

December 16, 1948

My dear Mr. Mayo Singh:

I received your last letter yesterday and just two days before, I mailed a letter to you informing you of the action which I had taken; doubtless our letters crossed. I would urge you not to worry as I am confident from my talk with Mr. Congdon, that Ottawa will review Karnail Singh's case and reverse their former decision.

I am enclosing herewith copies of my correspondence with Mr. Jolliffe and Mr. Taylor in connection with this case. I would point out to you the length of time it takes for even an airmail letter to reach Canada and vice versa and also one must take into consideration the slowness of the government in dealing with these matters. It is a difficult case, as you know, as the Minister himself has rejected the appeal and it is seldom that the decision of the Minister is reversed. If I had been in Ottawa I could have obtained favourable results in much less time as I did in the cases of Lakha Singh, Khan and Moorthy whose applications and appeals had been rejected by the Minister.

Perhaps before this letter reaches you, you may have heard of a favourable decision directly through Mr. Taylor. If you have not heard of any decision by the time you receive this letter please wire me immediately to that effect, so that I can obtain an extension for him to allow me more time to work for his permanent residence. If in the meantime, I receive a reply to my representation to Mr. Jolliffe I shall immediately cable you informing you of his decision. Please believe me when I say that I am doing all that it is possible to do from this distance and I am confident that the result will be in our favour.

With best wishes and the compliments of the season to you,
Mrs. Mayo Singh and the family.

Yours sincerely,

D. P. Pandia

D. P. Pandia

Mr. A. L. Jolliffe,
Director of Immigration,
Dept. of Mines & Resources,
Wood Building, Ottawa

RE KARNAIL SINGH SAROYA - FILE NO. B-94426

Dear Mr. Jolliffe:

I wish to bring to your attention the following case in the hope that you will give it your sympathetic consideration. I understand that the facts of the case are as follows:

Karnail Singh Saroya was engaged to Mayo Singh's Canadian-born daughter, Joginder Kaur, for four years. Last February 15, 1948, he came to Canada for a temporary visit and during that period he married the above-mentioned girl.

In June of this year as you are aware, the government made provision for the admission of "young men seeking to enter Canada for the immediate purpose of marrying girls of Indian racial origin legally resident in this country." In view of the above government order, Karnail Singh applied to the Victoria office on September 24, for permanent residence in Canada. Much to his surprise, not only was his application rejected by Mr. J. Dorman of the Victoria office, but he was ordered to be deported. He then appealed to Ottawa but without success. However, he was allowed ninety days for voluntary departure.

It would be unfortunate for this young man if, due to the difference of only a few months between the date of his marriage and that of the government order, he should be compelled to leave his young bride in Canada. If he had applied for admission from India under the new government order, he would have been granted admission as in all respects, with the exception of this small technicality of time, Karnail Singh satisfies the requirements for admission. He is of good character, in possession of sufficient funds to enable himself to become established and has good physical and mental health. Added to this is the fact that he has university education and is the first Hindu with such education who has applied for permanent residence in Canada and undoubtedly he would be of great assistance to the Indian community if his request were granted.

His wife, Joginder Kaur, has independent means as she is a partner in her father's business. Her father, Mayo Singh, as you know is a well-to-do pioneer in the lumber industry. Naturally he is disturbed at the prospect of his daughter either being separated from her husband or else leaving the country of her birth in which she has extensive business interests.

I am aware that in the past the Department has been caused considerable trouble by the influx of illegal entrants. However, as your records will show, during the last ten years this practice has completely ceased as far as Hindus are concerned, due to the careful checking of

passports and immigration documents at the ports of entry, but to a large extent, I believe, because of the continued efforts of responsible Hindu organizations and their leaders in B. C., who through circulars etc. have helped to prevent this illegal practice.

However in this connection I would say that the Canada-India Association, consisting of responsible Hindu leaders such as Kapoor Singh, Mayo Singh etc. has played a great part as Mr. Taylor will confirm. I would point out that in Karnail Singh's case, he entered the country legally as a temporary visitor to meet his fiancée to whom he had been engaged for the past four years. When the government order of last June was issued, he naturally applied for admission under the category of sons-in-law.

Therefore in view of the above facts, I am taking the liberty of asking you to review this case as I sincerely feel that Karnail Singh's case is worthy of your sympathetic consideration. I trust that your department will see fit to include him in the category (a) mentioned in Mr. MacKinnon's letter to me on June 29th.

As the time limit is short, I would appreciate it if you could give this matter your prompt attention and kindly let me know your decision.

Yours sincerely,

D. P. Pandia

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Dear Mr. Jolliffe:

5-2 Northwood Hall,
Hornsey Lane,
Highgate, London, N. 6
December 16, 1948

I trust that you have received my letter of November 24th dealing with the case of Karnail Singh Saroya, whose file No. is B-94426, and who has been ordered to leave Canada voluntarily by December 24, 1948.

As I have not heard from you and as the time limit is drawing to a close, I am taking the liberty of again approaching you in the hope that you have found time to review this case in the light of the facts which I submitted to you in my last letter.

As this young man is a university graduate, he will be of great assistance to his wife and father-in-law, who have large business interests in the lumber industry in B. C. Added to this is the fact that he will undoubtedly help the Indian community who as you know are short of educated men and Karnail Singh might be able to guide them in their efforts to become good Canadian citizens.

I should be grateful if you could give this case your early attention, as I sincerely feel it is worthy of your sympathetic consideration.

With kindest regards.

Yours sincerely,

D. P. Pandia

5-2 Northwood Hall,
Barnsey Lane, Highgate, London,
December 16, 1948 N. 6

My dear Mr. Taylor:

I am sorry that during your stay here in London it was not possible to spend more time with you. I rang up Canada House a few times, but you were not there and the last time they told me that you had left. I was disappointed, as I wanted to take you to India House to meet our High Commissioner.

I suppose you are extremely busy these days as usual, but as I always found you sympathetic towards the problems of the Indian community, I am taking the liberty of drawing your attention to a special case, that of Karnail Singh Saroya, whose file number is B-94426. I have no doubt that you are aware of this case but I am giving you the following facts in order to recall it/your mind in the hope that you will give it your sympathetic consideration.

Karnail Singh Saroya was engaged for four years to Mayo Singh's Canadian-born daughter and last February 15, 1948, he came to Canada for a temporary visit to see his fiancée. At that time negotiations were going on in Ottawa for the admission of young men who desired to enter Canada for the express purpose of marrying Canadian-born Indian girls. Thinking that he would be admitted permanently to Canada under this category, he married the girl and when the Order was passed by the government dealing with this category, he naturally applied for permanent residence on September 24. However, the Victoria office not only rejected his application but ordered his deportation. He appealed to Ottawa, but his appeal was rejected, however, he was allowed ninety days to leave Canada voluntarily—that is by December 24, 1948.

This young man satisfies all the requirements for admission to Canada, such as, good health, sufficient funds to establish himself and good character, in fact, if he had applied for admission to Canada from India under the new government order, he would have been granted admission. Whatever the technical reason for the rejection of his application for admission to Canada was, I believe that his case merits some consideration as he has a university education and is the first Hindu with such an education to apply for permanent residence in Canada and undoubtedly he would be of great assistance to the Indian community if his request were granted, for as you know, there is a dearth of educated men in the Indian community. If he has to leave the country it would entail great hardship for his wife, as she would either have to be separated from her husband, or leave the country of her birth in which she has extensive business interests as she is a partner with her father, Mr. Mayo Singh, in several of his business projects.

I have explained these facts in detail in my letter to Mr. Jolliffe in which I asked him to review this case. The time limit is short and therefore I should be grateful if you would *look into* his case and make any recommendations which you feel are just and necessary to enable Ottawa to review this case sympathetically and thus give this young man a chance to prove his worth not only to the Indian community but to the country

I should appreciate hearing from you in regard to this matter.

With kindest regards and the compliments of the season.

Yours sincerely,

D. P. Pandia

I suppose you are aware of the fact that I have always found you sympathetic towards the problems of the Indian community. I am taking the liberty of drawing your attention to a special case that of Laxmi Singh Saroya, whose file number is P-3085. I have no doubt that you are aware of this case but I am giving you the following facts in order to recall it your mind in the hope that you will give it your sympathetic consideration.

Laxmi Singh Saroya was engaged for four years to have Singh's Canadian-born daughter and last February 18, 1948, he came to Canada for a temporary visit to see his fiancée. At that time negotiations were going on in Ottawa for the admission of young men who desired to enter Canada for the express purpose of marrying Canadian-born girls. Thinking that he would be admitted permanently to Canada under this category, he married the girl and when the Order was passed by the Government dealing with this category, he actually applied for permanent residence on September 24. However, the Victoria office not only rejected his application but ordered his deportation. He applied to Ottawa, but his appeal was rejected, however, he was allowed ninety days to leave Canada voluntarily - that is by December 24, 1948.

This young man satisfies all the requirements for admission to Canada, such as, good health, sufficient funds to establish himself and good character, in fact, if he had applied for admission to Canada from India under the new government order, he would have been granted admission. Whatever the technical reason for the rejection of his application for admission to Canada was, I believe that his case merits some consideration as he has a substantial education and is the first of his family such an education to apply for government residence in Canada and should only be held up of great substance to the Indian community if the request were granted, for as you know, there is a dearth of educated men in the Indian community. If he was to leave the country he would entail great hardship for his wife, as she would either have to be separated from her husband, or leave the country of her birth in which she has extensive business interests as she is a partner with her father, Mr. Singh, in several of the business projects.

I have explained these facts in detail in my letter to Mr. Joffe in which I asked him to review this case. The time limit is short and therefore I should be grateful if you would look into the case and make any recommendations which you feel are just and necessary to enable Ottawa to review this case expeditiously and thus give this young man a chance to prove his worth not only to the Indian community but to the country.