

ISSN 0972-3587

----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----
The First, Free & Only weekly on Philately & Postal Services of India

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Awards Received: Silver Medal with the 'Felicitations of the Jury' at  
'BELGICA 2001' World Philatelic Exhibition, Brussels, June 9-17, 2001

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Issue # 138 - October 16, 2003. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhu Jhingan and Savita Jhingan

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

All the traveling has left us a little dizzy and there are still a  
couple of exhibitions to visit before we get a break for Deepavali.  
However, do not let that worry you, as we will still endeavor to deliver  
the newsletter in your mailbox with the latest news and views.

Until next week, please enjoy the rest of the newsletter.

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: The Hindu

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We invite your inputs, please email to stampsofindia@tatanova.com

Please mention this newsletter when contacting other philatelists.

If you've found this newsletter useful, recommend it to a friend.
Better still forward a copy of this issue.

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BANGKOK 2003 AWARDS

R S Gandhi and Rajan Jayakar won Large Vermeil medals for 'India Meter Marks' and for 'British India Fiscals 1901-47' respectively. Gandhi also received 'Felicitations of the Jury' for his exhibit that has twice won Gold medal earlier. Pradeep Agarwal won Vermeil medal for 'Barwani'. Nishi Agarwal, V Sathi Menon, and Rajesh Paharia won Large Silver medals for 'India Post-independence', for 'Cochin', and for 'Refugee Relief' respectively. Lallan Singh won Silver medal for 'Birds'.

Prashant Pandya won Silver medal for 'Milk' in One-frame class that has only three medal levels Gold, Silver, and Bronze. Pradip Jain won Vermeil medal in Literature Class. Surendra Katodia won Silver Bronze medals for his three works on India Postal Stationery with advertisements.

Pakistan's Arif Balgamwala won Gold medals for 'British Indian Airmails', U A Isani won Large Vermeil medal for 'Afghanistan 1880-1907', and Fariyal Balgamwala won for 'Pakistan Postal Stationery Decimals Issue'. U A Isani won Gold medal each for 'Bahawalpur' and 'Emirates of Dubai' in One-frame class. Arif Balgamwala and Munaf Billoo won Large Silver medals for 'Pakistan Overprints 1947-49' and 'Postmarks of Pakistan' in Literature class. M I Choudhari won Silver medal in Literature class for 'Pakistan Stamp Catalog'.

Nepal's R K Tulsyan won Large Vermeil medal for 'Postal Stationery of Nepal', K M Mulmi won Vermeil medal for 'Postal History of Nepal', and R Karmacharya won Large Silver for 'Lord Pashupati'.

Bangladesh exhibits won 1 Silver Bronze and 2 Bronze medals. Two exhibits received Certificate of Participation and two exhibits were absent.

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NEW STAMPS RELEASED

India Post released a set of 3 special stamps in the denomination of Rs 5 each on Jnanpith Award Winning Authors of Malayalam on October 9, 2003. The stamps depict G Sankara Kurup, S K Pottekatt, and Thakazhi Sivasankara Pillai.

The Jnanpith Awards are given for literary excellence, covering all the languages of India and symbolize the unity of vision in Indian Culture. Continuing the series on the winners, India Post issued the stamps on G Sankara Kurup, a poet in the mystic mould whose poetry was marked by a refined diction, careful artistry and pervading intellectualism. He has more than 40 published works to his credit and the winning collection of poems is a work that every Indian can be proud of.

S K Pottekatt, a writer adept in different genres of writing who left a deep imprint in the minds of his contemporaries. He is seen at his best in his novels that combine a romantic sensibility with a realistic outlook. Pottekatt was one of the pioneers of travel writing in the country.

Concern for the underprivileged comes through in all works of Thakazhi Sivasankara Pillai, yet the portrayals are characterized by objectivity and not sentimentalism. His rustic stories are based in Kuttanad, the rural belt from where he hailed and provide a loving view of the land and its people that transcended the boundaries of space and emerged as a chronicle of mankind.

Namboodiri designed the stamps and Alka Sharma designed the First Day Cover and pictorial first day postmark. Information Sheet containing write-up and technical data and priced at Rs.2 was issued on the occasion. The FDC is also priced at Rs 2.

India Security Press of Nashik Road printed the stamps by photogravure in two colors on imported un-watermarked adhesive gravure coated stamp paper in the quantity of 0.4 million in the sheetlets of 15 stamps, 5 of each type.

India Post on October 10, 2003 released a special stamp in the denomination of Rs 5 on K Shivarama Karanth, an educationist, freedom fighter, social worker, reformer, artist, author, playwright, painter, musician, poet, environmentalist and a patron of arts.

Karanth's contribution to reviving Karnataka's vibrant folk arts received national and international recognition. He was a man who gave more to society than he demanded, a man with a social conscience, an observant eye, a critical mind and a sensitive spirit.

Alka Sharma designed the Stamp, First Day Cover and pictorial first day postmark. Information Sheet containing write-up and technical data and priced at Rs.2 was issued on the occasion. The FDC is also priced at Rs 2.

India Security Press of Nashik Road printed the stamps by photogravure in three colors on imported un-watermarked adhesive gravure coated stamp paper in the quantity of 0.4 million in the sheets of 35 stamps.

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NEW PHILATELIC BUREAUS

BILASPUR

Colonel Prithviraj Kumar, the Chief Postmaster General of Chhattisgarh inaugurated the 62nd Philatelic Bureau in India at Bilaspur Head Post Office on October 9, 2003.

India Post provided a special postmark depicting 'Rudra Shiva' and brought out a special cover on this occasion. India Post also launched the permanent pictorial postmark of the Philatelic Bureau. The duly serviced covers priced at Rs.12 each are available with the Philatelic Bureau, Bilaspur Head Post office 495001.

On the first day itself there were 117 standing order accounts opened at the Bureau.

Chhattisgarh Philatelic Association raised the demand for up gradation of the existing Philatelic counter at Bilaspur to Philatelic Bureau since 1991. C R Andhare, the President of Chhattisgarh Philatelic Association was the special guest at the function.

#### SILIGURI

The existing Philatelic Counter at Siliguri Head Post Office was upgraded to the Philatelic Bureau on October 15, 2003. A special cover with a special postmark was released on the occasion.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

BILPEX 2003

Chhattisgarh Philatelic Association organized a Philatelic Exhibition on October 9 & 10, 2003 coinciding with the opening of Philatelic Bureau at Bilaspur. Colonel Prithviraj Kumar, the Chief Post Master General of Chhattisgarh Circle inaugurated the exhibition and appreciated the large number of exhibitors.

Stamp Collecting is very popular among students and seniors at Bilaspur. The exhibition's focus was on juniors and 222 Students participated with 1100 sheets of display. In addition National award winner entries of senior philatelists were displayed in 35 frames. About 50 students won prizes. Umashankar Jaiswal, the Mayor of Bilaspur was the chief guest of concluding function.

RAJPEX

From October 10 to 13, India Post organized the 10th state level philatelic exhibition of Rajasthan, 2003 at Jaipur. Padma Balasubramanian, Secretary to Government in India in the Ministry of Communications & IT and Chairperson of Postal Services Board inaugurated the show.

A booklet of stamps was released on October 12, 2003 in addition to four special covers with special postmarks. The covers feature 50 years of Rajasthan Postal Circle, Virat Nagar, Kalbelia folk dance, and Jaipur Foot. A souvenir was also released on the occasion. Please contact the Philatelic Bureau, GPO, Jaipur 302 001.

129 participants including 45 in Youth class displayed their exhibits in 357 frames. In addition, several internationally acclaimed exhibits were displayed in Invitee class.

The Jury chaired by Chief Post Master General of Rajasthan, G Mohanakumar consisted of Manohar Lal and D S Desai with Shailendra Dashora as Apprentice.

Mohankumar and his team of officers were seen working for more than 12 hours a day not only for jury work but also to ensure smooth running of the exhibition.

R Ganesan, Member of Postal service Board gave away the awards. Binod Kasera bagged Governor's Trophy for the best exhibit for 'Definitive

Issues Since Independence' and Rajesh Paharia bagged Chief Minister's Trophy for 'Postal Stationery of Jaipur'.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The following list of events scheduled for next few months is subject to change. We update it in every issue with the information received during the week. The organizers may be contacted for further details.

October

16-19, Hyderabad, APPEX, State Level
??, Lucknow, Philatelic Festival

November

7-9, Coochbehar, District Level
27-30, Thrissur, KERAPEX, State Level

December

26-29, Dharwad, KARNAPEX, State Level

For a list of exhibition held this year, please visit

<http://www.stampsfindia.com/Content/Events/a300.htm>

ANDHARE POSTAL AUCTION

Rohini Andhare's Postal Sale fourth postal auction catalog is now available. The last date for submitting the bids is November 19, 2003.

The auction sale has 2262 lots covering Prestamp cover, British India 1852-54, Sind dawk stamp, Pre Independence, Post Independence, Slogans, Railway Mail Service, Dead Letter Office, First Flight Covers, Telegrams, Gandhi, Cinderella, Foreign, GB, Thematic etc.

Write or contact: Rohini Andhare, Behind Luthra Hospital Nehrunagar Bilaspur 495001 or crandhare@yahoo.com

RECENT PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER, No.3, July-September 2003

Editor: Harish Durlabhji

Publisher: Jaipur Philatelic Society

Address: 999 Dhor Building, Gopalji Ka Rasta, Jaipur 302003

Annual Subscription: Not indicated

MARWAR COINEX

Marwar Coin Society is organizing a national level numismatic exhibition at Jodhpur from October 14 to 17, 2003. For details, please contact the Society at P O Box # 66, 100 Jaswant Sarai, Jodhpur 342001 or

marwar_coinex@indiatimes.com

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VIEWS & OPINIONS

READERS FORUM

<Dear Reader, Your feedback is important to us as it helps evolve the newsletter. We strive hard to bring you comprehensive coverage of the latest on Indian philately and improve with every issue. Please do let us have your thoughts and suggestions. We also would like to learn how our newsletter impacts your collecting and the value you feel it provides to you. Do send in your comments, views, reports, articles and other features for publication>

DR. SATISH Y DEODHAR from Ahmedabad

Last month, I read news in Indian Express' Ahmedabad edition, that Department of Post has declined the request of Marathi Rajya Smriti Pratishthan to bring out a commemorative stamp of the great Peshwa Bajirao I. It is very sad that the news item appeared coincident with Peshwa Bajirao's 303rd birth anniversary.

As a proud Indian, I am completely taken aback. Peshwa Bajirao I was both a great statesman and general of the 18th century India, and history will find very few parallels in terms of his nationalist attitude, nation building endeavors, and yet a humane approach to his statesmanship. I am enclosing below a terse summary of well-researched opinions of historians, both foreign and Indian, who have praised and appreciated the historical role of Peshwa Bajirao I. And, despite this, we as Indians are denying Bajirao a commemorative postal stamp.

During the regimes of previous governments, Department of Post has honored very many lesser known personalities by bringing out stamps in their memory, why is it that Department of Post cannot understand the historical, and monumental importance of the great Peshwa Bajirao I?

Peshwa Bajirao I deserves a grand commemoration of his service to the nation. Instead he is being sidelined. I request stampsofindia.com to sensitize the honorable Minister of Communication, and the Minister of Culture, and of course, the Department of Post, about the historical and legendary role of Bajirao. In this context, please read the opinions of historians about Bajirao that I have appended below. I have already written to the ministers. Your suggestion to the concerned people will go a long way either.

Jadunath Sarkar says in his forward to "Peshwa Bajirao I and Maratha Expansion":

"Bajirao was a heaven born cavalry leader. In the long and distinguished galaxy of Peshwas, Bajirao Ballal was unequalled for the daring and originality of his genius and the volume and value of his achievements. He was truly a Carlylean Hero as king- or rather as 'Man of action.' If Sir Robert Walpole created the unchallengeable position of the Prime

Minister in the unwritten constitution of England, Bajirao created the same institution in the Maratha Raj at exactly the same time."

Sir R. Temple says in "Oriental Experiences":

"Bajirao was hardly to be surpassed as a rider and was ever forward in action, eager to expose himself under fire if the affair was arduous. He was inured to fatigue and prided himself on enduring the same hardships as his soldiers and sharing their scanty fare. He lived to see the Maratha spread over the Indian continent from the Arabian Sea to the Bay of Bengal. He died as he lived in camp under canvas among his men and he is remembered among the Marathas as the fighting Peshwa, as the incarnation of Hindu energy."

J. Grant Duff says in "History of the Marathas":

"Bred a soldier as well as a statesman, Bajeerao united the enterprise, vigour, and hardihood of a Maratha chief with the polished manners, the sagacity, and address which frequently distinguish the Brahmins of the Concan. Fully acquainted with the financial schemes of his father, he selected that part of the plan calculated to direct the predatory hordes of Maharashtra in a common effort. In this respect, the genius of Bajeerao enlarged the schemes which his father devised; and unlike most Brahmins, of him, it may be truly said- he had both- the head to plan and the hand to execute."

Surendra Nath Sen says in "The Military System of the Marathas":

" ... (Bajirao) knew well how to appeal to the religious sentiments of his co-religionists, although he could scarcely be considered an orthodox Brahman... Shivaji had given the Marathas a common cry, and none appreciated the potency of that cry clearly than Peshwa Bajirao. Shivaji's military reforms he would not or could not revive, but he stood forth, as Shivaji had done, as champion of Hinduism. People of Central and Northern India saw in him a new deliverer."

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Indian Laws Relevant to Philately

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Guide/Misc/laws.htm>

Report Cyber Crime & Internet Fraud related to Indian Philately

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Guide/Misc/cybercrime.htm>
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NEWSSCAN

<We invite you to contribute clippings on philatelic and postal matters, from other print and electronic publications, for inclusion here>
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CONTRIBUTORS INVITED

We require regular correspondents everywhere in India to cover the philatelic activities in their area. We shall reimburse the costs of

photos, covers, publications, courier and other charges. All contributions shall be acknowledged.

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Updated Segments This Week: News, Articles,

STAMPS ON INDIA <http://stampsonindia.netfirms.com>

The site devoted to the stamps from all over the world on Indian topics

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About STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -- ADMINISTRIVIA

Published by Madhu Jhingan mjhingan@yahoo.com for 'Stamps of India',
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Phone: + 91-11-25281578 Mobiles: 98681 40089 (MJ), 98111 60884 (SJ)
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