







# PATIALA AND THE GREAT WAR





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## Chapter I

### THE CALL TO ARMS

“WE welcome here and greet the Representatives of India, and first the Maharaja of Patiala, the ruler who has inherited a tradition of attachment to the British Crown and Empire, and worthily has he filled that great tradition. His gallant people have, not for the first time, fought side by side in this war with British troops in the battlefield. British soldiers welcome them as worthy comrades in arms.”

These words, spoken by Mr. Lloyd George, the Prime Minister of England, at the Empire Parliamentary Association supper at the House of Lords on June 21, 1918, when the outlook in the World War from the great offensive of the Germans on the Western Front a few weeks earlier was still dark, give a concise epitome of the story which follows.

If there is one characteristic of policy, next to that of a contented and prosperous people within his State, which the Maharaja of Patiala has at heart, it is that of upholding both in his person and by his people the great traditions of devotion to the British cause which were established more than a century ago, and were so exemplified by the outstanding share of the Maharaja Narindar Singh in saving the Punjab in the critical days of 1857, and again by the late Maharaja Rajendar Singh in his personal services, and those of the forces of his State, again and again on the Indian Frontier, and more particularly during the widespread fighting of 1897-8.

When war was declared in August, 1914, His Highness the Maharaja Bhupindar Singh, in the words of



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the then Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab—"true to the traditional loyalty of his house, and to the martial instincts of his race, hastened to offer all that the Patiala State possessed in the cause of the King-Emperor, and claimed the privilege of leading in person his gallant troops who went across the seas, to help in stemming the first rushes of the German hordes." His Highness was one of the Ruling Princes selected to accompany the Indian Expeditionary Force to France and was appointed honorary Lieutenant-Colonel in the British Army, being promoted in 1918 to the rank of Major-General.

Assuring his troops that suitable arrangements had been made to look after their dependants, and exhorting them to fight loyally and bravely the battles of the King-Emperor, wherever they might be sent, the Maharaja left Patiala with them for the Western Front on October 5, 1914. He sailed with them across the Indian Ocean, but on reaching Aden was taken seriously ill with nephritis, and the medical verdict was that he must return to India. Bitter as was the disappointment of His Highness to be deprived of the opportunity of personal service in the field when he was actually on his way thither, the Maharaja determined to serve the King-Emperor in the War by some other method.

On returning to India, his health soon improved, and, recognising that the great need of the hour was the supply of recruits, both to keep up and augment the Indian Contingents, he set himself to the task with characteristic zest and earnestness. The first step he took in this direction was to tour his State from

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January 21 to March 6, 1915, holding recruiting Darbars at the principal centres and exhorting his people and officials to do their utmost to provide man-power. This personal appeal had a great effect: recruitment was actively pursued, and by the end of 1917 not less than 10,269 Patiala subjects were returned as serving in the Indian Army. The figure was larger than that of all the other Punjab States taken together, and it should be borne in mind that many other subjects of His Highness, living or sojourning at the time outside the State, joined the Indian Army.

Simultaneously recruits were being enlisted for the Maharaja's own contingent of Imperial Service Troops, including eight companies of Patiala Infantry, four squadrons of Imperial Service Lancers, two new squadrons consisting of 300 ranks and one machine-gun section, two Mule Corps and a Camel Corps. The 72nd Hired Camel Corps was raised by His Highness at the beginning of 1916, and altogether a total of 4,307 men was recruited for these units, comprising 2,933 Infantry, 1,230 Mule and Camel Corps, and 144 Hired Camel Corps. This gives a total enlistment of Patiala men to the end of 1917 of no less than 14,576.

Recruiting operations were in charge of three Colonels from January, 1915, to March, 1917, when Major-General Sarup Singh was appointed General Recruiting Officer, with Major Hardam Singh as his assistant. Soon after the increasing demands of the War on the man-power of the Empire led His Highness to reorganise recruiting operations on a more comprehensive system. He established a Central Recruiting Board on October 3, 1917, under his own

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presidency, with the Foreign and Financial Secretary and the Chief of the General Staff as official members, and a representative from each of the five *nizamats*, or divisions of the State, as non-official members. The Secretary was Captain Kamal Singh, A.D.C. At the first meeting of the Board on October 5, 1917, the Maharaja made an important speech, in which he said:—

“MY TRUSTED OFFICERS AND SIRDARS,—

In the War anniversary speech I delivered on August 4 last, I said that the Punjab topped the list of all the provinces of India in the recruitment of combatants for the front, and that Patiala had similar honour amongst the Indian States. You will follow me better when I tell you that up to January, 1917, Patiala had supplied 7,055 recruits to the British Army, and it would be safe to assume that the total number of recruits Patiala may have supplied up to date exceeds 10,000 in all. But we have not only to keep up this recruiting in the State, but to stimulate and facilitate it still further to help the British Government in the successful prosecution of the War, and it is with this object that I have considered it highly desirable to establish this Central Recruiting Board in the State. What, however, is most required in the present situation is prompt action, and I should like to impress upon you its importance in our endeavours. Let us set to work immediately without losing a moment, and without looking to the right or left proceed straight to the goal. We have done much, but I feel we can do still more, and in this I expect whole-hearted co-operation

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from you as representing the various parts of my State. But in order that the work may proceed satisfactorily, it should be conducted systematically, and with that object in view, I propose the following:—

“This Board shall have a public existence and shall be competent to correspond direct with the *nazims* of the State in order to focus attention on recruiting problems and to be in a position to give us well-considered advice as to the measures to be adopted for the purpose.

“The functions of the Board will be to:—

- (1) Consider the requirements in military personnel of every description, combatant and non-combatant, and how these requirements can best be met.
- (2) Consider how the quota required can best be distributed among the several *nizamats*.
- (3) Co-ordinate all requirements so as to ensure that the demands for military services shall not so far as possible conflict with essential industrial and economic requirements.
- (4) Closely scrutinise the progress of recruitment and consider schemes for meeting necessary or potential demand for recruitment in regard to which the present system may seem inadequate.
- (5) Organise if necessary district recruiting boards to help the *nazims* in carrying out the instructions of the Central Board.

“The Central Board will be competent to frame rules and procedure for the satisfactory prosecution of propaganda and to suggest revision of its powers.

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“The Central Board will have the power to add to its number from the officials and non-officials of the State according to its requirements.

“The Board will be mainly of an advisory character. All matters in which the decisions of the Central Board happen to be in conflict with the proposals of the *nazims* or with the general interest of the State and all other controversial points will be referred formally to *Ijlas-i-Khas* for final orders. Ordinarily when no difference of opinion arises between the Central Board and the district authorities the suggestions of the Central Board will be carried into effect as a matter of course.

“The advice of the Board on matters which it will be for our Government to deal with, should in the first place be tendered to the Army Department. It will be for that Department to consult any other Department which may be interested in regard to any specific matter at issue before submitting the proposals to the *Ijlas-i-Khas* for orders.

“However carefully the district boards may be constituted, their labours must be supplemented by the active co-operation of the *naib-nazims* and *tehsildars* as well as (on occasions) of selected civil officers acquainted with the areas in which they will work, and with the ideas and prejudices of the classes from which it is desired to recruit. Material local assistance can also be got by the employment of retired officials and competent non-officials such as honorary magistrates and *jagirdars*. Great good might also be obtained by the co-operation of landholders who are in a position to make things easy for tenants who would form good

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recruiting material and to protect the interests of those absent on service. Emphasis should also be laid on the harm that might be done by ignorant or unscrupulous opposition by landholders or employers of labour and the necessity for preventing such action. On the other hand, the *nazims* should be impressed as to the desirability of encouraging useful assistance from voluntary workers by rewarding those who render the most efficient service. Such reward might take the shape of the conferment of titles or money grants or pensions and admission to appointments under our Government for the men themselves or their relatives.

“In fixing quotas for the various *nizamats*, the *nazims* should be required to make their districts realise their responsibilities in recruiting. Men who are now enlisted will be enrolled for the period of the War and six months afterwards, and at the end of the War will, if they so desire, be able to return to their civil avocations in most cases with a War medal on their breasts, and in a position to say that they had done their duty like men to their country and the Empire in the Great War.

“By working on these lines I hope it will be possible for us to considerably augment recruiting and even to relieve the British Recruiting Officers of any necessity for working in the State in order to make them free for their activities in other centres where the Government of India may want to employ them most usefully for the present exigencies of the War.”

This speech is typical of the practical foresight and earnest recognition of difficulties to be met and over-

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come which marked the efforts of His Highness from first to last in serving the cause of the King-Emperor. Recognising that general promises were not enough in themselves, His Highness made many important concessions with a view to encouraging recruitment under a comprehensive standing order issued on February 7, 1918. Their main features were:—

A bonus of Rs 50 to each recruit enlisting in the Imperial Service Troops and a bonus of Rs 25 to each enlisting in the Local Troops.

A substantial increase of pay of Imperial Service Troops, and also of followers.

Increases in the pay of drivers and lance drivers of Transport Train.

Camp followers enlisting during the War made eligible for pension.

A Central Recruiting Depot established at Patiala with adequate arrangements for the accommodation and feeding of recruits.

Weekly progress reports of recruiting to be submitted to the Secretary of the Central Board for the information of His Highness.

Special leniency to be shown and facilities to be allowed to the families of the recruits in the way of carrying on their *zamindari* and their liabilities.

Encouragement to be given by titles, grants, Sanads, etc., to officials and others active in recruiting.

The zeal enjoined by His Highness was tempered with discretion and hence Patiala avoided the criticisms which were heard in some instances of a system which, as applied, was voluntary more in name than in fact. The revenue officials, *tehsildars* and *naib*

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*tehsildars* were required to tour round every village of their respective circles of inspection and check personally the recommendation of the *lambardars* in order to be satisfied that:—

- (a) No undue leniency had been shown by improper personal gratification.
- (b) No undue pressure had been brought to bear.
- (c) No such individual had been entered under column "candidate fit for recruitment," whose going out would prejudicially affect his *zamin-dari*—e.g., if there was only one male earning member in the family, he could hardly be considered fit for recommendation unless he was himself anxious to offer his services.
- (d) The *tehsildars* and *naib tehsildars* had to explain to the people the advantages and persuade them by sympathetic advice and tactful counsel.

These systematic methods of contributing to the man-power of the Allied Forces, while avoiding unnecessary hardships, were the more remarkable from having been worked out before India received the famous message of the Prime Minister, dated April 2, 1918, asking that past effort should be redoubled, in view of the great German offensive in the West.

The recruiting efforts of Patiala were so vigorous that it was scarcely possible to redouble them. But the Maharaja did not permit the earnest appeal of the British Premier to go unanswered. He at once offered to "raise and undertake the recruitment of drafts for three battalions of Infantry and place the same at the



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disposal of the British Government." The offer was accepted by the Viceroy on April 18, 1918, in the following terms: "Your Highness's loyal and unanimous offer will be warmly appreciated throughout the Empire in which the Sikhs have earned so proud a name. I thank Your Highness very sincerely for the alacrity and generosity of your offer to my appeal." Within four days His Highness was on tour through the principal stations in the State to secure recruits for these battalions and more than 500 names were registered in a single day. His Highness was accompanied by the Political Agent of the Phulkian States, the Recruiting Officer of the Jullundar Division and the members and Secretary of the Patiala Central Recruiting Board.

Meanwhile, the Viceroy had convened a War Conference at Delhi to invite the co-operation of the Princes and people of India in securing the active support of all classes in measures necessary for the prosecution of the War, with special reference to manpower and the development of India's resources, in view of the Prime Minister's message. His Highness attended the Conference which opened on April 27, 1918, and supported the resolution, assuring His Majesty the King-Emperor of India of dutiful and loyal response to His gracious message to the Conference. A passage may be quoted from His Highness's stirring speech as embodying the spirit in which he and his brother Princes rallied to the Imperial cause in the hour of peril:—

"I am sure I am voicing the opinion of the whole order of Indian Princes when I say that, as the devoted

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allies of His Majesty and the sincere well-wishers and friends of the British Government, we are prepared to do our duty to the utmost of our capacity. The benefits which the British have conferred on India are too well known and too clearly realised to need further emphasis from me on this occasion. We have enjoyed undisturbed peace and prosperity, and now these priceless boons are menaced by the Germans. We should rise like one man to avert the menace and make it impossible for the enemy to venture to disturb the tranquillity of the country. I am sure the Princes and the people of India will most cheerfully give a hearty response to the stirring message of His Majesty and his brave Allies to win a complete victory over the forces of darkness and aggressive militarism, a victory which will remain an important landmark in the history of the nations."

The Maharaja continued to prove by his deeds the sincerity of the conviction thus expressed. He increased the strength of his Imperial Service Infantry and Cavalry, as already mentioned, and within the next six months, viz., to the end of the War, a total number of 19,152 recruits had been enlisted from the State. They comprised 11,108 Sikhs, 5,143 Hindus, and 2,901 Mohammadans, including Imperial Service Troops already maintained when War broke out, and reinforcements not given in the returns of revenue districts. The total contribution of Patiala to the manpower of the War was upwards of 28,000 men, exclusive of recruits rejected on physical or other grounds. The details are given in Appendix I.

It is also to be remembered that the sustained enthusiasm of His Highness had a great effect in stimulating

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the loyalty and recruitment of Sikhs outside the Patiala State, since he is the acknowledged head of that community. The total recruitment of Sikh fighting men during the War, according to official figures, was close upon 89,000. The Punjab supplied an aggregate of roundly 350,000 combatants and 97,000 non-combatants. There was ample ground for the suggestion of the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, who had himself done so much to provide a great response from the Land of the Five Rivers, in his speech at a State Banquet at Patiala in February, 1919, that His Highness had been able by his influence and example to render greater services to the Empire at that critical period in India than he could have rendered in the Field abroad. By His Highness's efforts, said His Honour, "a constant stream of men, money, transport and material has been furnished by Patiala, which has in this War, as in previous wars, built up a record of war service surpassed by no other State in India."

## Chapter II

### WAR ANNIVERSARIES AND MEETINGS

**I**MAGINATION plays a larger part in human affairs than is sometimes thought. In no small degree was the recruiting success of the State due to the recognition of this consideration, which led His Highness to celebrate successive anniversaries of the War by bringing together Sikhs and others from all parts of the Punjab. These gatherings and the appeals His Highness made furnished a constant stimulant to recruitment and other endeavours not only in the State, but far beyond its limits and those of the Punjab.

On the first anniversary of the declaration of War, a great meeting of Sikhs was organised in the Dharamsala at Simla, attended by the Sikh leaders and gentry. Prayers were offered for the success of the Allied cause, and a resolution of devotion and unflinching loyalty to the King-Emperor, and of inflexible determination to assist in bringing about a victorious end to the struggle, was passed.

The second anniversary of the War was celebrated at Patiala, where the Sikh leaders from all over the country flocked, the call having come to them from the head of the community. Many important names of leading Sikhs might be given. The Punjab Government was specially represented by the Political Agent to the Phulkian States. The Maharaja made a memorable speech, in which he related the duties of the hour of world-crisis to the teachings of the Great Guru, who conferred the primacy of the community upon the Ruler of Patiala. He proudly recalled the fact that the

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Guru, who called the Phulkian House his own house, also blessed the English nation as saving India from the clutches of misrule and tyranny.

The great Queen Victoria had granted the rulers of Patiala the exalted and endearing title of “Farzand-i-Khas-i-Daulat-i-Englishia,” thus consolidating the intimate relations existing between his House and the British Crown. The brave Sikh nation regarded it as one of the most important principles of its faith to unstintingly shed its blood for the honour of the British Flag. His Highness went on to say:—

“The Khalsa has not only avowed this truth but has always given practical proof of it, whenever the chance has arisen or an opportunity has offered itself. The history of the dark days of the Mutiny, of the Frontier Wars, and of the Wars in Egypt, South Africa and China, afford ample illustration of what I say. The exploits of the Sikh soldiers have resounded all over the world and monuments like those of Saragarhi are inspiring records of what they have done for their beloved King.

“The present War is no less an index of the gallant deeds of the Khalsa than the past records. Even with your exalted ideas of the services rendered in the military lines by your brethren I am sure you will be surprised to hear of the part the Sikhs have played in this War. The Sikh population of India numbers three millions out of a total population of 315 millions. In other words it represents slightly over 9 per thousand of the total population. But of the entire Indian Army one-sixth are Sikhs. And what is more, as many as 342

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of the total of 1,355 military honours conferred since the beginning of the War—*i.e.*, more than one-fourth—have gone to the Sikhs. You have doubtless heard of the conspicuous gallantry displayed by the 14th Sikhs at Gallipoli and the 15th Sikhs in the operation against the Senussi Arabs. Is this not good testimony of the deeds of the valiant Khalsa? I need hardly mention that all my regular Imperial Service Troops are serving at the front, and are being maintained by me at full strength, but I wish to express here my satisfaction at the splendid manner in which my subjects have responded to my call for recruits in the British Army. You will be glad to know that, of the Indian States, Patiala stands first in the number of combatants supplied to the armed forces.”

\* \* \* \* \*

“Khalsaji, it is true that the War has caused terrific loss of life and is still taking a heavy toll. I know many of my Khalsa brethren are in mourning and they have my sincere sympathy. But these are sacrifices in a great and noble cause, and according to the teachings of our holy Guru, which I have just cited, the soldiers dying on the battlefield have gone to heaven. This satisfaction should bring succour to those they have left behind, making them feel proud that a member of their family has sacrificed his life in the service of their Emperor in a righteous cause and on the path of religion. You should look at the manner in which the brave British citizens are sending millions to the battlefield and the way in which those at home are calmly and patiently bearing the losses which the furious war-

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fare entails. This should be a solace and an encouragement to such of us as have been hard hit.”

These are two passages from a speech remarkably well adapted to the great purpose the Maharaja had in view, filled with apt quotations from the teachings of the Guru and answering possible objections and doubts and fears with convincing logic.

The inspiration the Maharaja gave to the assembly was well reflected in the speeches which followed, and notably that of the Honourable Sirdar Bahadur Gajjan Singh. A message of hearty congratulation was sent by the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, who expressed warm appreciation of “the splendid part Patiala, the premier Sikh State, and its Ruler have played in the War and the great services that the Sikhs, whether in Native States or in British India, are rendering to the Empire in this great crisis.” Loyal messages to the King-Emperor and of the Viceroy were adopted with enthusiasm and the devotions of the meeting were conducted by His Holiness Bhai Arjan Singh Ji. The reply of the King-Emperor to the telegram the Maharaja was requested to send was as follows:—

“Your Highness’s telegram of August 5, conveying the stirring message from yourself and the great Sikh nation, has impressed me deeply. It is a further proof of the loyal and gallant spirit which the Khalsa have invariably displayed in battle and in times of stress and danger. This noble spirit has never risen so high as in the wide-flung battle fronts of this great War.

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“I thank you all for your touching expressions of devotion to your King-Emperor, and for the sacrifices you have already made.

“As to the future, I have confidence in the complete victory of my arms and those of my brave Allies in the cause of truth and liberty.”

The third anniversary of the World War (1917) was celebrated at Patiala with an appropriate solemnity and enthusiasm. The day was declared a public holiday, and people of various faiths, taking their inspiration from the Maharaja, offered prayers in their respective places of worship. In the afternoon all flocked to the Singh Sabha to demonstrate their unity of purpose with that of the Empire as a whole. Many thousands of stalwart Sikhs, who had been specially invited, assembled, and the Maharaja was received with great enthusiasm. Once again he made a striking recruiting speech, full of fervour and with invincible faith in the ultimate victory of British and Allied Arms. It was no mere repetition of the speech delivered twelve months earlier, though naturally information as to the Sikh contribution to the War was brought up to date. One or two quotations must suffice. His Highness mentioned that his Imperial Service Troops were all serving at the Front and being maintained at their full strength.

“The Punjab tops the list of all the provinces of India in the recruitment of combatants for the Front, and Patiala holds similar honour amongst the Indian States. We cannot boast of having millionaires amongst us, although in spite of this drawback our pro-



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vince, small as it is, stands next only to the Bombay and Bengal Presidencies in subscribing to the War Loan. But we may take a legitimate pride in having amongst us men, true as steel, who have given the Punjab the proud title of the 'Sword-hand of India.' These men you have willingly offered in thousands and tens of thousands, and these I hope you will continue to bring forward with a willing heart. For it behoves all of you as true disciples of the Guru to come forward to help and assist the British Government at its hour of trial to-day with all the might that in you lies. You have already done much, and the comradeship in arms of you kith and kin with the Empire's other soldiers of the West has for once given the lie direct to the English poet who sang:—

East is East and West is West,  
And never the twain shall meet.

"The Government of His Most Imperial Majesty attaches no mean importance to it, and you may take legitimate pride in your achievements, but you need not be vain of them. Mighty as the foe is and intricate and treacherous as his machinations are, mightier still should be our efforts to render our humble meed of service to our Emperor for his coming out victorious and triumphant, with glory and honour, in this world-war which he is fighting for the cause of righteousness.

\* \* \* \* \*

"Much as we believe in the power of matter and science, we believe still more firmly in the powers of the spirit and the spiritual agencies working unseen under the direction of the Akal Purukh.

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“The Tenth Guru has said:—

*O Sun, O Moon, O Ocean of mercy,*

*Listen to my prayers now.*

*I do not beg anything else of Thee*

*Only grant the desire of my heart.*

*To die fighting with arms*

*In the thick of battle, this shall*

*be my gratification,*

*Thou supporter of devotees, the eternal*

*mother of the universe*

*Grant me this boon through Thy grace divine.*

“Let the Khalsa, therefore, take the inspiration from this Sacred *wak* of our Guru and go forth cheerfully and full of faith to fight for their ‘King and Country.’”

Once again His Highness was requested to telegraph the loyal and dutiful assurances of the Sikhs to the King-Emperor and the Viceroy.

The Foreign and Financial Secretary afterwards announced the honours which the Government of India, on the recommendation of the Patiala Government, had conferred on the various officials and non-officials of the State for good service in connection with the War. The whole audience of some ten thousand persons then rose to join in the prayers offered for a speedy victory.

When the fourth anniversary of the great conflict (1918) was reached, the Maharaja was in Europe in his capacity as the representative of the Princes of India at the Imperial War Cabinet and Conference. The duty of organising a meeting of the Sikhs and of addressing

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the gathering fell to the Foreign and Financial Secretary, Diwan Bahadur (now Sir) Daya Kishan Kaul, President of the Administrative Council appointed to conduct the affairs of the State in the absence of His Highness. The organisation of the meeting was on the lines of the previous celebration, and it was marked by a similar enthusiasm. The President justly said that the high hopes which had been entertained for some time had not been completely realised, but they were decidedly nearer victory now than twelve months earlier. Although His Highness, their beloved master, was not amongst them that day, his people were assured that they were always in his thoughts, and that he was solicitous of their welfare and good name. The President read a message from His Highness, telegraphed on his reaching London in June, which gave what proved to be a sound estimate of the prospect of victory. The message, which had already been published in the Press, was as follows:—

“Before leaving India I know there were many rumours with regard to the general situation of the Great War. Having had great privilege of studying the situation personally, I am anxious to give the people of my country an idea as to how we stand with regard to our enemies. The Allies in France have frustrated the enemy’s plan to reach Paris, inflicting enormous casualties. Great numbers of American troops have now arrived and continue to do so daily. Our large reserves are intact, and the situation may be faced with confidence. The Austrian offensive against the brave Italian Army has been a complete failure, for after three days’ heavy fighting they have made practically

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no impression and have lost a large number of prisoners and guns."

Though this forecast was duly fulfilled, there was no diminution, until the end actually came, in the efforts of the State to provide man-power. The President said at the meeting that Patiala had already supplied 22,000 men, but they wanted at least 10,000 more that year; and that, judging by their past work, the task should not be difficult of accomplishment. He recommended their interest in the new Indian War Loan and in the name of the Maharaja exhorted the audience to spare no effort and leave no stone unturned in rendering every possible assistance to bring the war to a victorious conclusion.

## Chapter III

### THE RAJINDAR SIKHS IN THE FIELD

**P**ATIALA has been well described as the "cradle of the Imperial Service Troops," for it was here in 1888, on the occasion of the marriage of the late Maharaja Rajindar Singh, that Lord Dufferin, the Viceroy, first announced the intention, to use his own words, "of asking those Chiefs who have specially good fighting material in their armies to raise a portion of those armies to such a pitch of general efficiency as will make them fit to go into action side by side with the Imperial troops." The Maharaja Rajindar Singh took up the idea with alacrity, and a body of 600 Cavalry and 1,000 Infantry was at once organised for Imperial Service, while in the following year 200 men were added to the Infantry to allow of its being formed in two regiments, each 600 strong, with mule transport attached.

The Patiala contingents had their first baptism of fire in the Mohmand Expedition of 1897, in which the Maharaja himself took prominent part. But that was a small affair in comparison with the World War, in which the whole resources of the State were placed at the disposal of the British Government. As already indicated, the Government of India gratefully accepted the services of eight Companies of the Patiala Imperial Service Infantry and four Squadrons of Imperial Service Lancers and other units. They were speedily mobilised, and, as typical of their good work, we may briefly trace the operations of the first Patiala Rajindar Sikhs.

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The Battalion was under the command of Colonel Gurbaksh Singh, with Captain G. S. F. Routh as Senior Special Service Officer and Captain H. Campbell as Special Service Officer. The battalion was brigaded with the 32nd Imperial Service Brigade and incorporated in the 11th Division, under command of Major-General A. W. Wallace, C.B., which arrived at Suez on November 16 and at Ismailia on November 21, 1914.

The battalion was sent to Port Said for duty on the Suez Canal and defended the portion of the Canal from Tinch to Port Said during the Turkish attack on the Canal in January and February. On March 22 a detachment of the battalion took over the armoured train and proceeded to Abu Halab to join in defence against an attack by Turks on El-Kubri. On July 7 a company 181 strong reinforced the 14th Sikhs at the Dardanelles, and on September 25 the "C" Company was sent to Gallipoli to reinforce the 14th Sikhs.

From March to the middle of September, 1915, the rest of the 1st Patialas remained on Canal defence duty from Ferry Post, Ismailia, to Serapeum. Thereafter until early in 1916 it was at Zagazig. On April 22 two companies of the battalion formed part of the Mitla Pass Movable Column to reconnoitre the enemy country. This march was extremely arduous owing to excessive heat and scarcity of water. Not a single man fell out. On September 13 one company formed part of the movable column to reconnoitre the enemy country in the direction of Bir-Abu-Tif and Abu-Garad. From the beginning of 1916 to the middle of April, 1917, the battalion remained on front line duty

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on posts from Kubri to Ayun Mussa, including Gebel Murr Post and Bir-Mubieuk. From the middle of April to the end of September, 1917, the battalion remained on the Palestine line of communication defence duty.

On September 27, 1917, the battalion was sent to Mandur for firing-line duty and incorporated in the 21st Army Corps. On November 1 it dug trenches near Baiket Abu-Melik and then occupied trenches to defend Tel-El-Jenmi and Wadi Ghuzzee against a threatened attack by the Turks. After the capture of the Gaza-Bir-Shabha line the battalion was employed on lines of communication duty for about four months.

On April 14, 1918, the 1st Patialas took over firing-line duty at Auja, and subsequently at the Choraniyeh Bridge-head defences, and was incorporated in the Desert Mounted Corps. From April 27 to May 5 the battalion took part in the second Es-Salt operations, storming the positions at Kabr Majshid and on hills near El-Haud. It remained on firing-line duty in the Jordan Valley until the end of September. From September 23 to October 10, the 1st Patialas formed part of Chaytor's Force for active operations and was present in the last advance on Es-Salt and Amman. The General Officer commanding the Force wrote:—"The C.-in-C. desires me to thank you for the excellent work and courage which culminated in the surrender of entire Turkish Force south of Amman."

On October 10 the 1st Patialas proceeded from Amman to Gaza by route march, and from Gaza reached Suez via Kantara on January 8, 1919. On the following day the Battalion embarked at Suez for return home,

## THE RAJINDAR SIKHS IN THE FIELD

and arrived at Karachi on the 24th. It reached Patiala on January 27, 1919, after more than four years' active service overseas.

The following Honours and Rewards were awarded to the 1st Patialas during the War:—

Military Cross	1
Order of British India, 2nd Class, with title of Bahadur	3
Indian Order of Merit, Second Class	4
Indian Distinguished Service Medal	7
Indian Meritorious Service Medal	5
Kara George, with Sword, 4th Class	1
Cross of Kara George, with Sword, 1st Class	1
Gold Medal (Servian Decoration)	1
Silver Medal ( Ditto )	1
Order of Nile, Fourth Class (Egyptian Decoration)	1
Mention in Despatches	18
	—
Total Honours	43
	—

The total strength that formed and kept up this battalion in the Field was:—

Mounted officers	18
Other officers	28
Men	1,599
Followers	184
Horses	16
Mules	77

The casualties at the Dardanelles, in Egypt and in Palestine, in killed, wounded and missing, were eight officers, and 228 men, of whom 39 were killed.



## Chapter IV

### THE RAJINDAR LANCERS IN THE FIELD

**T**HE no less meritorious services of the Patiala Rajindar Lancers may now be summarised.

They left Patiala in three batches by special trains on October 12 and 13, 1914, under the command of Sirdar Bahadur Brigadier-General Nand Singh, with Lt.-Col. A. W. Pennington, M.V.O., and Captain G. C. W. Willis as Special Service officers.

The regiment left India early in November, 1914, forming part of the Imperial Service Cavalry Brigade. It remained in Egypt until May 10, 1916, when it embarked for Mesopotamia. In Egypt, in addition to the excellent work carried out by the regiment in active operations against the enemy outposts, it was employed on the arduous task of constructing strong field works for the defence of the Canal and in guarding strategical points on the line of communication. The regiment played an important part in the attack of April 29, 1915.

During the long period of service in Mesopotamia (May 24, 1916, to the end of January, 1919), the regiment was employed with the Euphrates line of communication of defence troops on the protection of the Basra - Nariiriyeh Railway and on reconnaissance duty. B Squadron and four Hotchkiss guns joined the Nedjef blockade line and took part in the attack in March, 1918. All ranks were keen and thorough and the regiment maintained a high standard of discipline. The General Officer commanding the 56th Infantry Brigade remarked that the musketry training of the

**THE RAJINDAR LANCERS IN THE FIELD**  
regiment was far superior to that of most infantry battalions.

The condition of the regiment on its arrival in Mesopotamia was described by the General Officer commanding Force "D," Baghdad, in the following words:—

"The standard of training in the regiment is good, and it has proved to be adaptable and useful. Good stable management and horsemanship are a marked feature. All ranks are keen and thorough, and the Commander Euphrates line of communication defences is of opinion that the regiment would acquit itself well in action."

The confidence and appreciation of the General Officer Commanding was shown by his sending the regiment to the front line in the 6th Cavalry Brigade at Shahrban to relieve the 22nd Cavalry in September, 1918. In the following January it embarked at Basra, and, on reaching Karachi at the end of the month, was given an official reception. Addressing the troops in Urdu, on behalf of the Army Welcome Committee, Mr. H. S. Lawrence, Commissioner in Sind, said:—

"On behalf of the people of Hindustan we welcome you back on your safe return to your native country. The fame of the Indian Cavalry was well-known before the time of this great War, but its fame has been increased a hundredfold by the brave deeds of daring and of endurance which you have performed during this War. The conditions of this War have been beyond all previous experience and precedent, and

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cavalry have been required to perform duties for which they were not specially trained, but on no occasion have they been known to fail in performing their duty steadfastly and heroically.

“We learn that you took part in the great campaigns which protected Egypt, and which conquered Mesopotamia. The manner in which the Indian Cavalry, by their endurance in long marches, no less than by their skill in battle, won the full fruits of victory has aroused admiration amongst the Armies of all nations.

“You have helped to preserve peace and happiness for your homes and for the whole country of Hindustan. You are worthy descendants of those warriors who under your ruler Narindar Singh, sixty years ago, assisted in restoring peace and happiness to India. Your ruler and your State of Patiala came into great glory then. That glory is increased by the exploits of your present ruler and yourselves. The citizens of India and of Karachi, on their behalf, wish you happiness and prosperity on your return to your homes.”

The total strength of the regiment in the field was 35 officers, 844 men, 190 followers, 559 horses, and 81 mules. It suffered 28 casualties (3 officers and 25 men) and gained the following honours for services in the field:—

Order of the White Eagle, 4th Class (with sword), being a Servian decoration	I
1st Class Order of British India	I
2nd Class Order of British India	3
Chevalier Crown of Roumania	I

# THE RAJINDAR LANCERS IN THE FIELD

Medailla Barbatic Si credinta (3rd Class) of Roumania	1
Meritorious Service Medal	14
Special mention in despatches	8
	—
Total Honours	29
	—

## Chapter V

### THE WELCOME HOME

THE Patiala contingents had arrived back in Patiala when the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab visited the State and reviewed a parade of the troops on February 23, 1919. He offered to them on behalf of the British Government congratulations on their return to their homes and appreciation of the military service they had rendered to India and the Empire. In the course of his speech, he gave an admirable summary of the achievement of the Maharaja's forces.

"The Patiala Imperial Service Troops were among the first to take the field against the enemy, and you did not leave it till the enemy were completely crushed. You have worthily upheld the splendid traditions of the Patiala State and the Sikh race. The Infantry have done gallant service in Gallipoli, in the defence of Egypt, in the Battle of Gaza, in the arduous operations against Es-Salt and Maan, for which they received special praise from General Allenby, and in the final attack of September and October which led to the complete rout and surrender of the Turkish Army.

"The cavalry played their part in the defence of Egypt at a critical stage, and their services in Mesopotamia earned the commendation of Generals Maude and Marshall."

After congratulating the many officers and men who had won honours and distinctions in the field, Sir Michael O'Dwyer went on to say:—

## THE WELCOME HOME

"The Patiala Imperial Service Troops, by their gallant services in this never-to-be-forgotten War, have helped to raise their State and their Maharaja to the lofty position they occupy in the Empire to-day, and you may be sure that neither His Highness nor his people will forget your services to the State and Empire. I again thank you on behalf of the British Government and wish you all a long enjoyment of the glorious peace you have helped to earn."

The Maharaja had already given a warm reception to the contingents on their arrival home, and he now issued an Army Order, dated March 11, 1919, recording high appreciation of their valuable services and gallant deeds on the battlefield, and granting bonus and concessions on the following scale:—

For all ranks who had been on field service one year or under: half a month's pay and allowances, with three months' leave.

Between one year and two years' service: one month's pay and allowances, with four months' leave.

Between two years and three years: two months' pay and allowances, with five months' leave.

Over three years: three months' pay and allowances, with six months' leave.

The bonus was granted to all who had been invalided to India and were still serving in depôt, or had been discharged on war pensions, being wounded or injured in the field, and to the heirs of those who had died of wound injury, but was not payable to those who

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had been unfavourably reported. During the period of leave pay was to be drawn at the pre-war scale.

On the occasion of the Dasahra celebration in the following autumn special recognition was given of conspicuous services in connection with the War.

## Chapter VI

### THE MAHARAJA IN IMPERIAL COUNCILS

**T**HE zest and ardour with which the Imperial Service contingents, and other subjects of His Highness, served in the War was quickened, if that was possible, by the signal honour conferred upon him by selection in 1918 to attend the Imperial War Conference and Imperial War Cabinet as the representative of the ruling Princes of India.

The first selection of the kind, made in the previous year, was of his close friend His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner, and to these two Princes there attaches the honour of leading the way in being called to the councils of the whole Empire in War and in Peace.

At a farewell banquet on the eve of the departure of the Maharaja from Patiala, Mr. Crump, the Political Agent of the Phulkian States, proposed the health of His Highness, whom he congratulated, as the head of the premier Sikh State, on the number of the Sikhs serving in the Indian Army being nearly equal to one in three of their men of military age, and that the Sikhs had won half of the honours and decorations awarded. He went on to say:—

“And personally, as Maharaja of Patiala, he can make the noble claim that 17,000 of his own subjects are now fighting for the Empire’s cause and that he is leaving no stone unturned to raise that number to a quarter of a lakh. In a sense, His Highness owes his selection for his onerous and responsible mission to his holding the position I have indicated; but in making such selections much consideration has to be given to



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personality and personal qualities, and in congratulating His Highness that the selection has fallen on him we must not forget to be thankful for the wisdom of His Excellency's choice. Good boys don't always make the best men, and if His Highness has not always been the good boy of the copy-books, yet we who have the pleasure and honour of his more intimate acquaintance and friendship have seen the gradual but steady development of his sense of responsibility as a Ruler of his State. We have seen, too, the wisdom and weight of his counsels acknowledged by his brother Princes in their choice of him to sit on the Select Committee of their Conference, and we now are confident that he will perform the high political mission for which His Excellency has chosen him with a deep sense of responsibility; that in his hands the honour of his Order, of the Sikhs, of the Punjab and of India will be safe; that his counsels will be wise and sagacious, and that he will return with an enhanced reputation for broad and clear-sighted Statesmanship."

In the course of his reply, the Maharaja admitted that he had accepted the invitation with some diffidence.

"When I realise how important is the mission on which I am going, I sometimes feel overwhelmed by the sense of responsibility. But I am cheered and strengthened by the thought that I carry with me the good wishes of my brother Princes and my countrymen who, I am sure, will help me in my mission, and who will, I trust, be so indulgent as to overlook my shortcomings. Besides, I find no small comfort in the thought that I have as my colleague on this occasion

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one of the most illustrious and renowned statesmen of India, I mean the Hon. Sir S. P. Sinha. All I can say at the present is that it shall be my very best endeavour to justify the selection of His Excellency the Viceroy, to whose personal regard for myself I owe this opportunity. I pray to Akalpurkh to give me strength to fulfil the duties of this sacred mission successfully and creditably for the Order of Princes, for my State, and for the people of India. I know that the Punjab feels gratified at the selection of one of her Ruling Princes on this occasion."

His Highness left Bombay on May 21, 1918, and, taking the Italian overland route, arrived in London on June 12. He was immediately promoted by Royal Warrant to the rank of Major-General, and was appointed Honorary Colonel of the 15th Ludhiana Sikhs—a regiment containing many Patiala men, and which so distinguished itself in the relief of the French Cavalry at La Bassée early in the war, in the battles of Givenchy, Neuve Chapelle and Festubert, and in the second battle of Ypres. Subsequently (1919) His Highness was appointed Colonel-in-Chief of the newly-raised 1/140th (Patiala) Infantry.

The Maharaja responded to requests for interviews from newspaper representatives. The *Times*, of June 14, 1918, wrote of the Maharaja's disappointment that serious illness compelled his return to India when he was proceeding with the Indian Contingent to France in the early autumn of 1914. It went on to say that he threw himself so heartily, as soon as he recovered, into the work of recruiting, that Patiala had an extraordinary and, indeed, unique record of contribu-

## PATIALA AND THE GREAT WAR

tion to man power. It mentioned that at the recent Delhi War Conference, the Maharaja had offered to raise, equip and maintain three additional battalions of Infantry for the period of the War. It stated that he was looking forward to the fulfilment of long-cherished desires to render personal war service before his return to India.

It may be mentioned that the interviews His Highness gave were characteristically confident as to both the ultimate issue of the War and the unshakable determination of India to fulfil the obligation of helping to defeat the enemy to the utmost of her capacity. His opinions had an encouraging effect upon public opinion in England at a time when the great German offensive had given cause for the most serious anxiety. While he gave to the English public a cheering account of the mind and spirit of India, he gave to the Indian public in the telegraphic message to his Foreign Secretary already quoted, a reassuring and prescient forecast of the victory which the Allies were destined to achieve before the end of the year.

The Maharaja was regular and assiduous in his attendance at the sessions of the War Conference and the War Cabinet. He lunched with their Majesties the King and Queen at Buckingham Palace on June 20, and was afterwards invested with the insignia of Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the British Empire, a dignity which had already been conferred as a New Year Honour on January 1. A fortnight later the Maharaja paid a brief visit to the Belgian Front. He was invited by the King of the Belgians to meet him, but illness prevented his availing himself of the invitation.

## THE MAHARAJA IN IMPERIAL COUNCILS

The King wrote "most affectionately" to His Highness, thanking him for his generous donation toward the Belgian Relief Fund and remarking that he would have liked to have told him in person how much he had admired the bravery of the Indian soldiers he had seen in France. He took the opportunity to confer upon him the Grand Cordon of the Order of Leopold.

In commemoration of the Silver Wedding Day of King George and Queen Mary, the Maharaja made a donation of £7,000 to be utilised for any purpose their Majesties might select. Letter-cases suitably inscribed were accordingly presented to 6,000 wounded soldiers in London hospitals in memory of the occasion. The King-Emperor wrote to the Maharaja a letter of high thanks for his congratulations and generous gift—"a further mark of dutiful loyalty to our Throne and Person that I value highly."

There were various public functions in which the Maharaja took part. A notable one was the supper given at the House of Lords by the Empire Parliamentary Association to the Imperial delegates. A London newspaper, depicting the scene, wrote of the Maharaja as the most dignified man at the supper. "Tall and handsome, with fine expressive features and luminous eyes, he suggests the exquisite flower of Oriental aristocracy. His bearing is distinguished, his manners are gracious and cordial. He was seated between the Marquess of Crewe and Mr. Balfour, two admirable representatives of British aristocracy and culture." The reference the Prime Minister made to the Maharaja of Patiala is quoted at the beginning of this

## PATIALA AND THE GREAT WAR

record, and it is sufficient to say here that it was received with loud applause.

The Lord Mayor of London entertained the Overseas representatives at a dinner at the Mansion House on July 11, and the Maharaja was one of the spokesmen for the visitors. He aptly observed that the bonds of union between the different parts of the British Empire had been drawn closer by the testing fires of the War. The Ruling Princes of India, for whom he could more particularly speak, had thrown themselves into the conflict with an enthusiasm in no way inferior to that of the people of British India. They would continue, and if possible redouble, the sacrifices they had made till the victory of His Imperial Majesty and his Allies was won and the forces of righteousness triumphed:—

“We are proud of the fact that India has supplied a considerable number of troops to all the various theatres of war; and, under the decisions arrived at by the Delhi War Conference, in which all communities and interests were represented, she is training for service at the present time a larger number of men than at any previous stage of the conflict. (Cheers.) The part she has played in providing essential products to the Allies for the manufacture of munitions and the feeding of their troops and civil populations is too well known to the business men of the City of London to require detailed reference on this occasion. You are also aware that she has been enabled to manufacture most of the material equipment for her own Expeditionary Forces in distant parts.

## THE MAHARAJA IN IMPERIAL COUNCILS

"I have referred to these facts in no spirit of vanity, but simply as an indication of the unwavering purpose of India as a whole to co-operate to the utmost of her power with the rest of the Empire in the great work of preserving the ordered strength and liberty of His Imperial Majesty's Dominions. This purpose will not be slackened till victory has been completely won." (Cheers.)

It is not necessary to recount all the public functions, such as the luncheon given by Indian residents in London to the Indian Empire representatives, in which the Maharaja participated, but note may be taken of his reception of the Freedom of Cardiff in company with Sir Robert Borden, then Prime Minister of Canada, on July 24, 1918. In the course of his reply, the Maharaja made it clear that the Princes of India welcomed the reforms adumbrated in the Montagu-Chelmsford Report.

The conference held sixteen sittings in all, and some of the subjects discussed were of special interest to India. In particular, certain important principles were enunciated in regard to the status of Indians within the Empire. They represented a most important development of previous conclusions on this very difficult subject and paved the way for the further consideration given to it in the Imperial Conference of 1921. It is known that in the working-out of these principles the Maharaja and his Indian colleague—Sir S. P. (now Lord) Sinha—took a most influential part.

While the proceedings of the Conference and Cabinet were necessarily secret, we have the testimony

## PATIALA AND THE GREAT WAR

of the colleagues of His Highness that his share in the deliberations fully justified the high expectations based on his record. After the Conference proceedings terminated, the members proceeded to Buckingham Palace to present an address to His Majesty. Its terms, and those of the Royal reply, are matters of history, but it may be noted that the King-Emperor expressed his satisfaction that, for the first time, representatives of India and the self-governing Dominions without exception were gathered round a common council board. In memorable words he declared: "The Empire is founded on a rock of unity which no storms can shake or overthrow."

## Chapter VII

### THE MAHARAJA IN THE FIELD

**I**MMEDIATELY the Imperial War Conference closed, the Maharaja carried out his long-cherished intention to visit the various fronts, so far as the call for his early return to India would permit. He first went to the Western Front, accompanied by Lt.-Col. Sirdar Jogindra Singh and Major Sirdar Jaswant Singh as aides-de-camp and Colonel Audain of the War Office. A newspaper reference to the visit (*The Times*, August 1, 1918) stated that the Maharaja lunched with Field-Marshal (Lord) Haig, and General Sir Henry (now Lord) Horne, and also visited and spent a night with his old friend, General Sir William Birdwood. With General Jacob he made a tour of the front, including a special pilgrimage to La Bassée, where the 15th Sikhs and some of his own troops fought so finely soon after arriving at the battle-front in 1914. The correspondent stated that the Maharaja was particularly interested in veterinary hospitals and frequently expressed his admiration for the British Artillery and especially the big howitzer batteries.

His Highness sent a handsome contribution to the President of the French Republic for relieving the suffering of the French people arising from the War. He received hearty acknowledgement from M. Poincaré, who invited him to visit him on the following day. They spent some time in conversation, and the President conferred upon His Highness the dignity of Grand Officer of the National Order of the Legion of Honour.



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Proceeding to Egypt, His Highness went to the Palestine front, where his troops were being employed on firing-line duty in the Jordan Valley. The Maharaja joined them there on August 17, accompanied by the Commander-in-Chief of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force, Field-Marshal Lord Allenby. His troops were, naturally, greatly delighted to be visited by their Chief, and received the personal thanks of Lord Allenby for the excellent work done during the operations. Quotations may be made in this connection from three letters Lord Allenby subsequently wrote to His Highness, viz.:—

*August 30, 1918:*—"I am very glad to know that you enjoyed your visit to us. It was a great pleasure to me to see you, and I thank you for the many useful suggestions you made to me."

*November 20, 1918:*—"It was a great pleasure to see you here at my Headquarters, and I am delighted to know that you enjoyed your visit to Palestine. I did not know when you left us that I should have the chance of achieving so great a success, but I had always been looking for the opportunity to attack, if the occasion came, which I did. Very many thanks to you for your kind words of congratulation, and please accept my congratulations on the consistently good work done by your own troops."

*Cairo, April 25, 1919:*—"I am glad to hear of the homecoming of your troops, after the campaign in which they did such splendid work. I congratulate you and them on their fine record."

## THE MAHARAJA IN THE FIELD

Before His Highness left Egypt, the Sultan conferred upon him the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Nile. The visit, coming at a time when the tide of war had distinctly turned in the Near Eastern theatres of war, attracted some attention in the newspapers, and many photographs appeared of His Highness, busy on informal inspection work at the front.

The Maharaja reached Patiala on September 6, receiving a great ovation from his people. He left the same evening for Chail, the summer capital of the State, and paid a visit to the Viceroy at Simla, at the earliest possible date (September 18), to report to him the proceedings at the Imperial Conference.

The Maharaja had left his State at a time when the outlook was dark, but returned to it and presided at a great public Darbar in honour of his birthday on October 15, when the War had almost run its course and the defeat of Germany was inevitable. The opportunity of the Darbar was taken to present a formal address of welcome to His Highness on behalf of the Diwan Bahadur Administrative Committee and the general public. The President of the Committee, Sirdar (now Sir) Daya Kishan Kaul, read the address, in which reference was made to the many honours conferred upon His Highness and to the work of the Committee during his absence. It stated that in those few months, 6,000 recruits had been enlisted, the campaign having been conducted with vigour and zeal. Progress had been made in the formation of the new battalions, while a special feature had been the recruitment of Baurias in the State.

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In the course of his reply, the Maharaja said he prized the honours he had received, not for himself but for his people. "For remember," he said, "that your interests are the same as mine: when I am honoured you are honoured, and when you do great things the good name and reputation of the Patiala State rises higher in the estimation of the world: the glory and the pride is no less mine than yours." His Highness went on to speak of the instructive and interesting time he had in Europe. He said that the one thing which impressed him most was the extraordinary self-sacrificing spirit animating the people of the British Empire and those of her brave Allies. They in India had made great sacrifices, but it was somewhat difficult for them to realise the tremendous sacrifices which this titanic struggle had involved for the peoples within or near the war zone. It required a visit to the various theatres to enable one to conceive what the people there had most cheerfully borne and were bearing for their countries, and for the sake of justice and freedom. He urged that there should be no slackening of recruiting effort until the end of the War was actually reached. He then referred to the work of the Patiala troops in Palestine:—

"On my way back home I stopped in Egypt to see some active service with my own men on the Palestine front. I am very glad to be able to say that they are doing splendidly. They are very cheerful and are never so happy as when called upon to fight. You must have heard of our recent successes in Palestine. General Allenby has specially telegraphed to me to say that the Patiala troops did magnificently in the suc-

## THE MAHARAJA IN THE FIELD

cessful push forward. This is highly encouraging, and our hearts should thrill with pride and joy at the achievements of our men. It is for you to maintain your good name and to add lustre to your high reputation. My appeal to you is:—

‘Give all thou canst;  
High Heaven rejects the lore  
Of nicely calculated less or more.’”

His Highness then spoke of various administrative advances in the direction of constitutional reform and of educational and material progress which he was about to introduce, and he finished with a warning against the origination and dissemination of false news.

On the occasion of the next Conference of Princes at Delhi, the Maharaja's brother Princes arranged to hold a banquet in his honour, and as a mark of their appreciation of his services as their representative at the Imperial gatherings. A bereavement in the Royal Family, however, led to cancellation of the banquet, and it was decided to request the Viceroy to present a sword to His Highness on behalf of the Princes in the Conference itself. The request was formally made by the Maharaja Sindhia of Gwalior. Lord Chelmsford expressed his pleasure at being deputed to make the presentation, and conveyed his own thanks to the Maharaja “for the dignity and self-restraint” with which he exercised the functions of a representative of the Indian States at the Conference.

Later came the honour of the Grand Cross of the Order of the Crown of Italy conferred by His Majesty

## PATIALA AND THE GREAT WAR

King Victor Emanuel III "in testimony of our consideration and good will," on January 11, 1920. On the following New Year's Day His Highness received the third Grand Rank in Knighthood bestowed upon him by the King-Emperor—that of the Star of India.

## Chapter VIII

### MATERIAL HELP

**I**T will be fitting at this point to indicate the assistance the State of Patiala was able to render in the provision of material and money for the War.

Note may first be taken of the supply of 612 camels for the 72nd Patiala Hired Camel Corps, and 1,072 camels purchased by the State for the 8th Patiala Camel Corps, also 405 horses and 247 mules. The State also supplied thirteen motor-cars and a motor-cycle; nine tents for hospital use in France; a motor flotilla of thirteen boats; medical instruments and panniers; a supply, without charge, of 9,337 maunds of babul bark to the harness and saddlery factory, Cawnpore; and mobilisation equipment and other stores and clothing issued to the Patiala troops at the Front.

For wounded and invalided soldiers, as well as for men actually on service, there were gifts of clothing and comforts, amounting in value to Rs. 70,000, including some 792 maunds of sweets for Indian soldiers at the Front on the birthday of the King-Emperor in 1915. His Highness loaned his two adjoining residences at Simla as a home for convalescent British Officers.

The actual monetary assistance was of the most varied character. His Highness did his full share in the provision and upkeep by the Indian Princes of the hospital ship "Loyalty." He subscribed generously towards War charities of every kind, as for instance, £12,500 as a subscription toward the upkeep of the Hospital for Officers at Staines, and Rs. 16,600 as a

## PATIALA AND THE GREAT WAR

donation toward Queen Mary's Technical School for Disabled Indian Soldiers at Bombay. The State raised Rs. 35 lakhs toward the War Loan. Silver coins to the value of Rs. 10 lakhs were lent to the Government of India at Ambala within forty-eight hours of a special request to relieve the stress on Government Treasuries for currency without interest or compensation of any sort.

The value of these and many other gifts in money and kind amounted to upwards of Rs. 117 lakhs. A detailed list is given as an appendix.

## Chapter IX

### CELEBRATING THE ARMISTICE

ON receipt of the most welcome but not unexpected news that Germany had collapsed and had sued for an Armistice, the Maharaja ordered the firing of a salute of 101 guns, and sent to His Majesty the King-Emperor the following message, containing at the end a suggestion which did not go unheeded:—

“Humbly beg to offer heartiest congratulations on the most glorious victory world has ever seen. The signing of the Armistice spells the doom of the forces of darkness and unprincipled militarism, and inaugurates a happy era of peace. Your Majesty’s name will be carved deep on the pages of history and venerated and cherished for ages as the vindicator of justice and liberty. Great Britain’s glory will shine for evermore. Long live Your Majesty. Beg to suggest that Prince of Wales should visit India with a gracious message.”

With a courtesy which is so marked a trait of his character, the Maharaja also sent congratulatory telegrams to many of his friends, and to those with whom he had been brought into contact in connection with his visit to Europe for the Imperial Conference. The list included the King of Italy, the King of the Belgians, President Poincaré, President Wilson, the Prime Minister, Mr. Balfour, Lord Hardinge, the Secretary of State for India, Marshal Foch, and all the prominent Generals of the British Army. He also wired congratulations to the Viceroy, the Commander-



## PATIALA AND THE GREAT WAR

in-Chief in India, and the Lt.-Governor of the Punjab. The reply of the latter may be given:—

“Delighted to receive Your Highness’s congratulations. Armistice terms just published show completeness of our victory. Heartily congratulate Your Highness on Patiala’s splendid contribution to the Punjab’s war effort, on participation of Patiala troops in final triumph in Palestine and Mesopotamia, and on the inspiring example set by your Highness as premier Prince of the Punjab at all stages of the conflict.”

The day was observed as a public holiday. In the morning thanksgiving services were held in all places of public worship. In the afternoon the city polo ground was thronged with people to witness hastily-arranged sports. Food was distributed to the poor in the big quadrangle outside the fort, and sweetmeats were distributed to all schoolboys. In the evening the city and cantonment, which had all day been decorated with bunting and flags, were brilliantly illuminated. The rejoicings spread over to the following day, then there were further sports, a prize distribution, and the release of some 107 prisoners. All district officers were ordered to celebrate victory in a befitting manner throughout their respective jurisdictions.

The programme on Armistice Day was brought to a close by a State banquet at the Maharaja’s Palace to which all European officers, civil and military, and the sirdars of His Highness’s Government were invited. The Maharaja, in proposing the toast of the health of the King-Emperor, spoke with enthusiasm of the achievement of victory. The name of His Imperial

## CELEBRATING THE ARMISTICE

Majesty would be carved deep on the pages of history as a vindicator of justice and liberty and all that is noble and grand in the lives of many nations. England's participation in the War, he observed, was undertaken with the highest and noblest of motives; virtue had been rewarded by the Akalpurkh, and wicked barbarism punished. His Highness went on to disclose a "little secret":—

"When I was in Palestine, so clear did the glorious end of the War seem to my mind, and so great was my desire to remain on active service till the inevitable victory came, that I had almost made up my mind to stay on, but I had to come away, though not without reluctance, because I thought I could be of greater service to the Empire in stimulating recruiting and otherwise pushing war measures by my presence in the State. You will remember I told you at the last Darbar that you should take time by the forelock and do what you could for the Empire, for very soon it would be too late. It is highly gratifying to me to feel that what I anticipated has come true; and the mighty efforts and sacrifices of the British Empire and of her brave Allies have borne rich fruit."

Mr. L. M. Crump, Political Agent of the Phulkian States, in replying to the toast, aptly drew attention to the coincidence of the remarkable change in the outlook after the selection of His Highness to participate in the Imperial War Cabinet:—

"He left when the German offensive was in full swing and the outlook was black indeed; but scarcely had he set his *kadam mubarik* in England than the out-

## PATIALA AND THE GREAT WAR

look began to improve, and His Highness, with a foresight which to-day's news has more than justified, prophesied to his people the early triumph of the Allied arms. But even he could scarcely have foreseen the speedy and complete triumph which we are to-night celebrating."

Speaking of India's firm unity with the Empire under the stress of war, Mr. Crump said that with comparatively trifling exceptions, India had utterly overthrown the anxious anticipations of Germany and had shown that loyalty to Government and that personal loyalty to His Imperial Majesty which was the essential characteristic of India Dharma:—

"And of the finest qualities of India there is no fitter incarnation than our princely host of this evening. His exalted position naturally brought him to the front as the Ruler of the Patiala State and the leading Prince of the Punjab. But it is his own character and abilities which have enabled him to stand out among his peers as the representative of the Punjab, which has been as ever the sword-arm of the Empire, of the Sikh nation which, in proportion to its number, stands prominent in the contribution of fighting man-power, and of the Princes and Chiefs of India who have spent their blood and treasure without stint to aid the cause of righteousness and justice. It is a proud position for His Highness to have held."

The immediate celebrations of the Armistice to which reference has been made were followed by a day of universal celebration a fortnight later, November 27. The day was observed as a public holiday, and the cere-

## CELEBRATING THE ARMISTICE

monies opened with a thanksgiving service held at the Gurdwara Sahib, Moti Bagh.

His Highness walked barefooted from his Palace to the Gurdwara Sahib, accompanied by his Sirdars, all barefooted also, for the service. Similar services were held in all religious institutions in the capital of the State, and at all headquarters of the districts. At 2 p.m. a grand procession was formed at the Baradari Gardens, including the Imperial Service Troops, mounted police, bands, His Highness's elephant, escorted by one A.D.C. on either side on horseback, the Political Agent's elephant, the principal Sirdars on six elephants, and other Sirdars in carriages.

The procession started from the Baradari Gardens at about 3 p.m., and passing through the crowded streets of the city, gaily decorated with flags and bunting everywhere, terminated at the Moti Bagh Palace. As dusk fell, patches of illumination began to rise here and there, and by 7.30 p.m. the whole city was one continuous mass of light. The fireworks were staged along the banks of the great tank near the Rajinder Hospital. They opened with a display of the word "Victory" in bold characters and red colours, and closed with a display of "Long Live our Maharaja" and "God save the King-Emperor."

The celebrations ended with a feast to all the soldiers and recruits present in the station, including the Patiala Contingent, which started at 9 p.m. The inner courtyard of the City Palace and the extensive outer quadrangle were crowded with lines of men. Each soldier was allowed to bring two friends with him to the feast, and all did full justice to the good things

## PATIALA AND THE GREAT WAR

provided for them. The number of men at the feast was over 3,000. The big Darbar Hall was brightly illuminated, as was also the entire enclosure of the Palace quadrangle. European guests and the State Sirdars were entertained at supper in this hall. All the State bands played throughout the evening. At a late hour His Highness appeared on the upper terrace with the Political Agent and other guests, and proposed the toast of His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor, which was responded to by the entire assemblage three times over, with loud exclamations of "Sat Sri Akal," the bands playing the National Anthem. The Political Agent then proposed the toast of His Highness, which was received with similar cordiality.

## Chapter X

### THE THANKS OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT

SOME reference has already been made to the visit paid to Patiala by the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab in February, 1919, and to his testimony to the high value the British Government placed upon the services of Patiala during the War. In proposing the health of His Honour, the Maharaja spoke of the five momentous years which had elapsed since he paid Patiala his first formal visit as head of the Punjab Government; he pointed out that under the vigorous leadership of His Honour, the Punjab had more than maintained its cherished traditions as the sword-arm of the Indian Empire.

He referred to the War record of the State, not, as he said, in a spirit of self-glorification, but because he felt a legitimate pride in having done his duty to the King-Emperor. The record of the State in the War, after all, was no more than an example of their jealous eagerness to maintain their traditions as brave and loyal soldiers, and to preserve intact the sacred bonds of friendship and alliance which had existed between the Rulers of Patiala and the British Crown for over a hundred years.

In his reply, the Lieutenant-Governor voiced a general feeling that, though His Highness had been prevented by serious illness from personally sharing in efforts to stem the first rushes of the German hordes, he had been able by his influence and example to render greater services to the Empire at that critical period in India than he could have done at the Front.

## PATIALA AND THE GREAT WAR

Patiala had built up a record of war services surpassed by no other State in India. Referring more particularly to the way in which Patiala had given a lead to the other Indian States, the Lieutenant-Governor said:—

“Patiala as the premier Sikh State has always been the nursery of soldiers, but in this War its efforts were inspired by the example of its soldier Ruler. The State’s contribution to the Indian Army was about 4,000 men before the War. During the last four years it has been increased to about 25,000 (inclusive of your splendid Imperial Service Troops), or about 1 in 30 of the male population. Nor is this all; for, in response to the Premier’s message of last April, Your Highness, with characteristic generosity, at once offered to raise three more battalions of men from your State, and although the cessation of hostilities has rendered it unnecessary to complete the three battalions, we know that Your Highness would have speedily fulfilled your pledge. It, therefore, gives me great pleasure to convey to Your Highness H.E. the Viceroy’s warm congratulations (to which I would add my own) on the recent announcement in the *London Gazette* that His Imperial Majesty has been graciously pleased to appoint you honorary colonel of the newly raised 1/140th Patiala Infantry, which is so well represented here to-night, in addition to the honorary colonelcy of the gallant 15th Sikhs, which Your Highness already holds. Apart from your splendid contribution to the Indian Army, your Imperial Service Troops have been employed in all the main theatres of the war—in France, in Gallipoli (where a contingent reinforced the 14th Sikhs after their glorious exploit of June, 1915,

**THANKS OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT**  
when the regiment was almost annihilated), in Egypt, in Palestine, and Mesopotamia. Wherever they have gone, wherever they have fought, their gallantry has earned renown for themselves and honour for their State and Ruler."

The Lieutenant-Governor went on to say that Patiala had had its full share of the sacrifices the War had entailed; no less than 780 men of Patiala having given up their lives in the field for the good cause. How well the men of Patiala had fought was also shown by the 125 battle distinctions they had earned in the Field. These included 3 Military Crosses, 7 Orders of British India, 19 Orders of Merit, 67 Distinguished Service Medals, and 12 foreign decorations. This was a record which no State in India, except, perhaps, their gallant neighbour, Jammu and Kashmir, had surpassed. It was one worthy of the martial clans which had made Patiala's name in the past, raised it so high in this great struggle, and helped His Highness to win laurels such as had fallen to none of his many distinguished ancestors. The Lieutenant-Governor also referred to the substantial help the State had given in the provision of money and material. He went on to speak in warm terms of the chief officials of the State and notably of Diwan (Sir) Daya Kishan Kaul, whose work had been characterised by administrative energy and financial sagacity of a very high order. The Diwan had been ably supported, and it would be the privilege of the speaker that night, on behalf of the British Government, to bestow some marks of recognition on some of the Patiala officials, who, following their Prince's example and precept, had laboured so



## PATIALA AND THE GREAT WAR

strenuously in recruiting and other matters connected with the War.

On the following day, the Lieutenant-Governor attended a parade of the Patiala Imperial Service Troops. The troops were inspected, and then the march past began. The parade was 1,718 strong, and all agreed that a smarter turn-out of the Imperial Service Troops had not been seen at Patiala. The parade lined up in front of the Lieutenant-Governor, who offered them on behalf of the British Government his congratulations on their return to their homes, and his appreciation of the military service they had rendered to India and the Empire. He went on to say:—

“The Patiala Imperial Service Troops were among the first to take the field against the enemy, and you did not leave it till the enemy were completely crushed. You have worthily upheld the splendid traditions of the Patiala State and the Sikh race. The infantry have done gallant service in Gallipoli, in the defence of Egypt, in the battle of Gaza, in the arduous operations against Es-Salt and Maan, for which they received special praise from General Allenby, and in the final attack of September and October which led to the complete rout and surrender of the Turkish army.

“The Cavalry played their part in the defence of Egypt at a critical stage and their services in Mesopotamia earned the commendation of Generals Maude and Marshall.

“I congratulate very warmly General Nand Singh, Colonel Achra Singh, Colonel Ishar Singh, and the

## THANKS OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT

other officers and men on the honours and distinctions they have won in the field.

“These include, in the case of the cavalry, 2 Orders of British India, 2 foreign orders, 15 Meritorious Service Medals, 1 foreign medal, and in the case of the Infantry, 3 Orders of British India, 3 foreign Orders, 1 Military Cross, 9 Distinguished Service and Military Service Medals, and 2 foreign medals. These are proud distinctions which reflect credit on the officers and men and bring honour to the State.

“The Patiala Imperial Service Troops, by their gallant services in this never-to-be-forgotten War, have helped to raise their State and their Maharaja to the lofty position they occupy in the Empire to-day, and you may be sure that neither His Highness nor his people will forget your services to the State and Empire. I again thank you on behalf of the British Government, and wish you all a long enjoyment of the glorious peace you have helped to earn.”

## Chapter XI

### PEACE CELEBRATIONS

**T**HE signature of the Peace Treaty of Versailles was celebrated at Patiala on July 19, 1919. Once again a public holiday was proclaimed in all Government offices and departments throughout the State, and a general thanksgiving service was held. Gymkhana sports were held at Chail, the summer capital of the State, in the afternoon, followed by a State banquet at the Rajgarh Villa, and bonfires on the highest peaks of the surrounding hills. One hundred prisoners were released at the capital and clemency was shown to others in jail on the lines of the Government of India's proclamation. Patiala City was also illuminated, and a display of fireworks took place in the evening. Large companies of the poor were fed at important centres.

At the State banquet at Chail, the Maharaja proposed the toast of His Majesty the King-Emperor, and spoke briefly of the wonderful part of Britain in the struggle. India was not unjustly proud of her share in bringing about the victory. Her sons had realised that her destiny was bound up with that of Great Britain. Referring to Patiala's services, he said that the State could rejoice in the consciousness of having done its duty to the King-Emperor.

The Political Agent, Mr. T. Millar, in reply, spoke of the War record of Patiala, remarking that some 28,000 Patiala subjects had been supplied for war service. Apart from men and money, so readily given, the British Government had been able to rely once again

## PEACE CELEBRATIONS

with the utmost confidence on the Maharaja's whole-hearted loyalty and co-operation, and this was no slight asset in times so critical. He then referred to His Highness's efforts during the unhappy disturbances which had convulsed the Punjab a few weeks earlier. The Imperial Service troops of the State were dispatched to important railway junctions within fourteen hours of the request tendered by the Government. The telegram from Government was received at 8 o'clock one evening, and by 10 o'clock the next morning the troops were entrained under the Maharaja's own eye, the night being spent in consultation with the G.O.C. Ambala, and in making local arrangements for the protection of all the railway lines, telegraph and telephone wires in the State.

Mr. Millar also referred to a further war service of the State, viz., in the third Afghan War. Upon the outbreak of hostilities, the Maharaja placed his personal services and the resources of his State at the disposal of Government. The Imperial Service Troops, both cavalry and infantry, were then at the front, as well as a Camel Corps, and a Mule Corps which had just landed in Mesopotamia. The Maharaja was now serving on the staff of Sir Arthur Barrett, and was with them that day on short leave. They saw that he was cheerful and well in spite of a rumour having credited him with having been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Afghan forces (!), as well as of his having been captured and held to ransom.

The first anniversary of the Armistice, November 11, was duly observed, and in particular all activities were suspended throughout the State for two minutes,

## PATIALA AND THE GREAT WAR

at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, in accordance with the desire expressed by the King-Emperor. The main celebrations of peace in India, owing to it being the hot weather season when Peace was signed, were on December 13 and 16, 1919, and there was due observance throughout the State.

In the previous October, the Viceroy, accompanied by H.E. Lady Chelmsford, visited the State and in a speech at the State Banquet on October 23, expressed the thanks of His Imperial Majesty and of the Government of India for the personal service rendered by His Highness, for the splendid deeds of the men of Patiala in many campaigns and for the unstinted supply of men, money and material so ungrudgingly given. This speech was made in reply to the toast of His Excellency's health proposed by the Maharaja. We need not go over ground already covered, but may note the soldier-like declaration of His Highness that he was not one of those who believed in mere words, but valued deeds and in all his efforts to maintain the proud traditions of Patiala his earnest devotion to the King-Emperor had been offered in no spirit of barter. He spoke with gratitude of the uniform courtesy and the welcome he received from all, from His Majesty the King-Emperor downwards, during his stay in England and when he visited the Allied Fronts. Referring to the Punjab disturbances, he expressed his gratification that as the result of the immediate steps taken in the way of protecting all means of communication, etc., perfect tranquillity prevailed throughout the State and the adjacent British territory. He expressed his thanks to General Hendley and other officers for

## PEACE CELEBRATIONS

their whole-hearted co-operation with him in the discharge of the onerous responsibility committed to him by the Government.

From a reference to the reforms being carried out in British India, His Highness naturally passed to the non-war activities of the State during the seven years since a previous Viceregal visit, that of Lord Hardinge of Penshurst. He had given very special attention to education, which was absolutely free in the primary and secondary institutions, while a liberal system of scholarships placed higher education within the reach of even the poorest of his subjects. He had recently sanctioned a large grant for opening a science department in the Mohindra College, and was anxious to see the introduction of commercial and technological education in the State. He was introducing an element of representation in the municipalities and district boards, and at his last birthday Darbar, he announced the formation of a Cabinet with himself as President, to deal with all important matters of administration. It was his intention to introduce further constitutional reforms. The judiciary had been reorganised and placed on a satisfactory basis. Progress had been rendered financially possible by the growth of the gross revenue of the State, which had advanced from Rs. 82 lakhs in 1912 to Rs. 117 lakhs. His Highness then indicated the main features of a programme of industrial, commercial and agricultural development, including a great hydro-electric scheme.

H.E. Lord Chelmsford said he gladly followed the established Viceregal practice of paying a formal visit to Patiala, for various reasons, and particularly as giving

## PATIALA AND THE GREAT WAR

him the opportunity to express publicly the gratitude of His Imperial Majesty and of the Government of India for the personal services rendered by His Highness and the members of his family in the Great War and in the war with Afghanistan, for the splendid deeds of the men of Patiala in many campaigns and in many countries, and for the unstinted supply of men, money and material so ungrudgingly given by the State. He remarked that to have increased the State's contribution of men for the Indian Army from 4,000 to 25,000, and to have supplied Rs. 135 lakhs for the Empire's needs, was indeed a magnificent achievement. He spoke of the great value of His Highness's advice at the Imperial War Cabinet in 1918, and heartily congratulated him on the progressive policy he had outlined.

"Your Highness is well advised to introduce an element of representation on your municipal and local boards, to constitute a body to advise you in important matters, and to take in hand the reorganisation of the judicial, revenue and police departments. I learn that you are also contemplating reforms in the departments of finance and canals and that the selection of competent men in the lower branches of the administration is receiving your careful consideration. The latter measure is of very great importance, because it is the lower officials who form the point of contact between the administration and the people, and on them depends its power for good or for evil. The admirable educational institutions which I have had the pleasure of seeing are evidence of Your Highness's solicitude for the good of your people. Charity begins at home, and

## PEACE CELEBRATIONS

the welfare and contentment of his subjects should be the first care, as it is the greatest responsibility, of a ruler."

Such in outline is the record of Patiala's war contribution. History was not only repeated, but was advanced upon, and with very little alteration the testimony of the Commissioner of the Cis-Sutlej States on the morrow of the Indian Mutiny applies to the present Ruler. He wrote that the Maharaja Narindar Singh's straightforward and loyal conduct was of infinite importance. "His support at such a crisis was worth a brigade of English troops to us and served more to tranquillise the people than a hundred disclaimers [of false reports] would have done."

As was happily remarked by Mr. Crump, the Political Agent of the Phulkian States, in a speech previously quoted, it is the Maharaja's own character and abilities which have enabled him to stand out among his peers as the representative of the Punjab, the sword-arm of India; of the Sikh nation, which in proportion to its numbers stands pre-eminent in the contribution of fighting man-power; and of the Princes of India who spent blood and treasure without stint, to aid the cause of right and justice.



## Appendix I

### CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE PATIALA STATE TO THE WAR

#### (I) TROOPS, ETC., SUPPLIED

His Highness the Maharaja's personal services.

Service of all his troops. (Eight companies of I.S. Infantry and four squadrons of I.S. Lancers accepted.)

Imperial Service Infantry maintained by the State up to full War strength of 1,928.

Two new squadrons, consisting of 300 ranks, and one machine-gun section, consisting of 68 ranks, maintained in addition to the original strength of I.S. Lancers.

Reinforcements to the Infantry and Lancers in the field regularly supplied from the beginning of the War up to the time the regiments returned home.

202 drivers for employment with general service wagons in Mesopotamia, out of which 152 were maintained throughout War by the State.

144 men, including Indian officers and sarwans, etc., for the 72nd Hired Camel Corps.

Seventy-four sarwans for service with the 70th Hired Camel Corps.

One camel corps, complete with camels and men.

Two mule corps (drivers only).

Men supplied for the above three camel and mule corps units.

Three battalions of the 140th Patiala Contingent, 1,541 men, supplied for reinforcement.

Total of recruits, 28,022, as detailed below:—

Patiala Imperial Service Troops including mule and camel corps units	6,491
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Patiala Regular Troops who furnished men to the I.S. Troops for the purpose of reinforcement	3,414
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## STATE CONTRIBUTIONS

Forward	9,905
Recruits supplied to Government by State agency	1,891
Recruits supplied to the 140th Patiala Battalion	1,541
Recruits supplied to the Government by British recruiting agencies	14,685
	<hr/>
Total	28,022
	<hr/>

These figures include 1,364 non-combatants.

### (2) MATERIAL AND ANIMALS

612 camels for the 72nd Patiala Hired Camel Corps.

1,072 camels purchased by the State for the 8th Patiala Camel Corps.

405 horses.

247 mules.

Thirteen motor-cars and one motor-cycle.

Nine tents for hospital use in France.

Clothing gifts and comforts consisting of 1,484 flannel shirts, 10,000 khaki drill shirts, 10,919 combs, 13,200 long-cloth Kachhas, 5,219 iron kirpans for Sikh soldiers, 240 rounds soap nuts, 2,000 religious books for Sikh soldiers, 10,000 towels, 25,000 kiker sticks for cleaning teeth, twenty-eight seers tooth powder, sixteen canisters of pickles and jams, etc., 792 maunds sweets for Indian soldiers at the front on the occasion of H.M. the King-Emperor's birthday (1915), 3,270 copies of story *Bir Singh, Recruit*, 762 copies of *Field Training*.

Free supply of 9,337 maunds of babul bark to Harness and Saddlery Factory, Cawnpore.

Motor flotilla of thirteen boats.

Mobilisation equipment and other stores and clothing issued to the Patiala I.S. Troops from the outbreak of War.

Medical instruments and panniers.

Loan of "Oakover and Rookwood" (Simla) as a home for convalescent British officers.

# PATIALA AND THE GREAT WAR

## (3) FINANCIAL AID

Joint scheme for hospital ship "Loyalty."

Subscription towards upkeep of hospital for officers at Staines, £12,500.

Cost of maintenance of extra dépôts of I.S. Troops.

Cost of enrolment and maintenance of camel and mule corps and cost of purchasing of camels supplied by the State to the 8th Patiala Camel Corps.

Mobilisation and enhancement of pay of the I.S. Troops.

Cost of collecting camels and sarwans for the 72nd Hired Patiala Camel Corps.

London Dharamsala Rs. 7504/4/-

Lord Kitchener Memorial Fund, Rs. 6000.

Brighton Memorial gift by Indians, Rs. 15,000.

Subscription towards Red Cross Society, Rs. 26,000.

Subscription towards East Indies Station Naval Fund, Rs. 13,446/12/4 at Rs. 500 monthly with effect to January 15, 1919.

"Our Day" contribution, Rs. 37,853/1/4.

Contribution towards Y.M.C.A., Rs. 1000.

Monster Lucky Bag, Simla, Rs. 5000.

Subscribed to Lady Chelmsford's Red Cross Fête at Simla, Rs. 10,000.

Paid to H. E. Lord Willingdon, Governor of Bombay, as a donation for cricket matches in aid of the Imperial Indian Relief Fund, Rs. 500/-.

Donation toward Queen Mary's Technical School for Disabled Indian Soldiers, Bombay, Rs. 16,600.

Lottery tickets for Red Cross Charity, Rs. 101.

Subscription to War Loan, Rs. 35,00,000.

Silver coins lent to Government of India at Ambala within 48 hours of special request to relieve stress on Government

## STATE CONTRIBUTIONS

Treasuries and currency offices without interest or compensation, Rs. 10,00,000.

Subscription raised towards Imperial Relief Fund,  
Rs. 3,35,267/12/-.

SUMMARY	Rs.
Cost of contributions in material	8,77,311/1/3
Financial assistance	1,08,39,511/4/11
	<hr/>
Total Rs.	1,17,16,822/6/2
	<hr/>

## Appendix 2

### INDIAN GIFT TO BRIGHTON UNVEILED BY THE MAHARAJA OF PATIALA

*(Compiled from the Newspaper Reports)*

Brighton was *en fête* on October 26, 1921, for the visit of H.H. the Maharaja of Patiala for the purpose of opening the new southern gateway to the Royal Pavilion, as the gift of the Indian Princes and the peoples of India to the people of Brighton for the hospitality and kindness shown to the wounded Indian soldiers nursed within its borders in the earlier part of the War. The day was brilliantly fine.

After his reception at the station, whither he had travelled by special saloon from London, the Maharaja accompanied the Mayor of Brighton (Councillor Benjamin N. Southall) and the other members of the reception committee in open carriages through crowded and beflagged streets. His Highness was enthusiastically received all along the line of route. Among those present, in addition to the aldermen and councillors in their robes, were:—

The Mayoress of Brighton, Major Jaswantsingh and Captain Kaur Birindar Singh (A.D.C.'s to His Highness), the Maharaj-Rana of Jhalawar, the Maharaj-Kumar of Jhalawar, Trimbakras Rajesaheb Pat Pratinidi of Aundh, Sir Mancherjee Bhownaggee, Pandit Shyam Shankar, Lieut.-General Sir E. Locke-Elliott, Lieut.-General Sir R. G. Egerton, Lord Leconfield, Lieut.-Colonel W. Coates, General Sir Claud and Lady Jacob, Lieut.-General Sir A. S. Cobbe, V.C., Lieut.-Colonel A. D. A. Bannerman, Colonel Lelean, R.A.M.C., Earl Buxton, the Mayor and Mayoress of Hove, Major G. C. Tryon, M.P., Hon. Mrs. Tryon, Alderman S. Thomas-Stanford, M.P., Mr. T. Tyrwhitt (architect of the gateway) and Mrs. Tyrwhitt, Mr. A. R. B. Vaux, Mr. F. H. Brown, and Mr. E. E. Long. The members of the India Council were detained in London by the departure for India of the Prince of Wales.

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After His Highness had inspected the guard of honour, composed of Brighton College O.T.C. Cadets, the Town Clerk read the following address of welcome:—

To Major-General His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., G.B.E. We, the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the County Borough of Brighton, desire to offer to your Highness a very warm welcome on the occasion of your visit to our town to-day.

The purpose of your Highness's visit affects us deeply. While the wounded Indian soldiers were in hospital at Brighton, we endeavoured by such means as lay in our power to show our appreciation of their loyalty, valour and high spirit. We also hoped that their hours of suffering in a strange land were being, in some degree, softened by the assurance that they were surrounded by friends and comrades. The experience of those days enlarged our knowledge and our sympathies.

Some of the patients passed from this life during their sojourn here. To them, and to all the noble dead of the Indian contingents in the Great War, a memorial has been raised on the site of the funeral pyre where the bodies of the Hindus and Sikhs who died at Brighton were consumed. That memorial will remain as a witness to future generations of a willing sacrifice in a great and worthy cause.

Your Highness and the other Indian donors are pleased to honour our town by the presentation to-day of a beautiful gateway to the buildings of the Royal Pavilion, where was established the principal Indian hospital in the town.

The gift will be received with gratitude, not only on account of its intrinsic merit and the propriety of its association with the Pavilion, but also because it is a visible sign of a friendly feeling and interest to which we attach a very high value. We desire your Highness to accept our wishes for the prosperity of yourself and of the State of Patiala.

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His Worship the Mayor handed the address to the Maharaja. It was in book form and was illuminated on vellum. The binding of the volume was in scarlet Levant morocco, with the coat of arms of Brighton on the side in gold, silver and colour, while the inside was decorated by a gold border and finished with end papers of English design.

The Maharaja, in reply, said:—"Your Worship, Alderman, Councillors and citizens of Brighton, I thank you most heartily for the address of welcome you have presented, and which I shall cherish as a personal link with your far-famed county borough. Your kind expressions of good wish for myself and the State of Patiala are not the less, but the more, gratifying to me when I interpret them, as I do, as being linked with the representative capacity in which I come here to-day. They are a recognition of the part India, and more particularly the independent States, played in the Great War. Patiala was able to furnish for the field, in almost every theatre of the War, some 28,000 men. (Applause.) Of these fighters a number were the recipients of your abounding hospitality when, after being stricken in the conflict, they were nursed back to health, though alas! some succumbed to their injuries. From many of those who returned I have heard expressions of fervent gratitude for the attention and care lavished upon them by 'Doctor' Brighton, whose fame and skill as a healer and health restorer are talked of in many hundreds of remote Indian villages. I rejoice to be associated with many of my subjects in having a direct link with the Imperially-minded people of this Queen of the South." (Loud applause.)

In the course of his speech inviting the Maharaja to unveil and present the gateway, Alderman Sir John Otter, J.P., said:—"The propriety of the position of the monument all will recognise, forming as it does a part of the buildings which were a home of sojourn of our Indian guests, and which are the chief scene of Brighton's social, artistic and philanthropic

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activities. The propriety of style will, I hope, be equally well recognised. It had to be at once distinctive, and harmonious with the Pavilion. The Pavilion is Oriental and there is a generic resemblance between the principal Oriental styles of architecture. So far, good. But the Pavilion is Oriental of an eclectic, or mixed character, and one ingredient is characteristically Indian. We hope that our architect, Mr. Thomas Tyrwhitt, has pleased you."

The Maharaja then from the platform released the flags draping the gateway, while the National Anthem was played. Addressing the Mayor, His Highness said:—"My pleasure in asking your Worship to accept this gateway as a memorial of Indian gratitude to the citizens of Brighton is enhanced by the reflection that this is your second 'India Day' this year. Less than nine months ago, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales unveiled on the Down at Patcham, a few miles away, the memorial erected by the people of Brighton to the Indian soldiers who from wounds and disease died in your hospitals. It is peculiarly fitting and of happy omen that this further and complimentary ceremony should take place at the very hour His Royal Highness is leaving London to embark on the 'Renown' at Portsmouth for his Eastern tour. (Applause.) His understanding and sympathy in respect to India's share in the War and the loss of her gallant dead, as shown on his visit to you last February, are keenly appreciated in the Indian Empire, and add to the many reasons for the loyal and enthusiastic welcome the Heir to the British Throne is certain to receive on all hands. I can assure you that the princes and peoples of India are eagerly looking forward to the visit. His Royal Highness justly said at Patcham that India never forgets kindness and sympathy. This gateway stands as a symbol of that trait; it will speak to coming generations of Brightonians, as well as to your numberless visitors, of the golden links of Indian remembrance of your overflowing hospitality to men of different race and faith to yours, but who, in the hour of the Empire's need, were your comrades in arms and in



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sacrifice. I am happy to think that the idea of some visible and lasting token of our appreciation and gratitude was first suggested by a member of the Sikh race, Raja Daljit Singh, who was then well placed for promoting the project, being a member of the Council of India in Whitehall. He had the advice and help of such good servants of India as my late lamented friend Sir James Dunlop Smith, and Sir Walter Lawrence, the organiser of Indian hospital arrangements in this country, whose absence to-day on account of ill-health we much regret. An early suggestion was that the gift should take the form of a shelter pavilion on the sea front; but the ultimate decision to provide instead this memorial gateway to your famous Royal Pavilion was a wise one. Though this palace was built at great cost and is unique among the attractions of seaside resorts, you did not hesitate for a moment when the call came for its rich appointments to be dismantled and for the building to undergo the wear and tear of war hospital work, with all the risks of damage involved. But, if I may say so, the sacrifice you made was a happy application of the gift of imagination. Of the large number of Indian soldiers you entertained, some 2,000 passed through the Pavilion hospital, and the great majority of them, some crippled, some completely restored, survive to tell their friends and neighbours in the towns and villages of Northern India that they were nursed and tended in a Royal palace closely associated with the dynasty of H.M. the King-Emperor. Moreover, they tell of being visited here by His Majesty, and some of them proudly point to Victoria or Military Crosses or other decorations pinned on their breasts by the King-Emperor within the grounds of the Pavilion. Believe me, these memories are a great Imperial asset in these days of restlessness. (Applause.) It is in links of this spontaneous kind—the chattri on the Downs, the gateway here—that British and Indian relations will be consolidated in the future, to the lasting good of both countries and to the efficiency of their joint service to humanity. Your Worship, I ask you to accept this gift as a permanent memorial of the gratitude of the Indian princes and the peoples of India to the people of Brighton for

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the generous hospitality and kindness shown to wounded Indian soldiers by the Corporation and inhabitants of Brighton." (Loud applause.)

The Mayor, in reply, said: "Your Highness, I am very proud that it falls to my lot to accept, on behalf of the inhabitants of Brighton, the noble gift which you have made to us on behalf of the Indian princes and other subscribers. This memorial gateway will be for us a permanent reminder of one of the most inspiring incidents of the Great War. I refer to the great national impulse which sent the Indian armies across seas and continents to the aid of their King-Emperor and the British people. So long as memory endures we shall recollect with pride and gratitude this great act of fidelity on the part of your country. The inhabitants of Brighton welcomed in their midst the wounded Indian soldiers brought to the hospitals in Brighton. The making over of their public buildings for the reception of these men was but as dust in the balance compared with the sacrifice of those for whose benefit they were given up. It is, indeed, a welcome thing to us to know that the provision made in Brighton for the care and comfort of those soldiers has earned the gratitude of the Indian people, and that such a noble memorial of that gratitude is to be our permanent possession. On behalf of the inhabitants of Brighton I accept with deepest gratitude the gift now made by you on behalf of the Indian subscribers." (Applause.)

Preceded by the mace-bearer, the Maharaja and the Mayor then passed through the small side gate into the public roadway, where His Highness unlocked the central gates with a presentation key and passed through them. The procession then re-formed and passed into the Pavilion.

The key presented to the Maharaja for the opening of the gates was an adaptation of an old ceremonial key of the time of George IV., reputed to be the chamberlain's key of the Pavilion. On the upper part of the key are the coats of arms of the Maharaja and the County Borough of Brighton, carried out in enamels.

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At the close of the unveiling ceremony the Maharaja was the chief guest at luncheon in the historic Banqueting Room at the Royal Pavilion. The Mayor presided over a company numbering about 180.

The Mayor opened a brief toast list with the loyal toasts, and next proposed that of "H.H. the Maharaja of Patiala and other donors of the Indian Memorial Gateway." In doing so he reiterated the feeling of indebtedness of the inhabitants of Brighton to the Maharaja for his visit and its object. "You, sir," continued the Mayor, "rank high among the princes of your country, and the noble services which you have rendered to the King-Emperor are striking proof of your loyalty and devotion to His Majesty. (Applause.) We know that you are about to set out on your long journey to India in order to take your place among those appointed to receive His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales at Bombay, and, indeed, you would have already been on your way to India had it not been your desire to comply with the invitation extended to you to unveil and dedicate this memorial gateway. A few months ago it was my privilege to entertain the Prince of Wales in this room, on the occasion of another ceremony commemorating the sacrifice of the Indian soldiers who fell in the War. Again our thoughts are of our Prince, who is so firmly established in the affections of his countrymen, starting as he does to-day for his memorable visit to your great country. From now onward our eyes will be turned to India to witness that great outburst of loyalty which we know he will receive from your Highness and other Ruling Chiefs of India. To wish him God-speed on his journey is in the hearts of all of us. Enough has been said this morning with regard to the memorial gateway and what it stands for, and the object of our assembling here is to let your Highness feel how greatly honoured we are by your presence with us, and how much your kindness in coming here is appreciated by the people of Brighton." (Applause.)

Received with prolonged applause when he rose to respond, the Maharaja of Patiala said:—"Your Worship, your High-

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ness, my Lords, ladies and gentlemen; a ceremony such as that in which we participated this morning calls up many vivid and some poignant memories; and I should have been quite content to have quietly returned to London without further speech-making. But it gives me pleasure to acknowledge your generous hospitality to-day, and to express gratitude on behalf of fellow subscribers as well as myself for the kind terms in which the toast has been proposed and the way in which it has been received. The references made to the war services of myself and my State are gratifying as showing that amid the preoccupations of engrossing affairs in this country you do not forget the wider fields of Empire. It is not for me to appraise the Patiala contribution. All I can suitably say is that the aim I had in view, and which I strove to inculcate upon my subjects (and the whole Sikh community) was to maintain the traditions associated with the Sikhs generally since their incorporation within the Empire and of Patiala in particular. (Applause.) They are traditions of unstinted, whole-hearted service to the British Throne whenever it is threatened or assailed within or without. (Applause.) If I had not done my utmost, and encouraged my people to do their utmost, in the Great War, I should have been unworthy of the ancestor who in the Mutiny gave invaluable help to the British, hardly-pressed as they were, pending the arrival of reinforcements; and also unworthy of my illustrious father, who fought on the North-West Frontier again and again for the cause of British and Indian security. (Loud applause.) I would add that a spirit of helpfulness as between India and this country can find ample avenues in peace no less than in war. (Hear, hear.) Though your chief industry is that of giving health and pleasure to countless visitors, there are substantial business enterprises carried on in and around Brighton; and I trust that your unemployment problem is not so severe as in many other large towns in this country. I hope it may be possible for India, shown by the Railway Committee to be so badly and urgently in need of railway equipment, to place substantial orders with British firms which will help to assuage the wave of unem-

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ployment through which this country is passing. (Hear, hear.) May I add that I return to India to-morrow, and have the privilege of being attached to the staff there of the Prince of Wales—(applause)—who was on the staff of Lord Cavan in Italy when I went to that front in 1918. I shall have the honour of entertaining His Royal Highness in Patiala, and shall not forget to tell him of the success of the ceremony of this day, as a happy supplement to that for which he visited your historic city in February. (Applause.) He will share in the wish I now heartily express for all prosperity to Brighton, the succourer and helper of wounded Indian soldiers. Your Worship, your Highness, my Lords, ladies and gentlemen, I give you the toast of the Mayor and Corporation of Brighton.” (Applause.)

In the course of an interesting reply, Alderman Sir John Otter emphasised the fact that the Indian soldiers who so-journed at the Royal Pavilion were volunteers. In conclusion, Sir John spoke of the Maharaja of Patiala as a great patron of cricket, our national game, and of other sports, and said his reception was the warmer on that account. The Corporation had received his visit with the greatest pleasure, and hoped all Indians would come to Brighton and see the Indian memorial. They would have the warmest welcome. (Applause.)

At this stage it was agreed, on the proposal of the Mayor, to send the following telegram: “To His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, H.M.S. ‘Renown,’ Portsmouth. The Maharaja of Patiala and other Indian and British guests assembled for the unveiling of the gateway at the Royal Pavilion, given by Indian subscribers to the people of Brighton in memory of care and kindness shown to Indian soldiers, send respectful greetings to your Royal Highness and heartfelt wishes for a prosperous voyage.—Mayor of Brighton.”

Alderman Thomas-Stanford, M.P., proposing the health of the visitors, ventured the opinion that Brighton had never had a more remarkable or significant gathering, and that the

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memorial gateway illustrated dignified simplicity among less restrained surroundings. (Laughter.)

Earl Buxton, who returned thanks, said that living so near Brighton he did not look upon himself as a visitor, but rather as a neighbour and resident. As soon as the War Office asked, the citizens of Brighton placed at their disposal that magnificent building the Royal Pavilion, and from that time onwards they did their best to serve and help the Indian soldiers fighting for the cause they all had at heart. Now they had this very striking memorial gateway as the gift of the Indian subjects themselves, a little bit of the cement that did so much to bind together and increase the strength of the Empire throughout the world. (Applause.) We had just passed through a great war. Let us hope that like the gates of old the gates of this Pavilion pathway would always open as a sign of peace and never be clanged as a sign of war. (Hear, hear.)

In the course of the luncheon the Maharaja of Patiala kindly autographed a considerable number of toast lists for members of the company, a favour it was noticed ladies eagerly sought. The Mayor presented him with specially bound copies of the *Story of the Pavilion* and the souvenir booklet dealing with its history as an Indian hospital.

The gateway is 37ft. high, and the design is in the style of architecture which was developing in Gujerat by the fusion of new ideas with old building traditions, in the early part of the 16th century. It found expression in many public buildings in Ahmadabad and was merged into the Mogul style. The dome is slightly pointed and the terminal is the traditional water pot. The dome is carried across the interior angles of the gateway upon pendentives corbelled out in brickwork, finished with mouldings. Each of the piers bears a load of 40 tons at its base, and it has been built upon a deep foundation of concrete. The lower part of the structure is of Clipsham stone, from Rutland. The gates are of teak with bronze hinges and fittings. The opening of the centre gateway is 12ft. and the height of the opening 20ft. 6ins.

## Appendix 3

[*Extracts from a biographical article in "Loyal Rulers and Leaders of the East" (1922)—an historical record of their War Services, edited by the Earl of Carnwath.*]

MAJOR-GENERAL HIS HIGHNESS

THE MAHARAJA OF PATIALA, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., G.B.E.

The Rulers of Patiala are Sikhs of the Sidhu clan, who, though no longer possessing the country north of the Sutlej, exercise great power south of that waterway. The common ancestor of the Sidhus was the Rajput Chief Jaisal, who founded the State and City of Jaisalmer. A descendant of Jaisal in the twenty-ninth generation was Phul, the second son of Rupchand, who lost his life in a fight about 1618. It is from his second son Rama that the Patiala family trace their lineage. The history of the State as a separate power nominally dates from 1762, in which year Ahmad Shah Durani conferred the title of Raja upon Ala Singh, its ruler; but it may be more justly regarded as dating from 1763, when the Sikh confederation took the fortress of Sirhind from Ahmad Shah's successor and proceeded to partition the old Moghul province of Sirhind. In this partition Sirhind itself, with its surrounding country, fell to Raja Ala Singh. That ruler died in 1765, and was succeeded by his grandson Amar Singh, who two years after met Ahmad Shah on his last invasion of India at Karabawana, and received the title of Raja-i-Rajgan. Raja Amar Singh engaged himself in a number of campaigns and attacks, as a result of which he acquired new territories which in 1777 seem to have taxed his resources to the utmost.

During the next four decades Patiala passed through various vicissitudes. The Gurkha War broke out in 1814, and the Patiala contingent served under Colonel Ochterlony. In reward for their services, the British Government made a grant of sixteen *paraganas* in the Simla Hills to Patiala on payment of a *nazarana* of Rs. 2,80,000. When hostilities between the

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British and the Government of Lahore became certain at the close of 1845, Maharaja Karam Singh of Patiala declared his loyalty to the British; but he died on December 23, the day after the battle of Ferozeshah. His son, Narindar Singh, adhered to the policy of his predecessor by providing the British with supplies and transport, besides a contingent of men. At the close of the war, he was rewarded with certain estates resumed from the Raja of Nabha. Narindar Singh sanctioned the abolition of customs duties on the occasion of the visit paid to Patiala in 1847 by the first Viscount Hardinge.

The great Mutiny of 1857 afforded the Maharaja a decisive opportunity of manifesting his loyalty. During the darkest and most anxious days of that crisis he staunchly supported the British cause, and his influence and example greatly helped to save the Punjab. His Highness dispatched a force to Delhi and maintained communications on the Grand Trunk Road. He also sent troops to Gwalior and Dholpur, and gave immediate assistance to refugees. Narindar Singh received further territory and titles in recognition of these invaluable services. The Government further acceded to the request of the Princes of Patiala, Nabha and Jind, that in the event of a minority occurring in any one of these Houses a Council of Regency should be appointed, and be granted the right of adoption in the event of the failure of male issue and there having been no adoption by the deceased Ruler. On investing the Maharaja with a *khilat* at a public Durbar held at Umballa in January, 1860, the Viceroy, Lord Canning, said that the services rendered by the Ruler of Patiala during the Mutiny were of incalculable value because they were the expression of the loyalty of the recognised head of the Sikhs. In November of the next year Maharaja Narindar Singh received the knighthood of the Order of the Star of India, and was appointed a member of the Legislative Council; but he passed away in the prime of life and activity in November, 1862. The Punjab Government in a *Gazette Extraordinary*, expressing deep regret at his demise, acknowledged that he had performed the most eminent services to the Crown, and had administered



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the government of his territories with exemplary wisdom, firmness and benevolence.

He was succeeded by his only son, Mahindar Singh, who, too, passed away prematurely in 1876, at the age of twenty-three. The succession went to the late Maharaja Rajindar Singh, who was then a child of four, having been born in 1872. On his attaining his majority, Lord Lansdowne personally conferred sole authority upon him. At the installation Durbar His Highness assured His Excellency that he would be found as faithful, as firm and as staunch an ally as his predecessors had been. That pledge was faithfully kept, and Government could always rely upon his readiness to serve the Imperial cause whenever the need arose. The Maharaja's administration was marked by the undertaking and completion of notable enterprises. He improved the resources of the State by providing irrigation for large agricultural areas, and paid full regard to the claims of sanitation and medical relief. His Highness took a deep interest in education, and in multiplying the facilities for learning throughout his State.

As a chivalrous Sikh ruler, the Maharaja naturally addressed himself to the task of enhancing the military efficiency of his troops. One of his earliest acts after attaining power was to increase the number of men available for the Imperial Service contingents in his State. In 1891, on the occasion of the Manipur Expedition, and again in 1895, when an expedition was dispatched to Chitral, His Highness offered himself and all the forces at his disposal to Government. On the outbreak of the North-West Frontier disturbances in 1897, the Government accepted the services of the 1st Infantry, which joined the Mohmand Field Force, afterwards co-operating with the 3rd Brigade of the Malakand Field Force, and later on taking part in the Tirah Expedition. The Maharaja himself served on the staff in the field, and at the conclusion of the operations was thanked by the Imperial Government for his services, and the G.C.S.I. was conferred upon him. His Highness died suddenly on November 8, 1900, when only twenty-eight years of age, universally mourned not

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only by his subjects, but by the whole of India. Maharaja Rajindar Singh was held in the deepest esteem throughout his country as a generous and hospitable Prince. He was endowed with a love of manly exercises, and has left an abiding name as a sportsman.

In this respect his successor, Major-General Maharaja Sir Bhupindar Singh, has maintained the hereditary traditions. He is a dashing polo player, as has often been seen at Hurlingham as well as in India, and in 1911 he became a familiar figure to English crowds as captain of the Indian cricket eleven. It was mainly due to his munificent generosity in large subscriptions and guarantee of the purchase money that the Indian Gymkhana Club, which exists for the benefit of Indian students in England, was able to acquire on long lease and equip a sports ground of its own at Osterley Park in 1921. On the date for completion of the purchase in September, he gave a donation (though he had previously subscribed) of £4,000. A big game hunter, he is one of the best shots of our time.

Bhupindar Singh was in his tenth year when his father died. Owing to the fact that the period of mourning for the Queen Empress Victoria was not then over, the ceremony of placing the Maharaja on the historic throne of Patiala had to be postponed until he had borne that name for nearly a year. The installation *khilat* having been presented, and His Highness having been seated on the *masnad* by the Lieutenant-Governor (Sir Mackworth Young), the Maharaja said in English:—

“Your Honour, I thank you very much for placing me on the throne of my fathers. I will do my best to make my people happy and to be a loyal friend of the British Crown, and, with God’s help, I hope to succeed.”

This little speech, delivered with clearness and deliberation, made a direct appeal to the hearts of all present, and the audience could not refrain from bursting into applause.

His Highness was carefully trained, and was for some time at the Aitcheson Chiefs’ College, Lahore. During his

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minority, the affairs of his State were managed by a Council of Regency. The Maharaja was actively associated with Lord Curzon in the historic proceedings at the Delhi Assembly to proclaim King Edward as King-Emperor of India. On the occasion of the state entry of the Viceroy and the Duke of Connaught into Delhi, the youthful Prince headed the eight Punjab Chiefs selected, in order of precedence, to be included in the gorgeous elephant procession. His Highness came into the possession of full powers on September 30, 1909, but the Viceroy (Lord Minto) could not conduct the formal ceremony of installation until November 3, 1910. His Highness has continually striven to improve the condition of his people, and to promote their moral and material development. He has devoted very special attention to the cause of education, for, as he remarked on a public occasion, he considers educated citizens to be the most valuable asset that any State can possess. Primary and collegiate education is imparted absolutely free throughout the State, and a liberal system of scholarships places higher education within the reach of even the poorest of His Highness's subjects. The Maharaja has recently sanctioned a liberal grant for the establishment of a science department in the Mohindra College, and is particularly desirous of promoting commercial and technological education in the State. The Maharaja's régime has also been distinguished by a policy of revenue administration which has proved beneficial to his people, and at the same time added materially to the financial resources of Patiala. As a result of that policy the gross revenue of the State has gone up from nearly 78 lakhs when he received full ruling powers to over 125 lakhs.

His Highness has lately promoted an extensive industrial, commercial and agricultural programme. A State Bank was opened in 1918, and is now doing useful work. A very important hydro-electric scheme has been inaugurated, and as soon as the necessary measures are taken to put it into operation, it bids fair to further enhance the prosperity of the State. Under this scheme it is intended to harness the Sutlej River

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about 16 miles above the proposed dam at Bhakara, and by constructing a series of falls to generate electricity which it is estimated will give 135,000 horse power. This power will be transmitted all over Patiala and used by means of tube wells to provide irrigation to an area of 625,000 acres, as also for supplying motor-power to the various existing and contemplated industries. The enterprise will no doubt receive the cordial appreciation and support of the British Government, and will prove an incentive to other ruling Princes to develop the agricultural and industrial resources of their States in a similar progressive spirit.

Patiala enjoys a variety of climate and soils favourable to different kinds of industries. An industrial survey is now being made for tapping and developing the forest and mineral resources of the State. The establishment of agricultural and urban co-operative credit societies is receiving special attention. An important railway programme is under contemplation. "All these are ambitious schemes," the Maharaja observed at a State banquet in October, 1919, "but I am determined that none of them shall fail for lack of interest or exertion on my part."

While by his unceasing devotion to the welfare of his subjects and by his numerous efforts to consolidate the resources of his State the Maharaja has distinguished himself as a wise and able administrator, he recognises that the time has come for the inauguration of constitutional reforms. With the ultimate aim of associating his people in the higher councils of the State he is introducing an element of representation in his municipalities and district boards. At a recent Birthday Darbar he announced the formation of a Cabinet consisting of himself as President and his Secretaries, whom he consults in important matters of administration. His Highness has publicly announced that these constitutional measures are only the harbinger of a more liberal policy, and that as education progresses, and his people prove their fitness, he intends introducing further reforms in the government of his State. Meanwhile, the judiciary of Patiala has been reorganised and

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placed on a satisfactory basis. The reform of the State police has also been recently completed.

Neither the vast activities pursued by His Highness during the Great War, nor the numerous movements of reform which are being continuously prosecuted in his State have affected the Maharaja's readiness to respond to every fresh call on his services which the interests of the Empire might demand. He has taken a conspicuous part in helping the establishment of the Chamber of Princes and is a member of the small Standing Committee. He rendered most acceptable service in keeping the State and adjacent parts of British districts tranquil in the midst of the Punjab disturbances in the spring of 1919. When the third Afghan war broke out in the ensuing hot weather, his troops took the train within twelve hours after intimation had been received from the Political Agent. The Maharaja again volunteered his personal services and prevailed upon His Excellency the Viceroy to accept them. He proceeded to the frontier, where he was able to render valuable assistance, and only returned when an Armistice was asked for by the Amir.

During the Indian tour of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales in 1921-22, the Maharaja served as the head of his Indian Staff.

The four children of His Highness have been educated partly in India and partly in this country.

[ An account of the war services of the Maharaja and the State follows, but does not call for reproduction here.]

## Appendix 4

### THE VISIT OF H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES TO PATIALA

The itinerary of the Prince of Wales during his Indian tour (November, 1921—March, 1922) included a three days' stay (February 22—24) in Patiala as the guest of the Maharaja. The following account of the visit from the Special Correspondent of the *Pioneer* was published in successive issues of that paper:—

PATIALA, *February 22*

After his exceedingly arduous week in Delhi His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales is promised three days of comparative quiet in Patiala—three days from which the official and the ceremonial elements have been almost entirely eliminated. The programme of engagements includes three afternoons of polo, some pig-sticking, a shoot and two dances.

When the Prince arrived at Patiala this morning it was, of course, his first introduction to the martial Punjab and the drive to the Motibagh Palace *via* the Mall Road with His Highness the Maharaja, who had been the first to greet him at the station, was through thousands of warlike Sikhs, who cheered vociferously and gave the Prince a great reception. Almost immediately after the public arrival there was a review of the State troops on the polo ground, four battalions of infantry, two regiments of cavalry and some artillery being on parade. Patiala is famed for its army, and one was struck by the smartness of the men in their general evolutions and, in fact, the serviceable character of the whole parade. The troops were led past His Royal Highness by the Maharaja in person, who is Commander-in-Chief of his forces. The gallop past of the artillery and the cavalry towards the end of the parade was most thrilling and very cleverly executed. It was a gallop of the unvarnished order, where spur and knee played their all-important part. Before the march past His Royal Highness inspected the troops, and *en route* to the end of the long line had to pass a great mass of pensioners who have

## PATIALA AND THE GREAT WAR

come in from the surrounding districts. Instead of trotting out to the right of the line, which, as is known, is the usual procedure at such parades, the Prince reined in and passed the pensioners at a slow walk. At the conclusion of the parade, His Royal Highness dismounted in order to make their closer acquaintance, and the utmost enthusiasm prevailed. There were about 300 pensioned officers, and the State officials say almost 20,000 men. The Prince commenced to shake hands in his usual cordial manner, but it soon became evident that it would be impossible to have every man in that vast crowd personally presented to him, so he mounted his horse again and rode about in and among the men, everywhere followed by a cheering and admiring throng.

During the afternoon His Royal Highness played polo and had quite a number of strenuous chukkers.

### PATIALA, *February 24*

The three days' visit to Patiala, the most important State in the Punjab, has been full of interest for His Royal Highness. Every afternoon there has been polo, and the Prince has played with and against the Patiala men, who, as is well known, are famous throughout India, because of their remarkable prowess at the game. Consequently His Royal Highness has enjoyed some really fast chukkers and some of the best polo possible to obtain in India. But His Royal Highness has been engaged in other pursuits also.

Yesterday morning, at an early hour, he was out pig-sticking and found the sport exceedingly good. The Prince obtained two pigs. The first, a very fast animal, gave His Royal Highness quite a long run, but the Prince speared it perfectly and the animal lay dead with the first thrust. This morning the party was divided, and, whilst some accompanied the Prince on another pig-sticking expedition, others joined in a general shoot on elephants through the teeming State jungles. The latter party secured a good and mixed

## THE PRINCE OF WALES IN PATIALA

bag in which were included two panthers. For His Royal Highness the sport was not so good, as, owing to the height of the crops, most of the pigs succeeded in effecting an escape.

Last night at the beautiful Motibagh Palace, which has recently been completely re-furnished in an elaborate and artistic style, there was a semi-official banquet and afterwards a small dance. The Palace buildings and the surrounding grounds were illuminated with coloured electric lights, the most pleasing and artistic effects being produced. This evening there was the State banquet to which some 250 guests were invited. This was held in the Old Palace in the city. There were crowds in all the streets to cheer His Royal Highness as he passed. All—even the inhabitants of the most humble dwelling—had subscribed something to add to the general illuminations.

The health of the Prince of Wales was proposed by the Maharaja.

The Prince, replying to the toast, said:—I am very grateful to Your Highness for the warm terms in which you have proposed my health. I thank Your Highness for having extended me the princely hospitality for which Patiala State is so justly famous. I have been keenly looking forward to my visit to Patiala, because of my previous acquaintance with Your Highness, which began in 1911 when you visited England. I saw you again at the War Conference, and renewed my acquaintance during a period of comradeship on service on the Carso Plateau, and, by subsequent meetings, I knew that a warm welcome awaited me here, and that Your Highness would show me the best of sport and hospitality. But, apart from personal ground for my satisfaction, it is a great pleasure to me to be able to visit the capital of the premier State in the Punjab and the leading Sikh State in India. I need not refer to the past history of the relations of Patiala State with the British Government which date back from 1809 and have been of the happiest nature.



## PATIALA AND THE GREAT WAR

To a loyal and capable statesman such as Your Highness the crisis of the Great War came, not as a trial, but as an opportunity. Immediately on its outbreak Your Highness offered your personal services and the resources of your State to the Empire. You proceeded post haste to the front, though regrettable illness compelled your return. Your Imperial Service Troops, cavalry and infantry, went on service and continued in the field, rendering conspicuous assistance till the end of the War. In addition, Your Highness raised in the State and maintained a Camel Corps and two Mule Corps, which were of great value to our forces. I believe Patiala State can boast to be the only State in India which raised from its own subjects and maintained from its own revenues two separate and complete corps. In addition, when in 1918 the Premier called for a special effort in the Empire, Your Highness set a noble example to your brother Princes by your offer to raise in the State three battalions of infantry in addition to maintaining the flow of recruits to the Imperial Service troops and the Indian Army. The total number of Patiala subjects who enlisted in these forces amounted to 28,000, a contribution in man-power of which the State may well be proud.

Your Highness did memorable work on the War Conference in 1918 and subsequently visited the various fronts in Belgium, France, Italy and Palestine. Your Highness must have felt gratified in the latter country to see your own Imperial Service Infantry Regiment, already covered with laurels and about to win more, in Lord Allenby's famous advance in September, 1918. It was a great privilege to me to be able to see Your Highness' fine troops here and to inspect the ex-Service men of your State. In money contributions Your Highness was equally lavish. The total expenditure on State war services amounted to 82 lakhs of rupees and, including the contribution to war loans, to  $1\frac{1}{3}$  crores.

There are many other matters I might mention, but I think that the varied tale which I have set forth will show that Your Highness and your State have in no respect fallen short of your glorious traditions of loyalty and service. Few States can

## THE PRINCE OF WALES IN PATIALA

show such record. It is indeed a fortunate chance that in this crisis the Punjab had Your Highness as its premier Prince and the Sikhs had you as their most prominent leader. I feel proud that my House possesses such a true and devoted friend, and I am happy to be able in person to-night to offer my thanks and congratulations for this record of unwearied service and loyalty. May the years that pass draw our ties still closer. I need not say what pleasure it was to me when Your Highness expressed a desire to be attached to my staff in India.

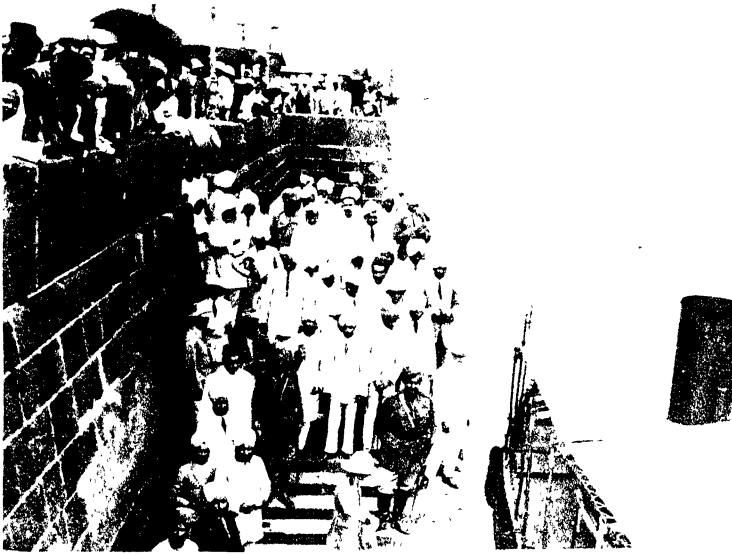
I must thank Your Highness again for all your kindness and hospitality. I have thoroughly enjoyed my visit to Patiala, which is a home of sport, of polo, and of pig-sticking. I must leave the latter pastime behind me in Patiala with regret; but as regards polo I do hope that I may some day be able to show my friends in England that the Patiala polo team does not belie my accounts of it. Ladies and gentlemen, I ask you to join me in drinking prosperity to the Patiala State and long life and happiness to its illustrious ruler.

*The honours announced in connection with the Royal tour included the conferment of the G.C.V.O. on the Maharaja of Patiala for his services on the staff of His Royal Highness. The Maharaja is now a Knight Grand Commander or Grand Cross of four Orders.*

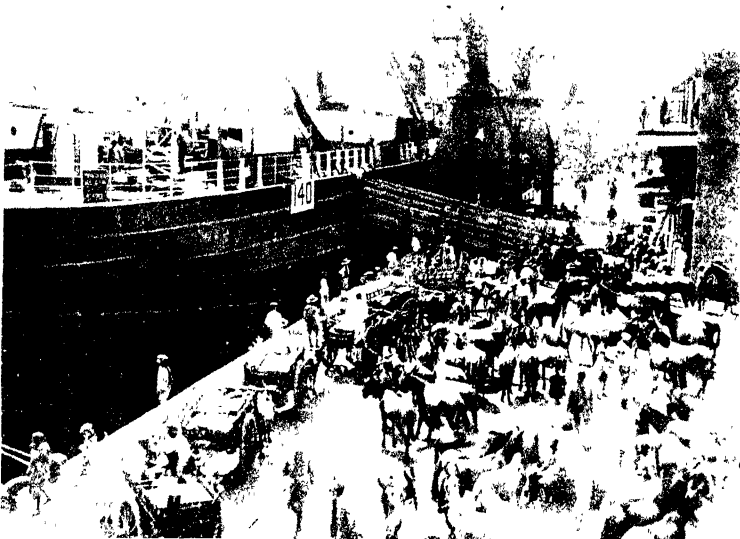


# THE EASTERN CAMPAIGNS

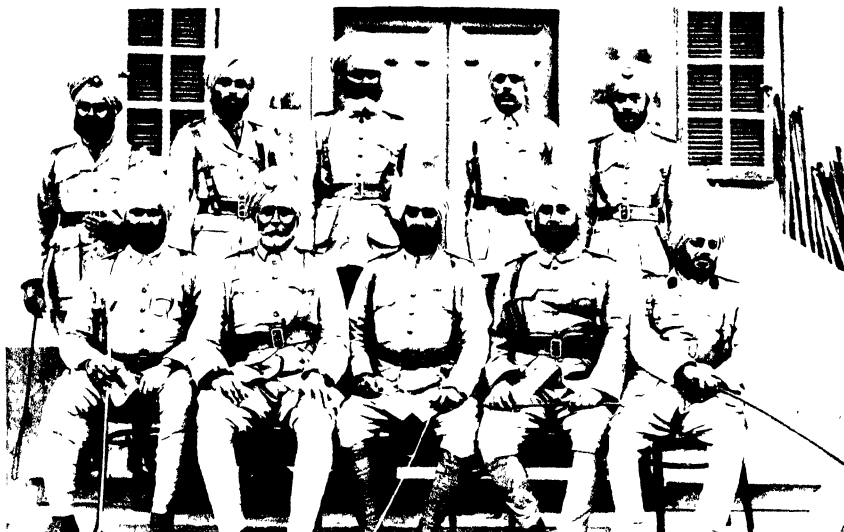




His Highness leaving for the Western Front from Apollo Bunder,  
Bombay, in October, 1914







Mounted Officers of the 1st Rajindar Sikhs Infantry





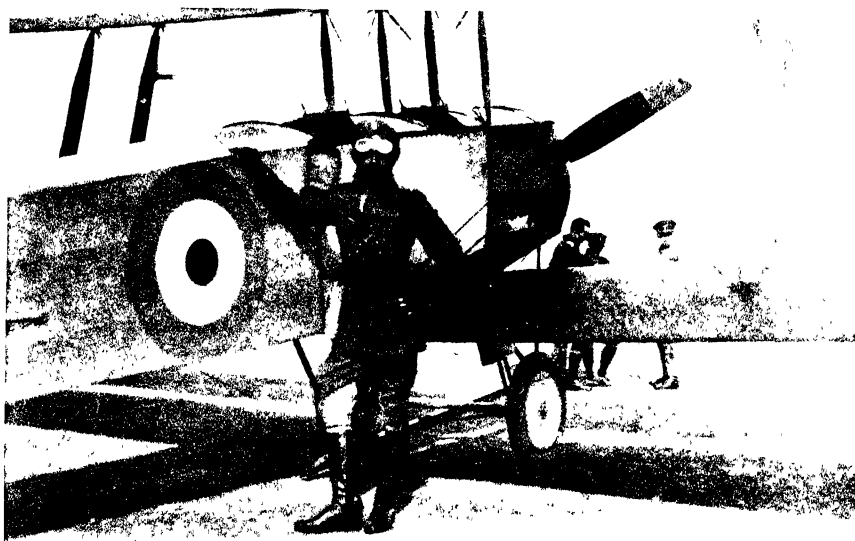
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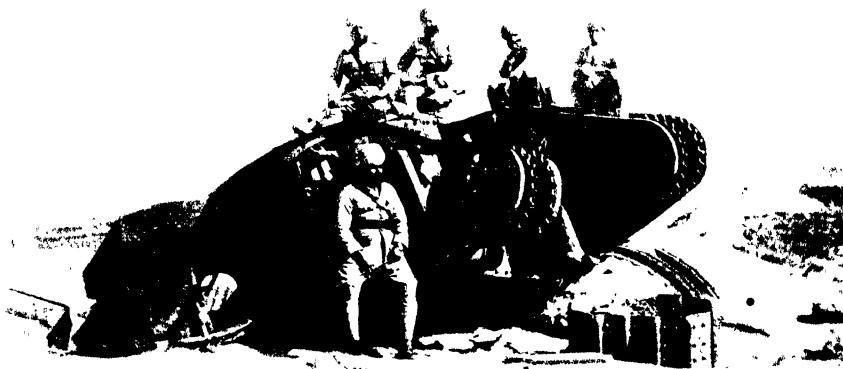


Defensive line, 1st Rajindar Sikhs Infantry, at Ferry Post, Ismailia, 1915

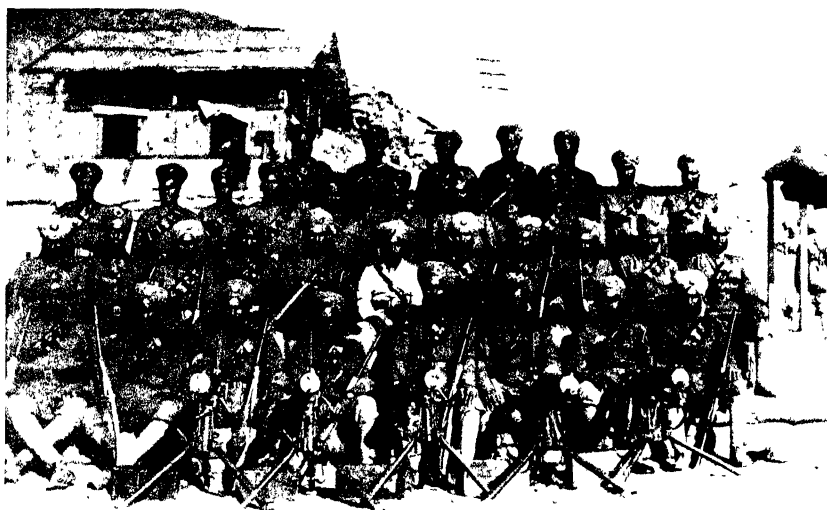




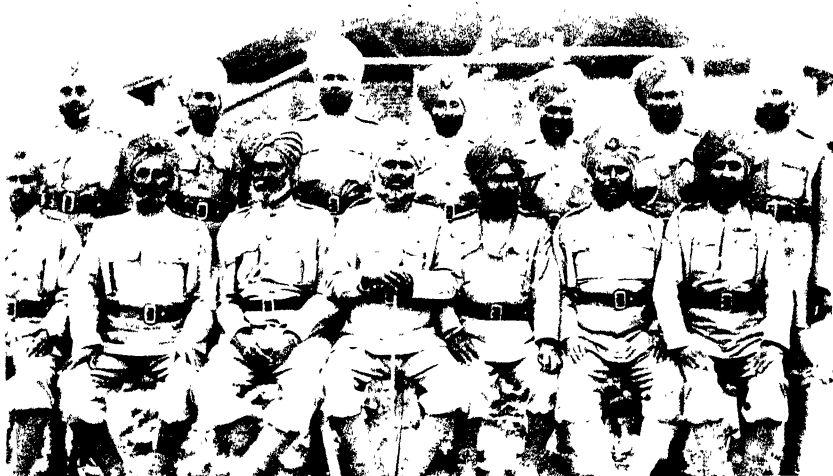
Major Gurdial Singh's first aeroplane flight, October, 1916







Machine Gun Section, 1st Rajindar Sikhs Infantry, Ghaib-ul-Murr  
February, 1916





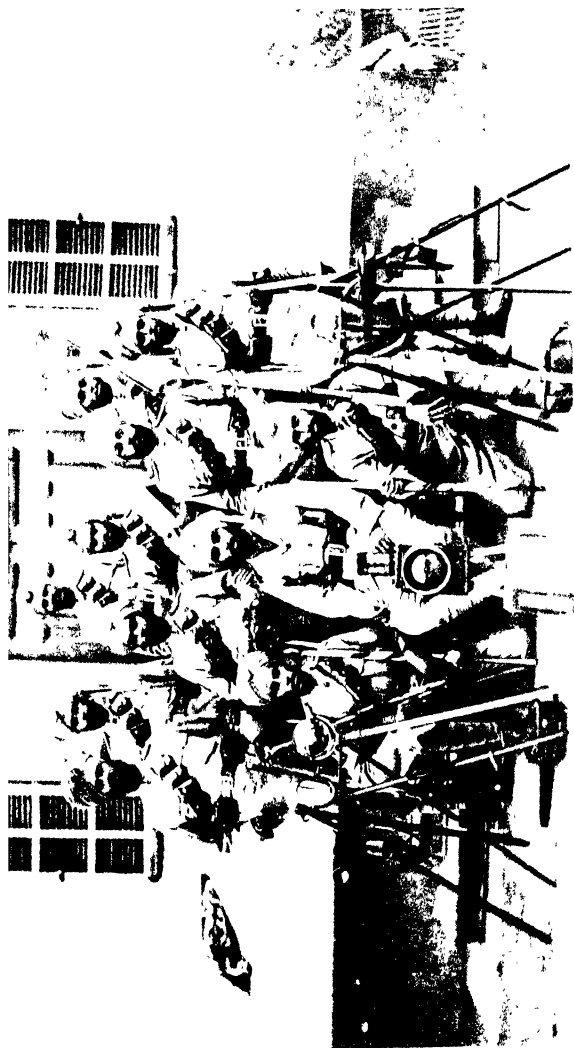


H.R.H. The Prince of Wales inspecting Officers of the 1st Rajindar Sikhs  
Infantry, Ghaib-ul-Murr, April, 1916









Signallers of the 1st Rajindar Sikhs Infantry, January, 1918

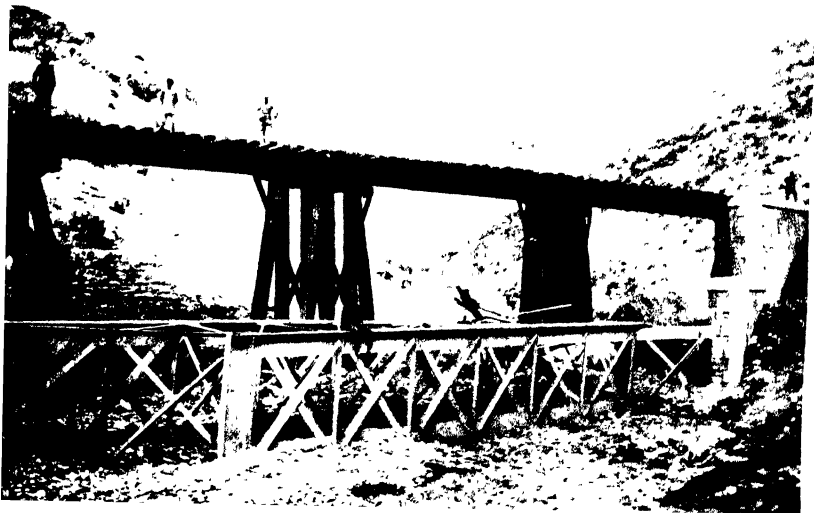


PLATE 14



Preparing defence line in Jordan Valley

PLATE 15







Highness inspecting the captured German-Turco rifles at Jerusalem,  
August, 1918





His Highness watching rapid loading of dummy cartridges by Havildar Natha Singh, 1st Rajindar Sikhs Infantry, at Jerusalem, August, 1918. The Havildar made a record of loading 105 cartridges in a minute





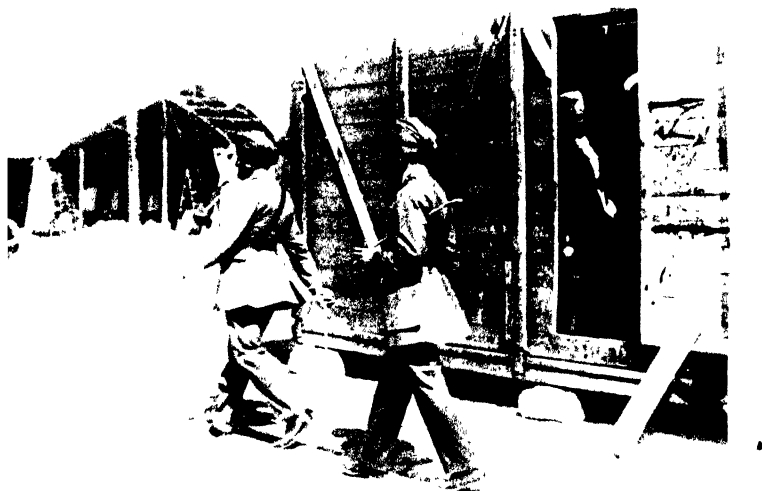


His Highness with General (Lord) Allenby, C.-in-C., E.E.F., at  
Jerusalem, August, 1918





His Highness inspecting hydroplanes, Alexandria, 1918





# THE WESTERN FRONT

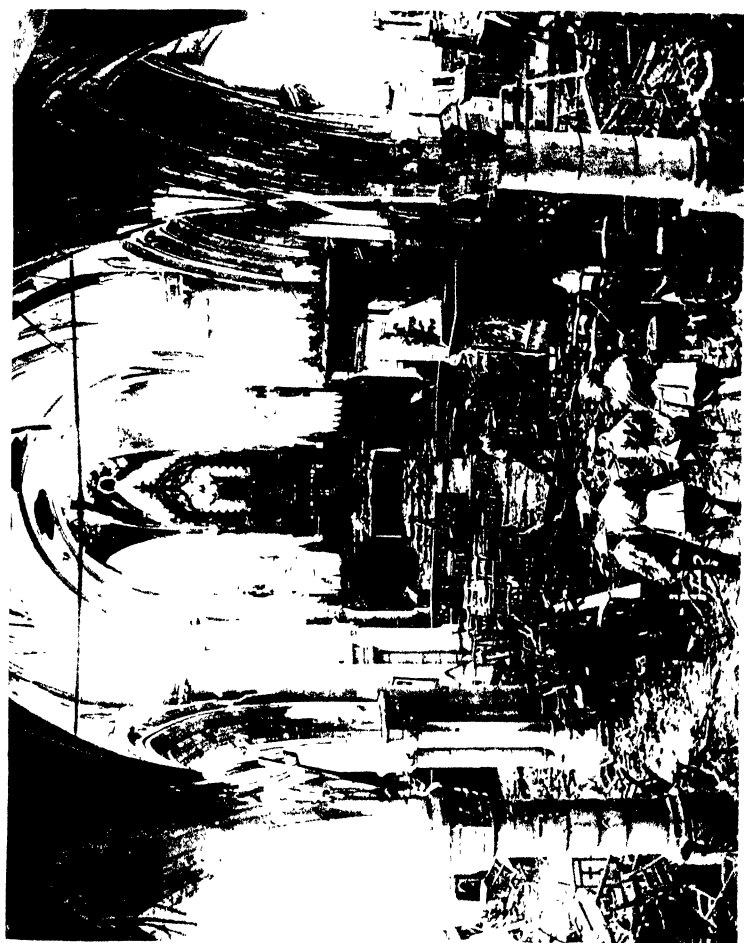




His Highness in the ruined area round Arras







His Highness with General Birdwood in Arras Cathedral soon after the bombardment. Hot splinters of enemy shells were picked up by the party





Another photo of His Highness in Arras Cathedral during shelling by the Germans





His Highness in front of St. Peatse, Arras, while shelling  
was proceeding







His Highness with General Birdwood and his Staff at Headquarters







His Highness on the way to see General Birdwood's hidden guns through a difficult and sandy path





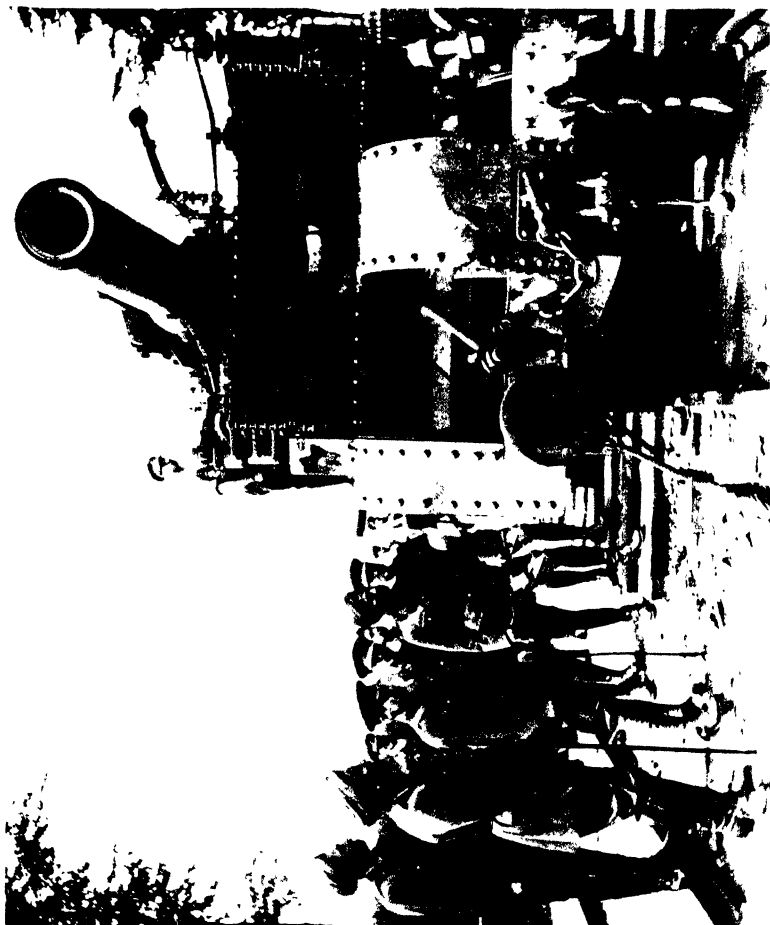
His Highness with General Lord Plumer and his Staff





His Highness inspecting a 12-inch gun





His Highness inspecting another 12-inch gun ready for firing







Belgian Front. At the village of Bortmundep, where an attacking German aeroplane was brought down the previous night





Belgian Front, Parnas. His Highness watching a German observation point opposite to our machine guns





Belgian Front, Parmas. At a village shelled by German guns about fifteen minutes before the party arrived

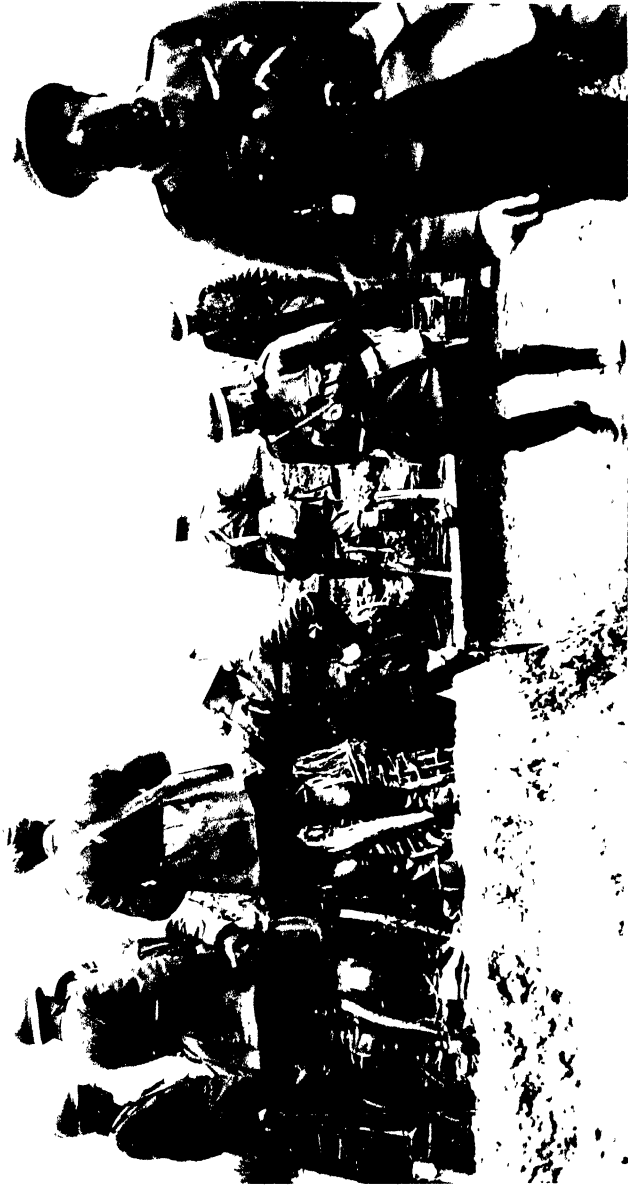




Belgian Front. General Officers' Headquarters. Photo taken after the Maharaja's lunch with  
General D. Lutens







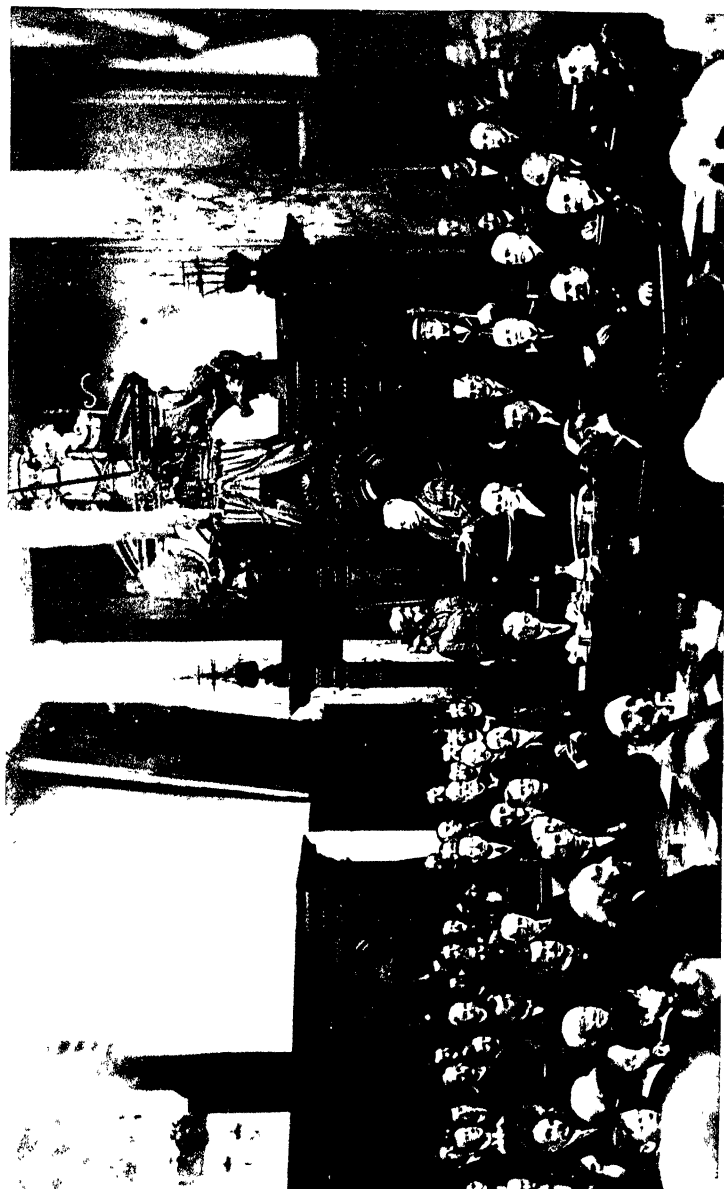
Belgian Front, Parmas. Looking into German trenches from a distance of about 400 yards





Belgian Front, Parmas. The Maharaja's daring inspection of "No Man's Land" just beyond  
our trenches





His Highness receiving the Freedom of the City of Cardiff 1918



# THE UNVEILING OF THE BRIGHTON MEMORIAL







PLATE I

The Maharaja inspecting the Guard of Honour (Brighton College O.T.C. Cadets)





The Maharaja unveiling the Memorial





His Highness unlocking the Memorial Gates after the  
Unveiling



THE VISIT OF H.R.H. THE  
PRINCE OF WALES TO PATIALA





PLATE IV



Arrival at Patiala. H.R.H. accompanied by the Maharaja inspecting  
the Guard of Honour



PLATE V



H.R.H. chats with Patiala ex-Soldiers who have lost Limbs in the War





The Prince and the Maharaja riding through an enthusiastic Crowd of Patiala ex-Service Men, of whom some 22,000 assembled to greet His Royal Highness



PLATE VII



H.R.H. reviewing the Patiala State Troops. The 1st Rajindar Sikhs  
marching *nast*





PLATE VIII



The Review of Patiala Troops. The Maharaja of  
Patiala as Major-General



PLATE IX



H.R.H. and the Maharaja leaving the Parade Ground after the Review



PLATE X



H.R.H. Pig-sticking. The Beaters about to commence the Drive



PLATE XI



A Patiala Veteran salutes the Prince. On the left is the Maharaja





