



# SIPA

## Bulletin

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**OLYMPICS**  
Mascots, Emblems 18

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**OLYMPICS 31**  
Jessie Owens 1936

Quarterly

### EDITORIAL

As editor my heart felt thanks to all the members who have given nice feedbacks about the "SIPA-Bulletin" through calls, mail, whatsapp etc.etc. I am really elated at the tremendous response given to the receipt of the bulletin by most of you. It gives us (SIPA-executive) additional energy and strength to go all out to continue with the endeavour and reach greater heights.

Let me cite three examples of feedback to the delight of all members.

"I had a surprise when I received SIPA bulletin after about five years! However, better be late than never. Reproduction of an article by late Col.L.G.Shenoi was a pleasure to read among others.

-Dr.Punit Dixit FRPSL, Nadiad

"Thank you very much for the new SIPA Bulletin which I received today. I really appreciate SIPA's success in bringing out a full color magazine unlike earlier issues, getting so many contributors from SIPA itself. Thank You for editing....

-Mr. Abhijit De, Chennai

I am glad to receive a copy of SIPA Bulletin (Vol 36 No 1) after a long interval. The revival of the magazine is timely. Needless to say, the Bulletin is of very high standard and is very much useful to the philatelists. Right from the imprint of commemorative stamps issued in connection with the consecration of Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Temple, all the articles and illustrations are well-presented. The late Col. L.G. Shenoi's 'District Posts of Madras Presidency' and the information on 200 years of Postal Service in Bombay are well-researched themes. By the bye, I was in touch with the late Col. L.G.Shenoi who was Bangalore-based when I was with the Postal Training Centre, Mysore from 1980 to 1995. I am aware of the amount of labour that has gone into the making of the Bulletin. You have truly done an yeoman service. May the magazine grow from strength to strength.

Mr.R.Soundararajan, Nagapattinam

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In this context, SIPA have a request with all members. Many of you collect on many countries, classes and topics. Exhibiting pattern and style may vary, from one collector to another, even though there are guidelines and regulations. As such every one of you can express about your collections, method of collecting, putting up as an exhibit etc. as a small write-up or article which can find a place in the bulletin. Don't worry about the language or style. It will be taken care of. Kindly come out of your shell and spread your wings. You will definitely fly high.

Interestingly, with two articles on Olympics from our own members adorning this issue, this issue can be called as 'Olympics issue.' Credits are due to the writers.

As mentioned in the previous issue, this one continues with GI covers and R.B.I. issues. However a new article about "MALTA" has come up from a new writer, who is a life member of SIPA. This article should be an eye-opener and should stimulate others to test their writing talent. You may not know your hidden talent.

One good news to members, after rigorous deliberations at SIPA-executive council members it was decided to allow advertisements connected and related to philately only in future. Details about size and rates will follow in the next issue.

Happy Collecting,

-Editor

# OLYMPIC EMBLEMS AND MASCOTS ON POSTAGE STAMPS

Mr.Senthilkumar Chandrasekaran  
Life Member, SIPA

Olympic fever is just rising up with the edition of Summer Olympics 2024 around the corner from 26th July to 11th August 2024 at Paris, France. A variety of philatelic items have been issued during Summer Olympics right from Athens 1894. In this article a brief account on various Olympic emblems and mascots of Summer Olympics which featured on postage stamps are covered.

Incidentally formal Olympic emblems were introduced from Paris 1924 onwards, however simple symbols came into vogue from London 1948 only. First Olympic Emblem to feature in postage stamps was that of Rome 1960, which appeared on stamps issued by Italy and few other countries like Mongolia and Maldives.

Olympic mascots have been a key part of the Games since 1972. This article covers Postage Stamps issued by various countries with Olympic Emblems starting from Rome 1960 and Mascots from Montreal 1976.

## Rome 1960

Emblem of Rome 1960 shows the Capitoline Wolf who suckles the twin brothers Romulus and Remus, the two mythical founders of Rome. Roman numerals MCMLX were placed under this landmark symbol of Rome depicting the year 1960. Olympic Rings are placed below the Roman numerals. This is the only olympic emblem which does not feature the name of the city.



1960, Italy  
SG : IT 1020

1960, Mongolia  
SG : MN 194

1960, Maldives  
SG : MV 50

## Tokyo 1964

Emblem for Tokyo 1964 features a red disc symbolising the rising sun, similar to the one on the National flag of Japan, above the Olympic rings with Tokyo 1964 inscribed underneath the rings. This logo of Tokyo 1964 appeared on stamps issued by Paraguay also. This series is not listed by Stanley Gibbons in the main listing of Paraguay as they were not available from the post offices. There are also few postage stamps issued with partial design of emblem.



1964, Paraguay

1964, Paraguay

1964, Portugal  
SG : PT 1257

## Mexico 1968

Emblem for Mexico 1968 took advantage of the rounded shape of the numerals 68 and superimposing the Olympic rings on them. A typeface was created based on traditional Mexican art similar to a radiating tri-lines from the numerals. Same design was adopted to the word "Mexico".



1968, Mexico  
SG : MX 1163

1968, Mexico  
SG : MX 1162

1968, Indonesia  
SG : ID 1213

## Munich 1972

A spiral version of wreath of rays in blue was adopted and placed below the Olympic rings and text München 1972 were introduced on the sides of this design. Although West Germany issued many series of the stamps, none of them featured the emblem. It could be found in stamps issued by few other countries either in part or in full.



1972, Cyprus  
SG : CY 392

1971, Yugoslavia  
SG : YU 1485

1972, Uruguay  
SG : UY 1484

For the first time in Summer Olympics, there was an official mascot, a dachshund named Waldi. However it did not make it into any of the postage stamps.

## Montreal 1976

Emblem for Montreal 1976 features a simple design in red resembling a three-dimensional pattern of Olympic rings, upper part resembling the alphabet 'M' for Montreal. Middle portion resembles an oval similar to track field of athletes. Mascot for Montreal 1976 was Amik, a beaver which could be found in the Souvenir Sheet issued by Cuba.



1974, Canada  
SG : CA 773

1976, Bangladesh  
SG : BD 91

1976, Cuba  
SG : CU MS2299

## Moscow 1980

The central element of the emblem for Moscow 1980 comprised of three parallel lines that converge from the right and left and unite in five upward lines. Resulting shape resembled a race course of the stadium and also represented the famous seven skyscrapers of Moscow popularly known as "Seven Sisters". Above the symbol, a five point star symbolizing the superiority of Soviet Union was placed and the Olympic rings were placed below the symbol. Mascot for Moscow 1980 was Misha, a cuddly bear.



1984, Soviet Union  
SG : SU MS5049

1984, Ethiopia  
SG : ET 1170

1984, Mexico  
SG : MX 1564

## Los Angeles 1984

Emblem design for Los Angeles 1984 combined the stars and stripes from the USA Flag representing the spirit of the competition. It comprised of tripling of stars in blue, white and red titled "Stars in motion" with 13 horizontal lines of movement across it. Mascot for Los Angeles 1984 was Sam, an eagle designed by artist from Walt Disney Productions.

Interestingly the emblem and mascot did not feature in any of the stamps issued by USA for Los Angeles 1984, however could be found in stamps issued by other countries.



1984, Egypt  
SG : EG 1547

1984, Senegal  
SG : SN 790

1984, South Korea  
SG : KR 1628

1984, Benin  
SG : BJ 949

## Seoul 1988

Emblem for Seoul 1988 was based on traditional Korean Samtaegeuk pattern. It featured bold stripes converging in a spiral pattern uniting the centripetal and centrifugal forces.

Mascot for Seoul 1988 was Hodori, a little tiger. Apart from necklace made of Olympic rings, it also wore a Sangmo, a typical Korean hat from which flowed the ribbon in the shape of S representing Seoul.



1985, South Korea  
SG : KR 1659

1988, Argentina  
SG : AR 2120

1988, Luxembourg  
SG : LU 1233

1985, South Korea  
SG : KR 1660

## Barcelona 1992

The emblem for Barcelona 1992 featured a simple and joyful design of athlete spreading out his arms underlying his hospitality. Mascot for Barcelona 1992 is Pyrenean Mountain dog named Cobi.



1992, Spain  
SG : ES 2877

1992, Spain  
SG : ES 3181

1992, Northern Cyprus  
SG : TR-NC 331

## Atlanta 1996

Emblem for Atlanta 1996 had elongated numbers 100 representing 100th anniversary of Modern Olympics. The elongated number also resembles an Olympic torch with flame in bright red changing gradually to magenta colour. After the flame, the emblem had three stars of varying size, shape and colour representing the diversity of the event.

None of the stamps issued by USA featured this emblem. However, it could be found in stamps issued by few other countries. Mascot is Izzy a blue blob neither a human nor an animal figure and it featured on the postage stamp issued by Ecuador.



1996, Kazakhstan  
SG : KZ 120

1996, Tunisia  
SG : TN 1320

1996, Ecuador  
SG : EC 2258

## Sydney 2000

The design of the emblem for Sydney 2000 was titled "Millenium Man athlete" symbolizing the speed and agility of an athlete moving towards the new millennium. His arms and legs are made of three boomerangs along with kangaroo. The lightning at the top represents the curved roofs of Sydney Opera. Sydney 2000 had three Mascots Olly the kookaburra, Syd the platypus and Millie the echidna.



2000, Australia  
SG : AU 1902

2000, Oman  
SG : OM 536

2000, Lithuania  
SG : LT 738

2000, Ecuador  
SG : EC 2412

## Athens 2004

The emblem for Athens 2004 illustrated the olive wreath which is traditionally given to Olympic victors. The design of the wreath of open circle signifies that the invitation is for all nations to participate in the Games. Mascots for Athens 2004 are Phevos (Apollo) and Athena,

named after the ancient God of light and Goddess of wisdom and rendered in the style of terracotta statues.



2000, Greece  
SG : GR 2137

2004, UAE  
SG : AE 774

2003, Greece  
SG : GR MS2222

## Beijing 2008

Design of the emblem for Beijing 2008 is named "Chinese Seal, Dancing Beijing". It featured many aspects like traditional seal in red colour symbolizing that of the national flag of China, an energetic runner with opened arms welcoming guests in calligraphic art, a stylised version of the word "jing" meaning the capital and hint of an outline of a dragon.



2005, China  
SG : CN 5043

2006, China  
SG : CN 5112

2008, Turkey  
SG : TR 3869

Five good luck dolls were selected as mascots for Beijing 2008. BeiBei the fish, Jingjing the Panda, Huanhuan the boy, Yingying the antelope and Ninnin the Swallow. Together their names formed the greeting bei jin huan ying nin, which translates to "Welcome to Beijing".



2005, China  
SG : CN 5044

2005, China  
SG : CN 5045

2005, China  
SG : CN 5046

2005, China  
SG : CN 5047

2005, China  
SG : CN 5048

## London 2012

The emblem for London 2012 features four numbers 2-0-1-2 which together represents the year of the Games. Wenlock is the official mascot of London 2012, which is created out of the steel with single eye and wore Olympic rings as bracelets. Though not found on stamps from UK, it can be found in stamps issued by other countries like Malta.



2012, UK  
SG : GB 3251

2009, UK  
SG : GB 2986

2012, Serbia  
SG : RS 566

2012, Malta  
SG : MT MS1733

## Rio 2016

The emblem for Rio 2016 is based on the famous Sugarloaf Mountain of Rio. It also depicts the figures of three people holding hands in three-dimensional perspective representing the spirit and joy of Olympics.

Mascot for Rio 2016 is Vinicius, a hybrid animal inspired by animated games and named after the famous musician of Rio Vinicius de Moraes. Mascot appeared on the miniature sheet issued by Brasil in 2015, which also had inscriptions in braille.



2015, Brazil

2016, Montenegro

2015, Brazil

## Tokyo 2020

The emblem for Tokyo 2020 is based on chequered spiral logo (formally known as "ichimatsu moyo") of three different rectangular shapes representing different countries, cultures and way of thinking.

Olympic mascot for Tokyo 2020 is named as Miraitowa, which is derived from the Japanese words "mirai" (future) and "towa" (eternity). Both the mascot and the emblem appeared on Miniature sheet issued by Japan in 2019.



2019, Japan  
SG : JP MS8108

2019, Japan  
SG : JP MS8108

2020, North Macedonia  
SG : MK 1087

2021, Egypt  
SG : EG 2788

## Paris 2024

Paris 2024 emblem combines three symbolic components the medal, the flame and a Marianne, representing the Republic. This also signifies Paris 2024 being the first edition to achieve perfect gender equality and Paris 1900 being the first one to allow participation of women. Mascot for Paris 2024 is Olympic Phryge which had been shaped after the traditional small Phrygian hats.



2024, France

2024, France

2024, France

Emblems and Mascots of Olympics together unleashes the creativity keeping with regional culture and traditions and the spirit of Olympics. Many number of postage stamps have been issued with these emblems and mascots and as a philatelist it provides a platform to study them and enrich our knowledge.

*\*Images of stamps are resized to suit the layout, however keeping the length : width ratio.*

\* \* \* \* \*

# Know this tiny Island Country MALTA

Mr. Ravikumar  
Life Member, SIPA

The Maltese Islands are right in the middle of the Mediterranean sea. Three main islands - Malta, Gozo, Comino and a few small uninhabited ones make up the Maltese Islands. Throughout their history, the Maltese Islands were inhabited by several civilizations and cultures until independence in 1964.



After gaining independence from Britain in 1964, the Malta Post Office conservatively issued fewer stamps each year. However, these stamps were rich in design and with historic significance. These stamps are testaments to the importance of philately in preserving and sharing history of Malta.

The first definitive set of Malta after independence was issued on 7th January 1965 and printed till 1970. These stamps are designed by Emanuel Vincent Cremona (Emvin Cremona), a professional creative artist who used intense colours in his stamp designs, each telling a story from the Maltese Island's rich history. This definitive set had 21 stamps, each a window into the past of the Maltese Islands.

## 1. Sleeping Lady



The sleeping lady, a Neolithic figurine, was discovered in the early 1900s in Hal-Saflieni Hypogeum, an underground rock-cut tomb in Paola, Malta. It is supposed to have been created between 4000-2000 BC. It is currently displayed at the National Museum of Archaeology in Valletta, Malta.

The 1/2d stamp, a masterpiece of design, shows the Sleeping Lady clay figurine in the foreground. This figurine, a symbol of the Neolithic era, is a testament to the early human civilization on the Maltese Islands. The spiral reliefs inside the temples, another critical feature of the Neolithic era, are shown in the background.

## 2. A Stone Cippus

A pair of Phoenician marble Cippi (ornamental pillars) were unearthed in Malta in the late 17th century. In 1782, the then Grand Master of the Knights of Malta



gifted one of the Cippi to the French King Louis XIV. The Cippi is currently on display at the Louvre Museum in Paris.

The pair of Cippi were votive offerings to Melqart, a significant deity in Phoenician and Punic pantheons. The inscriptions on the Cippi are in Greek and Phoenician alphabets. The Cippi is dated to around 200 BC.

The 1d stamp shows the Cippus present in Malta and the Greek and Phoenician inscriptions on it.

## 3. Roman Remains



The Romans raided Malta in the First Punic War in 255 BC. At the start of the Second Punic War in 218 BC, the Romans took control of Malta and made it part of the Sicily province. Several well-preserved mosaics and statues from the Roman period were excavated from the ruins of Domus Romana, a Roman-era residence. It is located between Mdina and Rabat in Malta.

The Domus Romana, built in the 1st Century BC, seems to have been occupied by a wealthy Roman aristocrat.

The 1-1/2d stamp shows a Roman statue and a decorative pillar in the foreground. A mosaic design is shown in the background.

Malta was part of the Roman Empire till the early 6th century.

## 4. Terracotta Oil Lamp

In 60 A.D., the Christian apostle Saint Paul sailed to Rome with his companions. Saint Paul got shipwrecked near Malta and was treated kindly by the Maltese people. He then met Publius, the Roman Governor of Malta. Saint Paul cured Publius' father, who was ill. Later, Publius converted to Christianity and became the first bishop of Malta. Since then, Roman Catholicism has been the predominant religion in Malta.



Several Christian antiquities, such as oil lamps, vases, and pottery were found in the excavations in the underground Christian tombs and cemeteries.

The 2d stamp shows a proto-Christian terracotta oil lamp from the Roman period. It also shows a Roman temple and a religious cross.

## 5. Majmuna Tombstone



One of Malta's most important Arabic archaeological findings is the Majmuna Tombstone. It is traditionally believed that it was found on Gozo Island. It was used in the Roman period and later reused as tombstone.

The Kufic Arabic inscription on the tombstone indicates that it is a 12th

Century marble tombstone of a girl named Majmuna, who died on 21st March 1174. Currently, it is kept at the Gozo Museum of Archaeology at the Citadel of Victoria in Gozo, Malta.

The 2-1/2d stamp shows the Majmuna Tombstone.

## 6. Norman Window

In 1091 AD, the Normans invaded Malta, which Muslims predominantly occupied at that time. After this invasion by Roger II in 1127 AD, Christian settlers, administrators, clergy members, traders, and garrison members arrived in Malta.



The 3d stamp shows the Siculo-Norman arch window of the Palazzo Gatto-Murina in Mdina, Malta.

The Palazzo Gatto-Murina is one of the earliest Siculo-Norman structures built in the early 15th century. The structure has several motifs and geometric patterns.

## 7. Knights of Malta



While being part to the Kingdom of Sicily, the Maltese Islands were ruled by successive feudal and eventually the Spanish. In 1530, the Spanish King Charles V (Holy Roman Emperor) handed the islands to the order of Knights of the Hospital of Saint John to protect Rome from the Ottoman Empire.

The 4d stamp shows the triple lantern of the stern of the Order's gallery, the white eight-pointed Maltese Cross, the Order's coat-of-arms, and the 16th-century armoury.

## 8. Galleys of the Knights of Malta

The naval prowess of the Order of Knights of Saint John was renowned throughout the Mediterranean and Europe. They resumed their seaborne attacks on the Ottoman fleet and pirate ships from Malta.



The Order's main warships were galleys, oared vessels rowed by galley enslaved people.

The 4 1/2d stamp shows two galleys of the Knights of Malta. The galley at the foot of the stamp was the Grand Galley of the Grand Master Emmanuel Pinto (1741-1773)

## 9. Fortifications



The Knights built several fortifications, towns, palaces, gardens, and churches in Malta. After the Great Siege of the Malta of 1565, the Knights started planning to create a new city with fortifications. The new town was named Valletta, after the Grand Master Jean Parisot de Valette, who spearheaded the battle against Ottomans in the Great Siege.

The 5d stamp shows a watch post in the fort. These watch-posts were constructed strategically to offer sweeping views of the surrounding environment.

## 10. French Occupation

The power of the Knights declined over the late 18th century. In 1798, while going to Egypt, Napoleon Bonaparte's expeditionary fleet captured the Maltese Islands. The Knights's rule in Malta ended after 275 years.



Napoleon briefly stayed in Malta but implemented several reforms, such as the abolition of slavery and feudal rights, the creation of new municipalities, and the setting of public finance administration.

The 6d stamp shows the Cathedral of Mdina in Malta and the emblems of the French Republic, such as the "faces" and the Frisian Cap. These emblems were placed on the Cathedral of Mdina in 1798.

## 11. British Royal Coat of Arms



The French rule in Malta was short-lived. Local Maltese people rebelled once the French closed the convents and took away the church treasures. They seek assistance from the British to retake Valletta from the occupants.

The French were expelled in 1800, and Malta became a British Protectorate.

The 8d stamp shows the coat-of-arms of Great Britain surrounding a Latin inscription recording the British sovereignty on the Maltese Islands.

## 12. Naval Arsenal

The excellent harbours in the Maltese Islands became prized possessions for the British after the Suez Canal opened in 1869. Thus, the islands became a substantial military and naval base for the British, and they made it the head quarters of their Mediterranean Fleet.



The 10d stamp shows the British fleet and Malta's first temporary British Naval Hospitals.

## 13. British Rule



The Maltese Islands became dependent on the British military expenditure that varied with the demands of the war. Because of this, the locals sometimes suffered poverty. The British

introduced several liberal constitutional reforms in the 19th century.

The 1/- stamp shows the crests of two Major Maltese units of the British Army, and the Grenade symbolized the Malta Fortress Squadron in Royal Engineers.

#### 14. XXIV Eucharistic Congress

Between April 23 and 27, 1913, the 24th International Eucharistic Congress was held as a meeting of clergy and religious to bear witness to the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, an essential Catholic doctrine.



The 1/3 stamp shows the holy angels looking over the Maltese Islands.

#### 15. Malta's Parliament



A partly elected legislative council was created in Malta in 1849. However, the British refused the home rule to the Maltese people till 1921. The self-government in Malta led to the establishment of a two-house parliament consisting

of a Senate and an elected Legislative Assembly. The Maltese Islands were self-governing in 1921-1933, 1947-1958, and 1962-1964.

The 1/6 stamp shows the Knights of Malta Hall in the Palace of the Grand Masters, constructed in 1574, which was used to seat the Parliament.

#### 16. Banca Giuratale

The Banca Giuratale is the city hall in Gozo, Malta. It was built in the 18th Century for the administrative council of the Gozo and Comino islands of Malta.



The 2/-stamp shows the Gozo City Hall and the mutilated statue of Livia, Drusus's daughter and Emperor Augustus's wife.

#### 17. State of Malta



On 21 September 1964, the State of Malta was formed as an independent constitutional monarchy. The Queen Elizabeth II was the Queen of Malta and head of state.

The 2/6 stamp shows a seated woman (symbolic figure of Malta) holding a weapon firmly with both hands.

#### 18. Independence

The date on which the State of Malta was formed continues to be celebrated annually as Independence Day, a national holiday in Malta. Malta was admitted to the United Nations on 1 December 1964.



The 3/- stamp shows the symbols of Independence, such as doves, the UN emblem, the British Crown, and the Pope's tiara.

#### 19. NATO Building



After Malta gained independence the ruling Nationalist government maintained friendly relations with former rulers. The British retained a military presence in Malta until 1979.

Malta continued to be the headquarters for NATO's Allied Forces Mediterranean. The Headquarters Allied Forces Mediterranean (HAFMED) building was located at Floriana in Malta.

The 5/- stamp shows the HAFMED building and the emblem of the Allied Forces Mediterranean.

#### 20. Maltese Islands

The Maltese Islands stand on an underwater ridge extending from North Africa to Sicily. In the distant past, the lands were submerged, as evidenced by marine fossils embedded in rock at the highest points of Malta.



The ridge was pushed up, and the Strait of Gibraltar closed through tectonic activity; the sea level was lower, and Malta was on a bridge of dry land that extended between the two continents, surrounded by large lakes.

The 10/- stamp shows the location of the Maltese Islands in the Mediterranean Sea.

#### 21. St.Publius, St.Paul, and St.Agatha



Saint Paul is venerated as the patron saint of Malta. Several parishes in Malta and Gozo are dedicated to him.

Saint Publius was the first Maltese saint and bishop of the Maltese Islands. He was a patron of Malta and Floriana. As Saint Publius was a Maltese, there is a vast devotion across Malta towards him.

Saint Agatha came to Malta during the persecution in Sicily and taught the Christian faith to the Maltese. She is considered a patron saint of Malta.

The £1 stamp shows Saint Paul, Saint Publius, and Saint Agatha statues. The designs are not based on actual statues but Emvin Cremona's creation. The stamp represents the establishment of Roman Catholicism on the Maltese Islands.

### About the Author :

An IT professioner who is working as a Senior Information Developer at Applian Corporation, in Chennai, is a 'MALTA Specialist' and also collects Philatelic materials on Madras and Nilgris religiously. He has exhibited upto Nationals with high awards.

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## HUMOUR in Philately No.1

India was under the British rule. Shri Rajagopalachari, was doing legal practice in Salem Town (Madras Presidency).

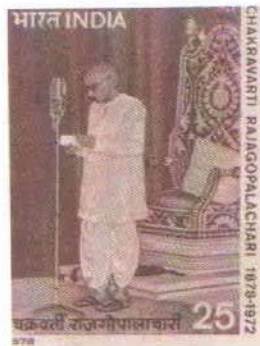
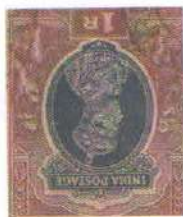
One fine morning, after putting a letter inside a plain envelope and writing the address, he called his uneducated assistant (செட்டி) gave him the addressed envelope, a postage stamp and told him to fix the Postage Stamp on the envelope and bring to him.

The assistant went to the side, affixed the stamp with gum and brought back the envelope to Shri. Rajagopalachari.

On seeing the stamped envelope Rajaji started laughing aloud. To the surprised assistant, "We are all struggling and fighting for a long time for this. But you have done it in a minute". Rajaji mentioned to the startled Man.

"Not understood", (புரியவில்லை) retorted the assistant.

"Yes, Yes, in a minute you brought down the British King by putting the stamp upside down" (ராஜாவை கவுத்திட்டீயே) and continued his laughter.



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## GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATION-TAGGED HANDLOOM PRODUCTS OF TAMILNADU

Mr.S.Balasundaram  
Life Member, SIPA

(Continued from Page 09 Vol.36.No.1)

### 3. Kanchipuram Silk (2005-06)

Popularly known as the "City of Silk" and the "City of 1000 temples", Kanchipuram is famous for its handwoven silk sarees with delicate zari work. Kanchipuram silk saree is considered as the queen of silk sarees and characterized by gold dipped silver thread that is woven on premium quality silk. These sarees are also known for their durability, heaviness and high cost because of zari work. The heavier is the silk and zari; the better is the quality.

Traditionally, the Kanchipuram saree is usually handwoven in mulberry silk and has pure gold or silver zari that renders it a festive quality. Kanchipuram sarees are not just garments worn by women to look beautiful, but there is a cultural, religious, and emotional significance attached to these sarees. A wide variety of temple architectural motifs are embellished into the designs of the sarees which enhance the appeal and value.

The allure of Kanchipuram silk sarees lies not just in their opulent fabric but also in the craftsmanship of the weavers (Devangar, Saliyar, Padma Saliyar, etc.) who have upheld this art form for generations. The Pallava and Chola kings patronised the production of Kanchipuram silk. Copper plates of Uttama Chola (10th Century), now available in Madras Museum speaks about the importance of merchants and weavers in the early medieval economy.



of Kanchipuram and how the cess on weaving looms known as Saliyarvari was abolished. In Kanchipuram. There are around 60,000 silk weavers, out of whom 50,000 work under the co-operative fold.

### 4. Bhavani Jamakkalam (2005-06)





In the late nineteenth century, competition from British made Indian weavers to invent new types of garments. In Bhavani, Erode District a community of weavers called Jangamars weave a type of blanket using colored coarse threads called Jamakkalam, which is named after its town.

Two types of jamakkalams are produced in Bhavani. The first type is made from coarser cotton threads capable of producing carpets with colored bands. As the thread was coarser, designs could not be weaved on to this type of carpet. Hence, a second softer variety of jamakkalams made of artificial silk threads were introduced enabling weavers to weave different kinds of border designs.



Special Cover on Bhavani Jamakkalam issued by India Post on 12.10.2021 during Erophil District level exhibition held at Erode

The hand-woven Bhavani jamakkalam (carpet) is known for its finesse and aesthetic values. Over 20,000 families are involved in weaving the jamakkalams at pit looms in their houses.

### 5. Madurai Sungudi Sarees (2005-06)

Around 500 years ago, Sourashtrian weavers migrated from Gujarat, settled in Madurai, when the Nayak Dynasty was ruling. These weavers were highly skilled artisans. Their women specialised in tying, while the men expert on dyeing. Once they settled in Madurai, they decided to bring their rich tie-dye heritage a new meaning by adding a local touch to their craft. The *pattu-nool-karars*, as they are called locally, incorporated the tie and dye craft in creating Madurai's signature textile, the Sungudi sarees.

One of the first products from Madurai to get the GI tag is the Sungudi sarees. These sarees are hand-woven with single dot patterns and natural dyes. In recent years, in view of tough competition from other textile fabrics, to meet the market demand this, "Sungudi" is produced with modern designs and techniques of block printing, wax printing and screen printing. The *pattu-nool-karar* named this masterpiece of a weave as Sungudi, derived from the Sanskrit word '*sunnam*' meaning "round". The classic elegance of the dotted designs and restrained beauty of surface ornamentation created by the sungudi craft attracted the royal lineage of pre-colonial era.



Special cover on Madurai Sungudi saree (A piece of original Sungudi saree inset)

### 6. Kovai Kora Cotton Sarees (2007-08)

Kovai Kora cotton is a blend of silk and cotton and kora another product that is found more in the Sirumugai area. This mixing with silk produces the famous kora cotton which is weaved on a traditional hand-loom. Every saree takes three days for the weaving process. The sarees feature bright colored border designs with the minimal use of shining zari. Like most South Indian sarees, its appeal lies in its lavish pallu and border designs.

People belonging to the Devanga community are involved mostly in weaving Kovai Kora cotton sarees and they are the pioneers in making this product. During the making of Kora saree, the kora silk is used for warp and 2/100 kora mercerised yarn is used for weft and half fine jari is used for making the border and putta. Eighty two Weavers Co-operative Societies in Coimbatore, Tiruppur and Erode districts have been certified as authorised dealers of Kovai Kora cotton. This is one of the major achievements as not too many societies in the country have been certified as authorised dealers of a product that has got GI registration.

### 7. Toda Embroidery (2012-13)

Forming one of the 18 tribal groups found in the Nilgiris in Tamil Nadu, the Toda people (also known as Tudas, Tudavans, and Todar) are famous for a number of aspects, the most widely proclaimed of all being the embroidery that emerges from the area. The Toda Embroidery, also locally known as "*Pukhoor*", is an art work made exclusively by the Toda women. The embroidery, which has a fine finish, appears like a woven cloth but is made with the use of red and black threads with a white cotton cloth background. The distinctive feature of the embroidery is that the patterns are based on the thread counts unlike modern embroidery, which is dependent on set patterns and designs. The most interesting fact is that the Toda women without modern numerical literacy skilfully embroidery patterns with geometric precision without any external aids such as scales/patterns. Another feature is that the reverse side is equally beautiful with no signs of hanging threads and knots and hence both sides of the embroidered fabric are usable. Both men and women adorn themselves with the embroidered cloaks and shawls. The Todas who make this embroidery live as one small community, population of 1,600 spread over 69 settlements. Among these 1,600, about 400 are stated to be engaged in the embroidery work.

The Nilgiri Adivasi Welfare Association and the Kotagiri Women's Co-operative Cottage Industrial Society

# PHILATELIC ITEMS ISSUED FOR RESERVE BANK OF INDIA PLATINUM JUBILEE LANDMARK

Mr. Abhijit De,  
Philatelist, Chennai.  
Life Member, SIPA

(Continued from Page 06 Vol.36.No.1)



are joining hands with the Central and State government departments in implementing promotional activities in marketing and selling the products made by the Todas. The conferment of the GI will help the growth of the empowerment of Toda women and preserving the art of Toda embroidery.

## 8. Arani Silk (2019-20)

In Tamil, *Aru* means river, and *Ani* means adorning. Arani means a place made beautiful by rivers. Arani is well known for its traditional handloom silk fabrics for its durability due to the mixture of colours used in the yarn. The type of silk used for both warp and weft is mulberry. In terms of design, graph sheets were used to develop the motifs. When jacquard was introduced, the designs and motifs were heavily influenced by the designs of Kanchipuram, a silk city one hour drive away from Arani. An interlocking border with contrast pallu called *Korva* is the signature style of Arani, and a check pattern called *Kottadi* is also in fashion.



The Arani Pattu saree is light weight, while Kanchipuram is lustrous and heavy. Arni weavers were more keen on creating the abstract form of the motifs than creating a visual theme on the saree at the beginning. Later, when jacquards were introduced in Arni, the art of creating a story on the saree started under the influence of motifs from Kanchipuram. The animal motifs and other large floral motifs of the Arni saree are influenced by the motifs of Temple architecture. These sarees are woven by two highly skilled weaver communities, Devanga and Sourashtra. **The first flag hoisted in the Red Fort on independence of India is a silk flag woven in Arani.**

(To be Continued)

\* \* \* \* \*

## The R.B.I. Stamp.



The single commemorative stamp issued for the Platinum Jubilee of R.B.I. is designed by Shri Sankha Samanta, who has designed more than 450 postage stamps, FDCs and Miniature Sheets, for India Post, in more than 3 decades of continuing association with India Post. Among his many stamps are most of the newer stamp set issued on Gandhiji, including the 2 stamp sets issued for the 150<sup>th</sup> Birth centenary of Gandhiji. The first set, issued on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2018 is a landmark as it introduced the first post independence circle shaped postage stamp (India's and the world's first circle shaped postage stamp is the Scinde Dawk), and he also designed the first Octagonal (8 sided, odd shaped) stamp sets in India, which was issued on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019. In all, he has designed 85 different Gandhi stamps, many of them as part of set of 4-6 different stamps.

This Commemorative Stamp was to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee landmark of R.B.I., and issued on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2010. There are many currency and R.B.I. related details on it, some of which details are given here:

\* The building shown in the center of the stamp is the main facade and entrance to the R.B.I. central office situated in New Delhi. Flanking the main entrance are a Yaksha and a Yakshani, who represent the attendants to the God of Wealth, Kuber. These sculptures were made by the renown artist, Ramkinkar Baij of Vishva - Bharati University, Shantiniketan, which Institution had been started by Nobel Laureate Gurudev Rindranath Tagore. The figure of the Yaksha shown on the left was inspired by the statue of Parkham Yaksha housed in the Mathura National Museum, and the Yakshini on the right, by the Bisnagar Yakshini housed at the Calcutta National Museum.

\* On the top right of the stamp is shown the obverse design of the Rs. 1000/- note, which was first introduced under the Republic of India series VI & VII-Mahatma Gandhi Series - currency notes in October 2000, but was subsequently demonitised in November 2016. The full design of the note is shown hereunder.



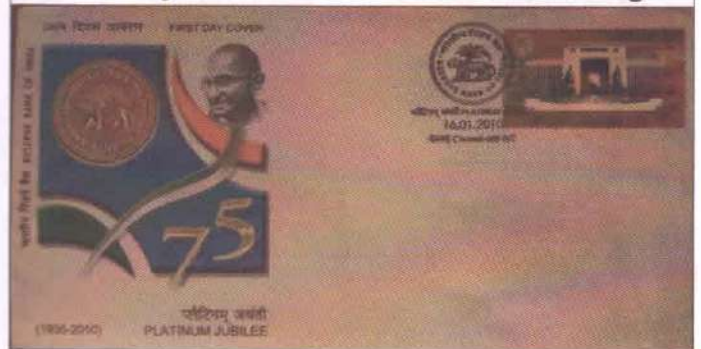
\* On the lower right are shown 3 coins related to the coins issued by the Government of India in the first decade after independence. The lower coin shows the famous horse design featured on our first post independence 1 pice coin, before decimal currency was introduced.. In the pre-decimal era, the Rupee was divided into 16 annas, with 1 Anna consisting of 4 pice, which in turn consisted of 3 pies. In short, 1 Rupee consisted of 192 such pice coins. The coin above the 1 pice coin shows the front of the tiny copper 1 Naye Paise coin, which was introduced in 1957, when the Monetary system was reformed and 100 naye paise was made to equal 1 Rupee. The coin above this shows the reverse of the pre-decimal 1 Anna coin, which shows the Ashoka lion emblem (the reverse of which coin shows another symbol of India, the cow) of Government of Independent India, which is the emblem used on the reverse of all coins, to represent India, and till the Gandhi ji series of notes were introduced, they also formed the water

mark for all notes. This Lion emblem continues to be printed in at least one place on each currency note.

\* On the bottom left is shown the Rs. 500 currency note of the Gandhi ji series with a colour which is different from the present Rs. 500 note, which was introduced in the year 2000, but was demonitised along with the Rs. 1000 note in 2016. All the new notes which were issued after demonitisation are with a reoriented profile of Gandhiji..

On the top left is a Rs. 10 coin from the cross series of coinage which were minted in between 2005 to 2007. The cross series of coins were in denominations of Re.1, Rs. 2 and Rs. 10. The front and reverse of this set of coins are shared here.

### First Day Cover And Cancellation Design



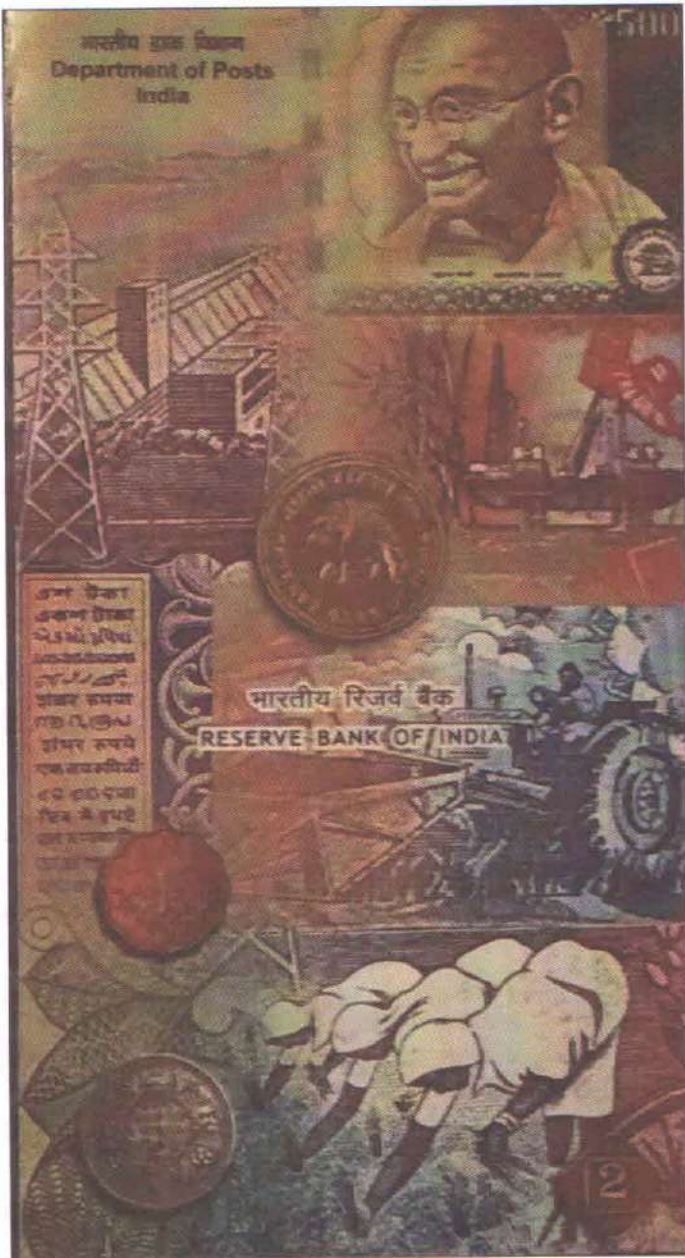
The F.D.C. was also designed by Shri Sankha Samanta, and the cancellation by Smt. Alka Sharma, both of whom are well known to those who take interest in the designers of philatelic material for India Post, as both have been associated with India Post for above 30 years. Shri Samanta has recently had the distinction of designing the 6 stamp Miniature sheet issued for the inauguration of the Ram Janmabhoomi temple at Ayodhya.

The cachet design of the FDC, shows the Seal of the Reserve Bank of India, and the profile of Gandhiji which was used for the Republic of India Series VI and Series VII Gandhi series currency notes of our country, and a stylised 75 has been added to the design to indicate it is the Platinum Jubilee of R.B.I. The notes with this profile of



Gandhiji were issued from 1996, and were changed after demonitisation took place in 2016, and the new design of currency notes, and a different Profile of Gandhiji, was introduced from 2016, which profile is shown on the used Rs. 200 currency note shown here.

India Post has used The Reserve Bank of India Seal design for both the Cachet and Postal cancellation design. The Seal of R.B.I shown on this design is used in



at least one position on our currency notes, apart from the Government of India Ashoka Pillar LION Emblem, which is featured in all post Independence currency notes.

The R.B.I Seal was derived from the design of East India Company 1835 Gold Mohur coin, which showed a lion with a palm tree in the background on the reverse side. When this design was adopted as the seal of R.B.I., the Lion was replaced with a Bengal Tiger. This original Gold Mohur design was used also by Captain H.L. Thullier, The Deputy Surveyor-General of India, in 1854, for making postage stamp essays for the proposed half Anna postage in different colours, which was finally not used, but the essays survive. A copy of this essay was used for a Stamp on stamp, as shown on the stamp of India here, which was issued as one of the 2 stamps for the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Philatelic Exhibition, Bangalore, held in 12<sup>th</sup> October 1977 (This was INPEX- 77, which was followed by Asiana- 77 from 19<sup>th</sup> October at the same venue).

**INFORMATION BROCHURE**

Normally the information brochure issued by India Post showed the issued commemorative stamp on the brochure cover, but in between 2008 and 2010, designers like Shri C.R.Pakrashi submitted 3 different designs, so that in case of some commemorative stamps that were issued, different designs were used for the Commemorative stamp, FDC and for the cover of the information Brochure. In case of the R.B.I. stamp brochure, a different design showing some other Indian currency notes and coins was used, as detailed hereunder.

In the design, apart from the Rs.500 and Rs.1000 note designs, both of which currency notes were demonitised in 2016, and which are shown on the right hand top in the design, this brochure cover also shows the Hirakud dam of Orissa in the design which was used for the reverse of the Rs.100 note, which were issued in between 1969 and 1980 (top left), the full picture of which dam is shown here under, and the other design is of that Rs.5 currency note that shows a tractor on the reverse side, which design was used from 1975 (center left). The coin on the right bottom side shows a 2 Anna coin issued during the reign of King George V, and the one at the bottom left, is the standard Rupee 1 coin issued during the WW II period during the reign of King George VI. The one Anna coin shown above the Rs.1 coin was a common design issued for the reign of both King George V and VI.

*(To be continued)*

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**HUMOUR in Philately No.2**

The Philatelist stood at the Gates of Heaven  
 His head bowed very low  
 And sadly, he asked the Angel of Fates  
 "Which way do I have to go?"  
 "What hast thou done", asked St.Peter,  
 "to gain admission here?"  
 "I collected stamps all my life", replied the Philatelist  
 "That included India?" asked the Angel.  
 "Yes, Your Holiness", replied the Philatelist, "including India, inspite of its dull personality and other unnecessary issues, far outnumbering interesting thematics; **senseless high denominations**, beyond the pockets of young collectors, to fleece the adults, its disgraceful cancellation of commemoratives; and postal officials behaving like.....  
 "Step right here in", said the Angel, "You seem to have had enough of hell with the Indian Post Office".



(Courtesy : Philatelic Journal of India, 1961)

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# A PHILATELIC CURIOSITY

Brig. D.S.VIRK

On the eve of Indian Independence, I happened to be in Japan as the Postal Officer (Deputy Assistant Director A.P.S. to be exact of the Indian Contingent of the British Commonwealth Occupation Force (B.C.O.F.) Soon after the defeat of Japan in August 1945, the Americans had occupied the whole country under the Command of General Mac Arther and a British Commonwealth Force with contingents from Australia, New Zealand and India, had joined them early in 1946. The Commonwealth Force was allotted as their zone of occupation the southern portion of the main Island of Honshu and the Island of Shikoku with headquarters near the naval port of Kure close to the atom-bombed town of Hiroshima. We joined the Force in March and our Headquarters was sent to the district town of Okayama after camping near Kure for a couple of months. 268 Indian Infantry Brigade was made responsible for the supervision of the Western districts with the Marhattas at Hamada, the Punjabis at Tottori and the Headquarters at Matsue. I had therefore to open FPOs at Okayama (77 FPO), Matsue (112 FPO), Tottori (651 FPO), Hamada (652 FPO) in addition to the Base at Kure (148 FPO) and the Airport of entry Iwakuni (56 FPO). Whenever an Indian Battalion went to Tokyo for ceremonial guard duties, our reserve FPO 653, opened up for them.

2. While Indian soldiers were carrying the burden of the British Empire in Japan and elsewhere in Asia and Africa, exciting things were happening in the home country. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had taken over as Prime Minister in the Interim Government and after long negotiations the British Government had agreed to grand independence to India on 15 August 1947, creating at the same time the new Dominion of Pakistan. Though many of us had strong misgivings about partition, all India and prospective Pakistanis were thrilled at the approach of independence. Crowds of soldiers gathered to listen to the news bulletins and there were innumerable requests from friends for copies of the Statesman which I used to get by air-mail from my APS colleague through the Army Mail, Exchange Office, Calcutta.

3. The approach of independence has resulted in many changes in our set-up in Japan. First a semi-diplomatic Indian Representative had been accredited to the Supreme Commander's HO. He was later replaced by a high level Indian diplomat Shri Rama Raju. The popular Command of the Indian Brigade, Brig. K.S. Thimayya was recalled to India to help in the Indian organization of the Army and he was succeeded by Brig S.M. Shrinagesh. The British element of our Headquarters faded away and Brig. Shrinagesh took over the Command. when Independence was near, Indian diplomat and military commanders in Japan got together to plan celebrations befitting the historic occasion and matching the joy of their hearts. It was decided to hold flag hoisting parades, 'bara Khana' feasts, game and firework displays at all places wherever Indian troops were stationed to organise the main

functions at Tokyo. A colorful and impressive ceremonial parade was held outside the Royal Palace Tokyo and an Independence Day dinner was hosted by the Indian Representative at the Imperial Hotel.

4. What of the postal celebrations to honour the independence of India and Pakistan? Apart from feasting and jousty the Postal were in the unique position marking the occasion for all ranks of the Contingent by impressing some mark, memento on their mail. I racked my brain for a suitable device and came up with the following design.

This was several days before the Independence Day and sample flag of India and Pakistan had not then been received in Japan, not at our Headquarters and Okayama in any case. Two postal clerks of my unit, a Mahratta Hindu and a Punjabi Muslim collaborated in drawing what they thought were the new National Flags and I ordered the preparation of a rubber stamp from a local Japanese dealer. **The rubber stamp was supplied to the Okayama FPO at our Headquarters with official orders to impress it on all items of mail passing through that office on the 15th of August 1947.**



5. I may state categorically that move was purely emotional and spontaneous gesture of a patriotic Indian completely innocent of all knowledge and practice of Philately or philatelic gimmickry. So having done what I thought was right proper I forgot all about it till the other day when I came across among my old Japan papers and pictures a leaf from an army note book carrying the specimen impression of our Independence Day rubber stamp. Thinking that my newly found philatelist friends would be interested in this curiosity for their collections I had it included in an APS exhibit for the Bangalore Inpex and Asiana 77. Lo and behold my surprise and happiness at seeing a live postal item from 112 FPO carrying the impression of my concoction in a large exhibit on B.C.O.F which won a silver medal for Dr. Hoshmi Ito of Japan at Asiana 77.

6. What is the postal and philatelic status of the above-mentioned impression of the rubber stamp? I really don't know. All I can say is that it was a commemorative post-mark used officially by a post office under my control in Japan under official orders for one day on 15 August 1947. With the benefit of hindsight I can say that it was perhaps the only official postal-cum-philatelic commomoration of our Independence on the Independence Day.

(Courtesy : Stamp Digest, 1980)

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# JESSE OWENS The Records-Breaker of 1936 Berlin Olympics

Ms. B Shruthikaa, Life Member SIPA

American athlete Jesse Owens (1913-1980) is best remembered for his stupendous performance at the 1936 Berlin Olympics, where he won gold medals in the long jump, the 100 and 200 metre dashes, and the 4 x 100 metre relay. He was the first American track and field athlete to win four gold medals at a single Olympic Games.



Stamps portraying Jesse Owens by Manama, Mongolia, USA and Guinea

## Early Life

Jesse was the tenth child of his parents, Henry and Emma Alexander Owens. His grandfather was a slave. When he was born in Alabama on September 12, 1913, he was named James Cleveland. He was known as "J.C." in his early years as his school teacher mistook "J.C." as "Jesse" and the name stuck. Owens started competing in races at age 13, and he quickly became a standout runner, known for his graceful style.

## Sports career as a Student

As a student in a Cleveland high school, Ohio and the State University (Columbus), Owens excelled as an athlete. His athletic career began in 1928 in Cleveland where he set Junior High School records by clearing 6 feet in the high jump, and leaping 22 feet 11 3/4 inches in the running broad jump, now known as the long jump. Owens' sensational high school track career resulted in him being recruited by dozens of colleges. Owens chose the Ohio State University, even though OSU could not offer a track scholarship at the time. He worked various jobs like elevator operator, a waiter, and in the library stacks, to support himself and his young wife, Ruth.

In one day, May 25, 1935, while competing in a track-and-field meet at the University of Michigan, Owens equaled the world record for the 100-yard dash (9.4 sec) and broke the world records for the 220-yard dash (20.3 sec), the 220-yard low hurdles (22.6 sec), and the long jump (8.13 meters [26.67 feet]). The latter record stood for 25 years.

## Star performance in 1936 Berlin Olympics

His success in various sports events gave him the confidence to take part in the 1936 Olympics held at Berlin, Germany, ruled by Hitler. It was during this Olympic Games

that Owen's athletic star shone the brightest. He became the "most successful athlete at the games" after winning 4 gold Olympic medals in 100 Meters, 200 Meters, Long Jump and 4 X 100 Meter Relay. Jesse Owens' Olympic success was unmatched until 1984, when Carl Lewis also won four Olympic gold medals in the Los Angeles Olympics.



Stamps of Germany on 1936 Berlin Olympics

## Story of "snubbing"

After the 1936 Olympics ended, there were stories going around that Owens had been "snubbed" by Hitler. The story goes that, after Owens won his first medal, Hitler, not wanting to acknowledge a non-German athlete's ability, left the stadium. It is stated that on the first day, Hitler met and shook hands with all the German and a few Finnish gold medalists. On the next day—August 3, 1936, when Owens won his first gold medal in the 100-meter dash, Hitler did not meet or shake hands with Owens. However, according to a sports reporter, Paul Gallico, Owens was "led below the honor box, where he smiled and bowed, and Hitler gave him a friendly little Nazi salute, the sitting down one with the arm bent." Owens himself later confirmed this, claiming that they exchanged congratulatory waves.

## Facing Racial Discrimination

While acknowledging that he was not personally snubbed by Hitler, Owens, a month after the Olympic Games, told a crowd that he had been snubbed by the then U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Roosevelt never publicly acknowledged Owens's triumphs—or the triumphs of any of the 18 African Americans who competed at the Berlin Olympics. Only white Olympians were invited to the White House in 1936. The reason attributed was that Roosevelt did not want to risk losing the support of Southern Democrats by appearing overly soft on the racial issue. The Black Olympians who competed in Berlin were not recognized by the White House until 2016, when President Barack Obama invited the athletes' relatives to an event in celebration of their lives and accomplishments.



German stamp on Hitler

## First sportsperson to receive sponsorship

During this Olympics, Addi Dassler, founder of the new German shoe company Adidas, approached Owens and convinced him to wear his hand-made leather track shoes with extra long spikes. Owens agreed and became the first African American Athlete to receive a sponsorship. 10 years after that sponsorship, Addi went on to build Adidas and Nike and his brother, Rudolf, put up Puma.

## Later Years

After his athletic career ended and his pursuit to gain fame and money elsewhere failed, Jesse did was degrading for a Olympic champion to run against a horse, but what was I supposed to do? I had four gold medals, but you can't eat four gold medals."

The 'Jesse Owens Award' is the highest honor given annually to the best US track and field athlete of the year. After retiring from competitive track, Owens engaged in boys' guidance activities, made goodwill visits to India and East Asia for the U.S. Department of State, served as secretary of the Illinois State Athletic Commission. In 1976 Owens received the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Four years later he died from lung cancer. In 1990 he was posthumously awarded the Congressional Gold Medal.

Jesse Owens showed the way for millions of athletes and the world at large. Owens dedicated his time to working with kids, and was generous in sharing his time and resources. Jesse Owens demonstrated the potential for humanity and the good that can be accomplished through courage, determination, and resiliency.



A Picture Post Card with 1936 Olympic Stamps

## About the Author :

Ms. Shruthikaa Balaji, a student of APL Global School, Thuraiyakkam, Chennai, is collecting stamps on topics like Birds, Toponymy, Sports and postal history. She has exhibited in various Regional, Circle & National exhibitions and won awards.

## OBITUARY

Mr. M.A. Sayeed, one of the Senior member of SIPA passed away in MAY 2024.



He started collecting stamps around 1952 when he was in school, encouraged by his mother who will provide pocket money to buy stamps for his collection. During his years in Madras, he was guided by Mr. Madan Mohan Das and Mr. Balakrishna Das, who prodded him to concentrate on specialised collections and exhibits. He moved to Dubai to pursue his business and he started building up collections and exhibits one after another. His main collections include British India, Ceylon, Great Britain [line engraved issues], Cape of Good Hope [triangulars], Afghanistan, Errors in post independence India etc. He also collected native states like Cochin, Hyderabad, Jammu & Kashmir and Indian Postal History including Campaign Mail. He has won 9 International Gold & Large Gold Medals in a 10 year period culminating an International Grand Prix in Hongkong FIAP 2001, International Grand Prix in Bucharest FIP 2008 and later Court of Honour. May his soul RIP.

## Members Directory

Dear Members,

You may be aware that SIPA intends to bring out a Members Directory as was discussed in the AGM. However, we were able to gather information of about 100 members only so far.

As it is not worthwhile to print without photo and other details, we once again request members to send in their details with photo immediately so that the Directory can be printed at the earliest.

The details required are :

Name	
Address	
Mobile	
E-mail	
Collecting interests	

## BOOK REVIEW :

Introduction to Travelling Post Offices and Railway Mail Service of India. 1853 - 1935.

M/s. P.S.DIXIT FRPSL, and  
PRATHMESH PATEL

The authors deserve to be congratulated for the exhaustively researched and details-built-in book on the interesting subject of Travelling Post Offices (TPO) and Railway Mail Service (RMS) of India during the early period of 1853-1935.

Starting from the first train movement in India between Thana and Boribunder Stations in 1853, the progressive development of the Railway system in the vast land of India detailed here through cancellations is mind-boggling.

The voluminous list of cancellation illustrations placed in the book is really one to be appreciated.

The bibliography and references added at the end will enable the reader to move ahead with ease. An index would have facilitated the user to work with comfortably.

On the whole this is a book which must be on the library of every senior postal history collector.

For further details Contact : **+91-9726947003**



BORIBUNDER RAILWAY STATION 1878

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