

POSTAL HIMAL

QUARTERLY OF THE NEPAL AND TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE



No. 30

2nd Quarter 1982



POSTAL HIMAL is the quarterly publication of The Nepal and Tibet Philatelic Study Circle. Subscription dues are £ 3 for one year and £ 8 for three years or \$6 for one year and \$16 for three years in the United States of America. Dues should be paid to The Secretary or your closest Society Representative. Advertising rates and information may be obtained by writing the publisher.

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We regret to announce the death of member Mr. P. Roake of England.

APS AFFILIATION

We have just received notification of formal acceptance of the Study Circle as an affiliate of The American Philatelic Society and are in fact now APS Affiliate #122. Coincidentally POSTAL HIMAL was awarded a Silver-Bronze medal at the APS annual convention STaMpsHOW 82.

OUR COVER illustration for this issue is a 19th century cut of yaks, presumably in the Himalayas. The original source is not known to us and if any of our members recognize the picture we would be happy to be informed of the publication, date and artist. One wonders if yaks were ever used to carry mail. If anyone knows of a reference to this please draw it to our attention.

Dear Friends,

It is our happy privilege to announce the selection of Mr. Jit Bahadur Manandhar, the retired Director General of the Postal Services Department, H.M.G. of Nepal, as our first HONORARY MEMBER. Details are found in this issue, as well as the latest in a series of publications by Mr. Manandhar relating to Nepalese philately.

When we thought we had made a complete and correct report on NEPAL '81, the Centenary Philatelic Exhibition held in Kathmandu at the end of December last, I find that oversights still occurred. I wish to extend my apologies to Prof. Armand E. Singer and to Mr. Surendra Lal Shrestha for the oversights made in our first report (See pp. 34-35 of the Double Issue, Nos. 27 & 28.) in which their exhibits in the Literature Class were described, but without mention of their awards. Prof. A. E. Singer, apparently the only exhibitor from the Western World, received an award described in the official report (under 'List of Philatelists Awarded in "Nepal '81" (Nepal Philatelic Exhibition, 2038)' appearing on page 77 of 'HULAK', bi-monthly publication No. 97-98/H.M.Gov't. Postal Training Centre/14-4-1982) as a "Wood Artwork." Prof. Singer wrote to me, describing this unique award in great detail and even making a sketch of this interesting piece of artwork. This prize is now displayed prominently in his home. Those of us who failed to enter an exhibit in NEPAL '81 missed an important opportunity.--Mr. Surendra Lal Shrestha has sent us a photocopy of the attractive certificate he received in the same category ("Literature Class") for his display of "S. L. Shrestha's NEPAL Stamp Album (1881-1980)." Unfortunately, this award was omitted from the official report mentioned above. Our congratulations to both of these exhibitors in the Literature Class of NEPAL '81. It may be noted that Mr. Shrestha's Nepal Album, together with periodic supplements, may be purchased from him.

We particularly wish to thank those correspondents who have sent covers, with First Day and Special cancellations, articles, news items and other items of philatelic interest. These enthusiastic members of our Study Circle include Mr. Dhruba Rudra, Mr. Bishnu Lal Shrestha, Mr. R. K. Lodha, Mr. Surendra Lal Shrestha, Mr. Cris. Hallett, Dr. Wolfgang C. Hellrigl, Prof. Armand E. Singer and Mr. Colin Hepper. It is not always deemed appropriate to publish every item submitted, but contributions will be appreciated and we try always to respond promptly to everyone who writes to us. Keep the material coming!

Mr. Frank Vignola, a never-failing source of good ideas, has recently suggested another. He proposes that each issue of POSTAL HIMAL include a photo and description of some unusual item from an individual collection, whether that collection be his own or that of some non-member. Prospective offerings can only be reproduced in black and white.

With that limitation in mind, we solicit descriptions, together with a high-quality photocopy of a rarity or an item of special significance. If readers wish to share such information with our members but need help in writing a description, please remember that your editor stands ready to help.

Many of our new members appear to be especially interested in the philately of Tibet and we suspect that there are many non-members whose collecting interests have turned in that direction recently. It is more than coincidence that an unusually large amount of material of Tibet has been appearing on the market of late. We include with this issue a copy of the most recent "Philatelic Foundation Analysis Leaflet" concerned with the postal issues of Tibet, for the consideration of our Tibet enthusiasts. And it may be that our Study Circle should consider the establishment of some sort of formal group which could authenticate questionable material. It is virtually certain that much of the material flooding the market today is not genuine and we know that modern photographic technology can produce fakes that are difficult to detect by the most knowledgeable. "Let the buyer beware" is no idle piece of advice.

Lester A. Michel



NEWS FROM KATHMANDU

---reported by Mr. Dhruba Rudra from the pages of the English language newspaper - THE RISING NEPAL

Additional Post Offices

Kathmandu, April 28:

The buildings of two additional post offices have been completed at Kanki village panchayat of Rukum district at the cost of 4,112 rupees, reports RSS.

Voluntary labour and contributions was made by the local people. The local people will be greatly facilitated by quick delivery of mail if the two additional post offices were converted into sub-post offices, it is opined.

Additional Post Office Opened

Kalikot, April 30:

Vice president of the Nepal Children's Organization district executive committee, Birendra Bahadur Shahi, inaugurated the additional post office at a function here recently, reports RSS.

Nepal Becomes Member of Regional Postal Union

Kathmandu, May 28:

Nepal has become a member of the Asian and Pacific Region Postal Union, reports RSS.

The union has been formed to foster closer relations between the postal administrations of the Asia and Pacific Region and to solve common problems through mutual cooperation.

The 16 other members of the union are: Australia, Bangladesh, The People's Republic of China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand, Sri Lanka and Singapore.

Membership in the union will enable Nepal to use concessionary postal rates for mail to member countries, receive the services of postal experts and scholarships for training postal employees and generally help improve postal services.

Nepal became a member of the World Postal Union in 1956.



EXHIBITION NEWS

In the previous issue (p. 2) we reported concerning FRESPEX '83. Bill McConnell has informed us that the FRESPEX Committee has decided to have only a 2-day show on 19 & 20 March. The FRESPEX Committee "invites you to exhibit at FRESPEX '83. Your exhibit will be returned directly to you immediately after the exhibition..... You have our assurances that your exhibit will not be sold or traded." Signed by Diana Ward, Exhibit Chairperson, FRESPEX '83, 7490 E. Herndon, Clovis, CA 93612, USA. A prospectus and an official entry form can be obtained from the Chairperson or from William H. McConnell, P O Box 2730, Santa Clara, CA 95055, USA.

Mr. A. F. Ackley received the GRAND AWARD at the Long Beach Coin & Stamp Show held in Long Beach, California on 3-6 June, for his exhibit titled, "Stamps & Postal Markings of Tibet."

Mr. L. B. Scott received the GRAND AWARD at NEVPEX '82 in Reno, Nevada for his exhibit titled "Classic Nepal."

Our congratulations are extended to these two members for these outstanding awards.

We have learned that a Nepal & Tibet Study Circle Award will be given at SESCAL '82, to be held on 15-17 October in Los Angeles, California.

Mr. Surendra Lal Shrestha has sent us a photocopy of the cover page of the Calcutta, India, STAMP DIGEST, Vol. VI. No. 6, for July, 1974, which shows a photograph of Mr. N. G. Rajkarnikar and Mr. S. L. Shrestha receiving awards for their Nepal & Tibet Exhibits in INDIPEX '73. This indicates that some of our Nepal members have had considerable experience and success in exhibiting. We congratulate both men on these fine awards---9 years after the event!

POST OFFICES OF NEPAL IN 1936 - An Alphabetical Listing

--Surenra Lal Shrestha
(District)

1.	Amlekhganj	Birganj
2.	Baglung	Pokhara
3.	Baitadi	Baitadi-Ex.P.O.
4.	Bandipur	West No. 3
5.	Banke	Banke-Ex.P.O.
6.	Bardiya	Banke
7.	Bhairahwa	Bethari-Ex.P.O.
8.	Bhaktapur	Kathmandu
9.	Bhimphedi	Chisapani Gadi
10.	Bhojpur	East No. 4
11.	Bijayapur	Morang
12.	Biratnagar	Morang-M.O./Ex.P.O.
13.	Birganj	Birganj-M.O./Ex.P.O.
14.	Butwal	Bethari
15.	Chainpur	East No. 4
16.	Chitown	Birganj
17.	Choutara	East No. 1
18.	Dadeldhura	Dadeldhura
19.	Dahavan	Salyan
20.	Dailekh	Dailekh
21.	Darchula	Baitadi
22.	Dhading	West No. 1
23.	Dhankuta	Dhankuta-M.O.
24.	Dhuduwapahad	Pyuthana
25.	Dhulikel	East No. 1
26.	Dillibazar	Kathmandu
27.	Dolakha	East No. 2
28.	Doti	Doti
29.	Gorkha	West No. 2
30.	Hanuman Nagar	Saptari
31.	Ilam	Ilam
32.	Jaleswar	Mahuttari-Ex.P.O.
33.	Jhapa	Morang
34.	Jumla	Jumla
35.	Kailali	Kailali-Kanchanpur
36.	Kalैया	Birganj
37.	Kanchanpur	Kailali-Kanchanpur
38.	Karnali	Dailekh
39.	Katarvan	Birganj
40.	Kathmandu	Kathmandu-Ex.P.O.
41.	Kuncha	West No. 3
42.	Lalitpur	Kathmandu
43.	Lyanglyang	East No. 2
44.	Okhaldunga	East No. 3
45.	Palpa	Palpa-M.O.
46.	Parasi	Bethari
47.	Pashupatinagar	Ilam-Ex.P.O.
48.	Pokhara	Pokhara
49.	Pyuthan	Pyuthan
50.	Rangeli	Morang
51.	Rasuwa	West No. 1
52.	Ridi	Palpa
53.	Ridikot	Doti
54.	Salyan	Salyan
55.	Sarlahi	Mahottari
56.	Sherganj	Bethari

		(District)
57.	Shivraj (Syuraj)	Khajahani
58.	Sindhuli	East No. 2
59.	Sirha	Saptari
60.	Syangja	West No. 4
61.	Taplejung	Dhankuta
62.	Tatapani	East No. 1
63.	Terhathum	Dhankuta
64.	Thak	Pokhara
65.	Toulihawa	Khajahani
66.	Trishuli	West No. 1
67.	Udiapur	Udiapur

(Source: Hulak Niyamavali-Pailha Bhag/N. Samvat 1993. Gorkhapatra Press, Chhapak-hana, Kantipur, Nepal: the book printer. Price: Moharu -/6p.)

POST OFFICES OF NEPAL IN 1936 - listed by Zone (from West to East)

--Lester A. Michel

MAHAKALI ZONE

	District	Post Offices
A.	Baitadi	Darchula
	Baitadi-Ex.P.O.	Baitadi
B.	Dadeldhura	Dadeldhura
C.	Kanchanpur	Kanchanpur

SITI ZONE

A.	Doti	Doti
B.	Ridikot	Doti
C.	Kailali-Kanchanpur:	Kailali, Kanchanpur

KARNALI ZONE

A.	Jumla	Jumla
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BHERI ZONE

A.	Dailekh	Dailekh, Karnali
B.	Banke	Bardiya
	Banke-Ex.P.O.	Banke

Dhaulagiri ZONE

A.	Pokhara	Baglung
----	---------	---------

RAPTI ZONE

A.	Salyan	Salyan, Dahavan
B.	Pyuthan	Pyuthan, Dhuduwapahad

LUMBINI ZONE

A.	Palpa	Palpa, Ridi
B.	Khajahani	Toulihawa, Shivraj
C.	Bethari	Butwal, Parasi, Sherganj
	Bethari-Ex.P.O.	Bhairahwa

(Continued)

GANDAKI ZONE

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| A. Pokhara | Pokhara, Thak |
| B. West No. 4 | Syangja |
| C. West No. 3 | Kuncha, Bandipur |
| D. West No. 2 | Gorkha |

NARAYANI ZONE

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| A. Chisapani Gadi | Bhimphedi |
| B. Birganj | Chitown,
Amlekhganj,
Kalaiya,
Katarvan |
- Birganj-M.O./Ex.P.O.
Birganj

BAGMATI ZONE

- | | |
|---------------|------------------------------------|
| A. West No. 1 | Dhading, Rasuwa,
Trishuli |
| B. Kathmandu | Dillibazar, Lalitpur,
Bhaktapur |
- Kathmandu-Ex.P.O.
Kathmandu
- | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------|
| C. East No. 1 | Choutara, Tatapani,
Dhulikel |
|---------------|---------------------------------|

JANAKPUR ZONE

- | | |
|---------------|----------------------------------|
| A. East No. 2 | Dolakha, Lyanglyang,
Sindhuli |
| B. Mahottari | Sarlahi |
- Mahottari-Ex.P.O.
Jaleswar

SAGARMATHA ZONE

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| A. East No. 3 | Okhaldunga |
| B. Udiapur | Udiapur |
| C. Saptari | Sirha, Hanumannagar |
| D. East No. 4 | Bhojpur |

KOSI ZONE

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| A. East No. 4 | Chainpur |
| B. Dhankuta-M.O. | Dhankuta |
| | Dhankuta |
| C. Morang-M.O./Ex.P.O. | Terhathum |
- Biratnagar
Morang
Bijayapur, Rangeli

MECHI ZONE

- | | |
|-------------|-----------|
| A. Dhankuta | Taplejung |
| B. Morang | Jhapa |
| C. Ilam | Ilam |
- Ilam-Ex.P.O. Pashupatinagar



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POSTAL RATES IN 1936

--Surendra Lal Shrestha

1. Letter - up to 1 tola/additional 1 tola or part: 4 paisa.
2. Postcard - 3½' x 5½' size, or stamped: 2 paisa.
3. Book-post, Sample Pkt. - up to 5 tola: 6p. Additional 5 tola, each 4 p.
4. Parcels - up to 20 tolas/additional 20 tola or part: 16 paisa.
5. Late fee: 2 paisa.
6. Registration fee - each article: 20 p.
7. Acknowledgement fee: 4 paisa.

Note: No Insured Mail and Postage Due mail service is available.

Postal Rates to India through the Exchange Offices:

1. Postcard: 6 p.
2. Letter - to 1 tola: 8 p. Additional 1 tola: 4 p. each.
3. Book-post/Sample Pakt. - to 5 tolas: 6 p. Additional 5 tola: 4 p. each.

EARLY, RARE AND FINE BOOKS
ON THE HIMALAYAN AREA

NEPAL TIBET BHUTAN SIKKIM

Bell. **THE PEOPLE OF TIBET.** London, 1928. 75 illus., 3 maps (2 fold-out), index, bibliography. Pictorial covers (Dalai Lama seals).

Combe. **A TIBETAN ON TIBET.** Kathmandu, 1975 (reprint of 1926 edition). Forward by Charles Bell. The travels and observations of Paul Sherap (Dorje Zodba). 212pp, fold-out map, appendix, index.

Fergusson. **ADVENTURE SPORT AND TRAVEL ON THE TIBETAN STEPPES.** London, 1911. 343pp, 76 illus., 2 colored fold-out maps, index. Pictorial cover and spine.

FIRST OVER EVEREST, THE HOUSTON-MOUNT EVEREST EXPEDITION, 1933. London, 1933. 279pp, 61 illus. including maps and diagrams.

Hedin. **TRANS HIMALAYA: DISCOVERIES & ADVENTURES IN TIBET.** N.Y., 1909. 2 vols.-436pp, 439pp - 388 illus. (including photos), 10 maps(3 fold-out), index. Hedin's journey to Tibet in 1906-1908 and his problems with Morley and the British gov't.. includes comments on the policy of Great Britain in Tibet at that time. Vividly written by this important explorer.

Jaschke. **TIBETAN-ENGLISH DICTIONARY.** London, 1949 (reprint of 1881 edition) 671 pp.

Kirkpatrick. **AN ACCOUNT OF THE KINGDOM OF NEPAUL.** New Delhi, 1969 (reprint of 1811 London edition) 388 pp, 16 plates, 1 large fold-out map, tables, index. Kirkpatrick outlines his route to Kathmandu and gives an historical sketch of the country. The appendices contain official papers and letters relating to his mission and to the origin of the war between Nepal and Tibet and includes the correspondence of Cornwallis with Tibet during the war.

Landon. **NEPAL.** Kathmandu, 1976 (reprint of 1928 edition). Two vols, in one. 725pp, numerous illus., 5 maps (4 fold-out), genealogical charts, appendices, index. History of Nepal from the earliest times. Includes an account of the work of B.H. Hodgson in Nepal, and also the part played by Maharaja Chandra Shamsher of Nepal both before and during the Younghusband mission to Tibet in 1904.

Landor. **TIBET & NEPAL.** London, 1905. 233pp, 75 illus. in color, foldout map, index. Pictorial cover and spine.

Maraini. **SECRET TIBET.** N.Y., 1952. 306pp, 60 full-page photos, index. Deals with the 1938 trip to Tibet with Tucci.

Mehra. **BHUTAN, LAND OF THE PEACEFUL DRAGON.** Delhi, 1974. 151pp, over 100 plates (most in color), index. Presents a comprehensive picture of Bhutan based on an intimate knowledge of the land and its people, its religion and art, its history and administration.

Northey & Morris. **THE GURKHAS, THEIR MANNERS, CUSTOMS AND COUNTRY.** London, 1928. 69 photo plates, fold-out map, appendices, bibliography, indices. Pictorial cover.

Rockhill. **THE LAND OF THE LAMAS: NOTES OF A JOURNEY THROUGH CHINA, MONGOLIA AND TIBET.** N.Y., 1891. 61 illus., 2 maps.

SIKKIM CORONATION. Gangtok, 1965. Many illus., in color and b/w. The official book published to commemorate the coronation of the King of Sikkim in 1965, includes a section on the modern history of Sikkim.

Tucci. **TIBET, LAND OF SNOWS.** London, 1967. (2nd edition) 216pp, 106 plates (many in color), 9 illus., 1 map, indices, bibliography. General overview of Tibet, including its history, religion, art, daily life and literature by one of the foremost authorities on 20th century Tibet.

Younghusband. **WONDERS OF THE HIMALAYA.** N.Y., 1924. 210pp, 1 plate and map. The travels and adventures of Younghusband as a young man in the Himalayas, starting in 1884.

For a free, complete listing including prices and detailed descriptions, write and ask for "Himalayan Area" (many more titles available).

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DHUNDUWA PAHAD POST OFFICE

—J. B. Manandhar

Dhunduwa Pahad hulak is a post office which existed for nearly three decades in the latter half of the 20th century B.S. (Bikram era). At present only a few people have some idea about this post office on account of its short life, its location at an out-of-the-way place not situated on the main route directly linked with the capital and its minimal significance from the point of view of mail traffic. Due to the scarcity of covers marked with datestamps of the post office in question, almost everyone is experiencing problems in determining its birthdate, birth place and year of extinction.

The official letters originating from Dhunduwa Pahad Amini (court established in 1951 B.S.¹) up to the year 1963 B.S. and from Dang Mal (treasury office established in 1938 B.S.²) until 1964 B.S. are found to have been transmitted through Piyuthan and Dahaban post offices respectively but without Dhunduwa Pahad's postmarks. Moreover, there would not be any difficulty collecting proofs regarding the similar situation prevailing in mail transportation some years after 1964 B.S., too. But on the basis of a sanad³ (government document) it can be cited that this post office came into being, at the latest, by the eighth decade of the 20th century B.S. Dhunduwa Pahad (Dang Mal as its disbursing office) is mentioned in the list of post offices give in that sanad relating to the pay hike. In the same way, prepared lists of post offices in which Dhunduwa Pahad post office was included under Piyuthan district⁴ and Western Tarai⁵ are available.

At the time of organising postal superintendent head offices⁶ the name of Dhunduwa Pahad seems to have been totally obliterated from the list, whereas Piyuthan post office and Dang Ghorahi post office were put under Palpa postal head office and Dahaban postal head office, respectively. From it, the claims of elders that Dhunduwa Pahad post office had been transferred to Dang Ghorahi towards 1993 B.S. can be established as authentic.

But, Mr. Hamilton in 1940 A.D. included this post office in the list of Nepalese post offices⁷, Dr. W. C. Hellrigl, as per Dr. Pocock's record submitted the repro-

duction of Dhunduwa Pahad post office's cancellation⁸ dated 99.4.15 and Mr. Haverbeck indicated the existence of this post office after 1960 A.D.⁹ also. So a state of confusion has arisen. To be free from this challenging confusion a separate idea can be thought of in detail, but at present we have to agree upon one of the four logics given below:

- a) Doubt on the year of birth of Dang Ghorahi post office.
- b) Disagreement with the statements of foreign research scholars.
- c) Dhunduwa Pahad and Dang Ghorahi post offices functioning together for some years.
- d) Owing to delay in manufacturing datestamps old Dhunduwa Pahad post office cancellation was in use, although Dang Ghorahi post office was already functioning.

As there are datestamps of Piyuthan post office used on covers despatched from Dhunduwa Pahad Amini, the supposition that the post office mentioned just now is nearest to Dhunduwa Pahad is practically certain and logically sound. But assigning a particular position to Dhunduwa Pahad in the Northern or Eastern or Western direction close to Piyuthan post office instead of locating it in the South of Piyuthan will be regarded as a wishful attempt without any geographical knowledge of Nepal. It can be learned from the study of a sanad¹⁰ dated 1990 B.S. that Dhunduwa Pahad is 33 miles away in the feeder mail route branching off from Piyuthan post office, situated in the main mail route stretching from Kathmandu to Baitadi. In addition to it, Dhunduwa Pahad Amini whose location was formerly changed from Devikot, Deokhuri to Sarrikot Hill was re-transferred to Dang Ghorahi during the Rana regime¹¹, another name of Churia's, lower range lying in the South of Deokhuri valley formed and irrigated by the Rapti river is Dhunduwa Range¹² and there was a Rukka letter¹³ from the then Prime Minister Shri 3 Bir instructing Dhunduwa Pahad to send workers to keep the no-man's-land clean. Therefore it would not be hard to ascertain the geographical position of Dhunduwa Pahad post office. —————

1. The speculated year of establishment as the year 1951 on the office seal of 'Shri Kachari Amini Dhunduwa Pahad' is seen to be indistinct.

2. On the basis of the official seal bearing the inscriptions "Shri Dang Mal Kachahari 1938" the year of establishment was taken as supposed.
3. A sanad relating to the pay rise of postal workers and runners and dated 15th Aswin 1977 B.S., Thursday.
4. Nepal Hulak Goswara - Hulak Niyamabali Paila Bhaga, N.S. 1993.
5. Captain Morris, C.J. - Roman Urdu Text Book of Nepalese History (Abridged, translated and compiled in 1933 A.D. and published in 1935 A.D.)
6. A Khadga Nisana dated 23rd Poush 1977 B.S., Monday, relating to the organisation of Superintendent head offices.
7. Dr. Hellrigl, W.C. and Hepper, C. - The Native Postmarks of Nepal, p.121
8. Ibid., p.53.
9. Haverbeck, H.D.S. - The Postage Stamps of Nepal (ca. 1960), p.127
10. A sanad dated 11th of Jestha 1990 B.S., Wednesday, and pertaining to arrangements of the porters and carriages of goods.
11. His Majesty's Government, Ministry of Communications, Department of Information - Mechi dekhi Mahakali (Bhaga 4).
12. His Majesty's Government, Ministry of Land Reforms, Department of Survey, Topographical Section - Map of Rapti Zone, published in 2033 B.S.
13. Yogi Narhari Nath - Itihas Prakash ma Sandhipatra Sangrah, Bhaga 1.



Mr. JIT BAHADUR MANANDHAR HONORED

The officers of the Nepal & Tibet Philatelic Study Circle have recognized the many important contributions of Mr. Jit Bahadur Manandhar to Nepalese philately. Mr. Manandhar has been awarded HONORARY membership in our Study Circle---and is the first person to be so honored. Mr. Manandhar, the retired Director General of the Postal Services Department, has authored no fewer than a dozen articles on the philately and postal history of Nepal, including the article titled "Dhunduwa Pahad Post Office," which appears elsewhere in this issue. The first article of which I am aware appeared in PHILATELY, Vol. 1, No. 1, pp. 24-32 (August 1966) and is titled, "Birthday Postage Stamps."---Incidentally, it was also the National Philatelic Exhibition in June of that year which almost certainly helped to generate the enthusiasm and coordination required to start the publication of that Nepalese Philatelic Journal.

Other publications and facts relating to our first HONORARY member are:

- "The First Parliamentary Session Postage Stamp," PHILATELY, Vol. 1, No. 4, pp. 27-29 (May, June & July, 1967).
- "National Campaign and Its Effects in the Issuance of Postage Stamps," PHILATELY, Vol. 11, No. 3 + 4, pp. 14-19 (January to April 1968).
- "Registration Envelopes of Nepal," PHILATELY, Vol. 11, No. 2, pp. 49-53 (November 1967).

- "List of Nepal Postage Stamps," compiled for H.M.G. Postal Services Department, Nepal Philatelic Bureau (undated, but complete through 1973).
- "H.R.H. Birendra on Postage Stamps," PHILATELY, Vol. 11, No. 7 + 8, pp. 45-49 (January-February 1970).
- Listed as an Advisor to the Nepal Philatelic Society in PHILATELY, Vol. 111, No. 9 (September 1971-March 1972) and as Deputy Director of the Postal Services Department.
- Listed as Director General of the Postal Services Department in PHILATELY, Vol. 5, No. 1 (January 1978).
- "Parewa Danda Post Office," PHILATELY, Vol. 6, No. 1 (January 1979).
- "Kalaiya Post Office," PHILATELY, Vol. 6, No. 2, pp. 27-31 (July 1979). Also, in the same issue, he is listed as Director General - retired.
- "Some Interesting Postmarks," PHILATELY, Vol. 7, No. 2, pp. 1-6 (July 1980).
- "Tatapani Post Office," PHILATELY, Vol. 8, No. 1, pp. 1-3 (January 1981).
- "Baglung Post Office," PHILATELY, Vol. 8, No. 2, pp. 1-3 (July 1981).
- "Morang Post Office," PHILATELY, Vol. 9, No. 1, pp. 1-5 (SOUVENIR 1981).

And, of course, the fine article already mentioned, which appears in this issue of POSTAL HIMAL. We look forward to more fine contributions to our knowledge of Nepalese postal history from this excellent scholar.

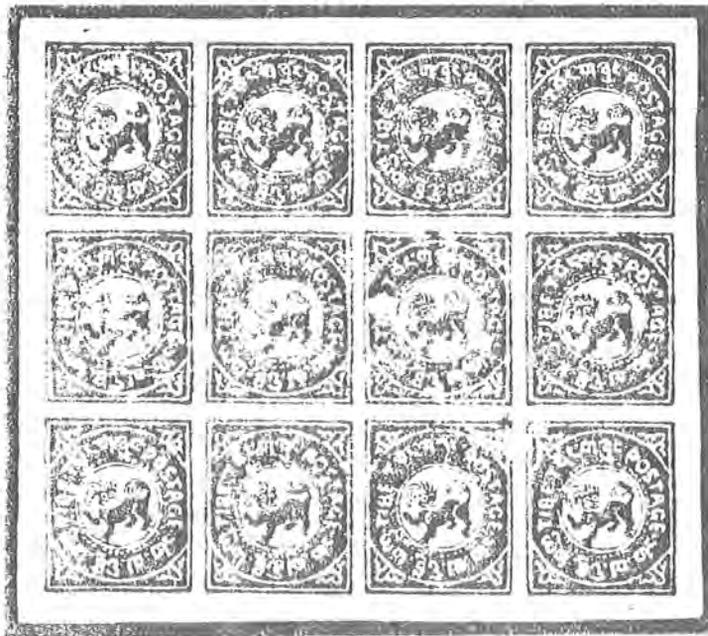


MORE TIBET FORGERIES

--Wolfgang C. Hellrigl

Just returned from another most enjoyable visit to Kathmandu and can report several interesting types of forged Tibetan stamps and cancellations.

Having studied the problem of forgeries for many years now, I have come to the conclusion that these imitations--that the Nepalese love to refer to as 'sub-standard items'--succeed in satisfying forgers, dealers and interested collectors alike. So the only persons who most probably fail to derive some pleasure out of these 'stamps' are the bona-fides buyers, serious collectors who sneer at the simple thought that anything 'sub-standard' may have sneaked into their albums.



To this latter group of philatelists I would like to offer some encouragement by telling a (perfectly genuine) story that happened to an enthusiastic forgeries collector and member of our Circle: When a lot of 'Tibet forgeries' was offered at a recent auction, he lodged his bid and, as luck would have it, was successful. Alas, on examination of the lot, the stamps turned out to be impeccably genuine, leaving our collector utterly disappointed! This just goes to show that you can't even rely on genuine forgeries any more...

Here now are some of the gems I found in Kathmandu. Who can offer 'new issues' with more character?



Forged Phari fret cancellation

1912 issue, 1/6 trangka, shiny dark green:

This forgery is probably of Nepalese or Indian origin and was first seen about 1979/80. It is very dangerous, especially if in 'used' singles; they always come on piece, bearing an excellent forgery of the Phari fret-type cancellation.

Multiples are constructed with a single cliché. So far, I have seen only one complete sheet. This forgery is very expensive, retailing at \$20 to \$25 apiece, i.e. at a higher price than the original.



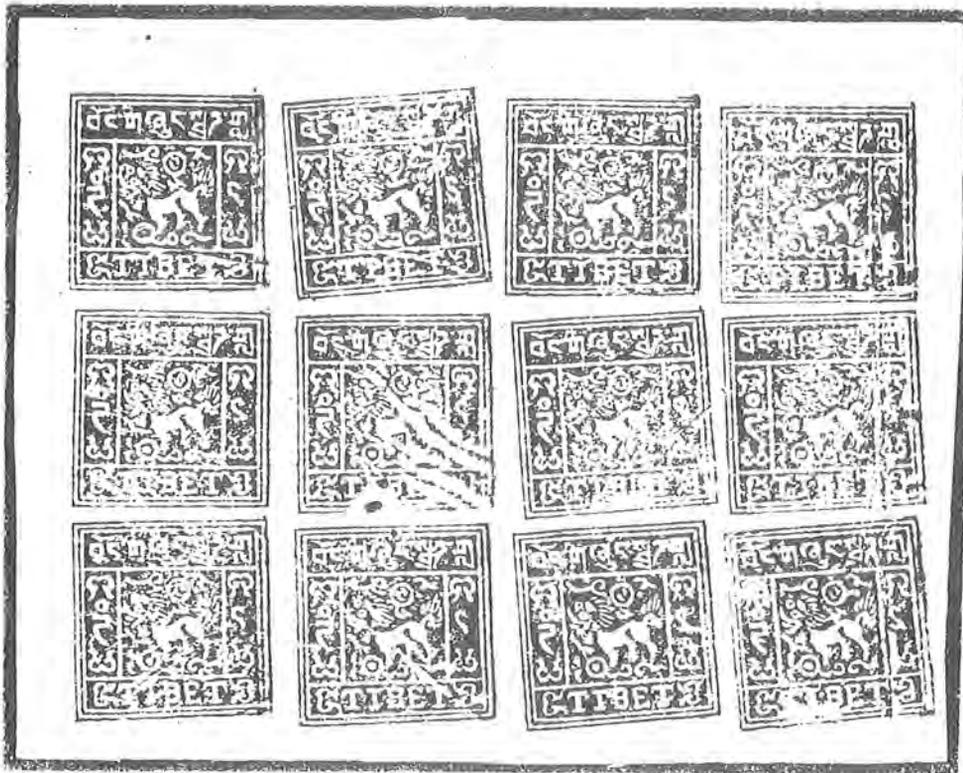
Forged Yatung
cancellation



Yatung forged cancellation

This is probably an older forgery. I have seen this only once, on the illustrated cover addressed to a great Tibet collector,

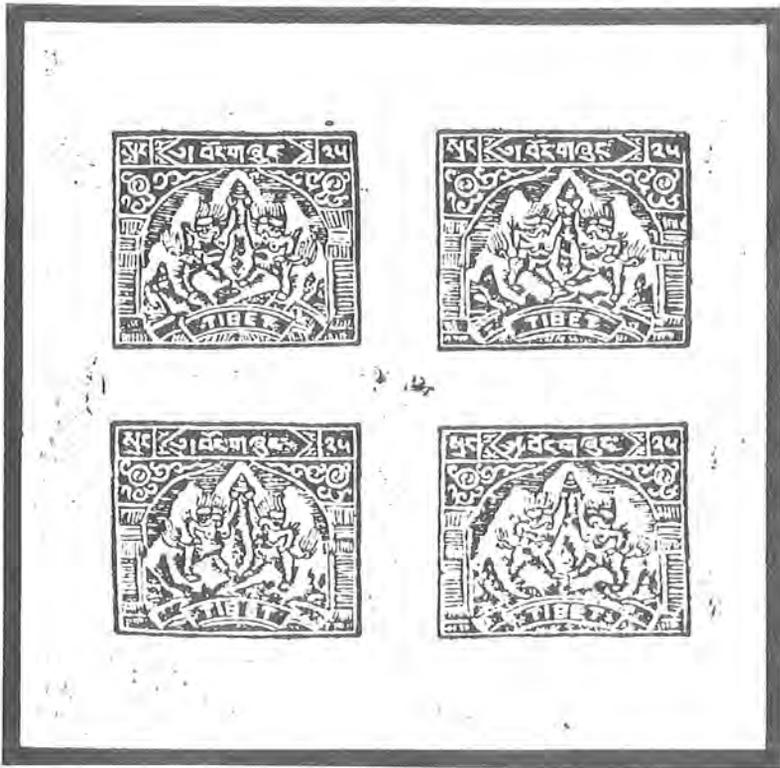
the late George Russell. The stamps on this cover are genuine!



1933 issue, 4 trangka red

This 'error-of-colour' is a well-known forgery that dates back to c. 1962. The reason for my reporting it here is that

I have now, for the first time, come across a full sheet of this single-cliche forgery.



25 Sang 'Telegraph Stamp'

A brand new forgery, consisting of four different cliches arranged in the typical miniature sheet form of the so-called telegraph stamps (whose status, incidentally, is still as doubtful today as it was thirty years ago when this set of 5 first appeared on the market). The forgery is in a pale rose-red shade and lacks the typical coloured impressions between and around the stamps that are due to the primitive printing methods of the original set.



NEW TIBET FORGERY

--Armand E. Singer

For some years now forgeries of the four-trangka blue and eight-trangka re-carmine (Scott Nos. 7 and 8) have been around to plague the unwary collector (see Waterfall, 2nd ed., p. 153; the illustration of the eight-trangka stamp on p. 69 is, as usual, too blurred to be of much use). Actually, only the eight-trangka has been forged and then printed in blues as well to counterfeit the four-trangka value. The workmanship is rather good and the colors, especially the blue, reasonably close. In April of 1982 I saw a new version of the eight-trangka. This time all six values seem to have been prepared from one cliche (No. one on the original forgery). Cliches three and six have been inverted. The printing is rather worn and smudgy, but in one respect the sheet more closely resembles the genuine article as the soft, wide, ir-

regular framelines that surrounded it have reappeared, more or less like the genuine plate border (but less wide), unlike the first counterfeit, which was produced without any border. Note that tete-beche cliches are not possible with the genuine stamps, as the small six-subject sheets were carved out of one piece of wood (as was the first counterfeit, mentioned above). The paper on my copy is a good grade of thin native manufacture such as one finds on the older issues of Nepal, with inclusions (these are much less common with Tibetan issues, by the way). As the sheet was offered to me from Nepal, it is quite likely that the forgery emanated from there. The color is a fairly close approximation of the usual carmine shade of the genuine sheets. Caveat emptor. (C)

(Chapter 13 from "The Postage Stamps of Nepal" published by The Collectors Club of New York as Collectors Club Handbook Number 14. (c. 1962) Reprinted by permission of the author, Harrison D. S. Haverbeck, F.R.P.S.L.)

The following notes are made on some counterfeits of the early Nepalese stamps seen in collections and dealers' stocks. Of the Half Anna value there are two distinct types. One is squat (22 by 16 mm), the other too large (23½ by 16½ mm), the correct measurement being 23 by 16 mm. In both the kukris and bow of the central design are incorrect, as are also the letters in the bottom labels. The larger counterfeit is surrounded by an outer frame line 2 mm

from the design, and it also has a fancy and impossible postmark. It has been noted on pelure paper and also on thick paper, almost card, and is very easy to recognize. (See Fig. 1. This description describes accurately what is sometimes offered as an 'Essay.' The example illustrated is trimmed at, or just inside the frame lines and appears to be on a thick paper. Careful examination shows that it is actually printed on very thin pelure paper which has been glued to a thick paper. The example shown is unused and I have not seen this one 'used.'--Ed.)

The squat variety, while avoiding the above absurdities, is also not difficult to distinguish from the original. (See Fig. 2. Two examples are shown, both with portions of an 'impossible postmark' which shows similarities to the "Step Pyramid-type" illustrated on pp. 38-41 in "The Native Postmarks of Nepal" by Hellrigl and Hepper except that the outer circle in the forgery is double with short, evenly spaced and slanted marks between the two circles. Measurements on these, as well as on the genuine stamps vary somewhat, due to the method of printing and varying moisture content of the paper.--Ed.)

The vermilion stamp has also been extensively counterfeited. It can readily be identified by a break in the inner frame line in the lower right corner of the upper panel. This is a dangerous counterfeit. (See Fig. 3. The example shown is tied to piece with a genuine cancel identified by Dr. Hellrigl---Ibid. p. 53---as the 'Hulak Adda' cds of Nuwakot used from c. 1937 to 1957.)

Of the One Anna value at least three varieties have been seen:

(a) Printed in bright red, every detail of the design is wrong! (I have not seen this one, but saw an advertisement by a British firm several years ago in which a full sheet was offered!--Ed.)

(b) The lines across the outer frame resemble those of the "redrawn frame" variety (setting IX of 1903), but the lettering is different, and the details of the centre are wrong (e.g. one Kukri only, pointing right, and the Sripech above the central disc is too flattened.) The paper is thin wove, but not the local hand-made paper. Seen in grey and blue and also tete-beche. This is fairly good and deceptive. (See Fig. 4. Two examples are shown, with the one at left being in blue and showing a portion of the same type of cancellation mentioned on the 'squat' varieties of the Half Anna forgeries illustrated in Fig. 2. The example on the right is in a grey shade---not apparent in a black and white illustration, but shows more clearly the flattened aspect of the Sripech above the central disc.--Ed.)

(c) A poor effort. There are no Kukris at all, the writing is almost illegible to a Nepali, and the outer frame lines are shaky and indistinct. Seen in bright blue with barred postmark. (I have no illustration for this one, but the forged barred postmark is illustrated in Fig. 4---the example on the right.--Ed.)

The Four Annas value is represented by one design, which seems common, & has a family resemblance to the One Anna (b) forgery described above, e.g., too few lines in the outer frames, letters somewhat different to the original, and the details of the central design indistinct and incorrect. Specimens have been seen in dark green and pale yellow-green on very thin paper, with a faked postmark of bars. (See Fig. 5. The two examples are in a pale yellow-green---left---and a bright green at right and illustrate examples of two forged cancellations appearing as types (a) and (b) on p. 13 of "The Native Postmarks of Nepal" by Hellrigl & Hepper.--Ed.)

Counterfeits of the locally printed pice denominations of the "Sri Pashupati" design are known. They can be distinguished easily from the genuine by reference to



Fig. 1---Haverbeck half anna forgery as offered in a full sheet. Described as an "Essay" it should be classified as a 'phantasy.'

the value panels. They show for all denominations the characters of the 2 pice. The only two which are likely to deceive are the 2 pice itself and the error of color, the 2 pice in green. These can be distinguished from the genuine by the paper, which, for the genuine is smooth, white wove, while the counterfeit is on grayish paper with a slightly shiny surface. These were probably manufactured with an eye to defrauding the Post rather than for deceiving collectors. (See Fig. 6. Again, colors cannot be distinguished in the black and white illustrations. The example at the left is in a reddish brown shade; the one at the right is bright green. Both appear to be made from an identical cliché and both bear portions of the outer ring of a cancellation with no other details visible.--Ed.)



Fig. 4



Fig. 5



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

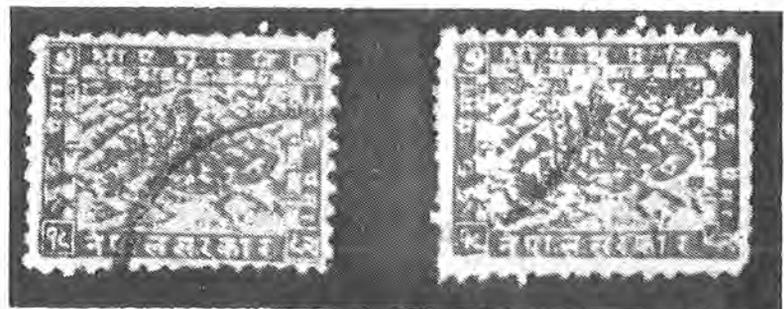


Fig. 6

Mr. Surendra Lal Shrestha has reminded us of the philatelic exhibition held in Kathmandu on 10-16 June 1966 by sending your editor a copy of the souvenir booklet distributed on that occasion, together with the illustrated photographs. The 18-page booklet, written entirely in Nepali, is titled: 'UPAHAR' (The Gift) and bears a copy of the triangular stamp issued on the occasion. The body of the booklet, edited by Mr. Shrestha, contains an article which is titled: 'Chitthi, Kaam & Hulak Tancha' (Letters, Covers and Postmarks) written by Mr. Shrestha; another article about the design of Nepalese Postage Stamps and 'The First List of Nepalese Postage Stamps - 1881 to 11 June 1966---all written in Nepali by the same author. The booklet was published by The Philatelic House, Kathmandu, for FREE distribution to the visitors at the First National Philatelic Exhibition, Kathmandu, in the Hall of the Mining Department. According to Mr. Shrestha, this small booklet is now a very hard-to-get item for booklovers more than 15 years after its first distribution and is a desirable item for Nepal philatelists. Incidentally, Mr. Shrestha states that the illustrated photograph of that early exhibition can be obtained from him.



HRH Crown Prince Birendra followed by the Postal Minister at the opening ceremony of the exhibition.

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