



Source 5

Report from the London Gazette newspaper on the actions of Jemadar Mir Dast, June 1915

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How to use this source:

Study this source carefully. It contains information that could be useful in your presentation on life in the trenches. As you study the source, ask yourself:

- In what ways was Mir Dast a typical British soldier and in what ways was he unusual?
- Why was he fighting on the western front? What does this source tell you about who joined the British Army when the war started? Read the useful notes to help you.
- Which aspects of trench warfare does this source provide information on?
- How could this source be used in your final presentation?



Source 5

Jemadar Mir Dast, I.O.M., 55th Coke's Rifles (Frontier Force), attached 57th Wilde's Rifles (Frontier Force).

For most conspicuous bravery and great ability at Ypres on 26th April, 1915, when he led his platoon with great gallantry during the attack, and afterwards collected various parties of the regiment (when no British Officers were left) and kept them under his command until the retirement was ordered.

Jemadar Mir Dast subsequently on this day displayed remarkable courage in helping to carry eight British and Indian Officers into safety, whilst exposed to very heavy fire.