

HIGHWAY SECONDARY SCHOOL – 1963

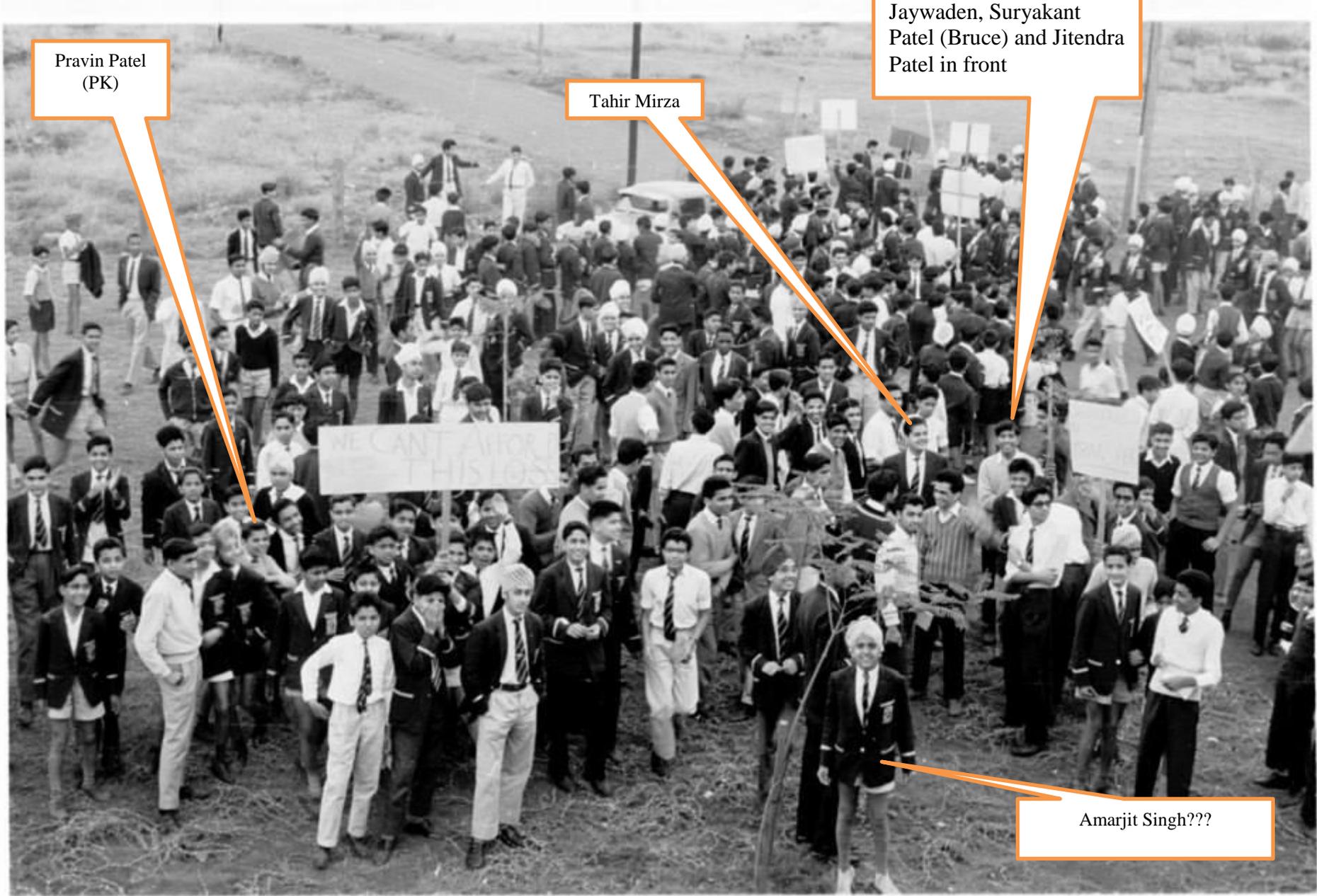
The Long March to the Town Hall Nairobi in Support of Headmaster Mr Fernandes' unfair transfer to another school – Photos courtesy Mr Bains

As kids, we were asked by our seniors to take part in a two day strike for Mr Fernandes who was a stand-in Headmaster after Mr MA Turnidge our first headmaster got transferred to Duke of Gloucester (I think). In came Mr Clement and hence Mr Fernandes got side-lined. The mainly Asian staff did not like the move and to make the point for reinstating the popular Mr Fernandes, they pushed the boisterous senior students to take to the road. I was in Form II then since it must have been early 1963 and Frederick our first African student is seen in the crowd. He and Johnson were the first African students to join Highway. Mr Fernandes did continue as a deputy headmaster.

PS: Popular he might have been, but in later school days, Mr Fernandes once lashed me 3 stinging canes after a brawl in which I hit and bruised "Aloo". Had I known there was going to be a sinister side to Mr Fernandes' headmastership, I wouldn't have wasted my energies for his cause. But that's life. Seeing the banner headings "We cannot afford this Loss" and "Sorry we cannot afford this Transfer" makes you think how politically dull our slogans were. – Compiled by *Tahir Mirza (March 2014)*



Harbans Singh
Form II



Pravin Patel
(PK)

Tahir Mirza

Jaywaden, Suryakant
Patel (Bruce) and Jitendra
Patel in front

Amarjit Singh???



Frederick

Jaywaden ?

Tahir Mirza ?

Ramnik

Harminder Singh

PK

Amarjit ???



The Strikers viewed from our Chemistry Lab (KC Patel was our Chemistry teacher)



Perwez

Jujhar Singh

Raghbeer Singh

Virender Bhogal



Harbans (Another) ?