

14 July 37

Kartar Kaur's letter to her husband Indar Singh Gill over a 19 year period of separation while he was in British Columbia and she was left behind in Panjab

Letter# 1 July 14, 1937

The One Creator created this creation, with the True Guru's Grace.

I Kartar Kaur is writing you this letter my beloved Sardarji. I am well and wish for your happiness always. My Sardarji I have received your letter and got news of your well-being. Sardarji I put your letter close to my heart and was ecstatic after reading it. I am so fortunate my Sardarji is as virtuous that he keeps his family close to his heart. All my hopes rest on you my Sardarji. You are the only one who understands me and I say that my Sardarji is very intelligent and able. You have made a name for yourself on your intellect and hard work. My Sardarji, since I got your letter I have gotten more courage. Now my days passes well. You can understand how my soul has become lonesome without you. I hope, my Sardarji that you would not worry. By God's grace we shall meet again. We must have committed a grave sin that we are still apart, my Sardarji if I had known, I would have never let you go. May God keep you well.

My Sardarji when we meet again, I'll share my sorrows. My husband, what sin have I committed, that you have left me behind, but I draw strength from you and the fact that you yourself had to leave without me. It's been seven years, I can't bear it, and how do I pull through these trying times without you. ---- aapne naal tan sakeeran pai gayiyan.

My Sardarji, don't worry about me. Since I received your letter, I have become joyous it seems as I've been united with you in person. I won't be content till I see your face. My husband, whenever I remember all the sorrows, I am left bereft of all hope. Text missing- can't understand handwriting

My Sardarji, I am not the Kartaro that you left behind. I have no strength left in me. My husband, I am so despondent, when will I see your face. My Sardarji, I request you to send me a picture of yourself so that I can gaze upon it, till you come back. Please send it with your next letter. I long to see your face. My Sardarji, please listen to my plea, I rightfully urge you dear beloved

My Sardarji, I have received the money you sent. Mohinder Singh has given me Rs. 50. Thank you for taking care of me. I miss you a lot. Whenever it gets too much, I go inside the small room to cry, after I get a hold of myself, I wipe my tears and come outside. My Sardarji, I can't write too much, my heart aches to be with you so I can look at you and give you all my love. My husband, in this life not even a moment is guaranteed, every time I hear of somebody passing away, I get sad to think that even though we are both alive, we are still apart. With God's grace we shall meet. My Sardarji, I answered you letter five seven days late as I was sick. I didn't have the strength to write. Whenever I tried, I would get depressed and get a fever. My Sardarji, I am well now, I am asking you repeatedly please don't worry about me. My Sardarji, I didn't want to tell you about this but I thought you might get mad about the letter being late. Don't worry about me, I wrote the letter after I had gotten better. My Sardarji, your letter provides me with the strength to get through each day. Otherwise, I don't want to eat or wear nice clothes.

My Sardarji, please forgive me if I wrote anything to upset you. Please respond to the letter promptly. I have enrolled Gurcharan Kaur in school since your last letter. She doesn't have her nose or ear pierced. I told Gurcharan Kaur that her father asked what she wants him to send to her. Gurcharan Kaur said, "Father, I don't want anything. I just want you to come back. I miss you. I go to school now."

My husband, send the next letter quickly. Write me a letter every 15 days, only then I will feel content. My Sardarji, if I made any mistake please forgive me. Please accept my best wishes. My husband, your mother is very melancholy. She sends you all her love. My Sardarji, did you send a picture with Rode's wife (or daughter-in law - bahu can be both)? She told me that she has Indar Singh's picture. Is she telling me the truth or is she lying?