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OUR COVER ILLUSTRATION for this issue is an illustration of the seal used in censored mail. A full explanation is given in the article starting on page 5, "Censorship in the Nepal Postal Service" by K. M. Mulmi.

Dear Friends,

Your editor has recently been reading a book titled "A Short History of Tibet," written by H. E. Richardson and published by E. P. Dutton & Co., New York, in 1962. The same book was published in England prior to this date under the title: "Tibet and Its History." The book had a special interest for me as it mentioned both Mr. Williamson (cf. article by N. G. Rhodes on "The Williamson Collection" in POSTAL HIMAL No. 36) and Sardar Bahadur Laden La (cf. article by Mr. Rhodes in this issue). On p. 133, the book speaks of an incident in Lhasa in 1922 which nearly caused a war between Nepal and Tibet, but which was settled amicably when Mr. Laden La, as a special envoy, "was sent with a letter to the Dalai Lama." -- Mr. Williamson, "who succeeded Col. Weir as Political Officer in Sikkim" is mentioned on p. 137 as having visited Lhasa in 1933, shortly before the Dalai Lama died. -- Another reference to Mr. Williamson and his work is made on pp. 144-45, including the statement: "...went again to Lhasa in 1936 but his work was cut short by his untimely death...." To me, these references were put into a more general perspective by this book and the articles by Mr. Rhodes took on new meaning.

We remind you authors and would-be authors, that, with the publication of our Winter Quarter issue of POSTAL HIMAL, the competition for the first President's Prize was closed, and, with this first Quarter issue, the competition for the "best article published in 1984" is open. We will report on the winner of the first award in our next issue and urge all our readers to 'put pen to paper' and write about your own special interests and knowledge of the philately of Nepal and/or Tibet. Now that the Index has been published, we can return to our practice of including sixteen pages of material in each issue, without an undue strain on our budget for postage, and your editor is in need of more good articles. We have had a few articles offered to us which are written in French and/or German and are looking for members who would be willing to translate these into English. Those articles on hand all happen to deal with Tibet philately, so translators who are knowledgeable concerning the philately of Tibet would be especially useful at the moment.

We thank Alan Warren, Robert Olsen and our Nepal Representative, Dhruba Rudra for newspaper clippings which have been sent to us. Not all can be used in POSTAL HIMAL, but we have several interesting articles on the history and current events of both Nepal and Tibet, from such papers as the New York Times & The Rising Nepal, an English language daily published in Kathmandu. If you are interested in specific references, or copies of such articles, write to your editor for information.

Lester A. Michel

FURTHER NOTES ON THE LIFE & CAREER OF

S. W. LADEN LA

-- N. G. Rhodes



As a new member of the Study Circle, I was amazed and delighted to read Rev. Arthur Bruce Moss' article entitled, "Notes on the Early Life & Career of Laden La," in Postal Himal Nos. 27/28. My wife's maiden name was Laden La, and it was her Grandfather, Sardar Bahadur Sonam Wangfel Laden La, C.B.E., who met Rev. Moss in 1916. It was most heartwarming to read such an interesting and eulogistic account of my wife's most remarkable ancestor. Since Rev. Moss was understandably unaware of many of the details of Laden La's life, I should like to fill in some of the gaps and correct a few details.

Sonam Wangfel Laden La was born in Darjeeling on 26.7.1876, to a Sikkimese-Tibetan family from Darjeeling. His great-great-grand uncle had been the head lama of the Darjeeling Monastery in the 18th century and hence the family has a longer documented presence in Darjeeling than any other family. Laden La's uncle was the explorer code-named RN (for Rinzing Namgyal, but known as Kunlay Gyatso Laden La to the family) and his aunt was married to Ugyen Gyatso who accompanied Sarat Chandra Das to Lhasa in 1881--and who also undertook independent explorations in Tibet.

Laden La's parents died when he was quite

young and it was Ugyen Gyatso and his wife who were largely responsible for guiding his early life. He was educated by Jesuit priests in their newly opened school in Darjeeling, where he must have been one of the very few non-European boys. Soon after this he was tutored in the classical Tibetan language and the Buddhist religion by the Mongolian Lama Sherab Gyatso at the Ghum Monastery and continued his education under the Jesuits at Doveton College in Calcutta.

His first official appointment was as an apprentice in the Bengal Secretariat Press in Darjeeling, assisting Sarat Chandra Das in the preparation of his Tibetan-English Dictionary, before he joined the police in 1898, probably on the advice of his Uncle Ugyen Gyatso. During the Younghusband expedition to Lhasa he was engaged in various liaison duties in the Chumbi Valley before returning to service in Darjeeling in 1905, where he was quickly promoted to Inspector. In 1907 he accompanied the Panchen Lama on his tour of the holy places of India, and Rev. Moss has described his important assignment with the Dalai Lama in India between 1910 and 1912, which was the start of Laden La's really important political work.

In 1912, after the revolution in China, there was a political problem in that there was a Chinese Imperial army in Lhasa that was unwilling to return to China. However, the Dalai Lama could not return to Lhasa until the army had left. The Viceroy decided that Laden La was the most suitable person to proceed to Tibet & to negotiate the withdrawal of the Chinese army through India. To the satisfaction of all concerned, these negotiations were successfully concluded from Gyantse, but it was not until 1913 that Laden La left Gyantse. At that time he was deputed to accompany four Tibetans who were to go to Rugby School in England. It was at this period that he worked at Scotland Yard before returning to Darjeeling in 1914, after the boys were successfully installed in school.

For the next six years Laden La remained in Darjeeling doing much to promote the interests of the local people, as well as making many friends among westerners such as Rev. Moss. It was not until 1921 that he was summoned to Lhasa by Sir Charles Bell, to be his assistant during his long mission to Lhasa. During that year Laden La did much to promote the very close re-

relationship that existed between the Tibetans and British at this time. Indeed, he made such an impression that he was again sent to Lhasa in 1923 to set up a Police Force in Lhasa, which took rather over a year & for which he was given the Tibetan title of Dzasa. Late in 1924 an anti-British faction took power in Tibet. Laden La was forced to leave Lhasa, returning to his duties in Darjeeling, where he became Additional-Superintendent of Police, the highest position a non-British officer could aspire to. During these years he continued to try to find ways of improving relations between the Tibetan and British Governments, but it was not until 1930 that a real opportunity arose. At that time, the Tibetan Prime Minister ordered the arrest of a Nepalese subject who had taken refuge in the Nepalese Legation in Lhasa. He did not seek the agreement of the Nepalese authorities who regarded the action as a serious breach of territorial privilege, and relations between the two countries reached the point where both armies were mobilised and were proceeding to the frontier. At this time Laden La, at the request of the Viceroy, proceeded to Lhasa and managed to negotiate a settlement. The anti-British Prime Minister was disgraced and an invitation was arranged

for Col. Weir, the Political Officer in Sikkim, to visit Lhasa. Because of this work in restoring good relations between Tibet and the British, Laden La was awarded the C.B.E.

He retired from Police service in 1931 & devoted his time to his numerous charitable works in Darjeeling until his death in 1936. During his career Laden La corresponded with many people & his letters were often filed with the original envelopes. Unfortunately, he was no stamp collector, so most of the Tibetan stamps were given away to visitors. Some covers from the British Post Offices in Tibet have survived, where the stamp was not deemed interesting enough to give away! These covers form the basis of my collection and may be used as material for a future article.

I was born long after Laden La's death & hence was unable to meet him personally. But he must have been a remarkable man and I am most grateful to Rev. Moss for recalling his memory.

Finally, on a point of detail, it is the Darjeeling General Post Office that is located in Laden La Road, not the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute, which is on Birch Hill Road.



TRANSPOSED NAMES ON THE 1976 30p FLOWER SET
--M. W. Campbell

The predominantly green issue is labelled Megacodon stylophorus when, in fact, it depicts Cardiocrinum giganteum (a Lily). The predominantly purple stamp of the issue is the Megacodon, but is labelled Cardiocrinum.

Mary Granger, of the Royal Horticultural Society in Wisley, England, who is a wild-life thematic collector, detected the error in the stamps on a parcel she received in 1978 from Nepal.

THE CLASSIC STAMPS OF NEPAL



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This is the newest publication on an exciting theme - the long-awaited handbook on the classic postage stamps of Nepal and their history, from 1881 right up to the end of the telegraphic period, 1930.

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CENSORSHIP IN THE NEPAL POSTAL SERVICE

--K. M. Mulmi

In the history of the postal service of Nepal, the two covers illustrated can be useful with regard to this subject. The seal, "SRI CENSOR 2007," embraces the period of the climax of the revolution in Nepal against Ranarism in the year 2007 B.S., corresponding to 1951 A.D. Letters posted to & from places like Lumbini, Bhairahwa, Parasi, Palpa, Ridi, Butwal, Kathmandu, etc., where the revolutionists (Dr. K. I. Singh, Bal Chandra Sharma and their followers) were at their best, began to be read by some officials specially appointed by the government for this very purpose with a view to finding out the addresses of the revolutionists, their plans, targets, etc. The letters found to be unrelated, after being examined, were sealed 'SRI CENSOR 2007,' and then delivered. (See Figure 1 for an example of marking.)

This form of censorship reveals the probability of the involvement of some government service holders in that revolution as official letters are found with this seal.

During the above-stated period (the year 2007 B.S., and especially from the 9th month to the 7th of Falgun, the day on which Nepal was declared Democratic and the 104-year old Ranarism was at an end) even the postal services were disturbed, as cover No. 2 (Figure 2) possesses the remark on it (hand-written): On 2007/10/13 the postal service was suspended so this letter has not been accepted by Nepal Hulak Goswara (i.e., G.P.O.)." The most interesting point concerning this letter is that it was sent by Kumari Chowk Pahad Dosra (an important government office) to Syangja Adalat (Judicial Court in Syangja).



Figure 1. Arrow points to Censor mark and the cds is, apparently, that of the office of origin--Taulihawa. It clearly shows a date: 007/9/20 (or 24). B.S. (Mr. Mulmi did not provide a copy of the address side of this cover, but we may presume, on the basis of his comments concerning the item, that the address side bears the postal

cancel of the receiving office--or, at least, a delivery date marking which is 2007/11/7, the day on which Nepal was declared to be a democratic country, and the date on which the cover and its contents, after being held for censorship, was forwarded to the addressee.--Ed.

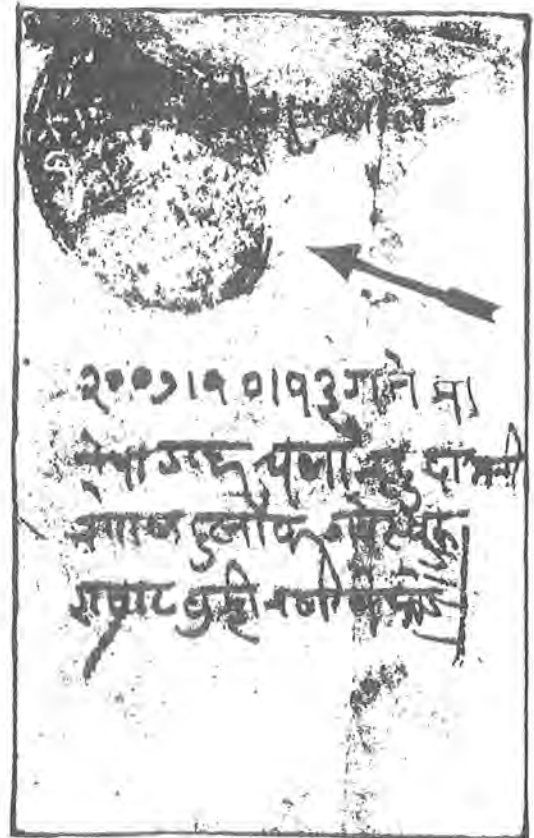
Mulmi, CENSORSHIP (concluded)--

The intensity of the situation can be felt by the return of this letter, despite the fact that it was an important one.

(Note: Both of these illustrations are photocopies from the author's collection of covers and postal stationery items.

The cover with the 'CENSOR' seal cancelled on 2007/11/7, the date on which Nepal was declared to be a democratic country, bringing to an end the 104-year control of Ranarism, is an especially significant postal history item.)

Figure 2. Arrow points to large oval seal of Kumari Chowk Pahad Dosra (an important government office), the point of origin of this cover. Below the seal we see the handwritten date 2007/10/13 (B.S.) and the statement translated into English by the author. The address side of the cover is not shown here, but bears out Mr. Mulmi's comments concerning the handling.



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Your editor has been working on the history of the telephone/telegraph system in Nepal for several years--particularly with respect to the practice of affixing postage stamps to the message forms. This practice is fairly well documented up to ca. early 1944 and later, of course, during the 1959-61 period, when the Service stamps were used for that purpose. However, I have never seen a tel/tel form with stamps attached which was used between 1944 & 1959. Have any of our readers seen such usage during that 15-year period? Or, does anyone know of a governmental directive which changed the practice and eliminated the use of stamps on tel/tel forms during that period? Your editor would appreciate your information and comments.



NEW NEPAL MACHINE STAMP NOTED

We must apologize to Mr. S. L. Shrestha for this long-delayed announcement of a "new" meter stamp--an announcement submitted to us nearly a year ago. The example illustrated here, for which we do thank Mr. Shrestha, is dated 24 II 83. Our correspondent states that this "NEW Nepal Meter stamp is not known before 22 February 1983."



MORRIS'S LIST OF POST OFFICES

--J. B. Manandhar

The 'Roman-Urdu Textbook of Nepalese History' -- an abridged translation of "The Handbook for Gurkhas" -- was compiled by Captain C. J. Morris, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Q. A. O. Gurkha Rifles, in 1933. It was published in 1935 A. D. by the Manager of Publications, Delhi. Fifteen hundred copies were printed in its first edition, by the Manager, Government of India Press, New Delhi, and issued by the General Staff in India at the price of 8 annas, or 10 d, per copy. What makes me interested in this 63-page book is one of the appendices dealing with the list of post offices.

As mentioned in my earlier article (1), Captain Morris followed Lt. Col. Eden Vansittart's pattern in listing post offices. Now let me translate and present the following 64 post offices as listed by Morris on the basis of geographical location.

Post Offices of Nepal

Kathmandu - General Post Office of Nepal city and of the whole country

Amlekhgunj > on main road to Nepal from
Bhimphedi India

Bhadgaon - in Nepal Valley

Eastern Hill

Bhojpur	Dolakha	Sindhuli
Chainpur	Illam	Taplejung
Dhulikhel	Lyanglyang	Therthum
Dhankuta	Okhaldhunga	

Western Hill

Baglung	Dhading	Pokhara
Baitadi	Doti	Riri
Bandipur	Gorkha	Ririkot
Dadeldhura	Jumla	Syanjha
Dailekh	Karnali	Thakdam
Dahaban	Kunchha Parewadanra	
Dang Sallyan	Palpa	Trisuli
Darchula	Piuthan	

Northern Hill

Chautara	Rasuwa	Tatipani
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Eastern Terai

Anarmani	Hanumannagar	Kalaiya
Bijaypur	Jaleswar	Rangeli
Biratnagar	Jhapa	Sarlahi
Birgunj (Raxsal)		Sirha
	Kadarbana	Udiapur

Eastern Terai

Bankey(Nepalgunj)	Dhunduwapahar	Shergunj
Bardia	Kailali	Shewraj
Bethari	Kanchanpur	Taulihawa
Butwal(Butauli)	Parasi	

The heading, 'Eastern Terai,' for the last group of post offices was a misnomer because the Urdu word 'Mashriqi,' meaning 'the East,' was inadvertently used in place of 'Magrib,' meaning 'the West.' Moreover, Captain Morris, surprisingly, failed to include Chitwan in his list and put Udiapur in the Eastern Terai instead of inserting it in the Eastern Hill group, like Sindhuli. In comparison, the list of post offices given in Devanagari alphabetical order in the Postal Rules, Part I, dated 1993 B.S., was found to contain four more post offices, viz., Dillibazar, Chitwan, Lalitpur and Pashupatinagar. Furthermore, Anarmani post office was dropped from this listing, as it was not functioning in the 1990's of the Bikram era.

Again, in the Postal Rules, Part I, the names of post offices like Kunchha Parewandanda, Bethari, Dang Sallyan and Thakdam were found replaced by Kunchha, Bhairahawa, Sallyan and Thak, respectively.

As the Postal Guide-type regulations appearing in the appendix are of informative value, they are noted below, in translation:-

a) Letters addressed to the persons residing within a radius of 4 miles from the above-mentioned post offices will be delivered by the post men. But letters of those living outside this limit & of those not having notified the post office otherwise, will receive mail delivery through special messengers twice a month. Villagers passing by the post office will be informed of the letters of the particular village waiting in the post office, so that the addressees, if they so desire, may come and collect their mail.

b) 2 paisa, 1 anna, 2 annas and 4 annas postage stamps are available in the post offices of Nepal. The postage for letters weighing 1 tola is 1 anna.

c) The letters to be delivered from Nepalese post offices should be enclosed in two covers. The inner cover should be addressed in the Nepali language and be affixed with Nepalese postage stamps. The address of the outer cover bearing Indian stamps should be: The Postmaster, British Legation, Kathmandu, Nepal Via Raxaul,

Bengal and Northwestern Railway. Such letters received by the postmaster of Nepal (British Legation post office-Jz.B.M.) will be handed over to the General Post Office of Nepal, Kathmandu, and from there they will be further transmitted to other post offices.

The Nepalese officer at Bethari in Western Nepal, collects letters & telegrams daily from Nautanwa and despatches them to the particular places of Palpa district.

There is no doubt that letters sent via Kathmandu will not be speedier than the ones forwarded via the routes prescribed below. The letter should be addressed to: The Bada Hakim, Bethari, Via Nautanwa Post Office, District Gorakhpur, U.P. The letters destined to Illam and surrounding districts of Eastern Nepal will be collected every day by the Nepalese officer from Jorpokhari post office in Darjeeling district. The postage stamps of Nepalese post offices can be had from the office of the Resident Sahib.

But it should be remembered that soldiers generally correspond with their houses, heirs of their pensions & recruiting officers through those who go on leave or on duty. Special news and letters may be sent by both ways.

The letters sent from India to Nepalese hill districts will generally take three months to arrive.

The above translation of postal guides shows that Captain Morris failed to mention other denominations of Nepalese postage stamps available at that time. But it is important to note that he has described the system of foreign posts arranged prior to the conclusion of a bilateral agreement with British India in 1935 A.D.

XXXXXXXXXXXXX

- (1) "Vansittart's List of Post Offices - An Analytical Study," *Philately*, Vol. 10, No. 1, pp. 1-4 (January 1983).



THE POSTAL SERVICE OF NEPAL (continued
from Postal Himal No. 33, page 10)--

Chapter 4 - The Headquarters Sub Departments (4 pages) with seven numbered items:

1. Points out that any service with nation wide responsibility has a number of functions in addition to those of administration, which should have separate quarters.

2. The Postal Stamp Depot is the first service mentioned and emphasis is placed on the need for strict control and high accuracy. The work is not complicated but requires a high degree of responsibility. Points out that the post of the Manager is to be upgraded and that the Depot is inadequately housed.

3. The second such is the Postal Stock Depot, which is concerned with the storage of non-accountable stores, such as forms, uniforms, mail bags, letter boxes, etc. The Manager post should be upgraded and

the report states that the accommodations are inadequate.

4. The third function is that of The Philatelic Bureau. He states that philatelic sales could provide an important source of postal revenue and that the market outside Nepal and India has hardly been touched. He points out that two officers have been sent to Switzerland to study philatelic marketing. (Judging from recent activities improvements are being made in this area of philatelic marketing.--Ed.)

5. The fourth mentioned is the Inspection Bureau, which is concerned with prevention and detection of postal crime. The recommendation made here is that, because of the expense and difficulty of travelling, the Postal Inspection Bureau should also be responsible for financial and stock-taking audits and inspections of general efficiency of offices visited.

6. Mentions the Postal Training Centre and states that its work needs to be expanded. Its work is discussed in more detail in Chapter 11.

7. Finally, the Returned Letter Office is mentioned as a separate sub department. The recommendation is that it be treated as a section under the Chief Postmaster of Kathmandu as proposed in Chapter 6.

Chapter 5 - Regional Organisation (4 pages) with six numbered items:

1. Points out that, in a country like Nepal, where communications are slow, decentralisation of administrative functions is especially important.

2. Points out that, in 1965, there were only seven Controllers of Post Offices, whereas today there is one Controller in each of the fourteen administrative zones. Defects in the system are:

(1) Controllers of Post Offices should be the highest postal authorities in their respective zones but are not, particularly in the largest towns. This leads to conflict of control.

(11) When serious problems arise, the delay in reporting to Headquarters and in obtaining a directive often causes further complications.

(111) Controllers themselves need closer supervision than they at present receive. He states that the Zonal Controller should be the "main instrument of efficiency" in the postal service, but that, at present, many are merely doing office work and have little idea of how to discharge their primary obligations.

3. States that, at the present time, the limited number of post offices in some zones does not justify high ranking special officers and that certain duties can be combined in those zones for the present. In the zones with many post offices and a large volume of mail, additional administrative positions are recommended.

4. Refers to the need for special treatment of Narayani Zone, for the following reasons:

(1) Since Birganj is the key point for interchange of surface mail, delay at that post office affects the entire system.

(11) Points out that, with the completion

of the East-West Highway, Hetauda will occupy a similar position.

(111) Predicts that, as soon as road transport services become available, a senior postal officer on the spot will be necessary to deal promptly with the delays and problems which always arise.

5. States that the appointment of special Regional Directors at Biratnagar and Birganj would be highly desirable because of the large volume of business. Since postmasters are responsible for a large stock of stamps and other items, there is reluctance among the experienced officers to take these positions. Thus they are usually filled with inexperienced officers, so that these two post offices are sources of constant trouble and complaint.

6. The recommendation is that the Postmasters of Biratnagar and Birganj receive a "special responsibility allowance" of 100 or 200 rupees per month as an inducement to get more experienced officers to accept these posts.

Chapter 6 - Organisation of Kathmandu Area (3 pages) with five numbered items:

1. Points out that Kathmandu is a special case since more than half of the entire traffic in the country is handled in the three main Kathmandu offices. These three should not be under the control of the zonal Controller.

2. The three offices: G.P.O., Mail Centre and Foreign Post Office should be under the single control of a Chief Postmaster.

3. The Returned Letter office should also be under the control of the Chief Postmaster.

4. The officers in charge of G.P.O., Mail Centre and Foreign Post each carry heavy personal responsibilities which will not be appreciably reduced by the appointment of a Chief Postmaster. Experienced officials are needed in these posts, but senior Class III officers are reluctant to accept such appointments. It is recommended that special responsibility allowances, such as those proposed for Biratnagar & Birganj, should apply to these three offices also.

5. At present, post offices like Singh

Durbar and Dilli Bazar come under independent control, although they are within the area covered by Kathmandu G.P.O. There is considerable overlapping between the G.P.O. and such offices as Lalitpur, Gauchar Airport, Kalimati and Tribhuvan University. In the Kathmandu Valley there would be considerable advantage in placing all postal services in the Valley under a single control; i.e., that of the Chief Postmaster. The responsibility of the Controller of Post Offices, Bagmati Anchal, would then be limited to offices outside the Valley.

Chapter 7 - The Postal Service throughout the Country (6 pages) with twelve numbered items:

1. Late in 1967 His Majesty inaugurated the "Go to the Village" campaign of rural development and national awakening. The Postal Services Department is in a unique position to make a major contribution to the success of this campaign. An efficient countrywide postal service is essential for efficient government and is a vital factor in developing a spirit of national unity.

2. The department already has at least one post office in each of the 75 development districts. The aim must be to have a post office in every one of the 3,600 village panchayat areas. This would bring Nepal within the targets set by the UPU for developing countries for the Second Development Decade.

3. In most countries the basis of a fully developed postal network is the "village shop" post office. In Nepal the tendency has been to concentrate on opening Branch Post Offices run by departmental staff in buildings leased or owned by the Department. Such offices are too expensive and are not justified by the amount of business.

4. In recent years the Postal Services Department has recognized the need to adopt a policy of EDPO ("village shop" or extra-departmental post office), but one to be upgraded to a Branch Office as soon as possible. In order to extend postal service to the maximum number of people within a reasonable time, pressure for converting EDPO'S to BO'S must be firmly resisted and the former must be recognized as a proper and permanent channel for the postal service in most places.

5. There are already more Branch Post Offices than the volume of business justifies. There should be a prohibition on increasing the total number of departmentally staffed offices over, say, the next five years--except in special cases. As changes may indicate, Branch Offices should be down-graded to EDPO status.

6. A weakness of the EDPO system in the past has been a lack of supervision. A village shop post office requires more, not less, supervision and the postal agent needs more, not less, guidance and advice than his fully trained government counterpart.

7. The Cooperative Post Office seems to be a uniquely Nepalese contribution to postal development. The postmaster of an EDPO receives a small monthly payment which is sufficient to provide some incentive to efficiency & continuity. A Cooperative Post Office is a special kind of EDPO where the payment to the postmaster is only sufficient to cover running expenses and, normally, a delivery agent is not provided.

8. The success of a CPO depends on the availability of a public-spirited volunteer who is willing to accept the responsibility without payment. Thus, it is difficult to keep a CPO in operation if the original postmaster resigns for any reason. The CPO is, however, a good method of providing postal service at an institution such as a college or boarding school. It is a good test of local enthusiasm for a postal service if a village leader is willing to operate a CPO for a year or two before it is converted into a normal EDPO. As paragraph 6 indicates, EDPO'S need frequent inspections. The same is true for CPO'S.

9. The main obstacle to more frequent inspection is the difficulty of travelling. A Controller at a zonal headquarters must make most of his inspection tours on foot. The time and expense involved makes it unreasonable to require inspections more often than every six months; but this is not sufficient to maintain efficiency.

10. The solution to this problem is to place responsibility for immediate control

of EDPOs upon the main post office in each district. This is a much better solution than an earlier plan to set up Superintendents of Post Offices in each district, since such officers tend to be without any executive responsibility. A Postmaster has a vested interest in the efficiency in the district as a whole.

11. Assuming that the district postmaster will have a rank not lower than kharidar, there should be an additional post in each district for an officer with a rank not lower than mukhiya who would be responsible for inspection and control of EDPOs and mail lines in the district, under the postmaster. As these officers would replace

the present mail line overseers, the net additional cost should be low.

12. This plan will enhance the importance of the district postmaster. It is envisaged that, in the 20-year plan presented in Part II, Appendix 3, district postmasters would ultimately be of gazetted rank, employing the new rank of Class IV where the rank of Class III might not be warranted. This intermediate control in no way lessens the ultimate responsibility of the Zonal Controller of Post Offices for the efficiency of all postal operations within his zone. (to be continued)



CHECK-LIST OF POSTAL & REGISTERED
ENVELOPES OF NEPAL
--S. L. Shrestha

(Printer: 1933-1959 issues - Gorkha Patra Press, Kathmandu
1961-1980 issues - India Security Press, Nasik)

'Shree Pashupati' Series - oval design
1933-1958 A.D. (1990-2015 B.S.) All hand made native paper of varying quality. With gummed flap. Variety of colour shades and small differences in size are common. -- Quantity, where known, year(s) of issue & relative scarcity indicated: (See code at end of article)

1. 4p green	200,000	1933/36	*	*
2. 8p red	?	1936/58	*	*
3. 2p red(error)	6,000	1950/51	**	**
4. 4p black on #3	?	1951	**	**
4a. Overprint inverted			***	***
5. 8p black on #3	?	1957	***	***

Note #1--No. 1 stamp dies were made in England, with 8 dies received by the Press on 1989/11/18 B.S. (ca. 1 March 1933) to be printed on the ready-made envelopes supplied by Kirtiman Gubhaju. These dies bear the inscription: '1982 / Gorkha - Sarkar,' but all other dies bear the inscription: '1992 / Nepal Sarkar.'

Note #2--About 5-6,000 of No. 3 were distributed, including 5-7 hundred from Kathmandu post offices. Those not sold were

returned to the Press to be overprinted with 'Ath Paisa' (8p) in black devanagiri, as per order sent by the Transport Ministry/Nepal Government on (20)08/9/23. -- An Information published in the 'Nepal Gazette'/Paukh 30, (20)08 B.S. (ca. 13 January 1952).

1959 (April 20) A.D. - UPU issue (2016.1.7 B.S.) - Indian bluish paper. Watermarked, Gumless flap. Many were sold without folding, as flat sheets cut to size.

6. 6p red (oval Crown design) * *

1961-1968 (2017-2025 B.S.) - Crown-in-Oval Series, on various Indian papers. All with gummed flap. Size: 96 x 120½ mm.

7. 6p purple	2,000,000	1 Dec. 1962	o	o
8. 10p green	1,500,000	24 Oct. '68	o	o
8a. printed both sides/inside env.			***	***
9. 12p red	1,500,000	26 Feb. '67	o	o
10. 15p brown	1,500,000	24 Oct. '65	o	o
10a. extra inverted stamp LL			***	***

Note #1--No. 8 First Day of Issue (FDI) was designated as "UN Day"; No. 9 FDI corresponded to the visit of Queen Elizabeth II; and No. 10 FDI marked year of the ICY.

S. L. Shrestha, CHECK-LIST OF ENVELOPES OF NEPAL (concluded)--

Note #2--Paper colours for No. 7 & No. 8 were yellowish; for No. 9 & No. 10, white.

1980 (Oct. 29) A.D. - WTC/WTO at Manila (2037.7.13 B.S.), on yellowish Indian paper. Gummed flap. Size: 90 x 140 mm. 'Crown-above-Mt. Everest' rectangular stamp printed vertically in UR corner.

11. 30p violet	o	o
11a. Made up of thin paper	*	*

REGISTERED ENVELOPES

1936 (1993 B.S.) - 'Shree Pashupati/1992' in oval design on ready-made native paper with cloth inside. 'Registari Chithi' (two Nepali words) with underline, is printed in black as heading. Gummed flap behind the oval stamp. Sizes: (in mm) 114 x 181, 114½ x 183, 114 x 180½, 115 x 179½, 115 x 181½, 115 x 182, 114 x 182, 115 x 181 mm. About 6 stamp dies were made in England, for local printings. Only 15,000 were printed by order of P. M. Juddha Shumsher in 1993 (Jestha 29) B.S., or ca. 12 June 1936 A.D. -- Sold for 27p from different post offices. *** **

1. 24p orange	***	**
a. flap on left side	***	***
b. black inscrip. 4 mm apart	***	***
c. black inscrip. 3 mm apart	***	**
d. wrong vowel mark on 'thi'	***	**
e. black inscription omitted	****	****

1962 (Dec. 1) A.D. - No FDC/Date stamp (2019 Marga 16). On Indian white paper with cloth inside. Gummed flap with stamp on front side. Size: 112½ x 189½ mm. Inscribed 'Registari-Patra' and 'Nam ra Thegana yetapatti - Lekhinu parchha' in Nepali and 'REGISTERED LETTER' in English,

as headings. Two lines of inscriptions in Nepali - divided into four parts on the back by two cross lines. Sold for 56p throughout all Nepal Post Offices. Also good for Insured mail. One million envelopes printed at the Indian Security Press, Nasik. CROWN encircled by white letters in oval design. Foreign style envelope with joints in front side.

2. 40p + 6p dark green	*	*
a. light green	*	*

1980 (April 13) A.D. - To honor the Literature of Nepal and New Years Day (2037.1.1). On Indian cream-white thick paper. Clothless, with watermark 'SUN - BEAM/Rising half Sun/LEDGER.' Gummed flap with oval stamp on the front side. Size: 113 x 196 mm. Inscribed 'Registari Chitthi,' 'Bikri-Mulya Ru. 2.50,' 'Nam ra Thegana Matra,' 3 lines in Nepali and 'REGD. LETTER.' 'Name and Address Only,' -- 3 lines in English as headings. There is a Royal Crown between the headings. Back side is printed as No. 2 with smaller 13 Nepali words. RHODODENDRON, the National Flower, encircled by white letters in oval design. -- Printed at the Indian Security Press, Nasik. Quantity not known. Envelope style as No.2. Sale Price: 2.50 rupees.

3. 2R. + 30p gray green	o	o
a. without watermark	o	o
b. watermark inverted	*	*

Code for scarcity ratings:

**** very scarce	* few
*** scarce	o available in quantity
** very few	

