



SIPA

Bulletin

For Circulation to Members only

Vol. 9 No. 3

May-June, 1988

Bimonthly

SOUTH INDIA PHILATELISTS' ASSOCIATION

(Founded 1956)

(Affiliated to the Philatelic Congress of India)

TANAPEX-88

The VI Tamil Nadu Circle-Level Philatelic Exhibition, "TANAPEX-88", was organised by the Department of Posts, Tamilnadu Circle from 11-2-88 to 14-2-88. The previous Circle Level Philatelic Exhibitions were organised in 1973, 1975, 1978, 1981 and 1985. The exhibition was arranged in the spacious halls of the IV floor of the Office of the Postmaster-General, Tamilnadu Circle at Anna Salai, Madras. About 10 Dealer's booth for selling philatelic items during the period of the exhibition, were also made available.

Special covers and cancellation: An attractively designed special cover depicting the famous renowned "BRAHADEESWARAR TEMPLE, THANJAVUR" in colour was issued with four different cancellations, one for each day of the exhibition. The famous 'NANDI' on 11-2-88; 'Bharata Natyam' on 12-2-88;

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'Madras Presidency G. P. O. Buildings' on 13-2-88 and the celebrated Festival of Mattu Pongal, depicting the taming of the wild bull on 14-2-88.

Inauguration: Dr. Malcolm S. Adiseshiah, Chairman, Madras Institute of Development Studies released the Special cover and also Inaugurated the Exhibition on 11-2-88. He commended the efforts of the Postal Department in the spread of Philately and stressed the need on the part of Teachers and Professors to involve and imbibe the inherent educational value of the hobby of Philately and even went to the extent of including in the studies a chapter on PHILATELY right from the School stage.

Shri M. S. Rangaswami, Postmaster-General, Tamilnadu Circle, who had earlier gave a very fine welcome speech took the chief guest round the Exhibition Hall. Dr. Malcolm S. Adiseshiah showed special interest in viewing the exhibits put up by the Invitees. He keenly studied the

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The views Contained in the articles published are the author's own and not necessarily those of the Association.

SIPA MEETINGS

SECOND SUNDAY of every month - Regular meeting at the Philately Bureau, Anna Road Post Office.

THIRD SUNDAY of every month - Auction meeting at our Library Hall at 6, Nannian Street, Madras-3

(Timings: 10-45 a.m. to 1 p.m.)

World of Music and Philately—Cont.

By A. N. RAJESHAVAR RAO

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King Ravana was known as Ravana Brahma and he was the inventor of our present popular instrument violin. Apart from this he was a singer and veena player. The Veena at that age was known as Ravana Hasta., when Ravana enters the final battle against Rama he proudly says "Rama does not know about my skill in war, I shall play the veena of my bow with the plectrum of my arrow and the hearts of my enemies will tremble and they will flee in dissarray".

(The Stamp of 1979 masks series)

Then I have displayed few Indian stamps on saints and poets who brought Bhakthi movement to music. It may be noted here that during early years music was restricted only to devotional songs and to praise the God but later on changed. And today light music Film music and others are equally popular to Devotional music.

SAINTS AND POETS

Tulasidas: Born in the year 1543, translated the sacred epic of Ramayana to Hindi called "Rama Charita Manasa". In his life time he was followed by huge gatherings of devotees repeated the Lord's name and chanting holy songs.

Meerabai: SG-339 Princess Meerabai was born in 1498 and died in 1546 and she was a great mystic poet and her songs are sung even today all over India in the name Meera Bhajans.

Surdas: SG-340 A blind singer of Agra of 15th 16th century was one of the most inspiring saint and mystic poets of India. His

depth in mysticism is clearly shown in his work "SURSAGAR". He dedicated his life to God Sri Rama.

Ghalib: SG-341 Born during 1797 at Agra was one of the greatest poets in Urdu language. His poems on humanity love and descriptions of different states of the mind have placed Ghalib in the ranks of universal genius. His literary works are considered as classics.

Kabir: A mystic saint of 15th century. His couplets in easy and intelligible Hindi have an irresistible appeal. He has composed many Hindi Bhazhan under the seal of Kabirdas.

Sir Rabindranath Tagore: SG - 342 Born in 1861 our national poet the author of our present National Anthem and a winner of Nobel prize for his GEETHANJALI. Apart from poet he was a good painter who created more than 3000 pictures.

The above six stamps are 1932 issue of saints and poets.

Purandaradasa: (16th Century) Born at Poona composed mainly songs in Kannada. He is known as the Father of Carnatic Music, created many Raga's and gave the foundation for teaching Carnatic Music (1964 issue).

Basaweswara: The great Kannada Poet and religious teacher and Social reformer. His teachings were mainly on the humility, simplicity and Charity His Vachanas are among rare striking elements of the Kannada literature (1967 issue).

Nar simha Mehta: The poet saint whose verses inspired Mahatma Gandhi was born during 16th Century His "PADAS" or hymns with their deep religious and philosophical messages became famous under the name "SRINGARA MALA" (1967 issue).

Bhatkande: Born in 1860. Vishnu Narayan Bhatkande was a great Musician who popularised the Indian Music in those days. He compiled the old manuals collected examples of the ragas or modes, co-ordinated and systematised the same in teaching the same in music schools (1961 issue).

V. D Paluskar: Born during 1872 was an eminent musician from Maharashtra. He popularised Hindustani Music through out the world (1973 issue).

Ramakrishna Paramahansa: Chaitanya Mahaprabu Swami Haridas, Kambar, Swami Rama Thirtha, Saint Namdev and others brought Bhakthi movement to Music and popularised Bhajans which became the important part of Music in the mass. Even today their bhajans are very popular in North India.

Vemana: A philosopher, saint and a great poet of Telugu has composed many poems to teach people about the happiness of the world in a simple and sweet language (1972 issue).

STAMPDEX

HOLESALE AND RETAIL STAMP DEALERS

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INDIAN STAMP CO.,
CHHIPI TANK, MEERUT-250 001.

Some more stamps have been issued by India during the recent days, which may not have been included here and I welcome the suggestion of the readers for the further development of my collections.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF CARNATIC MUSIC

The Carnatic Musical Trinity: Thyagaraja - Dikshitar - Shyama Shastri born in the same place Tiruvarur near Madras during the same age. All the three are like the three stars in our present day of concert music. Today there cannot be any concert without the Kriti of Saint Thyagaraja. At this stage I remember a joke of the great Barnard Shah:—Alexandar, Hitler and Napoleon—All the three being world conquerors—why all three were famous? our Shah says because they were not living at the same age. If they were living at the same age, one would have killed the other. But this stands only in war and not for Music. But the great Barnard Shah is wrong if he enters our music field. Our Carnatic Music Trinity were not ambitious as the rulers. Now let's know them individually.

Saint Thyagaraja: SG-433—1961 issue Born in 1767 composed many songs mainly in praise of Lord Rama who has actually devoted his life for Carnatic Music. His family was most unkind to him, but all human suffering made him more stronger for spiritual life like gold passing through fire. His contribution to Carnatic Music in Ethical Teachings, mystical experiences, poetic expressions and thoughts with a frequent devotional element should all his followers that he was induced with divine love. Lord Sri Rama had promised him in one of his visions that he would grant him salvation and on 6th January 1847 the great Saint got salvation from troubles of this world.

As per the saying MORTAL MEN AND IMMORTAL MELODIES Thyagaraja still lives in the hearts of millions today in South Indian Music.

—(To be continued)

exhibits put up by the Jury Members especially of Shri G. B. Pai's Cocoin-prestamp covers; Palace covers and the instructional markings and that of Sri G. Madanmohan Das' classics of 1854 Lithographs. He was much impressed with the standard of the exhibits in the Pre-Independence period (upto 14-8-1947), Indian Airmails and the Thematic Collections of both Seniors and Juniors and was glad the School's collection were really nice and good besides being educative and instructive.

On 12-2-1988 Shri V. Sundaram, I A S., Commissioner, Civil Supplies Corporation after release of the Special cancellation of stamp, acted as the Moderator for the Seminar, on a subject "**Stamp for peace and friendship**". It was a lively Seminar in which the following participated: Shri Avvai Natarajan, Secretary, Tamil Development Department; Shri G. B. Pai, Advocate, New Delhi, a member of the jury; Shri P. Chandrasekaran, Director, Forensic Department and Shri V. Balaguru, Additional Postmaster General, Tamilnadu Circle. The packed audience was all praise for the high Standard of knowledge and education that this seminar imparted to them and wanted the authorities to hold such seminars often.

On the same day after noon, there was a **Quiz for School Students** by Lion Shri N. Venkateswaran, Quiz Master which was lively, instructive and of a high standard. Shri M. S. Rangaswami, Postmaster-General, distributed the prizes to the students.

On 13-2-1988, a special cancellation was released by Shri V. Balaguru, Additional Postmaster General. Then there was a **Painting competition** for school children which attracted many children, especially girls and Shri T. Ravi Arumugam, D.I.G., Civil Supplies, C I D distributed the prizes.

The Jury under the chairmanship of Shri M. S. Rangaswami, Postmaster General, Tamil nadu Circle consisted of three other members, Shri G. B. Pai, an International Jury Member

of repute, Shri G. Madanmohan Das, One of the Senior Members of the South India Philatelists Association, and one of the qualified jurors for National Exhibitions and Shri S. T. Baskaran, Additional Postmaster General, Karnataka Circle, Bangalore.

The exhibits were judged observing the following criteria: (i) philatelic knowledge; (ii) Level of advancement; (iii) condition of the Exhibits, (iv) completeness of collection, (v) Presentation and in the case of Thematics, the originality and the coverage of all the facts of the theme was also considered.

The Jury expressed satisfaction and noted that the standard of the exhibition was very good. It was also observed that some of the entries would have been far better of the exhibitors had taken care to avoid prohibited materials and increased the use of commercially used covers instead of the Non-Philatelic items like counter cancelled First Day Covers

Valedictory Function : A Souvenir which was brought out on the occasion was released by Hon'ble Justice Shri M. N. Chandurkar, Chief Justice, High Court, Madras. The glory cover page of the Souvenir depicting the 1987 Banyan commemorative stamp (enlarged) was very beautiful. The Souvenir carried very interesting articles from eminent philatelists like Messrs V. N. S. Rau, G. M. Das, M. T. Karunakaran, VISPI S Dastur, M. M. Inamdar, & O.P. Bhatnagar and from Officials of the Department. Then Hon Chief Justice Shri M. M. Chandurkar distributed the awards to the winners. There were in all 79 prizes (Vermeil-3, Silver-11, Silver Bronze-15 and Bronze-50). In addition Diplomas, Cash Prizes and Special Prizes were also awarded.

The Jury in their Report especially the Philatelic Jury members at the outset expressed its deed appreciation in the manner in which the Exhibition was planned and organised. Sri M. S. Rangaswami, Postmaster General, Tamil nadu Circle as well as the Officials and Philatelists in this area especially Thiru V. N. S. Rau, a doyen of Philately deserve our heartfelt congratulations. ★