





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 continent. For information on advertising rates, write the publisher.

MEMBERSHIP DUES		
	United States	Rest of the World
One Year	US\$ 7.00	L 4.00
Three Years	US\$ 19.00	L 11.00

American Philatelic Society Affiliate #122  
British Philatelic Federation Affiliate #435

#### OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES

##### Officers

PRESIDENT: Dr. Pierre Couvreur  
 PATRONS: Mac Linscott Ricketts  
 Harrison D.S. Haverbeck, FRPSL  
 SECRETARY: Colin Hepper 4 Osric Court, Danes Close, Peterborough, Cambs Gt. Britain  
 EDITOR: Lester Michel 309 Yucca Circle, Colorado Springs, CO 80906 USA  
 PUBLISHER: Tom Matthiesen Box 406, Duvall, WA 98019 USA

##### Representatives

EUROPE Colin Hepper 4 Osric Court, Danes Close, Peterborough, Cambs, Gt. Britain  
 INDIA Essell Dee & Sons National Agencies, Sheranwala Gate, Patiala 147 011 India  
 NEPAL Dhruva Rudra P O Box 80, Gana Bahal, Kathmandu, Nepal  
 U.S.A. Roger D. Skinner 1020 Covington Road, Los Altos, CA 94022 USA

#### LIST OF NEW MEMBERS

Mr. R. Bayetti 11 Rue A. Herdet, F-0400 Digne, FRANCE  
 Edward Chu P O Box 1221, Montreal, Quebec H3B 3K9, CANADA  
 Raymond Price 2 Plume Court, Glen Waverley, Victoria, 3150 AUSTRALIA

#### REINSTATED MEMBERS

H. Garratt-Adams, Kinnersley Castle, Kinnersley, Hereford, GREAT BRITAIN  
 Theodore Heying 735-B Quinnipiac Lane, Stratford, CT 06497 USA  
 Hans Wittman Stienmetzstrasse 5, D-6200 Wiesbaden, WEST GERMANY

#### ADDRESS CHANGES

Malcome W. Campbell, c/o 50 Maitland St, Mitcham, South Aust., 5062, AUSTRALIA  
 Mr. D. W. Hatch 779 Pheasant Run, Cortland, NY 13045, USA

OUR COVER ILLUSTRATION for this issue shows the "Postal Order Service" note used by the Nepal G.P.O. starting in 1966. This and other money order services are covered in the article by S. L. Shrestha starting on page 19 of this issue.

Dear Friends,

There is much to call to your attention at this writing. Uppermost in the minds of some of us is the appearance, at long last, of the book written by Dr. Wolfgang Hellrigl & Frank Vignola on The Classic Stamps of Nepal. It is reviewed in this issue by a longtime student of Nepal philately, Dr. Armand E. Singer. I can add little to that review, other than to reinforce his use of the word "indispensable" and to add that the book is also "beautiful" in every sense of the word. Ten years in the making, this work is well worth the wait--and the price.

With this issue, we enclose the new membership listing. Please check the entry for yourself and report any error or change to Roger Skinner as soon as possible. A few new members may be disappointed at not finding their name and address listed. If your entry is not in this 1984 list and if it does not appear on the back of the cover page under NEW MEMBERS in either this issue or the previous one (No. 37) you are requested to write to Roger Skinner immediately.

The new format of this page was suggested by one of our members & permits us to include a timely column by our Secretary, Colin Hepper, who reminds us that our Study Circle is marking its tenth birthday and suggests some ways of celebrating the event.

Your editor notes that he took on the responsibility for this publication five years ago & wishes to thank each of you for your support--especially those who have contributed articles, questions, suggestions, criticisms or words of appreciation. It has been a fine learning experience for me and I am well aware that improvements can be made. Each of us has something to contribute, so let me hear from you.

Lester A. Michel

P.S.--Best wishes to Rev. Arthur Bruce Moss, who recently marked his 97th birthday. May you have many more in store, Rev. Moss.

THE NEPAL & TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY  
CIRCLE - 10 YEARS ON

--Colin Hepper

This year our Study Circle is ten years old. I am sure that the few members who replied to my first single sheet news letter must be quite proud to look at the production we have now and the achievements we have made. In particular, this is shown in the books our society has produced. Although these have been written by a few individuals, it would not have been possible without the tremendous co-operation received from the members. I am sure also that many of our members have benefited from the meetings, both small and large, and the good comradeship it encourages.

Over all this period of time we have tried to run the Study Circle on a "subscriptions cover the cost" basis. This has always meant that, at the end of each year, our finances are low and we, like everyone else, continue to try to keep up with inflation. It would seem that, in January 1985, our subscriptions will have to be increased by about 25% to keep our heads above water. So, I feel that, after 10 years, we should try to improve our finances and put our organisation on a sounder base.

There are a number of ways this may be achieved, one of which would be to introduce a life membership subscription, which may be around £100+, with the Study Circle benefiting from the interest income. If any of you have any other suggestions please let me have your views.

As one of the founder members of the Study Circle, I would like to suggest that we 'celebrate' ten years of existence by running an auction early in 1985 with material donated by members. I am sure that all of us have a few items we could spare, and remember, they do not have to be expensive. Let's make the first auction of '85 one with totally donated material to help the Study Circle attain a better financial base for the next ten years. All items to be sent to me, Colin Hepper, at the address on the inside front cover.

## EXHIBITION NEWS

1984 is a year in which our members have already been active in a variety of exhibitions. First honors this year went to Art Whitehead. A report in a publication of the U.S. Forest Service in Utah (for which Art works) reads: "Another blue ribbon was acquired by Art Whitehead at the stamp show in the Ogden City Mall last week-end. His winning entry was a single frame of old Nepal stamps, described by an official as 'a very scholarly work.'" Congratulations, Art.

John A. (Jack) Young, Jr. garnered a GOLD for his Nepal exhibit at SARAPEX '84, held in Sarasota, Florida, on 10-12 February. Jack was also busy in March, exhibiting his Nepal in Richmond Virginia, on 9-11, gathering in another GOLD. Nice work, Jack.

Arthur F. Ackley received the GRAND AWARD, plus a GOLD, at SOPLEX-HIPLEX '84, in Lubbock, Texas, for his exhibit of "Tibet - Stamps & Postal Markings."

Allen D. Kerr received a GOLD for his exhibit of "Hong Kong: Postal Cards of the Queen Victoria Era" at TEXANEX '84 on 5-6 May in San Antonio, Texas.

The following weekend, Jack Young was at WESTPEX '84, in San Francisco, where he received a VERMEIL for his Tibet exhibit. And, one week later, Jack's Nepal exhibit brought him another VERMEIL at ROMPEX '84, in Denver, Colorado. We had hoped to award the fine Study Circle Award plaque at ROMPEX, but were unable to do so, since Jack's exhibit was the only one qualified.

Your editor and Jack Young were the only ones present for the Regional Meeting of the Study Circle at ROMPEX, although Russ Sanford, as a judge, was much in evidence at the show. At our meeting, your editor presented his study of "Nepal--The Telephone/Telegraph Story" and Jack Young reported on the WESTPEX Study Circle meeting of the previous weekend. Five members were present: Frank Vignola, his son, Dr. Frank E. Vignola, John R. (Jack) Young, Jr., Roger Skinner and William (Bill) McConnell, who writes the column on "Asian Area Philately" for Stamp Collector, a popular weekly newspaper. Your editor manned a table for our

Study Circle during the 3-day show and did his best to inform any and all concerning our growing organization.

Last, but not least, Dr. Wolfgang C. Hellrigl, first president of the Study Circle, finally got around to mounting his Nepal collection & entered 9 frames at PRIXNA '84, a large Italian national exhibition with strong international participation. As a special feature, PRIXNA '84 was limited to classic collections. Dr. Hellrigl, in his first effort at exhibiting, not only received a GOLD medal, but also received the GRAND AWARD for the best collection featuring a foreign (i.e., other than Italian) country. Congratulations are in order, not only to Dr. Hellrigl, but also to each of these people who have kept our area of interest before the public and have earned well-deserved honors.

If your editor has overlooked anyone who deserves to be recognized for his, or her, awards at exhibitions around the world, please let me know, as we all wish to share your success.

## REGIONAL MEETING OF THE STUDY CIRCLE SCHEDULED FOR RIPEX '85

--Frank Vignola

For the first time, a regional meeting of the Nepal & Tibet Philatelic Study Circle will be held on the east coast. It will be held in conjunction with RIPEX '85, a National Philatelic Exhibition in Providence, Rhode Island, 19-21 April 1985. The Rhode Island Philatelic Society, Inc. (RIPEX) will be celebrating their centennial year and also will be hosting the American Philatelic Society Spring Meeting at the Baltimore Hotel, Kennedy Plaza, Providence, Rhode Island.

Frank Vignola will be one of the judges at RIPEX '85 and he will chair the Nepal & Tibet Philatelic Study Circle meeting. It is hoped that east coast members of the Study Circle will attend and that those with exhibits will enter them in the competition.

Official exhibit entry forms can be obtained from Kenneth Woodbury, Box 449 West Warwick, Rhode Island 02893.

#### PRESIDENT'S PRIZE AWARDED

The first President's Prize has been awarded to Nicholas G. Rhodes for his article on the "Williamson Collection of Tibetan Stamps" which appeared in Postal Himal No. 36, pp. 41-46. Our Study Circle President, Dr. Pierre Couvreur, has presented an appropriate cheque to Mr. Rhodes and your editor prepared a certificate for the recipient. Your editor was given the responsibility of choosing the winner, but was not provided with guide lines for making the choice. Our congratulations to Mr. Rhodes, as we remind one & all that a second President's Prize will be made for articles appearing in 1984.



#### QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

The illustrated postmark ("Posted at Kathmandu") has been found on a number of the 1960-63 issue service stamps. This illustration has been made up from part cancellations on four stamps and there is a date in the centre band but it cannot be distinguished. Has any other member seen this postmark? And, if so, was it used only on official mail? Please send replies to: Colin Hepper, 4 Osric Court, Peterborough, Cambs. PE1 5LW, England.



#### CHANGES IN NEPAL PHILATELIC PROGRAMME FOR 1983

The first issue for 1983 marked the Silver Jubilee of the Nepal Industrial Development Corporation, but was issued on 15 July, rather than 17 July as scheduled--and in a denomination of 50p, rather than Rs. 1.40.

A stamp not listed originally was issued on 1 August to mark the Silver Jubilee of Royal Nepal Airlines, using the familiar theme of a jet plane near a lovely mountain, with the RNAC emblem in the lower left corner. The denomination was Rs. 1.00.

The third issue of the year marked World Communications Year and appeared on 30 October, with a denomination of 10p, rather than the listed Rs. 1.00.

The set of four Nepal Folk Musical Instrument Series, printed separately, appeared on 3 November. We note that the denomination of the 3rd stamp in the set was changed from 25p to 50p.

#### CHANGES IN NEPAL PHILATELIC PROGRAMME FOR 1984

According to "Philatelic Preview" in STAMP COLLECTOR for 13 August 1984, on p. 12, Nepal has issued three stamps this year:

On 28 June, a previously unlisted stamp was issued to mark the 25th Anniversary of the Office of Auditor-General, in a denomination of 25p.

The second stamp marked the 20th Anniversary of the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union, in a denomination of Rs. 5, a fact not mentioned in the original Philatelic Programme.

The third stamp marked the 25th Anniversary of Tribhuvan University. It appeared on 8 July in a denomination of 50p.



NEPAL & TIBET PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE  
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (Hepper)  
31 March 1984

<u>INCOME</u> (£ = British pounds)	
Subscriptions	£357.50
Bank Interest	63.96
Commission - Auction No. 23	53.55
"    No. 24	121.24
"    No. 25	114.70
"    No. 26	72.54
Commission-Pashupati Book Sales	14.00
Reclaimed Postage	1.00
Reclaimed Customs Duty	12.80
	<u>£811.29</u>
Cash at Bank (31 March 1983)	39.43
	<u>£850.72</u>

<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	
Postage - Auction No. 24	36.27
"    No. 25	36.80
"    No. 26	35.14
"    No. 27	37.11
All other postage	31.96
Printing Auction Lists	81.00
Bank Charges	3.02
B.P.F. Subscription	5.00
Lost Auction Lot	14.66
Loss on Auction No. 25	34.00
Transferred to L. A. Michel	102.95
Transferred to R. Skinner	100.98
Hellrigl/Vignola Book	100.00
	<u>£618.87</u>
Cash at Bank (31 March 1984)	231.85
	<u>£850.72</u>

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (Michel)  
31 March 1984

<u>INCOME</u> (\$ = American dollars)	
Trans. from C. Hepper (L102.95)	\$157.00
Cash at Bank (31 March 1983)	127.20
	<u>\$284.20</u>
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	
Postage	51.69
Telephone call	2.80
Transferred to T. Matthiesen	25.00
Transferred to R. Skinner	200.00
	<u>279.49</u>
Cash at Bank (31 March 1984)	4.71
	<u>\$284.20</u>

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (Skinner)  
4 January 1982 through 20 May 1984

<u>INCOME</u> (Beginning balance: \$ 0.00)	
Receipts from Auctions	1396.15
Receipts from Dues	943.28
Receipts from Miscellaneous	173.94
	<u>\$2513.37</u>
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	
Postal Himal Printing	\$ 357.72
Postal Himal Postage	320.71
Postal Himal Printing & Postage (transferred to T. Matthiesen)	1606.80
Miscellaneous Expenses	54.74
	<u>2339.97</u>
Total Expenses	2339.97
Balance on Hand (20 May 1984)	\$ 173.40



MEMBER PRICES FOR BACK ISSUES OF STUDY  
CIRCLE PUBLICATIONS

<u>Individual Issues</u>	<u>USA</u>	<u>EUROPE</u>	<u>ASIA</u>
Newsletter #1-15	50¢	90¢	\$1.00
Newsletter #16-24	50¢	90¢	\$1.00
Postal Himal #25-32	\$2.37	\$2.96	\$3.16
<u>Complete Sets</u>			
Newsletters #1-15	\$9.05	\$10.14	\$10.74
Newsletters #16-24	\$5.88	\$ 7.14	\$ 7.74
Postal Himal#25-32	\$16.90	\$18.52	\$19.72
Index to NL #1-24			
plus PH #25-32	\$2.54	\$3.32	\$3.62
Complete Set of all NL + PH (#1-32 with Index)	\$33.39	\$36.74	\$39.34

Note: The prices quoted above include postage charges, which differ for the three areas indicated.

Non-member prices for these publications are 25% higher than member prices.

Order all items from this list and make check payable to: Roger Skinner, 1020 Covington Road, Los Altos, CA 94022, USA.

## PUBLICATIONS

Wolfgang C. Hellrigl & Frank Vignola, The Classic Stamps of Nepal (Bozen, Italy: The Nepal & Tibet Philatelic Study Circle, 1984), 215 pp., U.S. \$40; Obtainable from either of the authors: Dr. Wolfgang C. Hellrigl, P.O. Box 349, 39100 Bozen, Italy, or Frank Vignola, 105 - 22nd Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94121, USA.

--Reviewed by Armand E. Singer

It is difficult to see substantially how to improve upon this study. It is superbly printed on coated paper, sturdily hardbound, excellently & profusely illustrated (sheets, pieces, blowups of singles, etc.), inclusive of all known shades, printings, settings, papers, flaws, errors & forgeries of the classic one-half-, one-, two- and four-anna issues, 1881-1930.

The study boasts detailed charts of positions of inverted cliches and inscription distances from the framelines --even drawings of some of the marginal inscriptions themselves shown against an outline of the top rows of the stamps. There is a priced section allotting points for comparative rarity, & a correlation of numbers with those used by Gibbons, Scott and Michel. The author's own setting numbers are also compared with Smythies-Dawson's in their 1945 booklet, Dawson's in his 1957 articles, and Haverbeck's in his 1962 book. Vignola wrote the lengthy history of the classic issues (pp. 26-53) and Hellrigl the study of the settings (pp. 5-200). A bibliography of fifty-five items, briefly but helpfully described, rounds out the volume (pp. 201-05). Both authors obviously must have collaborated on both sections & admit benefiting as well from correspondence with the many serious collectors in our Study Circle.

I feel sure that the study owes much to the authors' own collections; that of Vignola, winner of countless awards, being one of the world's finest. (See Exhibition News elsewhere in this issue, for an account of Dr. Hellrigl's outstanding success in his first exhibition featuring, of course, the 'classic' issues of Nepal.--Ed.) Both writers are rated among the most knowledgeable students of Nepalese philately--a fact very

evident in a volume over ten years in the researching and writing and filled with pride in their scholarship.

How to tell one printing or setting from another with these classic issues has always been a tangled, vexatious problem. Haverbeck's and Dawson's pioneer studies are useful but not entirely satisfactory. George Alevizos' 1976 priced guide is aimed at distinguishing between individual copies, not multiples or sheets. The present volume is the first virtually complete listing of all settings, printings, chronologies, minor variations, shades, etc., described so clearly and accurately that they can hardly be mixed up. It is worth noting that Smythies-Dawson (1945) lists 48 settings; Dawson alone (1957) 57; Haverbeck (1962) found 58. Hellrigl-Vignola catalog 85. There surely will not be many more, if any, to come to light.

I began by doubting the possibility of substantial improvement in this study. Some users might regret the absence of colored illustrations in so expensive a book. These would introduce even more expense into a specialized volume with a necessarily modest printing &, to my way of thinking, hardly justifiable. A bit more might have been said about the one-half anna camp provisional black seal first described by Dawson and illustrated in Haverbeck's Postage Stamps of Nepal (1962), p. 42, supposedly only one copy known, but the authors could argue that it is not a true stamp. Dr. Hellrigl states unconditionally (p. 175) that the famous one-anna cliche occurring as No. 8 in the four-anna sheet--the classic Nepal error--is, as well, inverted. All the sheets that I have seen--not many, of course--show the cliche so blurred as to make a firm decision virtually impossible. I would tend to call them not inverted; in any case, I must remain unconvinced. Photos of any clearly tete-beche copies would be most welcome. As for misprints, I found nothing significant. The "ragged cliche" (p. 151) did manage to get reversed from left to right in the illustration (proof that even the most meticulous proofreader is human).

Reviewers are always calling the books they describe "indispensable." I must step once more into the breach and call

Review of Hellrigl-Vignola Nepal book,  
A. E. Singer (concluded)--

this an indispensable book, with complete assurance. If it fails to gain gold medals for philatelic literature at international exhibitions, a great injustice is in the making.



Wolfgang Hellrigl & Karl Gabrisch, Tibet: A Philatelic and Numismatic Bibliography (Santa Monica, CA: George Alevizos, 1983); printing of 300, of which the first 25 are hardbound at \$40.00; otherwise, \$14.00.

--Reviewed by Armand E. Singer

The philatelic section, by Dr. Hellrigl, consists of 314 entries, divided into philately & postal history (246 items), ink & wax seals (13 new entries), catalogues (13 entries), and a selection of auction catalogues (42 in all). The numbering system features discontinuities, implying the addition of new material in subsequent editions. Entries are repeated whenever the authors deal with more than one subject.

The user of any bibliography has the right to hope for completeness, accuracy, usability and need. Dr. Hellrigl, who has already compiled an excellent listing for Nepal (123 items; also published by Alevizos, 1977) can certainly claim need and usability for both of these excellently printed, well organized compilations. As for completeness, I checked his entries against my own fairly extensive collection of articles, offprints and books. Not only has he listed many more than I have, I could find only three minor omissions among Himalayan mountaineering items, and two others. Without claiming that I tried to discover every possible omission, I did check over one hundred. I also perused my old auction catalogs. To his formidable, if admittedly selective list, I could add, along with one or two others, only Peter Kenedi's May 5, 1972 sale in Harper Woods, Michigan of about half of H. D. S. Haverbeck's award-winning collection, including the unique (?) 1912 one-trangka rose carmine bisect on a 1932 cover. As a bibliographer with eyes badly worn from

thirty years of gathering similar data I doff my hat to Hellrigl's perseverance. No bibliography is ever truly complete, but this one rates extraordinarily high. As for accuracy, obviously no reviewer has time to verify every figure, every name, every spelling, but a careful reading revealed but one misprint; "Encido" for "Encino" (No. 426). I will vouch that typos or errors are rare.

Finally, under the rubric "usefulness," I must commend the compiler's devoting a line or more under each entry to explain its scope and strengths, and his occasional wrist slap delivered to those guilty of shortchanging their public. In a word, here is a first-class piece of work.

I might add that we collectors all owe a debt of gratitude not only and obviously to the likes of Dr. Hellrigl for his willingness to share his philatelic knowledge with us but as well to auction firms such as George Alevizos' for subsidizing research needed to improve our hobby. His firm has already published several philatelic monographs that supplement his carefully prepared catalogues--and more are on the drawing boards, I am told. (See the catalog for the Alevizos Public Auction Sale No. 45, featuring Central and Eastern Asia, for the most complete and up-to-date offerings of philatelic literature of this area (Nepal & Tibet on p. 7), including these two very recent books reviewed by Dr. Singer.--Ed.)

EARLY, RARE AND FINE BOOKS  
ON THE HIMALAYAN AREA

NEPAL. TIBET BHUTAN SIKKIM

NEW LIST NOW AVAILABLE  
PLEASE WRITE!

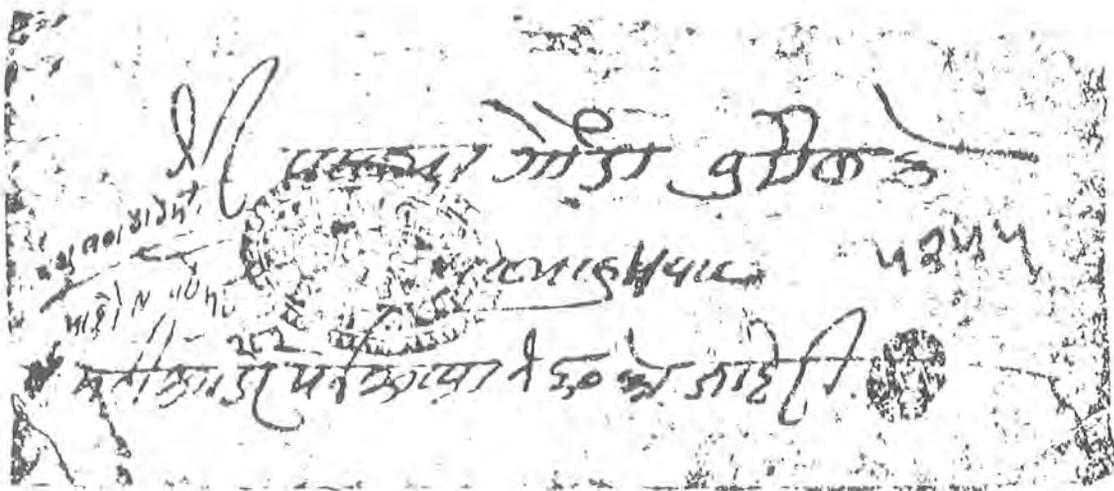
**Leo Martyn**

Bookseller

P.O. Box 49263 • Los Angeles, California 90049

213-476-2608

Nepal & Tibet Philatelic Study Circle  
American Philatelic Society  
Society of Philatelic Americans



1.

## MONEY ORDER AND POSTAL ORDER SERVICES IN NEPAL

--S. L. Shrestha

Money order services were introduced in Nepal in 1990 B.S. (1933 A.D.). An ornamental oval seal struck in violet has been discovered recently in a batch of 'Service' covers. The seal bears the Nepali inscription (uncoloured): 'Shree Palpa Hulak/ Money Order/Adda (Office)' flanked by '19' and '90'. See Figure 1.

Forms used at that period are sometimes available with different 'Money Order' seals. Due to the fact that few collectors are asking for these items, stamp dealers have less interest in keeping them in stock. See Figures 2 and 3.

Only four post offices in Nepal offered 'Money Order' services in 1936 A.D. They were: Dhankuta (Dhankuta District), Palpa (Palpa District), Birganj (Birganj District) and Biratnagar (Morang District).

When and why the 'Money Order' services were terminated is not known. But, in September 1974 (2031/6/23 B.S.), 'Money Order' services were re-instated in Nepal using modern methods. The amount of money was limited to Rs. 1000/- and could not be less than Rs. 10/-. Commission rates were 25p for Rs. 10/- and 50p per Rs. 20/- unit

for amounts from Rs. 100/- to Rs. 1000/-. 'Money Order' forms cost 5p each. In 1983 the cost of the 'Money Order' form is 10p & the commission rates have been increased accordingly. The five different forms of the modern period are illustrated in Figures 4 - 8.

When the 'Money Order' services were re-instated in 1974, only three offices were authorized by the Postal Services Department to offer this service. They were Kathmandu, Biratnagar and Bhairhawa. By the next year the number of post offices offering this service had been increased to 14. They were: Jhapa, Morang, Saptari, Dhanusha, Kathmandu, Parsa, Kaski, Rupan-dehi, Baglung, Dang Deukhuri, Jumla, Banke Kailali and Baitadi. As the service was quite popular in the country, it was expanded to five more districts within two years. The additional post offices involved were: Terhathum, Bhojpur, Gulmi, Surkhet and Achham. Now all the District post offices offer 'Money Order' services. Interestingly, the maximum amount for a single 'Money Order' is still Rs. 1000/- (Nepali Rupees)(=Indian Rs./I.C. to India).



(Foreign) His Majesty's Govt. of Nepal  
**Postal Services Department**  
 Foreign Rupee Money Order

To \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Name of the Exchange P.O. in Nepal)

To \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Name of the Exchange Office in India)

Received the sum of Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ N.C. Equal to Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ I.C. as specified on the reverse.  
 Identifier's Certificate the payment has been made in my presence to the payee who is personally known to me and whose permanent address is—

(Signature of Identifier) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature (print) of Payee or thumb impression of the payee (if illiterate)

(Signature to whom) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Paid by me \_\_\_\_\_

(Signature of and designation of the Officer who paid the amount)

Oblong M. O. Stamp of Office of Payment

Received the sum of Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ N.C. Paid Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ I.C. as specified on the reverse.

(Signature to whom) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature (print) of Identifier

Name and address of remitter—

(Oblong M. O. Stamp of Office of Issue)

M. O. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Rs.	P.
-----	----

In words \_\_\_\_\_

For \_\_\_\_\_

(Issuing Clerk) \_\_\_\_\_ (Issuing Postmaster) \_\_\_\_\_

F. M. O. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

(Oblong M. O. stamp of Nepal Office of Exchange)

Nepali		Indian	
Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.
_____	_____	_____	_____
I.C. 100 = _____		Rs. _____	

In words \_\_\_\_\_ N.C.  
 Equal to \_\_\_\_\_ I.C.

(Signature of Clerk) \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature of In-charge) \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ in words \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Payee \_\_\_\_\_

Address of the Payee (in Full) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature of remitter) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Payee \_\_\_\_\_

Amount in Figures \_\_\_\_\_ in words \_\_\_\_\_

Name and address of remitter \_\_\_\_\_

(Name stamp of office of Issue)

(Name stamp of office of payment)

Coupon—(The remitter may write here any communication to the payee and must write his/her name and address).

4.

(Foreign) His Majesty's Govt. of Nepal  
**Postal Services Department**  
 Foreign Rupee Money Order

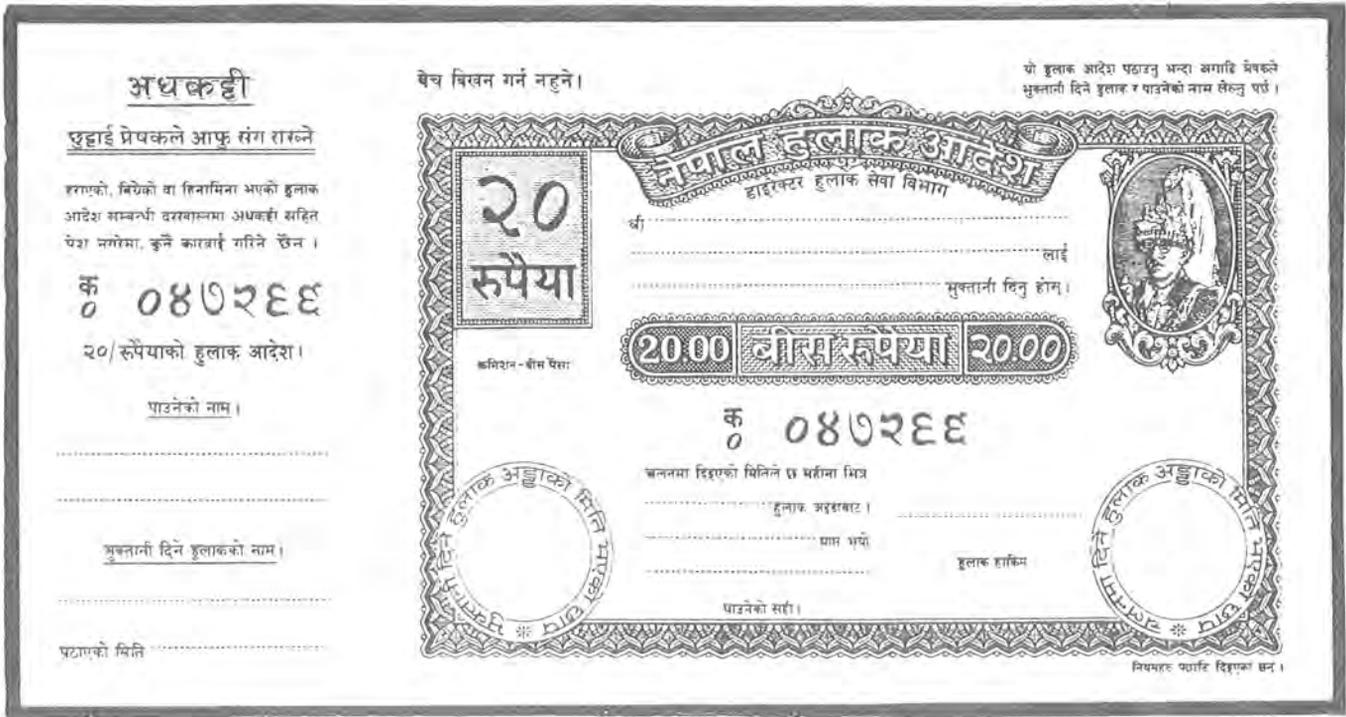
(Foreign) His Majesty's Govt. of Nepal  
**Postal Services Department**  
 Foreign Rupees Money Order



(Foreign) His Majesty's Govt. of Nepal  
**Postal Services Department**  
 Foreign Rupee Money Order

5.





9.

#### POSTAL ORDER SERVICES

On 1 Baisakh 2023 (13 April 1966 A.D.), the Nepalese New Years Day, the Postal Services Department celebrated with the opening of a new service called 'Postal Order Service.' Printed by the Indian Security Press, the POS cards were available in 6 different denominations & were identified by being printed in 6 different colours. According to the Postal Directory Supplement, Part I, these POS cards were printed like bank cheques, in loose form with a receipt attached. In the upper right corner there is a picture of the King and the denomination box, followed by the commission figure, is on the left side. See Figure 9. The following list shows the values, colours and the commission rates:

Denomination	Colour	Commission Rate
50p	green	5 paisa
1r	bluish green	5 "
2r	blue	5 "
5r	brown	5 "
10r	violet	10 "
20r	red	20 "

Note: The POS without signature of the Postmaster and the date stamp of the post office, will not be valid for payment to the bearer. The payment of a POS could be collected through all the revenue of-

fices and all the banks in Nepal. The author has learned that this 'POS' was replaced by the 'Money Order' when it was re-instituted, from the opening day, 23 Aswin 2031 B.S. (September 1974 A.D.).

N.B.--The POS was valid only up to six months after the date of purchase and could not be re-sold to anyone!

#### Bibliography:

- 1) The Postal Directory Supplement, Part I published by the Postal Services Department/HMG on 1 Baisakh 2023, pp. 1-6. It was titled "Information to the Public" regarding the POS & included an Appendix, which lists the first 20 post offices dealing in POS. They are: G.P.O. Kathmandu Bhadgaon (Bhaktapur), Lalitpur, Biratnagar, Janakpur, Birganj, Bhairhawa, Taulihawa, Banke, Pokhara, Dhankuta, Palpa, Hetaunda, Jaleswar, Dillibazar, Simhadarbar, Rajbiraj, Kailali, Bijayapur and Trisuli.
- 2) The combined Volume I (M/O) by PSD/HMG, 2033 B.S. (1976 A.D.).
- 3) Hulak, bi-monthly (Nepali/English) published by the Postal Training Centre/HMG, Babar Mahal, Kathmandu (No. 47/9 October 1973), (No. 59/8 November 1975), (No. 62/13 April 1976) and (No. 65/7 November 1976).
- 4) Hulak Niyamabali Bhag Yek (Part I), Sambat 1993 Sal (1936 A.D.).

## A MOTORIZED MAIL SERVICE IN TIBET

--N. G. Rhodes

It is well known that mail in Tibet was carried by runners who covered the 95 miles from Gyantse to Phari in about 3 days. However, readers may not be aware that an attempt was made in 1926 & 1927 to transport the mail by motor vehicle. The story behind this unsuccessful venture may be of interest to philatelists.

Early in 1926 the British sought permission from the Tibetan Government to set up the service & arrangements were put in hand. A Bhutia youth was sent to Calcutta for training in vehicle maintenance and another driver was recruited in August from Darjeeling. Orders were placed for three vehicles: one Dodge 4-cylinder 17/24 HP standard sedan and two Dodge 4-cylinder 17/24 HP 3/4 ton lorries.

Work on repairing the road between Phari and Gyantse began and a start was made on building garages and petrol stations near the rest houses. However, in September 1926, this work had to be suspended because of a protest from the Tibetan authorities. Apparently the local people who lived along the route, and who made money by providing animals for transporting goods between India & Tibet, feared that the road would remove their livelihood.

However, the plans proceeded and the vehicles were brought up to Phari in pieces, arriving in October 1926. Because of the problems with the local Tibetans, the cars were kept in the completed Kala garage until March 1927, when they were driven, with considerable difficulty, to Gyantse, where they were housed in the stables at the Dak bungalow. The villagers turned out voluntarily to help clearing the "road," & pulling or pushing when the vehicles got stuck. There was no doubt that much work needed to be done to the road before the cars could use it regularly and efficiently.

Because of the helpfulness of the local people, the British trade agent at Gyantse was hopeful that, with patience and tact, all the problems would be smoothed over and the motorised mail service could start. However, that was

not to be the case and, as a result of the continuing opposition from certain local people, permission for the service was not granted.

It should be noted that the Tibetan Government was apologetic about this decision, coming after an initial approval, and offered to supply labour free of charge to help transport the vehicles back to India. This task was completed in November & December 1927. So it was not until the mid 1950s, after the completion of the road to Lhasa from China, that mail was finally carried by motor vehicle in Tibet.

