of-area-flat-top-in-kargil-war/>
6. Capture of crucial Point-4875 important objective: Goswami, (earlytimes.in) (Accessed on 25 May 2022) <http://www.earlytimes.in/newsdet.aspx?q=154556>
7. Sanjay Kumar (timesofindia.indiatimes) (Accessed on 25 May 2022) <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/miscellaneous/sanjay-kumar/articleshow/55980042.cms>
8. The War Decorated India & Trust (Accessed on 25 may 2022) <http://twdi.in/node/1072>
9. Kargil Vijay Diwas 2019: The Story of Param Vir Chakra Awardee Sanjay Kumar (news18.com) (Accessed on 25 May 2022) <https://www.news18.com/news/india/kargil-vijay-diwas-2019-the-story-of-param-vir-chakra-awardee-sanjay-kumar-2246717.html>
10. Pune: Posted at NDA, Param Vir Chakra recipient promoted as Subedar Major (indianexpress.com) (Accessed on 25 May 2022) <https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/pune/pune-posted-nda-param-vir-chakra-subedar-major-7762605/>



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VIDEO LINKS

1. Param Vir Chakra: The story of brave Rifleman Sanjay Kumar, (Source: [indiatoday.in](https://www.indiatoday.in/programme/param-vir-chakra/video/param-vir-chakra-the-story-of-brave-rifleman-sanjay-kumar-1346610-2018-09-22)) (Accessed on 15 May 2022)
<https://www.indiatoday.in/programme/param-vir-chakra/video/param-vir-chakra-the-story-of-brave-rifleman-sanjay-kumar-1346610-2018-09-22>
2. Exclusive Interview of PVC Sanjay Kumar, (Source: Bharat Tak) (Accessed on 15 May 2022) <https://youtu.be/q2vsKUEwaE0>
3. Kargil Heroes: Meet Captain Vikram Batra and Riflemen Sanjay Kumar, by Major Gaurav Arya, (Source: Republic TV) (Accessed on 15 May 2022)
<https://youtu.be/l7lW00y7X-0>
4. Kargil War Story: Param Vir Chakra Sanjay Kumar, (Source: Josh Talks Hindi), (Accessed on 15 May 2022)
https://youtu.be/cDFTMGjv_-w
5. Param Vir Chakra: The story of brave Rifleman Sanjay Kumar (Source: [indiatoday.in](https://www.indiatoday.in/programme/param-vir-chakra/video/param-vir-chakra-the-story-of-brave-rifleman-sanjay-kumar-1346610-2018-09-22)) (Accessed on 06 June 2022)
<https://www.indiatoday.in/programme/param-vir-chakra/video/param-vir-chakra-the-story-of-brave-rifleman-sanjay-kumar-1346610-2018-09-22>
6. Rifleman Sanjay Kumar, (Source: Para defence) (Accessed on 06 June 2022)
<https://youtu.be/2bjzWUtgg0U>
7. Havildar Sanjay Kumar, PVC 13 JAK RIF, (Source: Ananthakrishna Bhat K) (Accessed on 06 June 2022)
<https://youtu.be/HwXx1wcnD44>

**Disclaimer³

³ DISCLAIMER:

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MEMORIALS

1. Rifleman Sanjay Kumar's bust installed at National War Memorial (Accessed on 30 May 1999)
<https://nationalwarmemorial.gov.in/param-yoddhas/details/23>

OTHER INTERESTING RESOURCES⁴

PODCASTS

1. Param Vir Chakra: Shaurya ki Kahani by RJ Peeyush, (podcast) (Gaana Originals) (Accessed on 15 May 2022)
<https://gaana.com/song/rifleman-sanjay-kumar>

FILMS AND ANIMATION⁵

1. Film “LoC Kargil” directed by JP Dutta portraying the Kargil War was released on 12 December 2003. Actor Sunil Shetty had portrayed the role of Rifleman Sanjay Kumar.
2. Param Vir Sanjay Kumar, Childwilasa Story World (Accessed on 15 May 2022)
<https://youtu.be/-WjqOgnut74>

⁴ Disclaimer: The content mentioned under the Listicles constitutes fair usage of any copyrighted material and is used for information and research purpose only. The content is in no way promoting or branding an individual, organisation, book or film.

⁵ Disclaimer: Films are fictional representations but the essence or idea behind each of these films have been inspired by Kargil.



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POEMS

1. In a collection of poems titled, “Param Vir” by Jai Samota, a poem dedicated to Rifleman Sanjay Kumar is titled- “Sanjay”



BOOKS AND COMICS

Fig 1: Param Vir: Our Heroes in Battle by Major Gen Ian Cardozo, Roli Books (2003)
<https://www.amazon.in/Param-Vir-Our-Heroes-Battle-ebook/dp/B00O0W3E4S>

Fig 2: The Brave: Param Vir Chakra stories by Rachna Bisht Rawat, Penguin Books features the story of Rifleman Sanjay Kumar.
<https://www.amazon.in/Brave-Param-Vir-Chakra-Stories/dp/0143422359>

Fig 3: Param Vir Chakra: Sanjay Kumar by Maj Gen Ian Cardozo and Rishi Kumar, Roli Books
<https://www.amazon.in/PARAM-VIR-CHAKRA-SANJAY-KUMAR/dp/8193626001>

Fig 4: Param Vir Chakra: The Ultimate Honour by Reena Puri Itteyerah, Amar Chitra Katha

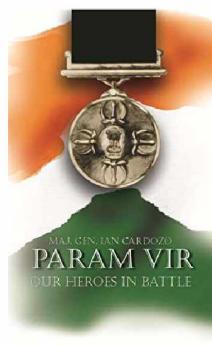


Fig 1

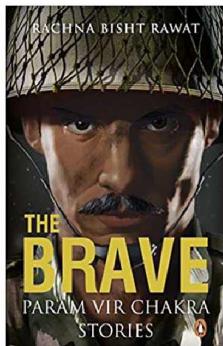


Fig 2

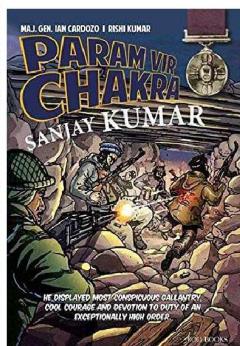


Fig 3

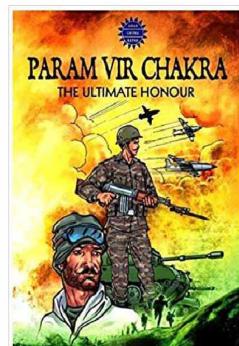


Fig 4