

## 1: Awards and decorations of the Indian Armed Forces - Wikipedia

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Military history of India India has one of the longest military histories, dating back several millennia. The first reference to armies is found in the Vedas as well as the epics Ramayana and Mahabharata. Classical Indian texts on archery in particular, and martial arts in general are known as Dhanurveda. Ancient to medieval era Indian maritime history dates back 5,000 years. There is reference to the side wings of a vessel called Plava, which gives the ship stability in storm conditions. A compass, Matsya yantra was used for navigation in the fourth and fifth century AD. The earliest known reference to an organisation devoted to ships in ancient India is in the Mauryan Empire from the 4th century BC. Powerful militaries included those of the: The term, nava dvipantaragamanam Sanskrit for "sailing to other lands by ships," i. Sea lanes between India and neighbouring lands were used for trade for many centuries, and are responsible for the widespread influence of Indian Culture on other societies. The Cholas excelled in foreign trade and maritime activity, extending their influence overseas to China and Southeast Asia. During the 17th and 18th centuries, the Maratha and Kerala fleets were expanded, and became the most powerful Naval Forces in the subcontinent, defeating European navies at various times See the Battle of Colachel. The fleet review of the Maratha navy, at which the ships Pal and Qalbat participated, took place at the Ratnagiri fort. British India to Main articles: One million Indian troops served overseas; 62, died and another 67, were wounded. In total, 74, Indian soldiers died during the war. Indian divisions were also sent to Egypt, Gallipoli and nearly , served in Mesopotamia against the Ottoman Empire. In , Engineer Sub-lieutenant D. Mukherji became the first Indian to receive a commission in the Royal Indian Marine. Though the gradual "Indianisation" of the officer corps began after WWI, at the outbreak of war in , there were no Indian flag, general or air officers in the armed services. The highest-ranking Indian officers were those serving in the non-combatant Indian Medical Service , who held no rank higher than colonel; in the regular Indian Army, there were no Indian officers above the rank of major. By the end of the war it had become the largest volunteer army in history, rising to over 2. However, the bulk of the Indian Army was committed to fighting the Japanese Army, first during the British defeats in Malaya and the retreat from Burma to the Indian border; later, after resting and refitting for the victorious advance back into Burma, as part of the largest British Empire army ever formed. These campaigns cost the lives of over 36, Indian servicemen, while another 34, were wounded; 67, became prisoners of war. Their valour was recognised with the award of some 4, decorations, and 38 members of the Indian Army were awarded the Victoria Cross or the George Cross. Shrinagesh and Kodandera Subayya Thimayya , all of whom would subsequently command the Indian Army, achieved distinction as the first Indian battalion and brigade commanders. In , sailors of the Royal Indian Navy mutinied on board ships and in shore establishments. A total of 78 ships, 20 shore establishments and 20, sailors were involved in the rebellion, which had an impact across India. Dominion of India “ The period immediately following Indian independence was a traumatic time for India and her armed services. Along with the newly independent India, the Indian Armed Forces were forcibly divided between India and Pakistan, with ships, divisions and aircraft allocated to the respective Dominions. During this period, the armed forces of India were involved in a number of significant military operations, notably the Indo-Pakistani War of and Operation Polo , the code name of a military operation in September where the Indian Armed Forces invaded the State of Hyderabad and overthrew its Nizam, annexing the state into the Indian Union. Republic of India to present Main article: Military operations of India Upon India becoming a sovereign republic on 26 January , some of the last vestiges of British rule - rank badges, imperial crowns, British ensigns and "Royal" monikers - were dropped and replaced with the Indian tricolour and the Lion Capital of Asoka. Not until would the last British chief of staff that of the Indian Navy, be succeeded by an Indian. In tensions rose between India and Portugal over the Portuguese-occupied territory of Goa, which India claimed for itself. After Portuguese police cracked down violently on a peaceful, unarmed demonstration for union with India, the Indian government decided to invade and initiated Operation Vijay. A

lopsided air, sea, and ground campaign resulted in the speedy surrender of Portuguese forces. Within 36 hours, years of Portuguese colonial rule ended, and Goa was annexed by India. The War directly involved participation of all three arms of Indian Armed Forces. India fought four major wars with its neighbour Pakistan in 1947, 1965, and 1999, and with China in 1962. Indian victory over Pakistan in the war, helped create the free country of Bangladesh. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, Pakistan began organising tourist expeditions to the Siachen Glacier, disputed territory with India. Irked by this development, in April 1987 India initiated the successful Operation Meghdoot during which it gained control over all of the 70 kilometer 41 mile -long Siachen Glacier, and all of its tributary glaciers, as well as the three main passes of the Saltoro Ridge immediately west of the glacier—Sia La, Bilafond La, and Gyong La. The conflict ended with Indian Victory. After losing approximately 1,000 personnel and several T-72 tanks, India ultimately abandoned the mission in consultation with the Sri Lankan government. The beginning of the 21st century saw a reorientation for India on the global stage from a regional role in the subcontinent to a major role in the Indian Ocean region stretching from the Gulf of Aden to the Malacca Strait. The long stretches of disputed borders with China and Pakistan, and sizeable areas under their occupation, continue to be major irritants, in spite of the peace processes under-way with both countries. The Ministry of Defence MoD is the ministry charged with the responsibilities of countering insurgency and ensuring external security of India. The Indian Army is divided administratively into seven tactical commands, each under the control of different Lieutenant Generals. The Indian Air Force is divided into five operational and two functional commands. The Indian Navy operates three commands. Each command is headed by a flag officer commanding-in-chief with the rank of vice admiral. There are two joint commands whose head can belong to any of the three services. The lack of an overall military commander has helped keep the Indian Armed Forces under civilian control, and has prevented the rise of military dictatorships unlike in neighbouring Pakistan. The Armed Forces have four main tasks; [46] To assert the territorial integrity of India. To defend the country if attacked by a foreign nation. To support the civil community in case of disasters etc. The code of conduct of the Indian military is detailed in a semi-official book called Customs and Etiquette in the Services, written by retired Major General Ravi Arora, which details how Indian personnel are expected to conduct themselves generally. However, analysis by the Central Intelligence Agency indicates that India is projected to have the fourth most capable concentration of power by 2025. Please update this article to reflect recent events or newly available information. June 2020 During June 2020, the Indian Armed Forces had a reported strength of 1.1 million. In addition, there were approximately 1.1 million. Many of them are re-employed in various Central government sectors. Since then, women have been granted the right to serve as officers in the military and starting in 2020, women fighter jet combat pilots were also inducted. Its peacetime equivalent is the Ashoka Chakra Award. The highest decoration for meritorious service is the Param Vishisht Seva Medal. Picture showing equivalent ranks and insignia of Indian Armed Forces [click to enlarge](#).

### 2: Defence | National Portal of India

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In , as thousands of young men left Portsmouth and south Hampshire for the war, the area welcomed unfamiliar visitors from the far side of the world: From , the Home Office and other government departments, working with charities such as the Red Cross, arranged for 15, Indian troops wounded in France and Flanders to be cared for on the south coast of England. As a result, several Indian hospitals and convalescent centres appeared in Hampshire, run by Urdu-speaking British and Indian doctors, nurses and orderlies. For locals, it was the first time they had encountered such large numbers of Indians. They regularly saw the Indian patients – the most famous of whom was Khudadad Khan, a machine gunner who won the first Indian VC at Ypres – coming or going at New Milton and other local railway stations. They also saw the Indians standing or squatting to chat and smoke by the hospitals; out and about in the villages and countryside on guided sight-seeing tours in motor cars; or walking on the seafront and in the New Forest. But for many Hampshire soon felt like a home from home. Collet, wrote in to the British doctor in charge of the Indian convalescent centre near his vicarage. At Barton, Indian and British performing artists of the Indian Art and Dramatic Society – a London-based collective dedicated to promoting understanding and mutual respect between India and Great Britain – entertained the Indian patients with Indian music, songs and plays. They also provided a British magician whose miraculous tricks drew Indian gasps, above all his turning of a small German flag into a huge Union Jack. In their hospitals, the Indians received special care. It had 24 wards, all connected by a winter garden – an indoors 1,ft corridor filled with Indian furniture, carpets and paintings. Here the Indian patients could rest, play cards and board games, or flick through illustrated magazines. Their food was prepared after their own customs by Indian cooks. Of the 2, Indians admitted to the Netley hospital in the five months from November , just 0. The Hindus and Sikhs among them were cremated at a local pyre. The obelisk remains there today, as does another reminder nearby of how the global war came to the area. Some of the Indian patients returned to the local area in summer , visiting Portsmouth as veterans on an Indian victory tour of Britain. That year they also saw the original Cenotaph in London, which was built to commemorate all who fell fighting for Britain including the Indians. Now at the centenary of the Armistice that ended the Great War, it more important than ever to remember the Indian patients who were cared for locally at Netley and elsewhere. They show us how the war was experienced by all faiths, and how all faiths can join in remembrance together. Author bio George Morton-Jack is a British historian. This has been acclaimed as the first global history of the neglected 1.

### 3: Indian Army undertakes sailing expedition | India News - Times of India

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This resulted in a unique breed of warriors. The Ladakhis took part in all wars fought in India since Independence. The Nunoos, as the Ladakhis are called in affection, are skilled mountain warriors and are unsurpassed in high altitude and white-out operations. Ladakh Scouts has inherited these qualities most naturally. With so many families in the hills of Garhwal and Kumaon who have sons and daughters in the military, the conflict in Kashmir has taken a heavy toll. They joined their Sikh, Rajasthani, Mahar, and Bihari brothers as a multicultural and multifaith force on the frontlines, suffering the brunt of casualties in defense of the state. Ladakh is part of the Indian sector of divided Kashmir. The region of Ladakh spread over an area of 96, sq. The , followers of Tibetan Buddhism who are caught in a half-century of war between local Muslims and Hindus, and between Pakistan and India, for control over the disputed territory. The word Ladakh is the ancient name of the third region of Jammu and Kashmir and not relates to any ethnic group, caste, creed or religion. The Ladakh Scouts, which is considered to be the "eyes and ears" of the Indian Army, had been serving the nation ever since its inception, under most inhospitable high altitude and arctic weather conditions with zeal and dedication. Not only this unit served the nation by guarding the high altitude and inhospitable borders but has also helped directly or indirectly to build the shattered economy of Ladakh which had suffered badly due to three wars with Pakistan and one war with China. The Ladakh scouts in its short history of nearly 50 years have earned countless distinctions and gallantry awards as one of the highly decorated unit in the Indian Army, while rendering service to the nation. The Ladakh Scouts was raised in in the wake of debacle against Chinese forces. It was the first unit of the Indian Army to successfully launch the counter strike against Pakistani incursions in Kargil operations in in Batalik sector. The Ladakh Scouts has a glorious history which dates back Skirmishes with Pakistan. Soon after independence, in order to save Ladakh from the Qabalties intruders who came from across the border; the "National Guards" were formed out of the local Ladakhi warriors. During the Indo-Pak war, the Ladakh Scouts launched a brilliant attack in Turtok Sector and advanced 22 kms into the enemy territory in just 14 days, thereby liberating sq kms of area. During operations, sq km of Turtuk was liberated by Ladakh Scouts for which they were honoured with the Battle Honour "Turtuk - ". The period from to witnessed the reorganisation. The regiment has been pioneers in the Siachen Glacier during operation Meghdoot. During operation Vijay the Scouts performed their classical role in cliff assault which was instrumental in achieving success in the operation. The Ladakhi Scouts, a small force of a few battalions, displayed several gallant acts during Operation Vijay and won quite a few gallantry awards, including a Maha Vir Chakra for Major Sonam Wangchuk. The unit performed with distinction during Operation "Vijay" and displayed exemplary valour and grit in the face of the enemy. In August the Indian Army planned a multi-prong strategy to combat Islamic terrorism in Kashmir region. It includes increased recruitment of Kashmiri youths, strengthening of the Ladakh Scouts by merging it with the army as a regiment, and setting up of a new corps headquarters at Leh, the capital of Ladakh. The Ladakh Scouts underwent another reorganisation in June when it was converted into a full fledged regiment with four infantry battalions. In September the Indian Government approved a proposal to restructure the Ladakh Scouts, on the lines of infantry regimental centers. This paved the way for raising more battalions. With the up gradation of status for the Ladakh Scouts, Indian Army would be left with only three scout units -- Garhwal and Kumaon Scouts deployed on Indo-Tibet border, and a small detachment of Dogra Scouts. With this restructuring, the regiment of Ladakh Scouts obtained the same status as other regiments of the Indian Army The fifth battalion was raised on July 31,

### 4: INSV Tarini: Navy's all-women crew to reach Goa after sailing around globe - The Economic Times

*HYDERABAD: The Indian Army on Sunday undertook a challenging wind sailing expedition from Haldia on the east coast up to Porbandar on the west. The expedition, 'Round the Indian Peninsula' being.*

WhatsApp Indian Army started recruiting of Women officers in Every six months, about 5, women graduates and postgraduates between the ages of 21 and 25 years apply to join the Army. Barely a fifth clear the written test and only a tenth of those who do are selected. Women have been getting Permanent Commission only in the medical stream as doctors, dentists and nurses. On release they can pursue a career in the civil sector. SSC officers are released with gratuity and can avail some benefits as ex-serviceman, but they do not get pension. Women in the medical branch i. There have been many notable achievements as well by Women in Olive green ,let us look at those and i hope you enjoy reading those. Indian Army did Mt everest Expedition in and for women officers. Divya Ajith at OTA. Women officers take salutes, Give orders and pack a commanding punch into their slight frames. But the looming specter of discrimination is barely seen behind the veil of formal correctness. It is the gentlemen cadets who feel discriminated against. Women Soldiers earn the same pay but do not train for as long or as hard. There is resentment, and it is inevitable. Gender cannot be forgotten. Three hundred-odd years of male attitudes cannot change so fast, but Army ethics include respect for women, which is a help. Shanti Tigga honoured by Pratibha Patil But Unfortunately, she was kidnapped by some unknown people and she was tied to a post near to railway track, she was taken to Military Hospital where she declined any Assault by the kidnappers but after few days she committed suicide in May VSM for providing efficient and timely help to victims of the Kaluchak massacre in SM for providing gynae-endoscopy and oncology facilities and pioneering invitro-fertilization and assisted reproductive techniques for infertile and childless couples in military hospitals. She joined the Indian Air Force in There have been any women who are joining and many aspirants who try to join prestigious and most dignified Institution of the country i. In their 10 years of service, the women officers can only hope to rise up to the level of a Major. The army has its own tests that determine psychological and physical fitness and also aptitude.

### 5: Army's expedition sets sail from state capital | Thiruvananthapuram News - Times of India

*A lover of all things creative and happy, Sanchari is a biotech engineer who fell in love with writing and decided to make it her profession. She is also a die-hard foodie, a pet-crazy human, a passionate history buff and an ardent lover of books.*

The Real Truth Please wait The Navy and the Air Force are major players in developing this capability. India must expeditiously rebalance the mass of its three Services. Their manpower ceilings also need to be increased. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence, an entity which can be of considerable influence, was until a couple of years ago, headed by a film actor. What can the nation thus expect out of our politicians and bureaucrats? Modern armies are increasingly equipment-intensive and technology dependent. This orientation places a great premium on efficient maintenance, periodic upgrade and timely replacements. It also impinges on manpower skills. The new generation soldier has to be mechanical minded, technology savvy and better educated. This shift has been an ongoing challenge for commanders, trainers and material managers. Crucially, this transformation requires adequate fiscal support, as modern equipment and capable manpower comes at a cost. It also places a greater responsibility on the civilian eco-system that provides and sustains the materials and manpower for the armed forces. The whole paradigm of military capabilities has thus become more complex, expensive and specialised. In the Indian context, the armed forces have responded to the changes with some alacrity albeit inadequately. Unfortunately, two critical civilian entities, specifically the civilian military bureaucracy and the defence industry just do not comprehend their criticality towards national military capabilities. K Singh and many more, there has been near total inertia on the ground. The all-knowing bureaucrats holed in on the first floor of the South Block, have single-handedly stymied the best of intentions and advice. Authority without accountability has resulted in an unimaginable downgrade of the war fighting ability of our forces. For political expediency, the innocent citizens are periodically fed misleading and misplaced bravado conveying a false sense of security. Revealing the truth in matters of National Security invariably involves treading a very thin line. The need for discretion vis-a-vis stating facts to facilitate wider and better understanding of our true capabilities is indeed a challenge. With this backdrop, this article endeavours to put many realities in the public domain so that the nation knows what the Armed Forces, particularly the Indian Army, are capable of today. Hopefully, revelations that follow, should trigger a wider debate on the true state of our military capabilities and what needs to be done to ensure our forces are worthy of the trust reposed in them. India has the second largest army in the world with about 1. Only in the last decade or so has the Indian Army diversified its import sourcing. Most of the imported equipment, especially tanks, artillery guns, electronic warfare equipment and much else is well past its technological generation and stipulated life span. Ideally, combat equipment should be in the following ratio: As a thumb rule, the technological and maintainable life span of most combat systems is 30 years. Ironically, almost 70 to 90 per cent of Indian Army systems are in the obsolescent category, with a near negligible percentage being state-of-the-art. This situation has come about due to approximately two decades of abject neglect of modernisation, greatly exacerbated in the last ten years. It cannot be easily undone, even if unlimited money is made available. Current pattern of fiscal allocations, which are unlikely to change drastically, will make modernisation even more difficult. For the uninitiated, let it be conservatively stated that with the kind of efforts seen over the last year, it will still take 10 to 20 years to restore some sort of conformity to the technology spread of As a corollary, our cutting edge field formations will NOT be fully battle ready in the interregnum. A scary deduction indeed! Wait, the reality gets scarier when we juxtapose the war reserves to the paradigm. The Army holds no war reserves at all for most major combat equipment. Should war break out, the fighting units will get no replacements to recoup losses; the longer the fight, the lesser the fighting potential. Readiness for combat is dependent on equipment mission readinessâ€¦ The Indian Armed Forces have been mandated to fight a day, high-intensity war on two fronts North and West. To sustain the effort and to retain certain flexibility, the government has promulgated the Before the above is dubbed as alarmist, a few facts are highlighted below, without being too specific. Most of our tanks and infantry combat vehicles are not

fit to fight through a nuclear attack zone due to non-availability of particular type of air filters, as also perished rubber seals, that help create overpressure in the crew compartments. The individual protection kits for soldiers under nuclear attack are either incomplete or grossly short in numbers. The often touted tactical nuclear threat from one of our adversaries Pakistan will be hard to handle, should such a situation arise. That this threat is remote and unlikely is true but what if? And now, a quick review of our capabilities to fight a conventional war. The force levels and organisational structures are generally adequate albeit with certain expedients like dual tasking of some formations from East to West and vice versa. What is of some doubt is the ability to fight a day, high-intensity war, simultaneously on both the fronts. The major weaknesses here, again, are on account of continuous neglect. A combat unit ceases to be a functional entity when it suffers equipment or manpower losses in excess of 66 per cent of its authorisation. Readiness for combat is dependent on equipment mission readiness, which simply defined implies capability of equipment to be functional for stipulated exploitation parameters. To elucidate, a few hypothetical examples will help. Tanks and infantry combat vehicles should be able to move certain kilometres, run certain hours and fire certain amount of ordnance over a given period. These parameters are in turn derived from theatre-specific operational plans. Similar parameters are derived for artillery guns, air defence, communications and logistics equipment. It is a complex exercise done jointly by military operations and logistics specialists. Most modern armies, particularly the Western armies, have developed sophisticated models for the purpose. Ironically, the Indian Army has no formal, comprehensive and validated effort in this direction. There have been personality driven efforts at Army and theatre levels, but these have no formal approval. This attitude is partly influenced by the blinkered mentality of avoiding raising of heckles. Most informal, though reasonably dependable studies have revealed glaring gaps in mission reliability. It would not be prudent to be specific, but suffice it to say that the harsh reality is that most of our critical equipment will suffer major mechanical attrition and may not be able to be battle fit through the 30 days of war. Attrition due to enemy action will compound the deficiencies. As per traditional wisdom, a combat unit ceases to be a functional entity when it suffers equipment or manpower losses in excess of 66 per cent of its authorisation. It can be stated with a fair degree of conviction, that a number of Indian Army units will be organisationally dysfunctional, well before the day period of combat is over. Many troops are going for missions wearing jackets that are beyond their stipulated life. Ammunition for the AK rifles is still imported and availability is below authorised levels. Indigenous mine blast protected vehicles are sub-par. There are some imported vehicles, but these are obsolescent. Consequently, troops are making do with what they have. It is not that problems have not been anticipated and actions initiated by the Army Headquarters. The problems linger despite the strongest of exhortations to the Ministry of Defence MoD. The case for emergency procurement of 50, BPs is languishing for the last few years. There are many such cases, including the infamous delay in procurement of submarine batteries for the Navy. What has been stated is the tip of the iceberg; otherwise the Indian Air Force would not have been down to 34 squadrons against an authorisation of The Navy would not have had to face the ignominy of a Chief of Naval Staff resigning. Unfortunately, the real culprits get away and continue to flourish in higher appointments, including constitutional ones. The nation invests very heavily in its armed forces who are mindful of the responsibilities; but the apathy of the government functionaries in authority is bewildering. With this kind of a system of higher defence management in our country, would our enemies have any worries? Little wonder that our deterrence has been eroded and one of our neighbours is needling us ad lib and having a field day.

### 6: India. Indian Navy | Open Library

*Having read the above messages, I could not resist mentioning the interview General Thakur Nathu Singh gave me for my book, 'Sailing and Soldiering in Defence of India'.*

The OFC will help civilians and defence personnel with cellular and radio connectivity that is strong enough to counter the Chinese waves. An optical fiber cable is similar to an electrical cable, but contains one or more optical fibers that are used to carry light. Optical cables are used to transfer digital data signals in the form of light up to distances of hundreds of miles with higher throughput rates than those achievable via electrical communication cables. The flight test met all the mission objectives. The technology of nozzle less booster has been successfully demonstrated in the mission for the first time in the country. SFDR is a propulsion technology different than that of conventional solid fuelled or liquid fuelled missiles. The earlier Pinaka system, which was an unguided one, has now been transformed into a guided version, with a navigation, guidance and control kit developed by the Research Centre, Imarat RCI , Hyderabad. The upgraded version has a range of more than 70 kms now. The guided version is Pinaka mark-II. It can fire a salvo of 12 rockets in 44 seconds. It was the 6th trial of the missile. The surface-to-surface missile is indigenously developed and has a strike range of 5, km. It can carry nuclear warhead weighing 1. He succeeds Lt Gen Sarath Chand. INS Sahyadri is Shivalik-class advanced, stealth-minded, multi-role frigate. INS Kamorta is the first of the four anti-submarine Kamorta class stealth corvettes. INS Shakti is a Deepak-class fleet tanker. Nirmala Sitharaman has accorded approval for the procurement of equipment for the Defence Forces valued at over Rs. The radars will provide long range medium and high altitude radar cover. Socotra Island was hit by cyclone Mekunu. India has also started to manufacture Apache fuselages at a plant in India with the help of Boeing and Indian partner Tata. BIMSTEC Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation group will participate in military exercise so as to promote strategic alignment among the member-states and to share best practices in the area of counter-terrorism. Each participating nation will bring 30 soldiers for participation. The exercise will be based on theme of counter-terrorism in semi-urban terrain. It is propelled by three MTU series diesel engines of KW capacity each coupled with three Rolls Royce Kamewa jets and can achieve a maximum speeds of 34 knots 63 kmph. The primary focus is towards alleviating the sufferings of these soldiers, who have done their duty with utmost dedication to the Nation and have been disabled for the life.

### 7: Navy Officer Stranded In Indian Ocean To Be Rescued Today

*Indian Army has undertaken a challenging wind sailing expedition 'Round the Indian Peninsula' from Haldia on the East Coast to Porbandar on West. The expedition is being organed by EME Sailing.*

Every Indian contributes something as far as the defense of India is concerned. But the role which a soldier plays in defending and protecting the borders of India is really unparalleled. A soldier is the most disciplined lot of the nation. On him depends, to a great extent, the security and the stability of the nation. It is he who obeys the orders of his commanders and does what is ordered by them. A soldier is a man, who keeps night & long vigils on the borders even in the face of great and grave dangers, for, he stands heroically before the force of the enemies. A soldier faces death bravely. He fights to the last, in order to save his motherland. He sacrifices everything for the sake of the nation. It is he who has to live miles away from his family. It is he who gets into jaws of the death while defending his country. His life is not a bed of roses at all; rather it is a bed of thorns. With his meager income, he feeds himself and his family. The life of soldier is really very hard, but he is not scared it. For him, the defense of the country is the highest of his duties and responsibilities. In war, he fights bravely but at the same time he helps the civilian population. The role which Indian soldier plays during each international war is exemplary. One soldier helped and assisted even the civilian population as they always act in accordance with the complete military traditions. A soldier is always facing death. He never shirks responsibility. He fights in most difficult terrains, on hills and mountains, in plains and forest. The defense of the country is his primary mission. The roe of soldier in safeguarding the frontiers of his motherland is unique. He lives and dies for the Nation.

### 8: 13 Indian Women in Indian Armed Forces Who Broke the Glass Ceiling

*India has the second largest army in the world with about million soldiers India has the second largest army in the world with about million soldiers. It has the complete spectrum of weaponry required to fight any type of war from nuclear to low intensity/sub-conventional.*

In Eastern Asia the influence of India has been notable in extent, strength and duration. Such a picture takes no account of the intellectual conquests of the Hindus. Even their political conquests were not contemptible and were remarkable for the distance if not for the extent of the territory occupied. For there were Hindu kingdoms in Java and Camboja and settlements in Sumatra and even in Borneo, an island about as far from India as is Persia from Rome. At Eshunna, near Baghdad, typically Indian shell inlays and even pottery probably of the Indus manufacture have been found along with seals. Rao says that the Indian traders first settled in Bahrein and used the circular seal. Later on the different sections of the Indian merchants colonized the different cities of Mesopotamia after the name of their race. The Chola colonized the land where the two rivers, the Tigris and Euphrates, approach most nearly and the banks touch the so called Median wall. They called their colony Cholades which later came to be known as Chaldea i. Similarly the Asuras of Vedic India colonized the city Asura after their name and later they established the Assyrian empire. Archaeological evidence of the use of indigo in the cloths of the Egyptians mummies, Indian cedar in the palace of Nebuchandnzzar and Indian teak in the temple of the moon god at Ur shows the continuity of Indian commercial relations with the West. Rassam found a beam of Indian cedar in the palace of Nebuchadnezzar B. C at Birs Nimrud. Taylor found "two rough logs of wood apparently teak". From the very beginning Indian traders had a very fair knowledge of all the ancient oceans and seas of the populated world. The priest of ancient Egypt required vast quantities of aromatic plants for burning as incense; frankincense, myrrh and lavender were also used for embalmment purpose. Herodotus has left us a sickening description of the great number of spices and scented ointments of which India was the center. Beauty products from India also attracted the women of Egypt. The cosmetic trade was entirely dependent on imports chiefly from India. The Pharaohs of the fifth and sixth dynasties made great efforts to develop trade relations with the land of Punt. Knemphotep made voyages to Punt eleven times under the captainship of Kouli. This expedition was organized and financed by the celebrated Queen Halshepsut. The queen proudly recorded on the walls of the temple of Deir-el-Bahri: A flotilla of boat was used in bridging the difficult river of Hydaspses. For purpose of the voyage of Nearchus down the rivers and to the Persian Gulf, all available country boats were impressed for the service, and a stupendous fleet was formed, numbering around vessels, according to Arrian, and to the more reliable estimate of Ptolemy nearly 2, vessels which accommodated 8, troops, several thousand horses, and vast quantities of supplies. It was indeed an extraordinary huge fleet, built entirely of Indian wood and by the hands of Indian craftsmen. All this indicates that in the age of the Mauryas shipbuilding in India was a regular and flourishing industry of which the output was quite large. He came to India and found the Indian coast studded with ports and harbors, carrying on brisk trade with foreign countries. The chief articles of export from India were spices, perfumes, medicinal herbs, pigments, pearls, precious stones like diamond, sapphire, turquoise and lapis lazuli, animal skins, cotton cloth, silk yarn, muslin, indigo, ivory, porcelain and tortoise shell; the chief imports were cloth, linen, perfume, medicinal herbs, glass vessels, silver, gold, copper, tin, lead, pigment, precious stones and coral. Indian figurine buried in the Mount Vesuvius in Italy - eruption of 79 A. Indian Art - By Vidya Dehejia. Most of the coins have been found. Most of these coins have been found in South India, and their evidence is corroborated by many passages in classic Tamil literature. Tamralipti was an important port in Bengal. It carried on trade with China, Lanka, Java and Sumatra. The ports of Kottayam and Muziris were on the Malabar coast. There was a great maritime trade between India and Southeast Asia and China. The rulers of India facilitated trade by building and maintaining lighthouses at the necessary points and by keeping sea routes free and safe from pirates. According to Surjit Mansingh: A Country Study The close connection between the early civilization of Ninevah and Babylon and the West Coast of India is borne out by indisputable evidence and this was possible only through the navigation of the Arabian sea. There is ample evidence of a flourishing trade

between the Levant and the West Coast of India, as may be inferred from allusion in the Old Testament. As stated by Prof. The earliest Indian literature, the Vedas speak of sea voyage. One well-known mantra Rig Veda 1, 97, 8 prays: India and the Indian Ocean - K. Panikkar The MacMillan Company, p. Indian seafarers did not absent themselves from the Middle East or the European mainland. From the Sanskrit name of Socotra Island abode of bliss and from certain Hindu-like divisions and customs among the people of East Arabia. Lassen suggested that the first sailors and colonizers on the Indian Ocean came from India. According to Jeannie Auboyer "merchant shipping was very active in India and had, even since Roman times, linked the Mediterranean world to China with great vessels nava of which the Indian king owned a fleet, though most of them belonged to wealthy individuals. The achievements of Indian seafarers in the Far East and Southeast Asia have been acknowledged by a host of scholars. The late Professor Buhler says: The mention of ivory by Homer and of several other Indian articles assign the trade a very ancient date. In addition to ivory, India also supplied indigo to Greece, whence the inhabitants derived their knowledge of its use. Homer knew tin by its Sanskrit name. Professor Max Duncker says that the Greeks used to wear silken garments which were imported from India, and which were called "Sindones, or "Tyrian robes. Of the producer of loom, silk was more largely imported from India into ancient Rome than either in Egypt or in Greece. For more information refer to chapter on India and Egypt. Testimony to the flourishing condition of the ship-building industry in India is available in the description of the return journey of Alexander from India via the sea route. According to estimates of Ptolemy nearly vessels which between them accommodated troops, several thousand horses, and vast quantities of supplies. This vivid description speaks not only of the ready resources and expertise of the Indian craftsmen but also of the tonnage of the seaworthy ships estimated at about 75 tons or amphorea by Pliny. The most valuable of the exports of India was silk, which was under the Persian Empire is said to have exchanged by weight of gold. Indian Shipping - By R. It is evident that "there was a very large consumption of Indian manufactures in Rome. This is confirmed by the elder Pliny, who complained that there was "no year in which India did not drain the Roman Empire of a hundred million sesterces 1,, pounds We are assured on undisputed authority that the Romans remitted annually to India a sum equivalent to 4,, pounds to pay for their investments, and that in the reign of Ptolmeies, sails of Indian shipping were at one time lying in the ports whence Egypt, Syria, and Rome itself were supplied with the products of India. Hindu Raj in the World - By K. Roman coins in large quantities are found in places in Southern India, whence beryl, pepper, pearls and minerals were exported to Rome. Some of these are described by Mr. There is extant, a Prakrit text on ship-building named Angavijja written in the Kushana period and edited in the Gupta period. Some of these varieties of ships such as Tappaka Trappaga , Kotimba and Sarghad have also been mentioned in the Periplus of the Erythrean Sea. They are considered to be very large ships capable of sailing along the coast as well as in deep sea. The long-continued trade with Arabia dates from a very remote antiquity. Lassen also says that the Egyptians wrapped their mummies in Indian Muslin. Agarthchides of Cnidus, Ptolemaic Dynasty, President of the Alexandrain Library, who is mentioned with respect by Strabo, Pliny and Diodorus, and who lived upwards of years before the time of Periplus, noticed the active commercial intercourse kept up between Yemen and Pattala - a seaport in Western India. Pattala in Sanskrit means a "commercial town" which circumstance if it is true, says Prof. Heeran, "would prove the extreme antiquity of the navigation carried on by the Indus. Agatharchides saw large ships coming from the Indus and Pattala. The importance of trade was highly appreciated by the people of Kalinga - a kingdom on the Eastern seaboard of India. Inscriptions "speak of navigation and ship commerce as forming part of the education of the princes of Kalinga. Not to speak of any doubtful records we read in the Chinese and Japanese books, Buddhist or otherwise, of Indian merchant ships appearing in the China Sea; we know definitely that Fahien A. D returned to China via Java by an Indian boat Historian Vincent Smith in his book Early History of India, writes" "Ancient Tamil literature and the Greek and Roman authors prove that in the first two centuries of the Christian era the ports on the Coromandel or Cholamandal coast enjoyed the benefits of active commerce with both East and West. These vessels bore different names according to the size. There were commercial towns and ports on the Coromandel coast. Masulipatam, with its cloth manufactures, as well as the mercantile towns situated on the mouth of the Ganges, have already been noticed as existing in the time of Periplus. Even as late as the 17th century, French

traveler Tavernier in A. This spiritual and cultural affinity became an inseparable part of their ethos and way of life. Successive Indian kings and kingdoms from the first century AD and even before to the beginning of the 15th century, had regarded Southeast Asia and the lands lying beyond as vital for their own strength, security and sustained development. Archaeological Survey of India, New Delhi. Southeast Asia itself was carved up into areas of influence by the major colonial powers, viz. The relationship spanning nearly years was founded and nurtured on mutual interest and security in which both partners constantly enriched and reinforced each other. Rhys Davids author of Pali-English Dictionary has observed that "Sea going merchants, availing themselves of the monsoons, were in the habit at beginning of the 7th century B. Buddhist India - By T. And this, as far as one can may judge, almost entirely as a result of trading and peaceful penetration by missionaries, merchants and others, and not by force of arms. The reason of it lies in the radical difference in the methods of colonization, employed by the Chinese and by the Hindus. The Chinese proceeded with conquest and by annexation: The Hindu penetration and infiltration seem to have almost always been peaceful and unaccompanied by those destructions, which disgrace the Mongol cavalcade or the Spanish conquest of America.

### 9: List of active Indian Navy ships - Wikipedia

*The Indian armed forces have been engaged in a number of major military operations, including: the Indo-Pakistani wars of , and , the Portuguese-Indian War, the Sino-Indian War, the Chola incident, the Sino-Indian skirmish, the Kargil War, and the Siachen conflict among others.*

Earlier we had had many informal chats, as his son the late Rear Admiral R. Singh, had brought back a Land Rover from London for the General, by driving it all the way to Delhi. Coming back to my formal interview with him. It is well known that he was favoured by Field Marshal Claude Auchinleck to be the first Indian Army Chief and had made his recommendation accordingly. Nathu Singh had said that it might not be fair to supersede General Cariappa. He was still young and could have been a Chief later, but his frank and honestly argumentative nature was not liked by his political bosses. He recalled that at the time of the Chinese invasion of Tibet, he was the GOC-in-C of the Eastern Command, and had suggested that to the powers that be that one of his brigades could hold up the Chinese at the fort of Chamdo, whilst two more in reserve, could have prevented any breakthrough by them, as forces available to them then were far less in those days. But he was ignored. But have we learnt the lessons even today? I glanced through those captivating accounts while reorganising the archives in I do not recollect the exact contents but the British Officers were rather piercing in their description of him - they were certainly as much in awe of him as they were unable to see him straight in the eye. Krishan K Punchhi Sent: Tue, September 7, I was just wondering whether I should share my thoughts with others and now I will. This mail will eventually be copied to all my friends. This is the first time that I too have heard of their surname Rathore. Surjit Singh Majithia took our salute. So, Thakur Saheb must have taken the salute of 4th, 5th or 6th course. This happened in mid fifties and I hope my memory is not playing tricks with me. I also remember that he had a religious scripture Bhagvat Gita? That is how he ended his lecture. This was most unusual. Here was a high ranking officer who was not fully anglicised, who valued and cherished Indian philosophy. Kumud Bhabhi was a very fine and gentle lady and it was a pleasure interacting with both of them. Indu, my newly married wife, received special attention. Years later, I think it was in Delhi that RV held a dinner party to which we were also invited. That is where I had the proud privilege of meeting the General. I think the elder son was also there. We all found him to be a grand old man, down to earth with no airs, very proud of his sons and very nice to all of their friends. Gen sahib wanted a brand new jeep and sent the money to his son. He bought the jeep and, as agreed to, he drove it back to India. Another friend and course mate Gokhale? Somewhere in the Middle East, the jeep went out of control and rolled over. Luckily, no one was hurt and the jeep was drive-able. So, they continued and entered Pakistan. There they were stopped and questioned. Once their identity was established, the MP pilot jeep and outriders were lined up. Thakur Nathu Singh had requested his old friend Gen Ayub? So, a battered jeep was piloted and escorted like a VIP vehicle and came to Wagah in grand style. The general made it a point to come to the main door and see us off with all the love and affection that you show to a son and bahu. That family was full of decent sanskars. It is a pity that Kumud bhabhi and RV are no more. I close with best wishes and kind regards It really fills one with pride that our great Indian Army can boast of having such great Generals. It was very satisfying. I have a suggestion. We do have many more great leaders of whom the present generation may know very little but nonetheless they need be remembered. Why not to start similar tributes to such great leaders? Amongst others, one such leader who comes to my mind is great Lt General Bikram Singh. Such like tributes to them would kindle the flame of patriotism amongst us all and in particular the present generation of the armed forces who are the pillars of our armed forces in times to come.

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