



PHILATELIC LITERATURE IN PAKISTAN

By Muhammad Pervaiz Rashid

The word "philately" is said to have been coined in France in 1864 by Georges Herpin. It is from two Greek words: "philos" meaning loving and "lately" meaning free of payment. Originally philately was more confined to the study of labels, representing payment for postal services. From here its area was widened to include the study of the systematic collection of postage stamps, postcards, postal covers, postmarks and other postal material

During the past 60 years, philatelic literature in Pakistan appeared in the form of books, magazines, Catalogues, Newspapers columns and so on. Recently we can also see the Pakistan Philately on website. A brief review of the said subject is as follows:

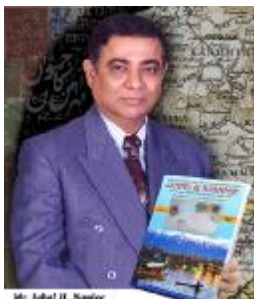
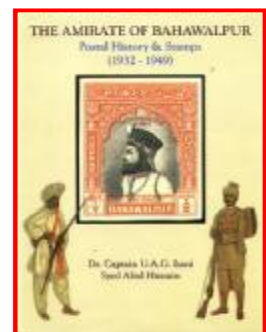
BOOKS

Many famous books, i.e. 'Stamps Collecting' - The Noblest of all hobbies written by Mr. F Aleem Sundal, 'How to Collect Stamps' a publication of Peshawar Stamps Society, '25 years of Pakistan Philately' written by S. Riaz Ahmad, Stamp Album' written by Mr. Saifuddin & Mr. Muhammad Ijaz were written in the past.

U.A. G. Issani is a famous philatelic writer and Ex. President Philatelic Federation of Pakistan. He has written many books on philately.

'Pakistan Overprint on Indian Stamps' was written by Col D.R Martin but later on it was revised by Mr. Issani. 'Pakistan Overprint on Indian Stamps and Postal Stationary 1947-49' was written by R. Doubleday & U. A. G. Issani. 'Pakistan 1961' Decimal Currency Overprints is a very good publication on the 1961 overprints which is written by Mr. Issani.

The Amirate of Bahawalpur Postal History & Stamps (1932-1949) is a very Informative book on Bahawalpur Stamps which is jointly written by Mr. Issani and Syed Abid Hussain. Stamps of Pakistan's decimal Currency Surcharge 1961' is U.A.G.Issani research book on 1961 overprint stamps. Well done Mr. Issani for your contribution in philatelic literature.

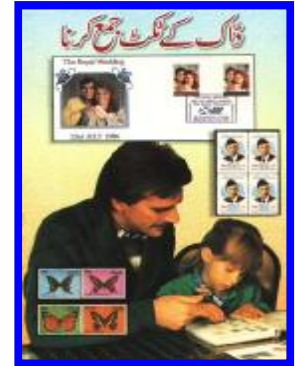


Iqbal Nanjee is a famous collector and writer. His book **The Jammu & Kashmir, Vol. I** is a study of postal history, which has never been fully illustrated and explained before in full colour. This book is indeed a landmark study in the philatelic history of Asia and is philatelic study of any of the great Princely States of this region.

M. Arif Balgamwala also tried on the topic 1947 overprints in his book 'Pakistan Overprints 1947-1949' which is a Comprehensive Catalogue of 'Pakistan' Overprints on British stamps & stationary.

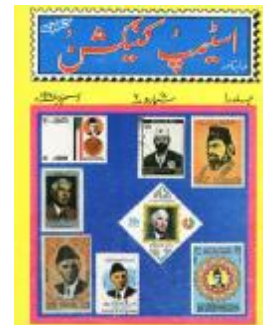
F. Aleem. Sundal is a prominent philatelic writer. 'Postal Stationary of Pakistan' 1947-1995' was jointly written by F.Aleem .Sundal and Rafique Kasbafi. Mehboob Jamal Zahidi a famous journalist has written two books 'GulfPost - The Story of the Post in Gulf' and 'Fifty years of Pakistan Stamps'. Kaghzi Parahan (Paper Money) was also written by F. Aleem Sundal.

There are many Urdu Publications. Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui is a famous Philatelic Journalist. The most famous book 'Dak Kee Tikat Jama Kama' was first published by Feroze Sons Ltd. in 1973. The revised edition of the book was published in 2003. It is the first book in the Philatelic history which was awarded Commendation Certificate and Cash prize Rs.10000/- by National Book Foundation, Government of Pakistan. His book 'Quaid-i-Azam & Pakistan Postage Stamps' is popular in the children's. Tiktoon ka Allbum by Muhammad Azam, 'Dak ke Tikat kistarah jamaa kiye jain' 'Dak ke tiktoon ka Mashghala' by Khawaja Zafar Nizami are some famous publications.



PHILATELIC MAGAZINES

Many Philatelic magazines were issued but failed due to financial constraints. These magazines used to provide update knowledge. 'The Pakistan Stamps Monthly' Editor Sharief Qureshi was the first famous magazine. The name of the magazine was later on changed as 'Pakistan Stamps Journal'. This is official magazine of Pakistan Philatelic Association. This Magazine was also Edited on different stages by Ijaz Aslam Qureshi, Mir Fayyaz ul Haq and Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui. 'Universal Post' from Karachi, is a most popular magazine in this period and it is regularly issued. 'Philatelic News, from Lahore Stamps Aid' from Karachi, 'Link International' from Sadiqabad, 'Philatelic Bulletin' from Karachi



'Philatelic Bulletin' from Faisalabad are local papers. From Karachi a magazine 'Stamps Connection' was issued, it was a very popular magazine of the time which was issued by Qaim Hussain Naqvi. The Editors of this magazine were Mr. Qaim Hussain Naqvi and Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui. This magazine served the collectors for many years. 'MAJ Stamps Bulletin' edited by Muhammad Ali Jahangir. The 'PFP News' is an official bulletin of Pakistan Philatelic Federation. Its first issue released in January 2009. Mr. Jamil Ahmed Information Secretary and Editor issued

a very beautiful and informative bulletin.

"Pak Phil" is also a very informative Bulletin which was started by Pakistan Study Group, New York. The editor Mr. Jeff Siddiqui contributed a lot of material on Pakistan Philately. Now this bulletin is being regularly issued by Pakistan Study Circle, England. Mr. George Rab as an editor, is providing good information to the collectors. Mr. Muhammad Aslam Zahid is Local Secretary of Pakistan Study Circle at Pakistan.

CATALOGUES:

The first catalogue of Pakistan Postage stamps was compiled by Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui. It was published in 1971 in Pakistan Stamps Journal. The Official Stamps Journal of Pakistan Philatelic Association.

The first regular catalogue of Pakistan Postage stamps was printed in 1975 by Mr. Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui. In 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979 & 1980 editions of Siddiqui catalogue were printed under the title 'Pakstampage Catalogue'.

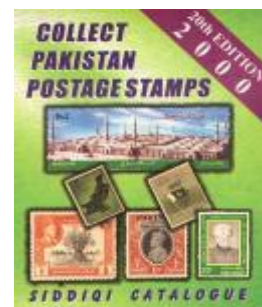


A new look of the title was given to Siddiqui catalogue. The new name



'Collect Pakistan Postage Stamps' was given and 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1989, 1990, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1998 and 2000 editions were printed under this title. It is the first catalogue which is regularly published since last 41 years. The first online Siddiqui Catalogue was issued by Mr. Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui in 2008, which is available on website

www.pakistanphilately.com. The first catalogue on CD was issued by Mr. Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui in 2008. The catalogue was launched at Karachi Stamps Exhibition in December 2008. The Siddiqui catalogue completed a journey of 41 years and they are the first to issue the catalogue in print media, Online and again on CD. Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui is the Pioneer of Catalogue in Pakistan. He provide First Printed catalogue Electronic Catalogue and Catalogue on CD.



Mr. A. Latif Rashid issued the First coloured catalogue 'Popular Pakistan Postage Stamps Catalogue' in 2006. It is informative & the only catalogue which covers Revenue, Insurance & ID Card Stamps. The Eighth edition 2014 is now in market. Mr. M. I. Choudhry is famous philatelic dealer of Lahore. He is issuing Pakistan Postage Stamps coloured Catalogue since last many years. The 2014 edition is in the market. The first Catalogue of Pakistan Postage Stamps, Errors & Varieties was issued by Mr. Justice Rustam Sidhwa.



PILATELIC COLUMNS:

Two philatelic columns were very popular among the philatelists. These columns used to provide latest information and basic knowledge on philately. Weekly columns appeared in different National News papers in the Sunday Magazines in English, 'Daily Dawn'. By F. Aleem Sundal and in Urdu, 'Daily Mashriq' in early 1970 by Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui 'Tiktoon ki Dunya'.

ELECTRONIC MEDIA – FIRST WEB SITE:

The First Website on Pakistan Philately was started by Mr. Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui. This is actually a philatelic magazine instead of a web page. It covers all important sections i.e. On line catalogue of Pakistan Postage Stamps 2015 Edition, articles, latest news on Pakistan Philately, list of associations, Post Office column, literature section and many other information's. Collectors can visit at www.pakistanphilately.com for details.

The official website of Philatelic Federation of Pakistan www.philatelifederationofpakistan.com. Edited by Akhtar ul Islam Siddiqui, Official Website of Stamp Society of Pakistan...www.sspak.com. Edited By Iqbal Nanjee official web site of Peshwar Stamp Society www.stampsociety.org/pakistan are also famous websites in Pakistan.