



## Brigadier Rajinder Singh: The Saviour of Kashmir

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### ABSTRACT –

Kashmir the heaven on the earth. Today it is the main epicenter of international Geopolitics and it is also known as Gateway to the central Asia. The history of Kashmir goes from the ancient times; The word Kashmir was derived by Rishi Kashyap. Kashmir soon become an educational center because of Taxila was present at that province. Kashmir was also an important trade route at that time which connects it to China and Europe. Kashmir was a strong sovereign state at that time. Mauryan empire Ashoka established the Capital Srinagar. After 9<sup>th</sup> century Foreign Invasion started in India from the west Arab countries after British annexation Kashmir transfer to Gulab Singh, the last king was Maharaja Hari Singh Dogra. In the year 1947 Both India and Pakistan got independence from the British rule. The last viceroy of India was lord lous Mountbatten at that time around 565 princely states was present because they accepted the British Paramountcy or Suzerainty of the crown, Partition 1947 in which around 10-20 lakh people died thousands were injured many lost their families. The British empire gave 3 choice - 1 To join India, 2 To join Pakistan, 3 Remain Independent. Hari Singh Guru Mahant Ji Gave him the idea to Remain Independent the Maharaja Hari Singh decided to remain as independent Nation, however soon tension rise between Kashmir and Pakistan This Chapter is Mainly focus on the Kashmir and the contribution of Rajinder Singh who lost his life while saving the Kashmir from the Pakistani invaders. Rajinder Singh was the commander head of Jammu Kashmir state force he fought bravely and until his death The Pakistani invaders were failed to capture the Srinagar the capital of Kashmir. Rajinder Singh led the campaign to stop invaders due to his tremendous effort today the beautiful Kashmir or the crown of India is with are us. At this 79<sup>th</sup> years of independence and 79<sup>th</sup> years of Indo Pak war Its best time to remember the Untold heroes of the India who martyred the life for the mother India. People like Rajinder Singh comes in a Generation and inspires the million of people to never give up in the life and makes their name in the golden words of the History. When People visit Jammu and Kashmir, they should remember the Heroes who fought for them this will be the biggest contribution to them as the Remembrance is the biggest gift to a person which cannot be forgotten in the life. Rajinder efforts not just save

the Jammu and Kashmir but also the Ancient Civilization, Various Historical records and thousands of innocent people who were at Jammu and Kashmir. Many Tourism site are safe because of them; Rajinder Singh was not afraid that if he will die what will happen to family his duty was to protect the state form the invaders if he wanted, he can send any officer to fought but checking the difficult time he led the campaign with around 150-200 soldiers of his regiment. This was the one of the greatest events in the history that a Brigadier Rank officer with around handful soldiers fight with 6000 -1000 Invaders. There are many school and Road name after Brigadier Rajinder Singh. Through This Chapter I Would Like to Thanks all the people who fought for their mother country without anything Getting from in Return.

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## EARLY LIFE

Brigadier Rajinder Singh was born on 14<sup>th</sup> January 1889 Baruna village of Jammu city but unfortunately his mother died at some of time of his birth His early days was very difficult at the age of 6 years his father also died. His Father subedar Lakha Singh who served the Jammu Kashmir army then his uncle Lieutenant Govind Singh took all the responsibilities to take care of Rajinder Singh. Rajinder Grandfather also served in the army; Rajinder Singh form childhood was very intelligent he was interested in knowing geography and the administration work. Every challenge brings new lesson for him; He worked like a soldier study + Household work. The home becomes the new learning center for him, He started his education at village school and from Ranveer Singh High school he completed his class 10<sup>th</sup>, after that he went to Prince of Wales college Jammu at present Gandhi memorial science college. In the year 14<sup>th</sup> June 1921 Rajinder Singh was commissioned in the army a new chapter was begin in his life he was very disciplined in army and many Promotions. In the year 1925 he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and in the October 1935, he was promoted to Brigadier Rank he both worked with Kashmir Brigade and Jammu Brigade. But the journey was not stopped here in the year 25<sup>h</sup> September 1947 he was now become the commander head of the army at the age of 48 , In the august 1947 a new chapter was already started there was a huge tension between Pakistan and Kashmir , Pakistan wanted Kashmir to be part of it because a majority of population in Kashmir was Muslim and the king was Hindu Rajinder Singh was well known of army structure as many of his regiment fight in the

world war 2 against the Japanese army and win Many medals in the battlefield , The army of jamun and Kashmir was very experience and well equipped but however due to the internal conflict and betray of many soldiers who choose the side of Pakistan make the decision and life of brigadier Rajinder Singh more difficult . Brigadier Rajinder family was living in Srinagar as it was near the army headquarter of jamun and Kashmir. He was also known as great intelligence thinking he known all the entry point towards Srinagar he was well connected to soldiers personally.

### **PAKISTAN INVASION 1947**

Pakistan was well known that Kashmir geography is center to connect with China or central Asia for resources and counter Indias geopolitical stand, Also the Majority population of Kashmir region was of Muslim. Pakistan soon started making pressure on the king to merge with Pakistan, Jinnah offered many Perkes and benefits if king join the Pakistan. Pakistan earlier signs a Stand Still agreement with Kashmir, Hari Singh was known that Pakistan is an Islamic country and Hindu king cannot survive properly he rejected Jinnah proposal of merger. Jinnah did not like the king stand as an independent nation he also known as direct military invasion can lead to the conflict with India. Jinnah started the economic blockade and rise the taxes against the Kashmir region because many natural resource oil gas food was providing Pakistan cutoff the railway line and stopped many supply , but soon this trick was not worked properly Jinnah now decided that only capture by weapon only he decided to train the militias of Pakistani soldiers in directly and Also those people who wanted to do or die , and many Pakistani soldiers, intelligence officer join the militia force. Jinnah wanted to show that this is a local aggression or mutiny against the king , The code name of operation was the Operation Gulmarg around 5thousand to 7 thousand Pakistani soldiers were trained for the invasion the date was decided for October because soon after winter will start and India will not able to send troops for help . Before it Pakistani soldiers make the disturbance near the border areas so that Kashmir forces spread across the region, they were successful in the plan as the Forces spread across the border now it was easy for Pakistan to invade the Kashmir Jinnah give the free hand to soldiers to loot, destroy the property and capture the Srinagar. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> October 1947 Pakistan invasion started from the Muzaffarabad area Many Kashmir forces Tried to stop bravely but they were less in number on the other hand invaders were in the large number around thousand of invaders suddenly attacked the area Maharaja was shock to know and order the brigadier Rajinder Singh to stop the invaders. Hari Singh started asking Indias for help. Many Jammu Kashmir state forces soldiers' betrayal the Country and killed their own soldiers Example 4 K Jammu Kashmir rifle who win 5 Military crosses in 2<sup>nd</sup> world war but they fell without a fight because of Treachery now the gates of Srinagar were open to the invaders Pathan Lashkar's were moving with around 500 trucks in order to stop them Brigadiers Rajinder Singh took responsibility he searched the Badami Bagh Cantonment around 150 soldiers were there and rest was fighting in the border areas . Maharaja Hari Singh personally told him to stop them entering in the capital at any cost

by 5 pm evening the vehicle Convoy as assembled and 1 MMG section and 3 in MTAR Section at 200 hours the convoy reach the Uri the enemy had not reached yet so brigadier order to plant a bomb in the bridge and quickly put , Many Hindus and Sikh refuges were crossing bridge he order not to bomb the bridge he safely cross all the people safely . Rajinder Singh left a platoon to defend Uri and go forward to attack the invaders on 23rd October Rajinder Singh company reached the garlic area and took the position , they saw the lashkar truck a huge convoy and when they come close Company open fire a heavy fire on them Pathans were dismayed by them as they were told that gate to Srinagar is open Burst of medium machine gun fired caused heavy casualties to lashkar and put them in a more confusing to either fight or stop here and also this fire fight HAL there for a long time , Brigadier Rajinder Singh efficiently broke their contact . Rajinder Singh back to Uri with his company and took the position to counter the enemy on 24<sup>th</sup> October Pathan Lashkar advanced in full strength and gave the historical order to blow up the bridge through this Jammu and Kashmir was save around 500 truck convoy was another side of bridge this bring frustration and tension in the invaders that what is the actual number of Kashmir forces and how they are still able to counter us?? The Kashmir was soon becoming a large-scale war and many countries was interested in this this war form 1947 till present Kashmir issue is the main epicenter of Indo – Pak conflict Many thousands of People and soldiers were died in this conflict. Soon this matter was gone in the hands of United Nations However Pakistan not accepted the UN resolution and a Ceasefire line was drawn between India and Pakistan and Pakistan annexation territory is known as Pakistan Occupied Kashmir. In today's time Kashmir is more developed than Pok Central govt Providing all the necessity facility in Kashmir and a Huge share of tourism is now at Kashmir India Host Many G20 meeting in Kashmir in fact many countries accepted Indias Stand on Kashmir Issue and also after removal of article 370 of Kashmir changes the whole scenario after 2019. However, Pakistan tried many times to destabilize the region internal disturbance many terrorists attack on army like URI in 2016, PULWAMA in 2019 and Recent PHLAGAM in 2025. If we look at the picture of Pok, The Pok condition is worst every time Civil Unrest, Atrocities on People, Pakistani army brutally suppress the Movement this shows that People are now rejecting the Pakistani claim on the Pok. There are Many Pok activist who Raise voice in The International Forum about the condition and also Pakistan Discriminates Pok like resources belong to Pok used in other Province, Less Political Representation, No Proper Standard of Living. Its seems that Pakistan intension on Pok only to use as Proxy against the India and Pakistan always tries to bring 3<sup>rd</sup> Party means another Nation to Make it International Issue.

### **Battle of Uri**

This was a Turning Point In Post Independence History and the New Chapter in the International Relations When Brigadier Rajinder Singh Blow up the steel Bridge of Uri this delay the convoy of invaders to march towards Srinagar in mean Hari Singh send more convoy With Captain Jawala Singh and A letter in which to hold at Uri at any cost till the last man and last round ,

Despite having a massive invaders forces Rajinder Singh and his small troops fought bravely Through this Kashmir valley is the part of India , in mean while Hari Singh Singed the INSTRUMENT OF ACCESSION and on the 27<sup>th</sup> October 1947 900 hours Indian army reached the airfield of Srinagar

### **Baramulla Massacre**

When Invaders Reached Baramulla, the Horrific Atrocities started on the Innocent Civilian Population They Killed Thousands of People, Many Women was Kidnapped, Raped, they burnt every house and every Thing was Destroy People who survived and back in Baramulla When they told stories about This cannot be forgotten that night many family members lost their lives who was Innocent. invaders were seemed like Wild Animal. According to some sources around 13thousand of people were killed in this massacre this horrific incident took 2 days They even Attack the Hospital and Kill all the people and burn the Hospital. The invaders lost crucial time while looting the area this bring more time to Indian army to reach Srinagar as soon as possible. There were Many Massacres of innocent People in Jammu region, Kashmir region etc. the women suffered most Many women describe this event as the Horrific Riots like Partition. It is said that no one wins only lost This Kashmir war bring only the Killing of innocent People the massacre event took around till the Ceasefire was declared Many People were forcefully left the area, Many Forced Conversion, many have to live in refugee camp

On the other hand, on the 25<sup>th</sup> November 1947 on the area Mirpur a Massacre was occurred it is estimated that around 18000 People was killed in this Massacre by Pakistani Invaders Many children in this were separated from their families. Many writers Expressed the ruthlessness of the killing and suffering of displacement and violence. The Invaders was out of control some of time no one was there to stop them. It is said that those people who was killed their generation does not want to come back because all the bad memories will be remerge again. Hari Singh condemn the violence on the innocent Population.

These Incident is the most shocking event in the war history

### **Saviour of Kashmir**

Brigadier Rajinder is known as Saviour of Kashmir because of his tremendous effort and he delay the convoy of Invaders towards Srinagar Jammu and Kashmir is part of the India although he was most senior commander in Kashmir force, he can send any officer to fight but he was well known that situation is worst People like him comes in generation to inspires the million of youth and gave the example of Nationalist and bravery . As also if the senior most commander officer in the front battle there is a spirit of motivation in the army and better coordination between the Headquarter and the Ground Report. Rajinder Singh was having a great knowledge of geography and the ways to enter Srinagar. He blows out each and every possible way and bridges to either stop or delay the convoy of Invaders. Invaders even was shock that these regiment giving the toughest battle against them even some sources claimed that till 27<sup>th</sup> October around 1k invaders were killed by Kashmir forces and invaders aim to capture Srinagar was failed. The famous battle

in GARHI, URI, MOHRA POWER STATION, Rajinder Singh knew that the best thing is to delay them at any cost to the strategy was follow Attack and Retreat this was the most efficient strategy to follow in the difficult times. As the Kashmir forces however in less in number but their weapon was modernized and full support by the king and many of the soldiers have shown the bravery in the WW2. All the army of Kashmir forces fought bravely against the Pakistani Invaders and make their name in the golden words of the History. In Present times many people remember him as A SAVIOUR OF KASHMIR in that difficult time when the forces of Kashmir were at collapse because many regiment was on border no contact with them Rajinder Singh took the charge and lead all the military Operation. The king gives all the responsibility of Defense of Srinagar.

### **Death**

Great People Never Dies; they Makes their name in the History this line is suitable for Rajinder Singh on the 26<sup>th</sup> October 1947 while fighting against Pakistani Invaders Rajinder Singh Was injured many soldiers were came to help him but he denies the help and gave the last order to defend the Srinagar even at injured position the was continuous resistance against the invaders. The Rajinder Singh was successful to stop them at Srinagar but due to the injuries he was Martyred at the battle field but even as he died he and his handful soldiers delayed the 6000 invaders for 4 days he had prevented them to reaching Srinagar. Rajinder Singh was Awarded India First Mahavir Chakra. 4<sup>th</sup> Jammu Kashmir battalion only remaining Battalion was called from the SOPORE to defend the Srinagar and other was also called now only that was only now between the Invaders and the Srinagar Public. As soon the 27<sup>th</sup> October 9 in the morning Indian army Reached the airport of Srinagar by 28 DC3 DAKOTA AIRCRAFT. In military history only few instances are there where the senior most commander at the battle field. Today the Jammu Kashmir was saved from the Pakistan

### **CONCLUSION**

Today Kashmir the Crown of India is a Best Destination to visit. The Famous Dal Lake and the peak Gulmarg attract many Tourists across the world. Kashmir not just a left as a tourism state but also an example of the Great ancient civilizational and the center point of Mauryan King Ashoka and the king Kanishk. Kashmir was also the connecting point the Ancient Silk route from China to Europe and emerge as the important Trading route in the medieval times it was the center point of Mughal empire as it was the gateway to connect Afghanistan and the central Asia Many Travelers describe the Kashmir as the Heart of Spiritual and the Knowledge. The Mughal King Akbar also invested in the development of Kashmir it was said that Kashmir was destroy and make again and again but never lost its significance. Kashmir was the important destination for Making important decision many Mughal officials went to Kashmir and many Sufi saints. Kashmir is also rich famous for its apple Many kings played a huge price for the Farms who produced the Finest Apple.

Kashmir was like a Political Chair in medieval times Many dynasties many kings were came and make their name in the history of India. As after 1707 after the Aurangzeb death the Mughals

were weaken and AFGANS Capture the Kashmir around some times but soon later the Maharaja Ranjit Singh the founder of Sikh Empire took the control of Kashmir and 400-600 Islamic rule was ended in the Kashmir and the last King of Kashmir was Hari Singh. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century Kashmir is gaining is Importance Picture like in ancient times Today IITS, IIMS and NIT, Various central and research University are made by the government of India There are Various Vande Bharat train launched till Srinagar and various Dams and Water Reservoir are made for the People. Many G20 and various international Summit are now held in the Kashmir Many worlds Accept the Indias Stand on the Kashmir

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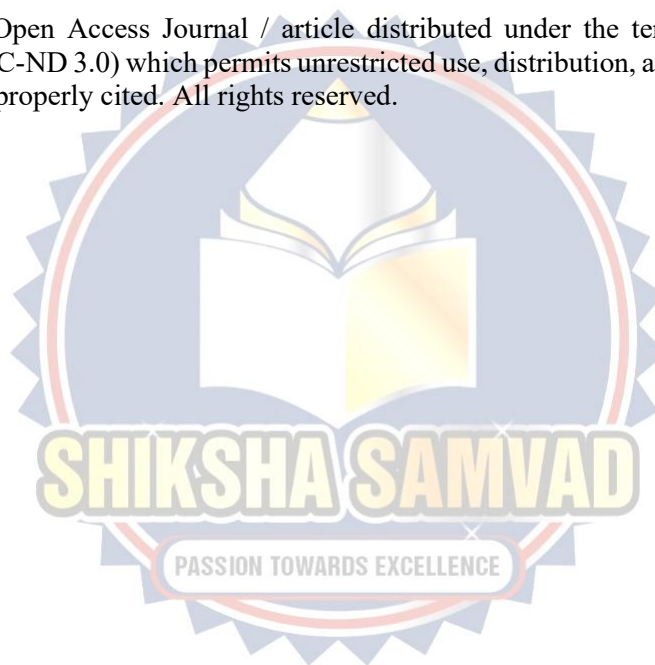
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