



The Banga Family

Photos clockwise from the left

A Family Portrait

This family portrait of the Banga family was taken after Dhan Kaur returned from India with the children in 1944. Nand Singh and Dhan Kaur posed with their sons Ajit and Bimbh, and their daughters Bhagwan and Isher.

Nand Singh and sons

Father and sons - Ajit Singh Banga, Nand Singh Banga, and Bimbh Singh Banga. This photo was taken in 1942 while father and two sons lived in Canada without Dhan Kaur, their mother and Nand Singh's wife for almost six years.

Nand Singh and Pritam Singh

Uncle Pritam Singh and nephew Nand Singh are seen here dressed formally as Sikhs. This studio picture shows them portraying their readiness to symbolically become warriors in true Sikh form, by drawing the sword. As young men before they got married, they would have been in the midst of creating their own identity as Sikh men in the manner of saint/warrior or sant/sepahi.

Nand Singh

As a practicing Sikh, Nand Singh was dedicated to doing sewa (service) in the community. For many years whenever there was a langar (communal kitchen) or Path (prayers) at the Gur Sikh Temple in Abbotsford, Nand Singh would rise at 3 a.m. to help prepare all the food and get ready for the service. He was honoured for his many contributions to the gurudwara in 1977 when the community held a prayer ceremony in his honour.

Pritam Singh, Nand Singh and Hardit

Three brothers - Pritam Singh, Nand Singh, and Hardit Singh are seen here in their fields in Queensborough, New Westminster in 1937.

The family had approximately four acres of land on which two houses were built in close proximity for the extended family. Thakur, his two brothers, and the entire Banga family lived on the farm. They produced enough food to feed their family by growing carrots, potatoes, cauliflower and other vegetables.