

East is East

How the heck did I end up in India? I was supposed to be in England. When you turn back the pages of time it is interesting to see how some things took a different course. When I graduated from High School (Magna Cum Just Barely), I told my Mother that I was going to spend 6 months traveling around the world. I never imagined at the time that I would be away for 3 years. First stop would be London, England. I set off on my journey and my first destination was San Francisco. If you follow the logistics of this first step you will see why I got such low marks in geography. My plan was to work my way to England on a ship. There were not many ships leaving for England from the west coast of America. One ship offered me a job but they were going to India, not England. I was tired of walking from ship to ship looking for passage so India, here I come.

The 6,000 ton cargo ship spent 20 days sailing from San Francisco to Hong Kong. From Hong Kong we went to India via Manila, Singapore and Pakistan. That's how I ended up spending a month wandering around India. There I was, a skinny teenager in a whole new world. If I had gained any weight I would have been mistaken for Gandhi.

After a month I found another ship that was soon leaving India and returning to San Francisco via Singapore and Manila. Back in San Francisco, after 6 months, I finally found another ship that was going to England through the Panama Canal and I signed on for the trip. Finally, I would arrive in London. But that's another story.



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