



Ship Fact Sheet



KARAGOLA (1917)

Base data at 27 April 1917. Compiled February 2009

* indicates entries changed during P&O Group service.

Type	Passenger/cargo liner
P&O Group service	1917-1948
P&O Group status	Owned by subsidiary company
Former name(s)	
Registered owners, managers and operators	British India Steam Navigation Company Ltd
Builders	Swan, Hunter & Wigham Richardson Ltd
Yard	Newcastle-upon-Tyne
Country	UK
Yard number	950
Registry	
Official number	137841
Signal letters	JPNQ
Call sign	
Classification society	Lloyd's Register
Gross tonnage	7,053 grt
Net tonnage	3,647 nrt
Deadweight	6,770 tons
Length	129.54m (425.0ft)
Breadth	17.00m (55.8ft)
Depth	9.50m (31.2ft)
Draught	8.046m (26.4ft)
Engines	Triple-expansion steam engines
Engine builders	Swan, Hunter & Wigham Richardson Ltd
Works	Newcastle-upon-Tyne
Country	UK
Power	6,800 ihp
Propulsion	Twin screw
Speed	16 knots
Passenger capacity	58 first class, 64 second class, 1,050 deck
Cargo capacity	
Crew	
Employment*	Bombay/East Africa/South Africa service

Career

- 27.11.1916: Launched.
- 27.04.1917: Delivered as *Karagola* for British India Steam Navigation Company at a cost of £152,800. She was the last of the KAR-class ships with her sisters being *Karaoa* and *Karapara*.
- 1917: She immediately came under the Liner Requisition Scheme when she came into service.
- 19.05.1917: When she was 385km (240 miles) out of Gibraltar, she drove off U47 with her stern gun and then a fortnight later, between Malta and Port Said, she sighted another periscope from which she quickly distanced herself without having to open fire.
- 10.1917/ Mid-1919: Requisitioned as an Expeditionary Force transport
- 1918: Trooped from Karachi to Bushire.
- 1920: Returned to her owners to take up intended service.
- 23.12.1925: Collided with the Ellerman liner *Kosmo* when *Karagola* was leaving Lourenco Marques. *Kosmo* was at anchor off the pilot station and only suffered minor damage to her deck fittings and bucked plates on both sides.
- 01.02.1929: Swept ashore at Mozambique along with *Malda* in a cyclone which struck Beira, the winds reaching 80 knots. The *Karagola* was refloated on the flood tide the following day.
- 25.03.1930: Suffered a fire in the bunkers when she was at Lourenco Marques which necessitated the discharge of most of the coal.
- 1935: Transferred to the Calcutta/Straits service.
- Late-1940: Served briefly as a Personnel Ship.
- WWII: Spent the remainder of the war serving in the Liner Division.
- 20.10.1940: While in convoy BN 7, she was attacked by four Italian destroyers 240km (150 miles) east of Massawa. The attack was beaten off and in a chase after dawn the Italian destroyer *Francesco Nullo* was driven ashore off Massawa and later destroyed by air attack.
- 1943/1945: Spent most of her time sailing between Bombay and East and South Africa.
- 23.03.1944: Picked up twelve survivors from the American ship *H D Collier*, landing them at Bombay the following day.
- 03.06.1948: Sold to British Iron & Steel Corporation (BISCO) for £18,000 and arrived at Inverkeithing to be scrapped by Thomas W Ward Ltd.

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