

KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS.

~ Cdt. Anamika Singh

Kargil Vijay Diwas is commemorated every 26 July in India, to observe India's victory over Pakistan in the Kargil War for ousting Pakistani forces from their occupied positions on the mountain tops of Northern Kargil District in Ladakh in 1999. Initially, the Pakistani army denied their involvement in the war, claiming that it was caused by Kashmiri militants forces. However documents left behind by casualties, testimony of POWs and later statements by the Prime Minister of Pakistan Nawaz Sharif and Pakistan Army Chief of Army Staff Pervez Musharaff showed the involvement of Pakistani Paramilitary forces, led by General Ashraf Rashid.

Kargil Vijay Diwas is celebrated on 26 July every year in honour of the Kargil War's Heroes. This day is celebrated all over India and in the national capital, New Delhi, where the prime minister of India pays homage to the soldiers at Aman Jawan Jyoti at the India Gate every year.

Functions are also organized all over the country to commemorate the contributions of the Indian Armed Forces. 527 soldiers from the Indian Armed Forces lost their lives during the war. Today, the areas of Kargil and Drass, which we all proudly declare as part of India, are the gift of those martyrs, to whom we express our gratitude by paying homage every year.

