



# SIPA

## Bulletin

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web : sipa.org.in  
E-mail :  
mail@sipa.org.in

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QUARTERLY

GUEST EDITORIAL.

### PHILOSOPHY OF PHILATELY

These notes are only aimed at a brief sketch of a possible philatelic philosophy and at suggesting with a few basic lines, a rough outline that while it establishes the connectionism-philately-permits us to penetrate the essence of philately.

Collecting, looked upon in a general way, seems to have its origin in the anxiety that man discovered in himself, whereby he soon learned to satisfy his vital needs. Over time, quite rooted in man, who has a secondary-like instinct that manifests a greater or lesser extent-in his inclination to gather things with a definite goal. Among the most varied objects those of the same order or species prove to be of great interest. That which at one time was a sufficient impulse to begin collecting things, for example: cobble-stones according to their consistency, shape, size, color, usefulness, etc., later evolved in proportion to the evolution of man's consciousness of the world around him in which he increased his scientific knowledge. In later periods, the most cultured civilizations were arriving at very select motivations for collecting objects according to the personal refining attained by spirit or to the collector's own cultural level.

It is evident that the Greeks and Romans Who are our immediate ancestors were lovers of collecting things and obvious indexes show that other cultures men from the most remote civilizations were also collectors. Both knew how to raise collecting to its most dignified exponent, creating "museums" where-from the most ancient times people have been able to share their collecting interests and to enjoy the beauty and appreciate the learning that was mutual to them. The Alexandria Library is one example of the ancient museums where book and art collections demonstrated the zenith of several civilizations. If the museum is the clearest manifestation in the spiritual aspect, the collection auctions clearly demonstrate the economic factor that all human works are made up of. Let us take a look at the art work auction of the emperor Caligula, as a constant factor of an old reality, without regard to the anecdotal aspect, in which he ordered the auctioneer to accept all the blows a sleepy-headed bidder might want to give him as if they were higher bids.

After having seen in very general terms the most valuable assets of collecting it becomes necessary to slowly investigate the essence and cause properties that predispose man in order to establish some concepts that can be applicable to philately. We find philately, being the most modern facet of collecting has vigorously imposed itself through its own very different characteristics and has achieved the extension and intensity that can only be explained by its attainability in the highly cultured world, which at the same time once again proves the hidden attraction in each man towards collecting.

Interestingly enough in philately that which is being collected, the postage stamp caused immediate scientific investigation giving way to a new science that handles both those themes related to the permanent nature of the stamp as well as that which is characteristic of stamps as collectable items. We therefore find a concrete, genuine starting point for looking for its essence. Its counterpart however is the lack of specialized vocabulary an obstacle which philatelists constantly stumble on due to the deficiency of words needed to speak of philately with precision and clarity. This emptiness has its origin in the still tottering first steps, in the wavering tendencies in which philately is growing and in its rapid evolution.

Born in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century almost immediately after the creation of the postage stamp as prepayment for mail transportation philately inherited the sacred and customary vocabulary used in postal services adapting it to the new field by resemblance when not by approximation. In the very base then when we speak of "stamp" we must include an adjective that more clearly defines it whether it is a date stamp a franchise stamp or a standard postage stamp. There is an urgent need to create new words to make up a more complete and more perfect lexicon which at the present time is insufficient and precarious, and which only induces confusion among organ-function-result. The need of philatelic vocabulary constantly becomes more pressing due to the vertiginous growth of other human activities which upon creating modifying and introducing new communication methods and systems, coincide with the ideology of philately, causing it to take new roads of parallel development. It is not easy to incorporate foreign words into our language however an attempt to do so must not surprise us when the large majority of philatelists adopt them conserving the pronunciation and not the native spelling and when a



with his "philatelic Dictionary" as apractical handbook of lexicon begins us along the suggested road of progress. What is still missing however is an advance in depth as we look for the "essence properties causes and effects" of philately as is required by the mere definition of philosophy.

Once having met the basic principles of philosophy we will find that philately does not have a strict closed system since as a manifestation of the human spirit it doesn't have any limitations other than those voluntarily imposed by each stamp collector personally.

The expansion and popularity reached in philately permit philosophical investigators to verity its most varied aspects. However we can not forget that each collection reflects the collector's personality even though those that know the most about stamps aren't always those that have the best collections (although they do have the best investigations). And both philosophers and philatelists alike feel the self-satisfaction of seeing the progress that is being made in each field.

With these notes - incomplete and insignificant - I have only attempted and to suggest the possibilities of structuring a philosophy of philately.

JUAN DE LINARES

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## STAMP NEWS

### FIRE SERVICES OF INDIA

14.04.16                      500                      0.40mill

Owing to rapid industrialization and modernization of the country, the security of life and property in such a community is to be developed so that there is neither loss of life nor damage of property without adequate fire protection measures being adopted.

The great fire of Bombay occurred in 1803 and the first nucleus of fire service in India took shape. In 1822, the service in Calcutta was organized under the Calcutta Police. In 1855, the Bombay fire brigade was officially formed and formally placed under the police as a part-time function of the Police under Government and a regular fire service with horse drawn fire engines came into being in Bombay under the control of Police. In 1872, the Calcutta Corporation. In 1888, through the Bombay Municipal corporation Act, protection of life and properties against fire became the obligatory duty of the Bombay Municipal Corporation.



In 1907, the first petrol driven motor fire engine was imported and commissioned in Bombay Fire Brigade.

W.J.Scully of Bombay Fire Brigade joined the Bombay Salvage Corps, which was formed on 1<sup>st</sup> May 1907 by 37 Insurance Companies.

The Madras city fire brigade was established in 1908 by the Municipal Corporation of Madras after a devastating fire in the city.

14<sup>th</sup> April is observed throughout the country as the Fire services Day to pay homage to all the gallant firemen. 14<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> April is observed as Fire Service Week where activities highlighting fire safety and prevention through demonstrations, mock drills are held along with exhibitions and conferences.

Theme : People, Services, Fire, Safety.

### GOVARDHANRAM TRIPATHI

27.04.16                      500                      0.30 mill

Govardhanram Madhavram Tripathi, born on 20<sup>th</sup> October 1855, at Nadiad in Gujarat, ws a renowned novelist of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, who wrote mostly in Gujarati language. After finishing his graduation in 1875, he studied law and completed L.L.B in 1883. He started working as a lawyer in Bombay High court in June 1884. He did remarkably well, despite refusing, as a matter of principle, lucrative assignments offered to him.



Shri Tripathi is known for his four volume novel, Saraswatchandra, which has the distinction of being one of the most widely read books of all times in Gujarati Liiterature. "Saraswatchandra" Part I was published in 1887 followed by "Snehamudra" (the signet of love), a collection of poems in 1889. Saraswatchandra Part II was published in 1892. The III<sup>rd</sup> and IV<sup>th</sup> Parts of Saraswatchandra were published in 1898 and 1901 respectively.

Retiring early, at the age of 43, he returned to his hometown and continued to contribute to Gujar literature and public service.

Shri Govardhanram Tripathi to 9k up an active role in the Indian National Congress during 1902. In 1905, he was elected as the first president of the Gujarati Sahitya Parishad. He also wrote various articles and essays in the papers 'Vasant' and 'Samalochak'. Shri Govardhanram Tripathi was also fluent in English, and wrote 'Scrap Book' in the language.

The period from 1885 to 1915 is called "Govardhan- Yug" or "Govardhan – Era" in Gujarati literature. Shri Govardhanram Tripathi died in Mumbai on the evening of 4 January 1907.

Theme : Personality, Literature, writer, Ind.Natle. Congress.



## SWAMI CHIDANANDA

21.05.16

500

0.403mill

Sridhar Rao, as Swami Chidanandaji was known before taking sannyasa, was born to a pious couple Sri Srinivasa Rao and Smt. Sarojini Devi, on 24<sup>th</sup> September, 1916 at Managalore.

The Call of Swami to renounce resounded within his heart. On 19<sup>th</sup> May 1943, the sacred day of Buddha Purnima, he left his hearth and home and dedicated himself at the feet of holy master Sri Swami Sivanandaji and served him and his mission till the last breath of his life. On Guru Purnima day, the 10<sup>th</sup> of July, 1949, Sridhar Rao was initiated into the holy order of Sannyasa by Sri Swami Sivanadaji Maharaj and came to be known as Swami Chidananda, a name which connotes "one who is in the highest consciousness and bliss".



Service to lepers was his ideal from his childhood. He would build huts for them in the vast lawns of his home and look after them. He was deeply moved to see large numbers of lepers living a miserable life in the neighbouring locality to Sivanada Ashram, Rishikesh.

Sri Swamiji Maharaj was a great patriot and an ardent admirer of Mahatma Gandhi and Swami Vivekananda.

Being a votary of universal religion, he had great regard for all the religions of the world. In one of his articles he affirmed thus – "There is one Universal Spirit addressed variously as Jehovah, Allah, Ahura Mazda, Almighty Father-in-Heaven, Brahman, the Tao or Thing-in-Itself or GOD. This is the Universal spirit, adored and worshipped in temple, synagogue, church, mosque, fire-temple and all places of worship.

Sri Swamiji was chosen the President of Hindu delegation for the Parliament of the World's religions which was convened at Chicago in 1993 to commemorate the centenary of the epochal event of The Parliament of the World's Religions organized at Chicago in 1893.

Despite being a well known spiritual teacher, Sri Swamiji, a paragon of unsurpassable humility and simplicity, remained all his life a simple monk considering himself a servant of God, guru and humanity. He attained Mahasamadhi on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2008.

Theme : Personality, Saints & Sages, Hinduism.

## TATA POWER

10.06.16

500

0.406 mill

Guided by its Founder, Mr. Jamsetji Tata's vision that "Clean, cheap and abundant power is one of the basic ingredients for the economic progress of a city, state or country", Tata Power has been a pioneer in the power sector in India, both in terms of its leadership in technology adoption and its care towards all its stakeholders. For over a hundred years, Tata Power has been a part of India's growth story.

Nestled in the foothills of the Western Ghats in Maharashtra, Tata Power commenced its journey in 1915 at Khopoli, harnessing the potential energy from its lakes located in the surroundings of Lonavala. The electricity, thus generated, was transmitted to the city of Mumbai.



In 2003, Tata Power entered a joint venture with Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd., to develop a 1200 km long transmission line, bringing electricity from faraway Bhutan, all the way to Delhi. In 2013, Tata Power implemented the first 4000 MW Ultra Mega Power Project at Mundra, Gujarat, based on super critical technology.

Tata Power has always operated in the power sector with a focus on renewable energy. Playing the role of a visionary in this aspect Tata Power, in a JV, started Tata Power Solar 25 years ago, investing into a sustainable future which has now become one of the key focus areas for the country.

While it has grown to a generation capacity of 8,669 MW, Tata Power also has a pipeline of projects at different stages of development and execution. To support and sustain the existing generation, it has secured fuel supply option through a stake in Indonesian coal mines and has acquired ships for transportation of coal for Mundra. Tata Power is a leader in forming partnerships and is in fact the only company with PPP in Generation (Maithon, Dagachhu), Transmission (Powerlinks) and Distribution (TPDDL). It also has several partnerships in the overseas arena with leading players (Cennergi JV with Exxaro in South Africa and Georgia JV with IFC and Clean Energy, Dugar Project in India with SN Power of Norway – a leader in the field of hydro power).

TPDDL, a JV between Tata Power and the Govt. of NCT of Delhi serves a populace of 6 million. The Strategic Engineering Division (SED) has been pursuing development and production activities for the nation's defences over the last 30 years. It has established Tata Power Trading Company Ltd. (TPTCL), which is a leading power trader in the country.



As India's largest integrated power company, Tata Power are conscious of role as sustainability towards and embrace the challenges of climate change. Tata Power has executed a number of measures in order to reduce emissions. Sourcing clean coal is a significant way of reducing emissions and increasing efficiency.

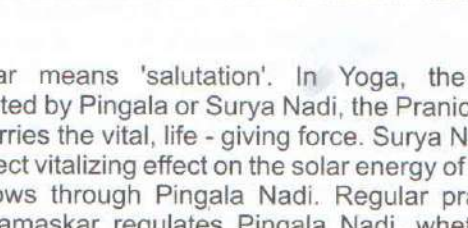
The Company has continued its focus on Corporate Social Responsibility activities to make a difference to the communities and become the neighbor of choice in its area of operations.

Tata Power's multi-fold growth validates its bright future, brimming with possibilities and full of promise to power the future as a pioneer of technological innovations and green initiatives.

Theme ; Industry, Power, Energy, Electricity.

## Surya Namaskar

20.06.16                      6x500, 6x2500                      0.406 mill  
The Sanskrit name Surya refers to the sun and



Namaskar means 'salutation'. In Yoga, the sun is represented by Pingala or Surya Nadi, the Pranic channel which carries the vital, life - giving force. Surya Namaskar has a direct vitalizing effect on the solar energy of the body which flows through Pingala Nadi. Regular practice of Surya Namaskar regulates Pingala Nadi, whether it is under - active or over - active, that leads to a balanced energy system at both mental and physical levels. Surya Namaskar is an effective way of loosening up, stretching, massaging and toning all the joints, muscles and internal organs of the body.

- Position 1 : Pranamasthiti (Prayers Pose)
- Position 2 : Hastauttanasana (raised arms pose)
- Position 3 : Padahastanasana (hand to foot pose)
- Position 4 : Asvasanchalanasana (equestrian pose)
- Position 5 : Parvatasana (mountains pose)
- Position 6 : Ashtanga Namaskara (salute with eight parts or points)
- Position 7 : Bhujangasana (cobra pose)
- Position 8 : Parvatasana 9mountains pose)
- Position 9 : Asvasanchalanasana (equestrian pose)
- Position 10: Padahastanasana (hand to foot pose)
- Position 11 : Hastauttanasana (prayers pose)
- Position 12 : Pranamasthiti (prayers pose)

The twelve positions of Surya Namaskar are practiced twice to complete one round. Positions 1 to 12 constitute half a round. In the second half, the positions are repeated with two small changes: a) In position 16, instead of stretching the right foot backward, stretch the left foot back. B) In position 21, bend the right leg and bring the right foot between the hands.

Surya Namaskar is a complete Sadhana, spiritual practice, in itself for it includes Asana, Pranayama, Mantra and meditation techniques. It stimulates all the systems of the body, including the reproductive, circulatory, respiratory and digestive system. Its practice makes the practitioner physically fit, mentally alert and emotionally balanced. Surya Namaskar is the ideal practice to increase awareness, and bestow good health and wellbeing.

Theme : Health, Medical, Yoga  
(Courtesy : Information Sheets, India Post)

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## GANDHI ISSUES 1948 SPECIAL INFORMATION

1. The two printers negotiated for printing were Austrian State printing press, Vienna and Swiss printers Helio Courvoisier.
2. Two photographs were selected for designing - one from life magazine and the other from the private collection of Kanu Gandhi, the grandson mahatma.
3. The memorial stamps were released at the sametime in India, Indian Embassy in Washington DC, High Commission in London, India Embassy post office in Nepal and Pondicherry then a French colony on 15th August 1948.
4. As 15th August 1948 was a Sunday, a special nationwide postal notice circulated about the release on Sunday.
5. The sale was closed on 31.12.1948.

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# THE STORY OF GANDHI STAMPS OF 1948

T.N.Methta

On January 21, 1948, when Jawaharlal Nehru was Prime minister of India and Rafi Ahmed Kidwai held the Communications office, the Director General, Posts and Telegraphs (P&T), sent a letter to security printing at Nasik road calling for specimen designs for Gandhi stamps.

The idea was to issue a set of three or four stamps on Gandhi's eightieth birthday (October 2, 1949) depicting memorable events in his life such as the fast for communal unity in 1924, the Dandi march of 1930, and the fast for communal peace in Delhi a few days earlier.

It did not take the master of India security press more than six days to suggest a compact set of four denominations: 1 ½ annas, 3 ½ annas, 8 annas, and 1 rupee value to be printed in a single color in the existing anna size, and the fourth value in two colors in rupee size.

A line portrait of Gandhi prepared earlier already was available at the Nasik security press. Two trial copies, one in the anna and the other in the rupee size, showing Gandhi's characteristic pose, were submitted for consideration. Alternatively, it was suggested that a photograph approved by the Mahatma be adopted for the proposed stamps.

While these preparations were afoot, however, tragedy struck. Gandhi was assassinated on January 30. The picture changed entirely and the government switched over to designing a "mourning" stamp.

Accordingly on February 6, the security press was asked to furnish quickly fresh designs based on an approved sketch drawn by C. Biswas, an Indian artist. Two denominations were proposed. a 2 ½ -anna for inland air mail and a 12 anna for foreign air mail to the designs in sombre shades of grey and olive green, were sent by the security press on February 17.

Jawaharlal suggested that the word "Bapu" be included in the proposed stamp designs both in Hindi and Urdu. This was a welcome suggestion in view of Gandhi's life-long struggle to maintain peace and communal harmony. The inclusion of Hindi and Urdu inscriptions was of special significance- both politically and philatelically. On no other Indian stamp does Urdu find a place ; the script used is Hindi (Devanagiri) and English.

Asked on march 12 to send revised proofs, and to include a 10-rupee denomination in the proposed set of the mourning stamps, the security press promptly submitted these on march 16 (figure 1). Although this correspondence apparently was at the final stage the authorities in New Delhi in a typical bureaucratic manner carried on negotiations behind the back of the Nasik press with the Austrian state printing press, Vienna as well as with the well-known Swiss printers Helio courvosier. S.A. The print order finally was placed with the

swiss firm which was known for its works of art. Naturally this led to bad feelings. The Nasik press felt it had been deprived of its legitimate right to offer indigenously produced Gandhi stamps. The master of the Nasik security press R.C.G. Chapman an Englishman wanted to quit but Rafi Ahmed Kidwai saved the situation. It was argued that India did not have the photogravure printing which the swiss printers could offer to produce the best results in stamp printing. If Gandhi had been alive to see his own stamps produced as originally envisaged there was no doubt in anyone's mind that he would have put his foot down on "videshi" printing. Coarse or not, the stamps would have been acceptable everywhere.

An extensive search also was on at this time to obtain suitable photographs of Gandhi to be used on the stamps. After a wide wild hunt, Indian garb or the way Gandhi used to put on khadi (as could be seen in his portrait adorning the central hall of the parliament and in several of his photographs in official and private collections).

The Swiss firm secures orders for printing thirty-two million stamps in four denominations: 1 ½ annas, 3 ½ annas, 12 annas, and 10rupees-the first three in a single color, and the fourth in two colors (figure 2).

Why a 10-rupee Gandhi stamp? Commemorative stamps invariably are issued in popular postage denominations; the 10-rupee variety in the Gandhi series is probably the solitary example of its kind. This step deprived a large number of collectors of possessing the full set because they could not afford the 10-rupee stamp. To other those entrusted with the task stumbled upon two photographs one from the now-defunct life magazine and the other lent by Rajkumari Amrit Kaur but which belonged to Kanu Gandhi, grandson of the mahatma. The photograph from life showed the mahatma unclothed above the waist perhaps taken at his ashram in Wardha during the summer months. Officials thought that it would be derogatory to portray the "father of the nation" inn such a





manner, and so they asked the swiss printers to adequately cover the naked portion of his body. This they did but the sketched-in clothing in one way approximated philatelists, however this was a boon because the value of the set has been steadily mounting year after year.

Philatelists the world over were agitated by this inclusion of a high denomination in the Gandhi set. Margaret Bourke-White of the time who knew the Mahatma well, met with Sir Benegal Rama Rau, the Indian ambassador to Washington and later sent a long cable strongly protesting this move and starting that it was highly improper for the government of India to issue a 10-rupee stamp in the name of Gandhi who always used the cheapest means of communication, a postcard.

Bureaucracy could not have done a greater disservice to Gandhi! Yet another move that inflated the value of the Gandhi stamp occurred when the sale of these stamps (initially) was restricted to three months. This meant that the unsold stocks had to be withdrawn and destroyed in substantial quantities resulting in great loss in terms of foreign exchange involved in the printing of stamps. As soon as the stocks were reduced prices shot up.

It was on August 15, 1948—the first anniversary of India's independence that the Gandhi stamps were released. They had been printed by the heliogravure process on coated paper made of pulp and silk fibers but the gum on the back of the stamp sheets did not suit the Indian climate particularly during the season when the humidity was high.

As soon as the sheets were taken out of the packings and exposed to the atmosphere they became stuck to the thin paper inter-leaving thus from the philatelic standpoint ruining the stamps. It is possible that the Swiss printers were not familiar with climatic conditions in India or with the properties of the gum applied to the stamps.



Fig 2

Later the same year some high ranking officials proposed that an extremely limited quantity of the Gandhi stamps be overprinted with the word "service". These were to be used on facial mails emanating from the secretariat of the governor general C. Rajagopalachari. The P&T department believed that because the stamps were commemorative it would be against philatelic ethics to overprint them (figure 3) but these observations were overruled and the required quantities were overprinted. There over never has been a case such as this when the philatelic code was ignored and the will of the bureaucrat prevailed.

A few used copies of these service stamps are known to exist, but I am not aware of even one copy of the 10-rupee denomination surfacing. These stamps thus turned out to be the rarest gems of the after independence issues.

The limited supplies have led to forgery, a common evil in philately (figure 4). However these are crude forgeries, restricted to the anna values.

The Indian officials who went berserk probably did not understand that philately has its own norms, and that any breach of these would affect the entire stamp collecting fraternity to which Gandhi himself belonged. With all his social and political preoccupations he still found time to collect stamps. He wrote that in 1896 he was faced with the task of circulating what came to be known as "the green pamphlet," and this is how he solved the manpower problem:

"But I hit upon a much simpler plan. I gathered together all the children in my locality and asked them to volunteer two or three hours' labour of a morning when they had no school. This they willingly agreed to do. I promised to bless them and give them as a reward used postage stamps which I had collected".

The P&T department should have realized that taking too many philatelic liberties would bring bad feelings. It still is rumored that



Fig 4



Fig 3



Figure 5. Fig 5



the Swiss printers supplied a small number of Gandhi stamps imprinted with the word "specimen" to the Indian delegation in Berne which in turn presented them to certain dignitaries.

The Berne delegation had only given the P&T department a few sheets of the 10-rupee Gandhi issue containing a printing flaw—a dot between the words India and postage occurring on the first stamp of the third horizontal row. These are on view in the New Delhi philatelic museum (figure 5).

But no specimen stamp actually was received by the P&T department and none was printed or circulated according to records. It is possible that the Gandhi stamp series is a many-splendored thing in its own right and caused much more than a ripple in the sea of stamp collecting. The specimen stamp could be a forgery, a stunt or at best a philatelic fantasy, but one never knows.

The P&T department also brought out a set of four Gandhi picture post-cards (figure 6) with the introduction of inland postcards printed for the first time in Hindi (devanagiri script) and released for use effective October 2, 1951 which coincided with Mahatma Gandhi's eighty-second birthday. The picture postcards imprinted with the face value of 9-pies each the then prevailing postcard rate were sold at double the face value. 1½ annas per postcards a rather unusual and extraordinary measure adopted in this instance. The picture reproduced on these postcards were obtained from the collection of Kanu Gandhi who demanded a royalty payment of 12½ percent on the sale of such cards.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur then minister of communications, persuaded him to accept a token royalty of 2500 rupees. The job of printing the picture postcards was entrusted to the India security press most likely to placate it for what had happened over the printing of the Gandhi memorial stamps.

United States and Britain issued such stamps. However on the Asian continent only India (which had sponsored the Gandhi centenary commemoratives) the Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Southern Yemen issued such stamps. Burma as a token of its participation in this great event authorized the use of a special postmark on October 2, 1969 to frank mails at the Rangoon general post office. The postmark bore the inscription "Gandhi centenary 1869-1969".

A critical view of all these Gandhi stamps shows that the British version of the Gandhi stamp is the most outstanding and a classic example of philatelic art and printing this stamp could well be acclaimed the world's best Gandhi stamp. Designed by Biman Mullick an Indian artist living in Britain the stamp released in 1 shilling 6-pence denomination bears Gandhi's characteristic smiling pose against a background of the Indian tri-color. The stamp was printed by the photogravure process at the world renowned Harrison and Sons limited (England), one of the oldest security printers in Britain (figure 7).

The unique feature of this stamp is that it is the only one in the whole of the British stamp series devoted to a non-British personality—a rare honor indeed. This was an extraordinary gesture on the part of the British government; the stamp is an everlasting symbol of good will and friendship.



Figure 7.

August 1969/699

The first country other than India that honored Mahatma Gandhi on its stamps (4 and 8-cent denominations) were issued on India's republic day for the U.S., Champion of liberty series of 1961, with printings of 120 and forty million, respectively. The quantities of the 4-cent stamp are the largest of any single Gandhi commemorative stamp issued thus far (figure 8). The portrait of Gandhi adopted on these two stamps was obtained from R.L. Lekhi, official photographer of the government of India's photo division. The U.S. post office department organized a special ceremony for the release of these stamps at which secretary of state Dean Rusk and Indian ambassador Mahomedali Currim Chagle were present. I will conclude by quoting from the review of a book by Haskel Frankel:



Figure 8.

"If one brash American heart can break through one englishman's starched reserve, what is not possible between people in this tortured world? and what is



Figure 6.

The story of Gandhi stamps would not be complete without saying a word about all other Gandhi stamps those issued in commemoration of the Gandhi centenary (1969) and others which formed part of a series dedicated to "workers for peace" (for example, Martin Luther King). Forty one countries of the world including the



loneliness but an illusion of private affliction which people are waiting to dispel at the other end of a postage stamp?"

(Courtesy : American Philatelist, Aug 1980)

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## STAMP DESIGNING BY PAKRASHI

MR.C.R Pakrashi of New Delhi, a young and energetic commercial artist who designed the 100,000<sup>th</sup> post office commemorative stamp has to his credit a few other stamps designed.

Design competition was called for the Buddha jayanti commemorative stamps issue of 1956. His design depicting a stylized bodhi tree in moonlit night won him the first prize of Rs.1000/-.

Pakrashi's other triumph was a prize winning design for the Gandhi centenary stamps. One of his many designs depicting Mahatma Gandhi at the spinning wheel won him a prize of Rs.1000/- (1968).



## STAMP DESIGNING

Stamp designing is comparatively a new subject for the artists in India and according to Prof. V. N. Adarkar of Bombay....."it has not been fully appreciated by the artists who feel that it is not as important as other branches of creative designing.....". usually, the staff artists at the India Security Press, situated at Nasik Road very close to Bombay, produce designs either on their own or on the basis of photographs and other material provided by the postal department. One of them, Mr. Chitins, was sent abroad under an international programme for training and experience. Occasionally, artists are commissioned and/or open competition are held by the department for the designs when the outside talent is available to the department. Stamp design did not pose important problems until India become independent. Until then, the subject of the postage stamp was the monotonous head of the ruling monarch. The real problems on stamp designing were experienced soon after independence when stamp designs were required for important national and international events, to honour her illustrious sons and daughters that the artists' talents and imaginations were put to test. It was also possible for the department to invite and/or commission renown artists in the country to submit designs for the postage stamps.

After independence, India held stamp design competition for its new series of definitives but not proved very successful as very few of the designs submitted ultimately found place on the stamp, nevertheless many believed it was a good beginning. Currently, stamp design competition was organised for the design of stamps honouring Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the Nation.

It appears artists in India have not tried much on the stamp designing and therefore dearth has been felt. The scope at present is limited to the designs required by the Indian postal department and therefore, it appears that fewer have tried at the specialization for stamp designing.

## STAMP DESIGNING-SKILLED ART

Mr. Pakrashi who also has designed other stamps for our postal department told me".....with the Indian postal department as the only client, it is perhaps difficult for any outside artist to earn a name as a stamp designer in India.....". he added....."but sometimes this department provided opportunities to artists by calling open stamp designing competitions on all India basis to obtain the best available designs and idea which may fit within the limitations of the space of a tiny postage stamp and the printing processes at their disposal.....". he feels....."stamp designing is a skilled work requiring patience, artists ability and above all, a good sense of composition, colour and reproduction. It must satisfy philatelic requirements and must reflect the tradition and culture of a nation.....".

His winning the first prize at the Buddha jayanti stamp design competition has been described by him as unexpected and did not bring confidence in him as a stamp designer. "it may be a sheer chance" he thought, that he got a prize. So he started working for and understanding the language of stamp, the printing methods and the reduction of the design to a tiny size, the lay-out, the writing and the inscription in the stamp etc. he says....."I utilized my spare time in studying and experimenting with stamp designs, sometimes in actual size of a stamp.....".

## CHILDRENS' DAY STAMP

Pakrashi's second stamp design accepted by the department was a stamp for the 1966 childrens' day issue. In this design he combined the photograph of a lively child and the symbolic presentation of peace-the dove with an olive leaf. He feels, this composition fitted well with the design and the theme. The whole lettering is well balanced.

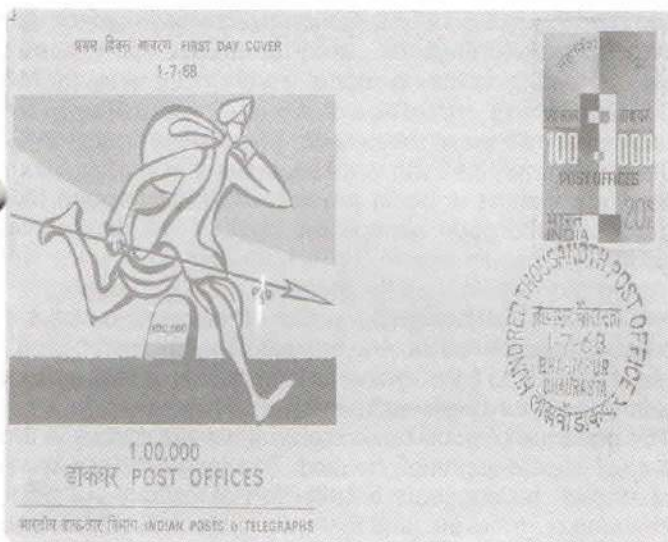


Stamp designing is skilled work which is observed in Mr. Pakrashi's design of a stamp for the postal department, for its broadcast receiving licence fee. The Rs.10/- grey stamp has a design from Mr.Pakrashi. in this design, he has used the music scene from the Parsurameswar temple at Bhubaneshwar, a relief work



which illustrates a traditional scene of India. Here also the design and the composition fitted well with the theme.

The latest to be added to the list of accepted designs- the work of Mr. Pakrashi, is the design he made for the 100,000<sup>th</sup> post office commemorative stamp issued on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1968. The design for this stamp needed much thinking and imagination and also required to represent the postal service. This has been very ably depicted in the design by selecting the letter box which represents major postal service, the light and shade convey the eternal service-all day and night of the post office. Mr. Pakrashi has chosen the motto "serving day and night" in Sanskrit as the colours, scarlet and monestral blue create a good contrast in the design. The words and figures 100,000 post office in English and Hindi appear along the letter box without disturbing it. Illustrated here are some the visuals Mr. Pakrashi prepared.



in context of the design and has probably not in any of the stamps issued so far". He states that Mahatmajai can be very easily identified with his charkha.

Mr. Pakrashi submitted five designs for the Gandhi centenary stamp competition of which one won him an award of Rs.1000/- and has been shown on the cover page of September 1968 issue of the philatelic journal of india.

It is likely that this will be one of selected designs for the set of stamps to be issued next year. His other designs were also illustrated depict mahatma Gandhi and kasturba together is highly commended by the judges. It is very significant to note that the centenary of both Mahatma Gandhi and Kasturba fall during 1969. It was therefore suggested by us sometime back that for the stamp proposed to be issued commemorating the centenary of mahatma Gandhi a stamp should also be included depicting both the portraits of Gandhiji and Kasturba. A stamp has already been issued on 22.2.1964 commemorating Kasturba's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of death. The 15 paisa orange brown stamp depicted Kasturba's gracious yet simple portrait.

While it is reported that designs have been finalized for a set of four Gandhi centenary stamps, it is not known whether Shri Pakrashi's prize winning design will be depicted on a stamp or any of his other designs will be used.

He has also tried his hand at first day cover designs and designed FDCs for the post office.

(Courtesy : Indian Stamp Jouthal. 1970)

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## "QUIT INDIA" STAMP DESIGNS

Mr. Pakrashi also tried his hand for designing stamps for quit India commemorative stamp, the Nehru and Nagaland stamps, the national bird-peacock.

He submitted a few designs for the "quit India" stamp-one showing a torch indicating that India was now emerging from darkness depicting a fire and the broken chains (of foreign rule), and the third a map of India and a symbolic figure trying to remove the darkness of foreign rule by stretch his arm.

For the Nagaland issue, he prepared a few designs, one showing Nehru in a Naga national, the other showing Nehru in a medilian with a naga township and a naga warrior. The other showed the nagas, Nehru and the map of India.

In explaining the prize winning design shri Pakrashi says that he tried to enumerate Gandhiji's secularism with a church, a temple, and a mosque painted in stylised form. These three buildings cannot be identified as they are in the letterings in the old English and Bharat in the same style. "these types of lettering has a significance

## DESIGNER OF INDIA'S GANDHI STAMP AND STATIONARIES of 1969

P.B.Chitnis

The two colour photogravure printed stamp depicting the portrait of Gandhiji in the set of Gandhiji centenary issue and the designs on the twelve postal stationeries is the work of P.B.Chitnis, Chief designer at the India Security Press, Nasik. The 75 P. stamp depicting the portrait of mahatma Gandhi has received faviourable comments from all quarters.

He did not participate in the open competition for the Gandhi stamps but submitted a single design after the awards were announced for the Gandhi stamp. Earlier a public stamp design competition was held and though two prizes of Rs. 1,000/-each were awarded for two designs, one by Mr.C.R.Pakrashi and the other by Mr.R.K.Yadav, both of New Delhi, the designs in the competition were not satisfactory. Mr. Pakrashi,s design was adoped for the Rs.5/- stamp. The philatelic advisory committee selected Mr.Chitnis's single desi of.



The three basic designs adopted for the twelve postal stationeries are exclusively the work of Mr. Chitnis. The designs show a portrait of Mahatma Gandhi, Mahatmaji at Sevagram and Mahatmaji and the spinning wheel.

This is not all - to his credit is the design of the Gandhi centenary commemorative coin and the design for Re.1/- currency note. For the coin, Mr. Chitnis participated in the open competition and submitted a design which was selected by the government for reproduction on the centenary commemorative coin and Rs.1/- note. He was awarded a sum of Rs.1,000/-. Four designs were submitted by him for the coins-note competition. His design has been selected for a Rs.10/- commemorative coin to be issued next year by India government for the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the F.A.O.



## HEAD OF DESIGNING DEPARTMENT

Since 1956, Mr. Chitnis is the head of the designing department at the press and in 1961, he visited Denmark to attend the INTERPOL conference followed by another visit, this time to U.K., where he was deputed under the "Columbo plan". The INTERPOL conference was in connection with the methods to check counterfeiting of currency.

Within the six months at his disposal, Mr. Chitnis studied security designing in U.K. at Thomas-de-la rue, Harrison & sons and the government printing press. He says that one may ask why India's stamps and currency notes do not stand favourably with other advanced countries-the answer is "Given the advanced machinery and the essential amenities, we can produce equally good if not better standards".

Mr. Chitnis, a student of the J.J. school of art, Bombay had early success - he won the U.P. government & TISCO's competition. The former invited poster designs on the subject of communal unity and his design secured first prize. In the international contemporary art exhibition held in 1946 at New Déhil, TISCO specified the requirement of a "poster" and his design won 'A' prize.

Mr. Chitnis art works were exhibited in Bombay and Delhi annual exhibitions and some paintings on the aspects of Indian life and have been acquired by the then government of Bombay. He had been commissioned to

paint portraits for some of the Indian princes and notable personalities in public life.

His early career started with the government at Simla in the ministry of information & broadcasting and in 1948, he was selected by the union public service commission for the post of a artist in India security press, Nasik. In 1956, he was promoted to be the head of the designing section-studio at the press.

## FRANK VIEWS ON DESIGNING

The security press was equipped with a letter press and litho press. Early in 1951, and the first photogravure machine was brought in and the first photogravure stamps were the set of six saints and poets stamps issued in 1952 and the first two colour photogravure was the red cross issue in 1957-in the denomination of 15 P. the stamp was issued to commemorate the 19<sup>th</sup> international red cross conference. Within the limitations at the press, continuous experimenting is being done which according to Mr. Chitnis, has produced fruitful results. The recommendations of the security press were accepted by the government of India with the result that a multicolour printing machine is being proved which, it is hoped, will produce quite good stamps but again it will depend on good designs.

"Stamps designing, unlike other creative works is a special and skilled job and has some peculiar problems". He observes "to fight against time should be a rare feature and should be given sufficient time to execute designs. The absence of good basic material always comes in the way of good designing", he said. To eliminate these basic obstacles, he suggests a collection of various subjects, covering portraits etc. and thematic subjects is a must and should be made available to artists for reproduction and reference. Too much of writing spoils the balancing of the designs.

Asked about his views on public stamp design competitions Mr. Chitnis feel that to get right type of material stamp design competition is good and provides scope for various artists to exhibit their talents and, therefore, competitions for some important issues is in a way a right thing. A pool of artists at least in an advising capacity may prove to be useful to the government and facilitate selection of good designs.

In reply to another question, Mr. Chitnis observed "too many and frequent issues of stamps on little known personalities to the modern world, and whose sketches are more imaginary than true or realistic cause a natural disappointment to stamp collection; example, the portraits of Tyagaraja, Narsimha.

(Courtesy : Philatelic Journal of India, 1970).

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# ODD SHAPED STAMPS

Prof. Dr. Vra. Saathappan

A postage stamp is a small piece of paper that is purchased and displayed on an item of mail as evidence of payment of postage. The stamp's shape is usually that of a small rectangle of varying proportions. It is the common shape adopted for stamps due to convenience in handling separating, pasting etc.

In addition to the most common rectangular shape stamps have been issued in many geometric and irregular shapes. Here we will see some stamps with odd shapes with perforated edges (other than rectangle). They are triangle, square diamond, rhombus, parallelogram, trapezium, pentagon, hexagon and octagon. These geometric shapes can be regular or irregular. Regular shapes have equal internal subtended angles and can be circumscribed by a circle. A regular quadrilateral has opposite angles as 90. Stamps with curved shapes like circle, ellipse, semi-circular, D-shape, capsule shape, fan shaped (sector) and other odd shapes like flag, star and shapes with a combination of curved and vertical edges have also being issued.

A rectangular shape has four sides opposite sides parallel and equal in length. All the included internal angles are 90. Rectangle-oblong will have a base length greater than the height. One of the world smallest rectangle-oblong stamp issued by Victoria (a British colony later become a part of Australia) during 1901 (2). Rectangle-vertical has a base length smaller than the height. One of the world smallest rectangle-vertical stamp issued by Colombia during 1945 (3).

To enclose an area with straight lines we need a minimum of three sides. This polygonal shape is a triangle. It is the basic shape for many a design in various fields. The sum of the three included internal angles will be always 180., irrespective of the type of triangle. We do not have any authentic record about the issue of the first perforated triangular stamp. But the world's first triangular stamp (imperforated) was issued by Cape of Good Hope on 01-09-1853(6).

An equilateral triangle has three equal sides and each of its internal included angles is 60. The world's smallest triangular stamp was the 2 ½ centavos black on lilac, issued by Colombia in 1865 and measured only 18 mm on each side. It was an equilateral triangle. One of the equilateral triangle shape stamp issued by El Salvador with sides measuring 30 mm issued during 1921 is shown here (4).

An isosceles triangle has two of its sides equal and the internal included angle opposite to these sides is also equal. Shown here is a news paper stamp with 2c face value issued by Fiume (a city and surrounding territory on the Adriatic sea now under the control of Italy) in 1919 (5). In this stamp design the apex is at the foot of the stamp. The base is at the top. The world's first triangular stamps with the apex at the foot were first issued by Latvia as

airmail stamps in 1921 and 1928 and as air charity stamps in 1932 and 1933.

A right angled triangle is also an isosceles triangle but has one of its internal included angles as 90, the angle opposite to the longer side. The other two angles are equal and they are 45. Each. A right angled triangle is half of a square along its diagonal. Hong Kong China issued a stamp in the theme museums and libraries on 26-03-2000 (7).

A vertical triangular design stamp was issued by Argentina on 02-06-2007 to celebrate the international polar year (8).

In a scalene triangle all the three sides are of different length. The world's only scalene triangle stamp (imperforated) was issued by Colombia in the denomination of 2 ½ cents during 1868-70 (10).

A square shape has four sides of equal length (opposite sides are parallel) and the included angles are 90. The diagonals are equal and perpendicular to each other. A stamp issued by India on 30-01-1994 to commemorate the 16<sup>th</sup> international cancer congress (17) is square.

A diamond shape is a square which has one of its diagonal in a vertical position and the other in a horizontal position (perpendicular to the other diagonal). A stamp issued by Ukraine on 26-10-2004 as a part of the miniature sheet issued on the theme birds of the Danube nature reserve (14). The world's first diamond-shaped stamps were issued by Nova Scotia on September 1851, three stamps on the theme flowers.

A rhombus is similar to the diamond shape except that two opposite included internal angles are less than 90 and the other two angles are more than 90. The diagonals are unequal and perpendicular to each other. A rhombus shape stamp (smaller vertical) issued by Romania (a republic in the southeastern Europe bordering on the black sea) on 01-09-1964 to commemorate the 18<sup>th</sup> Olympic Games in Tokyo (9). A rhombus shape stamp (smaller horizontal), was issued by Guinee (a Portuguese overseas territory on the west coast of Africa between Senegal and Guinea). (12).

A parallelogram is similar to the rhombus opposite sides are parallel and equal in length. The diagonals are not perpendicular to each other. A stamp issued by Mongolia on 24.05.1975 on the theme medicinal plants (13) is a parallelogram.

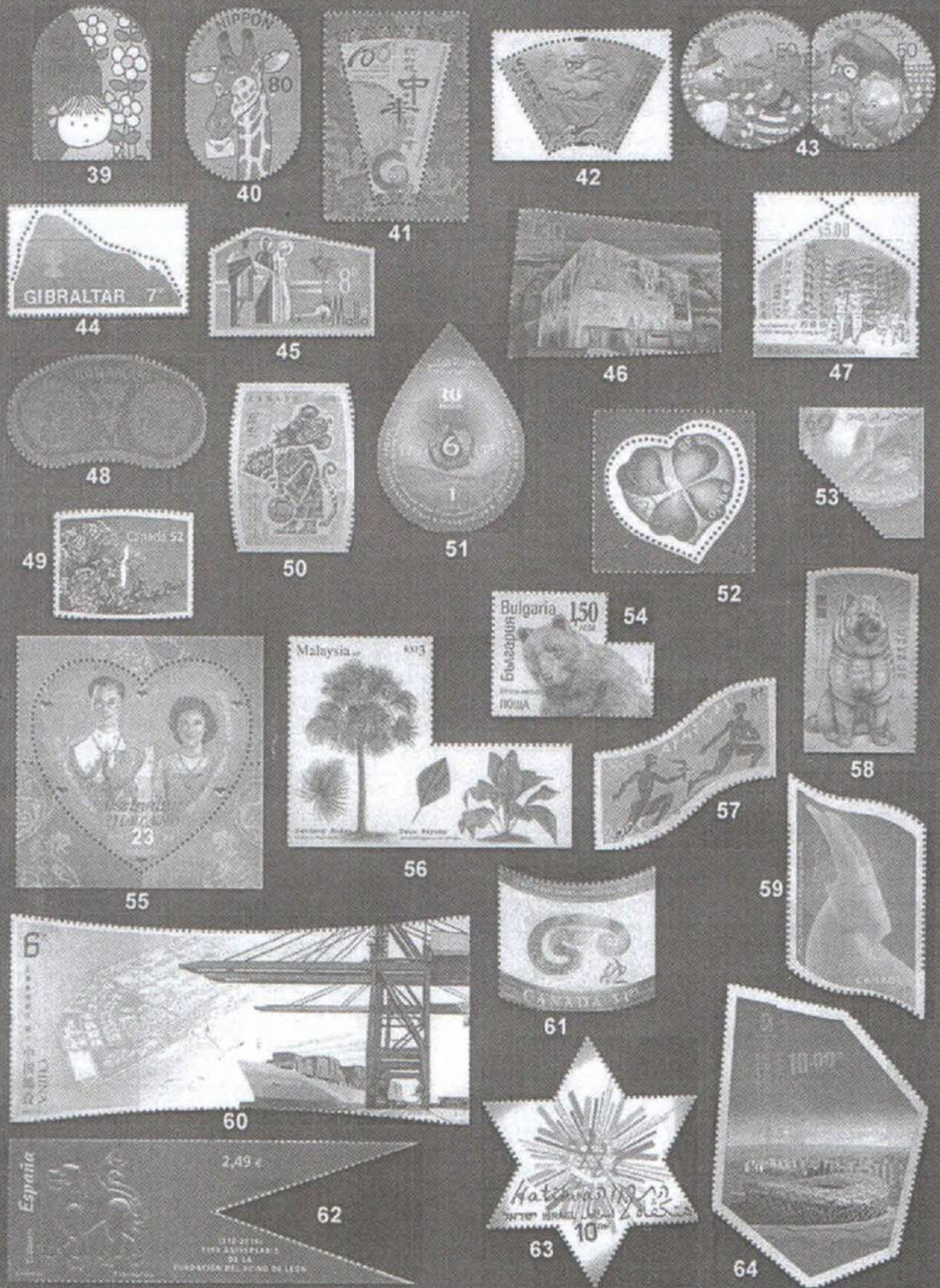
Trapezium is a four sided shape with opposite sides parallel and the other two sides are inclined. The inclined sides may be convergent or divergent. In majority of cases the diagonals are not perpendicular to each other. The world's first trapezoidal shape stamps were issued by Malaysia on 02-12-1967 to celebrate the centenary of the first stamps of the straits settlements (15). A stamp issued by Monaco on 14-01-1955 to honour Dr. Albert Schweitzer (18). A stamp issued by Sri Lanka in 2008 to commemorate the 29<sup>th</sup> Olympic games at Beijing (20). a stamp issued by





The illustrations shown here are 80% of their original size





The illustrations shown here are 80% of their original size



Malaysia on 06-04-1970 to publicise the earth satellite station (11). A stamp issued by Malta on 20-10-1967 to Christmas (16).

A pentagon is a polygon with five sides. The sum of all internal angles will be equal to 540 the stamp is as a part of the miniature sheet titled exploring the solar system issued by USA - in 2000 (25). a stamp issued in 2007 by China to commemorate the Beijing Olympics 2008 (24) is a pentagon stamp.

A hexagon is a polygon with six sides. The sum of all internal angles will be equal to 720. The world's first hexagonal stamps was released by Belgium as a telegraph stamp. A stamp issued on 11-10-2004 by Namibia as a first SAPA-Southern African Operators Association joint issued on the theme national birds of its member countries (21). A stamp issued by India on 02-08-2008 on Aldabra, the giant tortoise (26). A stamp issued on 15-05-2002 Caledonia (an island in the south pacific ocean east of Queensland, Australia) to commemorate 2002 world cup soccer championships Japan and Korea (32).

An octagon is a polygon with eight sides. Generally a square shape is cut at the corner's to form an octagon. A stamp issued by Oman on 22-04-1991 to commemorate its national day (23). A stamp issued by Qatar on 21-05-2004 in honor of FIFA - Federation of international football association (28). A stamp issued by Canada on 03-01-2002 to commemorate the year of the horse (22). A stamp issued in 2009 by Korea (27). A stamp issued by Papua New Guinea in 2010 in the topic spiders (19).

So far we saw stamps which can be classified as a regular polygon. The World's first irregular polygon shaped stamp was issued by Malta on 03-10-1968 for Christmas (45). The shape is an irregular pentagon, rectangular in three sides, with a raised apex towards the left. A similar type of stamp was issued by Hong Kong China on 11-12-2003 to commemorate the development of public housing (47). Another stamp with an irregular pentagon shape was issued on 13-05-1998 by Israel on the theme children's pets (53). It is in the shape of the diamond, the jewel, (i.e.) a small triangular portion removed from the corner of a square. An irregular polygon shaped stamp with four sides of different length was issued by Iceland in honour of Expo Shanghai 2010 (46). A six sided irregular polygonal shape stamp was issued by Macau-China to commemorate the Beijing Olympics 2008 (64).

Circle is a single line enclosing an area by itself. A circle encloses a maximum area with a minimum perimeter. It has been an attractive shape from the early Stone Age. Circle has been the common shape for post marks (cancellation) from the early post till today. Circular stamps are very difficult to be arranged as such in a sheet for perforation and handling without any damage to the stamp so they are circumscribed by a perforated square apart from the circular perforation. For a still easier handling, the square perforation and the circular perforation are connected with one or two perforated holes.

The World's first perforated circular stamps were issued by Kuwait on 15-06-1970 featuring the head of the Kingdom Sheik Sabah (33). The second country to issue circular stamps was Malaysia to commemorate the opening of main office of the Negara Malaysia Bank. The stamps are shown on cover with first day of issue cancellation 15<sup>th</sup> May 1971(38,). A circular stamp from Japan was part of the miniature sheet issued on 16-06-2003 to promote the habit of letter writing (30).

Semi-circular shape is formed when a circular is bisected by a diameter into two parts. The bisected single part is known as a semi-circle. A stamp issued by Singapore on 08-08-1997 to commemorate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ASEAN (29). A semi-circular stamp from Japan was part of the miniature sheet issued on 16-06-2003 to promote the habit of letter writing (37).

"D" shape is a combination of a square or a rectangle and a semicircular attached to any one face of the square or a rectangle. A D-shape stamp from Japan was part of the miniature sheet issued to promote the habit of letter writing (39).

Capsule shape is a combination of a square or a rectangle and two semi-circle attached on opposite side (face) of the square or a rectangle. A capsule shape stamp from Japan was part of the miniature sheet issued on 16-06-2003 to promote the habit of letter writing (40).

Any number of lines passing through the centre of a circle to its perimeter will be of same length (diameter). When the length of the line varies, it is known as an Ellipse or an Oval. This can be easily understood as an elongated circle. The maximum length is known as Major Axis and the minimum length is known as Minor Axis. A stamp in the shape of ellipse, part of the miniature sheet issued by Japan in 2000, to commemorate the birth of the Millennium (35). The axis ratio (ratio between Major axis and minor axis) is 1: 0.73. A stamp issued by France on 11-09-1999 to commemorate the rugby world cup is in the form of ellipse (31). The axis ratio is 1: 0.65. An ellipse shaped stamp from Japan, part of the miniature sheet issued to promote the habit of letter writing (34). The axis ratio is 1: 0.67. Another ellipse shaped stamp from the same country, part of the miniature sheet issued to promote the habit of letter writing (36), with an axis ratio of 1: 0.9. The World's first stamps with an oval design were the numeral definitive series issued by Mexico in 1886. This series, however, was perforated in the usual upright rectangular shape.

To create novelty and get recognized among the philatelists of the world, few countries do something innovative. One of them is a perforated free form stamp. Attempts have been made to produce perforated free-form stamps in a more orthodox manner. De La Rue (stamp printing company) intaglio-printed a set of four stamps in 1968 for Bahamas and was issued on 02-12-1968, Kidney shaped and depicting obverse and reverse of a set of gold coins (48). The Stamps were perforated around each stamp, but were usually cut square with scissors. Harrison and Sons (stamp printing company) produced a set of four stamps in July 1969 for Gibraltar perforated in the shape of the rock of Gibraltar and was issued on 30-7-69 to



commemorate Gibraltar's new constitution (44). Additionally, however, each stamp was perforated in the normal rectangular shape.

Stamps perforated with a combination of curved and vertical edges. Fan shaped stamps were issued by Hong Kong China in the year 2009 to commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the people's republic of China (42) and by Singapore on 19-07-2006 to commemorate the centenary celebration of the Singapore Chinese chamber of commerce and industry (41). A stamp issued by Canada on 01-03-2007 on the theme lilac flowers in a shape which looks like a horizontal rectangle bulged outwards on the top and bottom (49). Another stamp by the same country Canada issued on 08-01-2008 to commemorate the year of rat has a shape which looks like a vertical rectangle bulged outwards on the sides (50). Another stamp from Canada issued on 06-01-2006 to commemorate the year of dog has shape which looks like a vertical rectangle bulged outwards on the top (58). Another stamp from Canada issued on 05-01-2001 to commemorate the year of the snake has a shape which looks like a horizontal rectangle has an inward curve for the top line and an outward curve for the bottom line (61). China issued a stamp in 2011 in the shape which looks like a horizontal rectangle bulged inwards on the top and bottom, in the theme Harbour (60).

A stamp issued by France on 28-06-2004 to commemorate the summer Olympics at Athens has a shape which looks like a horizontal rectangle re-shaped with vertical edges intact and the horizontal edges at the top and bottom has a wavy curve for the top and bottom line (57). A stamp from Canada issued on 03-01-2003 to commemorate the year of the Ram has a shape which looks like a vertical rectangle re-shaped with vertical edges in tact and the horizontal edges at the top and bottom has a wavy curve for the top and bottom line (59).

France was the first country to issue a perforated stamp in the shape of a heart. One of the stamps issued by France on 11-01-2003 is shown here (52). Recently Thailand issued a heart shaped stamp in 2010 to commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> Royal Wedding Anniversary (55).

"L" shaped stamps were issued by some countries. A stamp was issued by Bulgaria on 28-03-2006 on the theme, ecology (54). A stamp was issued by Malaysia in 2009 in the theme Palm Trees (56).

Some special shaped stamps were also issued. A stamp in the shape of a water droplet was issued by Qatar (51). A stamp in the shape of a double horse shoe was issued by Japan in 2000 honouring the TV show puppets Don Gabacho and Torahige (43) A stamp in the shape of a six pointed star was issued by Israel in the year 2008 to commemorate 60 years of Israel (63). A stamp in the shape of a flag was issued by Spain (in the year 2010 to commemorate 1100 years of Kingdom Leon (62).

So far we have seen perforated odd shaped stamps. There is another category of stamps which can be classified as free form self adhesive stamps. The first a stamp in this category was issued by Sierra Leone on 11-

05-1964. Due to constraint in space our literature was restricted to perforated stamps.

(The stamps shown in this article are part of the collection of the author (except 6 & 10). As The article was prepared during January 2012. stamps issued after January 2012 are not included in this article.

The author is presently working as Principal in an engineering college at Chennai. He has been collecting stamps from his child hood. You can contact the author through saathfamily@gmail.com)

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#### Gandhi 1948 - Addl. details

Denomination	Colour	Numbers	Sheets	Service Overprinted
1½ Annas	Sepia Brown	25,000,000	5,00,000	15,950
3½ Annas	Bluish Purple	2,500,000	50,000	1350
12 Annas	Dark Green	3,750,000	75,000	250
Rs.10	Reddish Brown	250,000	5,000	100

### PARSI AMARCHAND

Sundar Nivas, No.160, Baracah Road,  
Secretariat Colony, Kellys, Chennai - 600 010.

Phone [0] 044-25388905, 25381370

[R] 044 - 26481077; 26613575

Mobile : 98401 56410

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