

POSTAL HIMAL

QUARTERLY OF THE NEPAL AND TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE





POSTAL HIMAL is the quarterly publication of the Nepal and Tibet Philatelic Study Circle. Membership subscriptions run from January through December of each year. Dues should be paid to the society representative in your area. Information on advertising rates may be obtained from the Editor.

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DECEASED

L. Norton, GREAT BRITAIN

COVER ILLUSTRATION: Russian souvenir sheet (Scott No. 5106) issued in 1982 to mark the successful Russian expedition to Mt. Everest. See article titled "Another Route Up the Himalayas" by Armand E. Singer, on pp. 42-44 in this issue.

Dear Friends,

With this issue we close the calendar year and I want to thank each one of you who has sent something to your editor-- letters, articles, pictures, newspaper clippings, stamps, covers, questions, answers to questions, etc. You are the "life-blood" of POSTAL HIMAL and I want to thank you, even though some of the material may never be published. You all know that an editor must make decisions & choices--that is part of the job. But, be assured, nothing you send me goes un-noticed or un-appreciated.

Frank Westbrook & Alan Warren decided to place a classified advertisement in Linn's Stamp News earlier this year as an experiment. The ad, in the "Philatelic Societies" section, first appeared in the May 27 issue & ran for 8 weeks. The ad informed the reader about our Study Circle and gave Roger Skinner's address for details & a copy of POSTAL HIMAL. Linn's has the largest circulation of any American philatelic weekly & ads are expensive. Frank and Alan quietly split the \$30.00 cost between them. It is not possible to say how many read the ad--or even how many new members joined as a result--but I felt that this kind of enthusiastic support for our Study Circle should not go unnoticed by the wider membership.

Our organization is becoming better known & has a solid reputation despite its small size. Now, with thanks again to Alan Warren for its preparation, we have a slide show on Tibet which is available to groups & to individuals. Details are found elsewhere in this issue. At the present it is available only in the USA but, if there is a demand, and, as we gain some experience with it, perhaps we can make it available worldwide.--It is my hope that a slide show on Nepal can be made available sometime in 1986.

As the year end Holiday Season approaches for us in the Western world, I wish each reader the usual greeting--a very Merry Christmas and a Happy & Prosperous New Year. And may our philatelic friendships grow stronger & help th make the world a better place for all.

Lester A. Michel

An article in INDIA'S STAMP JOURNAL (the journal of the Empire of India Philatelic Society) for June-July 1985, p. 123, reveals many interesting facts concerning one of India's outstanding philatelists who, we are pleased to note, recently became one of our Life Members. As a collector from his boyhood, Mr. Gupta has been an active philatelist, as well as a business man and philanthropist for much of his life.

He is the first and only Indian to date to win the Grand Prix de Honour in F.I.P. Class of Honour at BRASILIANA '83--the International Philatelic Exhibition held in Rio de Janerio, Brazil, in 1983. He was also the only philatelist in the world to have three collections (Nepal, Cochin (an Indian Native State) & Indian Postal Stationery) in the F.I.P. Class, with all three exhibits in the Class of Honour.

Mr. Gupta is not unfamiliar with such recognition as he has consistently won GOLD medals for his exhibits since 1973 when he first started exhibiting and he now has at least 30 GOLD medals--an impressive total--from numerous national and international shows. Mr. Gupta is a founder member & the President-Elect of the Philatelic Congress of India and has held other important philatelic posts, in addition to his notable business activities. He is also actively affiliated with a number of philanthropic organizations. We are pleased and grateful for his association with the Nepal & Tibet Philatelic Study Circle and wish him continued success in philately and his many other activities. (We thank Mr. S. L. Shrestha for sending us a copy of the article from which most of this report was taken.--Ed.)

XXX
X
X FOR SALE: 40-volume collection of X
X Revenues, Fiscals, Stamped papers, X
X Judicial papers, etc., from India X
X Native States and Nepal. X
X Price: \$30,000.00 (USA) X
X Details on inquiry. Write to: X
X Dr. Pierre Couvreur, "La Rouvier" X
X F-83440 Seillans (VAR) FRANCE X
X
XXX

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EXHIBITION NEWS

Dr. Wolfgang C. Hellrigl, first president of our Study Circle has filed this report on Rome's World Exhibition, ITALIA '85, held recently:

"There were some excellent exhibits of the Asian area, including two Nepal collections, of eight frames each:

"Nepal" by our member Hardayal Singh Gupta, of Kathmandu was awarded a VERMEIL medal.

"My exhibit of "The Classic Issues of Nepal" was awarded a GOLD medal with a Special Prize & felicitations of the Jury.

"A literature class GOLD medal was awarded to Frank Vignola & myself for our book, "The Classic Stamps of Nepal."

"There were no Tibet exhibits.

"Apart from the two exhibitors, three other members of our Study Circle attended the show: Jack Young, of Pennsylvania (USA), Dr. Orth, of Germany and Mr. P. Gupta, of India.

"Mr. Hardayal Singh Gupta ably represented Nepal as the official commissioner. He was very much in the limelight during the visit to the Vatican where he met and spoke to Pope John Paul II. Following the Exhibition, Mr. Hardayal Singh Gupta was to attend the F.I.P.-Congress, in order to submit Nepal's application for membership. No doubt we shall be informed of the decision taken and hope that, in the future, Nepalese collectors will be able to show their collections at all exhibitions under F.I.P.-patronage."

(We thank Dr. Hellrigl for this interesting report and extend our congratulations to him, to Mr. Singh and to Frank Vignola.--Ed.)

Your editor can report that POSTAL HIMAL was entered in the literature class of two important shows held in the USA recently: SESCOAL '85, the annual stamp exhibition of the Federated Philatelic Clubs of Southern California, held in Los Angeles on October 25-27, and CHICAGOPEX '85 in Chicago on November 8-10. This was the 99th Anniversary National Stamp Exhibition & the 19th Annual Literature Competition of the Chicago Philatelic Society, APS Chapter No. 1. POSTAL HIMAL was awarded a SILVER-BRONZE medal in both exhibitions. In the latter, the Jury critique read, in part:

"The jury was pleased to see the extent of historical background, probably a necessity, as this is a little known area of the world. It is a very good effort for a relatively new publication from a rather small group....."



MODERN POSTMARKS OF NEPAL

--Colin Hepper

Since The Native Postmarks of Nepal (by Wolfgang Hellrigl & Colin Hepper) was published in 1978, many new postmarks of the modern type have been recorded. In order that members may update their collections of these postmarks, I will be giving a new listing of each section, from time to time. If any members have any other additional postmarks in this category which are not listed here, I would appreciate it if they would let me have the details.

This listing is part of the Rubber Handstamp section (see pp. 82-83):

Type (b)--One or two-line Devanagari

हु. चित्वाप —

CHITWAN DISTRICT P.O.

धर्मस्थाल आयरक हुलाक

DHARMASTHALI A.H.

धीराहट्ट (साम्पा)

GAURADAH A.H.

खोपासि अ नारक हुलाक

KHOPASI A.H.

प्रतिरिक्त हुलाक प्रसवनी

MANIYAR PRAHAHI A.H.

राजापुर हुलाक

RAJAPUR SUB P.O.

सर्वोच्च अदालत हुलाक

SARBOCHA ADALAT SUB P.O.

सिमरा शाखा हुलाक क चौक

SIMARA SUB P.O.

बिराटनगर बजार

शाखा हुलाक

BIRATNAGAR BAZAR SUB P.O.

स. पु. चापागाउँ

अ. हुलाक

CHAPAGAON SUB P.O.

दुहुबि बजार

शाखा हुलाक

DUHUBI SUB P.O.

धी x नौ मखाट
म० हु० हरिपुर मर्लाही (नेपाल)

२०२ / / /

HAIPUR BAZAR A.H.

हिले बोटी हुलाक

बसकुला

२०३६

HILE SUB P.O.

श्री
अ. हु. महेश्वर बाजार
स. से (नया)

MAHENDRA BAZAR A.H.

माटहाना
शाखा हुलाक
MATIHANI SUB P.O.

फावचामागस हु
3 APR 1967
धन्कुटा, नेपाल.
PHABCHAMGAS

श्री दरबार टोल हुलाक
लानतपुर
SRI DARBAR TOLE SUB P.O.

नारायणघाट
शाखा हुलाक
NARAYANGHAT SUB P.O.

रामपुर
शाखा हुलाक
RAMPUR SUB P.O.
अतिरिक्त हुलाक
सुन्दर बजार, लमजुङ्ग
गण्डकी अञ्चल
२०३०
SUNDAR BAZAR A.H.

Type (c)--Boxed Devanagari

विरगञ्ज ए प्ना
BIRGANJ SUB P.O.

चापा गाउँ शाखा हुलाक
CHAPA GAON SUB P.O.

धुलीखेल हुलाक
DHULIKHEL SUB P.O.

रानी सिकीयाही शाखा हुलाक
RANI SIKAYANI SUB P.O.

शि.हु.अ. ०२९/९/२५/२
SHISHAGHAT SUB P.O.

चावेल शाखा हुलाक
CHABAHILL SUB P.O.

ध्याठ धापु
शाखा हुलाक
DHAP A.H.

खरानीटार शाखा हुलाक
KHARANITAR SUB P.O.

शानिचेहुलाक
SANISHCHAR SUB P.O.

शि.पो.अ.
'UNKNOWN'

NEW KAGATE-HULAK LINES

(continued from POSTAL HIMAL No. 43, p.

(1) Dhankuta-Ilam 30)

On Aswin Badi 12, 1938 (September 1881), Prime Minister Ranoddip Simha ordered the opening of a new Kagate-Hulaki line for the transportation of mail between Dhankuta and Ilam. Eight new Kagate-hulak posts were established for this purpose, and 16 local households were selected from each village in the area within a maximum distance of 3 kos from the hulak route to provide mail transportation services by rotation. Provision was made for the allotment of 100 muris of rice-lands to each kagate-hulak porter, inclusive of his own holding. In the case of a shortfall, he was allotted lands cultivated by another person in the area, but only if the latter was unwilling to work as a kagate-hulak porter himself.

"Land Allotments to Kagate-Hulak Porters in Ratamate," Aswin Sudi 6, 1944 (September 1887).

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 91, pp. 256-62.

(2) Kuringhat-Upardang

On Shrawan Badi 11, 1943 (July 1886), Prime Minister Bir Shumshere ordered the opening of a new Kagate-hulak line for the transportation of mail between Kuringhat and Upardang. Four new Kagate-hulak posts were established for this purpose, with 17 hulak porters, including a Mukhiya, in each post. These posts started functioning in Kartik 1943 (October 1886). Because no rice-lands were available for allotment, persons enrolled as Kagate-hulak porters agreed to perform the work on the condition that they were exempted from Jhara (forced-labor) obligations and homestead taxes (Serma, Saunefagu).

According to a report submitted by the Revenue Office (Mal) and the Court (Adalat) of Chitauon on Kartik Sudi 2, 1943 (October 1886), the Kagate-hulak porters enrolled in the newly-created four posts between Kuringhat and Upardang received homestead-tax exemption amounting to Mohar Rs. 94-12 and 16-gandi (paisa) Rs. 7-12, totalling Rs. 102-8.

These arrangements were approved by the Nepal Goswara Hulakghar (General Post Office) in Kathmandu, and sanctioned by Prime Minister Bir Shumshere on Baisakh Sudi 15, 1944 (April 1887).

Magh Badi 3, 1944
(January 1888)

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 91, pp. 497-521.

(3) Pilingghat-Udayapur Gadhi

In Poush 1913 (December 1856), Prime Minister Bam Bahadur ordered the opening of a new Kagate-hulak line for the transportation of official mail from Pilingghat to Udayapur Gadhi. An order to grant the Kagate-hulaki porters Serma tax remission up to one rupee in each household, as well as exemption from the Saunefagu tax and forced-labor (jhara, beth, begar) obligations was issued on Poush Badi 10, 1914 (December 1857).

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 81, pp. 213-14.

(4) Kathmandu-Listi

On Bhadra Sudi 8, 1911 (August 1854), orders were issued to open a new Kagate-hulak line from Kathmandu to Listi on the Nepal-Tibet border through Sankhu, with posts at intervals of 1 to 1½ kosh.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 62, pp. 372-74.

(5) Kathmandu-Khumbu

On Poush Sudi 7, 1911 (December 1854) orders were issued to open a new Kagate-hulak line from Okhaldhunga to Khumbu on the Nepal-Tibet border through Chisanku, with posts at intervals of 1 to 1¼ kosh.

In both (4) and (5), the orders provided that if the number of persons available for enrollment as Kagate-Hulakis in villages adjoining the route was not adequate, those living within a distance of one day's journey should also be enrolled.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 62, pp. 374-76.

(6) Chhinasim-Tibetan Border

During the Nepal-Tibet war, a new Kagate-Hulak line was established between Chhinasim (Jumla) and the Tibetan border areas adjoining Jumla. A total of 29

"NEW KAGATE-HULAK LINES...." (concluded)

Hulak posts were created along that line; each post manned by 16 households. On Baisakh Sudi 13, 1913 (April 1856), Prime Minister Jung Bahadur ordered that these posts be abolished because the war had come to an end.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 66, pp. 162-65.

(7) Reduction in Number of Kagate Hulakis

During the Nepal-Tibet war, the number of Hulaki porters assigned to each Kagate-Hulaki post in the hill regions was increased from four to eight. On Ashadh Badi 2, 1913 (June 1856), Prime Minister Jung Bahadur ordered the Sadar Dafdarkhana to restore the original figure of four because the war had come to an end.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 66, pp. 180-81.

(8) Kagate-Hulak Services in Gorkha

Twenty households had been enrolled as porters for the transportation of mail under the Kagate-Hulak system at Thantipokhari in Gorkha in the Vikrama year 1866 (A.D. 1809). In 1931 Vikrama (A.D. 1874), Diwakar Rana was appointed Mukhiya of the Thantipokhari post. On Chaitra Badi 9, 1935 (March 1879), an order was issued formally reconfirming his appointment. The order also listed the incumbent Hulaki porters and their rice-land allotments as follows:

	muris
1. Mukhiya Diwakar Rana	82
2. Ramkanta Rana	101
3. Khadu Padhya	104
4. Bishwanath Padhya	98½
5. Ravilal Padhya	100
6. Jagu Padhya	104
7. Lalitaballabh Rana	99
8. Laxmi Das Nyaupane	92
9. Lochan Padhya	93
10. Monorath Poudyal	101
11. Kashidatta Padhya	102
12. Shiva Koudal	103
13. Ounashila Padhya	100
14. Gobinda Giri	100
15. Ragupati Giri	98
16. Bhotu Pande	105
17. Nandakishor Padhya	90
18. Dayaram Koudal	97
19. Kalu Padhya Koudal	108
20. Birabhadra Rana	100
21. Harka Bahadur Basnyat Chhetri	101½

Chaitra Badi 9, 1935
(March 1879)

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 67, pp. 515-528.

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NEWS FROM KATHMANDU

Mr. S. L. Shrestha has sent us a clipping from THE RISING NEPAL (English language newspaper) for August 1985 which includes an article titled: "Philatelic Society's Meet Inaugurated" which reads as follows:

"The Assistan Minister for Communications, Satya Man Lama, has said that the Philatelic Society plays an important role in rousing public consciousness in the conservation of nature.

"Mr. Lama said this while inaugurating the ninth general assembly meeting of the Nepal Philatelic Society here Saturday.

"Expressing the hope that the society would introduce Nepal in the international field through the medium of postage stamps, he said that the aims of the Philatelic Society were encouraging.

"Speaking on the occasion, president of the Society, Omkar Prasad Gauchan, stressed the need for developing the society.

"He said that the society should work for the benefit of the country and the government.

"Vice-president of the Society, Daan Bahadur Shakya, shed light on the importance of the Philatelic Society. (RSS)"

SAD NEWS FROM KATHMANDU

A frequent contributor to the pages of POSTAL HIMAL, Surendra Lal Shrestha, has reported the death of his father on 7 September 1985, which resulted in the closing of his office for two weeks. Mr. Shrestha goes on to say: "My father passed away on the auspicious day of Lord Krishna's birthday called 'Krishna-stami' at age 74. He was called 'Krishna' Lal Shrestha, due to his birthday on the same day 74 years ago. As 'Writer' by post, he was famous among the staff of the Bagh Darbar, a famous place in Nepalese history and situated by the 'Dharhara' (now Bhimsen Stambha) for many years." (We all share in such sadness, but are also happy for those, like Mr. Shrestha, who have had living fathers for so many years.--Ed.)

THE POSTAL SERVICE OF NEPAL (continued from POSTAL HIMAL No. 43, p. 32)

Chapter 11 - Training (3 pages) with six numbered items:

1. Adequate and effective training of staff at all levels is essential if the efficiency of the postal service is to be maintained and improved. At present it is not unusual for a person to receive promotion or transfer to another department while he is actually engaged in the postal training course. More than half of the staff who have received three months full-time training at the Postal Training Centre during the last five years are no longer employed in the postal service. The following suggestions are made on the assumption that a closed service policy, as recommended in Chapter 1, will have been adopted.

2. At present only the lower grade clerks who perform basic operations and in sorting offices are given formal training at the Postal Training Centre. Postmen are given very little training at all, and most senior clerks and gazetted officers receive only "on-the-job" instruction. Some senior clerks and gazetted officers are sent to other countries, mainly India, for training courses. Lack of candidates with sufficient knowledge of English, rather than a lack of fellowships, has been the main obstacle to sending more people for training abroad. It also has to be recognized that training in other countries cannot be related to conditions in Nepal.

3. There is clearly a need for expansion of training facilities locally. A short training course should also be devised for postmen to include instruction in delivery procedure, treatment of registered letters and of undeliverable items.

4. A national course should be devised for gazetted officers. It should have a distinctly practical basis because the main need is for a practical approach to inspection & control. It would be suitable also for some senior non-gazetted staff. A similar course is necessary for the officers who will be responsible for inspection & control of EDPOs & mail lines in each district.

5. To enable the postal training facilities to be expanded and improved it is essential that the training section be re-organised under a Class II gazetted officer in accordance with proposals already submitted. Because of the expense of bringing staff to Kathmandu for training it is essential that provincial training centres be established as soon as possible. Meanwhile a mobile training unit which would travel from one provincial centre to another giving short training courses to postmen, mail runners and lower grade clerks would be very useful.

6. The availability of places for senior officers at the Asian Postal Training School in Bangkok should not be overlooked.

(to be continued)

A NEW BOOK RELATED TO TIBET PHILATELY
(reviewed by Armand E. Singer)

Dieter Schuh, Grundlagen Tibetischer Siegelkunde. Sankt Augustin, Germany: VGH Wissenschaftsverlag, 1981. X + 389 pp. Flexible linenized cover. Available from Otto Harrassowitz, Buchhandlung, P.O. Box 2929, D-6200 Wiesbaden, West Germany, at 249.90 German marks, postpaid = \$89.25 on 8/20/85.

This massive volume should remain the definitive treatise on "foundations of the science of Tibetan seals," as the title roughly translates, for years to come. Profusely illustrated, mostly the size of marginless 8.25" x 11.75" pages, often spread over two full pages, sometimes over several, some in full color, and all finely reproduced. Indexes, translations of documents, notes, etc. The book may well represent more than most collectors want to know, much less spend, on the subject, but for the specialist in Tibetan documents and ink seals (a field merely sketched in Arnold Waterfall's Postal History of Tibet, London: Robson Lowe, 1965 & 1981, first ed., pp. 132-38; second ed., pp. 138-44, slightly amended) it is indispensable. Necessitates some knowledge of German grammar & a German dictionary. Almost worth the price for the illustrations alone. It does not treat of the wax-sealed so-called scarf covers, only of the ink-stamped documents themselves.

TIBET SLIDE SHOW OFFERED

(F. A. Westbrook, Jr. has sent the following news release to the major philatelic publications in the USA. We print it here for the interest of our readers. --Ed.)

"A slide show giving a comprehensive overview of the postage stamps of Tibet is being offered on a loan basis by The Nepal & Tibet Philatelic Study Circle.

"Consisting of 36 slides and script, the show reviews available literature on Tibetan philately, provides a brief history of events affecting Tibetan stamps and a detailed review of stamps issued by Tibet from the first through the final issue that was closed out by the conquest of the country by Communist China in 1950-51.

"Sample stamps of the various issues are shown in sheets, singles and on cover. The show is well suited to beginners and middle level collectors who are interested in expanding their Tibetan coverage.

"The show was produced by Alan Warren, a Tibetan specialist & a Study Circle member.

"The show is available on loan to stamp clubs & individual specialists, but clubs will have priority. For further information, send a SAE to James A. Booth, 3141 Westview Dr., Beavercreek, OH 45385.

"Three dollars for postage & insurance will be required in advance for shipment of the slides."

(We wish to thank Frank Westbrook, Alan Warren and James Booth for their work in making this slide show available in the USA.--Ed.)

A CORRECTION

Fig. 1 in the article by N. G. Rhodes, in POSTAL HIMAL No. 43 (p. 24) is in error. That cancellation should have been the one shown below:



A PICTURE POST CARD FROM TIBET

--N. G. Rhodes

The Chinese Imperial postal stationery card illustrated below has a view of Gyantse town printed on the back in blue. It came from the papers of Sardar Bahadur S. W. Laden La, my wife's grandfather (see POSTAL HIMAL No. 37, pp. 2-3). The word "Gyantse" was written by him in the upper left corner of the picture (not illustrated). Laden La was in Gyantse from June 1912 to March 1913, & it seems likely that he acquired the card during this period.

The question remains as to when and where the photograph was printed onto the card. It seems doubtful that any of the Tibetan, Nepalese or Chinese residents of Gyantse at the time would have had the technology to produce such an item, so the most likely alternatives are that one of the British residents at the Trade Agency may have been responsible, or, more likely, the view of Gyantse could have been printed on in Europe, China or even India, before the card reached Tibet.

In any case, Gyantse was hardly a tourist resort during the period when such postal stationery cards would have been accepted at the Gyantse Post Office (ca. 1910-1912), so it is hard to imagine any shop selling them there doing much business! Has anyone else seen such an item, and can anyone shed any further light on the reason for its existence?

CARTE POSTALE-CHINE.

片信明政郵清大



右邊只寫收信人姓名住址

OUTLINE FOR A "BEGINNER'S CORNER" COLUMN
--F. A. Westbrook, Jr.

1. Introduction
2. 1a Classic Stamp
3. 2a Classic Stamp
4. 4a & ½a Classic Stamps
5. Sri Pashupati Issues
6. Later Adhesives (with some emphasis on 1959-60 native printings)
7. Postal Stationery
8. Postal History -- Covers
9. Cancellations & Postal Markings
10. The Telegraphic Period (review of cancellations & stamps on which they were used)
11. Official & Documentary Stamps
12. Paper & Watermarks
13. Forgeries & Doctored Material
14. Where & How to Buy Nepal Stamps (Frank has offered to write Nos. 1-7 & 14. Your editor will write Nos. 10 & 13. We ask for volunteers to write Nos. 8, 9, 11 & 12. Here is another chance to help our beginning collectors.--Ed.)

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BUILDING A NEPAL COLLECTION

--F. A. Westbrook, Jr.

(No. 1 - An Introduction -- First in a series for beginners & intermediate collectors.)

Historically Nepal has been a backward and little known country tucked away in the Himalayan mountains between India & Tibet. Few would know it today were it not the home of Mt. Everest & a growing interest in the collecting of its stamps.

Despite the nation's obscurity, it has produced a body of philatelic material of unusual variety & interest. Unfortunately, the collecting of the stamps of Nepal is seen by many as complicated to a point leading to dismay.

The difficulty involves the so-called "classic issues"--½-, 1-, 2- & 4-anna stamps, primarily, which were printed over a period of some 50 years, beginning in 1881. They are also known as the "Sripech and Crossed Kukris" and "Bow & Kukris" types. Because of the time span and the primitive printing methods, there can be confusion in identifying the many issues.

However, if one does not insist on becoming an "instant specialist," it is

possible to build a satisfactory collection of the classic stamps by assembling them into time periods, resulting in a basic assemblage which will provide the foundation for expansion into whatever degree of specialization one desires.

The second series of Nepalese stamps, known as the Sri Pashupati issues, also covers a long time span, but presents minimal identification problems. It is true that a little patience for detail is required if one wants to separate them into their various printings.

The first Sri Pashupati issue, printed in England, appeared in 1907. After several printings of this set of four denominations, it was replaced (in 1930) by a set of 8 denominations with minor changes in design. A third set (of 6 denominations) appeared in 1935, also printed in England. In 1941 Nepal began the local printing of the Sri Pashupati design--encouraged by the disruption of supply from England during World War II.

It should be noted that the 1907 Sri Pashupati issue reflects a currency change, substituting pice for annas, though when the classic stamps were re-issued in 1917 for telegraphic use, no changes were made in the original plates.

It was not until 1956 that Nepal began to issue stamps with denominations in Arabic as well as Nepalese numerals. This need not be a serious concern to collectors as the various values can be readily determined by the color of the stamps and by using the catalogs and other publications that will be listed in the several segments of this series.

In 1949 Nepal brought out its first pictorial issue--printed in India. From that point on the collecting of Nepalese adhesives is straightforward, with a relatively modest flow of colorful and interesting stamps. In all, Nepal has issued fewer than 500 designs in just over 100 years. And, while the value of the early issues has increased substantially in recent years, it should be possible for the collector of modest means to put together a very credible collection.

The country, too, has produced an interesting body of postal stationery, with some unusual errors, plus a series

(concluded on p. 44)

ANOTHER ROUTE UP THE HIMALAYAS

--Armand E. Singer

Specialist societies such as ours cater all too often to collectors able & willing to pay through the nose for the privilege of acquiring rarities. We even compete vigorously against each other at auctions, thus further escalating prices. Fine and dandy: competition is the name of the game. Still, it may well discourage new converts to our hobby as well as raising the specter of dollars reigning over pleasure. Herewith directions, at least in this one case, for finding an easier route.

Collectors have long been enamored of mountaineering covers & cards, especially from the Himalayas. But items fetch high, occasionally astronomical prices. If by chance philatelic climbing is getting too steep for a modest hobby purse, there is a much gentler alternative, suitable for tyro and expert alike.

Many countries, not just in Asia, have commemorated the Himalayas in stamps. Aside from vaguely sketched, unidentified or unidentifiable background or stylized mountains (e.g., Nepal's Sri Pashupati series, 1907-1935, or Bhutan's yeti triangles), still collectible if you wish, of course, and aside from any inadvertently missed, I suggest the following list, supplemented with the odd peripheral item. Mountains not depicted in connection with specific ascents or not associated with the sport of climbing and climbing areas represent borderline cases. Stamps illustrating climbing techniques, applicable anywhere but not necessarily in the Himalayas, such as China (Taiwan) 1972, Scott's No. 1800, are another fielder's choice. My list could be used as part of a cover collection or as an independent display, but be warned: a reasonably complete showing of covers & cards will add up to a hundred and more pieces costing at least an average twenty to twenty-five dollars each. Many of the earlier examples are virtually unobtainable. The scarcest Everest 1924 expedition cover recently went for around \$1500.00 at auction. On the other hand, mint singles or blocks of four of the issues I have in mind generally average under a few dollars or less. Numbers, where given,

are Scott's. Completeness is not guaranteed, nor should it be. Who would want to spoil a searcher's fun?

AUSTRIA: 1957, No. 618, Gasherbrum II.



BHUTAN: 1962, Nos. 1 & 5 (not a specific mountain, however); 1982 souvenir sheet depicting Boy Scouts climbing with ice axes and ropes across a snowfield or glacier.

CHILE: 1980, No. 572, Gasherbrum II.

CHINA (PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC): (possibly) 1956, Nos. 287 & 289; 1965, Nos. 828-32, Chinese mountaineering in the Himalayas; (possibly) 1970, No. 1046, mounted alpine patrol; 1975, Nos. 1239-41, Everest.

INDIA: 1953, Nos. 244-45, Everest;



1955, No. 268, plane over Kanchenjunga; (possibly) 1961, No. 339, rider facing high peak; (possibly) 1961, No. 347, forest & Himalayas; 1965, No. 404, Everest;



1973, No. 581, almost surely Everest; (possibly) 1975-79, No. 683, Himalayan

Singer, "ANOTHER ROUTE...." (continued)
 (possibly) 1975-79, No. 683, Himalayan
 scene; 1978, Nos. 784-85, Kanchenjunga.
 JAPAN: 1956, No. 631, Manaslu.



KOREA: 1977, No. 1110, Everest.

NEPAL: 1960-61, Nos. 125-28, Everest,
 etc.; (possibly) 1968, No. 212; 1970,
 No. 234, Gosainkund; 1971, Nos. 253-55,
 Everest, etc.;



1975, No. 308, Ganesh; 1977, No. 335,
 Tukucho; 1978, Nos. 343-44, Everest;



(with First Day Cancel at Namche Bazar
 and signature of Tenzing Norgay); 1979,
 No. 363, Pabil; 1982, No. 404, Everest
 massif souvenir sheet.

NEW ZEALAND: 1954, Nos. 844-45, Everest.

PAKISTAN: 1954,
 No. 65, K-2;

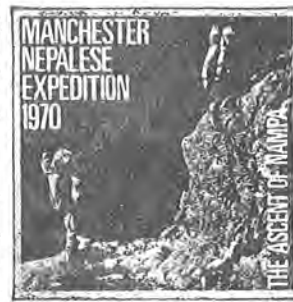


1954, Nos. 66-69, Gilgit & Khagan Val-
 ley (near Gilgit?); 1981, Nos. 549-56,
 K-6 in the Karakorams; 1983, No. 585,
 trekking in Pakistan.

RUSSIA: 1982, No. 5106, Everest souvenir
 sheet (see cover illustration).

SIKKIM: revenue stamps of the 1920s --
 supposedly depicting southeast face of
 Siniolchu (see Waterfall's Postal His-
 tory of Tibet (London: Robson Lowe),
 1965 ed., pp. 156-57; 1985 ed., pp.
 167-69.

There are, as well, several private
 labels, among back-of-the-book items.
 The classic example is surely the 1924
 blue British "stamp" of Everest used on
 the expedition of that year. See Water-
 fall, both eds., pp. 34-36, and p. 33
 for an illustration. There is another
 British label, made for the unsuccess-
 ful 1970 attack on Nampa, a photo re-
 production, chocolate colored, 38 x 38
 mm, put out in Manchester.



The U.S. California Himalayan Expedition
 to Makalu in 1954 produced a large label
 seen in both red & green versions. The
 Himalayan Scientific and Mountaineering
 Expedition, 1960-61, issued a large map
 of the whole range, dark blue & red and
 also brown & light blue. The U.S. Ever-
 est Expedition also turned out a large
 blue & red label, shown below, in 1963.



Singer, "ANOTHER ROUTE...." (concluded)

Cancellations are another possibility, though they may be thought to belong more properly with covers and cards. However, in case they would be collected on piece, I mention these: The Himalayan Club of Calcutta (founded in 1928), a double circle with central bridge, 31 mm diameter, similar to Waterfall, type B4 (p. 13, both eds.). Mine is dated 28 AUG 30. Great Britain supplied a fancy cancel, worded "Ascent of Everest 25th Anniversary" and dated 1953-1978, with an outline of the mountain: 2 June 1978.



The town of Catania, Italy, used a special killer depicting K-2, dated 10.10.54, used by the C.A.I. Also see Waterfall's drawings and lists of Everest cancels & cachets, pp. 37 & 41, both eds.

Even more peripherally, I might mention the two sets of four propaganda labels each, issued by Nelson Eustis of Adelaide, Australia, 1972 & 1975. Valid only within the Dharmasala, India Tibetan compound, where the Dalai Lama now resides. The first set shows clear mountain scenes but no specific peaks. The second set uses mountains for background only.



I have purposely omitted listing the numerous special Nepalese P.O. cancels used to mark the many commemorative cards & covers emitted by private climbing expeditions, as they are encountered almost exclusively on the covers themselves (see Hellrigl & Hepper's Native Postmarks of Nepal, pp. 91-94, for some of them, plus others). I have also stopped short of current issues.

Westbrook, "BUILDING.....," (concluded)

of official stamps, as well as various court fee stamps & documentaries.

This series will cover all these areas & others, including watermarks, cancellations and the different types of paper used--especially for the early issues.

Each section will be accompanied by a bibliography of studies bearing on the subject matter under discussion.

The next three sections will seek to take the mystery out of collecting the 4 denominations of the classic issues.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

AN IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR MEMBERS IN ASIA REGIONAL MEETING IN AUSTRALIA - Colin Hepper will attend a Regional Meeting in Adelaide on 31 January & 1 February 1986. Further details can be obtained from Malcolm Campbell, 8 Ethel Street, Stirling, S. AUSTRALIA 5152. Colin will be addressing the South Australia Postal History Study Group in Adelaide on 14 January 1986. Please tell your friends.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

NEPAL CALENDAR FOR BIKRAM SAMBAT YEAR 2042

We wish to thank Mr. Bishnu Lal Shrestha for the Nepal calendar for this year. We have reduced in order to include the first eight months with this issue. We point out that this calendar is constructed differently than the Tibetan calendar included with the two previous issues. Day One of the Nepali New Year coincided with Saturday, 13 April 1985 in the Gregorian calendar. Note that the number (13) appears in the lower right corner of the square bearing the Nepali numeral for 1. And, for the Nepali number for 19, we note that MAY 1 appears in the lower right corner. Thus each page for a Nepali month bears the names of two months familiar to Westerners and successive pages overlap those months.-- Note, too, the Nepali equivalent of 1985 in the upper right corner of each calendar page.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

MISSING ISSUES ??

Requests for missing issues should first be sent to your area representative.--Ed.

महाकाली



भित्ति पात्रो

रत्न पुस्तक भण्डार
काठमाडौं, नेपाल



महाकाली



भित्ति पात्रो

रत्न पुस्तक भण्डार
काठमाडौं, नेपाल

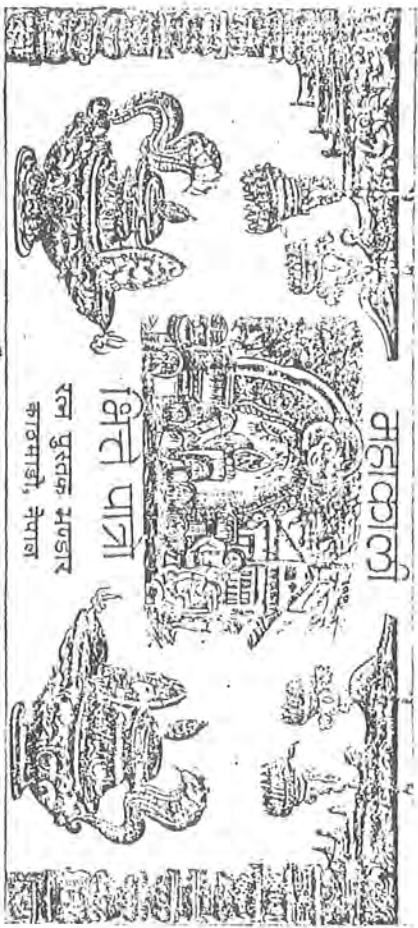


सं० २०४२ JUNE आषाढ JULY सन् १९८५

आइतवार Sunday	सोमवार Monday	मंगलवार Tuesday	बुधवार Wednes	बिहीवार Thursday	शुक्रवार Friday	शनिवार Saturday
३० 14	३१ घोम प्रदोषव्रतम् 15	३ ॐ	३ ॐ	३ ॐ	३ ॐ	१ तमिष्वोर व्रतम् 15
२ दिल्ला बहुरेवा 16	३ 17	४ दशैयादम् 18	५ 19	६ बनभ्रातृ रथयात्रा 20	७ 21	८ 22
९ 23	१० 24	११ हेउपाटनमा बज्राचार्य रथयात्रा, बुधपुरमा 25	१२ बुवाष्टमी व्रतम् 26	१३ 27	१४ समाधानी हरिश्चन्द्रो व्रतम् बासुवासीय व्रतारम्भः 28	१५ सिंहनाडी हरिश्चन्द्रो ११४ १२ श्रीरोपच तुम्बरीसिंह 29
१६ प्रदोष व्रतम् 30	१७ JULY 1	१८ पुनिमा व्रतम् सुब पुवा दिल्लापुत्री 2	१९ बुद्ध भावनाक्रम प्रतिपदा 3	२० हितीया 4	२१ तृतीया 5	२२ 6
२३ 7	२४ 8	२५ 9	२६ 10	२७ 11	२८ दशमी 12	२९ गान् ठकली 13

सं० २०४२ JULY श्रावण Aug. सन् १९८५

आइतवार Sunday	सोमवार Monday	मंगलवार Tuesday	बुधवार Wednes	बिहीवार Thursday	शुक्रवार Friday	शनिवार Saturday
३ ॐ	४ ॐ	१ बुद्ध भावनाक्रम प्रदुर्दशी 16	२ दशैयादम् 17	३ पुष्पोत्तममाहात्म्यम् 18	४ 19	५ 20
६ 21	७ 22	८ 23	९ 24	१० प्रदिकभावावकृष्ण प्रतिपदा 25	११ 26	१२ 27
१३ 28	१४ सोमप्रदोष व्रतम् 29	१५ 30	१६ बनला पुत्री 31	१७ AUG. 1	१८ 2	१९ 3
२० 4	२१ 5	२२ 6	२३ 7	२४ बन्धनी व्रतम् 8	२५ 9	२६ 10
२७ 11	२८ 12	२९ प्रदोष व्रतम् 13	३० बनला बहुरेवा 14	३१ 15	३२ दशैयादम् पुष्पोत्तममाहात्म्यम् 16	३३ ॐ 17

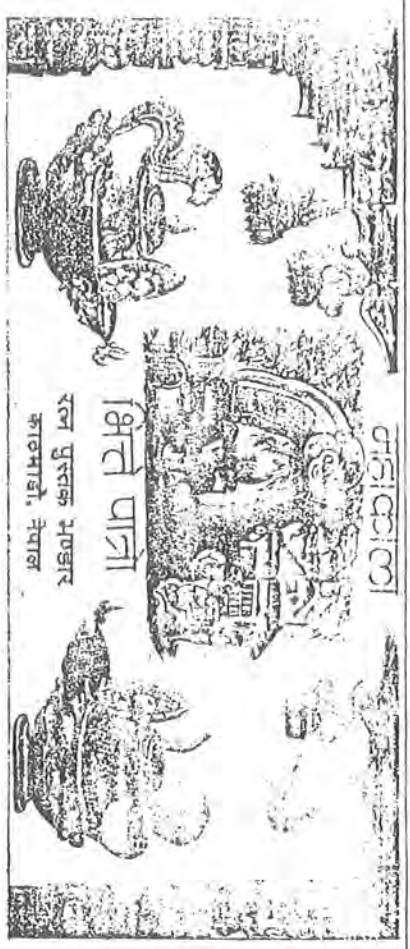


भित्ते पात्रो
रत्न पुस्तक भण्डार
कारमावा, नेपाल

सं २०४२ APR. वैशाख MAY सन् १९८५

आइतवार Sunday	सोमवार Monday	मंगलवार Tuesday	बुधवार Wednes	बिहीवार Thursday	शुक्रवार Friday	शनिवार Saturday
अवती ३०	अवती ३१	स्वती	अवती	अवती	अवती	अवती
२	३	४	५	६	७	८
१४	१५	१६	१७	१८	१९	२०
२१	२२	२३	२४	२५	२६	२७
२८	२९	३०	MAY 1	२	३	४
५	६	७	८	९	१०	११

कारमावा, नेपाल १९, १९ नं १ । फागुन १९८५-१९८६ । कारमावा, नेपाल १९, १९, १९, १९, २० नं १ । कारमावा, नेपाल १९, १९ नं १ ।



सं २०४२ MAY ज्येष्ठ JUNE सन् १९८५

आइतवार Sunday	सोमवार Monday	मंगलवार Tuesday	बुधवार Wednes	बिहीवार Thursday	शुक्रवार Friday	शनिवार Saturday
स्वती	स्वती	स्वती	स्वती	स्वती	स्वती	स्वती
३	४	५	६	७	८	९
१०	११	१२	१३	१४	१५	१६
१७	१८	१९	२०	२१	२२	२३
२४	२५	२६	२७	२८	२९	३०
३१	३२	३३	३४	३५	३६	३७
३८	३९	४०	४१	४२	४३	४४
४५	४६	४७	४८	४९	५०	५१
५२	५३	५४	५५	५६	५७	५८
५९	६०	६१	६२	६३	६४	६५
६६	६७	६८	६९	७०	७१	७२
७३	७४	७५	७६	७७	७८	७९
८०	८१	८२	८३	८४	८५	८६
८७	८८	८९	९०	९१	९२	९३
९४	९५	९६	९७	९८	९९	१००

कारमावा, नेपाल १९, १९, १९, १९, २० नं १ । फागुन १९८५-१९८६ । कारमावा, नेपाल १९, १९, १९, १९, २० नं १ । कारमावा, नेपाल १९, १९ नं १ ।