



Nepal: Modernization of the Postal System

The Perkins-Bacon Printings, 1907-1935

Purpose This is a traditional exhibit—with a necessary bit of marcophily—documenting the modernization of the Nepalese postal system.

Exhibit Organization The following order is used in this display: Proofs, plate proofs, the issued set including shades, and finally, used examples, usages, then telegraph usages.

Chapters

Important Items Marked
with Red Border

- A • First Pashupati Issue, 1907
- B • Second Pashupati Issue, 1930
- C • Third Pashupati Issue, 1935

Background In 1906, the Prime Minister of Nepal, Sir Chandra Shumsher Rana, arranged for the Perkins-Bacon Company of London to design and print new stamps. The new designs feature *Siva Mahadeva* (*Pashupati*) amidst the Himalayan mountains hence the other name for the period, "*Shri Pashupati*."

Perkins-Bacon made three printings: 1907, 1930, and 1935. A fourth, typographed printing was made locally in 1941 when WWII made stamp supplies unreliable. These issues are not shown in this exhibit.

The Necessity for Modernization The London printings of these stamps represent a radical departure from the methods used for the first 57 years of

the Nepalese postal system:



Typographed on
Poor Quality
Native Paper



Engraved on
European Paper

Notice that the old "*Sripech and Crossed Khukris*" design — here, the one-anna Recut value — is worn and barely legible. The old cancellations were no better.



Classic
Killer Cancel



CDS with
Mechanical Date

Marcophily — the specialized study and collection of postmarks, cancellations and postal markings — is not normally part of a traditional exhibit. However, these are documented in detail since their story and evolution are an integral part of this modernization process.

This exhibit will show how modernization was accomplished beginning in 1907 up to 1935.

References

- Hellrigl, Dr. Wolfgang C. *Katalog der Poststempel von Nepal (1879-1935)*. Forschungsgemeinschaft Indien e.V., 1982
- Hepper, Colin, and Wolfgang Hellrigl. *The Native Postmarks of Nepal*. March, Cambridgeshire: Nepal and Tibet Study Circle, 1979.

A • First Pashupati Issue, 1907

A1 • Die Proofs

Made by Perkins-Bacon and Company, London • Engraved



2p Green • May, 1907
Large Die Proof, State IV • In Color of the 4 Pice Value
• White Card Stock



2p Green • May, 1907
Large Die Proof, State IV, Cut Down • In Color of the
4 Pice Value • On Thick Brownish Paper

A1 • Die Proofs



2 Pice Green • May, 1907
Lower Corners for Date Empty



2 Pice Green • May, 1907
On Thick Chalk Surfaced Card



8 Pice • July, 1907
Die Proof Without Value, Cut Down
• In Issued Color • Inscribed "before rebitting vignette"
• On Thick Card Stock Paper



8 Pice Red • July, 1907
Die Proof Without Value, Cut Down • In
Issued Color • Inscribed "Oct 31 after rebite"
• On Thick Card Stock Paper

A2a • Imperforate Plate Proofs: Plate Imprints and Plate Print Date Handstamp

Plate Imprints



2 Pice Brown • Watermarked, Thin Paper
Mirror Image of "2 BROWN"



8 Pice Lake • Thin Paper
Margin Imprint "LAKE"

Plate Print Date Handstamp



4 Pice Green (1913) • Signed "Hellrigl"
Handstamped "3 SEP 1913"
Indicating Print Date of Plate

A2 • Plate Proofs

A2a • Imperforate Plate Proofs
A2b • Perforated Plate Proofs

A2a • Imperforate Plate
Proofs: Two Pice Browns

Ungummed



Red Brown (1907)



Deep Brown (1913) • Thick Paper



Deep Brown (1913) • "Dirty" Plate



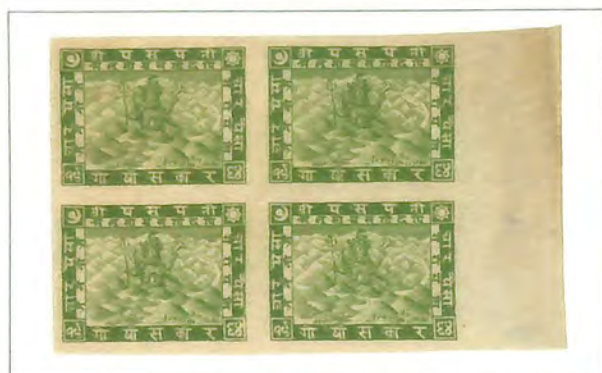
Brown (1918)



Brown (1918) • Watermarked,
Thick Paper

A2a • Imperforate Plate Proofs: Four Pice Greens

Ungummed



Yellow-green (1907)
Very Thin Paper



Yellow-green (1907)
Very Thin Paper



Green (???)
Thin Paper



Deep Yellow-green (1907)
Thin Paper



Deep Yellow-green (1907)
Thick Paper



Green (???) • Thick Paper

A2b • Perforated Plate Proofs • Comb Perforation Types

Comb Perforation 13½

- Type 1** Fine perforation holes with a gap of 2mm between hole centers of the top vertical hole and the row of horizontal perforations. The horizontal row has **two holes beyond the outside row** and there are 13 holes in the vertical rows.
- Type 2** Similar to Type 1 except that the diameter of the holes are slightly larger and the horizontal row has only **one hole beyond the vertical line**.



Type 1 Comb Perforation • 2 Pice Brown



Type 2 Comb Perforation • 2 Pice Brown with Watermark in Margin

A2b • Perforated Plate Proofs

Ungummed • Unwatermarked Paper

2 Pice
Brown



16 Pice Blackish Purple

4 Pice Green



2 Pice Brown • Comb Perforation Type 1



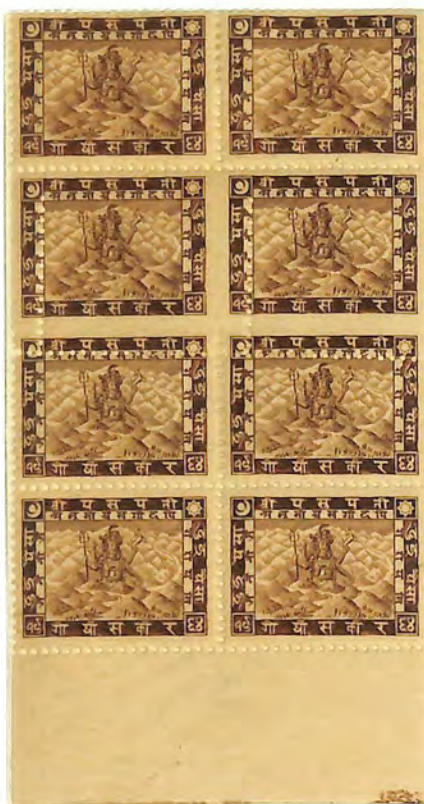
2 Pice Warm Brown

A2b • Perforated Plate Proofs • Shifted Perforations

Two Pice Browns (1918)
 Few Examples of Shifted Perforations are
 Known of the First Pashupati Issue

Right: Single Comb Shifted
 Lower and to the Right • Comb
 Perforation Type 2

Bottom: Comb Shifted Lower and to
 the Right • Comb Perforation Type 2



A2b • Perforated Plate Proofs • Plate Imprints



2 Pice Brown (??) • Comb Perforation Type 1
Mirror Image "2 BROWN" in Bottom Margin



16 Pice Amethyst (1907)
Comb Perforation Type 2
Toned Wove Paper
Plate Imprint "16 AMETHYST"



2 Pice Brown (1918) • Comb Perforation Type 2
Mirror Image "2 BROWN" in Bottom Margin
Plate Print Date Handstamp "23.MAY 1918"

A2b • Perforated Plate Proofs • Plate Print Date Handstamp



8 Pice Scarlet (1913)

Perkins-Bacon File Copy with Dated
Handstamp "11 NOV 1913" (November
11, 1913) • Type 2 Comb Perforation

A2b • Perforated Plate Proofs • Plate Print Date Handstamp



16 Pice Purple (1913)

Grayish Toned Thin Paper
Type 2 Comb Perforation

Perkins-Bacon File Copy with
Dated Handstamp "11 NOV
1913" (November 11, 1913)
in Margin

A2b • Perforated Plate Proofs • Plate Print Date Handstamp



4 Pice Green (1925)

Plate Printing Date "13
MAR 1925" Handstamped
in Margin • Type 1 Comb
Perforation

A3 • First Pashupati Issue, 1907 • Issued Stamps

Engraved • Unwatermarked European Wove Paper
• Comb Perforation 13½



2 Pice Red



4 Pice Green



8 Pice Red



16 Pice Violet

Bottom Inscription

१९ गोर्खा सरकार ६४
19 GORKHA SARKAR 64

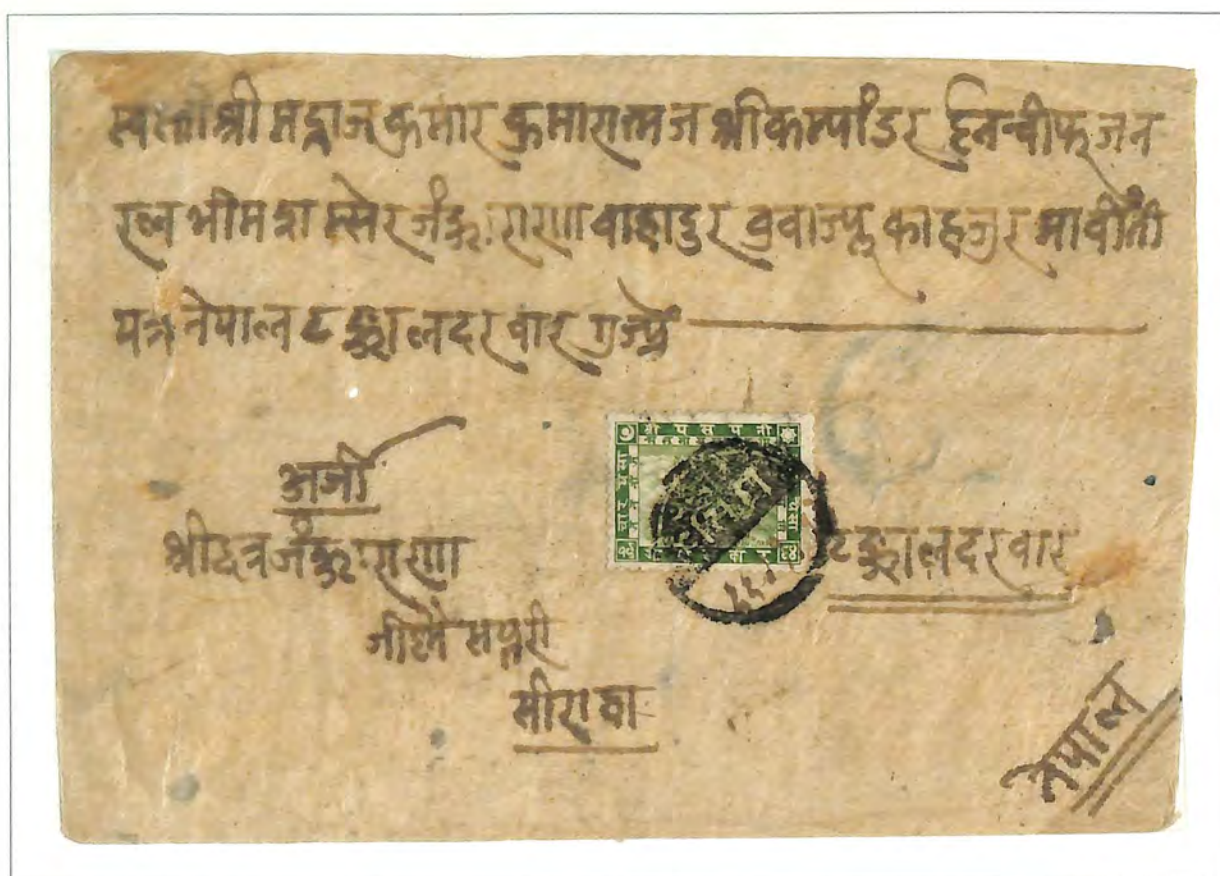
Bikram Sambat Date "1964"
is Equal to 1907 A.D.

Denominations inscribed at left and right outer sides and expressed in pice. The *Bikram Sambat* (B.S.) date is in the bottom corners. The bottom center inscription "Gorkha Sarkar" means "Gorkha Government."

Central design is Patron God of Nepal, Shri Pashupati, surrounded by the Himalayas. Each value issued in the following quantities:

2 Pice Brown	150,000
4 Pice Green	1,500,000
8 Pice Red	150,000
16 Pice Violet	150,000

A4a • Classic Cancellations Still in Use:
Pashupati Period Postal Rates, 1907–1955



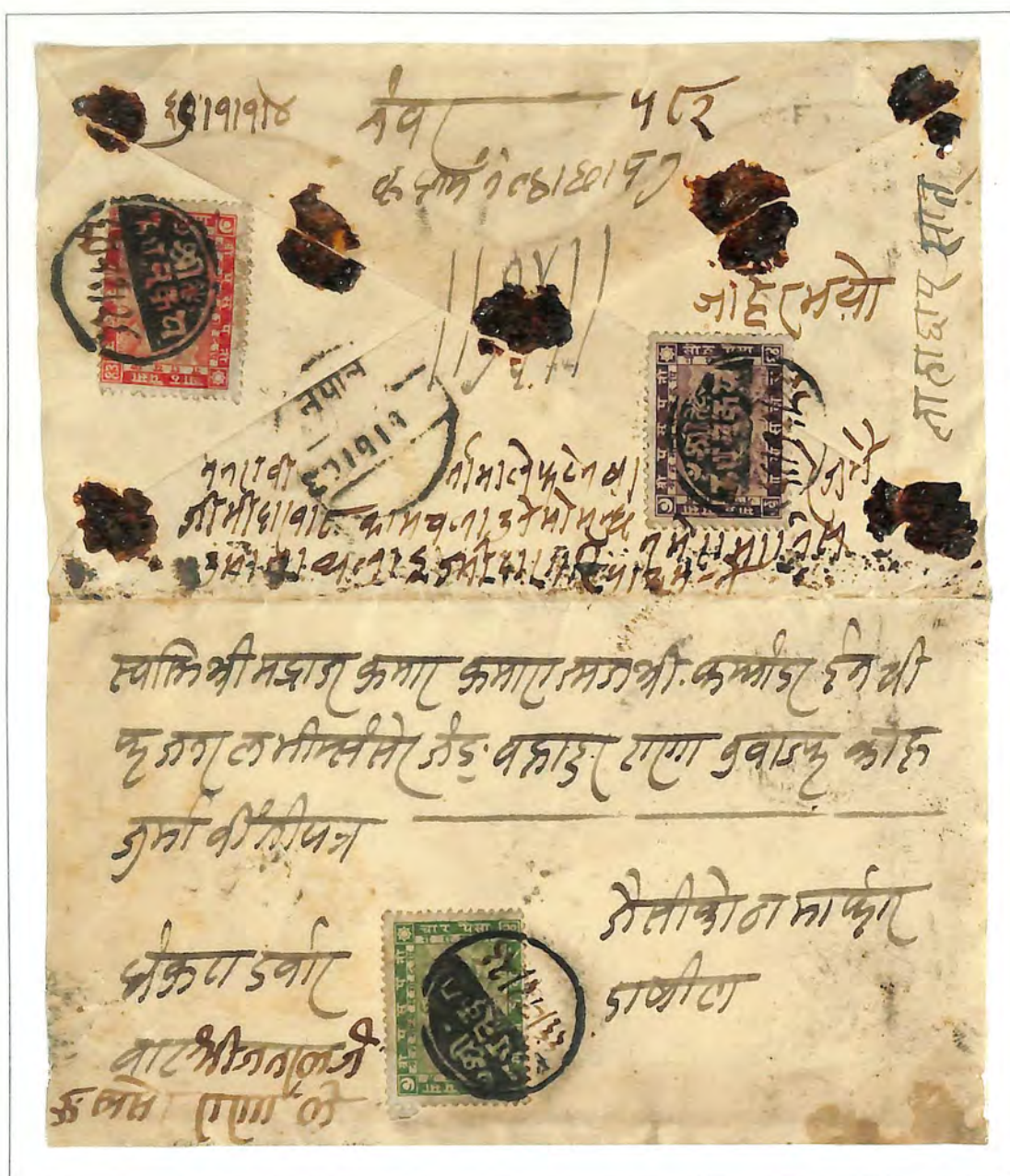
Siraha to Kathmandu, 1909. Posted Siraha, "66/1/15" (April 30, 1909). Four pice affixed paying single letter rate. Kathmandu arrival, "66/1/19" (May 4, 1909).

Siraha Negative Postmark Used as Cancellation
"Nepal" (Kathmandu) Datestamp as Receiving Postmark

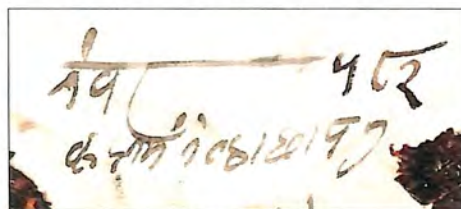
Postal Rates, 1907–1955	Rate
Letter, each tola ²	4 pice
Letter to India or Tibet, 1 tola	8 pice
Post Card	2 pice
Post Card to India or Tibet	6 pice
Registration Fee	20 pice
Acknowledgment of Receipt (AR)	4 pice

² Weight unit, *tola*, is expression of legal weight of British-Indian rupee. One tola equals 11.66 g.

A4a • Transition Period: Classic Cancellations Still in Use



Dhankuta to Kathmandu, 1910. Four pice, 8p and 16p values on registered cover posted Dhankuta "66/12/26" (April 9, 1910). Each postmark dated. **Rate is twenty-eight pice.** Kathmandu arrival on "67/1/1" (April 14, 1910).



Registration Details

No. "582" • Sender's Name and
No. of Wax Seals: "7"

Dhankuta Negative Postmark Used as Cancellation
"Nepal" (Kathmandu) Datestamp Used as Receiving Postmark

A4a • Classic Postmarks on REDIRECTED(!) Pashupati Period Official Stampless Letter, 1909



Kathmandu to Palpa, Then
Returned(!) to Kathmandu,
1909.

Envelope originally ad-
dressed to Suba Krishna
Prasad, Thakati, Tansen,
Palpa. Posted in Kath-
mandu on "66/8/22"
(December 5, 1909).

Appears to have been re-
turned again to Kathman-
du on February 5, 1910.

ex "Gupta"

At Palpa, **Redirection
Label** attached and tied
to envelope by hand-
dated Palpa negative
postmark. Label inscrib-
ed, "Since this man has
left for Butwal, this let-
ter is sent to Butwal
from Palpa post office."



Reverse Side

"Nepal" postmark dated "66/8/22" (December 5, 1909)
"Butwal" postmark dated "66/10/9" (January 23, 1910)
"Nepal" postmark dated "66/10/22" (February 5, 1910)

Only Known Redirected Cover,
Stamped or Stampless, Seen So Far

A4a • Classic Cancellations Still in Use

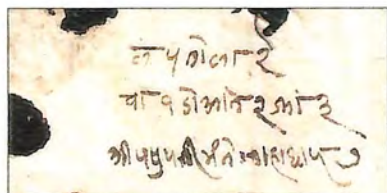
Rasuwa to
Kathmandu, 1910.

Franked with 8p pair and
16p single paying the **32p
registration rate**. Arrival in
Kathmandu on "66/10/29"
(February 12, 1910).

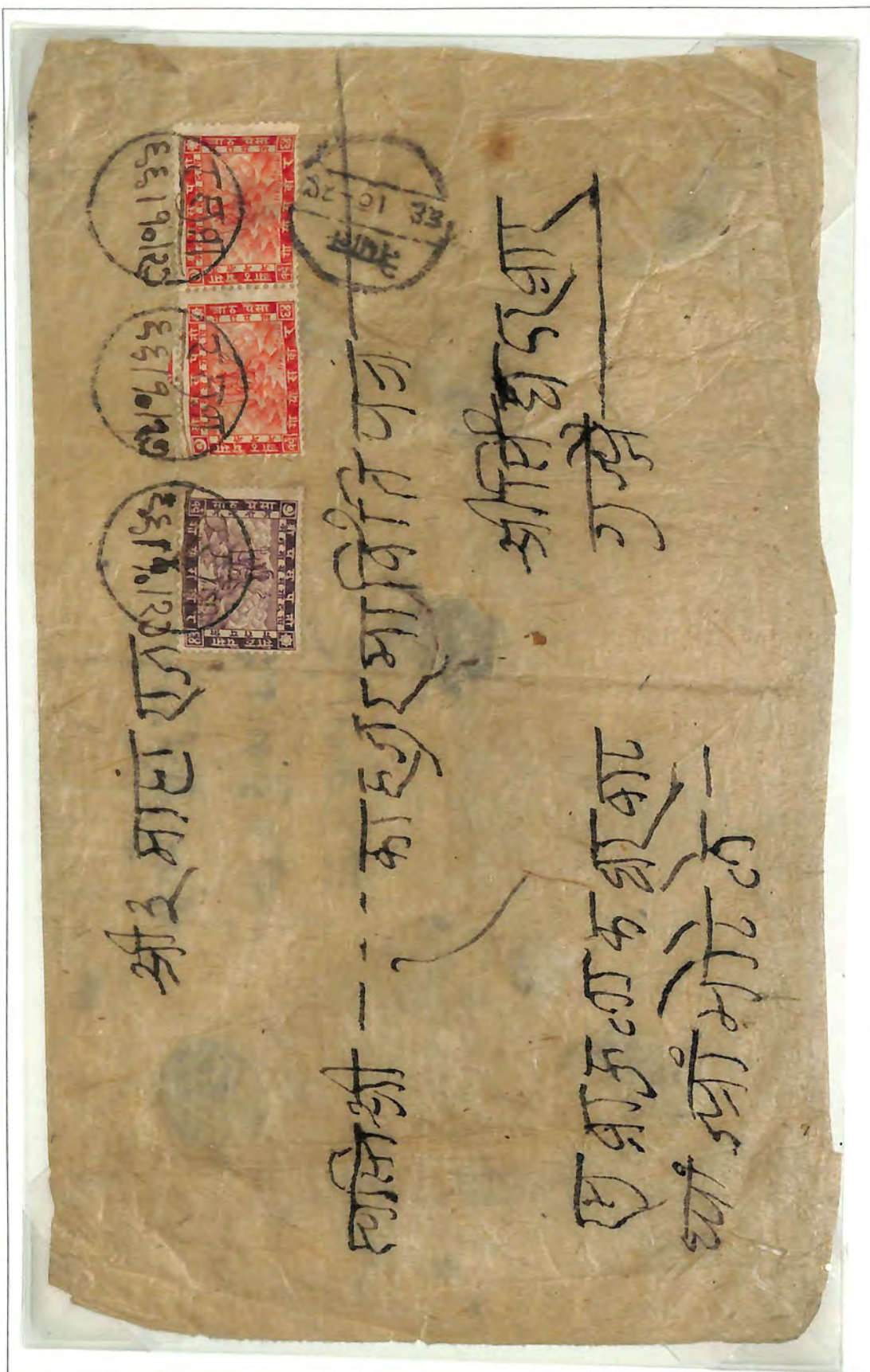
Rasuwa Manuscript
Postmarks Used as
Cancellations

"Nepal" (Kathmandu)
Datestamp as
Receiving Postmark

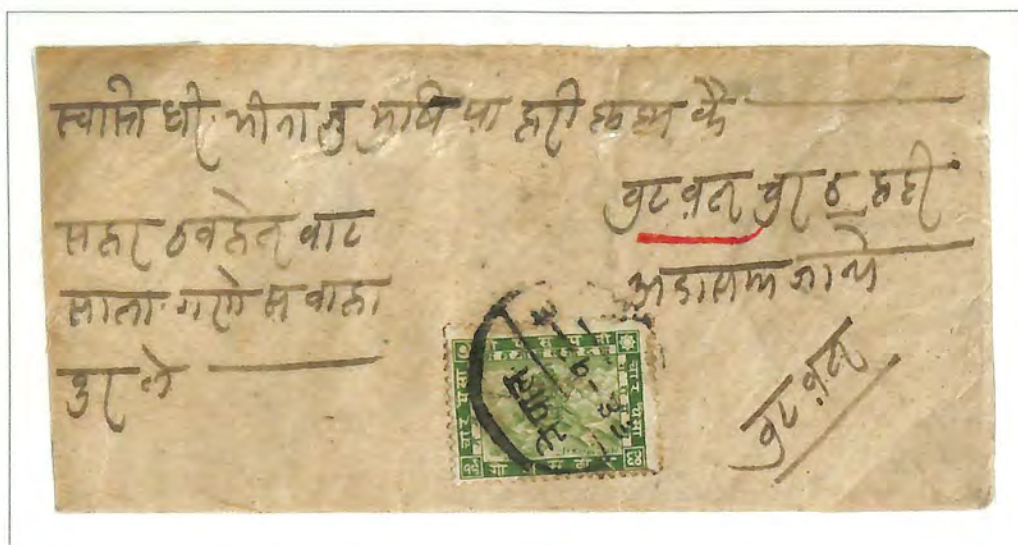
Registration In 1907, Nepalese
currency changed from annas to
pice. New registration rates be-
came 24, 28 and 32 pice. Reg-
istered letters had both wax seals
— usually of the sender — and a
registration number.



**Registration Markings on
Reverse Side:** Registration
Number and Number of Wax
Seals Applied, "7"



A4a • Transition Period: Classic Cancellations Still in Use



Kathmandu to Butwal, 1910. Franked with 4 pice. Pays **single letter rate**.
Classic "Nepal" Datestamp as Cancellation at Origin



Jaleswar to Kathmandu, 1910. Four pice pays **single letter rate**. Posted "67/6/2" (September 16, 1910). Kathmandu arrival, September 23, 1910.

Jaleswar Negative Postmark as Cancellation
"Nepal" (Kathmandu) Postmark as Arrival Postmark

A4b • The Transition Period Continues: New Classic "Ornamental" Datestamps, 1908–1911



"Birganj" Hand-dated
Postmark (1909–11)



"Kadarban III"
Negative Postmark with
Mechanical Date
(1909–1910)



"Nepal" (Kathmandu)
(1908–09)

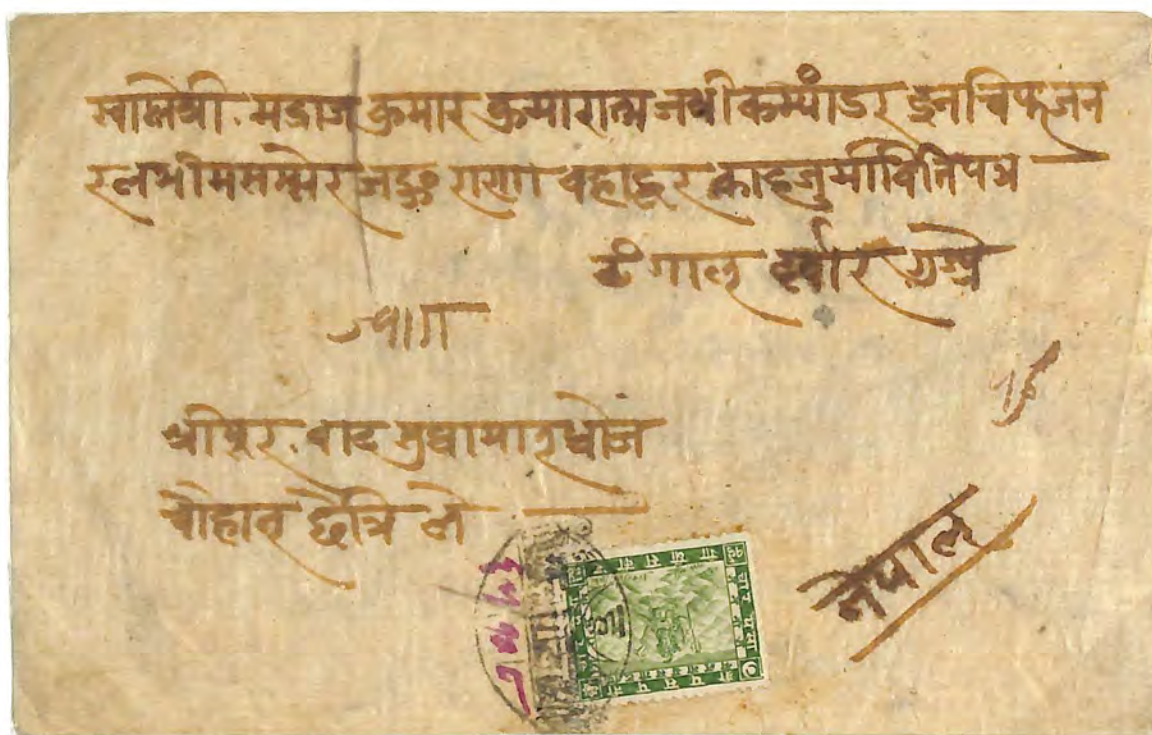


"Chitwan"
(1910–11)



"Khasra"
Royal Camp
(1911)

An important innovation of the Transition Period is the combination of a cancellation and a postmark into a single dated or hand-dated device. These were used as cancellations, arrival and transit postmarks as well as on stampless official covers. *"We have thus reached the stage of the universal postmark, which efficiently performs all of the previously separated functions."* [Hepper]



Birganj to Kathmandu, 1909. Franked with 4 pice — **single franking** — paying the **single letter rate**. Posted Birganj, "65/10/8" (January 22, 1909).

Birganj Hand-dated Ornamental Datestamp as Cancellation
"Nepal" (Kathmandu) Ornamental Postmark as Arrival Mark

A4b • Birganj “Ornamental” Datestamp on Registered Cover, 1909

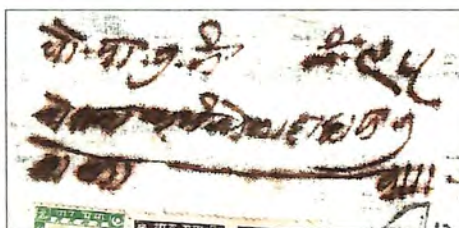


Birganj to Kathmandu, 1909. Registered cover franked with 4p and 16p (x2) paying 36p registration rate (20p registration fee + 16p quadruple letter rate). Birganj postmark hand-dated “66/6/22” (October 5, 1909). Back-stamped Kathmandu (“Nepal” Classic Datestamp), “66/6/28” (October 11, 1909).

Birganj “Ornamental” Postmark as Cancellation

- Linen Envelope Containing Tribute Coins for the Maharajah
- High Franking

Handwritten Registration Details



Registration Number (Top Right): “85”
 Sender’s Name and No. of Wax Seals: “7”
 • “Tola 3”

A4b • Kadarban Negative Postmark and Introduction of Printed Registration Label, 1910

Kadarban to Kathmandu, 1910.

Franked with seven copies of the 4 pice green paying a **28 pice registration rate**. Posted Kadarban, "67/5/14" (August 26, 1910).

Boxed Registration Label

Around 1910, a printed boxed registration was introduced:

"Rajistry"	Registration Number
"Huflak]" (P.O. Origin)	"To[la]" (Weight)

Details of the Printed Registration Label

However, not all post offices had the labels.

Note that "extra" registration information—the sender's name, number of wax seals applied, and registration number—are still written by hand on the reverse side of the cover!

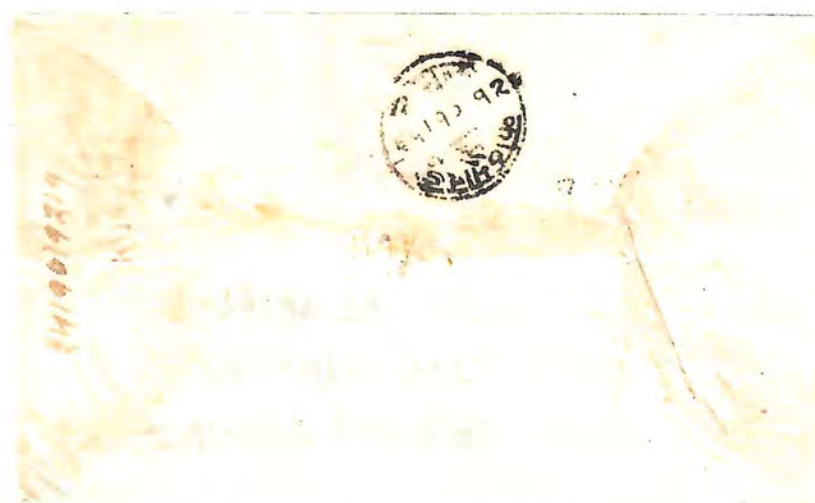
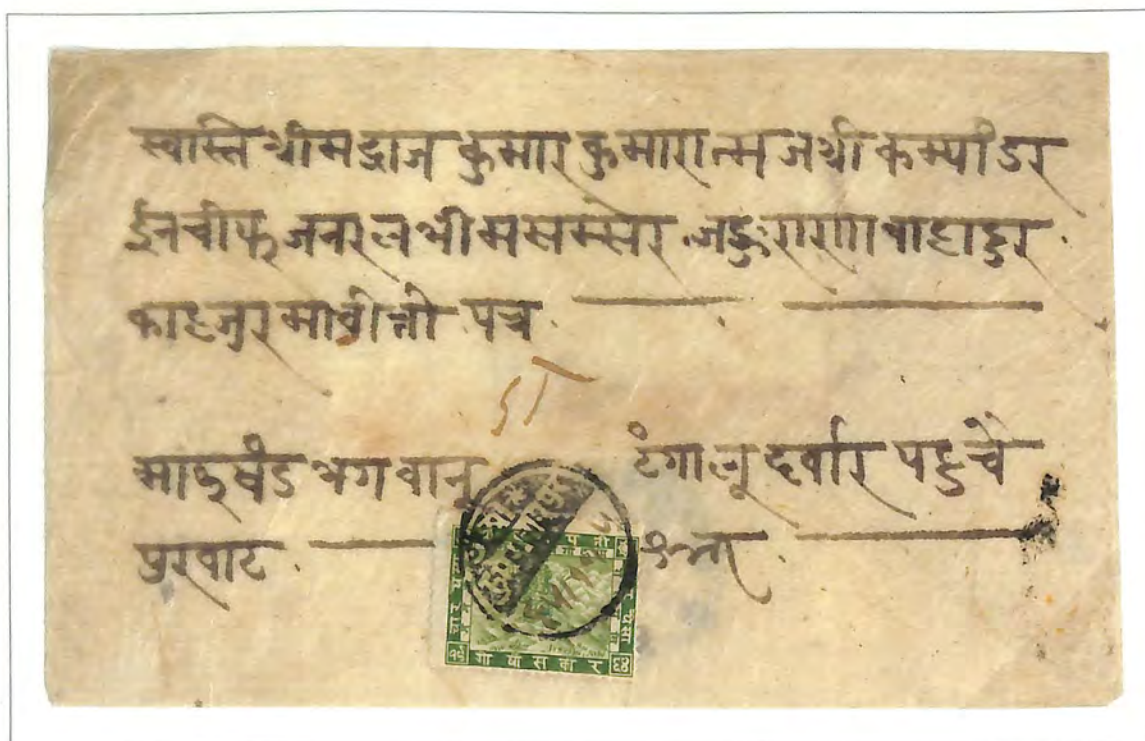


Classic Cancellations Still in Use

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Kadarban III Negative Postmark as Cancellation
"Nepal" (Kathmandu) Datestamp as Arrival Postmark

**A4b • Continuation of the Transition Period:
"Nepal" (Kathmandu) Ornamental Datestamp**



"Nepal" (Kathmandu) Ornamental Datestamp
as Arrival Postmark Dated "65/10/12" (January 26, 1909)

Bhagwanpur to Kathmandu, 1909. Franked with single copy of 4 pice value paying the single letter rate. Posted Bhagwanpur, "65/10/5" (January 19, 1909).

**Bhagwanpur Negative Postmark Used as Cancellation
"Nepal" Ornamental Datestamp as Receiving Postmark**

A4b • New Classic Ornamental Datestamps

Stampless Official Cover

Chitwan to Kathmandu, 1911.
Posted Chitwan "67/11/20"
(March 3, 1911). Gorkha trans-
sit. Kathmandu arrival, "67/10-
/22" (March 5, 1911).

New "Chitwan"
Ornamental Datestamp
as Postmark at Origin

Gorkha Negative Postmark
"Nepal" Datestamp



↑ New Chitwan Ornamental Datestamp



Bhagwanpur to Kathmandu, 1909. Franked with 4 pice value paying the **single letter rate**. Posted Bhagwanpur, "65/10/14" (January 28, 1909). Kathmandu arrival, "65/10/21" (February 4, 1909).

"Bhagwanpur" Negative Postmark as Cancellation
"Nepal" (Kathmandu) Ornamental Datestamp as Arrival Postmark

A4b • Printed Registration Label

Birganj to Trisuli
(Nuwakot), 1911.

Franked with 4, 8, and 16
pice values paying the **28**
pice registration rate.
Posted Birganj, "67/12/14"
(March 27, 1911). Trisuli
arrival, March 30, 1911.

New Birganj Printed Registration Label

"Rajistry"	# 799
"Hu Birganj"	Tola "2"

Even though a label was used,
duplicate **registration infor-**
mation is written by hand:



No. of Wax Seals: "5"
Reg'n Number: "799"



Birganj "Ornamental" Postmark as Cancellation
"Nepal" (Kathmandu) Classic Datestamp as Transit Mark
"Trisuli" Negative Postmark as Arrival Postmark

A4c(2) • Type A: "Cross" Postmark on Registered Cover with Hand-drawn Registration Label

Baglung to
Kathmandu, 1915.

Franked with 4p, 8p
and 16 values making
up **28p registration
rate: 8p double letter
+ 20p registration
fee**. Posted Baglung,
"71/11/5" (February
19, 1915).

More Reg'n Details ➡

The Sender's Name and
Number of Wax Seals,
"5". Includes "duplicate"
registration number, "No.
272", written in UL corner
of manuscript reg'n box.

**Hand-drawn
Registration Label**
Made to Resemble
Printed Label

"Rajistry"	Reg'n Number
"Hullaki" (P.O. Origin)	"To[la]" (Weight)



↑ Type D: "Hu Over Cres-
cent" as Arrival Postmark

A4c(2) • Usages • Type A: "Cross" Postmarks

Rasuwa to
Kathmandu, 1925.

Eight pice on **linen envelope**, single franking, pays **double letter rate**. Posted "82/7/4" (October 18, 1925).

Linen envelopes typically contained coins as tribute to the Maharajah. Although not a registered letter, this envelope has **10 wax seals as extra security for its contents!** (Handwritten on the right side of this side shown.)



↓ Sender's Name and Number of Wax Seals, "7"



Dailekh to Kathmandu, 1927. Six copies of the four pice pay the **24p registration rate**. Posted "83/10/??" (February, 1927). **Also canceled with private ring seals.**

Typical Paper Filing Loop in Upper Right Corner

A4c(2) • Type A: "Cross" Postmarks Plus Seal Cancels

Doti to Kathmandu, 1932.

Franked with six copies of 4p making up a **24p registration rate: 20p registration fee + 4p letter rate.** Posted, "88/11/12" (February 26, 1932).

Late Use • Additional Private Seal of Sender Shaped Like a Hand "Holding" the Stamps to the Envelope



Salyan Local Usage, 1929.

Franked with 4, 8, and 16p making up **28p registration rate.** Posted on "86/6/19" (October 2, 1929).

Late Use • Additional Private Seal "Cancellations" of Sender



A4c(3) • Type B: "Hu over Step Pyramid" Postmarks



Birganj to Kathmandu, 1914. Franked with single of 4 pice paying the single letter rate. Posted Birganj, "71/6/13" (September 27, 1914). Arrival in Kathmandu, September 28.



Birganj Local Use, 1920. Franked with 4p, 8p, and 16p values making up the 28p registration rate. Posted "76/10/21" (February 4, 1920). Appropriate registration information written above stamps.

Double Letter Rate Plus Registration

A4c(3) • Type B: "Hu Over Step Pyramid" • Printed Reg'n Label

Jaleswar to
Kathmandu, 1914.

Registered cover
franked with 4p
strip of three and
16p making up a
28p registration
rate. Posted, Jales-
war, "71/8/4" (No-
vember 17, 1914).
Kathmandu arrival,
"71/8/9" (Novem-
ber 22, 1914).

Type B: Jaleswar
"Hu Over Step
Pyramid"

Type D: "Nepal"
(Kathmandu) "Hu
Over Crescent"

**Jaleswar
Registration Label**

Note also,
additional hand-
written registration
number, "343",
sender's name
and number of
wax seals, "7",
below 4p strip.



A4c(3) • Type B: "Hu Over Step Pyramid" Postmark on Reg'd Cover

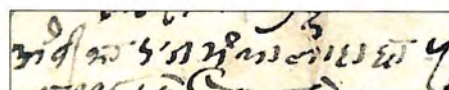


Rangeli to Kathmandu, 1917. Franked with 4p, 8p and 16p values making up the 28 pice registration rate. Posted "74/3/30" (July 13, 1917).

Handwritten Registration Details



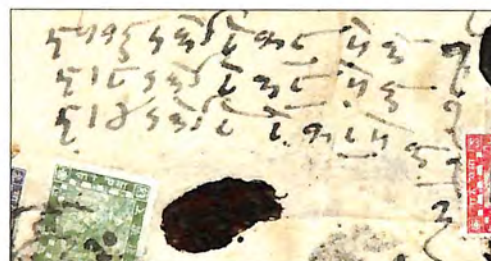
"Tola 1"



Name of the Sender and Summary of the Number of Wax Seals, "5"



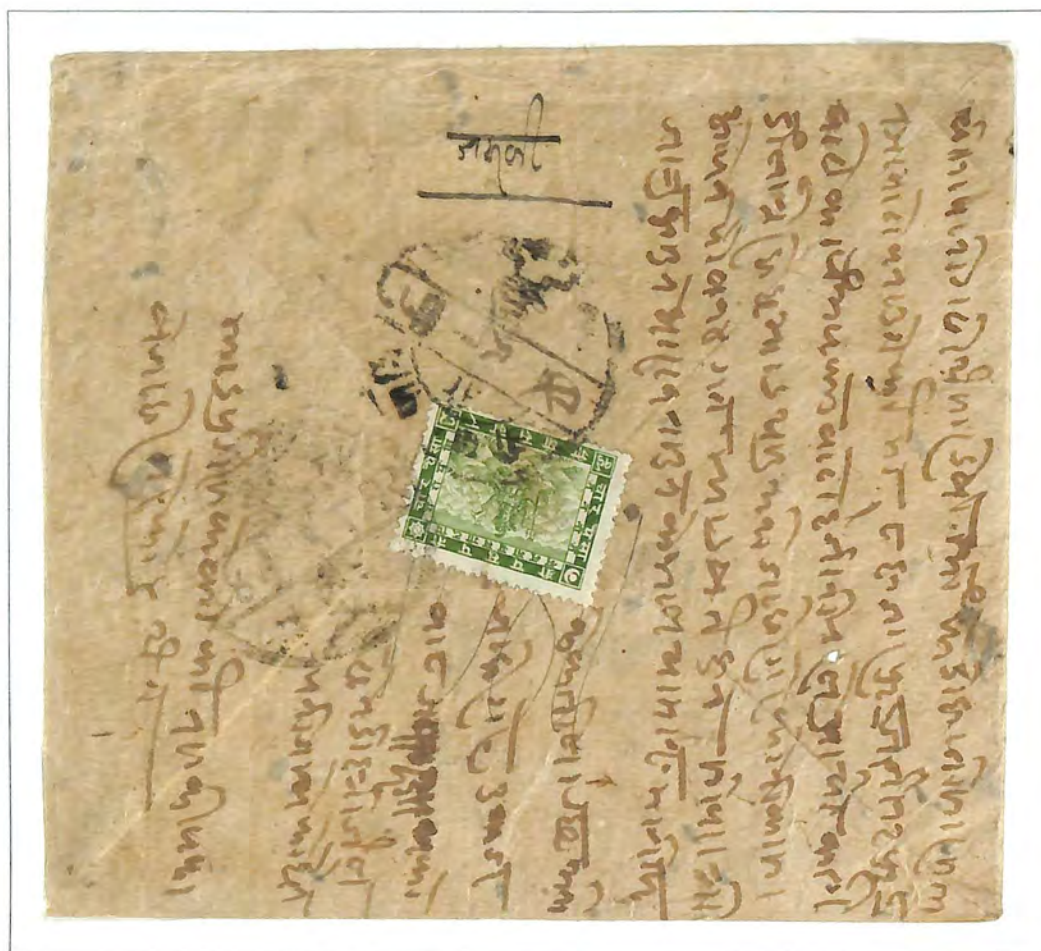
"Rajistry" No 76



Listing and Total Number of Stamps Affixed

ex "van de Wateren"

A4c(3) • Type B: "Hu Over Step Pyramid" Postmark Variety



Type B • "Hu
Over Step Pyramid"
Missing Mechanical
Date

Chisapani to ???, 1927. Four pice canceled with variety of Type B regional postmark **missing mechanical date**. Instead, date handwritten, "84/9/11" (December 25, 1927).

Single Franking • Single Letter Rate

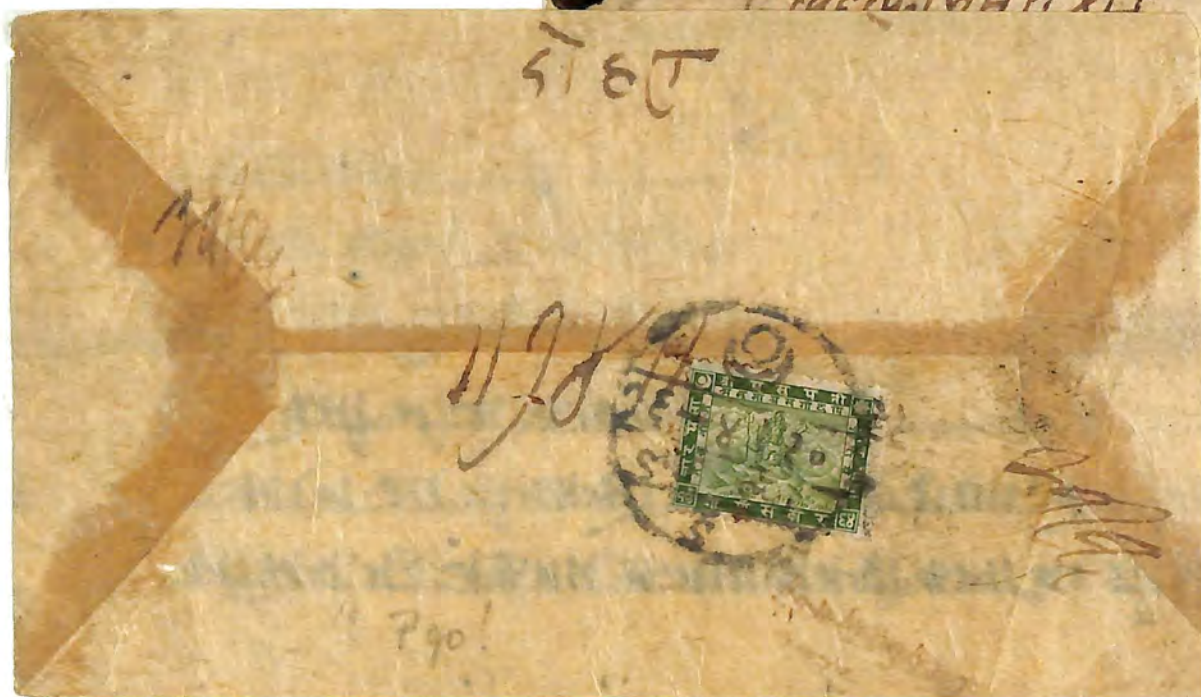
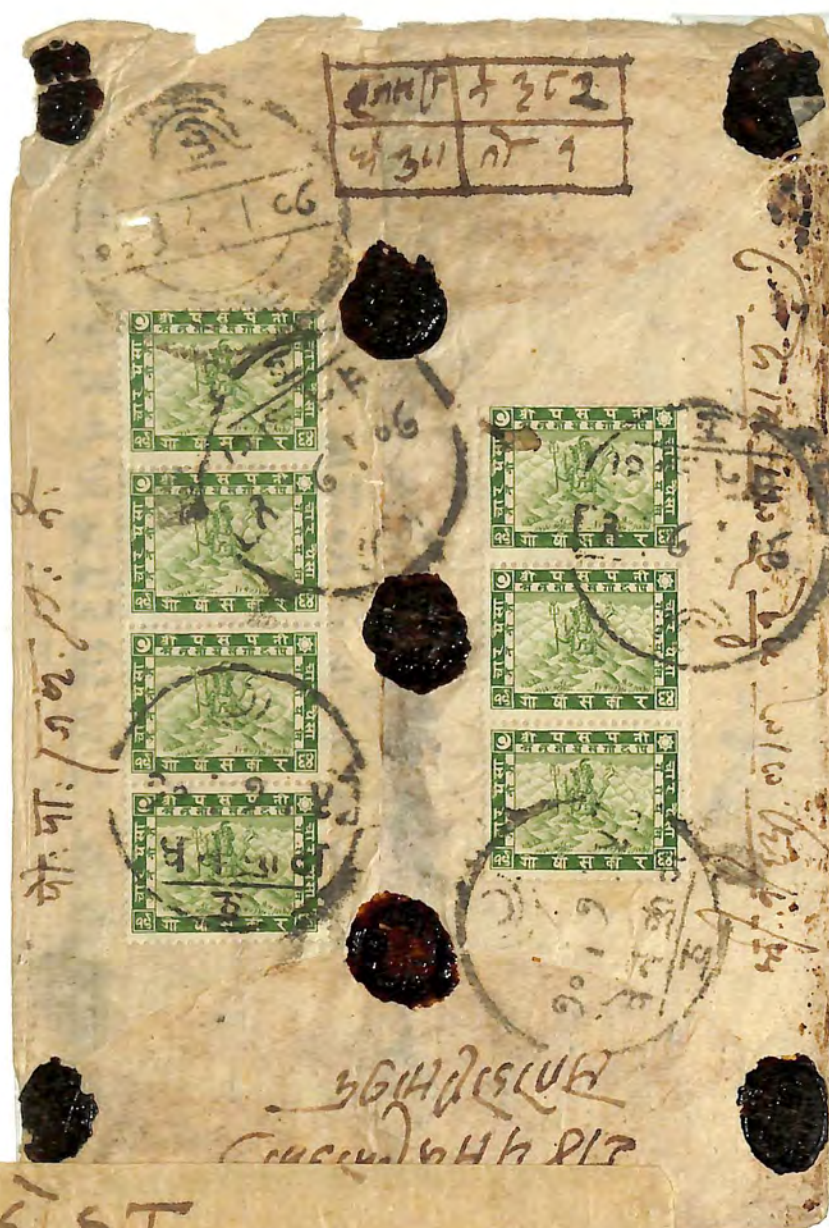
A4c(4) • Type C: "Sun Within Crescent" Postmarks

Right: Dhankuta to Kathmandu, 1913. Posted Dhankuta "70/7/5" (October 20, 1913). Franked with seven copies of 4p green making up **28p registration rate**. Arrival in Kathmandu marked by **Type D: "Hu Over Crescent"** (illegible date).

**Boxed, Hand-drawn
Registration Label**

Bottom: Lyanglyang to Birganj(?), 1919. Four pice single franking paying **domestic single letter rate**. Canceled "76/4/20" (August 3, 1919).

**Late Use of Stamp •
Cancellation = 100 points (Very
Rare) in Hellrigl "Katalog der
Poststempel von Nepal"**



A4c(4) • Type C: "Sun Within Crescent" Postmarks

Covers From Kuti, Tibet

Carried by runner from Kuti, Tibet. Posted at Tatapani, Nepal.

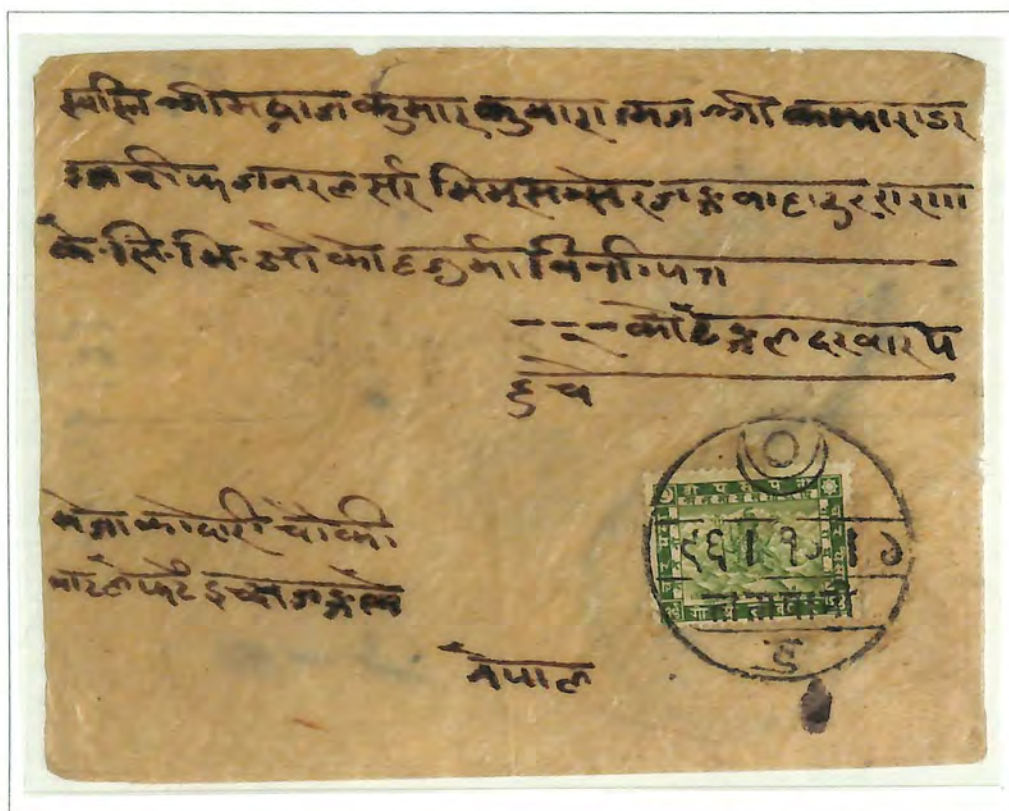


To Kathmandu, 1924. Franked with single of 4 pice paying the **single letter rate**.



To Kathmandu, 1920. Registered cover franked with seven copies of 4 pice paying the **28p registration rate**. Faint impression of manuscript registration label.

A4c(4) • Type C: "Sun Within Crescent" Postmark
on Single Franking Cover



Type C: Chautara "Sun Within Crescent" Transit
Type D: "Nepal" (Kathmandu) "Hu Over Crescent" Arrival

Tatapani to Kathmandu via Chautara, 1913. Single franking of the 4 pice pays **single letter rate**. Posted Tatapani, "96/10/7" (Year numbers transposed, "96" instead of "69") (January 21, 1913). Appropriate backstamps on reverse.

ex "Colin Hepper"

A4c(4) • Type C: "Sun Within Crescent" Postmark on Registered Insurance Letter



Insurance Control Mark (1907-1936)

Applied to registered mail containing cash showing that the amount had been checked against the amount declared.



Kathmandu Post-
mark with White
Lettering on Black
Background

Kathmandu Local Delivery, 1924. Franked with 4, 8 and 16 pice paying 24 pice registration fee and "extra" 4 pice paying the insurance registration fee. Posted Kathmandu, "81/4/26" (August 9, 1924). Extra 4 pice canceled with **Insurance Control Mark** (also known as, a Kathmandu GPO Control Cancellation) which signifies official verification of the amount declared.

"Hellrigl" Certificate

A4c(4) • Type C: "Sun Within Crescent" Postmark and Private Ring Seals on Registered Cover

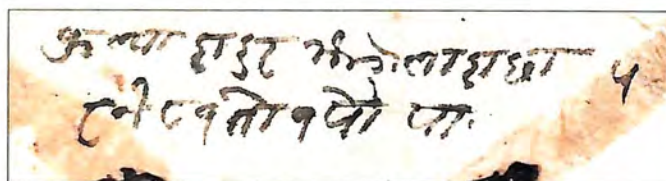
➔
Note: As described earlier in this exhibit, a damaged envelope corner is characteristic of rough removal from the bureaucratic filing system!

Sindhuli to Kathmandu, 1927.

Franked with seven copies of 4p value making up the **28p registration rate**.

Private ring seals applied before posting to tie stamps to the cover ensuring that they could not be removed.

Posted Sindhuli, "84/4/15" (July 30, 1927). No Kathmandu arrival postmark.



Registration Details (Top, Side Showing)
Name of Sender and Number of Wax Seals, "5"
Registration Number: "81" • "To[la] 1"

A4c(4) • Type C: "Sun Within Crescent" Postmark on Commercial Letter

During the Pashupati period, most mail was "official," that is, to the Maharaja, government officials, and so on. However, some mail was to merchants, like this letter.



Tatapani to Kathmandu, 1928. Franked with 4p value paying the domestic single letter rate. Stamp canceled with Tatapani postmark dated "85/7/5" (October 19, 1928).

Type C: Tatapani "Sun Within Crescent" Postmark

A Note About Application of the Stamp and the Manuscript Inscription

The stamp must have required glue which was applied at the post office counter using the following process: stamp was laid face down on the envelope; the characteristic deep brown glue applied; and then, the stamp affixed. This left a perfect outline of the stamp complete with impressions of the perforations! This, by the way, is not a new practice as it appears on examples in the Classic period, too.

Note also the drawing of the Nepalese flag and the warning "74". These symbols were commonly used by Nepalese traders, particularly those operating in and around the border between Nepal and Tibet.

A4c(4) • Type C: "Sun Within Crescent" Postmarks on Multiple Franking Covers

Right: Birganj to Kathmandu, 1924. Franked with seven copies of 4p value paying the **28p registration rate**. Canceled Birganj dated "81-/4/1[8]" (August 1, 1924).

Bottom: Dhankuta to Kathmandu(?), 1929. Franked with 8p (x3) and 4p paying **28p registration rate**. Posted Dhankuta, dated "86/5/18" (September 1, 1929). No Kathmandu postmark.



**A4c(5) • Type D: Kathmandu "Hu Over Crescent"
as Arrival Postmarks**

Pokhara to Kathmandu, 1913.
Franked with 4p
canceled with
Pokhara **Type A:**
"Cross" cancella-
tion. Kathmandu
arrival, "69/10/14"
(January 28, 1913).

Single Letter Rate



Dahaban to Kathmandu, 1913.
Franked with 4p
canceled Dahaban
Type A: "Cross"
cancellation dated
"69/10/1[?]" (Febru-
ary ??, 1913). Kath-
mandu arrival "69-
/10/26" (February 9,
1913).

Single Letter Rate



Very Clear Impressions of Kathmandu Postmark Suggest Early Usage!

A4c(5) • Type D: "Hu Over Crescent" Postmark
on Registered Cover



Siraha to Kathmandu, 1914. Franked with 16p on front, three copies of 4p on back paying 28 pice registration rate. Posted Siraha "70/9/28" (January 11, 1914). Kathmandu arrival on "70/10/3" (January 17, 1914).

Type D: Kathmandu "Hu Over Crescent" Arrival Postmark
Type B: Siraha "Hu Over Step Pyramid" Postmark

**A4c(6) • Type E: Terhathum “Hand-dated Negative Postmark”
on Single Letter Rate Cover**



Terhathum to Kathmandu, 1930.
Franked with 4 pice (late use) canceled
“Terhathum” on “87/1/17” (April 30,
1930). Also features private ring seal of
the sender. Kathmandu arrival post-
mark dated “87/1/28” (May 11, 1930).

Addressed to the “Maharaja Bhim
Shumsher Jang Bahadur Rana, KCSI,
KCVO, Honorary Colonel British Army,
Prime Minister and Supreme Comman-
der-in-Chief ...”.

Maharaja Bhim Shumsher
Jang Bahadur Rana (1929-32)
in Center (with White Beard)
Surrounded by a Few
of His Male Relatives



**Hepper Says Date of Use of the Terhathum Postmark is 1933,
But This Cover Shows an Earlier Date of 1930! • Terhathum Cancellation = 95 points
in Hellrigl “Katalog der Poststempel von Nepal”**

A4c(6) • Type E: Chainpur II “Hand-dated Negative Postmark”
on Registered Cover



Chainpur to
Kathmandu, 1925.

Six copies of the 4 pice value making up the **24p registration rate**, all canceled with **Chainpur II Type E: Negative Postmark** dated “84/6-25” (October 8, 1927).

No arrival backstamp was applied. **Usual corner damage** from rough removal from the **Nepalese bureaucratic filing system**.



Handwritten Registration Details (Top, Above Stamp)
Name of Sender and Number of Wax Seals, “5”
Registration Number, “49”

A4c(6) • Type E: Taplejung “Hand-dated Negative Postmark” Plus Personal Seal Cancels on Double Letter Rate Cover

Cloth covers (linen) usually contained an item of value — tribute coins for the Maharajah, for example — and usually bear wax seals similar to those used on registered letters. They generally required double letter rate postage.



Taplejung to Kathmandu, 1925. Franked with pair of the 4 pice paying the **double letter rate**. Posted, Taplejung, “81/12/19” (April 2, 1925). Along with the **Type E: “Taplejung” postmark**, stamps are also tied to cover with the personal seals of the Maharajah. Partial Kathmandu receiving postmark.

Handwritten Registration Details



Sender's Name and Number of Wax Seals, “5”
Reg'n No: “1” • Toll[a]: “2” • Stamps Affixed: “2”**

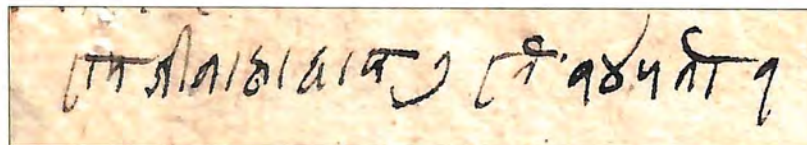
** The “Stamps Affixed” Notation is Unusual Since This is Not a Registered Cover

A4c(6) • Type E: Taplejung “Hand-dated Negative Postmark”
on Registered Cover



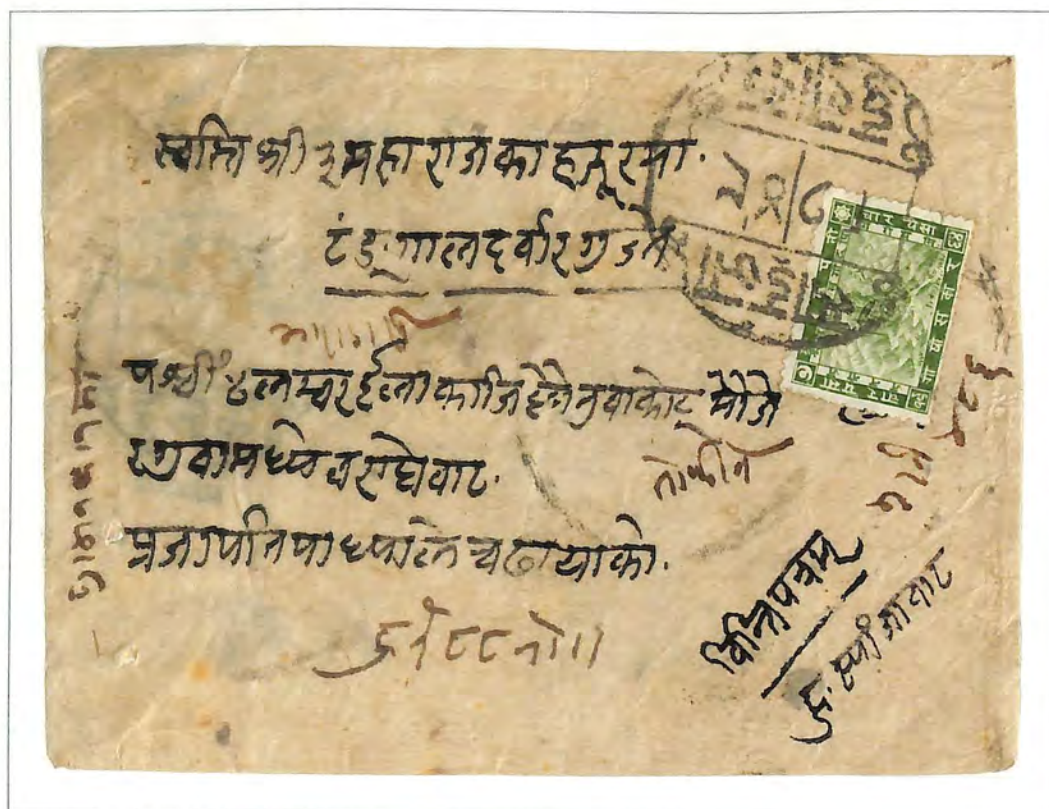
Taplejung to Kathmandu, 1930. Franked with two 4 pice and one 16 pice making up the **24 pice registration rate**. Stamps canceled with **Type E: “Taplejung” Hand-dated Negative Postmarks** (95pts in Hellrigl) dated “87/7/16” (October 30, 1930). No Kathmandu arrival postmark.

Address Side: Handwritten Registration Details



Name of Sender and Number of Wax Seals: “7”
Registration No.: “145” • To[la]: “1”

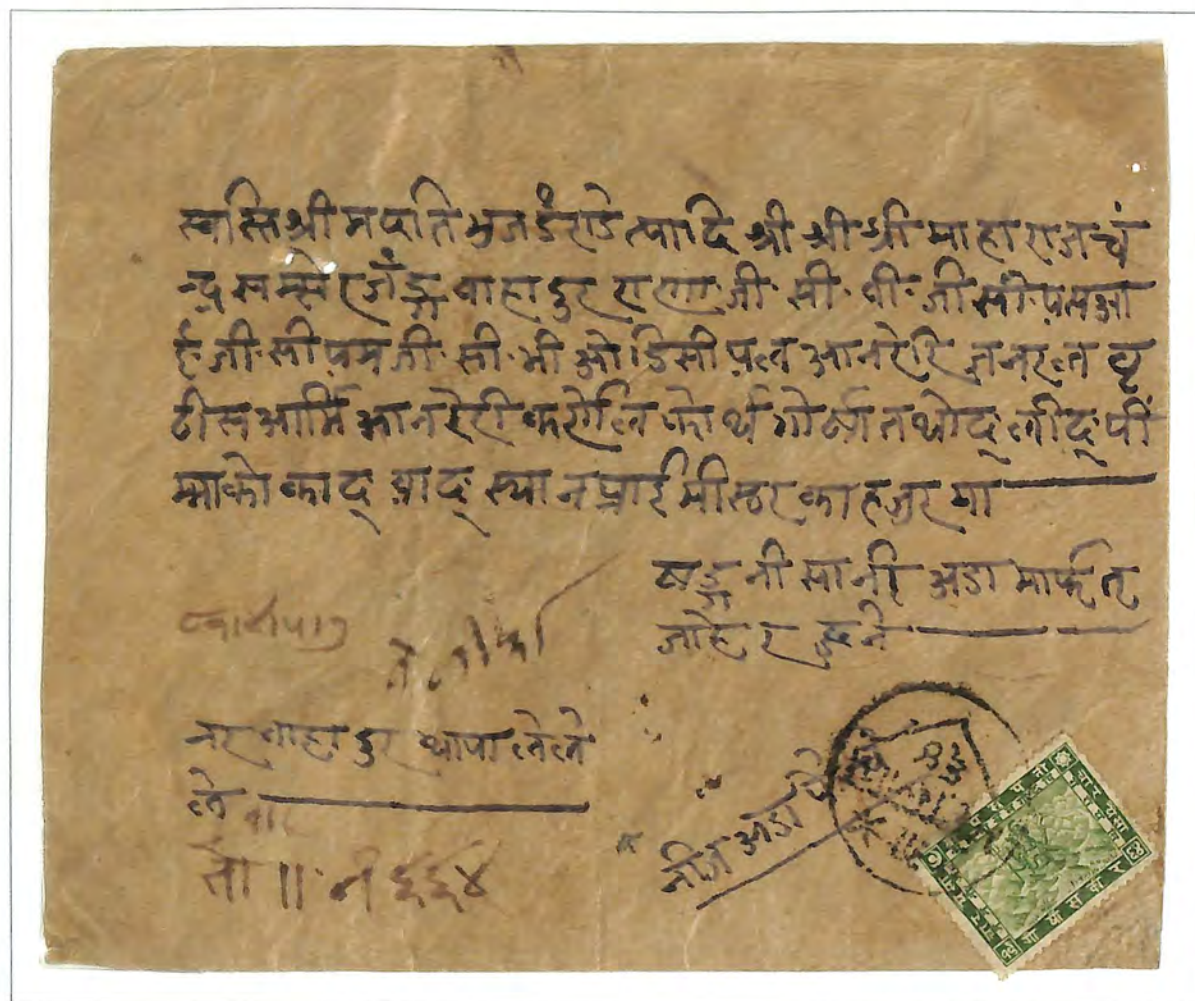
A4c(7) • Type F: "Large Ornamental Postmark" on Reg'd Cover



Syangja to Kathmandu, 1930. Posted Syangja on "87/4/9" (July 23, 1930). Franked with seven copies of 4p value making up the **28p registration rate**. Late use of the 4p value. No Kathmandu arrival.

Registration details handwritten on front and back of cover. Front: Reg'n No. "88" and To[la] "2". Back: Sender's Name and Number of Wax Seals, "5".

A4d • Miscellaneous Postmarks: Insurance Control Mark



Insurance Control Mark
(1907–1936)



Applied to registered mail containing cash showing that the amount had been checked against the amount declared.



Kathmandu Local Usage. Franked with 8p and 16p values making up the **24p registration rate**. Additional 4p value, canceled with insurance control mark, paying an insurance fee. Posted Kathmandu G.P.O. on "81/4/4" (July 18, 1924). Appropriate registration marking on front and back of cover.

Type C: Kathmandu G.P.O. "Sun Within Crescent" Postmark • ex "Hellrigl"

A4d • Miscellaneous Postal Marking: Pen Cancellation
on Two Pice "Official" Letter Rate Cover



"Sawari" Camp to Kathmandu, ca. 1925. Franked with two pice value tied by **Pen Cross Cancellation**. Addressed to the "Commander-in-Chief General Bhim Shumsher Jang Bahadur Rana..." Undated, as is usual, probably between 1925 to 1929 (Bhim Shumsher becomes prime minister in 1929). No arrival backstamps. The Sawari camp was the hunting location in the Terai (near Chitwan) for the King and the Rana family, hereditary prime ministers of Nepal.

ex "Heddergott"



King George V's Hunting Party
on His Visit to Nepal in 1911

The Terai region of Nepal is a narrow strip of flat land bordering India. Being part of the plain of the river Ganges, its southern area is very fertile agricultural land. Its northern part is marshy and abounds in wild animals. The Nepali Ranas used this area as a royal hunting reserve from 1846 to 1951, and maintained a good supply of game for themselves and their guests through the strict enforcement of game laws. "The forested areas of the Terai are home to tigers, leopards, gaurs (wild ox), occasional elephants and buffalo, and many deer. The Lesser Rapti Valley, in the Chitwan district, is one of the last homes of the great Indian rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*)."

(Encyclopaedia Britannica, s.v. Nepal).

A4d • Miscellaneous Postmarks / Cancellations: Seals



To Prime Minister's Camp P.O., 1925. Franked with 2p pair paying the **4p single letter rate**. Canceled with seals of the Commander-in-Chief, Bhim Shumsher Jung [Bahadur Rana]. Hand dated, January 7, 1925.

?? to Kathmandu, 1928.

Small oval seals with manuscript date alongside, "85 /7/-15" November 29, 1928. Two copies of the 4p pay **double letter rate** for heavy linen envelope which probably contained tribute coins for the Maharajah.

Although not required on a regular letter, wax seals applied for extra protection.



A4d • Miscellaneous Postal Markings: Private Seals of Senders



Piuthan To Kathmandu, 19??. Ornate oval cancels six copies of the 4 pice making up **24p registration rate**. Posted Piuthan, "88/6/8" (September 22, 1931). Kathmandu arrival, "88/6/10" (September 24, 1931). Registration details on stamp side: Sender's Name and Number of Wax Seals Applied, "7".

Type A: Piuthan "Cross" Postmark (On Address Side)

Type B: "Nepal" (Kathmandu) "Hu Over Step Pyramid" Arrival Postmark

To Kathmandu, 19??. Registered cover franked with 4p, 8p and 16p making up **28p registration rate**. Fancy oval signet seal cancellation. Handwritten registration details on stamp side: sender's name and number of wax seals, "5"; and, inventory of stamps affixed.

