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

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Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

Time flies. With the next issue this newsletter will complete 4 years.

We sincerely hope this has served Indian philately in a useful manner  
and readers have enjoyed reading it as much as we have enjoyed producing  
it.

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

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Manohar Lal,  
Ashok Bayanwala, Madhukar Deogawanka, Anil Suri, Rajesh Pahlaria, United  
News of India, and The Times of India.

We invite your inputs, please email to [feedback@stampsofindia.com](mailto:feedback@stampsofindia.com)

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If you've found this newsletter useful, recommend it to a friend.
Better still, forward a copy of this issue. Also, please mention this
newsletter when contacting other philatelists.

Report the philatelic activities in your area for publication here. We
shall reimburse the costs incurred on images, philatelic items issued,
publications, courier and other agreed charges.

Please send your queries in detail (images welcome) on all matters related to Philately and Postal History of India and Indian States. We will attempt to find an answer for you.

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

August 20 - Rajiv Gandhi Renewable Energy Day, Rs5  
August 26 - S S Vasani, Rs5  
August 30 - Panini, Rs5

These issues along with the First Day Cover and the information sheet, at Rs.2 each, shall be available on sale at nearly 1000 selected Post Offices including all Philatelic Bureaus and Counters in the country.

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NEW STAMPS RELEASED

28TH OLYMPICS

Vijay Bhushan, Secretary, Department of Posts, released the set of 4 stamps to commemorate the 28th Olympics on August 13, 2004 at New Delhi. Two stamps are in the denominations of Rs. 5 and two in Rs. 15 featuring the disciplines of wrestling, athletics, shooting, and hockey respectively.

The first modern Olympic Games was held at Athens in 1896. The Olympics, today, is the greatest show on earth where continents converge, nations compete, human endurance extends its known limits and where the sporting spirit soars *citius, altius, fortius*, i.e. faster, higher, stronger.

In the 28th Olympiad being held at Athens, from 13-29th August 2004, India will be participating in 14 disciplines.

Kamleshwar Singh designed the stamps and the First Day Cover and Alka Sharma designed the pictorial first day postmark. Brochure containing write-up and technical data was issued on the occasion. The First Day Cover and the Brochure are priced at Rs2 each. Calcutta Security Printers printed the stamps by Photo Offset in the quantity of 3 million each in the mixed sheets of 16 stamps that is 4 sets.

INDIA IRAN JOINT ISSUE

India Post released a set of 2 se-tenant stamps in the denomination of Rs15 each in a Joint Issue with Iran on August 16, 2004. The stamps portray the famous Indian poet Kabir and the famous Persian Litterateur Shamsuddin Muhammad of Shiraz, popularly known as Hafiz Shirazi.

India and Iran share centuries of close cultural and civilizational affinities, influencing each other in the fields of culture, art, architecture and language.

Hafiz Shirazi is a luminous star of Persian Literature. Recognized internationally, his poetic heritage includes 4000-5000 verses, ghazals, elegies, couplets and inscriptions. Drawing on the grace and message of the Holy Quran, Hafiz expressed himself through refining the verse form of the ghazal. His 'Diwan-I-Hafiz' finds a place of dignity and respect in Iranian homes. This great 14th century poet and mystic had his final resting place at Shiraz where the tomb, Hafizieh, is a centre for tourists and pilgrims.

Kabir, a weaver by profession, ranks among the world's greatest mystic poets. Kabir's poetry is relevant even today and the manner of

expression is unequalled in simplicity and style. The beauty of Kabir's poetry is that his philosophy is rooted in situations that surround our daily lives. Kabir openly criticised the evil practices in society and gave a new direction to the Indian philosophy. The Holy Guru Granth Sahib of the Sikhs contains over 500 verses by Kabir.

Sankha Samanta designed the stamps and the First Day Cover and Alka Sharma designed the pictorial first day postmark. Brochure containing write-up and technical data was issued on the occasion. The First Day Cover and the Brochure are priced at Rs2 each. India Security Press printed the stamps by Photo Gravure in the quantity of 0.4 million each in the Sheetlets of 8 stamps that is 4 sets.

MURASOLI MARAN

Congress President and United Progressive Alliance (UPA) Chairperson Sonia Gandhi released a stamp in the denomination of Rs5 on August 17, 2004 at Chennai to commemorate Murasoli Maran on his 70th birth anniversary.

Born on 17th August, 1934 Maran rose from humble beginnings to become one of the pillars of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) party. He was a writer of repute in Tamil Language. He authored books on politics and short stories. He published a number of Tamil weeklies and was also a founder-member of the Madras Press Club. A multi-faceted person, Maran excelled in films and journalism as well. He was essentially committed to the welfare of Backward Classes.

Maran was a Minister in the Cabinet of V P Singh, Deve Gowda, I K Gujaral and Atal Bihari Vajpayee. He was a Member of Parliament for 36 years, since 1967. Maran was instrumental in establishing the Chennai Trade Centre and was the driving force behind the plan to set up a Special Economic Zone at Nanguneri in Southern Tamil Nadu. He played an important role in the setting up of the TIDEL Park for Software Technology in Chennai.

Maran scripted 20 films, directed two and produced five. In 1956, his films, 'Kula Deivam' and 'Annaiyin Aanai' respectively got President's Certificate of Merit as the best and the second best feature film (Regional). The Tamil Eyal Isai Nataka Manram conferred the title "Kalai Mamani" in 1975 for his contribution to screenplay and dialogue writing. His film 'Engal Thangam' got Tamil Nadu Government's award in the year 1970 as the second best feature film of the year.

Sankha Samanta designed the stamps and the First Day Cover and Alka Sharma designed the pictorial first day postmark. Brochure containing write-up and technical data was issued on the occasion. The First Day Cover and the Brochure are priced at Rs2 each. Madras Security Printers printed the stamps by Photo Gravure (?) in the quantity of 0.6 million in the Sheets of 25 stamps.

RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

August 12, 2004: Kochi, 66th Y's Men International Convention
August 13, 2004: New Delhi, Surendra Nath Jauhar Birth Centenary

RAKHI SPECIAL ENVELOPES

India Post has introduced special stout envelopes for safe transit of rakhies, as the normal paper envelopes are likely to get torn. Sisters ties rakhi on the wrist of their brothers on the rakhi day that is the full moon day usually falling in August.

Each postal circle, there are 20 in India, may have printed its own version of these envelopes. At the time of going to press, we have the following details and request our readers to look out for these in their area and help add further information.

Delhi

The envelopes are laminated and cost Rs 3.

Maharashtra

The envelopes are cloth-lined and costs Rs 2. The envelopes are in at least two different colors.

Earlier India Post had conducted an experimental rakhi program in Nagpur two years ago and it proved successful.

India Post has also launched a pilot program in sending rakhies in collaboration with Smile (society moved to instill love with empathy), a non-government organization working for the upliftment of the under-privileged sections of society including women and street children. The rakhies, have been hand-made by Smile's children from under-privileged background under the supervision of professionals. The rakhies are ranging from Rs 8 to Rs 20 in different designs. Initially the rakhi sale will available in 20 post offices in Maharashtra circle.

Rajasthan

The envelopes are neither laminated nor cloth-lined and costs Rs 2. The envelopes are at least in five different colors.

Gujarat

The envelopes are neither laminated nor cloth-lined and costs Rs 2.50.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

August 9-13, Kolkata, 150 Years of Railway  
Sealdah Railway Station

August 16-21, Kolkata, 150 Years of Railway  
Howrah Railway Station

September 3-5, Mumbai, Coin exhibition by Mumbai Coin Society  
Tajpal Gallery, Gwalia hall

October 1-3, Ahmedabad, Dak Bharti

October 9-15, New Delhi, Autograph Exhibition, National Level  
AIFACS, 1, Rafi Marg

Autographs may be displayed in various ways like Autograph on Stamps/ Covers, Autograph on Photograph, Rare Autographs, Autographed Letters, Autograph on Sketch etc. Those who are interested to participate in the exhibition are requested to contact the club immediately. Santosh Kumar Lahoti, Secretary, Autograph Collectors Club of India (Regd.), "Shree Sadan", 26, P K Tagore Street, Calcutta-700 006, Phones:033 2530 5293/2543 6471 - Resi. Reliance Mobile 033 3101 2533, Fax: 91 33 2474 6899, Email: [sklahoti@vsnl.net](mailto:sklahoti@vsnl.net), Website: [www.sklahoti.com](http://www.sklahoti.com)  
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SRJ POSTAL AUCTION

S R Jankiraman, 50/55 Sourashtra Street, Rasipuram 637408, telephone 04287-24223 is holding the postal auction sale # 3. The 178 lot sale will close on September 4, 2004.

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AMRITSAR PHILATELIC CLUB WEB SITE

The web site of Amritsar Philatelic Club [www.geocities.com/amritsarclub](http://www.geocities.com/amritsarclub) is back on line. The site developed by Naveen Banura is now being maintained by Rishi Kochar.

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MADRAS GPO RENOVATION AND RESTORATION

Minister of Communications and Information Technology, Dayanidhi Maran laid the foundation stone for the project to renovate and restore the heritage building 120-year-old building that houses the General Post Office (GPO) at Chennai on August 1, 2004.

The GPO designed in 1884 by British architect R F Chisolm was destroyed in a major fire four years ago on Oct 23, 2000. Government has allocated Rs. 35 million for the heritage post office on Rajaji Salai, the northern end of the city's famous Mount Road. A new building would also come up in the premises of one of the busiest post offices in the city that is used by at least 10,000 people every day and a staff of 500 handles about 45,000 registered and unregistered items a day.

The work could take two years, as it involves painstaking renovation and specialized restorers, professional advice and historians need to be involved.

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OOPS!

In our Issue # 180 'In This Issue' incorrectly listed 'PCI Court Cases Update'.

In our Issue # 181 'In This Issue' incorrectly listed 'Philately in Transition in India, Part 75'.

We regret the errors and any inconvenience these may have caused.

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FAKE STAMP SCAM UPDATES

The CBI arrested a person in Patna on August 18, 2004 on charges of printing and circulating fake non-judicial stamp papers in the country. The CBI spokesman said an agency team from Delhi nabbed Kallu Ram in Patna and seized fake non-judicial stamps, photo films and screen printing material from his residence. Accused Kallu Ram revealed that he had been supplying fake stamp papers to various contacts for several months. The investigating agency also caught his accomplices Tahir Hussain of Shiv Mandir Gali of Bhajanpura and Krishan Kumar Verma of Bhiwani for selling fake stamp papers in the state capital and its adjoining areas. Acting on a tip-off, the CBI arrested Hussain on August 13, 2004 from Bhajanpura in North-East Delhi on charges of possessing and selling fake non-judicial stamp papers worth Rs 170,000 to its contact. During a search of his house, the CBI recovered more fake documents worth Rs 970,000, many incriminating documents and 27 passports. Accused Hussain disclosed that Verma had allegedly supplied the fake stamp papers to him. Accused Verma was staying in a hotel in Paharganj in Central Delhi. The interrogation of Verma revealed that the fake documents were being supplied to him by Vijay Sharma of Patna. But accused Sharma led to the house of Kallu Ram as the main supplier of the fake stamp papers. Sharma was yet to be arrested. Further interrogation in the case was going on.

On August 17, 2004 Judicial Magistrate First Class S R Jaiswal, Thane remanded Abdul Karim Telgi, prime accused in the multi-billion fake stamp racket, to judicial custody till August 31, 2004 in a stamp scam case registered against him at the Mira Road Police Station. In this case, police had initially arrested four people and seized fake stamps and stamp papers amounting to Rs 2.3 million. After the investigations, ten more people were arrested. However, the investigating officer, Sub-Inspector P Kakade, had allegedly failed to arrest Telgi and had shown the latter as 'absconding'. Kakade, was later arrested under MCOCA (Maharashtra Control for Organized Crime Act) on charges of commission and omission. Police had also seized goods worth Rs 8.8 million, including a printing machine, from those arrested. Telgi was transported from Pune's Yerwada Central Jail on August 10, 2004 to Thane amidst tight security by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

On August 17, 2004 the court at Bangalore remanded P G Pradeep Kumar to CBI custody till August 23, 2004. Kumar, who was arrested by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) had deposited Rs4.275 million in the two bank accounts he had opened for fake stamp kingpin Telgi during 1999. The money had been allegedly cheated off a chemical firm on the pretext of registering a property and Pradeep was working for Telgi's front offices, Cauvery Enterprises and Sri Sai Enterprises. During 1999, a firm in Peenya was looking to buy some property and Telgi's office contacted them offering to help register the property. However, they did not remit the amount of Rs4.275 million at RBI and instead produced fake challans and got the papers embossed. When the firm came to know that the embossing was fake, they lodged a complaint with the police. In January 2004, Peenya police had arrested one Irfan Ahmed. However, Pradeep had given the slip.

Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate at Egmore, Chennai on August 13, 2004 extended the remand for 15 days of two top police officials arrested in connection with a multi-billion dollar fake stamp scam. The CBI had arrested Deputy Inspector General of Police, Mohammed Ali and Additional Commissioner of Police, Shankar after raiding their residences on July 1, 2004.

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FREE ADVERTISEMENTS

The Advertising Supplement to 'Stamps of India Collectors Companion' is available on-line <http://www.stampsofindia.com/Content/Ads/ads.htm>  
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VIEWS & OPINIONS

READERS FORUM

<Dear Reader, Your feedback is important to us as it helps evolve the newsletter. Please do let us have your thoughts and suggestions.>

RANJIT SINGH, NEW DELHI

Will you please be kind enough to let me know the name of a country where stamps are issued after the closing hours of the post office?

As per programme for the issue of stamps on Olympics I visited the Philatelic Bureau in Parliament Street just to be told there that stamps will be available next day i.e. 14th August.

I have incurred a loss of Rs 200 on conveyance, three hours of time and lot of embarrassment like several other stamp collectors and philatelists who visited the Parliament Street PO.

Is the Department of Posts promoting or killing Philately?

I am sending my complaint to Consumer Redressal Forum and claiming Rs 1000 as damages. I had to return home with 25 letters which I had to send by registered mail worldwide

You are a great Philatelist of world renown, can you do something?

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FEATURES & RESOURCES

Indian Laws Relevant to Philately

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/laws.htm>

Report Cyber Crime & Internet Fraud related to Indian Philately

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/cybercrime.htm>

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RESEARCH NOTES

By Madhukar Jhingan

STAMP DUTY IN COCHIN

Stamps duty began to be levied for the first time in 1837 under the provisions of Regulation 1 of 1012, which required documents, including sale, mortgage etc., deeds, to be written in mudrolas, or stamped cadjans (palm leaves). The cadjans were stamped with dies of various denominations under the supervision of a responsible officer in the Diwan's office (Prime Minister's office) and distributed among the Tehsildars (Administrator of Sub-division of a district) for sale. If certain specified deeds were written on plain cadjan or paper, a penalty was levied, if they ever happened to be produced before a Sircar (government) officer.

This law was amended and amplified by Regulation 1 of 1071 (1895), which was based on the British Indian Act 1 of 1879.

This again was superseded by Regulation 6 of 1083, based on Act 2 of 1899.

Since Regulation 1 of 1071 (1895) was passed, stamped cadjans gave place to stamped papers, the manufacture and sale of which were placed under the supervision of an officer designated Superintendent of Stamps, working under the direct orders of the Diwan.

As however the system of allowing the manufacture of stamp papers and labels to be conducted side by side their sale was considered unsound in principles, arrangements were made in 1908 with Messrs. John Dickinson & Co. of London for the manufacture of all important denominations of stamp that might be required by the Darbar.

In the last official year (1909-10), the income from Stamps, including court fee stamps, copy stamped papers etc, was nearly four lakhs (400,000) of rupees.

From 'The Cochin State Manual' by C Achyuta Menon, 1911

Note: Explanatory notes in the parenthesis added by this compiler.

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ALSO IN THE NEWS

INSTANT STAMPS, NOW FROM CHINA

China is issuing stamps for the Chinese winners of the gold medals at at the 28th Olympic Games as quickly as possible. This is for the first

time for China to record the Olympic gold medals won by Chinese athletes with stamps.

The stamps in a sheet of 8, for each Olympic gold medal winner will feature with the portrait of the athlete. Albums are also being issued for these stamps.

Australia Post introduced Instant Stamps, in less than a day, for Australian athletes winning Gold medals at Sydney Olympics in 2000 and is issuing Instant Stamps for Athens Olympics.

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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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WEB SITE UPDATES

STAMPS OF INDIA <http://www.stampsofindia.com>  
The Hub Site of Indian Philately presents info in following segments - NEWS, ISSUES, EVENTS, AUCTIONS, PUBLICATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS, DEALERS, and ARTICLES. In addition we provide question answers in ASK US. Also all Indian philatelic web sites as well as several useful philatelic sites are listed under LINKS.

STAMPS ON INDIA <http://www.stampsonindia.com>  
The site devoted to the stamps from all over the world on Indian topics

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