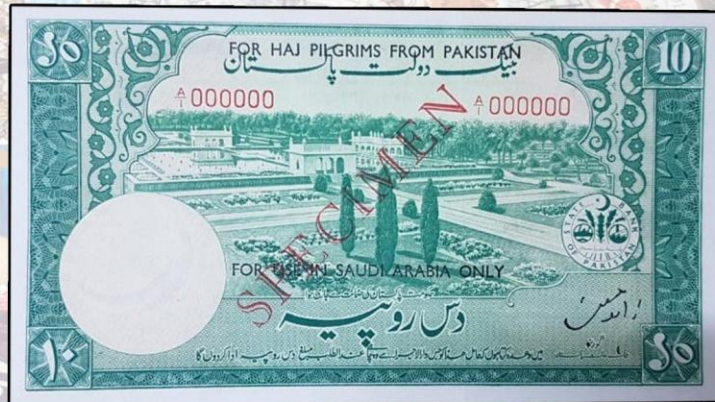




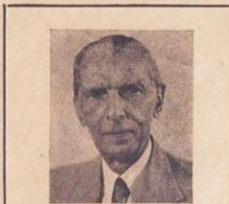
January-March 2021

# PAKISTAN PHILATELIC & NUMISMATIC *Magazine*





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January-March 2021



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**70** NEXT EDITION  
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# PAKISTAN PHILATELIC & NUMISMATIC MAGAZINE

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## FROM THE DESK OF CHIEF EDITOR



Launching a high quality philatelic & Numismatic Magazine was my dream. Now I am pleased to say that my dream has come true, in shape of first copy of our magazine "Pakistan Philatelic and Numismatic Magazine.

Our Patron-in-Chief Mr. Zia ur Rehman Zabeeh needs no introduction. He is a senior bureaucrat and Ex. Director General /Chairman Pakistan Post. I am thank full to him for accepting this assignment. His detail introduction is in the magazine.

Introduction of leading Philatelist of Pakistan will be a permanent feature of our magazine. In this regard the introduction of Mr. Usman Ali G Isani a legend Philatelist is included.

Articles of prominent philatelist are included based on their knowledge and I hope these will be helpful to improve your collections. We are thank full to George Rab from England, Salman Basir & Jeff Siddiqui from USA and Philatelic Writers from Pakistan for their contribution.

Our next edition will be dedicated to the 70th Anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic relations between China and Pakistan. We are looking forward from Philatelic writers of Pakistan and China to send us your articles on this theme.

I am also thankful to Hashim Zia Jafri from Canada, Salman Basir from USA, Sajid Mehmood, Rashid Nawaz, Dr. Mudassar Ahmad and Muhammad Ali Jahangir to send their advertisements.

I take the opportunity to suggest Pakistan Post to issue stamps on following topics:

1. Joint issue to commemorate 70 Years Friendship between Pakistan-China.

2. The Istanbul-Tehran-Islamabad Railway Project - ITI

The Istanbul-Tehran-Islamabad (ITI) train is expected to resume operations, authorities indicated after a meeting of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO). The national railways of Turkey, Iran, and Pakistan have mutually agreed to resume regular operations of the ITI container train. As per reports, all requirements for the railway tracks have been fulfilled.

In this connection, it is suggested that a postage stamp will be issued to commemorate the project. A postage stamp may consist of pictures of Trains, Logos, Maps, and routes of ECO (ITI) countries.

The above said theme (Logo, Train, and Map) will be appreciated by the collectors worldwide; which consequently increase the Pak Post revenue.

3. 50 Years of Mirage in Pakistan Air Force

4. Mountaineer Samina Baig - The first Pakistani woman to scale Mount Everest, the world's highest mountain with a peak at 8,848 metres. Samina completed the climb to the summit on May 19, at 7:30 am local time with her brother Mirza Ali, who becomes the third and youngest Pakistani male to scale the mountain.

Nepal Mountaineering Department official Tilak Pandey said that 35 foreigners accompanied by 29 Nepalese Sherpa guides reached the peak after climbing all night from the highest camp on South Col -- the pass between Everest and a neighboring mountain. It's a hot and internationally popular topic to issue a commemorative stamp.

5. Our present definitive series is old one I suggest to issue new series with Birds and animals on stamps which is a worldwide popular theme We seek cooperation from Pakistan Post to help us to increase philatelic activities in Pakistan.

The Philatelists and Numismatic collectors are also requested to send us articles & comments on the magazine.

**Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui**  
Chief Editor



Fédération  
Internationale de Philatélie



### MESSAGE

In this digital age, it is very rare for the commencement of any new print publication. I personally prefer and enjoy holding a hard copy of any Book or Journal in comparison to the digital.

Many of my contemporaries, especially in the USA, love to boast to me that the age of both print and philately is dead. So, I am extremely gratified that this new publication “ Pakistan Philatelic & Numismatic Magazine ” is being published this week in Pakistan by Mr. Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui and Mr. Syed Ali Musa Zaidi. I have watched in recent years the increasing development and positive promotion of our great Hobby in Pakistan.

The assembly and publication of a Philatelic Journal is no easy task. The combination of numismatics makes the Journal just so much stronger, with a consequent wider circulation.

I do hope you will support his magazine and contribute to its content as well.

I look forward to reading the Magazine, and to my next visit to Pakistan to participate in the activities of the Pakistan Philatelic Federation.

Warm Greetings

Bernie Beston  
President  
Federation Internationale de Philatélie (FIP)  
21 February 2021





Chairman  
Director General



### MESSAGE

**Philately** is the study of stamps and postal history and other related items. Philately is not limited to stamp collection, it involves more than just stamp collection. Philately knows no frontiers. It is the most appealing means of disseminating knowledge, of History & Heritage, Arts & Culture and many other aspects of a country.

Mr. Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui has cultivated and developed keen interest in this absorbing hobby and he is also encouraging others to do so. He remained member of Philately Advisory Committee of Pakistan Post for three years w.e.f 19-10-2010. He was also member of the committee constituted for up-dation of Philately Policy of Pakistan Post. Mr. Siddiqui is philatelist of good repute and an active member of Philatelic Association. He has been writing articles on philately in newspapers and magazine. He published Pakistan Postage Stamps Catalogue from 1975 to 2000.

I am glad to learn that Mr. Siddiqui is bringing out magazine on Philately and Numismatics namely "**PAKISTAN PHILATELIC & NUMISMATIC MAGAZINE**" in March 2021.

I highly appreciate his persistent effort to promote philately and numismatic specially, the Pakistan Postage Stamps, and I wish him continued success in his new venture.

EJAZ AHMED MINHAS  
Chairman I Director General  
Pakistan Post

## INTRODUCTION: MR. ZIA UR RAHMAN ZABEEH

### Patron-in-Chief



**MR. ZIA UR RAHMAN ZABEEH**  
Patron-in-Chief of the Magazine

Mr. Zia ur Rahman Zabeeh, Secretary General of the Pakistan Policy Institute was born on August 15, 1945. His illustrious father Mr. Muhammad Ismail Zabeeh was a great Statesman, Journalist and a close Associate of Quaid-e-Azam. In recognition of his meritorious services as a great Mujahid of Pakistan Movement, a commemorative stamp was issued in 2003 and also awarded Tehreek-e-Pakistan Gold Medal. Mr. Ismail Zabeeh was the first to bring into limelight the decisions of Quaid-e-Azam and Muslim League that the future capital will be in the vicinity of Margalla Hills. His untiring and unstinted efforts towards this cause were gratefully recognized by the Government by naming a prominent road in F-8 Sector Islamabad in his honour.

Re-naming of famous F-9 Park (as Fatima Jinnah Park) and other prominent roads of Islamabad after eminent personalities and scholars was also initiated by Late Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto Shaheed on the behest of Mr. Ismail Zabeeh when she visited the ailing Mr. Zabeeh at his residence in Islamabad on 30th December, 1995, which patriotic noble practice continues till date.

Mr. Zia did Masters in Political Science from Peshawar University in 1965 and has also served as the faculty member at the Edwards College Peshawar and Cadet College Kohat from 1965 to 1970. On qualifying the Central Superior Services exam Mr. Zia joined the Trade and Commerce service of Pakistan. In March 1971, Mr. Zia opted for Pakistan Postal Service and after putting in 35 years unblemished meritorious service retired in 2006 as its Chairman and Director General.

Mr. Zia has qualified with distinction in advanced courses in Planning, Administration, Human Resource Management, Communication and interpersonal skills, Regulatory and Legal Affairs from National Institute of Public Administration (NIPA) Karachi, Royal Institute of Public Administration (RIPA) London, Pakistan Administrative Staff College (PASC) Lahore.

Presently he is :

- Chairman and Chief Executive Shelozon Movers Packers and Logistics (Pvt) Ltd.
- Chairman and Chief Executive Shelozon Construction (Pvt) Ltd.
- Chairman, Malaysian VLN Pakistan (Pvt) Ltd.
- Chairman, Seri Global Travels (Pvt) Ltd.
- Chairman, Marwah Travel & Tours
- Chairman, United Global Exploration Pakistan (Pvt) Ltd.
- Chairman, GLOTCO (Pvt) Ltd. (Global Trading Company)
- Member, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce
- Member, Karachi Chamber of Commerce
- Member, Pakistan International Freight Forwarders Association
- Governing Member, International Association of Movers
- Governing Member, International Logistics Network
- Life Executive Body Member English Speaking Union (Islamabad Chapter) under the Patronage of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain

Furthermore he is:

- Former Chairman and Director General Pakistan Post
- Former Managing Director and Chairman Pakistan Post Foundation
- Former Chairman, UPU-IATA Contact Committee, Berne, Switzerland
- Former Chairman, International Financial Services Committee of the UPU, Berne, Switzerland
- Former Director, Pakistan Security Printing Corporation (PSPC)
- Former National Component Coordinator UNDP-UPU-GOP Project on Restructuring and Modernization of Pakistan Communications Sector
- Former Controller General Treasury papers and Stamps for Pakistan
- Former Secretary, Govt. Of Pakistan PTCL Privatization Committee
- Recipient of Lifetime Achievement Award (Philately) 2004



## AN INTRODUCTION TO A COLLECTOR

### Dr. Usman Ali G. Isani - A Legend in Philately

By Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui



It is a privilege to write a few words about a philatelist and a writer who is a living legend in the field of philately at National and International Level. Dr.Usman Ali Isani the philatelist and Writer received his early education in Lawrance college, Ghora Gali near Rawalpindi.

He was commissioned as an officer in the Pakistan Army. He was later transferred to the civil service of Pakistan and served in different capacities both in the field and in the secretariat. He held the position of Chief Secretary of former North Western Frontier province now Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. In the Federal Government, he held the position of Secretary in different organizations like the Railway Ministry, the Health Ministry and the Food and Agriculture Ministry. He was promoted as the "Secretary General" in the Government of Pakistan. This is the rank sparingly conferred on a few Civil Servants since the Independence of Pakistan.

He has a Bachelor Degree from the Military academy Kabul and another from the Punjab University. He has a Masters Degree from the Punjab University and from the University of California, Barkley in the field of Education. He has held the post of Chairman, University Grants Commission at Islamabad and as Vice Chancellor for Quaid-e-Azam University. He was Vice Chancellor of Iqra University, Karachi. He holds a Ph.D Degree in the field of Education.

#### Philatelist

Isani has been interested in philately since childhood. Isani is one of Pakistan's leading philatelists having won Gold medals for both his traditional and literature exhibits at world exhibitions. He is also a former President of the Philatelic Federation of Pakistan as well as the country's representative on the FIP Commission for Philatelic Literature.

#### Philatelic Publications

Pakistan: Overprints on Indian Stamps and Postal Stationery, 1947-1949 by Ron Doubleday and Usman Ali Isani 1993.

The Amirate of Bahawalpur, Postal History and Stamps (1932-1949) by Dr. U.A.G Isani and Syed Abid Hussain. Karachi: Post Office Foundation Press. 2006.  
1961 Decimal Currency Surcharges of Pakistan  
Pakistan Overprints on Service Post Cards of British India with Forms Used By North Western Railways.



Philatelists of Islamabad/Rawalpindi with Usman Ali Isani & Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui



Nasir Javid, Usman Ali Isani & Choudhry



Usman Ali Isani, Syed Abid Hussain & Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui





## WHY I CHOOSE PHILATELY ?

BY: MUHAMMAD PERVAIZ RASHID  
E-Mail: rg72pk@gmail.com

All and sundry obligates to do somewhat outside of daily-life exertion, it may be other than a professional workplace, business office or any earning sources to get relax. Opting an IT field and linked to a private job as well, there are many rewards and benefits I did own in many ways but I cannot express that it comes with its stresses too. My challenge was how to maintain a healthy and positive level of life to kick out stress and to erase the thin line between healthy and negative stress. Then my hobby appeared to rescue me and played a vital role as a safeguard to get success against the above-said magicians. That's why I have always handled excess stress through my hobby "Philately". There are many health benefits to having a hobby and it is also good for making friends with same fashion, building confidence, and cultivating other skills that I may not get to work on as much at work. Let's take a look at being a philatelist how I am a beneficiary. Philately provides me a chance to uncover my hidden abilities and unveils the secrets within me.

**Personal Development:** I always stand with Philately with holding a placard having the words "my hobby develops me in a better way". When talked to different professionals with the same hobby, I surely got a lot of information and some different skills as well. Out of my professional field, I met professors, doctors, engineers, etc. I improved my way of talking, addressing power, writing ability even I did control my diabetes after meeting with philatelist doctors without getting more medicines and medical procedures.

**Cross-Cultural Information:** Philately enriched me with cross-cultural information and enlighten anthropological aspects of different nations.

**National Interest:** Philately created nationalism and I became more patriotic towards my motherland while got many national hero, forces, and other stamps in my collection along with their literature.

**Spare some time:** Philately force me to take a break from my day-to-day stresses and carve out time to devote to myself; and the more time I devote to become immersed in my hobby, the more satisfaction and sense of achievement I can get out of it.

**Open up your world:** Philately encourage me to stretch the limits of my imagination, see the world in a new way or provide me with the mental space to come up with great ideas. When I devote myself to philately, I take on new challenges that motivate me to learn new ways to improve. Philately not only satisfies a curious mind but also puts me in touch with a completely new community of people, allowing me to broaden my experiences and my social life.

**Positive and Creative Thinking:** Philately played a vital role to express my skills of creativity. Developing creativity through a hobby can transfer directly into creativity and philately booted up my creativity skills which may not be possible within my professional activities. After getting information about the miracle and impossibilities done by the hidden heroes; the way of thinking things changed.

**Self Confidence:** Philately made me more confident owing to the hard grip on knowledge and information that helped me in my professional field also.

**Stress:** Philately no doubt save me from a silent killer called stress. The hobby that requires some type of physical activity that's make a kind of chemical changes in the body that help reduce stress. Philately even does not require such a physical activity but can equally beneficial to her owner. Putting aside every possible responsibility of professional life and involved in the hobby is the best source of killing stress and enjoyed my hobby to keep the medicines away. Philately as a hobby keep me in the moment, taking my mind away from stressful thoughts and focusing on an activity I enjoy. Philately offer me a high level of mental or physical engagement, philately help me practice mindfulness techniques.

**Socializing:** Philately has local and world wide web. I became more socialized and owned more people having different professions with the same interests. Many of my best friends are people; I have met through my hobby and it is an easy way to make new friends when to travel or move to a new area. It is also a great way to make friends at work and in similar jobs at different levels of work.

**Grow spiritually:** Just as the body is nourished through food and exercise, the soul needs to be nourished as well. This can be happened through creativity and spiritual practice in all phases of life. Doing something that leaves someone feeling inspired and recharged will help you apply those feelings to other areas of the life. Feeding the soul spiritually involves regularly connecting with the higher power. The best selection of hobby will help to feel calm, peaceful, and purposeful. Hobbies are almost a form of meditation because they can help to keep relax the mind and connect with the higher power.

**These are my point of view, it may vary from man to man.**

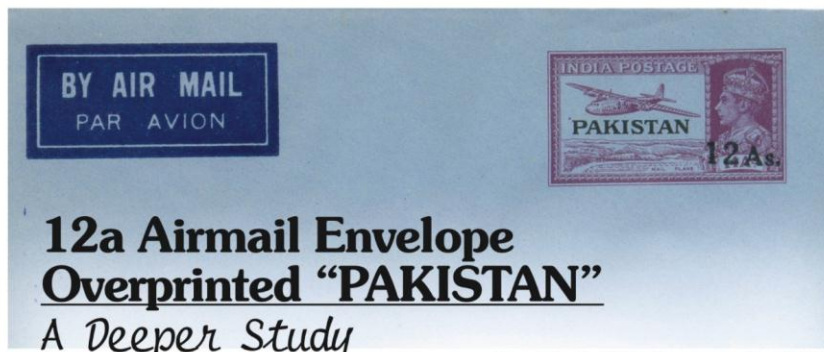


## 12a Airmail Envelop Overprinted "Pakistan"

A deeper Study



By: M. ARIF BALGAMWALA (T.I.)  
arifyco@gmail.com



By M. Arif Balgamwala (T.I.)

While the Indian Security Press was handling a large demand for the India, an additional and urgent demand was pushed in by the Government of Pakistan. In the stock of adhesive stamps and postal stationery, Pakistan received the 14a Airmail envelopes with 'PAKISTAN' overprint. These had become useless specially the airmail rates were reduced to 12 Annas. The Security Press at Nasik, to whom Pakistan Government surrendered almost all the quantity (except a few retained for record purposes), surcharged the 14a envelopes with the same '12 As.' surcharge and returned them by the end of 1947 after the Partition took place. The '12 As' surcharged Indian envelopes were also in a current use before Independence. Here below is a deeper look at this airmail envelope temporarily keeping the 'PAKISTAN' overprint unconsidered.

### THE PAPER / WATERMARK:

Watermark "IMPERIAL AIRMAIL" almost always appears inverted. Other variations are as follows:

W1. Without Watermark...	..	..	.. Less than 15%
W2. Two watermarks in one envelope.	..	..	.. Less than 5%
W3. Watermark also in the imprinted stamp.	..	..	.. Less than 2%
W4. Watermark upright as seen from front.	..	..	.. Less than 1%
P1. Paper reversed	..	..	.. Less than 2%

### THE IMPRINTED STAMP:

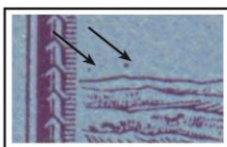
The imprinted stamp is in following colours:

S1. Purple	..	.. Normal
S2. Brownish Lake	..	.. Less than 5%
S3. Maroon	..	.. Less than 2%

### VARIETIES IN THE STAMP:

Some varieties have been seen in some envelopes which though unconstant, appear in about 30-35 envelopes.

V1. Small birds in Sky	V4. Crown amalgamated into background.	.. (Rare)
V2. Large bird in Sky (I)	V5. Vertical cut on King's cheek.	.. (Rare)
V3. Small bird in Sky (II)	V6. Broken tail wing of plane.	.. (Rare)
	V7. Inner corner of 'D' (INDIA) swelled.	.. (Scarce)



V1



V2



V3

## 12a Airmail Envelop Overprinted "Pakistan"

A deeper Study



V4



V5



V6



V7

### THE AIRMAIL LABEL

The Airmail label comes in four colours:

1. Dark Blue	..	..	..	..	Normal
2. Indigo	..	..	..	..	Scarce
3. Blue	..	..	..	..	Very Scarce
4. Bright Blue	..	..	..	..	Rare

Other varieties that exist in the airmail label are as follows:

- AV1. Flaws under left side of label. .. .. (Scarce)
- AV2. same as above but dot over 'AIR' ... .. (V. Scarce)
- AV3. same as AV1 but colourless text & frame thin .. (Rare)
- AV4. Flaws at right of label. .. .. (V. Scarce)
- AV5. Dot above 'L' of 'MAIL' .. .. (V. Scarce)
- AV6. Right side of label shaved .. .. (Rare)
- AV7. Same as above but flaw SW of 'BY' .. .. (Rare)
- AV8. Left side of label shaved .. .. (Rare)
- AV9. Same as above but side rough .. .. (Rare)
- AV10. Dot below 'ON' and left of 'P' .. .. (V. Scarce)



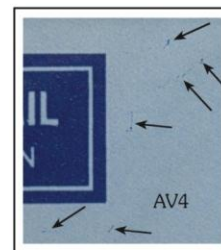
AV1



AV2



AV3



AV4



AV5



AV6



AV7



AV8



AV9



AV10



## 12a Airmail Envelop Overprinted "Pakistan"

A deeper Study

### THE 'PAKISTAN' OVERPRINTED ENVELOPES

In combination with the 'PAKISTAN' overprint any of the varieties listed in the previous pages, become true gems. Rarity of the 'PAKISTAN' overprinted envelopes has become even greater as awareness of the subject in general has increased several times in the past few years. The "PAKISTAN" overprinted items are more sought after and sell fast in the international auctions - if, and only if, anything does come for sale.

### THE RECORDED VARIETIES IN THE OVERPRINT

"PAKISTAN OVERPRINTS / 1947-49" had listed the following varieties in the overprints. Nasik printing being excellent is generally thought to be free of any such variations but No, it is after all a printing process handled by humans. The variations in the overprints are definitely very rare in occurrence and even greater in philatelic significance.

The varieties listed in "PAKISTAN OVERPRINTS / 1947-49" are as follows:

PA60	12a/14a	Nasik, Type 60 (with surcharge ) Black	5000	5000
a.	"	" Second 'A' short	10000	8000
b.	"	" As above but right serif of 'T' also short	10000	8000
c.	"	" Fine break in the left leg of 'N'	10000	8000
d.	"	" Break in base serif of figure '1'	10000	8000
e.	"	" Overprint & Surcharge doubled.		25000
f.	"	" Pale greenish grey paper**	25000	
PA61	14a KGVI	Nasik, Type 61 (without surcharge)*	8000	



PA60a



PA60b



PA60c



PA60d

### THE PRESENT MARKET VALUE

The original '12As' surcharged envelope of British India is selling in the market for no less than US\$15, though it starts at US\$8 or so on online auctions but never realizes less than \$15.

In comparison the 'PAKISTAN' overprint version is far less in quantity than the Indian counterpart and in combination with the varieties discussed in this article, it becomes a true gem. It is worth several times more with the normal overprint but with the varieties it is hard to say because they have not been highlighted yet.

### ONE MORE VARIETY, IN THE SURCHARGE

Besides the "Break in base serif of figure 1" (listed as PA60d) and the Extremely Rare 'Double Surcharge' (PA60e), one more variety has been noted, of which a unique example is all what is known. The surcharge is much thinner than what is believed to be the normal thickness.



PA60e



Thin Surcharge



Normal Surcharge

## 75 Years of United Nations Common-theme Stamp Issue

By: Razzi Cheema

### History of United Nations

The United Nations was established after World War II with the aim of preventing future wars, succeeding the ineffective League of Nations. The United Nations officially came into existence on 24 October 1945, when the Charter had been ratified by China, France, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, the United States and by a majority of other signatories. The name "United Nations" was coined by United States President Franklin D. Roosevelt and first used in the Declaration by United Nations of 1 January 1942, during Second World War. Since then, 24 October is celebrated as United Nations Day around the globe.

The future we want, the United Nations we need  
In January 2020, the Secretary General launched a global conversation asking people through surveys and dialogues about their hopes and fears for the future, along with their priorities for international cooperation. The findings of this Global Dialogue have been taken into account by world leaders and resulted in the adoption of a forward-looking political declaration during the high-level event of the 75th anniversary celebrations. The declaration was negotiated through an intergovernmental process under the theme "The future we want, the United Nations we need: reaffirming our collective commitment to multilateralism".

### "UN75" Initiative

To mark this symbolic event, the largest international organisation in the world has launched the 'UN75' initiative, which aims to promote deep reflection on international cooperation and the role the UN will play in the future. In this context, the organisation challenges all those active in society: governments, civil society, universities and non-governmental organisations, among others, to contribute to a huge global conversation, which will take place throughout 2020. The aim is to involve people from all regions of the planet, to listen to their hopes and fears, and to learn from their experiences, in order to construct a global vision for 2045, the year that will mark the centenary of the United Nations.

### Omnibus Stamp issue on "75th Anniversary of United Nations"

The year 2020 marked the 75th anniversary of the United Nations and while various organizations celebrated in their own way, the postal administrations around the globe issued the stamps and souvenir sheets, primarily showing the "UN75 Logo".

How many Countries issued UN75 Stamps? While the exact number of countries that issued the stamps on this theme is still undetermined, due to the lack of philatelic activity in COVID environment, the stamp lovers have gathered a list of 37 countries that have celebrated "75 Years of United Nations" with a postal issue. The list of countries is as under:

1. Austria - Single Stamp
2. Azerbaijan - Single Stamp
3. Belarus - Single Stamp
4. Belgium - Single Stamp
5. Bosnia Herzegovina - Single Stamp
6. Bulgaria - Single Stamp
7. Chad - SS with 4 stamps
8. Djibouti - 2 Souvenir Sheets
9. Egypt - Single Stamp
10. Germany - Single Stamp
11. Guinea, Republic - 2 Souvenir Sheets
12. India - Single Stamp
13. Italy - Single Stamp
14. Kazakhstan - Single Stamp
15. Kyrgyzstan - Single Stamp
16. Lebanon - Single Stamp
17. Liechtenstein - Single Stamp
18. Luxembourg - Single Stamp
19. Moldova - Single Stamp
20. Monaco - Set of 2 Stamps
21. Montenegro - Single Stamp
22. Morocco - Single Stamp
23. Myanmar - Single Stamp
24. Oman - Single Stamp & Souvenir Sheet
25. Pakistan - Single Stamp
26. Poland - Single Stamp
27. Portugal - Set of 2 Stamps
28. Russia - Single Stamp
29. Serbia - Single Stamp
30. Sierra Leone - 2 Souvenir Sheets
31. Singapore - Set of 4 Stamps
32. Slovakia - Single Stamp
33. Slovenia - Single Stamp
34. Tunisia - Single Stamp
35. Turkey - Single Stamp
36. United Nations - 3 Sheets from 3 Offices
37. Uzbekistan - Single Stamp





Interesting Facts, Below are some interesting facts about the UN75 stamps:

Slovakia the First Country to Issue UN75 Stamp On 14 Feb 2020, Slovakia became the first country to issue a stamp to celebrate "75th Anniversary of UN" by issuing a self-adhesive stamp of 0.75 €.



The Famous "Non-Violence" Sculpture  
The stamps of Azerbaijan and Luxembourg feature the famous sculpture "Non-Violence" by the Swedish artist Carl Fredrik Reuterswärd. The sculpture was a gift from Luxembourg to the United Nations. While the Luxembourg stamp shows an actual photo of the monument, the artistic stamp from Azerbaijan depict an illustration of the sculpture, where the pistol is designed to say "75" in a unique way.



Challenges of Collecting UN75 Stamp Issues

The challenge of collecting these stamps became even greater in the COVID-hit scenario, where the World came to a virtual standstill during 2020 and the postal operations got restricted. Even after the start of 2021, the mail operation is still not fully resumed and is extremely restricted in many parts of the World.

Conclusion

This anniversary comes in a time of great disruption for the world, compounded by an unprecedented global health crisis due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with severe economic and social impacts. But it is also a reminder that times of struggle can become an opportunity for positive change and transformation.

Treat your eyes with some more issues of "75th Anniversary of United Nations" below:

Most Expensive UN75 Stamp

The stamp marked as "B Zona 3" is meant for posting of letters up to 20 gms to Oceanic countries is priced at 3.1 € each.

The UN75 stamp from Italy is perhaps the most expensive one, other than the stamps issued in souvenir sheets by a couple of African countries.



The Largest Stamp in Size

Pakistan's UN75 stamp is probably the largest stamp in size, measuring at 56 x 56 mm in size.



Issue by UN Postal Administration

The UN Postal Administration issued a set of 3 souvenir sheets on 24 Oct 2020 to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations. The souvenir sheets have been issued by the 3 offices in New York Geneva and Vienna in US dollars, Swiss Francs and Euros respectively.





## HOBBY A PASSION - Collecting Collectable Items

By: Lt Col Shahid Rafique Malik



Every human being landed on this planet have some special interest to pass his spare time or to make their spare time usefull. Most of the people have different hobbies in the World. Starting from Book Reading, Gardening, banknotes collection, coins collection, stamp collection, postal history and so on. In this Article I shall be focusing particularly on collection of coins, Banknotes and stamps. This is a vast field, as we enter into this field, we come to know that even to collect items on one particular theme i.e like coins of particular era or banknotes of one country is not an easy task.

Some collectors collect Pakistani coins since its independence year wise. Some collectors used to collect only commemorative issues of coins. Some collectors used to collect error and variety coins.

Some collectors used to collect Worldwide thematic

coins like, WWF, Princes Diana, Mughal coins, Antique coins, silver coins, gold coins, Sports coins and so on. The point which I intend to convey is that one has to focus himself as per his area of interest, So that he can excel in that field and make a good collection by restricting himself to a specified area of interest. If we talk about collection of Banknotes, it has also endless themes. Some Collectors Collect Pakistani Banknotes starting from 1947 till to date having different signatory as Governors. Some used to collect only specimen bank notes. Some used to collect Hajj Notes. Some collectors used to collect error and variety bank notes.

Some collectors used to collect fancy numbers. Some collectors used to collect prefix wise variety. Some collectors used to collect year wise variety. So even this is quite difficult to collect all this material at a time. It's better to focus on specified theme. If we talk about collection of WW Bank notes. Amazing collection in this regard can be made. Some collector collect only country wise, may be one note of each country. Some used to collect specific countries like, Asian Countries, Arab Countries and so on. Some collectors used to collect the thematic collection, which is again a vast field. Some collect Polymer Banknotes, Some used to collect personality based issues, like Presidents of countries, etc. But it's really an amazing World if you stepped into it, U will keep enjoying every second of it. U start getting lot of information from these banknotes which increase your Knowledge.

If we talk about collecting stamps that is again a unique World with beautiful designs and culture. Pakistan stamp collection shows us the complete history of Pakistan struggle since 1947 till to date and provides us good knowledge for all type of students. Some collectors collect only Pakistan issued definitive and commemorative stamps. In Pakistan stamp collectors collect year wise stamps, some collect only definitive stamps, some collect only commemorative stamps some used to collect error and variety stamps. Some collect Pakistan Flag related stamps. Some used to collect on independence issues. Some used to collect Quaid -e- Azam and Allama Muhammad Iqbal related issues. Worldwide Collectors collect on different themes, like Sports issues, Cricket on stamps, bird issues, World famous animals where as few collectors collect odd shape stamps of different countries.

### As Somebody quoted:

**“Hobbies are an education themselves. We gain and Learn Much”**

Keeping aside everything, collection of such material provides us the knowledge in real terms. One can learn a lot through this medium. The more U involved yourself, the more knowledge you get. There is a famous quote,

**“Having a hobby is a great way to reduce the amount of Stress you feel”**

Hobby also provide us relief from pain and sorrow. Once you are depressed, U start spending time with your collection you will feel ease and comfort from worries. This all happens because of U mere involvement. Hobbies keep u alive and also provide us motivation which is a great blessing of “Allah Almighty”.

**“Happy is a Man who is living by his Hobby”**  
(George Bernard Shaw)



**PPNM Next Edition**  
**70 YEARS OF PAK-CHINA FRIENDSHIP**  
**We are waiting articles on above theme**  
**from China & Pakistan (Chief Editor)**





## STAMPS AS A WEAPON

By: **Tahir Anjum Arshed**

E-Mail: [tahiranjum48@gmail.com](mailto:tahiranjum48@gmail.com)

This Day in History... February 5, 1945

### Operation-Corn Flake

One of the many stories that were hidden from the public during WW II. Fascinating that forged stamps were used to distribute propaganda. Another lesson in history that demonstrates the importance of stamp collecting as an educational tool.

Early 1945, the world had been at war for over three years. Germany appeared to be nearing defeat, but American casualties were mounting and its resources were dwindling. A plan was to bring down the Nazi government and bring an early end to the war. The weapon chosen to defeat Hitler postage stamps.

The Office of Strategic Services (OSS) an intelligence agency and forerunner of today's CIA was formed during World War II. Throughout the war, one of its most effective tools was propaganda aimed at demoralizing the German people, which OSS officials hoped would spark a revolt against the Nazis.

However, getting the propaganda into the hands of every day Germans was challenging. The OSS had dropped leaflets from the air, but wind, rain, and other factors often destroyed the materials before they reached the intended audience.

The bold plan was to use Nazi government workers to distribute misinformation to their citizens via their own postal service. If effective, it would have a powerful psychological effect on the German people. To launch the operation, OSS operatives interrogated German POWs who had been postal workers to learn even the smallest details about the mail service. Stamp samples, cancellations, mail sacks, and envelopes were studied.



Two million mailing addresses were gathered and envelopes were created using legitimate businesses as return addresses. Propaganda pieces were printed and special bombs were produced to carry mailbags. To smuggle the stamps into Germany, OSS officials planned to bomb mail trains and drop mailbags near the wreckage. By using the specially designed bombs, OSS operatives hoped to mimic realistic damage caused by bombs without destroying the propaganda pieces.

Because most mail was delivered very early in the morning, as Germans were sitting down for breakfast, the scheme was dubbed "Operation Cornflakes." The operation launched on February 5, 1945. Allied planes dropped bombs on a mail train bound for Linz, Hitler's childhood home. Bags filled with almost 3,000 propaganda pieces were then dropped into the wreckage, where they mixed with actual German mail sacks. They were later salvaged by German authorities and delivered as usual.

Over a three-month period, 20 missions were flown, with 320 fake mailbags dropped about 96,000 propaganda pieces in all. But a mistake was made during the March 16 air raid. After the phony mail was collected from the wreckage, a German clerk noticed a misspelling in one of the return addresses. "Wiener Giro-und Kassenverein," a central securities deposit, had been misspelled "Wiener Giro-und Cassenverein." When the same error was found on several other pieces of mail, German officials opened the envelopes and discovered the propaganda.

Later questioned about the success of Operation Cornflakes, some 10,000 German deserters and POWs said they had been affected by the campaign. And we know the raids taxed the Nazi's by burdening their postal service and destroying mail routes.



### Lahore International Numismatic Society (LINS)

Lins proudly announce its 9th annual grand auction and exhibition on

**21st March 2021**

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For submission lots in auction and advertising in catalog or other information please contact

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Mobile: 03004006378 & 03179888888

Mobile: 03219485338 (**Babar Amin**)



## PHILATELIST MEETING AT RAWALPINDI

By: Syed Ali Musa Zaidi

Philatelists of Rawalpindi-Islamabad met in Philatelic Bureau, Islamabad GPO for the First meeting of February 2021.

Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui informed the participants about his upcoming Magazine. Philatelists were glad to know that not only in Pakistan but also Pakistanis living abroad are showing keen interest in this Magazine. Isani Sahib graced the occasion with his presence along with Syed Abid Hussain and Sajid Hussain.

Thanks to our Philatelist friend Mr. Asad from Peshawar for attending our Meeting. Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui Col. Nasir Hussain, and Syed Ali Musa Zaidi had brought in quite a number of Philatelic items which exchanged hands. Thanks to the Kind hospitality of Ehjaz Hussain, the Philatelists were served with a hot cup of tea along with Samosas and Jalibis.

A Beautiful Brexit coin was also Gifted to Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui by Ehjaz Husain. While departing this Group Photo was taken.

The following philatelist participated.

### From Rawalpindi -Islamabad

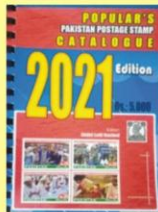
1. Mr. Usman Ali Isani
2. Mr. Syed Ali Musa Zaidi
3. Mr. Akhtar Ul Islam Siddiqui
4. Mr. Nasir Javaid Chaudhry
5. Mr. Abid Hussain
6. Mr. Col: Nasir Hussain ,R,
7. Mr. Sajid Hassain
8. Mr. Abu Obaidah

### From Peshawar

Mr. Muhammad Asad Babar

### From Bunu

Mr. Riaz Shah



### BOOK REVIEW

The New edition 2021 of Popular's Pakistan Postage Stamp Catalog is published. The Total full coloured





## REPORT ON JOINT MEETING OF KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION AND PESHAWAR STAMP SOCIETY

By: Muhammad Tariq Khattak, Bureau Chief

Monthly meeting of Khyber Pukhtoon khwa Philatelic Association was held at the residence of Mr. Imtiaz Ahmad Awan on 31st January 2021 at 6.30 pm. Mr. Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui was specially requested to participate in the meeting.

This was the first meeting of Khyber Pukhtoon khwa Association, because it was established at the end of year 2020. It was honor for me that both the Associations of Peshawar i.e. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Philatelic Association and Peshawar Stamp Society give warm welcome. To Mr. Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui. Mr. Siddiqui thanked all the members and Specially Mr. Imtiaz Ahmad Awan for their hospitality and grand dinner arranged in the end of meeting.

The following members of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Philatelic Association were Present.

1. Mr. Khalid Sultan Khwaja
2. Mr. Allauddin
3. Mr. Imtiaz Ahmad Awan (Host)
4. Mr. Muhammad Baber Asad
5. Mr. Naseem Khan
6. Mr. Waseem

Following members of Peshawar Stamp Society also participated.

1. Mr. Muhammad Tariq Khattak
2. Mr. Ghulam Asghar

During the meeting Mr. Siddiqui proudly announced that he is going to bring out a pioneer magazine for Stamp & Coin Lovers of Pakistan that will promote & strengthen the hobby of stamp & Coin Collecting amongst the Youth of Pakistan. The name of the magazine is "**PAKISTAN PHILATELIC & NUMISMATIC MAGAZINE**", which will contains informative and knowledgeable articles. I was appointed as Bureau Chief of the magazine from Peshawar.

In the End Mr. Siddiqui thanked both the Societies and specially Mr. Khalid Sultan Khwaja, Mr. Din Allauddin, Mr. Imtiaz Ahmad Awan (Host), Mr. Muhammad Baber Asad, Mr. Naseem Khan, Mr. Waseem, Mr. Muhammad Tariq Khattak and Mr. Ghulam Asghar for their hospitality. At the end of meeting Mr. Imtiaz Ahmad Awan arranged a grand dinner in which all members of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Philatelic Association and Peshawar Stamp Society participated. Thanks again to all of them.



## Philatelic Federation of Pakistan

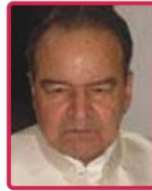
Presidents (2016 to 2021)



**Usman Ali Isani**  
Ex-President 2016-17



**Sultan Mahmud**  
Ex-President 2018-19



**Salman Qureshi**  
President 2020-21



Lyallpur Auction 2020

## Glimpses of Philatelic Activities



Mr. M. ARIF BALGAMWALA T.I. Presenting Stamp Folder to President Islamic Republic of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi on 15.2.2021



**BANGLAPEX 2020 PALMARES**  
4th Bangladesh National Philatelic Exhibition "BANGLAPEX 2020", organized by the Bangladesh Philatelic Federation on 13 TH FEBRUARY 2021



Meeting of Pakistan Philatelic & Numismatic Forum Karachi



### Glimpses of Philatelic Activities



Meeting of Philatelists at Al-hamrah Arts Council, Lahore



Meeting of Philatelists of Rawalpindi at the residence of Col. Zaheer



Meeting with Zia ur Rehman Zabeeh Patron- in-chief of Magazine, Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui and Syed Ali Musa Zaidi



Meeting of Philatelists of Rawalpindi at the residence of Col. Zaheer



Meeting of Philatelists of Rawalpindi at the residence of Col. Zaheer



Meeting of Philatelists of Rawalpindi at the residence of Col. Zaheer



## LONG LIVE PAK-CHINA FRIENDSHIP 巴基斯坦中国友万

By: Syed Ali Musa Zaidi



It is rightly said that Pakistan-China Friendship is higher than the Mountains, Deeper than the Ocean and Sweeter than honey.

To further enhance this stronger bond of friendship and people to people contacts, Postal authorities of both the countries issued commemorative postage stamps from time to time.

To celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the People's Republic of China, a set of 2 Commemorative Postage Stamps were issued by the Pakistan Post in 1999 with pictures of Chairman Mao Tse-tung and Tiananmen Square. These sets of stamps are now extremely rare and a prized possession of Pakistan Stamps collectors.

In celebration of the 50th Anniversary of China-Pakistan Friendship a set of 3 Stamps with pictures of Pakistan China costumes and paintings was issued.

In celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the Diplomatic Relations between the two brotherly countries, a set of 2 Stamps with the pictures of Heads of State and Prime Ministers of both the countries were issued.

In celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the People's Republic of China a beautiful red stamp with the Flag and Map of China was issued.

On 14th August 2015 a set of the 5 stamps with pictures of President Xi Jinping and the then Prime Minister was

issued to celebrate the China Pakistan Friendship. To celebrate the 65th Anniversary of the Diplomatic Relations between the two brotherly countries a stamp was issued showing the various projects in which China helped Pakistan.

We also have a strong bond of friendship between the military of both the countries and in this connection a stamp was issued in 2007 on the joint production of JF Thunder with flags of both the countries. This stamp is in great demand in China. In 2018 Pakistan launched an optical Remote Sensing Satellite using China's LM-2C/SMA Launch Vehicle from Juquan Satellite Launch Center China and to celebrate this great achievement a commemorative postage stamp was issued in 2019.

Most recently in 2020 China Post issued a beautiful set of 6 Stamps named Asian Civilizations which showed the archaeological site and the famous seal of Mohenjo-daro and also published a stamp on the visit of President Arif Alvi to China to express solidarity and support amid the pandemic outbreak. Hundreds of postage stamp collectors in China and Pakistan frequently exchange stamps with each other through mail which not only increase their stamps collection but also help in understanding the culture, customs, and history of both the countries.

In June 2015 an exhibition named China in Stamps was held in Islamabad where a wide range of rare and vintage stamps of China were displayed. This exhibition was a great success as both Pakistani and Chinese visitors showed keen interest in the Chinese Stamps. Postage stamps are often collected for their historical value and geographical aspects and also for the many subjects depicted on them ranging from ships, horses, and birds to Kings, Queens and Presidents. Stamps collectors are anxiously looking forward to the new stamp being issued by both the countries on 21st May 2021 to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Pakistan.







## Too Many Questions Are There Any Answers???

By: Salman Basir

E-Mail: sbasir@sbcglobal.net

I have had these 2- aerogrammes for a few years and enjoy reading the contents from time to time. Now would like to share these with the larger Pakistan Philatelic community.

These are "Service" aerogrammes, tough of the British Commonwealth Formula Design, but used by not only a Department of the Government of Pakistan but the Director General Post Office who are custodians of issuing postal stamps and other postal instruments.

What is the background for use of these items by a department of Govt. of Pakistan?

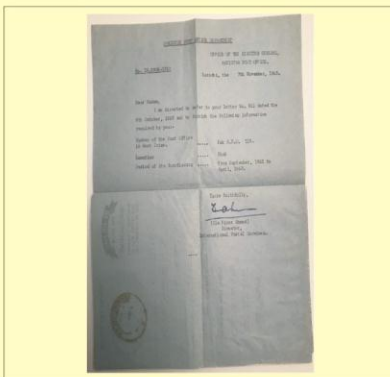
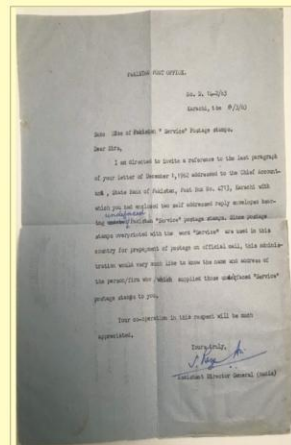
Who supplied these to the Pakistan Government? British Post Office, UPU, Printed locally ???

Should this be cataloged under "Pakistan" in Postal Stationery catalogs?

What is the period of use and background for such SERVICE stationery?

Year of use for both these items is 1963.

Now coming to the contents of the letter in response to an inquiry by Miss B V Miller. First salute to the Golden Era of Pakistan Post Office when they were responding in writing to inquiries from individuals (Sadly all my inquiries for info to DG@PAKPOST.GOV.PK have gone unanswered over the past few years).



Information provided in this letter by Mr. Zia Nisar Ahmad, Dir. International Postal Service is very important for Postal Historians (I have not seen this info available elsewhere):

1. Pak A.P.O. 115 located at island of Biak (off the coast of Indonesian Island of Papua) West Irian mission.

2. Sept. 1962- 01 April 1963 Dates the APO was operational

Excellent background information on Pak UN mission to West Iriannow the question: Are there any Postal Covers originating from APO 115?

Was there a canceller used with this APO number?

I have not seen one thus far. Please check your collections of covers- you may find a scarce cover from this APO and Pakistans' UN Peacekeeping mission.

Now coming to the second letter- it has some fascinating contents Inquiry into a matter.

Someone sent a letter to the Chief Accountant, State Bank of Pakistan (Purpose not clear from this letter) and trying to be a good businessman, provided an envelope stamped with Pakistani Service postage stamps for reply to be mailed by State Bank of Pakistan. This is what prompted the inquiry.

From the context of this letter - signed by an Assistant Director General- seems like a serious issue, where the Postal official is asking the sender (M/S Super Exchange in USA) for their source of who supplied them with "Undefaced" Service postage stamps, as such stamps are strictly for the use of Government departments.

Question: Was it or is it unlawful for collectors or private individuals to possess Undefaced (Mint) Service Pakistan Postage stamps?

I may not want to know the answer to this question for selfish reasons, but nevertheless we need the answer.

This is why I collect Postal History, I find a few answers but my list of questions gets longer with each item I find.

I love all these unanswered questions, as completion is the End. Collect & Discover Pakistan Postal History.

P.S.: Both aerogrammes are printed on different thickness papers. This may indicate there were multiple lots printed and supplied. That would be a discussion for the future when additional items surface.

## QUAID-I-AZAM MUHAMMAD ALI JINNAH'S VISIT TO THE ARMOURED CORPS CENTRE Commemorative Postage Stamps

Ehjaz Hussain (ehjazhussain1@gmail.com)



On the 14th of April, 2006, Pakistan Post issued two stamps to commemorate Quaid-i-Azam's (Muhammad Ali Jinnah) visit to the Armoured Corps Centre on the 13th of April, 1948. Having both of the stamps in my collection, I had often wondered who the British Officer was escorting the Quaid and his sister Fatima Jinnah during their visit. No information about the officer was found in the accompanying leaflet. After a little research, I did discover the name of the officer and other useful information which I present to you now. I hope it will be of some interest to you all.

### BRIGADIER WILLIAM ALEXANDER GIMSON (1899-1979)

#### Early Life

William Alexander Gimson was born on the 14th of June, 1899 in Essex, England. He was the son of Doctor William Douglas Gimson, MRCS, LRCP, of Springfield House, Chelmsford, Essex. Gimson was educated at Epsom College and the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich.

#### Military Career

Gimson was Commissioned as a Second Lieutenant into the Royal Field Artillery on the 20th September 1918. He served in France & Belgium during World War I, earning him the British War and Victory Medal. He was promoted to Lieutenant on the 20th March 1920 and Captain from the 20th September 1928.

Gimson was transferred to the Indian Army on the 8th of March, 1930 and appointed to The Guides Cavalry. Whilst serving with the Guides Cavalry he earned the Indian General Service Medal (1908-1935) with bar North West Frontier 1930-31. He served as Adjutant of The Guides Cavalry from 1 September 1931 to 30 November 1934.

He served with the Tochi Scouts as a Captain from the 12th November, 1935 to the 30th June, 1937 (entitled to the Indian General Service Medal (1936-1939) with bar North West Frontier 1936-37).



#### Military Cross

Whilst serving with the Tochi Scouts, Gimson was awarded the Military Cross for gallantry and devotion to duty in Waziristan in connection with the night advance from Dasalli to the Sham plain on the 11th and 12th of May 1937.

He was promoted to the rank of Major in 1938 and further appointed as an Instructor at the Indian Military Academy, Dehra Dun from the 9th August 1938 to the 14th March 1941. He was the Chief Instructor Equitation, taught Organisation, Administration and Military Law.

#### WWII Service

Gimson qualified for the 1939-45 Star due to his service in Persia, also the War and India Service medals as a Major in The Guides Cavalry. He commanded 'A' (Dogra) Squadron, Guides Cavalry during the invasion of Iran.

He then returned to India where he raised and trained 50 Ind. Armoured car squadron. He was posted to 48th Cavalry and appointed Commanding Officer 48th Cavalry in June 1943 (replacing G. M. Stroud).

Gimson was transferred from The Guides Cavalry and appointed Commanding Officer of the 18th Cavalry in 1944.





Under the Independence Act, it was decided that the Indian Army, including the Armoured Corps, would be divided at the ratio of 2:1 between India and Pakistan. The Armoured Corps School at Ahmednagar had to stay with India, and the Muslim instructors were allowed to opt for the newly born state of Pakistan. In addition, the training equipment at the school was also to be distributed as per the decided ratio. To carry out this colossal task of distribution, a board composed of British, Muslim, Sikh and Hindu officers was constituted under the chairmanship of Brigadier Gimson, who was the Commandant of the Armour School at that time.

**Service in Pakistan**

Gimson was appointed commander of the Pakistan Armoured Corps centre in April 1948 (replacing Brig G. M. Stroud).

On 13th April 1948, the founder of Pakistan, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah visited the Armoured Corps Centre and addressed a durbar.

Gimson was appointed Director, Pakistan Armoured Corps from April 1948 to 1950.

He officially retired as a Lieutenant Colonel from the Special List (Ex-Indian Army) on the 1st January 1949, however he was employed with the Pakistan Armed Forces until 2nd January 1951. Appointed Honorary Colonel 1st April 1949 then Honorary Brigadier 2nd January 1951.

He married Katherine Clare Elliot Lockhart on the 28th September 1936.

William Alexander Gimson passed away in 1979 and is commemorated at Great Braxted, Essex, UK.

Highest Post office in Northern Pakistan.  
No post box but a post office  
Defiantly the highest Post office (average 4000m) in Chota(lesser) Deosai of Pakistan

**PHOTO COURTESY: YAR MUHAMMAD KAKAR**

**CHINA-PAKISTAN**  
**A journey of friendship**  
**(1950-2020)**

We are pleased to announce that our next edition is special edition on **Pakistan- China Friendship**  
Collectors are requested to send us articles on philatelic activities of both

## ODD-SHAPED POSTAGE STAMPS OF PAKISTAN

By Mansoor Aslam Janjua

Postage stamps are usually rectangular in shape however stamps having other shapes have also been issued by various countries and such stamps are called odd-shaped or unusual stamps. Upon its creation on 14th August 1947, Pakistan initially used Indian stamps with the country's name overprinted on these stamps. It continued for almost one year and then issued own stamps on 9th July 1948. Since then, Pakistan has issued more than 1600 stamps, some of which are odd-shaped and we will have a brief look on these stamps in this article.



Pakistan Post issued a set of two triangular stamps on 2nd October 1961 on "Child Welfare Week". These were the first ever odd-shaped stamps of Pakistan. Their face value was 13 Paise & 90 Paise and these were designed by Ashfaq Ghani.



Another triangular stamp was issued on 2nd June 1962 on the occasion of "New Constitution" whose face value was 40 Paise.



On 31st August 1976, Pakistan Post issued a parallelogram shaped stamp in "Save Moenjodaro" series. Its face value was 65 Paise and it was designed by Adil Salahuddin. Since then, no other stamp of this shape has been issued so far.



On the occasion of "Tenth National Scout Jamboree", Pakistan Post issued a triangular stamp of 60 Paise face value on 8th November 1985. It was designed by Adil Salahuddin.



After a gap of almost twenty four years, Pakistan Post once again issued odd-shaped stamps. It was a set of four triangular stamps to celebrate the "National Year of Environment". Each stamp had a face value of 5 Rupees and these were designed by Adil Salahuddin.



On the occasion of 50th Anniversary of Cadet College Kohat, Pakistan Post issued its first round stamp of 8 Rupees on 10th October 2015. This stamp was designed by Mughiz Khan.



On 6th September 2016, Pakistan Post once again issue round stamps. It was a set of three round stamps of 8 Rupees each to celebrate 100 Years of DGTR House, Karachi. This set was designed by Liaqat Ali.



First hexagonal stamp of Pakistan was issued on 1st November 2017 to celebrate 125th Anniversary of Government Islamia College, Railway Road, Lahore. It was designed by Mughiz Khan and had a face value of 8 Rupees.



Pakistan Post came up with another round stamp on 3rd December 2017. It was issued in the loving memory of "Dr. Ruth Katarina Martha Pfau" who spent all her life serving the leprosy patients in Pakistan. It was again designed by Mughiz Khan while it had a face value of 8 Rupees.



Again a round stamp issued on 9th December 2018 on the occasion of "International Anti-Corruption Day". This 8 Rupees face value stamp was designed by Adil Salahuddin.



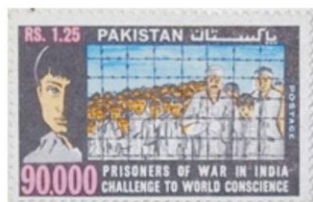
The last odd-shaped stamp so far was also a round stamp which was issued on 30th December 2019 to celebrate the "Golden Jubilee Celebrations of OIC". This stamp had a high face value of 50 Rupees and the same stamp was issued in a souvenir sheet as well whose face value was 250 Rupees.





## PRISONERS OF WAR MAIL

By: Tallat Hanif Ansari



### Pakistan(1971-73)

Correspondence between prisoners of war and their loved ones is also called "prisoner of war mail". Letters were recorded by British and French prisoners during the Napoleonic Wars, but for a long time no special marking was applied to the correspondence of the prisoners.

Probably the first instance of special marking applied to prisoners' mail occurred during the American Civil War (1861-1865). The northern camps were well equipped with postmarks and cachets but the southern camps had no special cancellers. However, the letters sent from the southern camps were always verified by "PRISONER'S LETTER" and checked. Most prisoners' letters from both sides also bore a 'Flag Of Truce' endorsement, indicating the means by which crossed the lines. Letters from the Northern Jail were usually stamped 3c United States or often 10c Confederate stamps where the letters were sent across the border. Both the United States and Confederate stamps were permanently stamped to the north by southern prisoners, although there were some exceptions. During the Anglo-Boer War of 1899-1902, prisoner-of-war camps were organized on both sides. Letters from British prisoners held by the Boers are extremely rare, and Boer authorities have made no attempt to distinguish such correspondence. The British set up camp jails for boers at Bermuda St. Helena cyclon and in India. In these camps used special cachets and censorship.

The Provision of special mail arrangements for war prisoners' undertaken by the International Red cross was greatly extended. Special envelopes, postcards and letter-cards were produced by both sides. Such items were inscribed 'PRISONERS OF WAR MAIL' or it's equivalents french (PRISONERS' DE GUERRE) or German ( KRIEGSGE FANGE NENPOST ).

During the World War II special air letter sheets were introduced for prisoners' of war and these may be found in a variety of language including Japanese. Similar arrangements for civilian internees were made since the Boer War onwards. In the First World War The British internees had their own stamps and stationery in Ruhleben Germany, while the German internee had distinctive stamps in the Knockaloe (Isle of Man) Britain and Bando Japan.

The most prolific issues of prisoners' stamps were made by the poles during the World War II. The camps at Grossborn, Murnau and Woldenberg among others issued numerous definitive and commemorative postage stamps. Covers from prisoners of War in more recent campaigns such as Korea and Vietnam are comparatively rare and have great interest. After the secession of East Pakistan, prisoners of war and civilians from Pakistan in India were provided with a variety of stationery printed in English and Hindi during their detention in the camps.



Article 118 of the third Geneva Convention of 1949 which reads as 'Prisoners of War shall be released and repatriated without delay after the cessation of active hostilities'. But Pakistan waited 15 months for the release of the prisoners of War and no result came out of Simla agreement of 2 July 1972 , appealed to all the civilized Nations and individuals through media.

### SPACIALAEROGRAMME

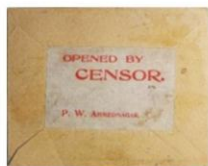
The Pakistan post office besides a special postage stamp issued 2 air letters of Rs 1.25 and Rs 1.50 to raise global conscience for 90000 Pakistani prisoners of war captive by India.



World War-I, 30.1.1915



"Prisoners DE GUERRE" French Versian World war I 9.8. 1915 Russian camps.



World War-I, Red Cross Service Indian camps



During World War-I



**PRISONER'S OF WAR MAIL**

(Red Cross stationery)

Pakistan post office co-ordinates with the Red Cross and supplied prisoners stationery. Red Cross handled 6295018 messages to be dispatched to India According to the special mail arrangements for prisoners of War undertaken by the international Red Cross and Pakistan Red Cross provided with different type of postage free stationery to the relatives of prisoners of War lodged in some 50 internment camps in India. up to November 30, 1973 besides the gift parcel Red Cross handled 14009605 letters from both the sides.

**PRISONER'S OF WAR MAIL**

(Red Cross stationery)

As a consequence of the fall of Dacca and cease fire, the Red Cross took responsibility of exchange of messages and letters from Dacca and internment camps in India to their relative in West Pakistan. The Red Cross up to November 30, 1973 received 7714587 messages from our prisoners of War in India. Up to July 13 1972 Pakistan through Red Cross sent 85000 standard gift parcels, 68858 PT shoes and 84750 shorts to Pakistan prisoners of war, interned in India. In these pages a study of places has been made where such Red Cross postage free stationery had been hand stamped.



KARACHI  
Cross + 13 × 3 mm  
Line-I 27.50 × 2.5 mm      Line-II 43. × 3 mm



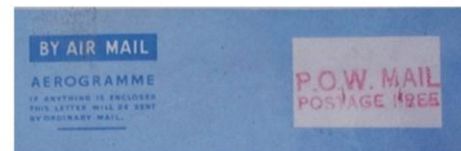
HYDERABAD  
Circle □ 30 mm



LAHORE Type-I      Circle O 28 mm



LAHORE Type-II      Circle O 36 mm



LAHORE Type III      Line-I 39 × 5 mm  
Line-II 38 × 4 mm



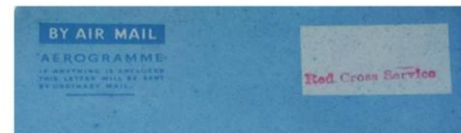
LAHORE Type-IV      Circle O 37 mm



Peshawar      Circle O 27 mm



Rawalpindi      Circle O 30 mm



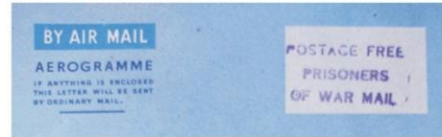
SIALKOT      Single Line 33 × 3.5 mm



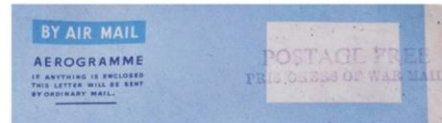
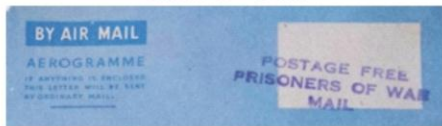
Besides the Red Cross, Pakistan post office provided free postal stationery with manual rubber stamps to people across the country whose relatives were prisoners of war in Indian jails. GENERAL Type Used in most post offices, throughout the country.



ISLAMABAD  
Line-I 33 × 2.75 mm      Line-II 24 × 2.75 mm  
Line-III 29 × 2.75 mm



ISLAMABAD  
Line-I 33 × 2.75 mm      Line-II 24 × 2.75 mm  
Line-III 29 × 2.75 mm



MULTAN  
Line-I 50 × 5 mm      Line-II 60 × 3 mm



ABBOTTABAD  
Line-I 32.50 × 4.5 mm      Line-II 29 × 3.5 mm  
Line-III 10 × 5 mm



PESHAWAR  
Line-I 35 × 4 mm      Line-II 49 × 4 mm  
Line-III 12 × 4 mm



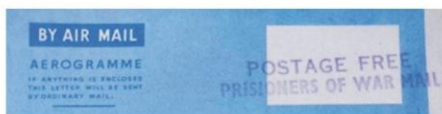
BAGH(Azad Kashmir)  
Line-I 51 × 3 mm      Line-II 65 × 3 mm  
Line-III 23 × 3 mm



SUKKAR  
Line-I 37 × 3 mm      Line-II 38 × 2 mm



LYALLPUR (Faisalabad)  
Line-I 42 × 3 mm      Line-II 56 × 3 mm  
Line-III 13 × 3 mm



GUJRANWALA  
Line-I 49 × 4.5 mm      Line-II 66 × 4 mm



QUETTA  
Line-I 38 × 4 mm      Line-II 42 × 3 mm



SIALKOT  
Line-I 45 × 4 mm      Line-II 45 × 4 mm  
Line-III 39 × 4 mm

**PRISONERS OF WAR MAIL  
(Messages from Indian camps)**

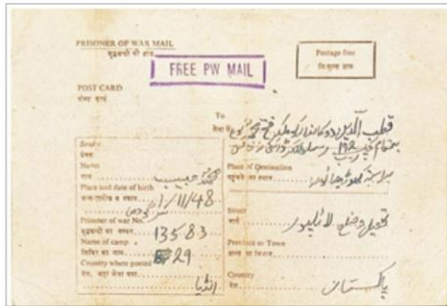
Having studied Red Cross post office stationery, a study is being made in these pages of stationery supplied to the prisoners of War in some 50 Indian camps. Received by the Red Cross 7714587 letters from Indian camps till November 30, 1973. The repatriation was completed via the Wagah Border from September 24, 1973 to November 9, 1973, and the history of Pakistani prisoners of war in India was finalized.

**MESSAGE**

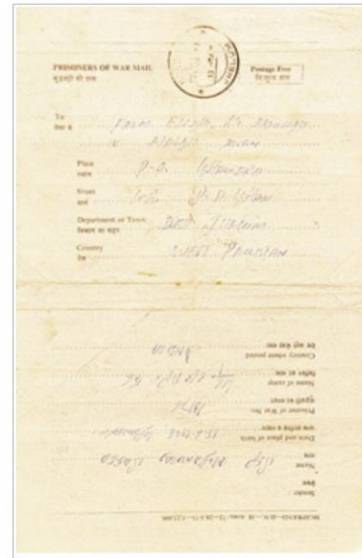
"I would not like to transmit this message without expressing our own feelings of gratitude for the constant cooperation extended by the Punjab branch of Red Cross to our Delegate at Lahore"

Mr Michel Martin chief of ICRC delegation.

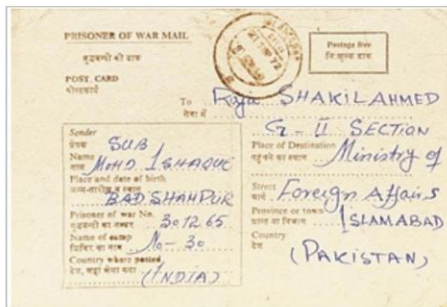
Some postcards and air letter sheets sent to Pakistan by prisoners of war from Indian camps



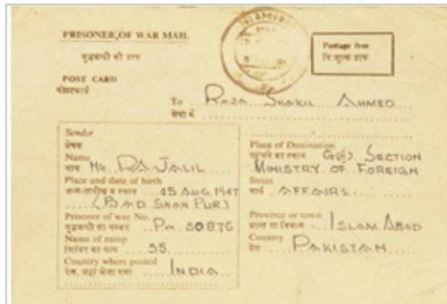
Camp No 29 Date of Posting 21.08.1973



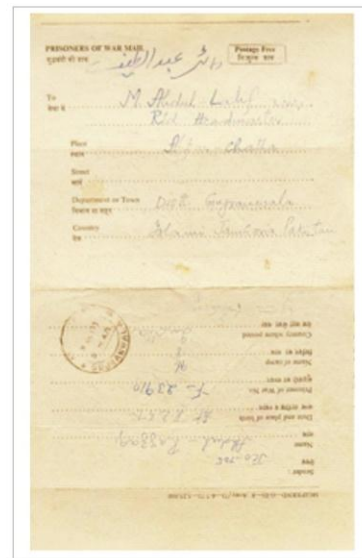
Camp No 46/1  
 Special Air Letter Sheet



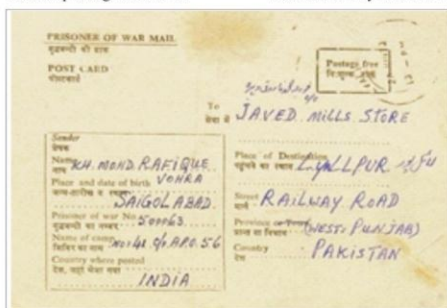
Camp No 30  
 Date of posting 21.08.1972 Date of delivery 21.09.1972



Camp No 35  
 Date of posting 22.06.1972 Date of delivery 19.08.1972



Camp No 96/8  
 Date of posting 23.09.1973 Date of delivery 09.10.1973  
 Special Air letter Sheet



Camp No 41 c/o A.P.O 56  
 Date of posting 09.06.1973 Date of delivery 28.06.1973





## PAKISTAN OVERPRINTS A DEEPER LOOK

By: Nasir Hussain



The classic period of Pakistan Philately is the 1947 overprints. (Nasik, local, machine prints, hand stamps, type written, manuscript, etc.) Numerous articles and books written locally and internationally have accorded consolidated consideration on different aspects of the subject, but almost all have overlooked the subject being opened for study.

### Prewar and Post War Printings

In the India issues of KG VI, there were many printings but the distinct and little acknowledged are the prewar and the post war printings differing in paper, shades and varieties.

Reference, Neil Donald Son's book 'THE POSTAL AGENCIES IN EASTERN ARABIA AND THE GULF', page number 63 (India study circle is an appropriate forum for further checks and study)

Due to continuo's printings the printing plate (only high values viewed) suffered minor damages and they were covered by retouching thereby offer scope for study. More over some pronounced examples of re entry have been recorded in postage stamps and as regards off set some average examples in low values, both service and ordinary have been seen and good examples are awaited. The interesting case is of the 8a service SG 09, which was originally issued in slate violet, but has also been seen in shade of slate and another shade which can be termed as almost black is also reported but not personally examined.

### Dot after P

To date it was observed that all the Nasik prints were done on post war printings, but recent finds suggest that sheets of the prewar printings were also used. The known variety on India, SG 93 (1937), with the dot after P of Postage, which occurs once in a sheet, row 1/2, exist from Re 1 - Rs 25. To my understanding they come from the pre war printings, as the same variety is present in the rupee 1 value

stamps of India overprinted Kuwait(1939) and Bahrain (1940/41). The dot was corrected in stages in later printings. The same variety has been seen in Re 1 and Rs 2 in KG V and may exist in other values.

### Lithograph and Typograph

The SG 100-103, of India were printed by typography, but two values, 1 ½ annas and 3 annas of this set were also printed by lithography. The 3 ½ annas is also reported but needs recognition. Nasik overprinted stamps for Pakistan on the typo stamps, but popular and respected in Pakistan George Rab from UK confirms litho stamps in both values overprinted by Nasik. This certainly is a prized possession and therefore the nasik set now stands at 21 values instead of listed 19 values. Local hand stamps and machine prints on the 1 ½ anna and 3 annas lithographs are known but are very rare. Availability of these stamps for local printing is due to old sheets lying in the treasuries. This implies that the Karachi prints defined as having 19 values should be listed as having 21 values plus the IA3P making it 22 values. Same is true for Peshawar prints. To differentiate between the litho and typo article by G C HORSMAN is reproduced for awareness and further study.

### Missing Pearl Varieties

Concerning the missing pearl varieties the 2 Rs. overprint value is not the only stamp. New varieties of missing pearl have also surfaced in the one rupee out of which some are listed and some not. Likewise the other high values of Rs. 5, 10, 15, and 25 may also have the same varieties differing in position of course but this needs to be worked upon.

### Water Marks

Different local and international catalogues list few water mark inverted varieties but the list is not complete as new values keep emerging from time to time. The under mentioned list is of KG VI stamps personally.





Examined and verified.

- 1/2 anna (Nasik)
- 9 ps (Nasik)
- 1 a (Nasik)
- 1 1/2 a (Nasik and Karachi)
- 3 a (Karachi)
- 12 a (karachi)
- 1 Re (Nasik , Karachi and Peshawer )

**Perforations**

Perforation for a philatelist is not a question of separating stamps. It is also a way of differentiating stamps and pricing too . The catalogues world over list perforation varieties as blind perf, miss perf , imperfs and sizes of perfs . But nowhere they mention perfs upside down and reverse perf, whereas they exist .

**Perf Upside Down**

While perforating , a sheet is put in upright position . However if it is put in upside down postion the top side of perf will shift downwards and cause perf upside down .These are recorded in Pakistan issues of the De La Rue plates printed at Karachi . Stamps overprinted Pakistan on India require exploration .

**Reverse Perf**

During perforation stamps sheet are placed in upright position with the printed side on top . In case by error if the sheets are placed with the gum side upwards and the printed side downwards it will create an error I call reverse perf . I have seen these in Pakistan overprints on India and De La Rue plate printings at Karachi . In my opinion they merit considerations .

The theory stands good for the Indian stamps unoverprinted /overprinted for use in the Arabian/Persian Gulf and Bahawalpur.

Gentlemen have a look at your collection again and apprise of the new findings.

**LITHOGRAPH WITHOUT JUBILEE LINE TYPOGRAPH WITH JUBILEE LINE IN THE MARGIN IN THE MARGIN**

**Pre-war and Post war Printings**



**INDIA**  
King George VI  
1 1/2 and 3 Annas  
— By —  
G. C. HOESMAN

**1947 Provisionals**

The stamps we commonly see, are King George VI with Nasik spm. The usual variants involve hand-drawn and machine prints. We also know that overprints exist on some unissued stamps such as KGV and the Victory set.

It is reported to me that two stamps of the KGV VI set, were printed in two different perforations. The early perforations of the 1 1/2a. and the 3a. stamps (India SG 269a, 271 and 172A, 174) were Lithographed and the later ones were printed by Typography.

Although one would assume that all the Pakistan overprints were the latter (typography), I would not be surprised to find a few overprinted on the Lithographed versions. I would think these Litho stamps might have come from existing stocks at some small branches and might therefore, be found on local issues. It follows that the overprints on Litho stamps, if they exist, would be quite rare.

Has anyone done some investigation along these lines already? we would all like to hear.

For those who may not be too sure how to tell the difference, stamps printed by Lithography have a rather sharp, while the Typography stamps are sharper. There is a color shade difference between the two and finally, the Type stamps have the inkset of the impression on the back.

Reverse-printing    Typography    Lithography

Design is recessed    Design is raised    Design is level

Sectional View through Matrix showing Stage of Printing Surface:

Sectional View of stamp showing effect of Pressure on the Paper:

Design indented on back    Design uninked on back    White Strata on back

**Lithography:** Here the design is transferred to the plate or "stone" in a special process. The flat surface is then maintained so that when the printing ink is applied to the surface, only the recessed portions which may then be impressed on the paper. In offset-lithography the design is taken on to a rubber "galleys" which "offsets" it onto the paper, while in common planolithography the design is taken on to a galley which is then printed on a sheet of paper which is attached to the cylinder of a rotary press. Lithography is an advanced and refined form of lithography being improved screens which was developed by De La Rue and Co. in 1860.

**Typography:** Here the design is taken on to a galley which is then printed on a sheet of paper which is attached to the cylinder of a rotary press. Lithography is an advanced and refined form of lithography being improved screens which was developed by De La Rue and Co. in 1860.

**Reverse-printing:** Here the design is taken on to a galley which is then printed on a sheet of paper which is attached to the cylinder of a rotary press. Lithography is an advanced and refined form of lithography being improved screens which was developed by De La Rue and Co. in 1860.



## INDIAN GEORGE VI POSTAGE STAMPS OVERPRINTED "PAKISTAN" (NASIK PRINT)

Effective 1st Oct 1947 (valid till 31st Mar 1948)

By: Syed Naeem E-Mail: snaem1958@gmail.com



Under Partition of India agreements, Indian State was to supply Pakistan the postage & revenue stamps until Pakistan could arrange for its own issues. At first instant, it was decided to use 1940's King George VI Indian postage stamps (valid in undivided India) were to be overprinted the word PAKISTAN at the Government of India Security press at NASIK Road, Mumbai (known as Nasik Prints).

On 1st Oct 1947, Government of Pakistan released its first stamps, overprinted the word PAKISTAN (Nasik Prints), and later on by the Government presses in Pakistan. These stamps were continued to use and valid until 1st Nov 1947, which was later extended in parts till 31st Mar 1948.

In the embittered relations between these two States, India was not keen on fulfilling these obligations and Pakistan soon found itself running short of overprinted (ordinary, services & revenue) stamps. Also a consignment of stamps was burnt by a mob at Delhi railway station. Owing to the unescapable march of events, arising out of the incredible sufferings and hardships of millions who migrated to Pakistan massive shortage of stamps occurred in many places. Faced with this stamp famine the Pakistan Government arranged for the existing stocks of the Indian stamps in its treasuries to be overprinted. To meet the urgent local needs, provincial & district Postmasters and Treasuries were also authorized to machine print or handstamp PAKISTAN on stocks on hand. Hand stamping created a wide variety of sizes, types and colors of dies made locally.

The dies were single-word or compact blocks of two, four, six, eight, sixteen etc., and were applied on sheets or remainders of broken sheets (Pakistan Overprints on Indian Stamps by Brig. Gen. Anwar ul Haq).

Nasik printing, the first government-controlled printing, a composite plate of 320 clichés of PAKISTAN was prepared to overprint sheets of Indian stamps (320 per sheet). The letters were centered above "INDIA POSTAGE" and printed in bright black ink by offset lithographic process. This composite plate was used on sheets of 3 Pies to 12 Annas but not including the 1 Anna 3 Pies value. Since the overprinting was done very carefully, there are practically no overprint varieties. Because of the different sizes, two different settings were used for the 14 Annas and the Rupee values. First print in the first Nasik printing, the final stroke of the 'N' of PAKISTAN was thin and sharp and is designated Plate No.1. Supplies from this plate lasted until about December 31, 1947. Plate No.2, in which the final stroke of the 'N' has thick with sharp corners, followed this; both plates were used with bright black ink. Supplies from this plate lasted until about April 1948 when the Indian government ceased further supplies.

The overprint is centered above "INDIA POSTAGE" on the KGVI effigy and is between 1 to 2.5 mm from "INDIA POSTAGE" while the Karachi, Lahore and Peshawar overprints vary greatly. Before continuing with details of copies of the Nasik plates, an overview of the controversies involved and the manufacturing methods in the 1947- 48 periods would be in order. Manufacture of the Plates of Nasik Copies because of the uncertainty of the receipt of overprinted stamps from Nasik and the deteriorating relationships between India and Pakistan, the Pakistan government began to investigate alternate arrangements for overprinting the stamps. At the time of partition of India, Lahore & Karachi were the only two cities in Pakistan with the technology and the skill to convert photographic negatives into Copper / Zinc printing plates.

It is relevant to emphasize the huge migrations of populations between India and Pakistan causing a large loss of skills in Pakistan. There were also serious shortages of materials for inks and for the strengthening of the metals. Copies are always inferior to the originals and under the circumstances not much could be expected from the secondary plates.



Nasik Copies on high values (Rs 1 to Rs 25) were printed at Peshawar and Karachi. Plates for Peshawar were manufactured at Lahore (half sheet, 60 clichés) and plates for Karachi printing (full plates of 120 clichés) were manufactured in Karachi. No service stamps of high values were printed with Nasik copy plates at Peshawar whereas ordinary and service high values were both printed at Karachi from Karachi plates.

These overprint became very popular with the philatelists all over the world. These Nasik overprints were also used in some Gulf states, both officially and unofficial.

These overprint consisted of 19 stamps of different dominations.

1. 3 Pies; King George VI image in Slate color
2. ½ Anna; King George VI image in Purple color
3. 9 Paisa; King George VI image in Green color
4. 1 Anna; King George VI image in Carmine color
5. 1½ Anna; King George VI image in Dull Violet color
6. 2 Anna; King George VI image in Vermillion color
7. 3 Anna; King George VI image in Bright Violet color
8. 3½ Anna; King George VI image in Bright Violet color
9. 4 Anna; King George VI image in Brown color
10. 6 Anna; King George VI image in Turquoise color
11. 8 Anna; King George VI image in Slate Violet color
12. 12 Anna; King George VI image in Lake color
13. 14 Anna; Aero plane & King George VI image in Purple color
14. 1.0 Rs; King George VI image in center, Grey & Red Brown color
15. 2.0 Rs; King George VI image in center, Purple & Brown color
16. 5.0 Rs; King George VI image in center, Green & Blue color
17. 10.0 Rs; King George VI image in center, Purple & Claret color
18. 15.0 Rs; King George VI image in center, Brown & Green color
19. 25.0 Rs; King George VI image in center, Slate Violet & Purple color

#### References:

1. Indian Postal Stationary Overprinted for Use in Pakistan by Jafar H. Siddiqui
2. Pakistan Overprint on Indian Stamps 1947-1949 Notes on further discoveries and additional values to existing types by Brig-Gen. Dr. Anwar-ul-Haq Dar and Ron Doubleday
3. Pakistan Overprint on Indian Stamps 1947-1949 by Ron Doubleday Martin and Capt. U. A. Isani

## NUMISMATIC CORNER

### The Rarest Hajj & Regular Banknote Pakistan from the collection of Syed Abid Hussain, Rawalpindi





## GREETINGS FROM ENGLAND!

George Rab, General Secretary of the Pakistan Study Circle)



Firstly, I must congratulate Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui on producing this first edition of a magazine devoted to stamp and coin collectors. Others in Pakistan have tried before but with limited success as it requires a lot of hard work and the support of readers in supplying articles. I therefore sincerely wish him every success as, even in this computer age, there is a need for a magazine like this.

It is a great honour to be asked to contribute to this inaugural issue, especially as it gives me an opportunity to share the many delights of collecting Pakistan that I have discovered. You may already have a passion for philately but I wonder if you actually collect the stamps issued by your own country? The allure of foreign countries can make them exciting to collect but do not overlook what is in front of you.

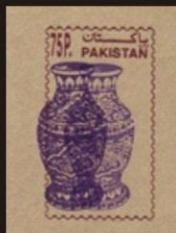
I have been collecting stamps from Pakistan for nearly half a century and I am happy to say that I still find your country's output interesting, mentally rewarding and a source of great pleasure.



Pakistan came into being on the 14th August 1947 and 6 weeks later the newly obsolete stocks of British Indian stamps appeared overprinted with "PAKISTAN". It might surprise you to know that these forerunners are now keenly collected in many countries including the U.S.A., Australia and across Europe. Consequently prices have climbed steadily and so may be out of your reach but do not despair. Pakistan has so much more to offer.

An increasingly popular area of collecting is the stamps issued between 1948 and 1961, prior to Pakistan adopting decimal currency. Some of the stamps contain beautiful designs created by such renowned artists as Chughati. Initially the stamps were printed by the famous security printers De La Rue Ltd but with the formation of the Pakistan Security Printing Corporation in the early 1950's, Pakistan no longer had to rely on foreign companies. If you decide to collect from this era then you could form a fascinating collection showing the gradual transition between the two printers, as the De La Rue printing plates were acquired by the new company.

With the introduction of decimal currency there was a sudden shortage of suitable stamps and so a contract was issued to the Times Press in Karachi to overprint existing stamps with the old currency. This rushed printing inevitably resulted in a large number of errors and these could form a spectacular collection on its own. If that isn't tempting enough then did you know that many post offices overprinted their stock of the old currency stamps using primitive rubber hand stamps? Much of this material can still be found if you look hard enough and can form an absorbing study for somebody on relatively modest means.



If you are one of those whose interest lies in forming a thematic collection then the many commemoratives issued over the last 60 years will give you plenty of inexpensive material to choose from. You may decide to add some spice by including printing errors such as this example from a postal stationery item.

Hopefully these suggestions will inspire some of you to form your own collection of Pakistan postage stamps. I will guarantee that you will find it enlightening and hugely enjoyable. Amongst seasoned philatelists, Pakistan is still considered a new country and so its stamps have not been studied as thoroughly as say those of Great Britain or Imperial India. This means that there are plenty of new discoveries still to be made. You therefore have a unique opportunity to form a worthwhile collection that will reward you intellectually and hopefully also financially, once the rest of the world has caught up.

Finally, 20 years ago I was a founding member of the Pakistan Study Circle, so I must not forget to mention that we are the only international philatelic society devoted to your country. If you would like to know more, visit our website: [pakistanstudycircle.wordpress.com](http://pakistanstudycircle.wordpress.com)



## COMMEMORATIVE 50P COIN MARKS BRITAIN'S WITHDRAWAL FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION

By: Ehjaz Hussain



The seven-sided 50p coin first came into circulation on the 14th of October 1969, to replace the ten shilling note, ahead of Britain's move to decimalisation in 1971. At the time of its release, the new cupro-nickel 50p was the world's first heptagonal (seven-sided) coin in circulation.

Queen Elizabeth II is the only monarch to have appeared on the obverse of the 50p she had been on the throne for seventeen years when the coin was introduced and remains Britain's monarch today.

Over the years, four different portraits of the monarch have appeared on the 50p, these were created by:

Arnold Machin (1969-84); Raphael Maklouf (1985-97); Ian Rank-Broadley FRBS (1998-2015) and Jody Clark (2015 to present).

The first 50p reverse design was the figure of a seated Britannia beside a lion, with an olive branch in her left hand and a trident in her right. This design appeared between 1969 and 2008. The numeral 50 appears underneath the design, and the wording above is either 'new pence' (1969-81) or 'fifty pence' (1982-2008). This design, by Christopher Ironside, was used until 1982, when his revised inscription came into use. This was replaced in 2008 by a section of the Royal Arms, showing part of the third and fourth quarterings, designed by Matthew Dent. This design is still in use today. The biggest change to date to the coin came in 1997, when the coin was reduced in both diameter and thickness, with older coins taken out of circulation. Over the years there have been dozens of commemorative designs, produced to mark landmark anniversaries and events.

In January 2020, The Royal Mint issued a special 50p coin bearing the inscription 'Peace, prosperity and friendship with all nations'; widely known as the 'Brexiteer 50p'. The arrival of the Brexit 50p, officially known as the 'Withdrawal from the European Union 2020' 50p coin, didn't go smoothly just like the political maze of the Brexit process itself. The 50p Brexit coin was unveiled by former Chancellor or the Exchequer Philip Hammond with the intention that the coin would have a mintage of around 10,000 and be issued in March 2019. In August 2019, with Brexit still being debated, Chancellor Sajid Javid said he wanted to add millions of 'Brexiteer' 50p coins into circulation, changing the initial plans for the commemorative coin to remain 'uncirculated'. With delays to the Brexit process, the planned design, with the date of the UK's departure from the EU detailed as 31 March 2019, was updated to read 31 October 2019.

Not everyone approved of the idea of the 50p coin. Liberal Democrat councillor Eleanor Rylance protested against the coin and encouraged the general public to return the coin to the bank and ask for an alternative if and when it was issued. Just days before the UK was supposed to leave the EU in October 2019, it was confirmed that approximately 3 million coins would be recycled since the date of 31 October would be incorrect.

The Brexit 50p was officially released on 31 January 2020, on the day the UK left the EU and started a one-year transition process. It was revealed that 7 million copies of the coin would be entered into circulation over the course of the year, and this number soon went up to 10 million. It was no surprise that the eventual release of the coin was not met with approval from all sides. Author Philip Pullman said on twitter: 'The 'Brexiteer' 50p coin is missing an Oxford comma, and should be boycotted by all literate people.'

With a reported 10 million in circulation and The Royal Mint's official mintage being 'unlimited', the coin is hardly rare but you don't see many of the coins in circulation. According to reports, the coins are being taken out of circulation by collectors and by those who do not approve of the coin, although The Royal Mint confirmed it is normal for people to keep unusual coins when they are initially issued. Examples of the Brexit 50p have been sold on auction sites such as EBay for around £2 - £3. Whilst some newspapers reported that versions of the coin with the incorrect date may surface, no find has yet been reported. A Brilliant Uncirculated version of the coin, costing £10 from The Royal Mint, proved very popular when the coin was first issued, with demand crashing the Royal Mint website. This version of the coin is still available.

The versions of the coin released were as follows:

- a. Brilliant uncirculated (available for £10)
- b. Silver Proof Brexit 50p (mintage of 47,000, retailed for £62.50 and now sold out)
- c. Gold Proof Brexit 50p (mintage of 1,500, retailed for £1,100 and now sold out)

A two-coin set was also made available, including the Brexit 50p and the 1973 50p coin which marked the United Kingdom's accession into the European Economic Community. This set was limited to 5,000 copies, retailed at £30 and has now sold out.



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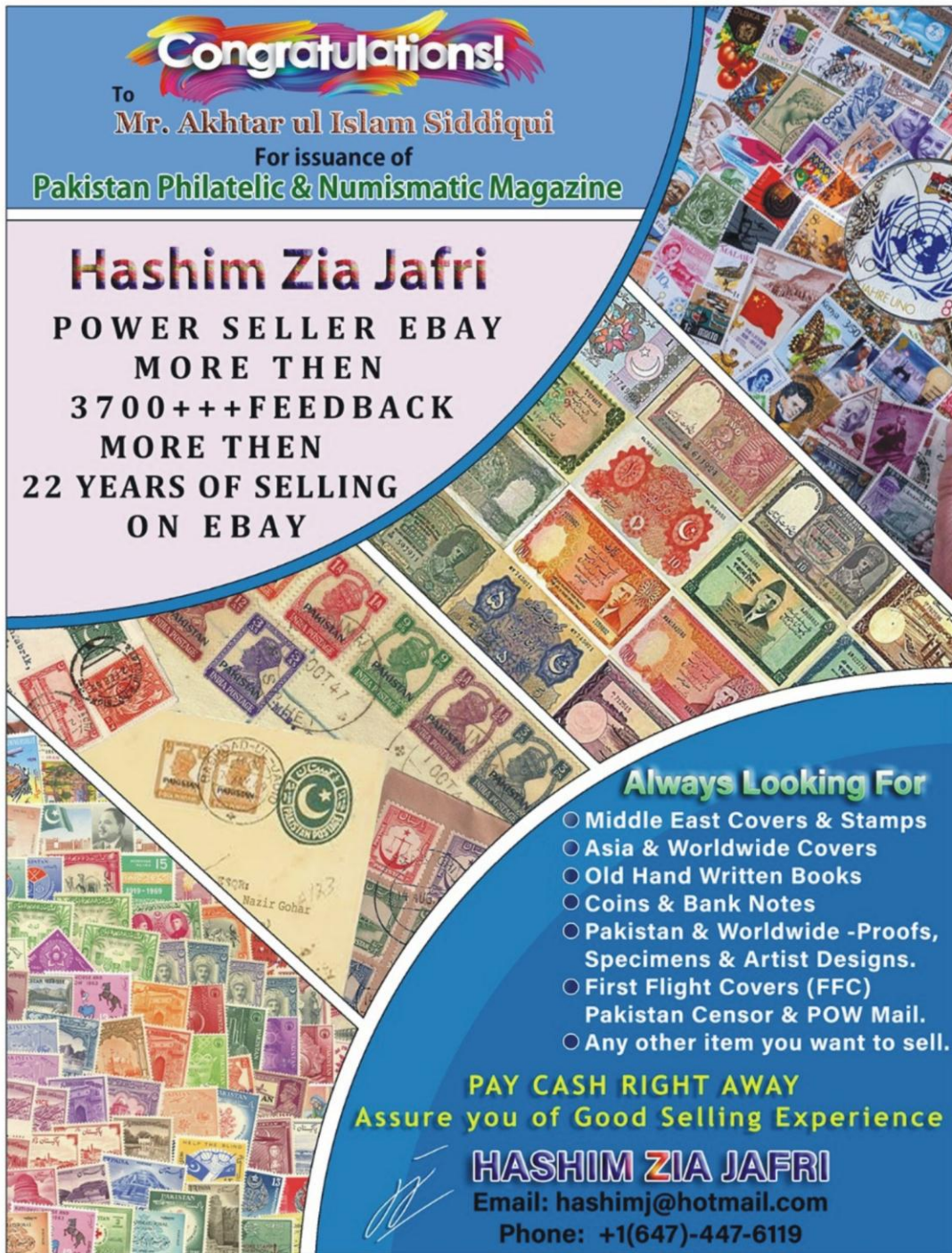
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