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SOUTH INDIA PHILATELISTS' ASSOCIATION

(FOUNDED 1956)

(AFFILIATED TO THE PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF INDIA)

The Portuguese Navigators

By the Rev. C.F. ANGUS.

PORTUGAL has contributed its full share of commemorative stamps in recent years, and many of them illustrate events or persons that are unfamiliar to English readers. But the handsome set of 1945 entitled "Navegadores Portugueses" should have a greater interest for us. British sailors have achieved great renown for voyages of exploration and discovery, but the Portuguese were before us in this field - or rather upon the ocean, and through the fifteenth century they showed an enterprise and endurance in unknown seas that made them the best sailors in the world and won for them a reputation equal to that of Christopher Columbus. Equal or even greater, for the result was to make Lisbon for the time the commercial capital of Europe and the king of Portugal its wealthiest monarch.

The man to whom most of the credit for this is due was "Prince Henry the Navigator" (1394-1460), whose portrait appeared on the stamps of 1935 (S.G. type 101). He was the third son of King John I and his English wife Philippa, daughter of John of Gaunt, and thus a cousin of our own Henry V, and while the English Henry was winning the battle of Agincourt, the Portuguese Henry was capturing Ceuta from the moors on the African side of the Straits. In 1418 he retired to Sagres, now Cape Vincent, at the extreme south-west corner of Portugal, where he spent almost all the rest of his life, not sailing himself, but building an observatory and founding a great school of seamanship. Within the next hundred years the small Portuguese



vessels, only half-decked, and carrying a crew of less than forty, sailed as far north as Labrador and Nova Zembla, as far east as Peking, and in the south rounded the capes of Good Hope and the Horn, and were the first Europeans to enter the Pacific and Indian Oceans. Even now, four centuries later, Nova Zembla still bears a Portuguese name, Portuguese is still spoken in Brazil, and two large provinces in South Africa and one small one in India with various ports and islands once belonged to the Portuguese Empire.

In the fifteenth century the eastern Mediterranean was occupied by Mohammedans, and the rich merchandize from India passed through their hands on its way to the ports of Venice and Genoa. Prince Henry's first ambition was to cut out these middle-men

SIPA MEETINGS

Second Sunday of every month - Regular meeting at the Philatelic Bureau, Anna Road Post Office, Madras - 600 002 (10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.) first and third Sunday of every month - Auction meeting at our Library Hall at 6 Nannian Street, Madras - 3 (Timing 10.45 a.m. to 1 p.m.)
SIPA Library Open Tuesday & Sunday, 6 Nannian Street, Madras 3. (7 p.m. to 8 p.m.)

by discovering a direct route to India all round Africa, if that could be done. But could it? Herodotus had a story of a Phoenician voyage in the sixth century B.C. which started from the Red Sea and returned to the Mediterranean from the west through the Straits of Gibraltar, but he refused to believe it himself because they had claimed to have the sun on their right - i.e. to the north of them! And anyhow no one had done it again in two thousand years, while later Greek geographers had declared that Africa extended in a unbroken line right down to the South Pole. In 1420 no

while Cortez was conquering Mexico, a Spanish fleet commanded by the Portuguese Fernao de Magalhaes (in English Magellan) painfully found its way through the straits named after him and entered the Pacific. Magellan himself was killed (like Captain Cook) in a fight with the natives on one of the Philippines in 1521, but the ship returned safely home to Spain in September, 1522, having in just under three years sailed right round the globe-for the first time in history.

These voyages make a splendid record, and were an astonishing achievement for a small nation of not much more than one million inhabitants, and the Portuguese Post Office has done well to commemorate them. They have selected eight of the principal discoveries, and upon each stamp is a date to mark the year of the navigator's greatest exploit.



European had sailed south of 27°N, for the "paunch" of Cape Bojador, unimpressive as it looks on the map, had proved impassable for vessels that hugged the coast. and beyond it lay the "Torrid Zone", where, it was said, the heat made any life impossible, and who knew what devilish dangers besides? However in 1418 and 1420 Joao Gonealves Zareo found the islands of Madeira, in 1432 Gonealo Velho discovered the shores, and in 1434 Gil Eannes doubled Cape Bojador at last. Thereafter year by year they pushed steadily southwards. Cape Verde was reached in 1446, and the equator crossed in 1471. In 1484 Diogo Glo (spelt Cam in English books) discovered the river Congo, and got as far as an walfisch Bay (23°S.) the following year, so making possible the three greatest voyages of all. In 1488 Bartolemev Dias made a landfall near what is now Port Elizabeth, and found that he was 150 miles east of what he called the Cape of Storms (renamed the Cape of Good Hope by John II), and that Africa could be circumnavigated. On Christmas Day, 1497, Vasco da Gama founded Natal, and sailed up the east coast of Africa, as far as Mombassa and Malindi, from which he crossed direct to India, reaching Calicut in May, 1498. In 1500, on a second voyage to India, Pedro Alvares Cabral was blown out of his course and discovered Brazil. And finally in 1520,

We have received Volume 1, No.2, November - December 1994 issue of PHILA, the bimonthly Journal of Jal Cooper Philatelic Society. The Journal contains articles both in Hindi and English. The issue under review contains articles on the Azad Hind Stamps by Herbert A. Friedman (in English), Mahatma Gandhi (in Hindi) Standard Philatelic Dictionary (in English), Bal Din (in Hindi) and other new issue information. Edited by K.K. Rastogi. Copies of the Journal are available from Jal Cooper Philatelic Society, K.36/1 Chowkhamba, Varanasi - 221 001.

Kutch Hobby Circle :- At the General Body meeting held recently, the Kutch Hobby circle elected the following governing council for the year 1994-95; Dr. Jivraj R. Thakkar, President; Surendra Katadia, Vice President; K.M. Mota and Nilesh, Gogri, Joint Secretaries; Suketu S. Jhaveri, Treasurer; Members, K.N. Dedhia, A.K. Merchant, A. Panki, S. Jhavri, Jaykar, J. Goradia and A.C. Shah.

COINS COLLECTION

INDIA MAGADH, MAURYA PERIOD SILVER COINS, HINDU RAJA, MUGHAL PERIOD SILVER, COPPER COINS

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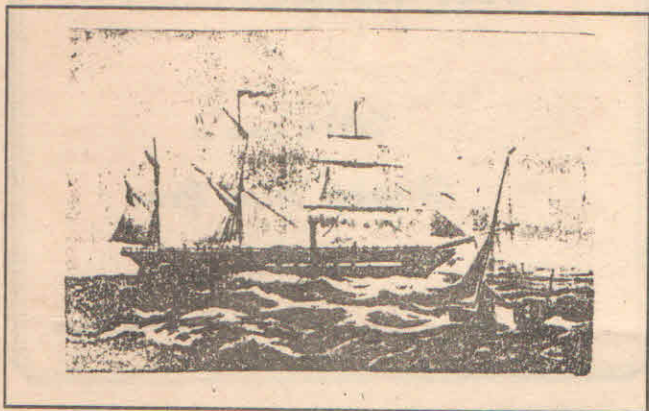
K. 57/47, NAWAPURA,
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Ship and Packet Letters

By Editor.

One of the pleasures in collecting Ships Letters is the interest obtained in getting the story of the Ship itself or the Line responsible for carrying the letter. In the case of mail carried by private Ship-that is, a Ship not recognised by the British Post Office as being a British Packet under contract for the conveyance of Her Majesty's Mails, it was usual in the olden days to endorse the cover with the name of the ship, and to many of these can be traced romantic stories of ship-wreck, tragedy and adventure.

To my mind the most interesting way to collect Ship Letters is according to the actual routes employed by the early Shipping companies. A ship letter collection-from the point of view of a collector of Great Britain and Colonies-can be arranged quite simply and interestingly and at the same time displayed in such a way as to show



the various Ships markings to advantage, and assembled together either in files, folders or albums somewhat along the following lines :-

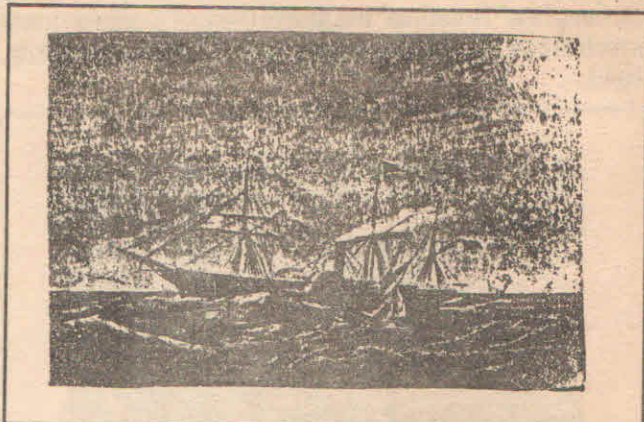
1. Transatlantic Mails. Mail carried between Great Britain and North America. This should be written up with notes on the pioneer shipping companies, giving the romantic historical outline of the rise and fall of the famous Liverpool Packets-the story of the beginning of the Cunard Company and its spectacular growth in face of vigorous opposition from American rivals, and the remarkable story of the Allan Line.

2. South Atlantic and West Indian Services. Mail between Great Britain, South America and the West Indies. Here can be given the story of the Royal Mail Company, the Pacific Steam Navigation Company, with a few notes included on the British consular Offices.

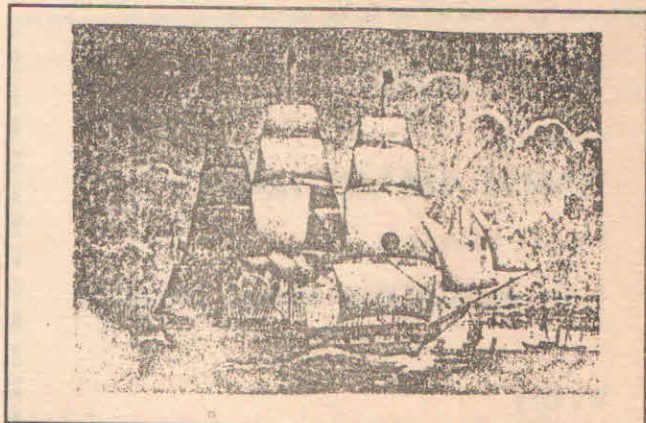
3. To India and the Far East. This is a section which, depending upon just how much material a collector is fortunate to possess, can be divided into other sections : South Africa, India and Australasia and will include the story of the P. & O. Company.

4. The Middle East, embodies an interesting collection - mail from the Ionian Isles, Egypt, Gibraltar, Malta and "Paquebots de la Mediterranee".

5. Home and European Services. Comprising Home Packet Services, Cross channel and Baltic Service.

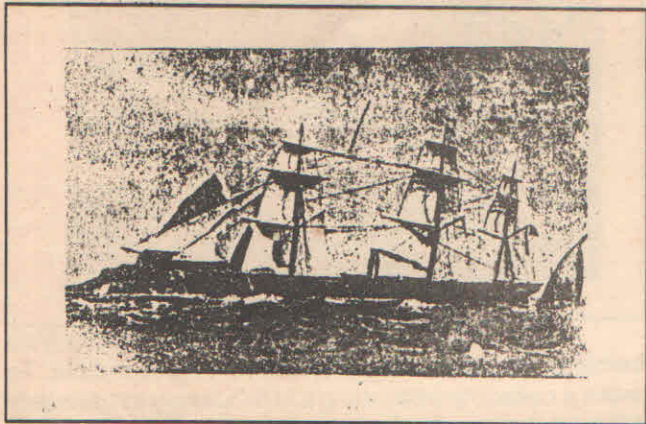


Arranging a collection in this way is not nearly so formidable a task as might at first be thought possible. To make a collection interesting it is necessary to have only a few covers, maybe a dozen or so, for each group. The history of the various shipping companies is easily found in the many books which have been published especially in recent years, and it is not very difficult to obtain cheap reprints, photographs and pictures of all the famous Packet Boats and sailing ships of the early 19th century. By careful arrangement a collection can be made very attractive by including pictures of the ships that carried the mail, and by references to the lists and sailings contained in the histories of these early Shipping companies, genuine "first day" covers of maiden voyages



made by ships famous and notorious in their day can be found among accumulations and auction Lots. In my opinion, these are first day covers worth having. Only recently I came upon a cover carried by the "President" on her maiden voyage across the Atlantic-a ship which, in her day was regarded as the wonder ship of the world and fitted out in such style and luxury never before known. One of a fleet of three belonging to the British and American Steam Navigation Co., she made the Atlantic crossing three times only, and after leaving New York in March 1841, with 136 passengers on board, was never heard of again. I give this as an example of a write-up to a cover.

Some ships, after beginning life a crack liners, subsequently changed ownership and nationality many times, some ending up as men-of-war for small Powers of the period, or as coal hulks somewhere in the West Indies or off the coast of Africa. Such an example was the career of the "Britannia" the first of the four Cunard Liners which made her maiden voyage over the Atlantic in July, 1840.



An added attraction in arranging a collection along these lines is to include contemporary prints of the Ports indentifying the Ship Letter markings. Such prints are acquired very easily and at very small cost, and a collection is considerably enhanced through being "illustrated" by this means.

There are some who might argue that a collection assembled in this way ceases to be a ship Letter collection, but a sort of grangerised story of Shipping companies. Naturally much depends upon the imagination of

the collector and his skill in displaying such a collection, but I find that by arranging a collection in this way, all Ship markings can be as advantageously described and shown as by grouping them all together two or three to a page, and the problem which sometimes arises of having to decide whether to place a cover under country of origin or under country of destination is immediately solved.

I'm prompted to write this because I've seen so many collections simply massed together, arranged alphabetically under names of ports or countries, with many choice covers obscured through being overcrowded, or else neatly docketed one cover to a card under a card-index arrangement. This is all very well if one desires to form a collection of handstamps showing the many minor differences and innumerable variations, but to my mind the romance-and the story behind the cover becomes somewhat dimmed.

Dear Members.....

*Wish you a
Happy New Year
1995*

— Editor

END OF THE ROAD FOR FEATHERED COURIERS

AFTER 77 years, a unique service within the Swiss armed forces is to be closed down. A controversial decision taken by Switzerland's defence ministry to phase out the services of carrier pigeons is causing public outrage.

As usual, it's money - or rather, the lack of it - that's at the bottom of the move. Ministry sources say that "retrenching" the birds could save the government 600,000 francs (over 400,000 dollars) annually, a considerable amount given the financial crunch in the country.

Breeders of carrier pigeons, who feel that the feathered couriers can hold their own even in the electronic age, have angrily protested against what they called "the treacherous order to dismantle what is essentially a traditional corps of the Swiss armed forces".

The army has 7,000 pigeons that - technically - belong to its communications corps. Each bird is capable of transporting payloads of 6 grams in a case fastened to its foot or up to 40 grams - microchips, films or tapes - tied to its breast.

"They are inconspicuous and cannot be electronically either located or disturbed," read a special publication to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the carrier pigeons.

For a daily wage of 25 rappen (17 cents) per bird, the forces could - in case of war - access an additional 30,000 birds from breeders. The military handlers look after their "troops" lovingly in a training centre in Sand near Schoenbuehl in the canton Berne.

Some of the birds have been made into "fly-by-night operators". The army successfully trained a few pigeons to fly in darkness, normally a risky feat because the birds could easily get entangled in telephone or power

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lines.

But a simple trick is all it took to train some birds to find their way out of base to drop off a message up to 60 kilometres away, then fly home as well. Instead of feeding them at base, a trailer containing their feed was positioned - each time a little further away from base.

But all this will now come to nothing. The defence ministry decision will also affect four civilian employees and 266 armed forces personnel - mainly women - who care for their cooing comrades.

The 75th anniversary publication pointed out another advantage of the "service-on-wings", referring to the important role the birds played during the two world wars.

"The training of pigeons is a good investment, because most of these birds normally live for 12 years", it read. That's longer than most soldiers are willing to fight.

PIGEONS IN INDIA

PIGEONS figure in our mythology, folklore and history. Because Yama, the God of Death, appeared in the form of a pigeon to test King Shibi, some Hindus consider the bird inauspicious. To Muslims, however, pigeons are auspicious - the Prophet Mohamed kept a pair of red doves in his house and Muslims believe pigeons prevent houses from collapsing. And history tells us that Emperor Jahangir entrusted to pigeons his love notes to both the courtesan Anarkali and his bride-to-be, Nur-Jahan.

More recently, a pigeon mail service was established by the Indian Navy just before Second World War. During the war, the pigeons, trained by a naval officer named B.K. Shroff, carried hundreds of ship-to-shore messages and weather reports, thus helping maintain radio silence. Released in pairs to ensure the safety of the messages, the pigeons braved hawk attacks, often emerging with torn legs and wings. Today, hi-tech communication facilities have replaced pigeons in the armed forces.

Pigeons have been used by the police too, though today Orissa is the only state whose police still have a pigeon service. The service, started by the Orissa police in 1948, now has a strength of about 950 birds. Though the birds average around 5,000 messages annually, during cyclones, floods and political agitations which disrupt normal communications facilities, they carry up to twice that number.

The Orissa police also organize a long distance pigeon race every April. About 25 to 30 pigeons, drawn from the state's 13 districts, the police signals department, and the police training college compete and the winners are presented with trophies.

Along with law-makers, law-breakers also use pigeons. Smugglers are known to have used homing pigeons, which can fly up to 1,000 kilometres a day and carry a weight of 200 grams, to sneak in contraband like diamonds and drugs.

- ANTOINETTE BARTON - D'SOUZA

NEWS FROM INDIA POST

14.03.94 : 8th TRIENNALE - INDIA : 600P

Art, as a medium of self-expression, has always been the most universal of all languages. Triennale-India is an international exposition of world art attempting to provide a forum to the creative artists of the world to get together under one banner and share their creative endeavour and ideas. It was not till 1968 that an organised venue was provided for an international art exhibition in India. The result was in the First Triennale-India held in New Delhi in 1968.

Ever since the dawn of civilisation, pluralism has remained an essential attribute of Indian culture and art. Different cross-current from the regions around kept flowing and merging into the main cultural stream of the land, over millennia. In fact such interaction between the cultural trends has often been a universal phenomenon. During the long history of our civilisation punctuated with different political and socio-economic systems, the Indian artist, almost without interruption, continued to enjoy freedom in his creative endeavour, drawing inspiration from the rich tradition on the one hand, and from the new socio-cultural waves of the modern era on the other. The realisation of the concept of a global community today has not, however, weakened the artists' right to creative freedom. It has truly strengthened the urge for creations that carry an imprint of the individual.

The VIII Triennale-India 1994, New Delhi, once again brought together exquisite creations from different countries. International seminars and camps added variety for the international participants. Display included paintings, sculptures and graphics from India and other countries.

The Department of Posts issued commemorative postage stamps on the occasion of the I Triennale-India in 1968, the VI Triennale in 1968, the VI Triennale in 1986 and again the VII Triennale in 1991. The special commemorative stamp marking the VIII Triennale-India, carries the graphic painting entitled "Window" by Prof. K.G. Subramanyan, an award-winning entry in the 1st Triennale-India in 1968. The First Day Cover depicts the logo of the VIII Triennale-India, a stylised Devnagari figure of 8 within an octagonal base.

Data:

Overall size 3.91 x 2.90 cms.

Printing size 3.55 x 2.54 cms.

No. per issue sheet 35, multicolour, perf 13 x 13, on imported unwatermarked adhesive gravure coated stamp paper in sheets of 50.8 x 53.5 cms. by photogravure at India Security Press. No. printed 1 million.

Thematic value : art anniversary, geography, enlightenment, communication, one world, stylized figure, window.

26.03.94 : UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN INDIA - CENTENARY : 200 P

The United Planters' Association of Southern India was founded in 1893 and is the apex organisation of the producers of tea, coffee, rubber and other spices in the southern States of Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Affiliated to the UPASI are the three State Planters' Associations in Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka and about 25 district and other associations in these States.

The plantation industry produces about Rs.2,200 crore worth of products annually, netting a foreign exchange of Rs.650 crores and offering employment to over 8 lakh workers. Thus it makes a significant contribution to national development.

The UPASI is an important link between the Government and the industry, and plays a key-role in the formulation of policy for the industry. The well-researched papers presented by it are a valuable input towards that end. A well-equipped Tea Research Institute is an asset to the Association. The UPASI also takes up development and social welfare of the rural population in the plantations and imparts family welfare health education, training on tea cultivation and horticulture through a krishi vigyan Kendra as well as education of small and marginal farmers on developments in agriculture technology.

The United Planters' Association is synonymous with the growth of the plantation industry in Southern India. The stamp captures, in many colours the products of the world of plantations. The First Day cover shows the Headquarters building of UPASI at Coonoor, Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu.

Data: Same as 8th Triennale.

Thematic Value : anniversary, green earth, plantation, geography, tea, coffee, number.

09.04.94 : RANI RASHMONI : 100P

Born of a poor agriculturist family of Village Kona, 24 Pargannas (North), West Bengal on 26 September, 1793, Rashmoni was married at a young age into a wealthy zamindar family of Calcutta. The onus of managing the zamindari and business after her husband's death brought out her leadership qualities and inherent managerial skills.

Rani Rashmoni continued to lead an extremely religious and austere life. A divine revelation led her to found the famous temple complex on the banks of the Ganges at Dakshineswar in 24 Parganas (North). The patronage she gave to Gadadhar encouraged his spiritual awakening to become Sri Ramakrishna in later life and inspire the Great Indian Renaissance movement.

The Rani was a nationalist in her outlook and stood by what she considered fair and just. Her heroic deeds and confrontations with the British in India had become household stories in her time. By ingeniously blocking the trade and commerce on a part of the Ganges, she compelled the British to abolish the tax imposed on fishing in the river which threatened the sole livelihood of poor fishermen. When the Puja processions were stopped by the British on the plea that they disturbed the peace, the Rani openly defied the orders and the British had to withdraw the penalty imposed on her in the face of a public upsurge in her support.

Rani Rashmoni also had to her credit numerous charitable works and other contributions to society. The construction of a road from Subarnarekha river to Puri for pilgrims, Babughat, Ahirtola Ghat and Nimtola Ghat for the daily bathers in the Ganges,

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and the substantial contributions to the then Imperial Library (now National Library) and Hindu College (now Presidency College) are a few instances of her benevolence.

Rani Rashmoni passed away on 19 February, 1861. Great achievements of her life will continue to inspire many a generation to come. This stamp commemorates the Bicentenary of her birth.

Data: Same as before, but single colour, Indigenous Un W/M Adhesive Gravure Coated Matt Paper in Sheets 50.8 x 53.5 cm and No. printed 0.6 million.

Thematic value : religion, philanthropy, freedom fighter, communication, personality, nationalist.

13.04.94 : 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JALLIANWALA BAGH MARTYRDOM : 100P

An irregular quadrangle of space indifferently walled, three trees, a shrine, a well and a narrow entrance. This was Jallianwala Bagh where on Sunday, the 13th of April 1919, an assembly of about 25,000 unarmed and defenceless people was mowed down, under a hail of bullets from the guns at the command of General Dyer. The whole scene was macabre. 379 people were killed and about 1200 wounded. But the precise numbers will never be known.

The events that led to this grim and gruesome tragedy on that Baisakhi day are only too well known. The popular resentment against the repressive measures taken by the British rulers had been growing apace with the rising tempo of Indian nationalism. When the infamous Rowlatt Acts were imposed on 23 March 1919, the cries of "Na Appeal Na Dalil, Na Vakil" which rent the air, pithily summed up the draconian character of this legislation. Mahatma Gandhi's call for hartal and passive resistance roused the nation to mass action with Punjab and especially Amritsar giving the lead. Prominent leaders were arrested and demonstrations by the people were fired upon resulting in deaths and injury. The military was called in to take charge of Amritsar.

On 13 April, 1919, the ban on public meetings which was announced early in the day, was not heard by many in the city and especially those who came in from the outskirts from the Baisakhi Mela. As the hour of dusk drew near, the peaceful gathering in Jallianwala Bagh swelled to many thousands of people who one thought was to demonstrate their solidarity and express their will to freedom. Little did they realize the fate that awaited them.

The martyrdom of those who laid down their lives that day at Jallianwala Bagh, strengthened the resolve of the people to oppose foreign rule, undaunted by suffering and struggle for independence and hastened the dawn of freedom. Today Jallianwala Bagh is an everlasting symbol of nonviolence, peace, unity and steadfastness of purpose in the quest for liberty and freedom.

Data : Bicolour, on Indigenous Un W/M Adhesive Gravure Coated Stamp Paper width reels of 47 cms. No. printed 1 million.

Thematic value : Freedom struggle, martyrdom, genocide insanity anniversary, liberty, solidarity.

23.04.94 : CHANDRA SINGH GARHWALI : 100 P

Chandra Singh Garhwali was born on the 24 December 1891 in Masson. Pati Chauthan, Tehsil Thalain, District Garhwal. His early education was at home, but he gained rich experience in his wide and varied travels, his service in the army and the long terms of imprisonment which he faced with rare courage and fortitude in his fight for the freedom of the country.

When Chandra Singh Garhwali met Mahatma Gandhi, at a public meeting in June 1929 at Bageshwar Almora, the army cap which Chandra Singh Garhwali was wearing attracted the attention of Gandhiji who remarked that he was not afraid of the army cap. Chandra Singh Garhwali replied by pointing out that, if he so wished, Gandhiji could change the cap, when Gandhiji presented him with a khadi topi, the soldier pledge to redeem the honour of the topi one day.

On 20 April, 1930 a civil disobedience movement commenced in the North-West Frontier province under the leadership of Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan and a programme of demonstration and Satyagrah was planned for 23 April 1930 in Peshwar. The

British Government in its eagerness to suppress this movement of the Pathans at any cost decided to deploy the army. Chandra Singh Garhwali and his men of the Garhwal Rifles quietly resolved to resist any order of their British Commander to fire upon unarmed people.

On 23 April, 1930 thousands of Pathans had gathered in front of the Kissakhani Bazar Police Chowki in Peshawar and the national flag was flying in their midst. The men of the Garhwal Rifles stood before the Pathans, and hundreds of people were looking on from their houses and roof tops. The British Captain warned the non-violent demonstrators to disperse but it had no effect on them. When, in a rush of anger he shouted, "Garhwali three rounds fire" an equally firm voice was heard saying "Garhwali cease fire", and the Garhwali soliders lowered their rifles to the ground. Chandra Singh Garhwali's voice rang out once again to declare that they would not fire upon unarmed people even if the Captain were to shoot them down. It was an amazing display of courage. An extraordinary moment in the history of our freedom struggle.

Chandra Singh Garhwali was arrested along with his men and sentenced to life imprisonment. All his property was seized. After spending a long period of 11 years, 3 months and 18 days in various jails, where he came in contact with many national leaders, he was finally released in 1941. Chandra Singh Garhwali continued to give leadership to the struggle for freedom. He returned home in Garhwal in 1946 and finally settled down in village Dhruvapur Kotdwar in 1950. After a long illness he passed away in 1979.

Data: Multi colour, on Indigenous Un W/M Adhesive Gravure Coated gummed Stamp Paper in Sheets 50.8 x 50.3 cm paper. No. printed 0.6 million. Thematic value : Soldier, freedom fighter, rebel, nationalist, personality.

1.5.94 : 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE I.L.O. 600 P

The 75th anniversary of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the 50th anniversary of the declaration of Philadelphia which is annexed to the ILO's Constitution commenced in April 1994. India is a founder member of the ILO and has had a very close association with it. Since 1922 the Government of India has been holding a permanent non-elective seat on the Governing Body, the principal executive organ of the ILO, by virtue of its being one of ten countries of "chief industrial importance". Currently, both the employers and workers' representatives from India are members of the Governing Body.

The principal means of action of the ILO is the setting of International Labour Standards in the form of the Conventions and Recommendations. These standards have made valuable contribution in promoting development with social justice. India has ratified 36 out of the 174 ILO Conventions adopted so far.

ILO and India have cooperated in wide ranging areas, particularly in the fields of manpower and economic development, vocational training, social security, occupational safety and health, worker's education, women and child labour etc. The tripartite character of ILO which has ensured permanency of the international institution, has greatly influenced the Indian tripartite system in formulating labour policies and legislation.

ILO has adopted a number of Conventions and Recommendations on child labour, some of which have been ratified by India. ILO is playing a vital role in two major projects viz. Child Labour Action and Support Programme (CLASP) and International Programme on Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) which are currently being implemented in India.

The design of the stamp depicts the spirit of tripartism and India's Cooperation over the years since the inception.

Data : Multi colour, on Indigenous Un W/M Adhesive Gravure Coated Stamp Paper in Sheet 50.8 x 53.5 cm paper. No. printed 1 million. Thematic value : Labour, human values, international organisation, management, industry.

25.05.94 : IPTA : 200 p

IPTA- or the Indian People's Theatre Association was one of the products of the political ferment of the '40s. India's struggle for freedom was not waged for merely economic or political gains - in a very important way, it was to reassert India's cultural identity.