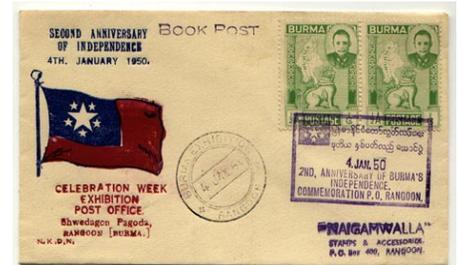


A Catalog of N.K.D. Naigamwalla's Burmese Cachets: 1937 – 1961

Steven Zwillingner



Introduction

This listing is an attempt to list the cachets (the envelope designs) that were designed and produced by N.K.D Naigamwalla in Burma.

Burma was a hotbed of cachet-making with 3 major philatelists preparing cachets. The greatest was Naigamwalla. He, along with D.O.B. Aubry and T.S. Choo made roughly 90% of all Union of Burma cachets known to date.

Naigamwalla first appeared on the philatelic scene in 1937 – just as Burma was being split off from India. India had no real history of cachets – certainly no multi-color cachets that have been identified yet. He was active for a few years, until the war, and then “disappeared” during the war years. He appears again in 1948 and was active until 1961.

This volume would not have been possible without the help, guidance and encouragement of Alan Meech and Brian Saxe; they are giants in Burmese philately. Much of the content is due to their help; the errors are mine. Thanks are also due to William Bennett who shared cachets I had never seen before.

In this listing, each envelope design has a two-part designation. The first letter designates the event, and the second part is a sequential listing of designs for the event. This allows new numbers to be added for any covers not previously identified. The catalog numbering system is copyrighted; permission to use it - should it be of interest or use - is freely given provided that the numbers are always referred to with the prefix “Zwillinger”. Those cachets that are attributed to him include the term “attributed” in parentheses in the publisher field. All other cachets are clearly documented to be from Naigamwalla – almost always by his name or initials as part of the cachet.

If you possess a cover not included here and would like to contribute to future revisions of this catalog, please send me a clear full size photocopy of the cover, or, even better, a clear scan of the cover with the information needed to include it in this listing.

Please address correspondence to sandszwil@aol.com. Thank you.

Steven Zwillinger
Silver Spring, MD
March 2005

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v 3.0

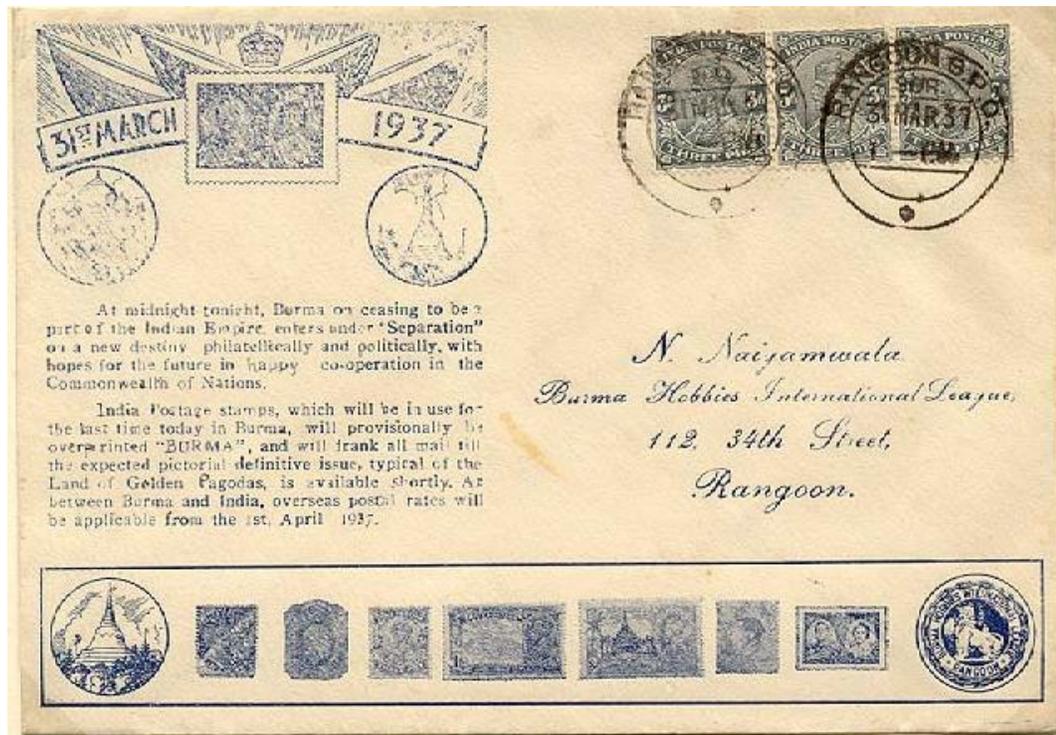
Burmese Cachets -- this page to be fixed

There are 19 significant events, activities, or periods in Burmese postal history associated with covers from Burma. These are:

A. March 31, 1937	Last Day Before Separation
B. April 1, 1937	Separation from India
C. May 12, 1937	Coronation of George VI
D. Summer, Fall 1937	Naigamwalla's proposed stamp designs
E. November 15, 1938	First Definitives
F. May 6, 1940	Commemorative Issue – Postage Stamp Centenary
G. August 1, 1940	One Pie (Newspaper Rate) Stamp Issue
H. January 6, 1948	Independence
I. July 19, 1948	Anniversary of assassination
J. Jan. 4, 1949	Postal Issues (First anniversary of independence)
K. Oct. 9, 1949	Anniversary of UPU
L. Jan 4 1950	Second anniversary of independence
M. Jan 4 1951	Third anniversary of independence
N. 1952-53	Postal Issues
O. Jan. 4, 1953	5 th anniversary of independence
P. Jan. 4, 1954	Postal Issues
Q. May 17, 1954	6 th Buddhist Council Stamp Issue
R. Nov 15, 1954	6 th Buddhist Council Opening Session
S. May 24, 1956	2500 th anniversary of the Buddhist Era
T. Nov. 9, 1959	Centenary of Mandalay Postal Issue
U. June 1961	Postal Issue of 1961
V. Dec. 11 1961	UNICEF Postage Issue
W. Dec 11, 1961	Peninsular Games Stamp Issue

A-1 Last Day Before Separation
 March 31, 1937

Var 1



Publisher: N. Naigamwala (attributed)

Text: At midnight tonight, Burma on ceasing to be a part of the Indian Empire, enters under “Separation” on a new destiny philatelically and politically with hopes for the future in happy co-operation in the Commonwealth of Nations

India Postage stamps, which will be in use for the last time today in Burma, will provisionally be over-printed “BURMA”, and will frank all mail till the expected pictorial definitive issue, typical of the Land of the Golden Pagoda, is available shortly. As between Burma and India, overseas postal rates will be applicable from the 1st. April, 1937

Note: There are two varieties. One without a rubber stamped “Last Day Cover” (above) and one with (next page).

A-1

Last Day Before Separation con't

March 31, 1937

Var 2



With rubber stamped "Last Day Cover"

A-3 **Last Day Before Separation**
March 31, 1937



Publisher: Burma Philatelic And H.E. Club (attributed)

Text: Burma Philatelic And
Hobbies Exchange Club
Rangoon

B-1**Separation**

April 1, 1937



Publisher: N. Naigamwala (attributed)

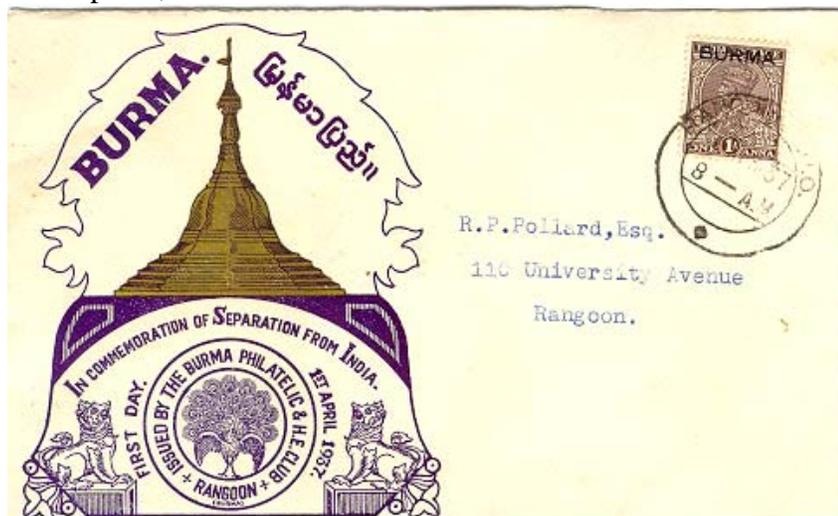
Text: Separation Day
1st April 1937
Burma
The dawn of the new constitution over Burma through five /
reigns of British rule.

Note: Some copies do not have the rubber stamped "First Day Cover" in the upper left corner. This was Naigamwala's first separation design.

B-2

Separation from India

April 1, 1937



Size: Issued in two sizes: Variety 1 is 4 x 6½ inches and Variety 2 is 5 x 7 inches

Publisher: The Burma Philatelic & H.E. Club

Text: In Commemoration of Separation from India
First Day 1st April 1937
Issued by the Burma Philatelic & H.E. Club
Rangoon (Burma)

Note: See next Page

Page missing

B-3 Separation from India

April 1, 1937

B-3a
Light blue
sea40



(also on buff envelope as well as white)

B-3b
Dark blue
sea
Orange
sari



This version, of the 3 illustrated appears to be the most common. It is usually found with a rubber-stamped address to Q. do Carmo Lobo in Rangoon

B-3c
Green sea



Continued next page

Publisher: NKD Naigamwalla (attributed)

Text: Commemoration of Burma's Separation
1st April 1937

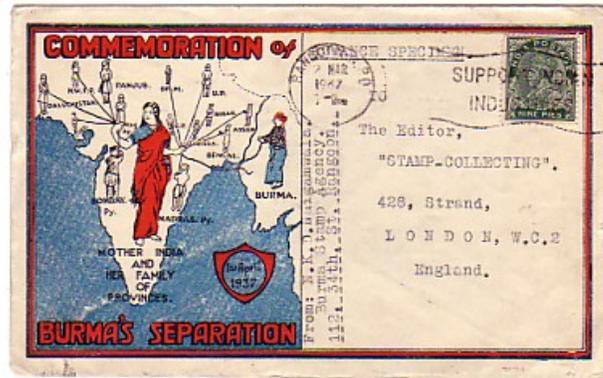
Notes This was Naigamwalla's second separation design. Note the variant spelling of PANJAB for PUNJAB in all varieties. Frequently seen with a rubber stamp from Burma Hobbies International League Rangoon, an organization created by Naigamwala.

B-3 **Separation from India**
continued April 1, 1937

2-3d
Dark blue sea
Yellow sari

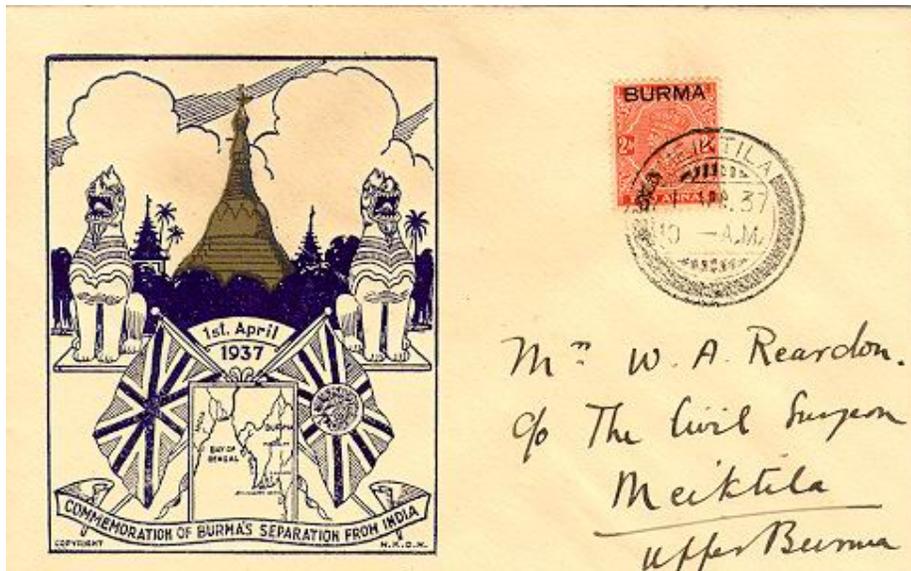


B-3e
Medium – dark
blue sea
Red Sari



B-4a **Separation from India**
 April 1, 1937

Small size

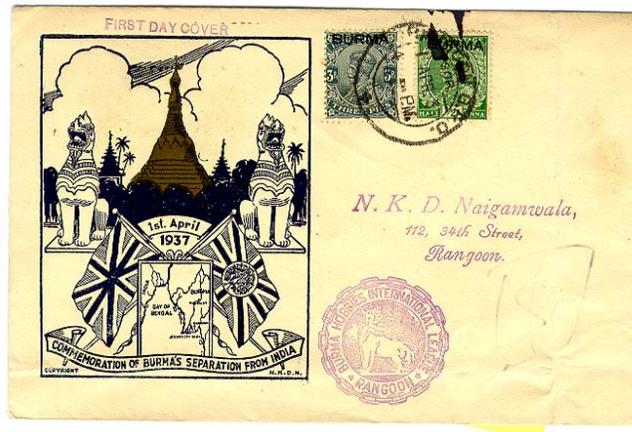


Size: Issued in two sizes: Variety A is 4¼ x 6½ inches and Variety B –on buff - is 5 x 7 inches.

Publisher: NKD Naigamwalla

Text: 1st April 1937
 Commemoration of Burma's Separation from India
 Copyright N.K.D.N.

Notes This was Naigamwalla's third separation design. Frequently seen with a rubber stamp from Burma Hobbies International League Rangoon.



B-4b

Separation from India con't

April 1, 1937

Large
size



Size: Issued in two sizes: Variety a is 4¼ x 6½ inches and Variety b –on buff - is 5 x 7 inches.

Publisher: NKD Naigamwalla

Text: 1st April 1937
Commemoration of Burma's Separation from India
Copyright N.K.D.N.

Notes This was Naigamwalla's third separation design. Frequently seen with a rubber stamp from Burma Hobbies International League Rangoon. Some copies have a rubber stamped "First Day Cover", others have it and "Registered".

Notes The address is c/o Naigamwalla

C-1 **Coronation**
 May 12, 1937

3-1a King facing right
 Queen wearing tiara



3-1b King facing slightly
 to left
 No tiara on queen

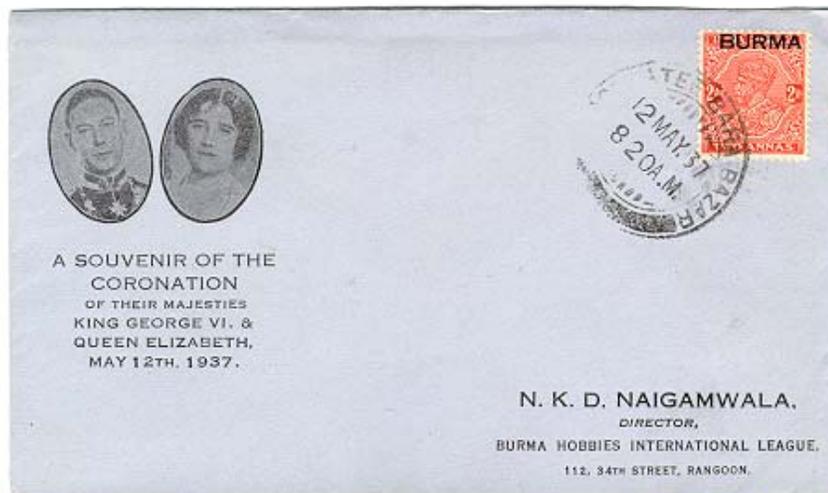


Publisher: Naigamwalla
 Text: Coronation
 May 12 1937
 Copyright Naigamwalla
 Burma Hobbies International League Rangoon

C-2

Coronation

May 12, 1937



Publisher: Naigamwala (attributed)

Text: A Souvenir of The Coronation of Their Majesties
King George VI & Queen Elizabeth,
May 12th, 1937.

Notes Preprinted address of Naigamwala.

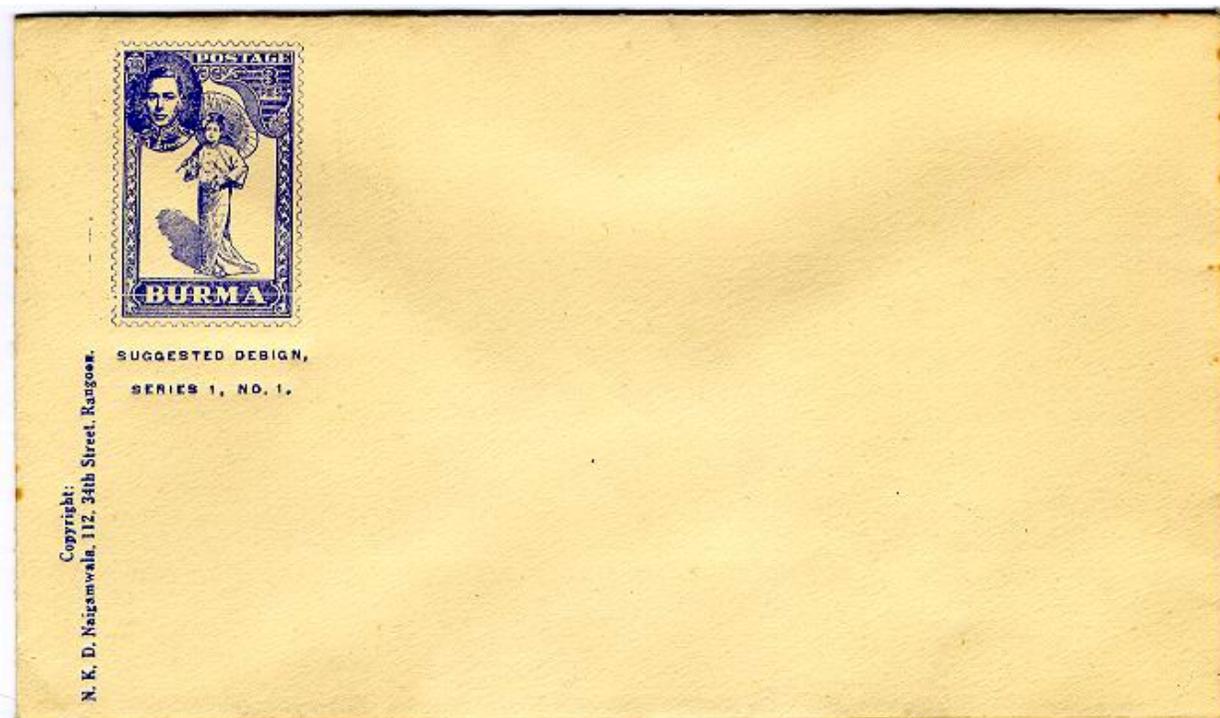
D-1 to D-12 Naigamwalla's proposed designs of 1937

Publisher: Naigamwalla

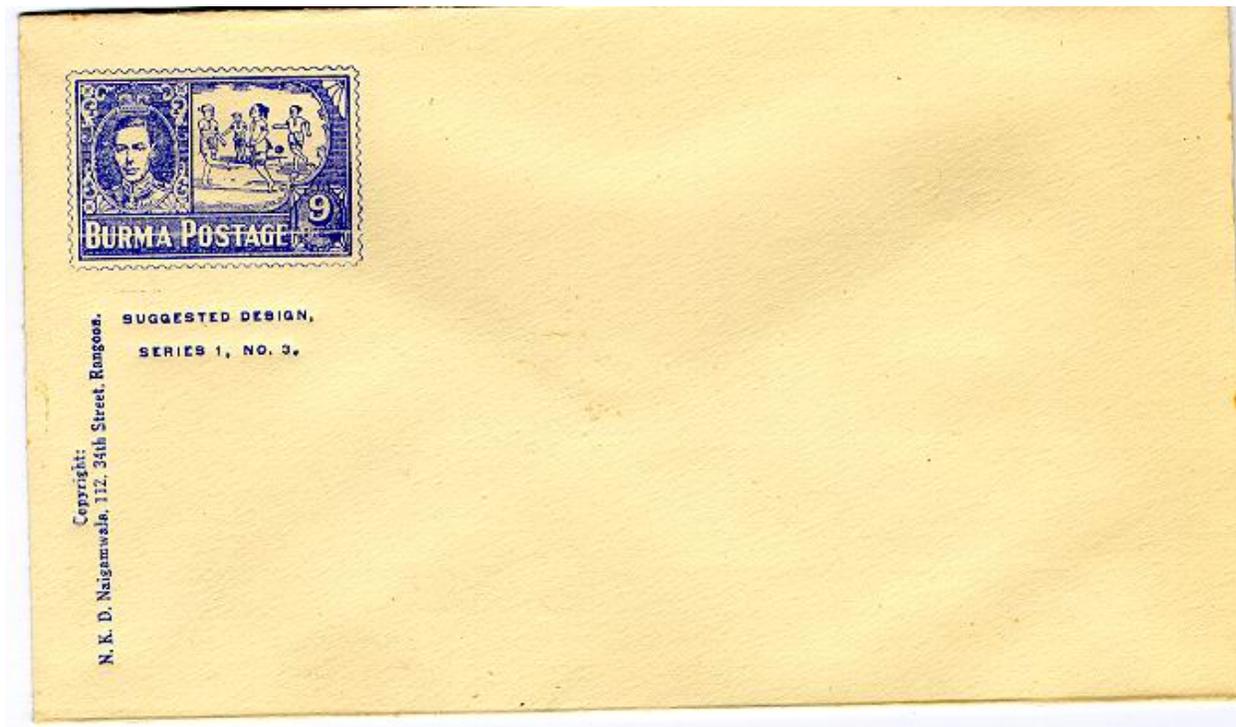
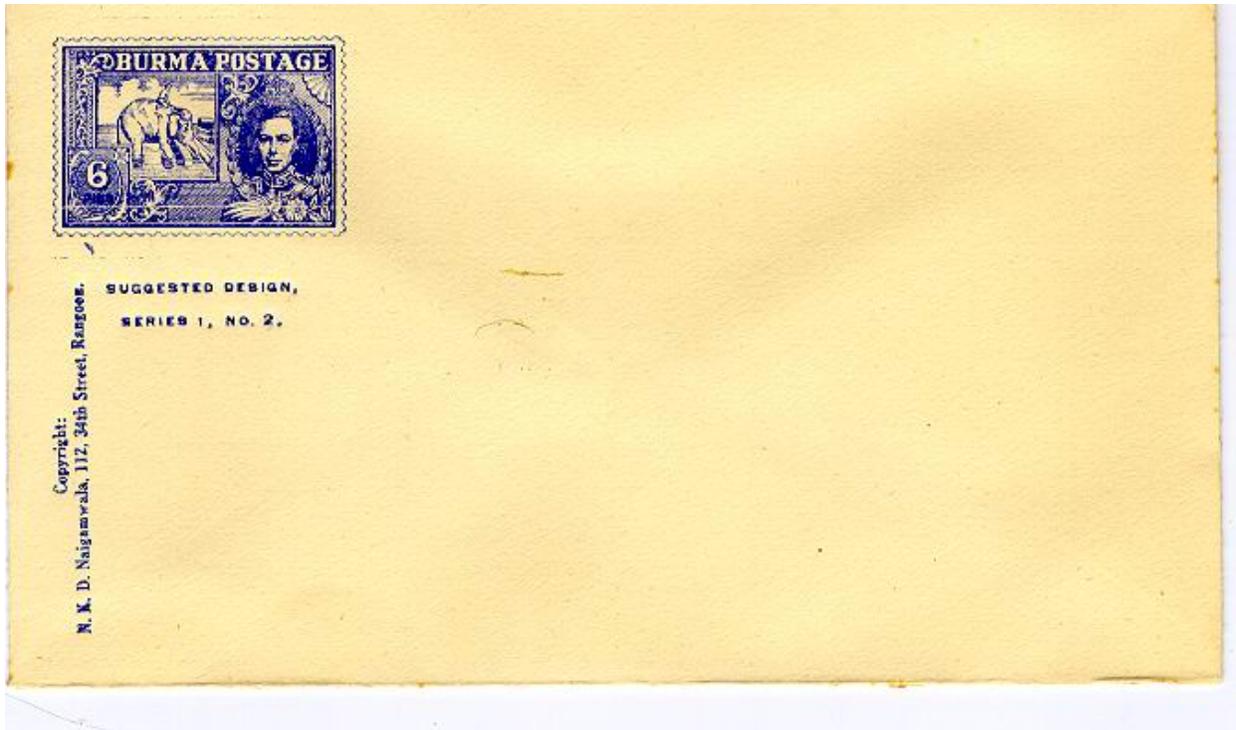
Text: Suggested Design
Series 1, No. x[where x varies from 1 to 12]
[sideways]Copyright
N.K.D. Naigamwalla 112 34th Street, Rangoon

Note: In 1937 N.K.D. Naigamwalla suggested a series of twelve designs for Burmese stamps. The 8 anna design proposed was accepted for the series issued in November 1938. Naigamwalla prepared a series of covers in which each cover depicted one of the proposed designs. The used examples reproduced in The Burma Peacock (Vol. 12, No.3, page 60, Fall 1991) are cancelled in August 1937. These covers may have been used through the end of 1937 and even possibly for the commemorative issues of November 1938. They are occasionally mis-described as essays of the Burma PTO.

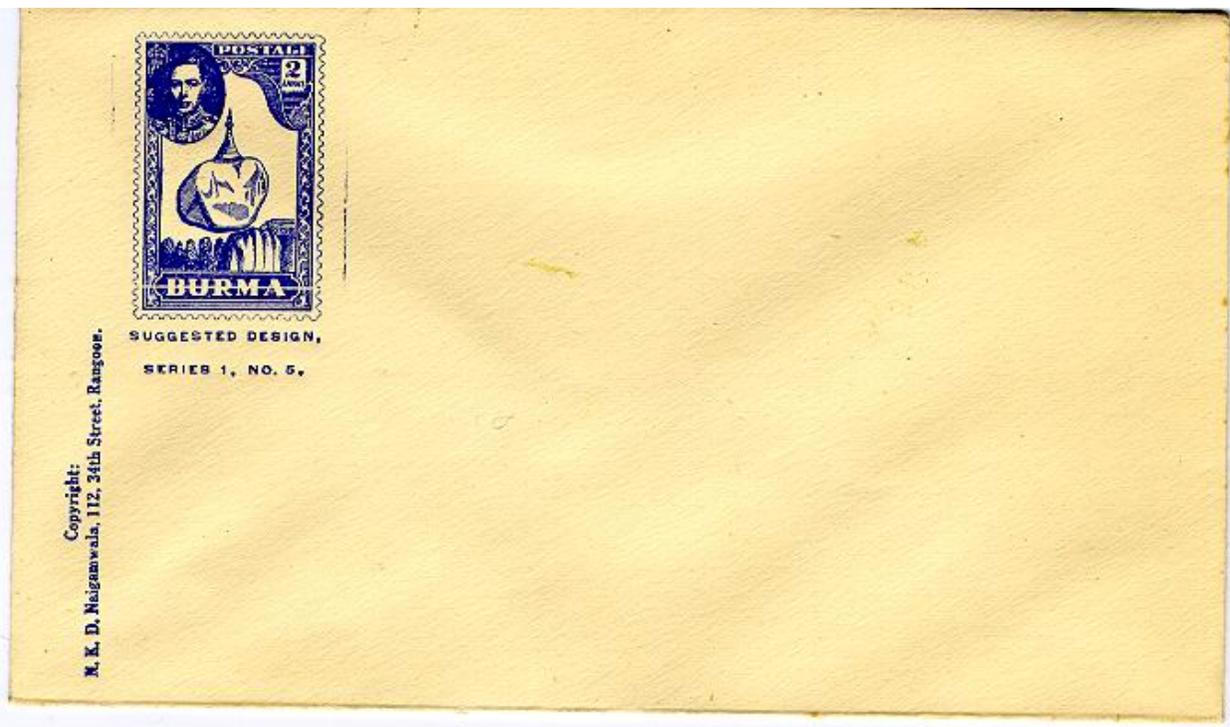
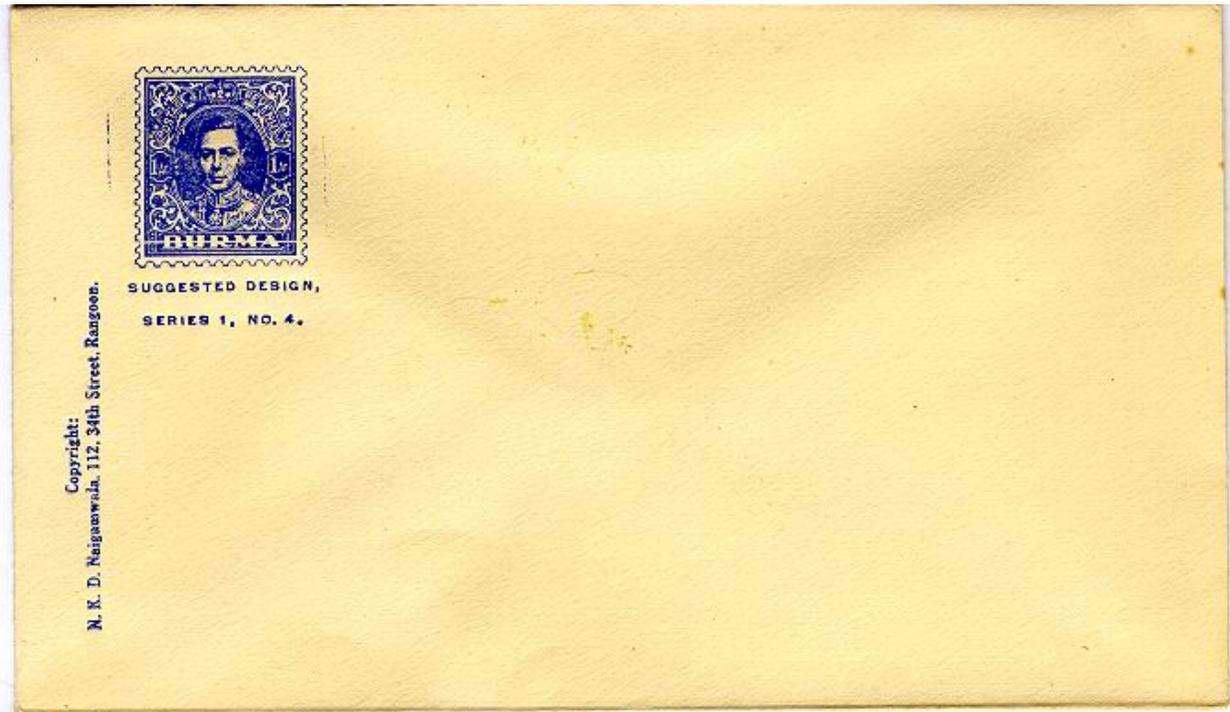
There are 12 designs which are reproduced below.



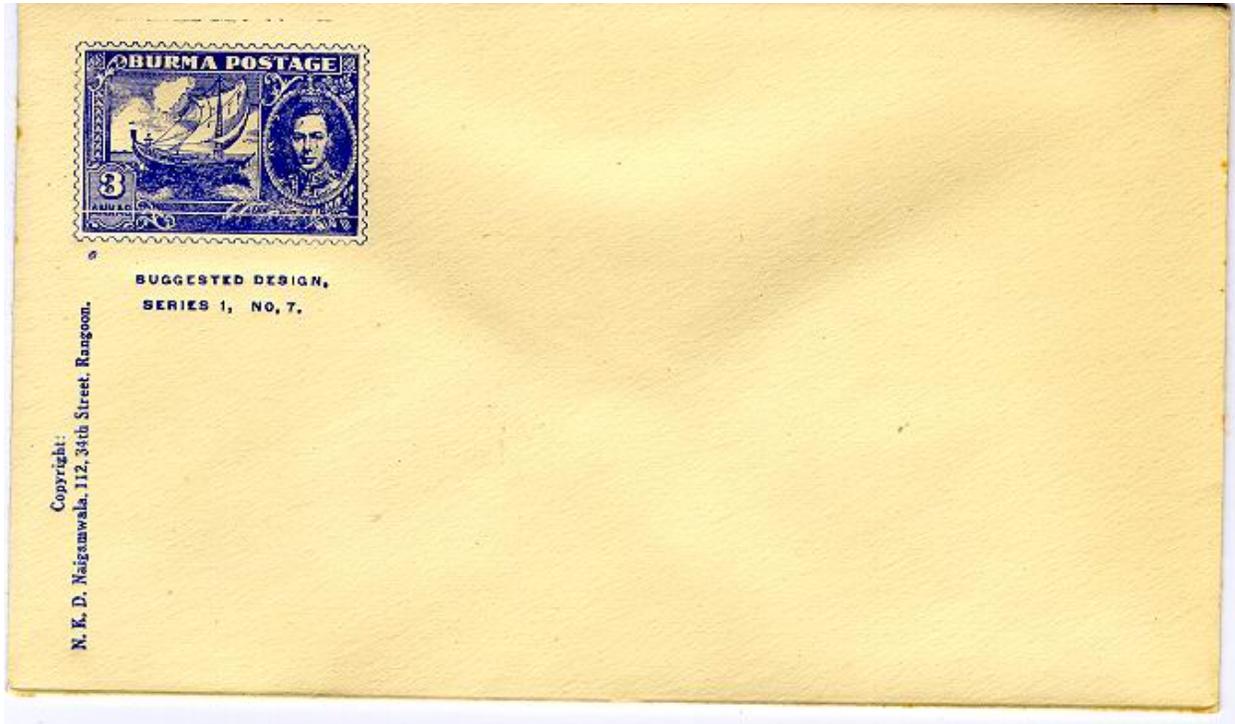
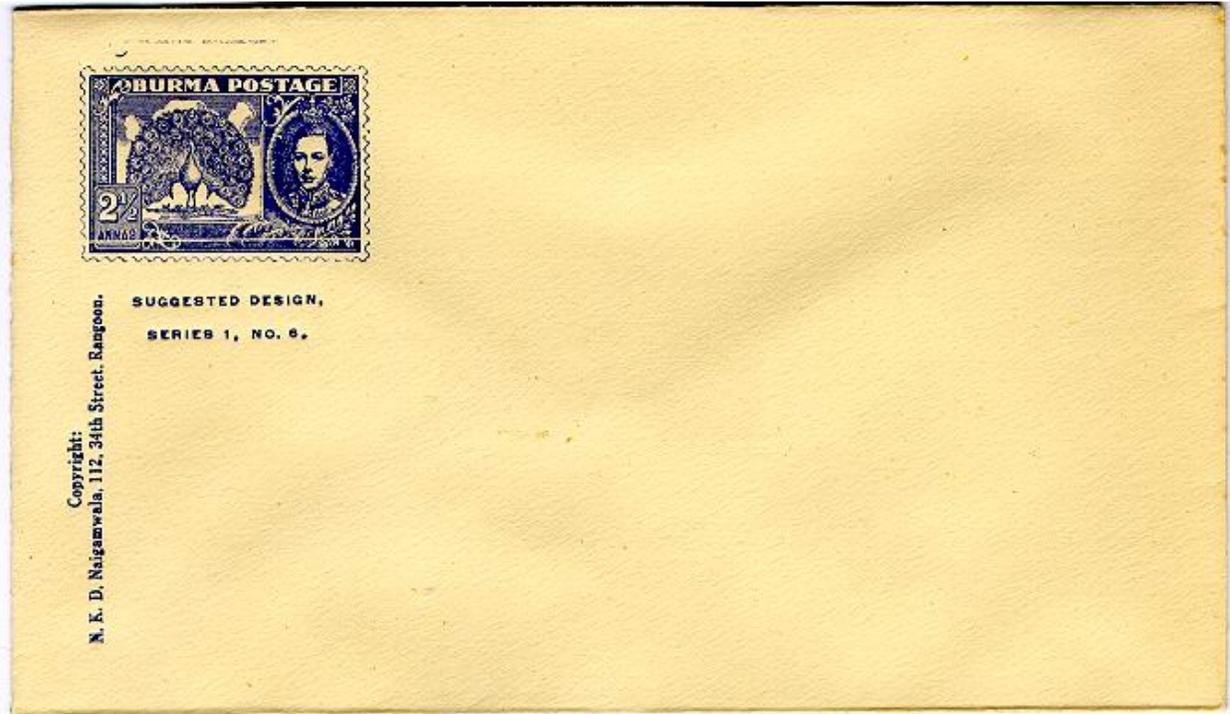
NAIGAMWALLA'S PROPOSED DESIGNS OF 1937 – continued



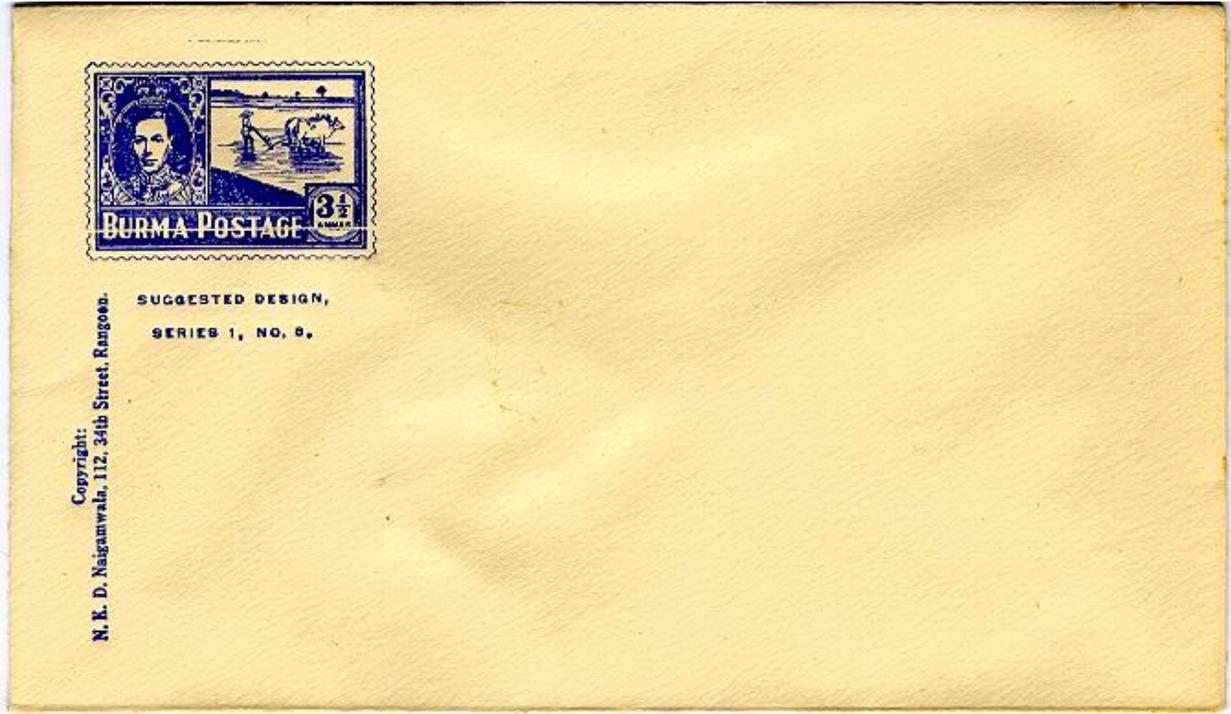
NAIGAMWALLA'S PROPOSED DESIGNS OF 1937 – continued



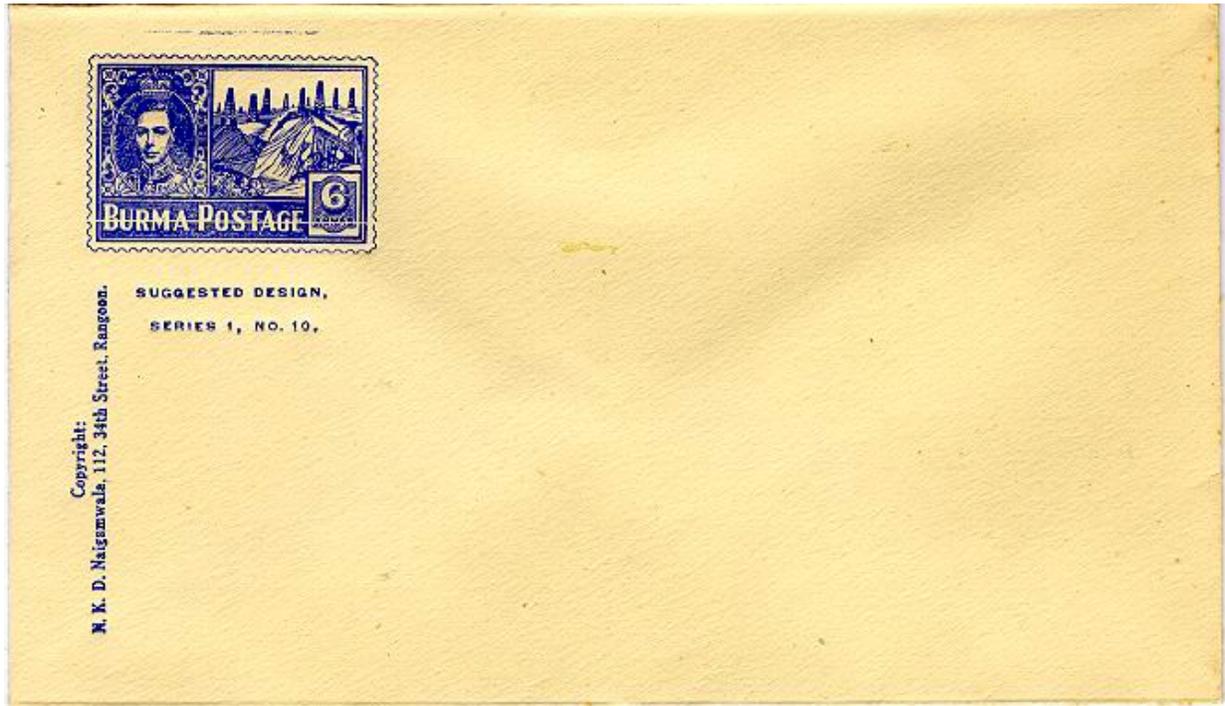
NAIGAMWALLA'S PROPOSED DESIGNS OF 1937 – continued



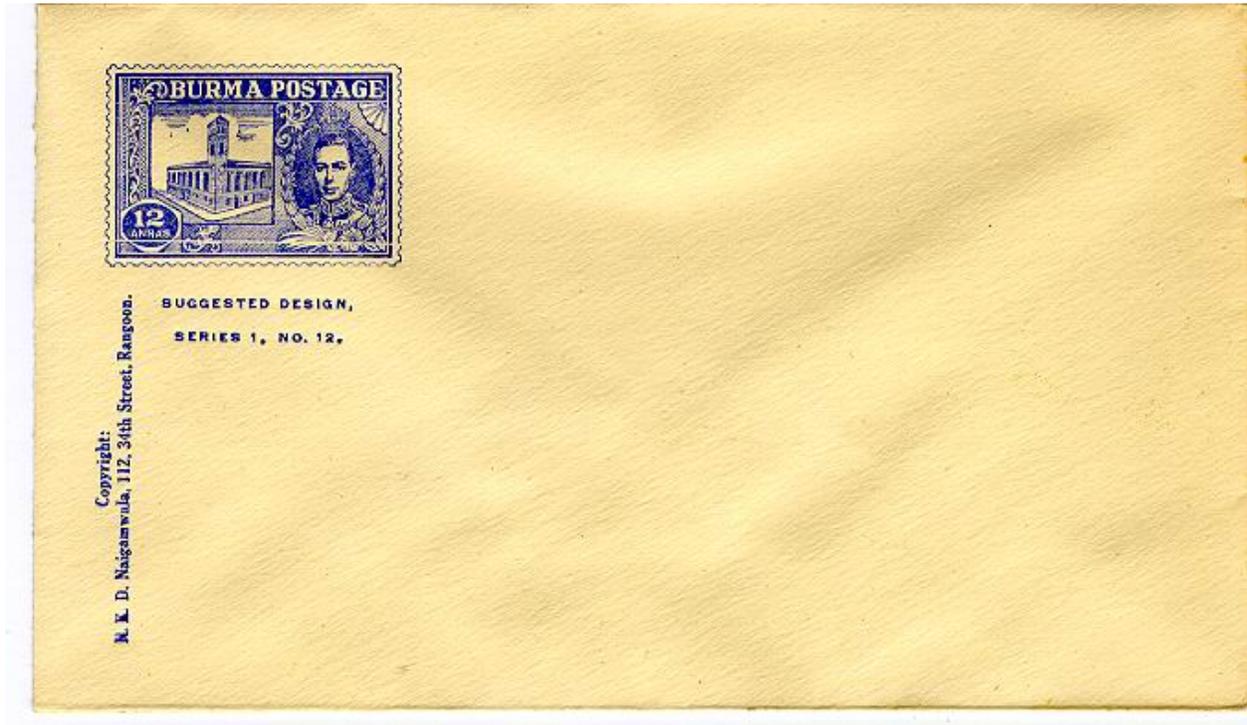
NAIGAMWALLA'S PROPOSED DESIGNS OF 1937 – continued



NAIGAMWALLA'S PROPOSED DESIGNS OF 1937 – continued



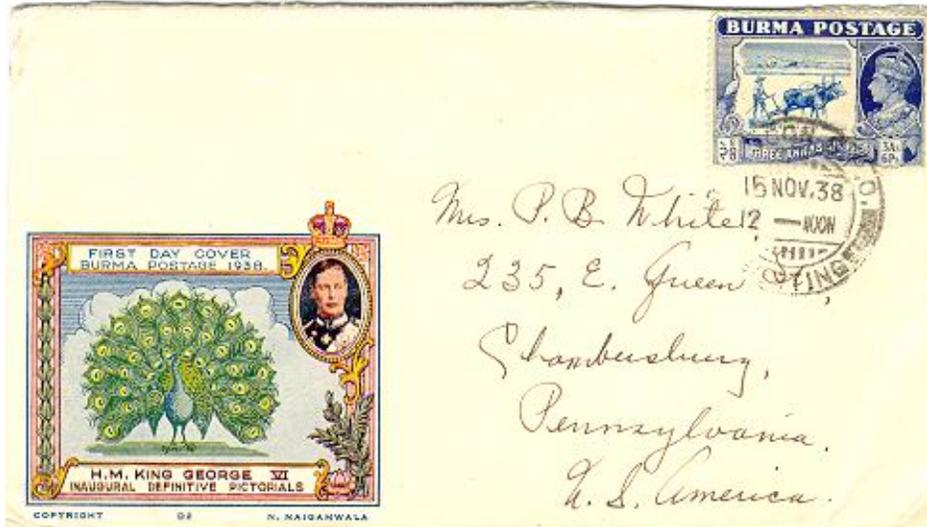
NAIGAMWALLA'S PROPOSED DESIGNS OF 1937 – continued



E-1

Stamp Issues

November 15, 1938



Publisher: Naigamwalla

Text: First Day Cover
Burma Postage 1938
H.M. King George VI
Inaugural Definitive Pictorials
Copyright D2 N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Notes D2 indicates Design Number 2.

There appears to be great variety in the amount of ink used in printing the cachet. Some are clear and distinct; others are blurry.

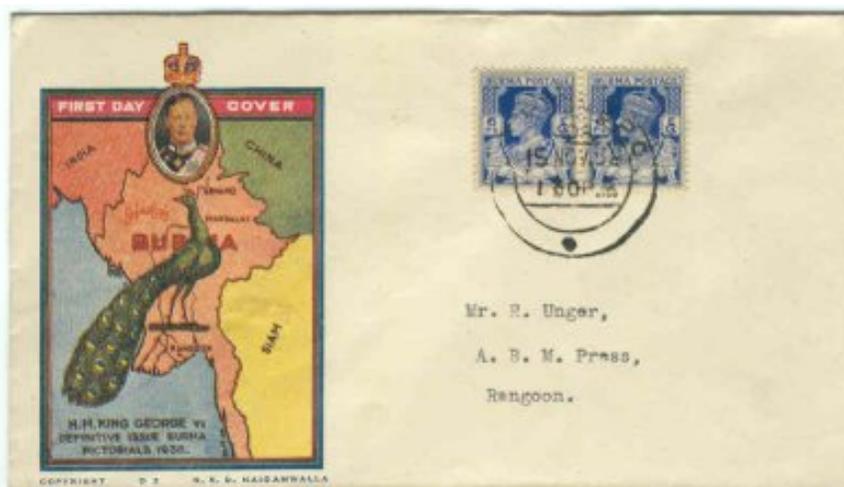
This design is also known as a poster stamp



E-2

Stamp Issues

November 15, 1938



Publisher: Naigamwalla

Text: First Day Cover
H.M. King George VI
Definitive Issue Burma
Pictorials 1938
Copyright D3 N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Notes D3 indicates Naigamwalla's Design Number 3.
Most seen are from Rangoon. Also from Moulmein,
Syriam, and registered from Bassein and from the
Office of the Director General Posts and
Telegraphs, Burma.

E-3**Stamp Issues**

November 15, 1938



Publisher: Naigamwalla

Text: Burma Stamps New Issue
 Burmese Royal Barge & Sailing Boat
 The Irrawaddy
 Copyright D4 N.K.D. Naigamwalla

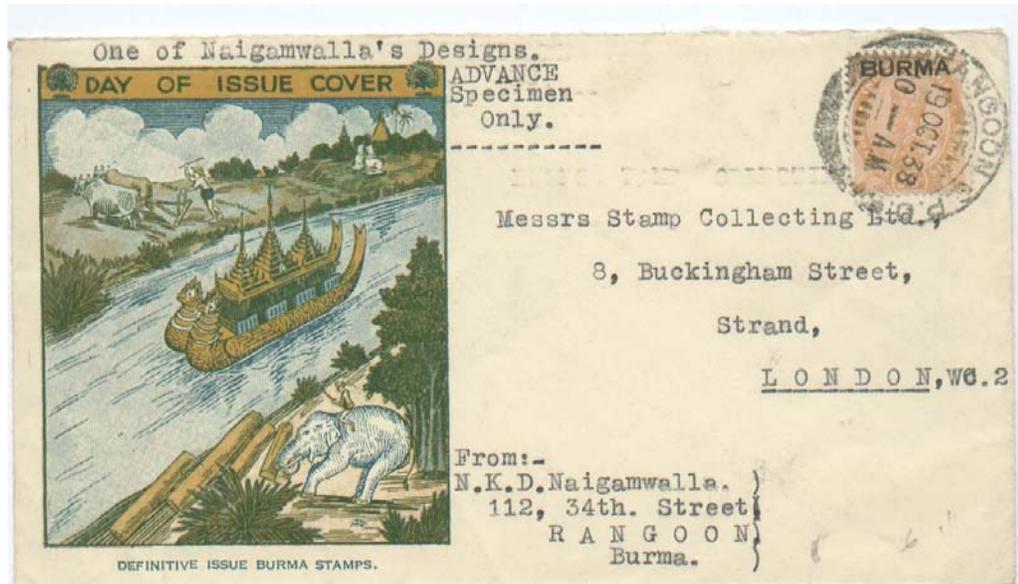
Notes D4 indicates Design Number 4. The first three designs listed are Naigamwalla's second, third, and fourth design. It is reasonable to speculate that one of the following designs was his first.

Also known with a rubber stamp marking "First Day Cover / November 15, 1938 / Burma Definitive Issue."

E-4

Stamp Issues

November 15, 1938



Publisher: NKD Naigamwalla

Text: Day of Issue Cover
Definitive Issue Burma Stamp

Notes The illustrated cover was sent by Naigamwalla himself in advance of the issue date of the stamp it commemorates.

E-5

Stamp Issues

November 15, 1938



Publisher: Burma Philatelic And H.E. Club (attributed)
[poor scan. Resembles 1-3]

Text: Souvenir Envelope
King George VI
First Day Cover

F-1 Commemorative Stamp Issue
 May 6, 1940

Variety
 F-1a



Variety
 F-1b



Publisher: Naigamwalla

Text: Century Postage Stamp.
 1840 – 6th May – 1940
 Rowland Hill Queen Victoria
 Burmese Royal Barge
 Burma Commemorative Issue
 Copyright. D1 N.K.A. NAIGAMWALLA

Notes Variety 6-1a: black ink and last line ends with Naigamwalla
 Variety 6-1b: blue ink and last line is Nett [sic] proceeds to War Charities

F-2a Commemorative Stamp Issue
 May 6, 1940



Publisher: D.O.BA./Naigamwalla

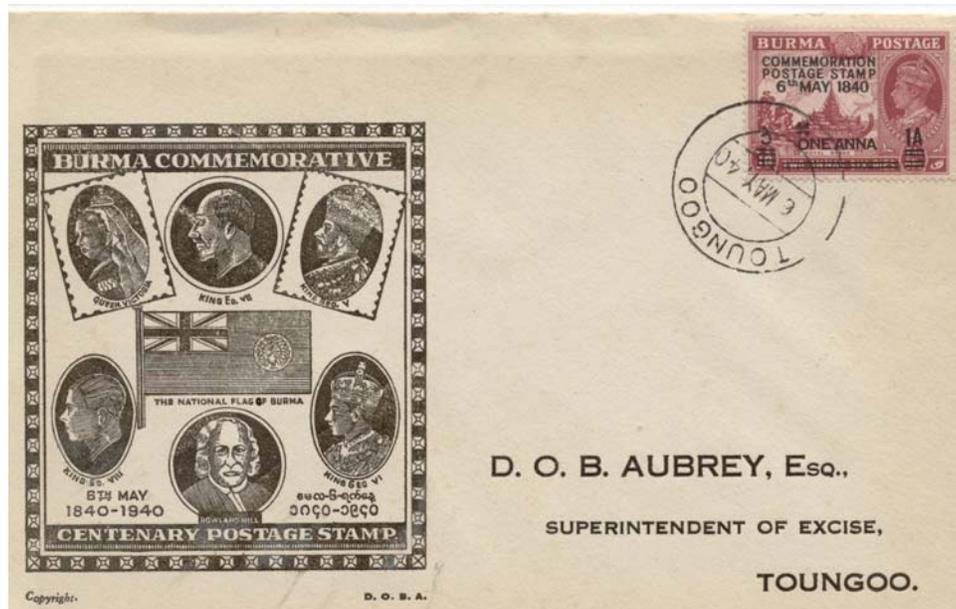
Text: Burma Commemorative
 Queen Victoria King Ed VII King George V
 The National Flag of Burma
 King Edward VIII Rowland Hill King George VI
 6th May (repeated in local script)
 1840 – 1940 (repeated in local script)
 Centenary Postage Stamp
 Copyright No. 2 D.O.B.A.
 Sole Distribution: - N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Notes D.O.B.A. was D.O.B. Aubrey, the Superintendent of Excise, located in Toungoo. His name appears frequently on covers of the August 1940 stamp issue described in the next section.

F-2b

Commemorative Stamp Issue

May 6, 1940



Publisher: D.O.BA./Naigamwalla

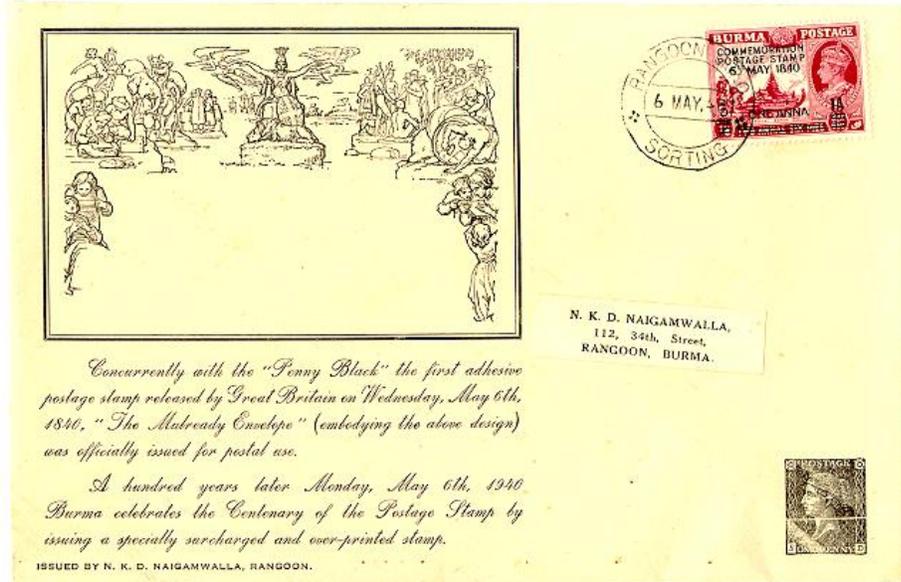
Text: Burma Commemorative
Queen Victoria King Ed VII King George V
The National Flag of Burma
King Edward VIII Rowland Hill King George VI
6th May (repeated in local script)
1840 – 1940 (repeated in local script)
Centenary Postage Stamp
Copyright No. 2 D.O.B.A.
Sole Distribution: - N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Notes This is identical to 6-2a except for the size. This is larger; there is a portion of blank envelope extending above the cachet.

F-3

Commemorative Stamp Issue

May 6, 1940



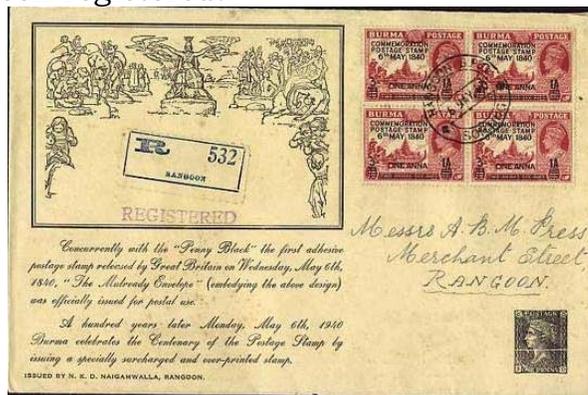
Publisher: N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Text: Concurrently with the "Penny Black" the first adhesive postage stamp released by Great Britain on Wednesday, May 6th, 1840. "The Mulready Envelope" (embodying the above design) was officially issued for postal use.

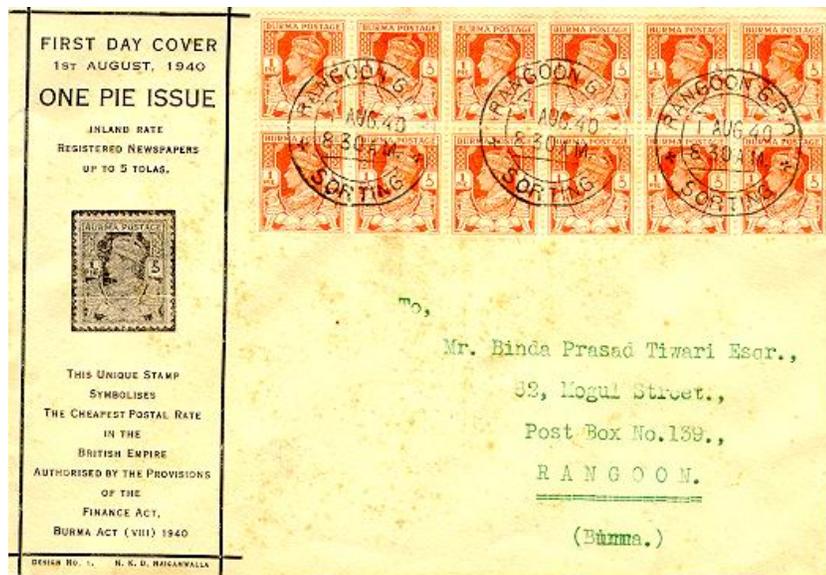
A hundred years later Monday, May 6th, 1940 Burma celebrates the Centenary of the Postage Stamp by issuing a specially surcharged and over-printed stamp.

Issued by N.K.D. Naigamwalla, Rangoon

Notes: Also seen registered:



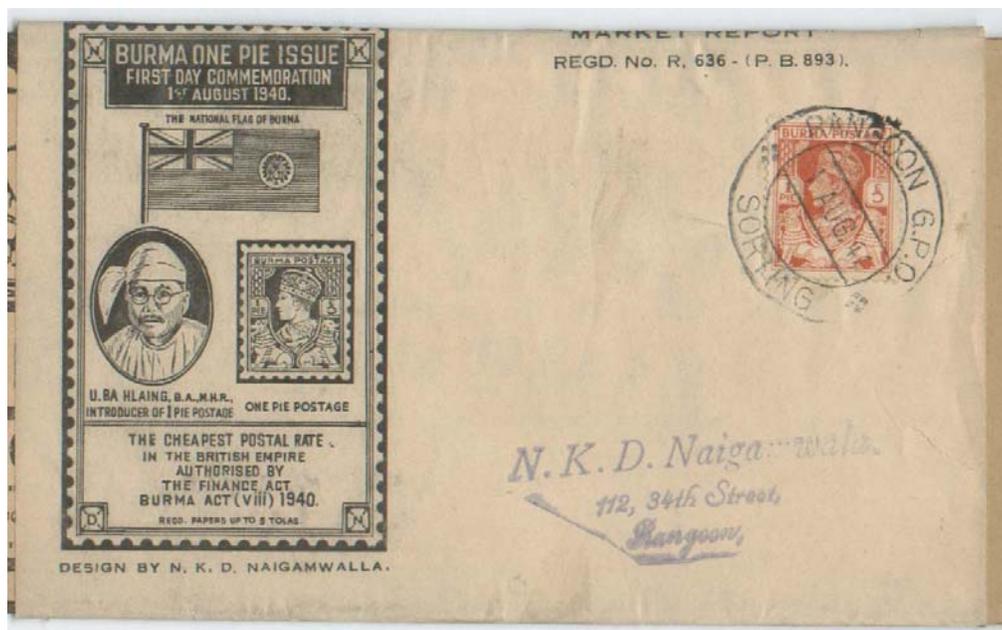
G-1 **Newspaper Stamp Issue**
August 1, 1940



Publisher: N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Text: Burma One Pie Issue /First Day Commemoration
1st August 1940 /The National Flag of Burma
U Ba Hlaing B.A.M.H.R. /Introducer of 1 Pie Postage
One Pie Postage / The cheapest postal rate
in the British Empire /authorized by
the Finance Act / Burma Act (VIII) 1940
Regd. papers up to 5 tolas
Design by N.K.D. Naigamwalla

G-2 Newspaper Stamp Issue
August 1, 1940



Publisher: N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Text: First Day Cover
1st August 1940
One Pie Issue

Inland rate / registered newspapers / up to 5 tolas. / This unique stamp/symbolizes / the cheapest postal rate /in the / British Empire / authorized by the provisions / of the / Finance Act, /Burma Act (VIII) 1940

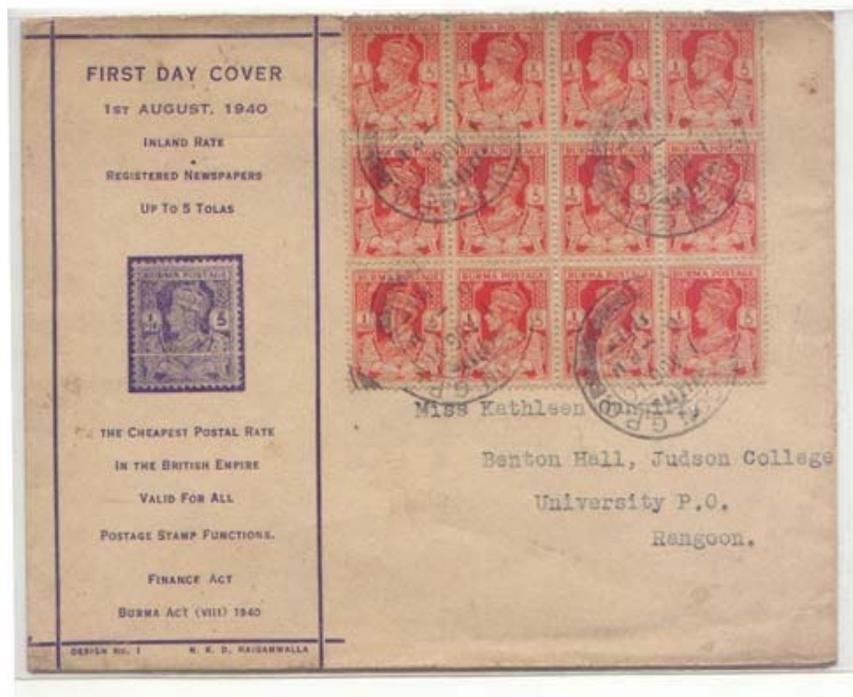
Design No. 1 N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Notes This is one of two covers designated as Design No. 1 by Naigamwalla.

Newspaper Wrapper mailed with Issue No. 198 of the daily "Market Report", a Burmese newspaper.



G-3 Newspaper Stamp Issue
August 1, 1940



Publisher: N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Text: First Day Cover
1st August 1940
In inland rate / registered newspapers / up to 5 tolas / The
cheapest postal rate / in the British Empire / valid for all /
postage stamp functions / Finance Act / Burma Act (VIII) 1940 /
Design No. 1 N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Notes This is one of two covers designated as Design No.
1 by Naigamwalla.

G-4 Newspaper Stamp Issue

August 1, 1940

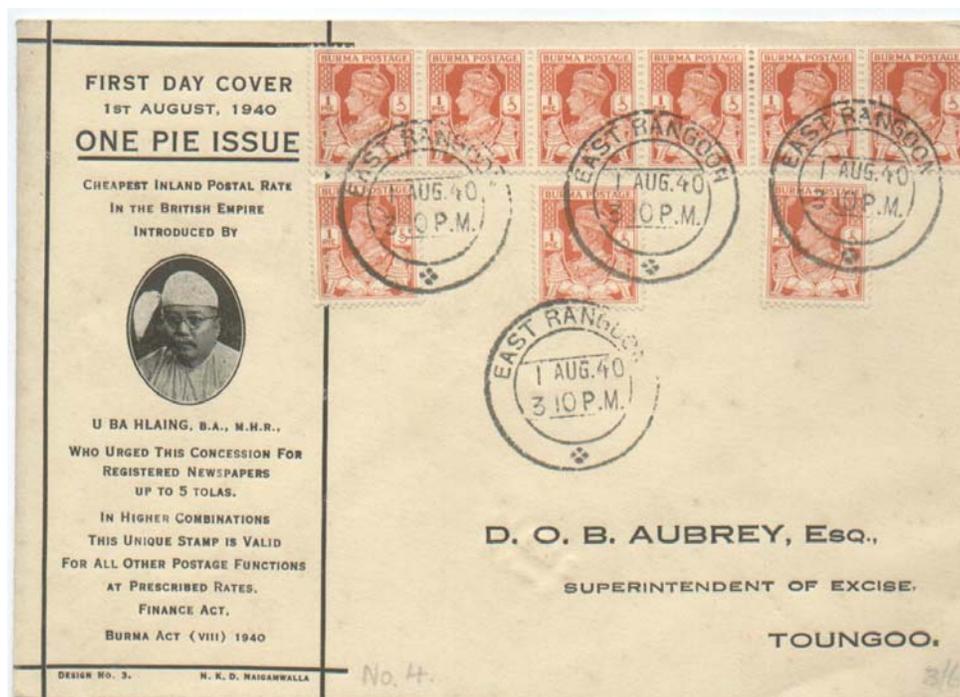


Publisher: N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Text: First Day Cover
1st August 1940
One Pie Issue
Cheapest inland rate /in / the British Empire / registered
newspapers /up to 5 tolas/ For all other / postage stamp
functions / in higher combinations / at prescribed rates./
Burma Act (VIII) 1940
Design No. 2 N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Notes This was Naigamwalla's second numbered design
for this issue

G-5 Newspaper Stamp Issue
August 1, 1940



Publisher: N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Text: First Day Cover
1st August 1940
One Pie Issue

Cheapest postal rate / in the British Empire / introduced by
U Ba Hlaing B.A.M.H.R. /who urged this concession for /
Registering newspapers / up to 5 tolas. / In higher
combinations/ this unique stamp is valid / for all other
postage functions / at prescribed rates. Finance Act, / Burma
Act (VIII) 1940
Regd. papers up to 5 tolas
Design No. 3 N.K.D. Naigamwalla

G-6 Newspaper Stamp Issue

August 1, 1940



Size: Issued in two sizes: Variety 1 is 5 x 7 inches and Variety 2 is 5½ x 8½ inches

Publisher: N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Text: Burma One Pie Issue
First Day Commemoration
1st August 1940
U Ba Hlaing B.A.M.H.R.
Introducer of 1 Pie Postage
One Pie Postage
The cheapest postal rate /in the British Empire
authorized by /the Finance /Act Burma Act (VIII) 1940
Regd. papers up to 5 tolas
Design No. 4 N.K.D. Naigamwalla
All Rights Reserved

Notes Seen cancelled with Rangoon G.P.O. Sorting and East Rangoon.
Also known with printed address to D.O.B. Aubrey. This was
Nagamwalla's fourth numbered design for this issue. This design
was illustrated on the cover of India's Stamp Journal June 1949.

G-7 Newspaper Stamp Issue
August 1, 1940



Publisher: N.K.D. Naigamwalla (attributed)

Text: First Day Cover
Of Burma
1st August 1940
One Pie Issue
Cheapest inland rate
In
For registered newspapers ?????
Weight ????? 5 tolas
ROYALAGE - FANECCN ?????

H-1 Independence

January 6, 1948

1-1a
large



Publisher: N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Text: Bogyoke U Aung San
 The Architect of Burma's Freedom
 Burma First Day Cover
 Sovereign Independent Republic
 Inaugurated 4th January 1948
 Issued by N.K.D. Naigamwalla & N.M. Mir

Note: This cachet appears on envelopes of two different sizes

1-1b
small



I-2

Anniversary of assassination

July 19, 1948



Publisher: N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Text: First Day Cover 19th July 1948
Burma Martyrs Memorial Issue
First Anniversary of the Assassination
Of State Leaders
Bogyoke U Aung San
U Ba Choe
Ma Razak
U Ba Win
Mahn Ba Knine
Sawbwa of Mongpaw
Thakim Mya
Beloved Bogyoke and
Those Who Fell With Thee,
In Burma's Heart Will Live Eternally
Issued by N.K.D. Naigamwalla

J-1

Postal Issues

January 4, 1949



Publisher: N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Text: Union of Burma
First Definitive Stamps
Day of Issue
First Anniversary of Independence

Note Handstamp "Experimental P.O. R-68"

Design is single color version of design on following page.

J-2

Postal Issues
January 4, 1949



Publisher: N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Text: Union of Burma
First Definitive Stamps
Day of Issue
First Anniversary of Independence
Issued by N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Note Design is color version of design on the previous page.
This same cachet was used for issues of July 6, 1953

K-2

75th Anniversary of Universal Postal Union

October 9, 1949



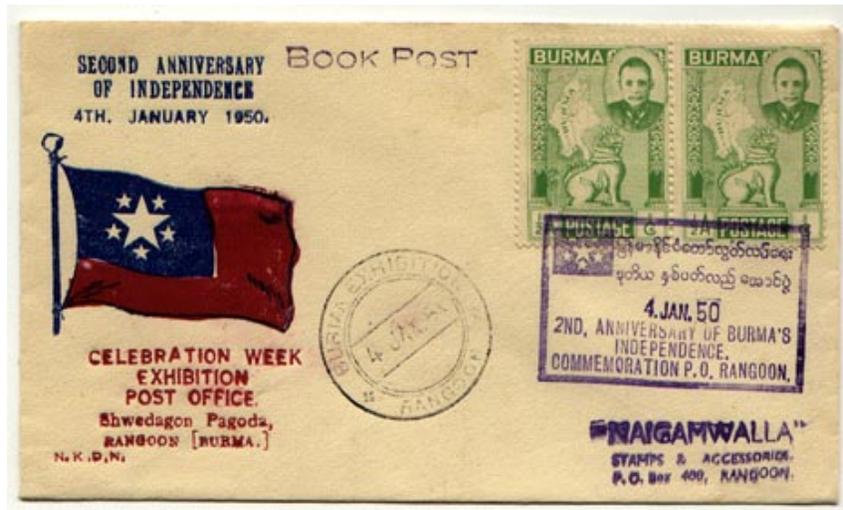
Publisher: N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Text: Universal Postal Union
Diamond Jubilee
1874-1949
Issued by N.K.D. Naigamwalla, Rangoon

L-1

Second Anniversary of Independence

January 4, 1950



Publisher: N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Text: Second Anniversary
of Independence
4th January 1950
Celebration Week
Exhibition
Post Office
Shwedagon Pagoda
Rangoon [Burma]
N.K.D.N.

Note: Special commemorative cancel.

It appears a special exhibition post office was set up for anniversary celebrations.

M-1

Third Anniversary of Independence

January 4, 1951



Publisher: N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Text: Union of Burma
First Definitive Stamps
Third Anniversary of Independence
Issued by N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Note This is the cachet from Naigamwalla's first anniversary of independence with the words "Day of Issue" and "First" crossed out with XXXXX and the work "Third" inserted.

Special Commemorative cancel

No Naigamwalla cachets for known for:

1952-53	Postal Issues
Jan. 4, 1953	5 th anniversary of independence

P-1

Postal Issues of 1954

January 4, 1954



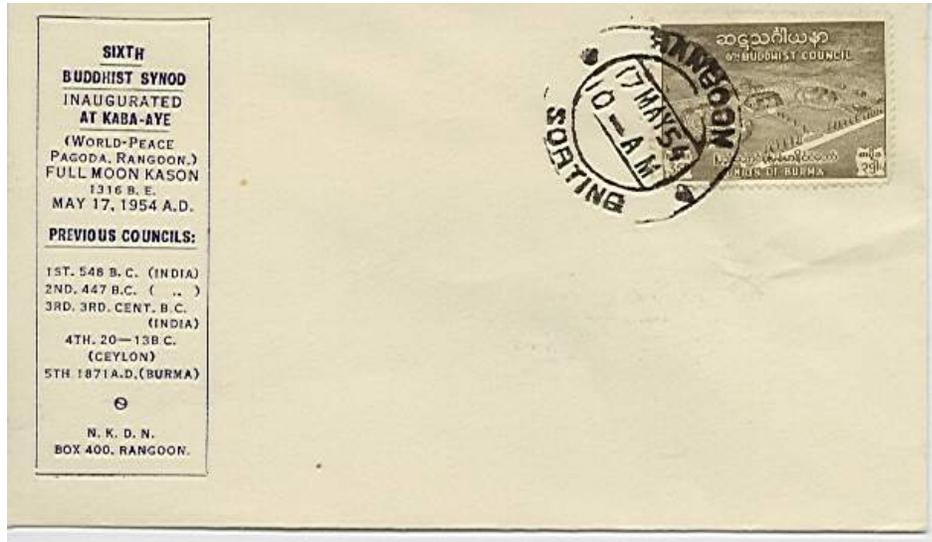
Publisher: N.K.D. Naigamwalla (attributed)

Text: Change of Currency
Postage & Service Stamps
4th January 1954
Sixth Anniversary
Burmese
Independence
Old Currency
16 Annas – 1 Rupee
12 Pias – 1 Anna
New Currency
100Pyas – 1 Kyat
(1 Kyat – 1 Rupee)
M.M.D.N.
Box 400, Rangoon

Q-1

6th Buddhist Council Stamp Issue

May 17, 1954



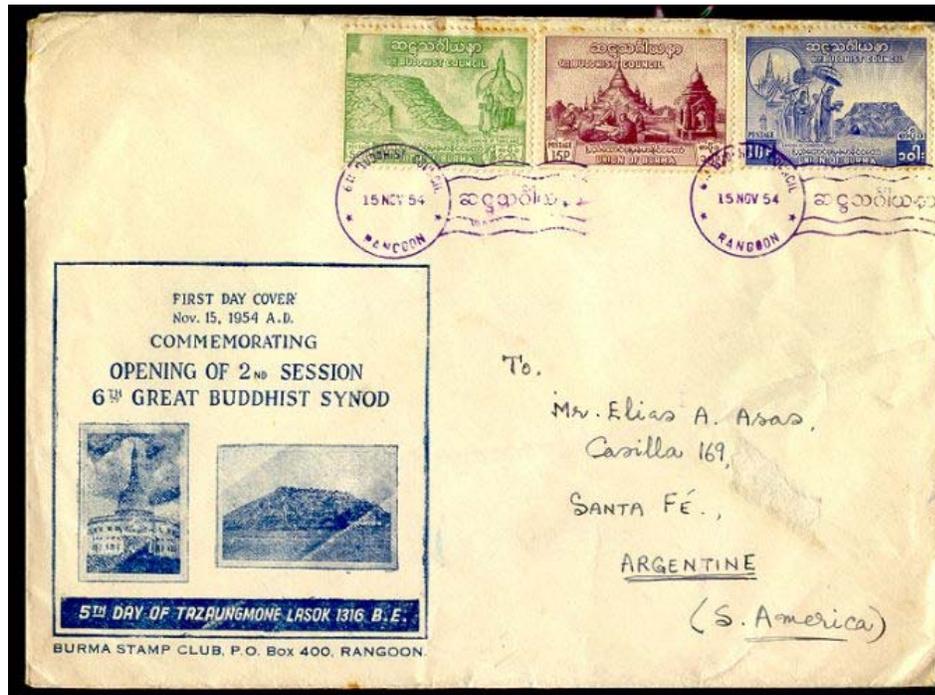
Publisher: N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Text: Sixth
Buddhist Synod
Inaugurated
At Kaba-Aye
{World Peace
Pagoda, Rangoon}
Full Moon Kasan
1316 B.E.
17th May 1954 A.D.
Previous Councils
1st, 548 B.C. (India)
2nd, 447 B.C. (" }
3rd, 3rd Cent. B.C.
(India)
4th, 20 - 13 B.C.
(Ceylon)
5th, 1871 A.D. (Burma)
N.K.D.N.
Box 400, Rangoon

R-1

6th Buddhist Council Opening Session

November 15, 1954

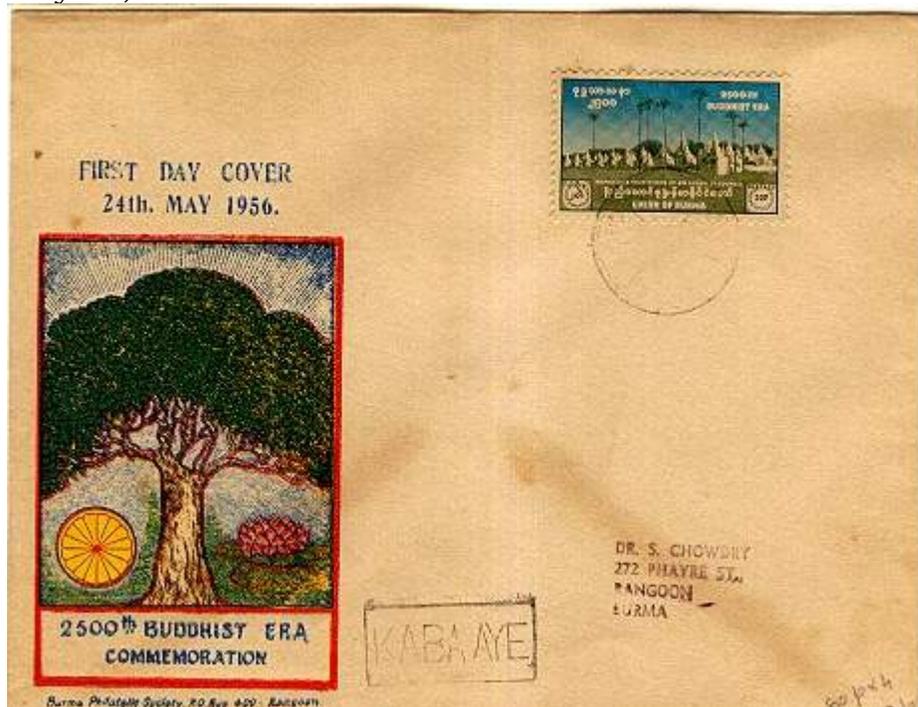


Publisher: Burma Stamp Club (attributed)

Text: First Day Cover
Nov. 15, 1954 A.D.
Commemorating
Opening of 2nd Session
6th Great Buddhist Synod
5th Day of Tazrungmone Lasok 1316 B.E.
Burma Stamp Club P.O. Box 400 Rangoon

Note: The Burma Stamp Club was founded by N.K. D. Naigamwalla

S-1 2500th Anniversary of the Buddhist Era Stamp Issue
 May 24, 1956



Publisher: Burma Philatelic Society (attributed)

Text: First Day Cover 24th May 1956
 2500th Buddhist Era Commemoration
 Burma Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 400, Rangoon

Note: These covers are frequently seen with a commemorative circular cancel.



No Naiganwalla cachets are known for:

- | | |
|--------------|------------------------------------|
| Nov. 9, 1959 | Centenary of Mandalay Postal Issue |
| June 1961 | Postal Issue of 1961 |
| Dec. 11 1961 | UNICEF Postage Issue |

W-1

2nd South East Asia Peninsular Games Issue

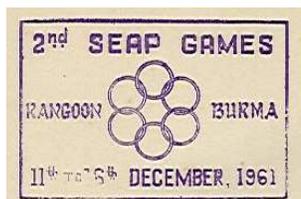
December 11, 1961



Publisher: N.K.D. Naigamwalla

Text: First Day Cover
2nd S.E.A.P. Games
S.E.A.P. Games
11 - 12 - 1961

Note: Commemorative cancellation in purple



Appendix – Articles from The Burma Peacock

1. N.K.D. Naigamwalla, Promoter of Burma Philately
The Burma Peacock, Vol. 9, No. 3, Fall 1988
2. N.K.D. Naigamwalla, Promoter of Burma Philately (Part II)
The Burma Peacock, Vol. 9, No. 4, Winter 1988
3. “Burma Walla”
The Burma Peacock, Vol. 14, No. 3, Fall 1993

Appendix 1

Appendix 2

Appendix 3