

The Incredible Life of Jang Bahadar Singh Parmar

Jang Bahadar Singh Parmar was a builder. He built skyscrapers, he built family, and he built community.

Jang Bahadar was the second oldest of four brothers and two sisters. His purpose in life came into focus early, when his oldest brother passed away at the age of 30 from a heart condition. At that moment, Jang Bahadar took on the responsibility of leading his family. He promised his father that he would ensure his siblings were cared for and that his mother would never again feel the pain of losing a child. He even stepped into the father's role for his late brother's two sons.

With this sense of urgency, he returned to America and earned his Master's Degree in Civil Engineering from Brooklyn Polytechnic in just 13 months. He soon worked on skyscrapers and major buildings across New Jersey and New York City. Early in his career, he even developed a process to speed up the leveling and hardening of construction sites—an innovation that saved his firm millions of dollars.

But Jang Bahadar knew that to truly fulfill the promises he had made to his parents, he would need to build something of his own. Working for others would never give him the resources to provide for his family and community in the way he envisioned. So, he founded his own construction company, Hari Construction, named in honor of his beloved mentor.

As fate would have it, in the early 1970s, the Indian government invited Hari Construction to lead major housing and office projects in Kuwait. Selected by the Indian Consulate for his reputation as a builder in the U.S., he spent more than a decade in Kuwait constructing massive government complexes—while continuing to manage projects back in America.

With his success, Jang Bahadar began building the foundation of his family. He brought all his brothers and sisters to America, purchased homes for them, and paid much of the cost himself. He also bought businesses—gas stations, delis, convenience stores—so that every family member had ownership in something that they could grow to provide for their family. Many marveled at how rare it was to have a patriarch who not only provided homes for his family but also created livelihoods for them.

But his generosity extended far beyond his family. He helped hundreds of others settle in the United States, often housing them in his own home for months at a time. He gave freely to anyone in need, never asking for anything in return. In his final week at the hospital, staff members remarked they had never seen so many visitors come for one person. Nearly everyone who entered said the same words: *"I would not be here without him. My family would not have a better life without him."*

Despite his success, Jang Bahadar lived simply. He remained in the same Old Bridge, NJ home he bought in the 1970s. He wore the same white shirt and gray pants every day, never spending on himself. His wealth, he believed, was meant to provide for family and community. His

greatest joy was watching his son, nephews, nieces, and later their children succeed—many earning engineering and medical degrees from the finest universities in the country. He celebrated each of their accomplishments as if it were his own.

Once his family was secure, he turned to what became his greatest legacy: building for his community in India. Inspired by his Sikh teacher, Sant Hari Singh, who had once lived in a simple hut, Jang Bahadar used that hut as the foundation for something extraordinary. He built the Gurdwara Mananhana complex, which today provides not only a place of worship but also an elementary school for 600 young girls, a medical clinic offering care at little to no cost, a man-made reservoir for nearby fields, and daily free meals for anyone who comes. Each year, more than 20,000 people gather there for an annual four day wrestling tournament and kids carnival. Over 500,000 people visit the complex annually.

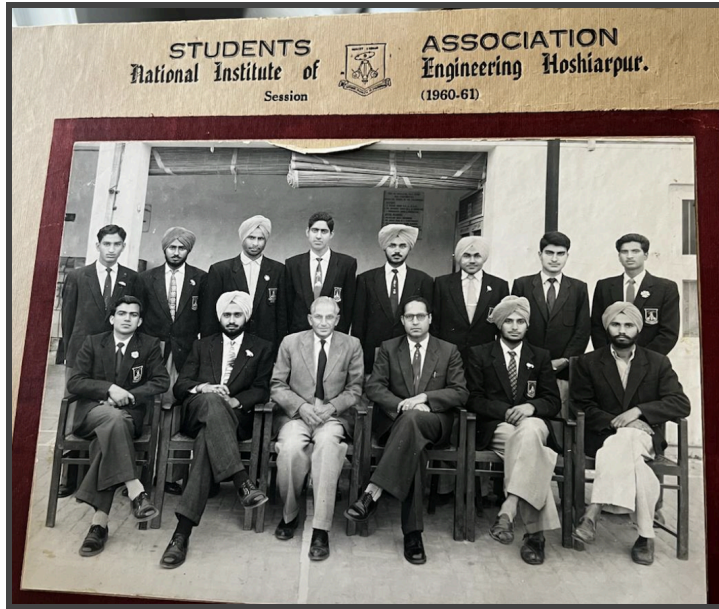
The complex's main tower rises above the flat farmlands of Punjab, with each floor dedicated to a different faith—Sikhism, Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Judaism, and Buddhism. It stands as a symbol of unity and peace, reflecting his belief that people of all religions can live together harmoniously. At its base still lies the hut of Sant Hari Singh, the inspiration for it all.

Just as impressive was the role that Jang Bahadar had in rebuilding Gurdwara Kartarpur Sahib, which has been closed in Pakistan since the partition in 1947. He contributed capital and building expertise, and worked directly with the Pakistan government in 2001 to have it reopened. Most importantly, Jang Bahadar purchased the nearby farmlands, which Guru Nanak himself tended to in the last 20 years of his time on earth. Those fields were merged with the Gurdwara so that Sikhs for years to come could stand and pray on the very spot that Guru Nanak did 500 years ago. Kartarpur now stands as the most significant Sikh Gurdwara in Pakistan, with 50,000 visitors crossing from India annually to visit. For these contributions to the faith, Jang Bahadar was awarded The Lifetime Achievement Award by Rajput Charitable Library in Punjab. In India, he was given the name “the silent sevadar” - a selfless servant of others.

Jang Bahadar was a deeply religious man. A strict vegetarian, he lived by the conviction that no living being should suffer for another's benefit. He carried this philosophy into every part of his life—family, work, and community. After his passing, his diary was found with a simple yet profound prayer written on the first page: *“May God give me the guidance to always do what is right.”* He lived by those words every single day.

The name “Jang Bahadar” translates to “fearless warrior and protector”. True to his name, he faced every challenge with courage, never fearing obstacles, hardship, or even death. He protected his family and community with the strength and devotion of a king. At his core, he believed in God's will—that everything happens under the Creator's command, and that in the end, Waheguru would take care of us all.

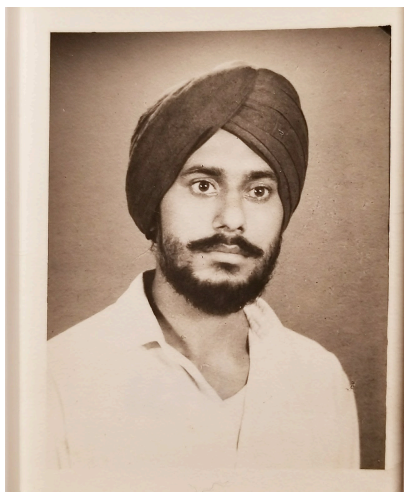
Now, Jang Bahadar Singh Parmar has been called home to Waheguru. His life stands as a shining example of what it means to be a Sikh, a builder, and a true silent sevadar.



Jang Bahadar (seated, second seat to right) at age 19.

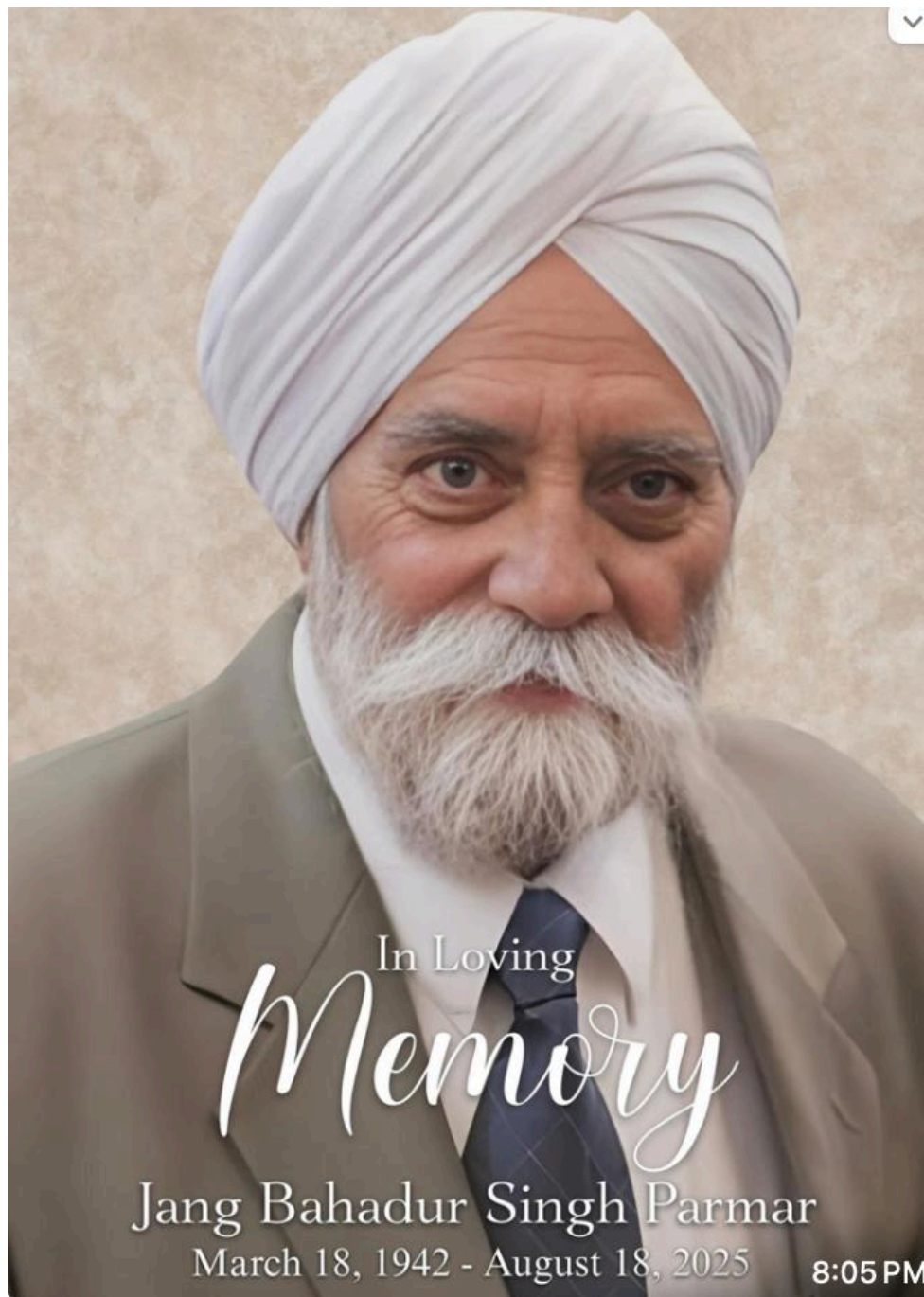


Jang Bahadar (left) in 1969 in New Jersey, Liberty State Park.



Rameshwor Singh Parmar

The oldest brother of Jang Bahadar. Whose life, love, and untimely passing influenced the rest of Jang Bahadar's life and work.



Picture taken in 2023. At Jang Bahadar's sister's 50th wedding anniversary

Gurdwara Mananhana - India



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=flxISqQ-XRg>





Gurdwara Kartarpur Sahib - Pakistan



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gurdwara_Darbar_Sahib_Kartarpur

