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रक्षा मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF **DEFENCE**



MAJOR MOHIT SHARMA

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SERVICE NUMBER	IC-59066N
RANK	Major
NAME	Mohit Sharma
SON OF	Shri R Sharma
RESIDENT OF (Village/District/State)/ DOMICILE	Rohtak, Haryana
UNIT/REGIMENT/CORPS	1 PARA (SF)
SERVICE	Indian Army
DATE OF ENROLMENT/COMMISSION	11 December 1999
AWARD/DATE OF ACTION	Ashoka Chakra (Posthumous)/21 March 2009
WAR/BATTLE/OPERATION	
OTHER AWARDS WITH DATE	Sena Medal-2004



Major Mohit Sharma was born on 13th January 1978 in Rohtak district of Haryana. He was the second child of his parents Shri Rajendra Prasad Sharma and Smt Sushila Sharma. Major Mohit Sharma was fondly called 'CHINTU' by his family members and 'MIKE' by his course mates and colleagues. He was very good at playing the guitar, mouth organ and synthesizer, in fact, any new instrument he came across, he took it as a challenge to get the mastery of and made sure he could play it to perfection. He never hesitated to give live performances and enthralled his listeners with his beautiful voice, singing Hemant Kumar's songs as well as playing them on his mouth organ.

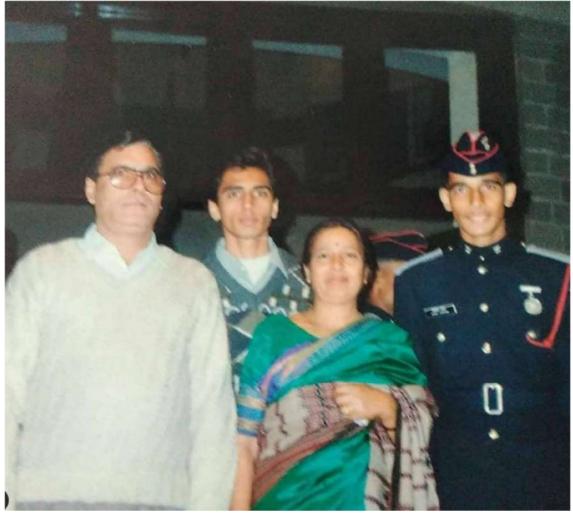


Major Mohit Sharma with his family (Source: Instagram @major_mohitsharma)

Major Mohit Sharma started his education from Manav Sthali School, South Extension Delhi, after which he took admission in Holy Angels' School, Sahibabad for a year and from where he took admission in Delhi Public School Ghaziabad in the year 1988 and passed out from the school in the year 1995. He got good percentage in class XII and his parents got him admitted to Shri Sant Gajanan Maharaj College of Engineering, Shegaon, Maharashtra. Despite taking admission in an Engineering College, he had a passion to join the Armed Forces and for which he was determined and left engineering to join the prestigious NDA in the year 1995.



During his NDA tenure, where he was a member of the India Squadron, he excelled in various fields and emerged as one of the best cadets. He was a champion Horse Rider, trained under the able guidance of Colonel Bhawani Singh, with his favourite horse named "Indira". He was a Boxing champion in the featherweight category as well as one of the best swimmers. He continued his hunger for excellence into the IMA, where he was appointment as a BCA (Battalion Cadet Adjutant) and was among the chosen ones to get an opportunity to meet Shri KR Narayanan then the President of India at Rashtrapati Bhawan. He passed out from IMA on 11th December 1999 and got commissioned in 5 MADRAS.



Major Mohit Sharma and his family during his National Defence Academy passing out ceremony. (Source: Instagram @major_mohitsharma)

His first posting was at Hyderabad from where he went on to serve the country with 38 RASHTRIYA RIFLES in Kashmir as the part of Counter Insurgency Operations where he was awarded the COAS Commendation Card (Chief of Army Staff Commendation Card) in the



year 2002. From the very beginning, he wanted to be a para-commando and he then joined 1 PARA (SF) in June 2003. After that, he served in Kashmir with 1 PARA (SF) where he was awarded Sena Medal in the year 2004.

The story of Major Mohit Sharma's Sena Medal which is widely circulated on social media states that in 2004, Major Mohit Sharma through extensive surveillance and the groundwork established contact with two Hizbul Mujahideen terrorists named Abu Torara and Abu Sabzar, under the alias of Iftikhar Bhatt. With long, flowing hair and an unkempt beard reaching down to his neck, Major Mohit was able to camouflage himself to blend into the terror outfit and its terrorist members. When asked why he wanted to fight the Indian Army, Major Mohit Sharma, staying true to his character threw the choicest expletives at the Army in chaste Kashmiri, whom he held responsible for his brother's death during a stone-pelting incident. He told the duo that he wanted to avenge his brothers' death and needed help from them.



Major Mohit Sharma as 'Iftikar Bhatt' (Source: Instagram @major_mohitsharma)

After Torara and Sabzar cross-checked the story, they arranged for a consignment of grenades and other terrorists for the operation. Slowly and gradually, Major Mohit won the trust of the terrorists and was eventually assigned with the choice to cross over the LoC. The Hizbul terrorists assigned him the task to carry out a strike on one of the Indian outposts, whose decoy hand-drawn map of Army movement was presented to them was Major Mohit himself.



However, owing to the sharpness and the meticulousness of the plan, Torara began having second thoughts. Major Sharma sensed the operation could go sideways and quickly reacted by saying, "If you have any doubts about me, kill me." While dropping his AK-47 rifle, he said, "You cannot do this if you don't trust me. So, you have no choice but to kill me now." Throwing the two Hizbul terrorists into confusion, Major Mohit seized the opportunity, flung out his loaded 9-mm pistol and shot both of them dead. For his commendable undercover operation and gallantry h displayed during the same he was awarded Sena Medal.¹

In the Following years, he also served as an Instructor at the Commando Wing Belgaum for two years from January 2005 to December 2006. His wife Lieutenant Colonel (then Major) Rishima Sharma is also an Officer in the Indian Army.



Major Mohit Sharma with his wife Lieutenant Colonel (Then Major) Rishima Sharma (Source: reddit)

The Parachute Regiment is an airborne and Special Forces Regiment of the Indian Army. It was raised in 1945 as part of the British Indian Army but was disbanded after the World War II and was re-raised in 1952 by absorbing the three existing Parachute Battalions of the 50th

¹ https://tfipost.com/2022/01/from-mike-to-iftikhar-remembering-indian-braveheart-major-mohit-sharma/



Parachute Brigade. In the post-independence restructuring, India retained only one Parachute Brigade—the 50th. This Brigade consisted of three distinguished battalions personally nominated by the then Commander-in-Chief, namely 1 PARA (PUNJAB), 2 PARA (MARATHA LI) and 3 PARA (KUMAON). During the Jammu and Kashmir operations of 1947-48 these battalions distinguished themselves with glory in the battles of Shelatang, Naushera, Jhangar and Poonch, and were awarded the respective Battle Honours. On 15 April 1952, the three battalions serving with the Parachute Brigade were removed from their respective Infantry Regiments to form the PARACHUTE REGIMENT. Since then, The Regiment has participated in 1962 War, 1971 War, Op PAWAN, Op CACTUS, and 1999 Kargil War. Currently it comprises seven Special Forces, six Airborne, two Territorial Army and one Rashtriya Rifles Battalions. 9 PARA (SF) was raised in 1966 as 9th Parachute Commando Battalion. The four Special Forces Battalions were originally trained for use in certain environments; 1 PARA (SF) [Strategic Reserve], 9 PARA (SF) [Mountains], 10 PARA (SF) [Deserts] and 21 PARA (SF) [Jungles]. Currently, all the Special Forces Battalions are trained for all environments.



The funeral of Major Mohit Sharma (Source: Instagram @major_mohitsharma)

In 2009, Major Sharma led a Bravo Assault Team in operations in Kupwara District of North Kashmir. On 21 March, after receiving information about the presence of some terrorists in a dense forest, he led his commandos to track them. On observing some suspicious movement, he alerted his scouts but terrorists soon started firing on them from three directions, indiscriminately. In the heavy exchange of fire, four commandos were wounded. In complete disregard to his personal safety, Major Sharma crawled forward and brought back two soldiers to safety. Unmindful of the overwhelming fire, he hurled grenades and killed two terrorists. In the process he was also shot in the chest but unmindful of his injuries, he engaged in close quarter combat and killed two more terrorists. In the process he was also shot in the close quarter combat and killed two more terrorists.





(Source: President's Secretariat (GODL-India)

While fighting the terrorists Major Mohit Sharma displayed most conspicuous gallantry inspiring leadership, indomitable spirit and made the Supreme Sacrifice he was awarded Ashoka Chakra posthumously.



CITATION

IC-59066N Major Mohit Sharma, (POSTHUMOUS) (Effective date of the award- 21 March 2009)

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Reference: Gazette of India, Notification No dated



BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- 2. Portraits of Valour: India's Highest Gallantry Awards And Their Recipients. S S Gandhi.(2006). The Defence Review Publication
- 3. The Indian Army: A brief history. Edited by Major General Ian Cardozo. Center for Military History and Conflict Studies, United Service Institution of India
- India's wars since Independence: A Concise History by Lieutenant General Vijay Oberoi, PVSM, AVSM, SM, VSM (Retd) (Accessed on 20 July 2024) <u>https://usiofindia.org/publication/usi-journal/indias-wars-since-independence-a-concise-history/</u>
- 5. Honourpoint: An Online Memorial For Indian Soldiers (Accessed on 20 July 2024) https://honourpoint.in/profile/major-dinesh-raghu-raman-ac/
- 6. A Big Salute to Brave Heart Major Mohit Sharam https://www.majormohitsharma.org/Biography.php
- 7. The Heroic Story of Major Mohit Sharma, Para SF Who Sacrificed His Life For Us(Accessed on 12 August 2024)

https://defence.in/threads/the-heroic-story-of-major-mohit-sharma-para-sf-who-sacrificed-his-life-forus.298/



VIDEOS

Major Mohit Sharma. Shahadat (D D Kashir) (Source: YouTube). https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ikUaPGxsim8

Major Mohit Sharma Biography | Story Of Brave Major Mohit Sharma PARA SF (Hindi) (Source: YouTube Defence Squad) <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eWYVyA_o2Rk&t=61s</u>

How Para SF Major Mohit Sharma Fooled Terrorists (Source: YouTube Defence Direct Education) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4d51KrimLqY

Mohit Nahi Sir, IFTIKHAR | Story Of Brave Major Mohit Sharma PARA SF (Source: YouTube Defence Squad) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tfuvw8Tz-3A

Story of Major Mohit Sharma (Bravest of Brave) (Source: YouTube Military Mantra) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l35957rRvLg

Indian Army s' special forces operator turns into undercover terrorist | Major Mohit Sharma (Source: YouTube Lt Cdr Bijay Nair) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9m3LTnDvDTg

21 March 2009 - Major Mohit Sharma laid down his life for India| Bharat Tak (Source: YouTube Bharat Tak) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HGJ6KDRwHVg

Major Mohit Sharma के पराक्रम की अनोखी दास्तांन, शौर्य की गाथा सुनकर भर जाएगी आंखे | GNT (Source: YouTube GNT News) <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Af217WYICYs</u>

Disclaimer**2

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MEMORIAL

• A metro station in Delhi is named after Major Mohit Sharma AC, SM. The metro station is called '*Major Mohit Sharma Rajendra Nagar*' Metro Station.



(Source: Google Images)

• Major Mohit Sharma's statue was also unveiled at Rajendra Nagar in Ghaziabad by the Defense minister of India, Shri Rajnath Singh.



(Source: Instagram @major_mohitsharma)

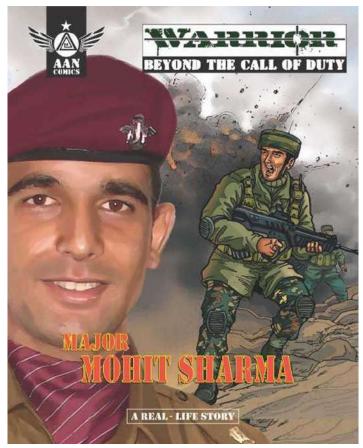


OTHER INTERESTING RESOURCES

 A memorial trust operates in the name of Major Mohit Sharma Memorial Trust. It is dedicated to keeping his memories alive and support the children of our fallen soldiers.

https://www.majormohitsharma.org/Trust-Details.php

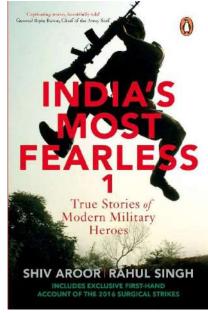
- There are several Instagram accounts which are dedicated to Major Mohit Sharma. They aim to acquaint the masses with the stories of Major Mohit Sharma's childhood and his supreme sacrifice. Some of them are- @majormohitsharmamemorialtrust @major_mohitsharma @hunt0810
- A graphical description of Major Mohit Sharma's actions has been developed in form of a book by AAN Comics.



(Source: AAN Comics)



• Penguin Random House India has published a book which brings to the audience stories of valour and sacrifice by Indian Soldiers. The book is authored by Shiv Aroor and Rahul Singh. One of the chapters is dedicated to Major Mohit Sharma.



(Source: Amazon India)