



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

CLASS: VIII	Department: ENGLISH	Date of Submission: JULY 2026
Worksheet No. 9	Topic: A Tale of Valour: Major Somnath Sharma and the Battle of Badgam ANSWER KEY	Note: To be done in the notebook

I. Answer the following questions:

1. 'Major Somnath's legacy of courage and devotion to the nation remains forever alive, forever alive...' What is the significance of the repetition in this line?

Ans: The repetition of the phrase 'forever alive' emphasizes the lasting impact of Major Somnath's bravery and devotion. It conveys that his sacrifice is remembered not just as a moment in history, but as an eternal source of inspiration for future generations.



2. Why do you think Major Somnath's leadership was critical during the Battle of Badgam?

Ans: Major Somnath's leadership was critical during the Battle of Badgam because he remained calm under pressure, inspired his men to fight bravely despite overwhelming odds, and made strategic decisions such as requesting air strikes. His presence and courage motivated his troops to hold their ground, buying valuable time for reinforcements to arrive and save Srinagar.

3. What were Major Somnath's last words? What do they reflect about his sense of duty?

Ans: Major Somnath's last words were: "The enemy is only 50 yards from us. We are heavily outnumbered. We are under devastating fire. I shall not withdraw an inch but will fight to the last man and the last round." These words reflect his unshakeable commitment to his mission and his willingness to sacrifice everything for the defense of his country. They show his deep sense of duty, bravery, and leadership.



4. What might have been the outcome of the Battle of Badgam if Major Somnath and his company had not held their ground?

Ans: If Major Somnath and his company had not held their ground, the infiltrators might have captured the Srinagar airport and the surrounding areas. This could have led to the loss of Kashmir to Pakistan in 1947, changing the course of Indian history significantly.

5. Why do you think Major Somnath's story continues to inspire soldiers and civilians today?

Ans: Major Somnath's story inspires people because it embodies courage, patriotism, and selfless sacrifice. He led from the front despite personal injury and chose to fight against overwhelming odds rather than retreat. Such dedication to the nation sets a powerful example for both soldiers defending the country and civilians striving to uphold values in their daily lives.

Comprehension Check (Page No.13)

- I. *Vastly outnumbered and facing devastating fire, Major Somnath Sharma and his men stood resolute. The air was thick with the sound of gunfire and the cries of battle, but Major Somnath Sharma's***

voice cut through the chaos, urging his men to fight with tenacity and valour.

Despite heavy casualties and his own injuries, Major Somnath Sharma displayed unparalleled bravery. He moved fearlessly through the battlefield, directing fire, filling magazines for his gunners, and encouraging his men to hold their ground.

(1) What can be inferred about the conditions from the line: ‘The air was thick with gunfire...’

- A. The gunshots had stopped for a while.
- B. There was intense fighting on the battlefield.**
- C. The invaders were retreating from the fight.
- D. The Indian soldiers had achieved victory.

(2) Select the correct option for both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) given below:

(A): Major Somnath Sharma moved fearlessly through the battlefield, even though he was injured.

(R): He believed his courage was important to motivate the soldiers.

- A. Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).**
- B. Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- C. (A) is true, but (R) is false.
- D. (A) is false, but (R) is true.

(3) Select the word that completes the following analogy correctly.

Major Somnath Sharma : Battlefield Leadership :: Lighthouse : ?

- A. Darkness
- B. Guidance**
- C. Silence
- D. Distance

