

# Mahatma Gandhi: 150 Years of Life and Legacy

This exhibit is a thematic exploration of events that shaped Gandhi's life and the subsequent legacy that followed him, through the worldwide influence of his ideas and ideals. A window into Gandhi's life is presented through historic and philatelic material. Our journey will begin with Gandhi's birth in 1869, take us through significant events in his life [in Southern Africa, England & India], pause for a brief moment during and after the last days of his life and end with popular retrospectives on the eventful life that transformed him into the "Great Soul" [Mahatma].



India (1948). Mint Service overprinted 10 Rs stamp- the highest valued mint stamp from India thus far. Other three lower values shown later in this exhibit. **BPA #39000, 1960.**  
Only 100 overprinted by Government.  
Only 15 mint stamps exist in private collections.



India (1948). Printer's die proofs in two sizes (100% and 125%) of two-color design considered for the 12as value and later adopted only for the 10 Rs value. Only known copies.



India (1948). Specimen overprinted stamp found inside folder and envelope addressed to the Indian UPU Delegation in Berne. Remaining values shown later in this exhibit. Only 100 overprinted by Courvoisier. Only 12 sets known in existence today.

Mahatma Gandhi was remembered with a memorial issue on the first anniversary of India's independence. This stamp issue represents the irony- the disconnect between how Gandhi lived and how he was later remembered. Not keen on his modest attire, the stamp designer added imaginary clothing to the portrait that looks quite artificial in the bi-color designs shown above. The set included the **most expensive face value for a commemorative stamp from India until then (10 Rs)**, to honor a man who only used post cards! Few if any in India could afford the high value stamp in the set, which had no legitimate postal rate to be used for.

Most of the SERVICE stamps were cancelled with the GOVERNOR GENERAL'S CAMP PO postmark, but for a few with a less common PRESIDENT'S CAMP PO mark (the offices of monarch and governor-general were replaced by the new office of President of India later, on 26 Jan 1950).

Mint copies of the Gandhi SERVICE usage have the distinction of being the most expensive stamps from Independent India - and hence **the most forged stamps from India** - not exactly an honor, when memorializing the nation's leader who fought for honesty.



India (1950). Late use of lowest value Service overprinted stamp on piece with PRESIDENT'S CAMP PO | NEW DELHI postmark. **RPSL#124768, 1983.**

## Exhibit Plan

When the subject of a thematic exhibit is a personality, the natural order for an exhibit plan is expected to be chronological. The story line presented here is organized to explore specific elements of the Gandhi's life and legacy from two facets: (1) events that shaped his life and ideals and (2) our historical perceptions of the same.

These events and perceptions are grouped into logical blocks and a semblance of chronological order has been maintained within each group, when deemed necessary to organize the story, as shown in the exhibit plan below.

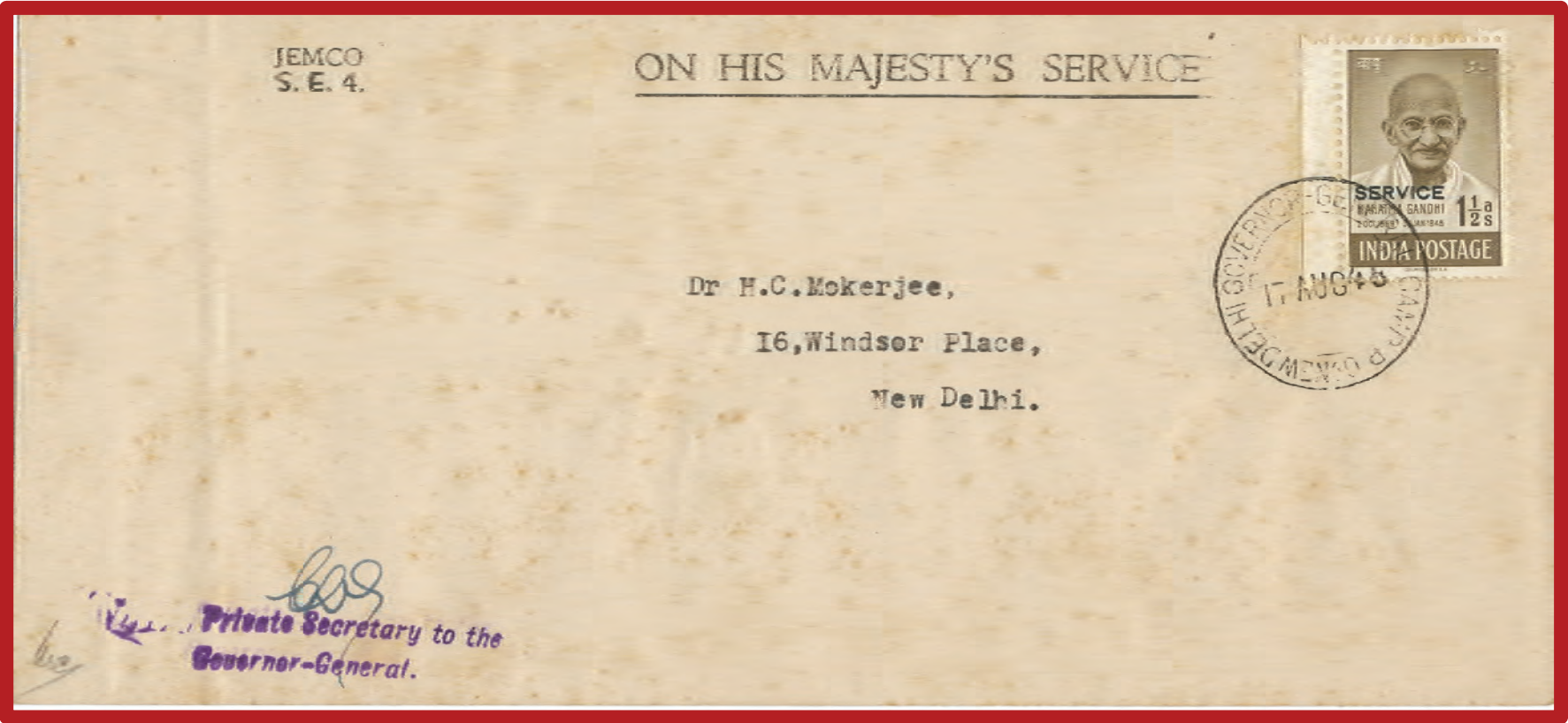
### Life [1869-1948]

- a. Early Years [1869-1891]
- b. Legal Professional [1891-1902]
- c. Participant in Wars [1899-1945]
- d. Political Organizer & Negotiator [1894-1932]
- e. Architect of Civil Disobedience [1905-1945]
- f. Social Experimenter [1904-1948]
- g. The Final Days [1947-1948]

### Legacy [1948-2020]

- 1. The Morning After- Memorialized in India
- 2. India After Gandhi
- 3. Lasting Impressions
- 4. No Man is an Island
- 5. Inspiration and Legacy
- 6. Lip Service and More

Total Number of Pages [Ledger Size] ... 64



India (17 Aug 1948). Entire cover on official service cancelled with the GOVERNOR GENERAL'S CAMP PO | NEW DELHI circular date stamp. With Governor General's cachet in the bottom left, signed by his private secretary (worn 8 in 48 of CDS looks like 6). Less than 5 such covers known.



# Early Years [1869-1891]

Birth and Early Schooling [1869-81]

Vague notions of Gandhi in literature paint the portrait of a man whose ideals are to be admired, while being considered wildly unrealistic in today's world. This exhibit is a small attempt to demystify the mythical Gandhi and shed light on the flesh-and-blood events that shaped his thoughts, words, actions. His life, like most others, started as "an empty page to write on"... and what a story it turned out to be!



[Mauritius \(1969\) Printer's Die Proof](#). This empty frame, depicting scenes from daily life in India, was prepared from original artwork for a souvenir sheet border. This photographic proof is one of **only two believed to exist**, based on records from the Crown Agents' Archives. Another photographic proof of the entire souvenir sheet, with portraits of Gandhi through various stages in his life, is presented at the end of this exhibit.



Sierra Leone (27 Feb 2019)  
Gandhi's Father  
Karamchand Uttamchand.



Djibouti (27 Jul 2018)  
Gandhi's Birthplace in  
Porbandar, Gujarat.



Djibouti (27 Feb 2019)  
7-Year old Gandhi,  
incorrectly labeled  
1887 instead of 1877.

Gandhi was born on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1869, by the shores of the Arabian Sea in the small coastal town into a merchant family. His father had little formal education and was a poorly paid bureaucrat. Baby Mohan was the youngest (fourth) child of his father's fourth wife (the other three lost by death). He had three elder sisters (two from his father's first two wives) and two elder brothers.



Solomon Islands (25 Sep 2015)  
Young Gandhi with image of  
birthplace in background.



Special pictorial postmark commemorating Gandhi's  
birthplace in Porbandar. 3 Rs franking was for  
lowest domestic rate within India in 1997.



Antigua (18 Nov 1998)  
7-Year old Gandhi with  
image of his primary  
school the background.



Central African Republic  
(17 Jul 2017)  
7-Year Old Gandhi and  
Gandhi in his later years at the  
spinning wheel.



Antigua (18 Nov 1998)  
12-yr old Gandhi in front  
of Alfred High School.



# Early Years [1869-1891]

Family, College in India, and Law School in England [1881-91]



Niger (24 Apr 2019)  
Gandhi and Kasturba  
in 1883.



Guinea-Bissau  
(19 Feb 2019)  
Kasturba with their  
four boys in 1901.



Central African Rep.  
(17 Jul 2017)  
12-Year Old Gandhi  
and Gandhi in his later  
years with Tagore.



Guinea (22 Jun 2015) Gandhi  
with Sheikh Mehtab in 1883,  
who talked him into trying  
smoking and eating meat.



Niger (24 Apr 2019)



India (2 Oct 1969)



Togo (22 Apr 2015)



Mozambique (15 Jun 2018)

----- Ba & Bapu in their later years. They were married sixty three years, until her death in 1944 -----

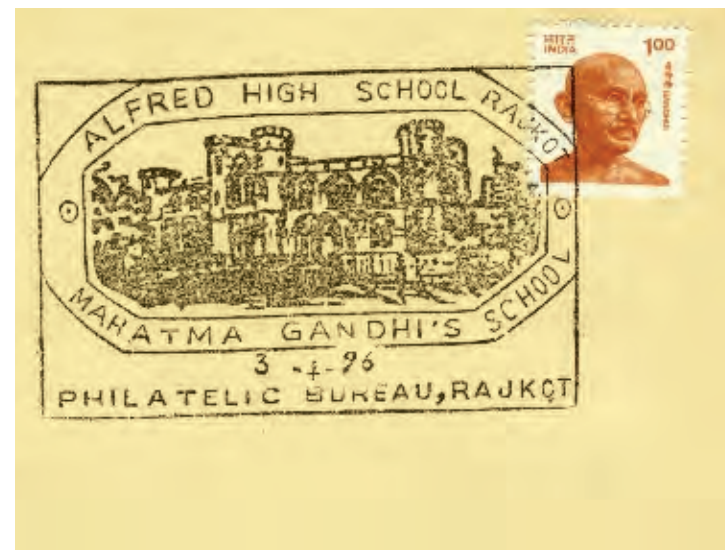
1881- Gandhi entered High School in Rajkot [now called Mahatma Gandhi Vidyalaya].  
1883- Gandhi married 14-yr old Kasturba. He was earlier betrothed to two other girls [the first at age 6]- both died subsequently.  
1885- Gandhi and Kasturba's first child was a stillborn boy.  
1887-Gandhi graduated from High School and joined Salmadas College in Bhavnagar.  
1888-1900 They had four children: Harilal (1888); Manilal (1892); Ramdas (1897); and Devdas (1900).



Ghana (24 Dec 1998)  
17-yr old Gandhi's High  
School graduation picture.



Guinea-Bissau  
(19 Feb 2019)  
Gandhi with his brother  
Laxmidas  
at Salmadas College.



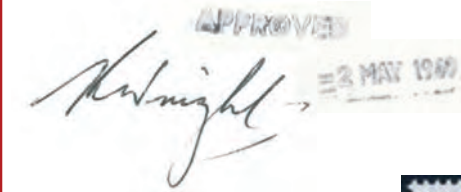
India (3 Apr 1996). Special pictorial cancel showing the  
High School Gandhi attended.

4 September 1888- Gandhi left to study Law in England and "come back to a good life as a Barrister".

His urge to return home was obvious when, upon completing his legal studies, he was "called to the Bar" in London on 10<sup>th</sup> June, enrolled in the High Court on the 11<sup>th</sup> and set sail for India on 12<sup>th</sup> June 1891!



Mauritius (2 May 1969)  
Printer's Die proof. Gandhi as a Student in London. Only known approved copy with signature and approval stamp of engraver on back. One other copy without such markings exists (also in author's collection). Format International Security Printers' former Archives, London.



Guinea-Bissau  
(25 Jan 2013)



Solomon Islands  
(25 Sep 2015)

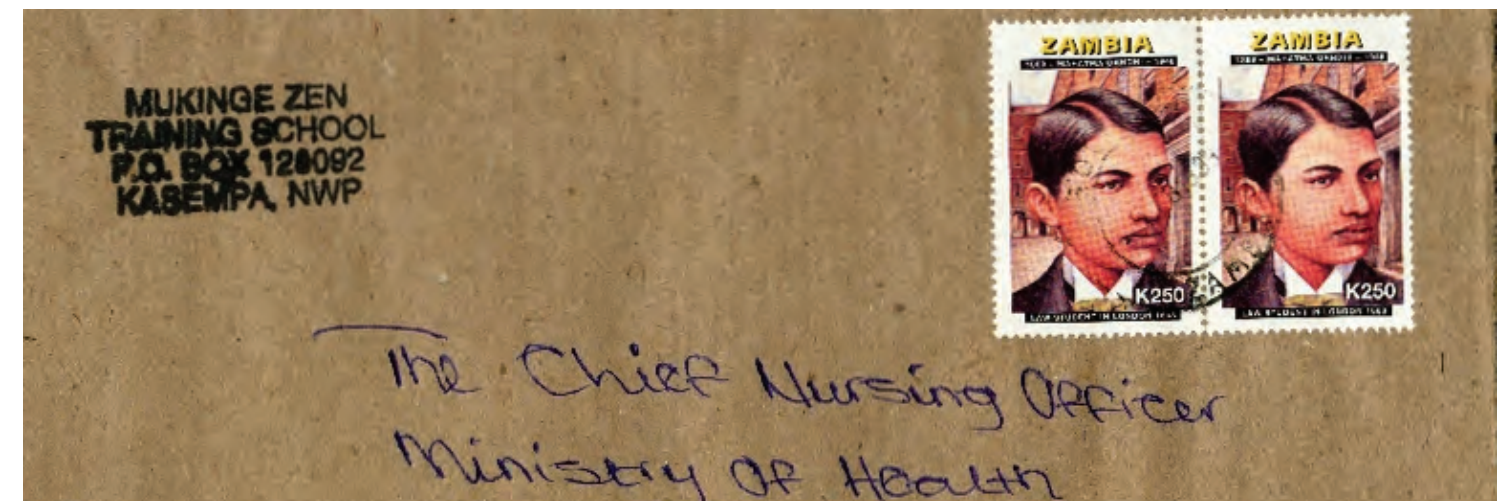


Guinea-Bissau  
(19 Feb 2019)

----- Gandhi as a student in London -----



Mauritius (2 Oct 1969)  
Full sheet of 2c stamp with an error in one stamp on sheet.  
Magnified image of a full black circle located within the letter N in the word STUDENT. This previously unreported error has been detected in only two full sheets, but in the same location. This raises the possibility that it could be a plate error.



Zambia (30 Jan 1998). Domestic large envelope rate usage of a pair of stamps showing Gandhi dressed in western clothing, while in London in 1888.



# Legal Professional [1891-1902]

## Business Lawyer in Bombay, Durban, Johannesburg [1891-96]

European in dress and manner, Gandhi also knew nothing of the laws of his own country. At the High Court in Bombay, he could not gather the courage to cross-examine a witness in his first case. He never again appeared in court on behalf of a client in India!

In early 1893, Gandhi sailed for Durban, retained by a South Asian Muslim merchant. He left his wife behind, intending to return in a year.



Mozambique (15 Aug 2015)



Solomon Islands (30 Aug 2013)



Guinea Bissau  
(15 Feb 2018)



Sierra Leone  
(27 Feb 2019)



Scottish "Local" (1 Apr 1979). Archival Progressive Proofs of Cinderella. Incorrectly identifying the image as Gandhi practicing Law in Bombay in 1891. Both the portrait and the law office window in the background are from his Johannesburg practice (1896).

On his way to Pretoria from Johannesburg, Gandhi was forcibly removed from a first-class coach for being a colored passenger. When he objected, he was thrown out of the train in Pietermaritzburg. Incensed by his treatment on the train to Pretoria, Gandhi called a meeting of the Indian community and gave the first public speech of his life.

----- Gandhi as a lawyer in South Africa -----



Guinea Bissau  
(23 May 2016)



Central African Rep.  
(17 Jul 2017)



Guinea Bissau (1 Dec 2008)



Niger (26 Oct 2015)



India (2 Oct 2007)



Solomon Islands  
(25 Sep 2015)

----- Gandhi thrown off the train at Pietermaritzburg in 1893 -----



India (2 Oct 1995). The Pietermaritzburg station, where Gandhi was thrown out, featured on a special cancellation.



Guyana (29 Oct 1998)



Uganda (28 Dec 1998)



South Africa (2 Oct 1995)



South Africa (7 Jun 1993). Special cancellation commemorating the centenary of Gandhi's arrival in South Africa.

Two days after arriving in South Africa in 1993, Gandhi was chastised in a Durban Court for his refusal to remove his "turban" and had to leave to change into Western clothing before returning to court.



# Legal Professional [1891-1902]

Lawyer Turned Activist in Natal [1896-1902]

Not happy with the untruths it took to pursue a business case, Gandhi settled his client's case and returned to Durban, prepared to return to India. At his farewell party in April 1894, he read about a new law depriving Asians of representation in the legislature.

He asked the Indians to fight this law, they asked him to extend his stay! In September 1894, realizing that he was not returning to India soon, Gandhi applied for admission to practice in the Natal Supreme Court. The Natal Law Society objected on the basis of race and color, but the Chief Justice accepted him. Two weeks later, he successfully argued and won what was probably his first court case!

Gandhi defended and secured the release of a prominent indentured laborer who was a victim of these laws. This case brought into contact with labor rights and immigration issues of indentured workers. As his organizing skills matured, Gandhi organized these workers in mines on walkouts and strikes.



Togo (15 Jul 2010)



India (2 Oct 2007)



Marshall Islands (15 Apr 1997)

----- Gandhi as an organizer of Indian Workers and Miners in South Africa -----

Long-lasting friendships were formed between Gandhi and his law office staff in South Africa. H.S.L. Polak, Gandhi's legal assistant, published a photograph of the entire legal team in a Gandhi biography. In the front row, left to right: Polak, Gandhi and Sonja Schlesin, his Russian secretary.



Uganda (5 Apr 1998). Image on stamp shows Gandhi and his staff in the Johannesburg Law Office, based on the historic photograph. The 2500 UgSh stamp was intended for registered airmail, but rapid inflation and late usage required additional postage. The cover was erroneously machine cancelled on the back [5 APR 2000], as shown in the facsimile image to the left.



Mauritius (2 May 1969)  
Printer's Die proof.  
Gandhi as he arrived in  
Mauritius in 1901.

Only known approved copy with signature and approval stamp of engraver on back.  
One other copy without such markings exists (also in author's collection). Format International Security Printers' former Archives, London.



Mauritius (2 Oct 1969)

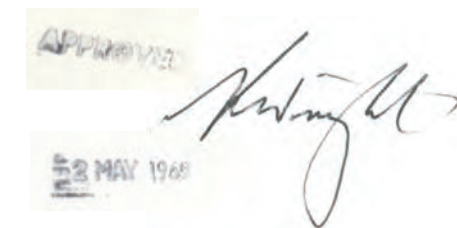


Sri Lanka (2 Oct 2019)



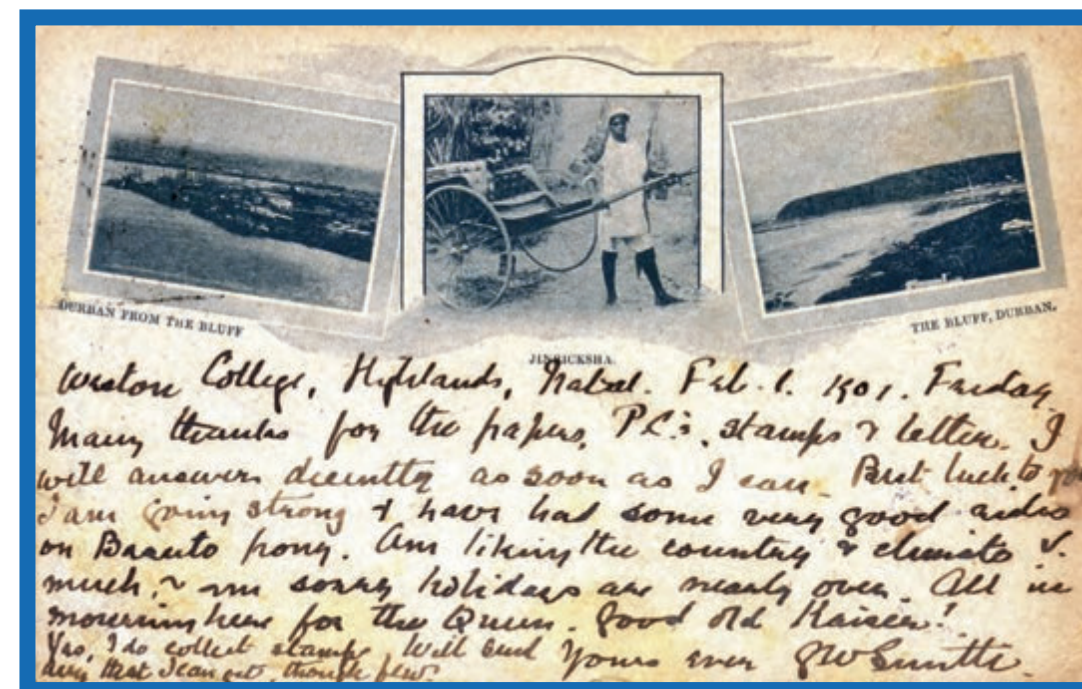
Mauritius (29 Oct 2001)

----- Gandhi stops in Mauritius on his way from Durban to Bombay in 1901 -----



Another law Gandhi took issue with was one prohibiting the carrying of colored passengers by Indian rickshaw haulers in rickshaws marked "For Europeans Only".

While Gandhi himself objected to using rickshaws pulled by the Durban natives, he protested this by-law with the Durban Town Clerk and petitioned the Natal Governor on the subject in 1900.



Durban, Natal (2 Feb 1901). Postal stationery with preprinted image showing a rickshaw. Letter mentions mourning here for the Queen. Mailed from Durban the day Gandhi laid a wreath at the Queen's statue and paid tribute to her at a memorial service in Durban.





# Participant in Wars [1899-1945]

## Indian Volunteer Ambulance Corps in the Anglo-Boer War [1899-1900]

Wonder why a story on the most celebrated “pacifist” of the 20<sup>th</sup> century has a section on participation in war?

It all began in the last year of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, in Southern Africa. Gandhi, as a proud sincere “Citizen of the Empire”, fulfilled what he perceived was his “moral duty”. On 17<sup>th</sup> Oct 1899, he organized a meeting of English-speaking Indians decided to offer Indians' services to Natal Government on the outbreak of Boer War. Two days later, he sent an offer to the Government, forwarding a list of Volunteers headed by himself.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct, the Government welcomed his offer and on 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec, he Wired Colonial Secretary for details of Ambulance Corps' work and date of start.



Central African Republic  
(21 Mar 2019)

Gandhi left for the front with the Ambulance Corps on 14<sup>th</sup> Dec and served in Estcourt until 19<sup>th</sup> Dec, when the corps was temporarily disbanded after the “Colenso Reverse”.

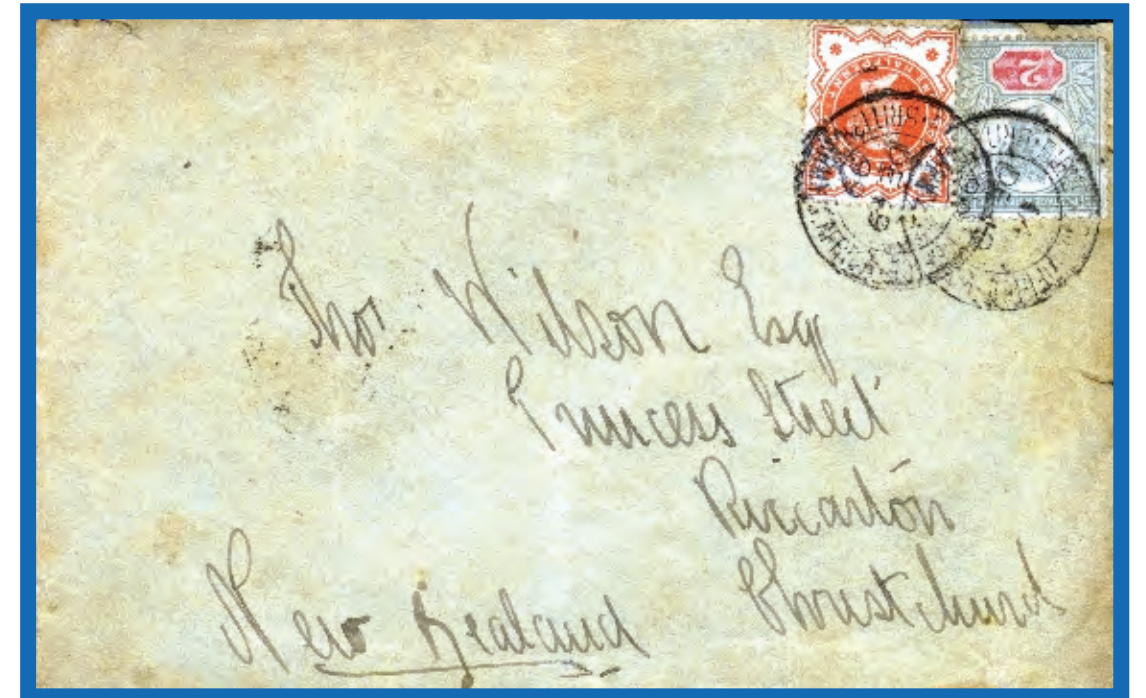
Gandhi informed authorities of readiness for further Ambulance work and the Indian Ambulance Corps was re-formed and stationed at Estcourt on 7<sup>th</sup> Jan 1900. On 21<sup>st</sup> Jan 1900, the Corps saw action at Spion Kop and carried wounded to base under fire.

They were disbanded after three weeks' service, on 28<sup>th</sup> Jan 1900.

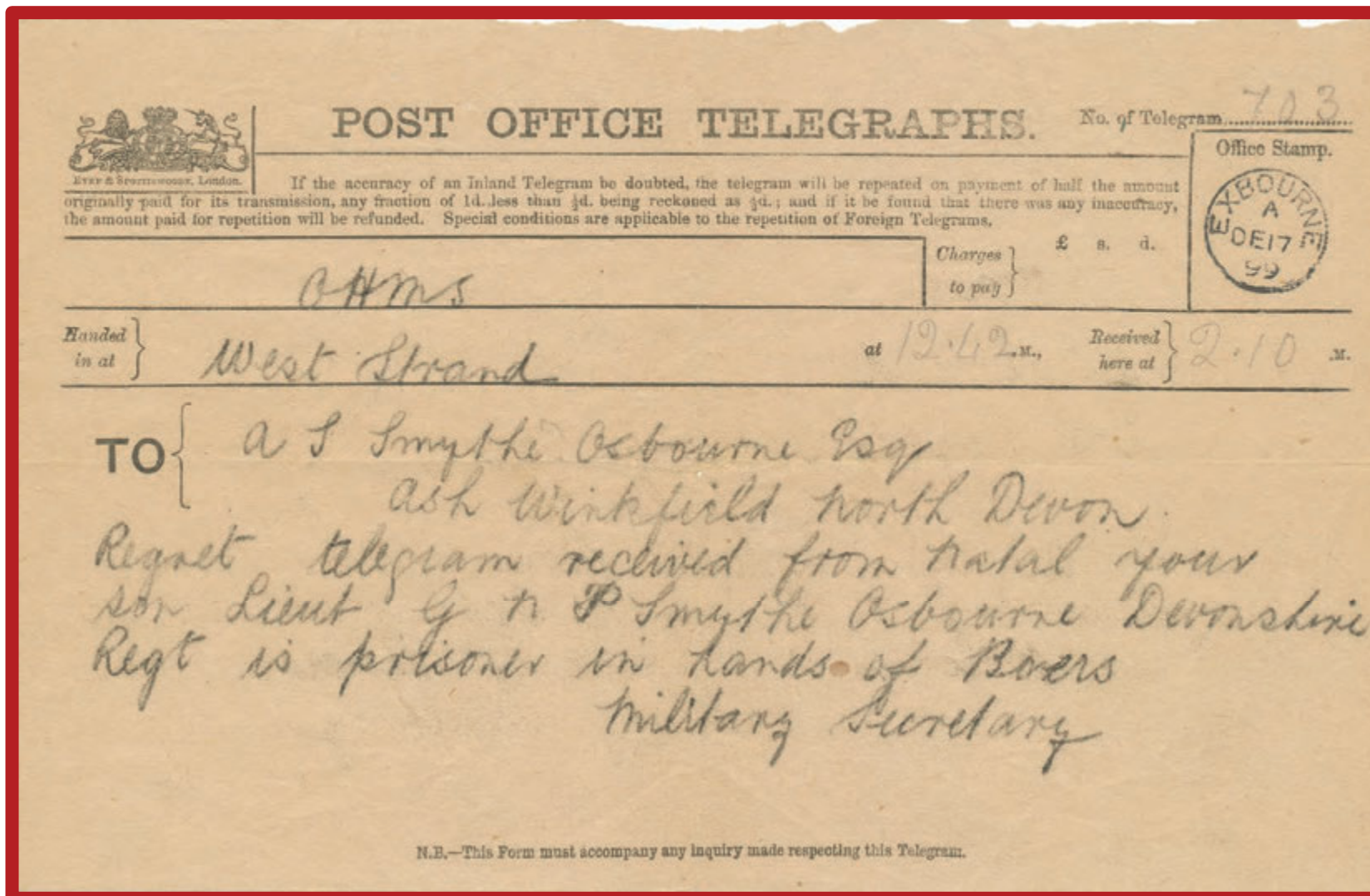
---- Gandhi with his fellow Boer War Ambulance Corps volunteers ----



Mozambique  
(10 Jul 2016)



Natal (19 Dec 1899). Early cover to New Zealand with two British Army cancels [FPO 14] on UK stamps. This was mailed four days into the Battle of Colenso. [Mailed the last day of the first mobilization of Gandhi's Ambulance Corps, when they served in Estcourt.](#)



Natal (17 Dec 1899). Telegram, manuscript OHMS and Exbourne date stamp with message about Lt. Osbourne, who was captured by the Boers at Stormburg on 10<sup>th</sup> Dec 1899. [Sent and received the first day of the first mobilization of Gandhi's Ambulance Corps. Possibly Unique.](#)



Natal (14 Jan & 15 Jan 1900). Letters mailed with pair of Transvaal stamps and blue cancels used by the Boers during their occupation from Oct 1899 to Mar 1900. [Sent during the second mobilization of Gandhi's Ambulance Corps.](#)



# Participant in Wars [1899-1945]

## Boer War Medal, Volunteers, Concentration Camps & POWs [1900-1902]

When the war began, Gandhi's personal sympathies were with the Boer, but he felt he had no right to consider his "individual convictions" before duty to the nation. The choice of volunteering for the medical services was simple- these Indians in Natal were neither trained nor would be allowed to enter combat. Even this service had to be "fought for", by a supportive Dr. Booth who ran the British medical effort. In recognition of his service during the Anglo-Boer war, Gandhi was awarded the Queen's South Africa War Medal.



Central African Rep.  
(2000)



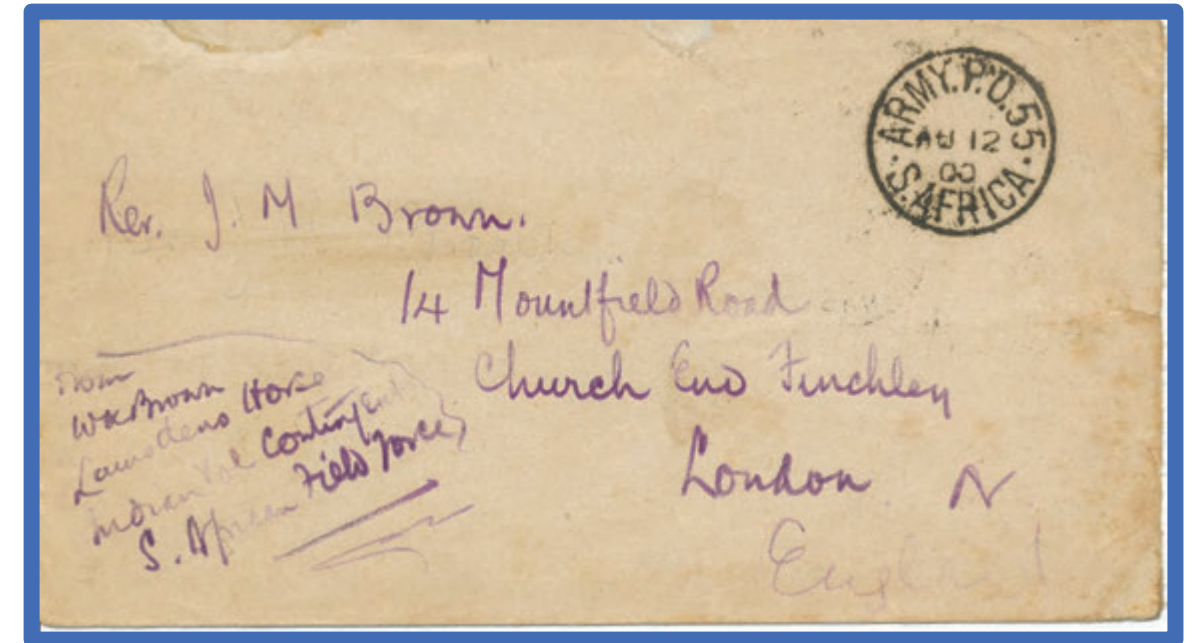
Central African Republic  
(21 Mar 2019)

---- Images of the Medal  
awarded to Gandhi ----



Scottish Local Cinderella (1969). Original Artist's Essay depicting the Queen South Africa Medal awarded to Gandhi for his service leading a volunteer Ambulance Corps during the Anglo-Boer War. [Only known copy.](#)

Europeans from India could enter combat. Lumsden's Horse was the name given to the Indian Mounted Infantry Corps, raised entirely with volunteers from various existing Indian regiments, including the Assam Valley Light Horse. Colonel Lumsden contributed 50,000 rupees. The Corps of 250 left Calcutta in Feb 1900.



Army PO 55 (12 Aug 1900). Cover to London endorsed "From W.K. Brown / Lumsden's Horse / India Volunteer Contingent / S. African Field Force".

Of the 28,000 Boer men captured as prisoners of war, 25,630 were sent to overseas POW camps in St. Helena, Bermuda, India and Ceylon.

The brutal treatment of Boer families at concentration camps run by the British was later commented upon by Gandhi, whose impressions on the goodness of "The Empire" was beginning to wear off.



Deadwood Boer POW Camp, St. Helena (6 Dec 1900). Registered post card to Johannesburg. Violet censor cachet signed EW for E. Walton.



Boer POW Camp, India (1 Jan 1902). Up-rated postal card written on 27 Dec 1901 in German by POW. BOER CAMP | UMBALLA oval cachet in blue. A German Freikorps of 800 Volunteers was formed who fought on the Boer side.



# Participant in Wars [1899-1945]

## Indian Stretcher Bearers in the Bambatha Zulu Rebellion [1906]

Following the Anglo-Boer War, British employers in Natal had difficulty recruiting black farm workers. They introduced a poll tax £1 (equivalent to over £100 today) in addition to the existing hut tax to pressure Zulu men to enter the labor market. Bambatha kaMancinza, leader of the amaZondi clan of the Zulu, resisted in February 1906. Gandhi was living in Johannesburg when news of the Zulu rebellion reached him.

On 17<sup>th</sup> March, he wrote that Indians in South Africa would do best for themselves to serve the British Empire as a reserve force in the Army against the Zulu uprising. The British refused to commission Indians as soldiers, but accepted Gandhi's offer to let a detachment of Indians volunteer serve as a stretcher bearer corps, to treat wounded soldiers. Gandhi enlisted 21 Indian men from Durban to serve with him. Marching orders for the Corps were given on 21<sup>st</sup> June and they served in the front until disbanded on 19<sup>th</sup> July.

Mauritius (2 May 1969). Printer's Die proof. Gandhi serving in the Zulu Rebellion in 1906. Only known approved copy with signature and approval stamp of engraver on back. One other copy without such markings exists (also in author's collection). Format International Security Printers' former Archives, London.



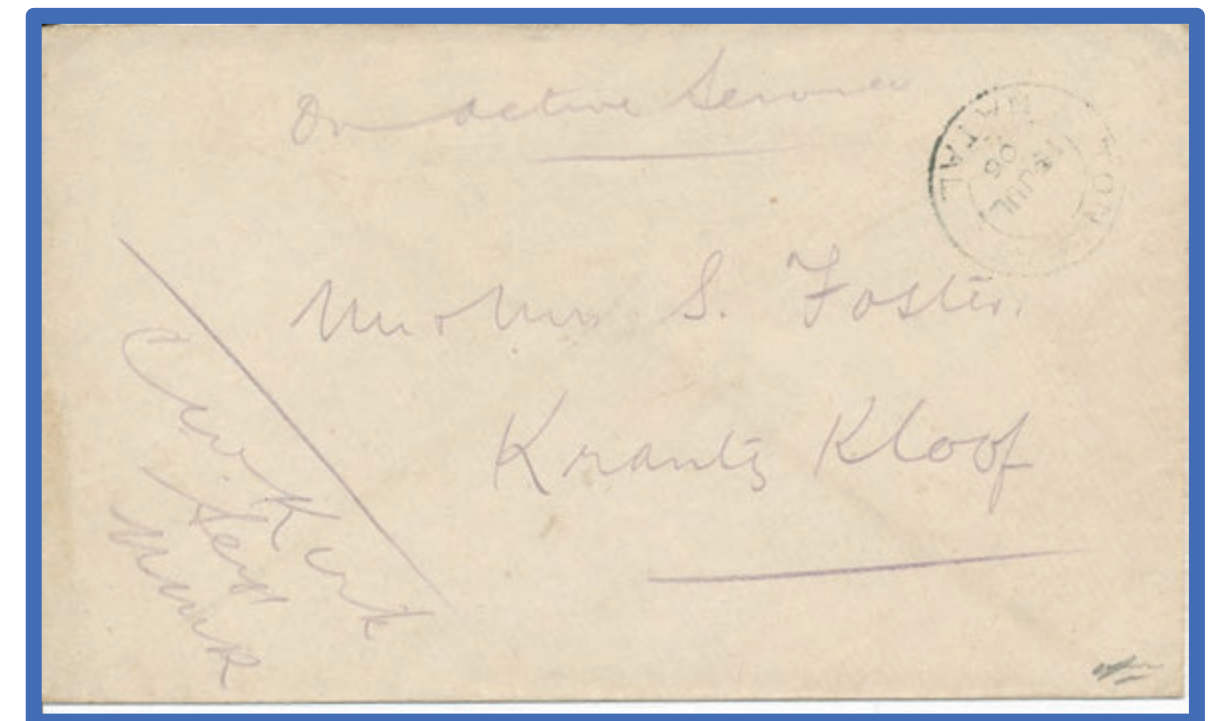
Natal (23 May 1906) and Zululand (21 Jul 1906). Postcards from colonial soldiers serving in the Zulu rebellion. Mailed from Dundee and Nkandla with Pietermaritzburg transit CDS markings.

Gandhi was awarded the King South Africa Natal War Medal, for organizing the Stretcher Bearer Corps, under the rank of a Sergeant Major.



Scottish Local Cinderella (1969). Original Artist's Essay depicting the KSA Zulu Medal. The only British campaign medal not awarded to British troops (mostly to Natal colonial military and police forces). Only known copy.

The Nkandla forest was used as the base by Bambatha for guerilla attacks during martial law and police expeditions. Bambatha was killed and beheaded, along with over 3,000 Zulus who were killed, 4,000 flogged, and over 7,000 were imprisoned during the revolt. In 1927, Gandhi wrote of the event as "No war but a man hunt".



KwaZulu-Natal (19 Jul 1906). "On Active Service" local cover from Tongaat to Krantz Kloof with sender's endorsement "C.W. Kirk Sergt NMR" as required to authorize stampless carriage. Notation on reverse "Address me now via Tongaat. CWK". Last day of service for the Stretcher Bearer Corps.

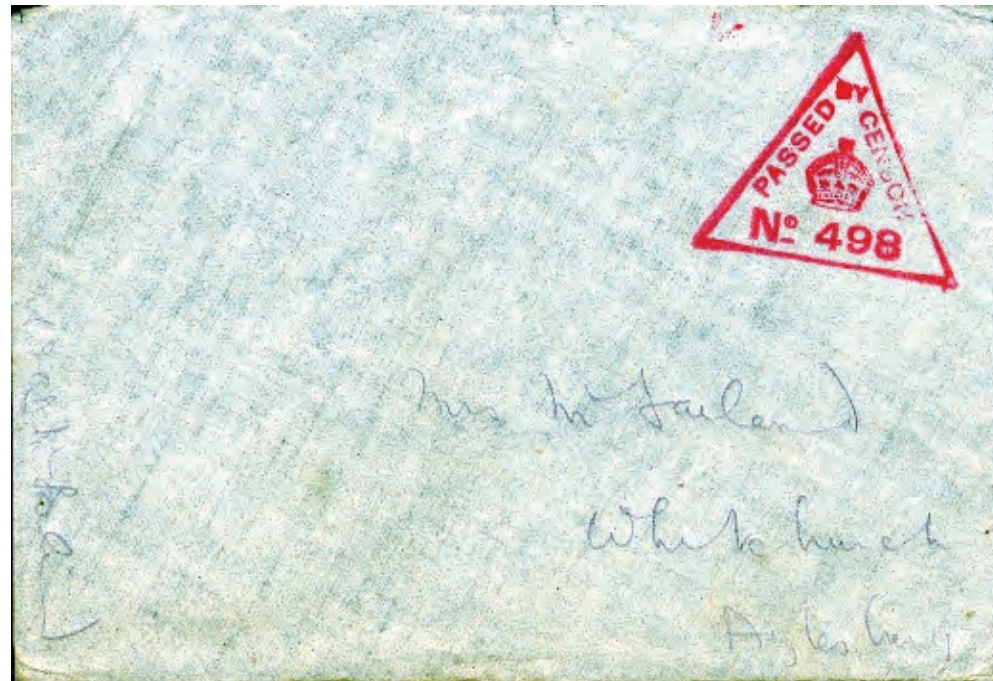


# Participant in Wars [1899-1945]

## Gandhi's Role in the First World War [1914-18]

Gandhi was traveling to England and received the news that WWI broke out while he was in the English Channel on 4 Aug 1914. He gathered Indians in England and Ireland, many his colleagues from South Africa. He insisted on Indians in England “*doing their bit*” for the war, an idea objected to by many other Indian nationalists. Gandhi assembled a class of 80 volunteers who trained for first aid, who went on to serve British and Indian soldiers wounded on the Western front in France. The Indian volunteer Corps was setup for Ambulance work and elected Gandhi as its Chairman.

On 24 Sep 1914, Gandhi broke with fellow nationalists and issued a circular appealing for general war volunteers from the Indian community. This was different from all else, he supported recruiting combatants for battle, not just a non-combat volunteer Ambulance Corps. The moral dilemma was probably taxing, as he fell ill repeatedly. He set sail for India on 19 Dec 2014 and returned ‘home’ to Bombay in Jan 2015.



Indian FPO in Western Europe (29 Aug 1915)  
Early usage in FPO No. 8 - Indian Forces in Merville France, as part of the Western Front. FPO No. 8 cancel on the back.



Indian FPO in North Africa (9 Nov 1915)  
Early usage from IEF [Indian Forces in Egypt as part of the North African Front]. IEF overprinted Indian stamps were common. “Official Mail” on stampless cover to England. CS Office backstamp and IEF censor marking.

Besides the 70,000 Indians in the Western Front in Europe, Indians served in Egypt, Mesopotamia, Palestine and East Africa. Over 1.3 million Indians served in WWI and about 72,000 were killed. Many of these men served in the British army long before Gandhi was personally involved in a controversial “call to arms”.

Later in the war, Gandhi was invited by the Viceroy of India and participated in the Imperial War Conference in Delhi in 1918. He left Delhi and immediately initiated a call for volunteers. He got very sick towards the end of this drive, as he did while he was recruiting in London in 1914.



Scottish “Local” (1 Apr 1979). Archival Progressive Proofs of Cinderella depicting Gandhi's efforts related to recruiting soldiers for combat service in WWI.



Guinea Bissau  
(25 Sep 2015)



Togo (22 Apr 2015)



India (8 Jan 2015)



India (8 Jan 2015)



Mozambique  
(15 Aug 2015)

----- Centenary of Gandhi's Return to India from South Africa via England -----

For his WWI recruitment efforts in England and India, Gandhi was awarded the *Kaisar-i-Hind* medal for Public Service.



# Participant in Wars [1899-1945]

## Gandhi's Direct Role in the Second World War [1939-45]

All had changed in WWII for Gandhi. Tired of British intransigence on self-rule for India, he decided not to cooperate with “their war”. Gandhi particularly opposed the presence of foreign allied troops (American, Canadian, Australian, Chinese) in Indian soil. In contrast to his recruiting Indians for active service in WWI, Gandhi opposed their involvement in WWII.



Indian FPO (13 Sep 1940). Early use from Indian forces in Eritrea [FPO 90]. This FPO was located in the old Ford dealership in Asmara!

This did not stop millions of recession starved Indians from volunteering to serve.

The Indian Army swelled to over 2.6 million in 1945. Indian soldiers are famous for successfully engaging Germans and Italians in the western desert of Eritrea.

Despite strong objections from Gandhi about their presence in India, American, Canadian, Australian, and Chinese troops played a key role in defending India from the Japanese invasion via Burma.



US APO in Calcutta, India (31 Aug 1944). US Army Postal Service marking [APO 465]. 280,000 US troops participated in building the Strategic Leda Road, 500 miles long, two years to build, and opening up a new supply route from Ledo (Assam) India to connect with the Burma Road to China in 1944. It was later named Stilwell Road.



USA (11 Jun 1944). WWII patriotic cover with Indian theme, used in the US, presumably by an American soldier returning from service in India. In March 1944, allied forces fought the Japanese and Bose's Indian National Army from Burma in northeastern India- defeating them in the battles of Imphal and Kohima.



India (21 May 1944). WWII patriotic cover depicting the Statue of Liberty, used in Rehabari (Assam, northeastern India), franked with “SAVE FOR INDIA'S PEACE” fundraising label. Possibly used by US road builder in Ledo, Assam?



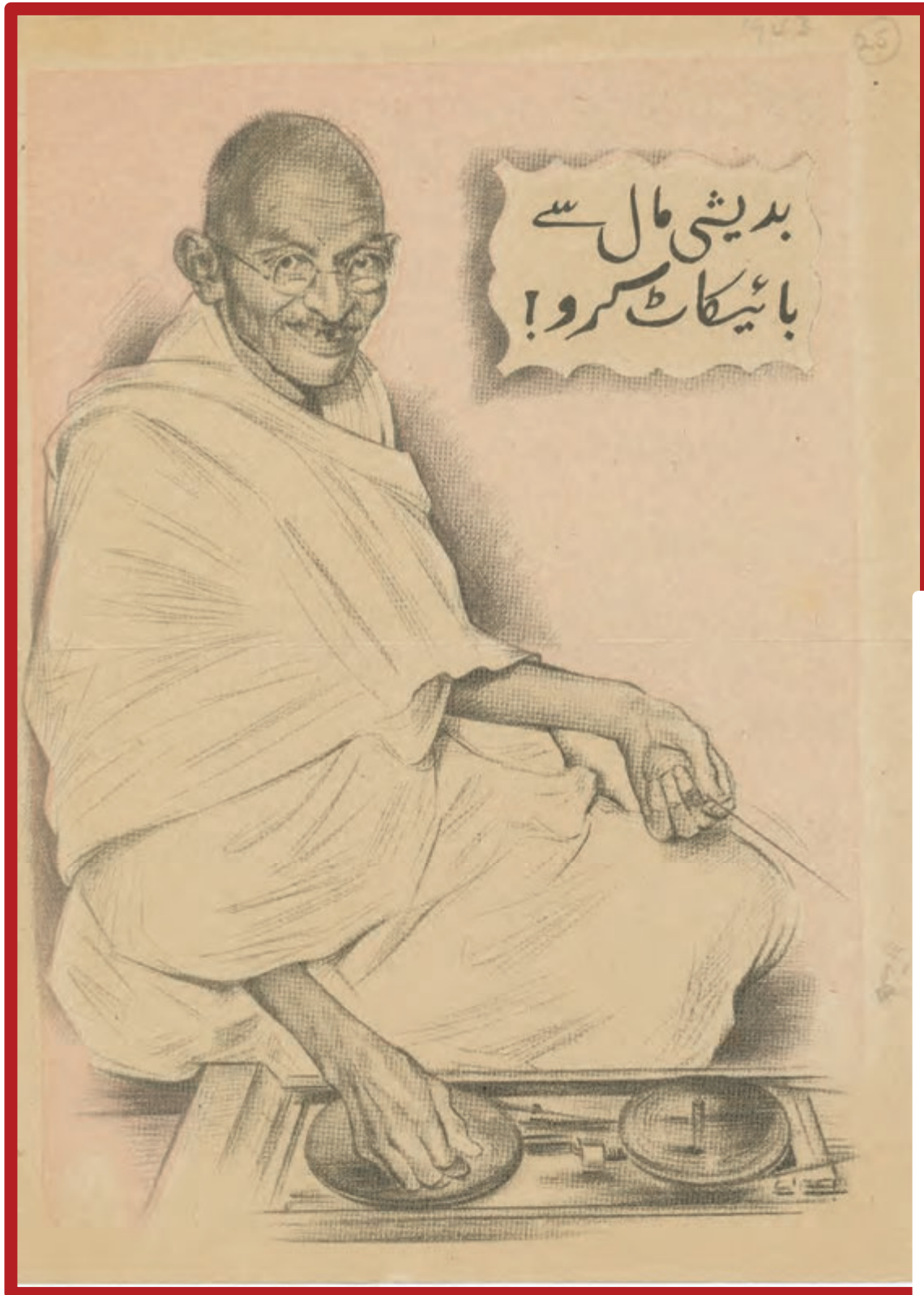
India (10 Apr 1947). Late use of WWII Allied patriotic cover mailed at uncommon 9p book-post rate to Australia. Cachet depicting a sword through the flags of Nazi Germany, fascist Italy and Japan. Hundreds of Australians were posted to British units in Burma and India, primarily to train Chinese Nationalist special forces to enter southern China through northeastern India. Hundreds of Australians also served with RAF units in India and Burma.



# Participant in Wars [1899-1945]

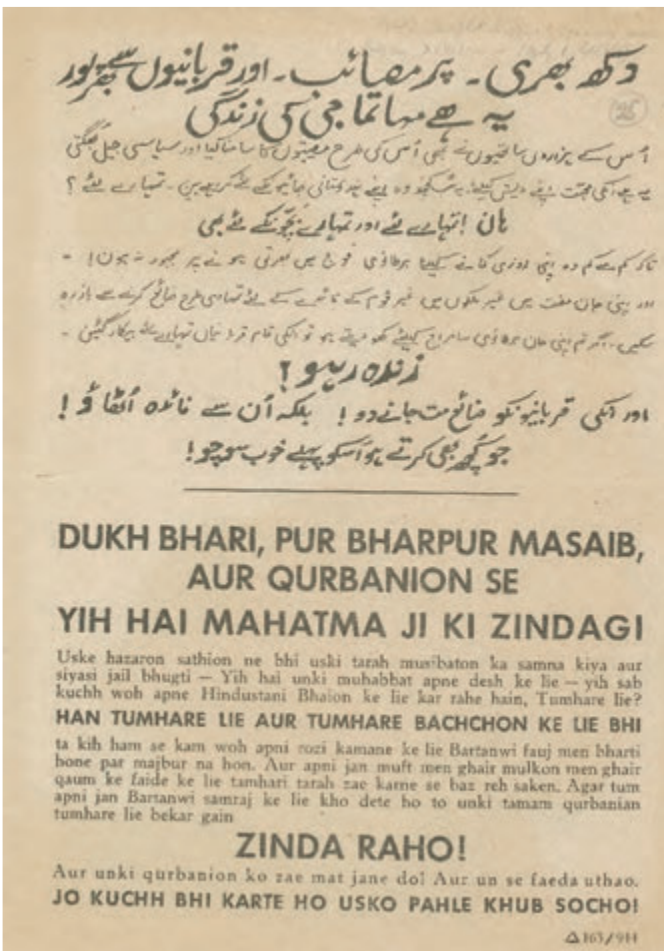
## Gandhi's Co-opted Role in the Second World War- Nazi Propaganda [1944-45]

Nazi Germany used this image of Gandhi at the Spinning wheel in a 1943-44 propaganda handbill [airdrop leaflet] for British Colonial troops from India serving in Europe. On the reverse is bilingual propaganda text in Urdu [for Muslim troops] and Hindi written in Latin script [for Hindu troops from Southern India who could not read Hindi]. The text speaks about Gandhi's sacrifices that were not appreciated by the British.

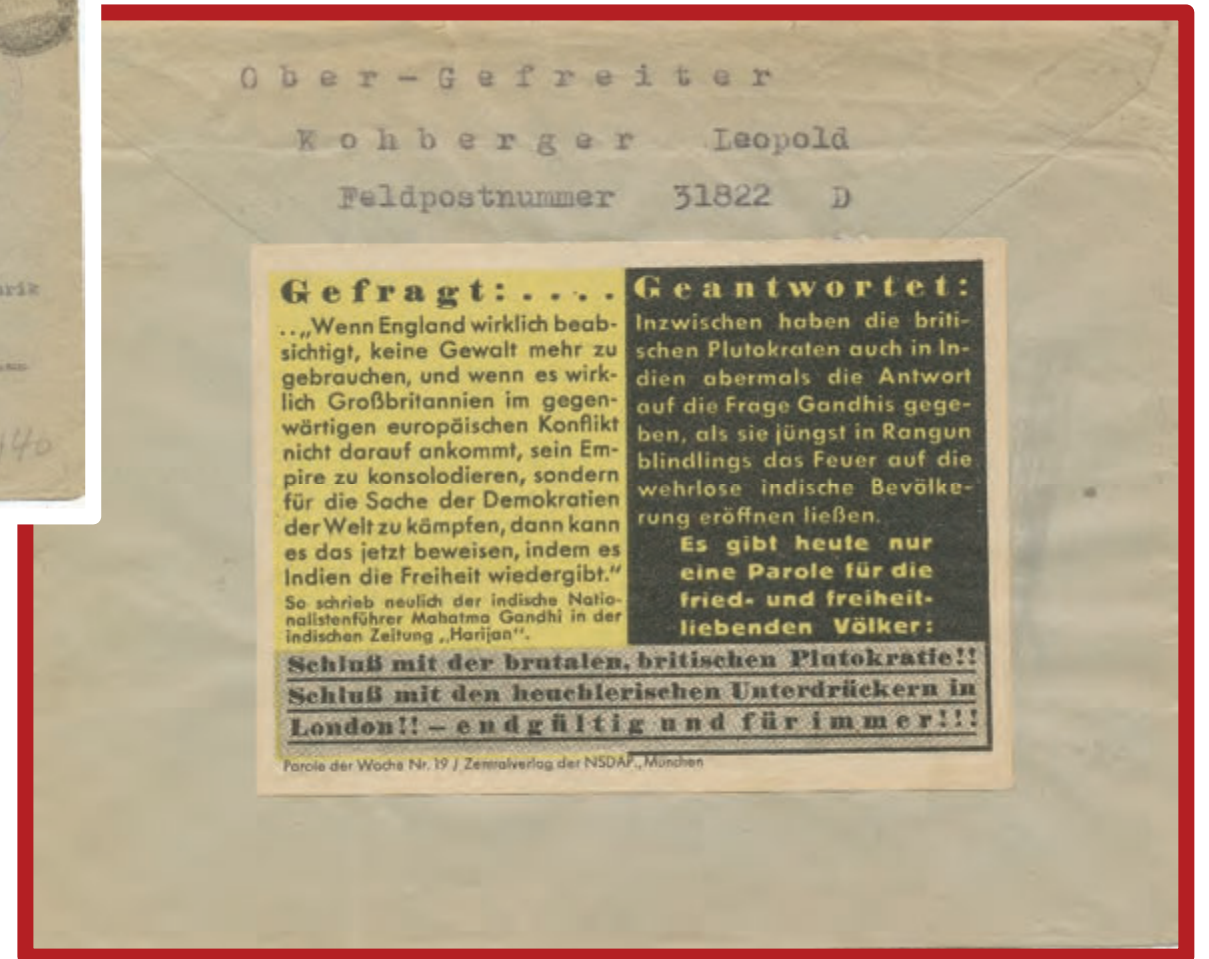


Germany, 1944. Nazi War Propaganda Air Drop Leaflet. The leaflet is coded 163-944 which indicates that it was disseminated in 1944 over Allied troops fighting in Italy by the Propaganda-Einsatz Fuehrer organization. Less than 5 copies known.

6



Nazi Germany also leveraged Gandhi's refusal to support the British in World War II, in their propaganda labels targeting the 2.5+ Million Indian soldiers in the allied armies in Europe, North Africa, East Africa, the Middle East and Southeast Asia.



Germany, 1945. Propaganda label on Feldpost censored mail to Austria. Less than 15 copies known.

6

The propaganda label reads as follows:

Dark text on light panel- Question: If England really intends to use no more violence during this European conflict to consolidate her empire but to fight for the interests of the democracies of the world, show can prove it by giving India her freedom. So recently wrote the national leader Mahatma Gandhi in the Indian newspaper "Harijan".

Light text on dark panel- Answer: Meanwhile the British plutocrats have given the answer to Gandhi's question as they recently fired on the helpless people in Rangoon.

Underlined Section- An End to the Brutal British plutocracy!! An end to the hypocritical oppressors in London.



# Participant in Wars [1899-1945]

## Gandhi's WWII Political Battles with Bose: The Nazis, Azad Hind & The Indian Legion [1941-44]

On the domestic front, Gandhi was fighting another political battle. Subhas Chandra Bose, who stood for unqualified Swaraj, including the use of force against the British, was elected President of the Indian National Congress in 1939. Following Gandhi's opposition, he resigned and was placed under house arrest by the British in July 1939.

Bose escaped house arrest in 1941 and fled from Calcutta to Nazi Germany via Afghanistan and the Soviet Union. The Italian chargé d'affaires in Kabul helped him with a diplomatic passport under a false name.

In December 1941, Bose visited POW camps at Annaburg and Lambsdorf, where about 4,500 Indian soldiers who were taken prisoners of war by the Germans in North Africa were held. He tried to persuade the men to join the Indian Legion that was to be formed. About 1,300 enlisted by November 1942 and 2,000 by February 1943. They pledged allegiance to Bose and were trained by the Nazis in what was labeled the INDISCHE LEGION with a Fieldpost and franking privileges. The oath taken by these soldiers was *"I swear by God this holy oath that I will obey the leader of the German race and state, Adolf Hitler, as the commander of the German armed forces in the fight for India, whose leader is Subhas Chandra Bose"*. Their first HQ was Frankenburg in Saxony, later moved to Königsbrück near Dresden.



Germany (26 May 1943). Envelope from the Indian legion staff with eagle cancel and L1 of the fieldpost No. 19683 ( Indian infantry regiment 950) to Dusseldorf. Dispatch marking from Königsbrück / Dresden. 



Germany (10 Oct 1944). Fieldpost letter to "Mr. Obltn Dr. Richard Stoll", company commander of the 7<sup>th</sup> company with address "Legion 950", the so-called Indian Legion, at "new camp" in Königsbrueck near Dresden. 

While stationed in Holland, the Indian region received their colors- the tricolor Indian nationalist flag of that time, with a “spring tiger” replacing the spinning wheel in the middle. The Dutch were reportedly outraged at having colored troops stationed on their soil, resulting in their transfer to the south of France. The official reason given was that the weather in the Netherlands was tough on the Indians, some suffering from Tuberculosis. Following the Allied Normandy Landing in June 1944, the Legion marched over 1000 miles in 40 days- to Alsace.



Azad Hind (1943). Color trials of the Spring Tiger flag banner and soldiers of the multi-ethnic Free Indian Army. The highest value of the set of Free India stamps printed by Germany. 4000 of the imperforate high value were taken by a dealer who defected to the West in 1949.



Azad Hind (1943). Nazi Germany prepared a set of “Free India” stamps with patriotic themes, meant for use when the Japanese conquered British India. Most, particularly the high value issues shown above, were in Vienna and destroyed after Allied Capture of Austria.



# Participant in Wars [1899-1945]

## Gandhi's WWII Political Battles with Bose: The Japanese and The Indian National Army [1942-43]

The Indian National Army (INA) was an armed force comprised of Indian nationalists in Southeast Asia during World War II. Singapore surrendered to Japan on 15<sup>th</sup> February 1942. About 80,000 British, Indian and Australian troops became prisoners of war, joining 50,000 taken by the Japanese in the earlier Malayan Campaign. The aim of the INA was to secure Indian independence with Japanese assistance. Initially composed of Indian prisoners of war captured by Japan in the Malayan campaign and in Singapore, it later drew volunteers from Indian expatriate population in Malaya and Burma.



India (23 Jan 1964). Bose portrait with INA insignia and “rallying the troops” to fight the British.

The INA was formally proclaimed in April 1942 and declared the subordinate military wing of the Indian Independence League in June that year. The First INA is the term often used to denote the INA as it existed between February and December 1942.

In Jan 1943, the Japanese invited Bose to lead the Indian nationalist movement in Asia. Bose left Berlin for Singapore, to join the Japanese in their drive towards India.

On 4<sup>th</sup> July 1943, two days after reaching Singapore, Bose assumed the leadership of the INA. His *Azad Hind* (Free India) declaration was a direct rebuff to Gandhi's “passive” non-cooperation during WWII.

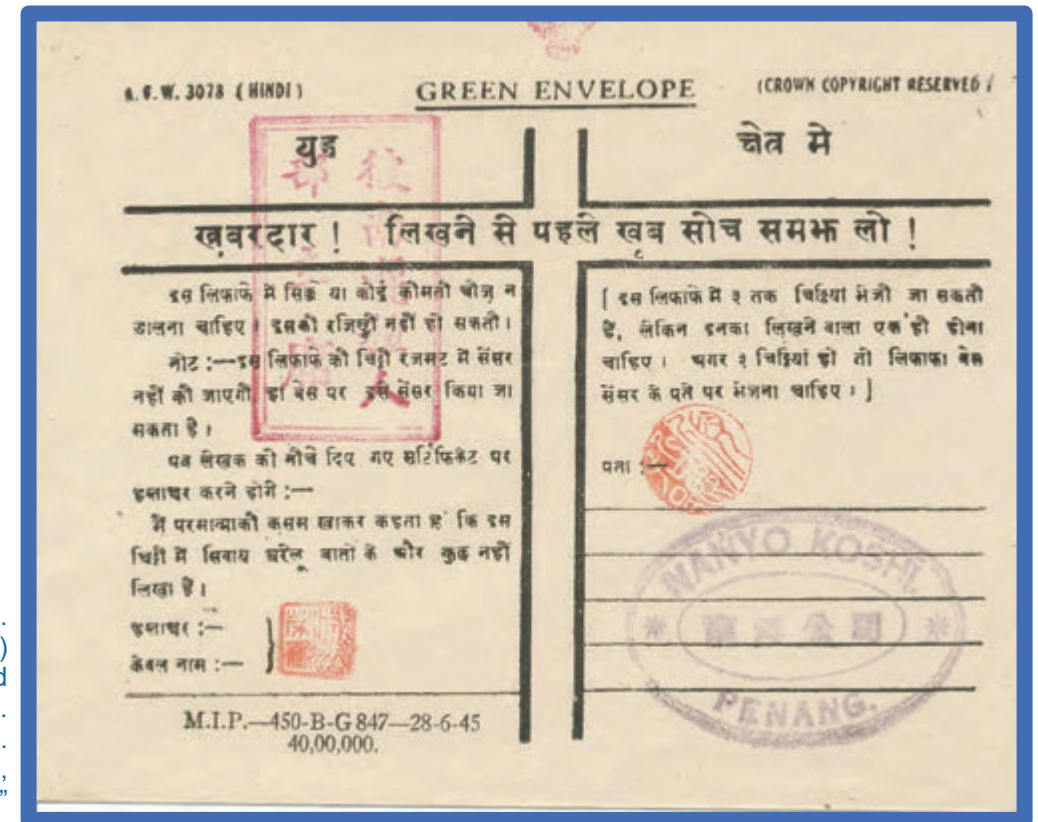


India (21 Oct 1968) 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Bose proclaiming the Free India Government in Singapore in 1943 with the Indian Legion's banner.



India (31 Dec 1993): 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of INA, showing Bose inspecting INA troops

Malaya under Japanese Occupation (1943). Green Envelope (British India Military cover) confiscated and used by the Japanese sponsored Indian National Army in Malaya. Used by a Japanese national and sent to Penang. “NANYO KOSHI” and personal chop “Tai Rong Yuen, Chairman of the Mixed Race Army”



4



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Malaya under Japanese Occupation (26 Sep and 6 Oct 1943). Two postal cards written in Tamil by a soldier in 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 6<sup>th</sup> Company of the Indian National Army stationed in Jitra, ironically with affiliation variously noted as “Gandhi Regiment”, and “Gandhi Guerilla Regiment”. Various dispatch and censorship markings in Japanese. Earlier in the war, Jitra was the location of a major engagement fought between the invading Japanese and Allied forces during the Malayan Campaign of the Second World War. The battle of Jitra lasted from 11–13 December 1941.



4

Singapore under Japanese Occupation (18 Jul 1943). Postcard datelined “18.7.03”. The Kôki calendar Year 2603 coincides with the year 1943 in the Gregorian calendar. The Gandhi Brigade or the 2nd Guerrilla regiment of the Indian National Army formed a part of the First INA. On 15<sup>th</sup> February 1943, the INA was put under the command of Lt. Col. Mohammad Zaman Kiani. The 1st division consisted of 4 regiments, including the 2<sup>nd</sup> Guerrilla regiment, or the Gandhi Brigade was placed under Col. Inayat Kiani, consisting of two infantry battalions. Each battalion was composed of five Companies of infantry.



# Participant in Wars [1899-1945]

## Gandhi's WWII Political Battles with Bose: The Japanese Occupation of Indian Territories [1942-45]

The Japanese, seeking to secure their seaward flank from the west in southeast Asia, invaded the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in the Bay of Bengal in 1942, after the British withdrew their Gorkha regiment. Port Blair fell to the Japanese on 23 Mar 1942, when the remaining Sikh detachment surrendered and many subsequently joined the INA, over Gandhi's objections. Over 2,000 residents of the Andamans were tortured and killed by the Japanese. In remote Nicobar Islands, the Japanese did not have a garrison, but created a brief reign of terror as they rounded up forced labor amongst the native Nicobarese.

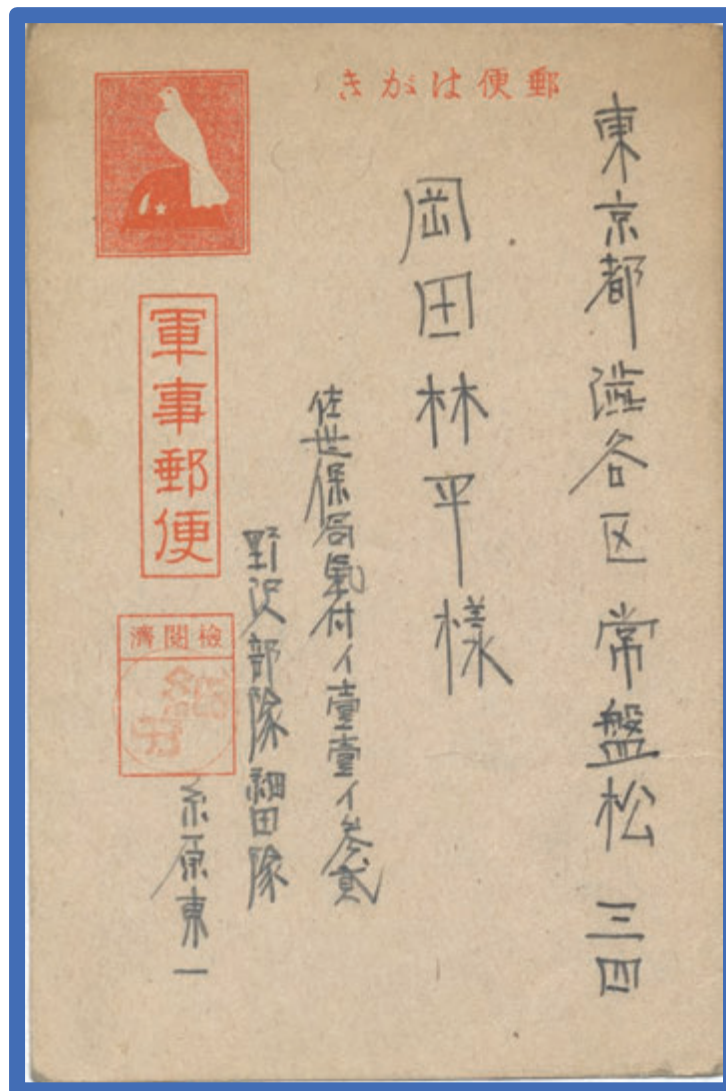
Bose arrived in the Andaman Islands on 29 Dec 1943 for a 3-day visit and planted the tricolor flag of the nationalists, representing Independent India, in Port Blair. Japanese occupation forces formally handed over the Islands to Bose's Azad Hind government.

The British had imprisoned some of India's greatest revolutionaries in the notorious *Cellular Jail* at Port Blair with life sentences and sending some to the gallows. Bose paid tribute to the revolutionaries who had suffered there, comparing the opening of the gates of Cellular Jail to the storming and liberation of the Bastille in France.



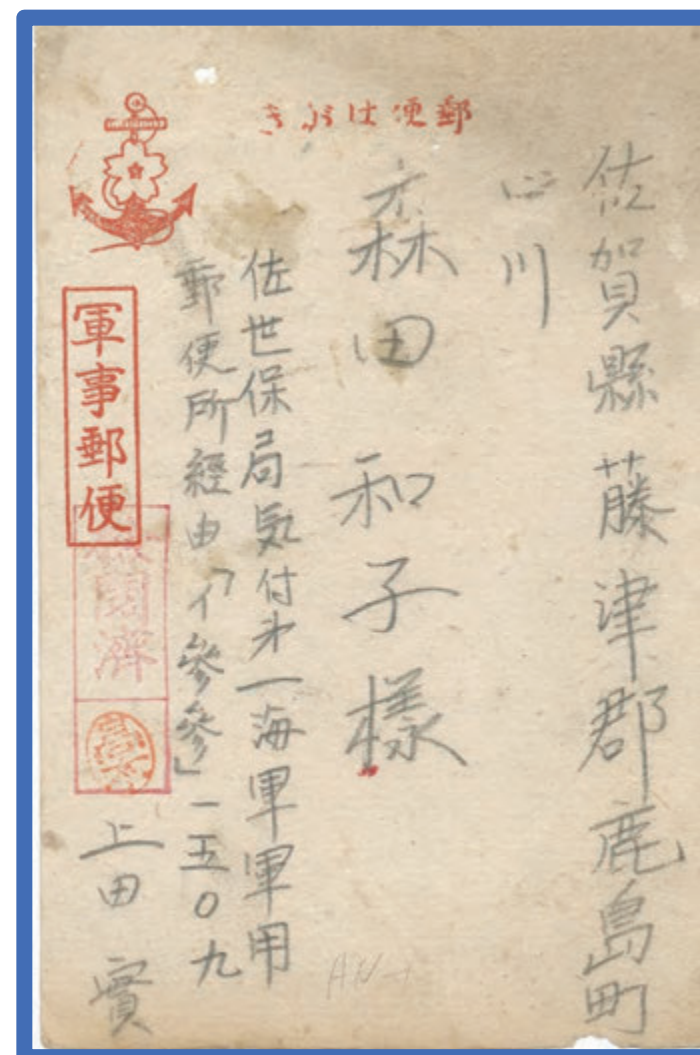
India (30 Dec 2018). 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the First Indian Flag Hoisting at the Andaman & Nicobar Islands by Bose, featuring Bose, the tricolor, INA soldiers and the Cellular Jail.

Japanese Vice Admiral Hara Teizo and Major-General Tamenori Sato surrendered the islands to the British on 7 Oct 1945.



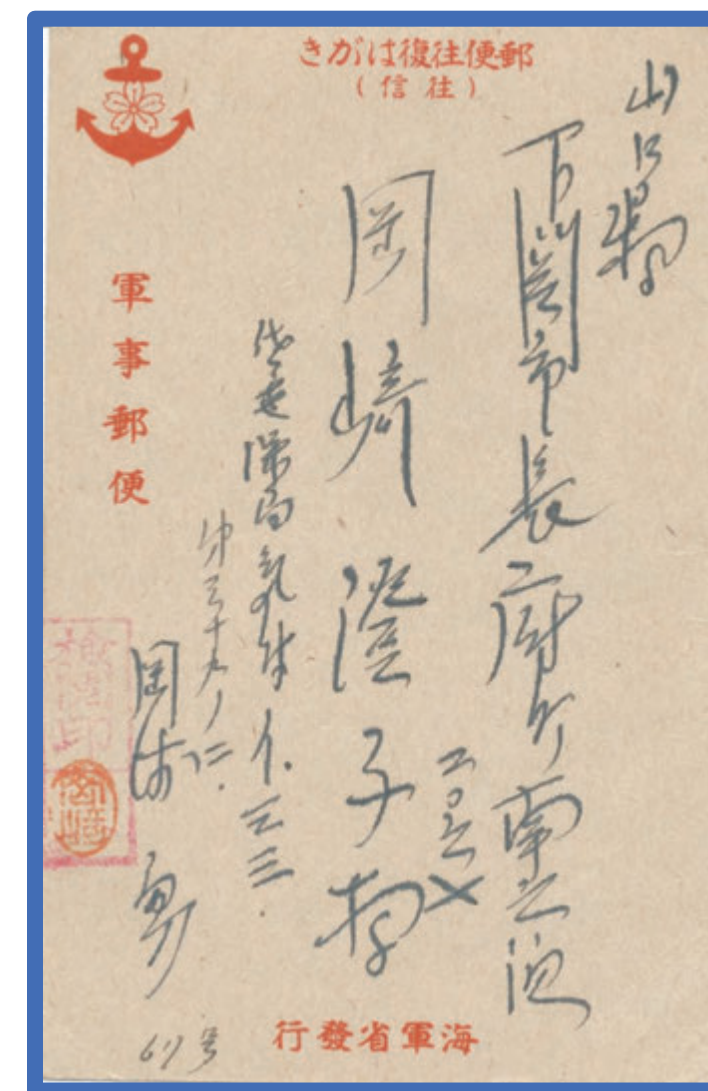
Japanese Occupied Andaman Islands (1945). Military Mail Card from Navy unit in Port Blair. From Toichi Itahara, Nizawa Unit I 11 132, Sascho P.O., TO: Rinpei Okada, 34 Tokiwanatu, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo. censored by HOSADA.

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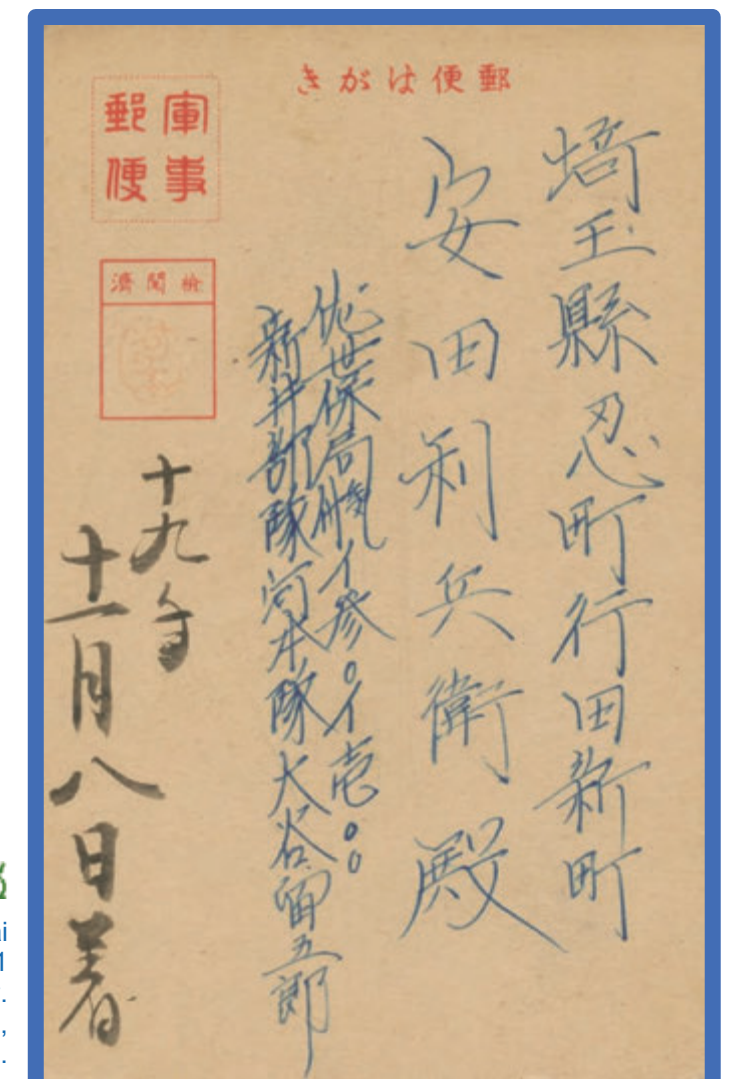
4

Nicobar Islands (1944). Navy Service PC with anchor; from Minoru Veda, 1509, 133, via Naval Service Postal Agency No. 1, c/o Sascho P.O.. Kazuko Morita, Nakagawa, Kashima-Town, Fujitu-un, Saga-Prefecture, Censored by TAKAGI.



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Nicobar Islands (1944). From Tomegoro OHTANI, Arai Company. Code U-224, I-100, I-30 indicates Maisuru No. 1 Special Marine Corps, 25<sup>th</sup> Defense Unit, Nancowry. Sent to Rohei YASUDA, Gyoden Shimomachi, Shinobu-cho, Saitama-ken, Japan. Nicobar mail is much less common than Andaman mail.





# Participant in Wars [1899-1945]

Gandhi's WWII Political Battles with Bose: *Chalo Delhi* and Allied Propaganda [1942-45]

The Indian National Army (INA) was the brainchild of Japanese Major (and post-war Lieutenant-General) Iwaichi Fujiwara, head the Japanese intelligence unit Fujiwara Kikan, The INA's origins can be traced to meetings between Fujiwara and the president of the Bangkok chapter of the Indian Independence League, Pritam Singh. They later requested Mohan Singh, an Indian POW, to form an Indian Army comprising the captured Indian soldiers. Mohan Singh hesitated but ultimately agreed, after Fujiwara convinced him to betray his oath to the Crown by uniting with the Japanese mission for the greater motive of Indian freedom. This included the promise that he would be treated as an ally and a friend, and not a prisoner of war. It was the first step towards the formation of the INA.

Fujihara handed over about 40,000 Indian soldiers, who had surrendered to him, to Mohan Singh, who was now designated a General. The Azad Hind Fauj (National Army of independent India). came into being on 1<sup>st</sup> September 1942. The unit was dissolved in December 1942 after apprehensions of Japanese motives with regards to the INA led to disagreements and distrust.

Gandhi, in jail under the Defense of India Act for speaking out against cooperating in the war effort, was encouraged by the British to speak out against Bose, the INA, Azad Hind and the Japanese.



Indian National Army (1944). Original die and original color of the Chalo Delhi- 1 pice (or is it 3?) in plum (other value was 1 anna carmine). Imperforate on rough woven paper. Reportedly printed on CHALO DELHI watermarked sheet, but that could be missed if not on large block. Proofs known to exist in other colors dating back to 1945.



Indian National Army (1944)- 1 pice Fakes?

Larger die perforated and imperforate with revised text (GOVERNMENT instead of GOVT., larger size design and different colors (dark plum and red- both 1 PICE). The text is finer and clearer and other design elements, like the dotted clouds, are missing in the artwork. Current thinking is that these are fakes printed later, although the Staley Gibbons catalog had listed these as originals earlier.



Indian National Army (1944)- 1 p and 1a Reprints?

A British Brigadier from Rangoon (T. A. Broomhead) got the original master die to Calcutta after the war and "gave" them to a dealer, resulting in reprinted newer colors of the original die not reported back in 1945. Examples shown here are the bright violet 1 pice and green 1 anna. Perforated and printed on unwatermarked paper.

Prior to the Japanese and INA attack on Imphal, a strategic Indian city 50 miles to the west of the border with Burma in the northeast, Bose arranged for Japanese cooperation to design and produce postage stamps for the invading army. Lacking the sophistication of the designers they had in Germany, a set of imperforate and crudely perforated labels was produced in three colors.

Bose chose the Red Fort in Delhi for the design, to symbolize the glorious Moghul rule before British colonization. An arc at the top carried the inscriptions ARZI HUKUMATE and AZAD HIND, followed by a straight line PROVISIONAL GOVT. OF FREE INDIA and "CHALO DELHI" under the Red Fort (extolling the INA soldiers with "Onward to Delhi").



Allied Propaganda Air Drop Leaflet (1943). The front depicts Bose riding a Japanese bomb that is about to fall on an Indian family. Message in English, Urdu and Hindi from Gandhi: "I have no desire whatsoever to woo any power to help India in her endeavor to free herself from the foreign yoke. There can be no question of my approval of Subhash Babu's policy. I want to resist with all my might the charge of inviting Japan to India." Less than 10 copies known.



# Political Organizer and Negotiator [1894-1932]

Natal Indian Congress [1894-1914] and Indian National Congress [1897-1948]

The Indian National Congress was formed in 1885 to function as a “safety valve” to protect the British interests in the face of Nationalism after the 1857 Sepoy Mutiny. Gandhi’s activities in South Africa led to his association with the INC from 1897, long before he returned to India. By 1907, Congress had split functionally- with the militant Bal Gangadhar Tilak from Bombay asking for unconditional self-rule (Swaraj).

Organized a year after Gandhi arrived in South Africa to fight the Asian Franchise Law Bill in 1894, Gandhi became the organization’s first Secretary of the Natal Indian Congress and stayed associated with it for 20 years.

In 1947, long after Gandhi left South Africa, this organization formed the core of the budding anti-apartheid movement, by teaming up with the African National Congress and the Transvaal Indian Congress.



Central African Republic (21 Mar 2019)  
Gandhi with the Natal Indian Congress



India (23 Jul 1956)  
Bal Gangadhar Tilak.



India (7 Nov 1958)  
Bipin Chandra Pal.



India (9 May 1966)  
Gopal Krishna Gokhale.



India (9 May 1988). Mutiny for the British was the “First War of Independence” for India.

Recognizing his potential from his activities in South Africa, Gandhi was invited by Gopal Krishna Gokhale [a moderate force in the Congress] to join the efforts of the Indian National Congress in India by 1914.

Bipin Chandra Pal from Bengal was another militant leader who countered Gokhale’s moderate influence in the INC.

Along with Lala Lajpat Rai from Punjab, Gandhi had to face the Lal-Bal-Pal Trio [as they were called] in his efforts to organize a pragmatic political party out of the elitist organization.



India (16 Aug 1988).  
Commemorating the Home Rule Movement, with a mural “Swaraj is my Birthright” by artist M.F. Hussain.

The Transvaal Indian Congress crystallized from the efforts against the 1906 Transvaal Asiatic Law and the 1908 Transvaal India Registration act that Gandhi organized against.

Indian political organization in South Africa was in good hands by the 1940s. Dr. G.M. (Monty) Naicker was President of the Natal Indian Congress. Dr. Yusef Mohamed Dadoo was President of the Transvaal Indian Congress. Dr. A. B. Xuma was President of the African National Congress.

Dadoo and Naicker [native born in Transvaal and Natal of Indian immigrant parents] had kept in touch with Gandhi throughout their struggle on behalf of the Indian community. All three organizations joined forces in the face of the new apartheid government that took over South Africa in 1946, forming the Tripartite Alliance.

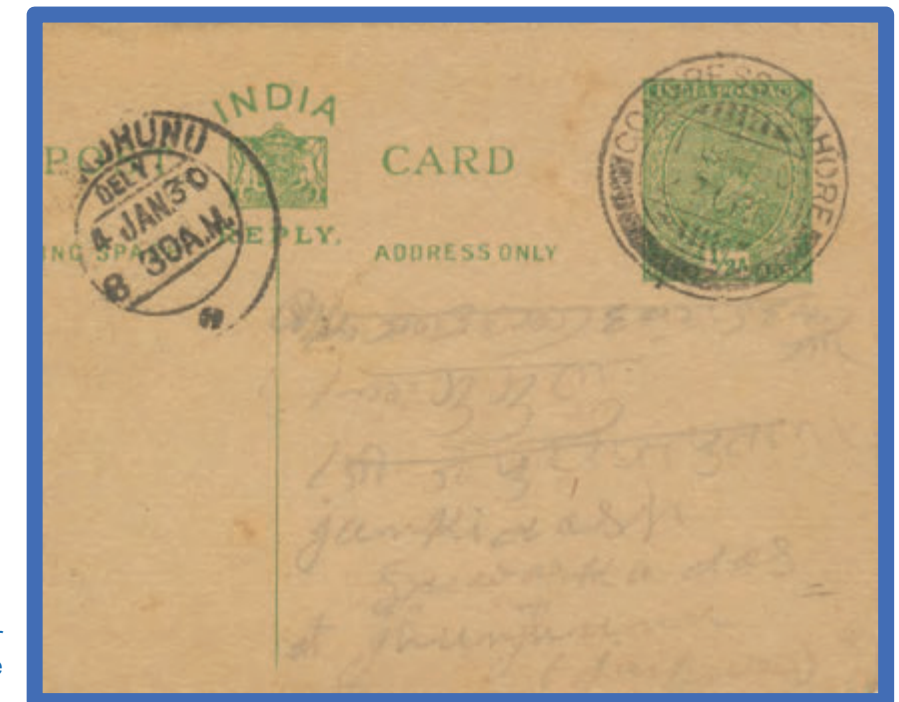


South Africa (9 Mar 1997). Commemorative pictorial post card from the South African Post, on the occasion of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Tripartite Alliance that launched the anti-apartheid struggle.



India (1 Jan 1930). Special CONGRESS-LAHORE cancel for the meeting in Lahore, where the declaration of Independence was made, leading to the Indian Round Table Conferences.

India (28 Dec 1985). Presidents of the Indian National Congress since its 1885 inception. Gandhi is in Row 2, cell 3 of the bottom left stamp.





# Political Organizer and Negotiator [1894-1932]

## Gandhi's Relationship with Nehru at the Indian National Congress

While he had to wage his internal struggles in Congress, one steady lieutenant Gandhi had for his causes in the Indian National Congress was Jawaharlal Nehru. Nehru met Gandhi in 1916, when he was a 27-year-old budding lawyer with political aspirations within the INC. The image of Gandhi and Nehru shown in all the stamps below is from the 1946 session of the Indian National Congress convened in Bombay on July 6. The newly elected and energized post-war All India Congress Committee [AICC] session was held under the "Presidentship" of Nehru.



Grenada (1990)



Central African Republic (2019)



Maldives (1990)



Mauritius (1989)



Zambia (2000): Two overprint varieties of the revalued Zambia stamps with Gandhi and Nehru at the INC, on airmail covers to the USA. The original denomination was for local postage rate. Note: One variety has single bar across original value. The other has two bars.



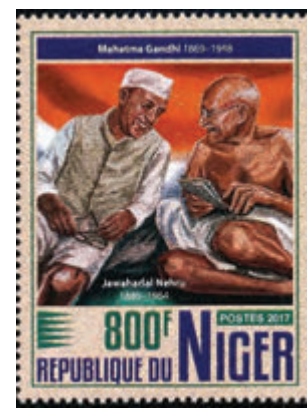
Sao Tome (2014)



Mozambique (2014)



Central African Republic (2019)



Niger (2017)

The 55<sup>th</sup> session of the All India Congress Committee met in Jaipur in December 1948, over 10 months after Gandhi's death.

Nehru, former president of the INC, who was elected Interim Prime Minister of India before independence, was now serving as the first PM of Independent India since 15<sup>th</sup> August 1947.

In honor of Gandhi, the location in Jaipur where the Congress convened was named Gandhi Nagar.

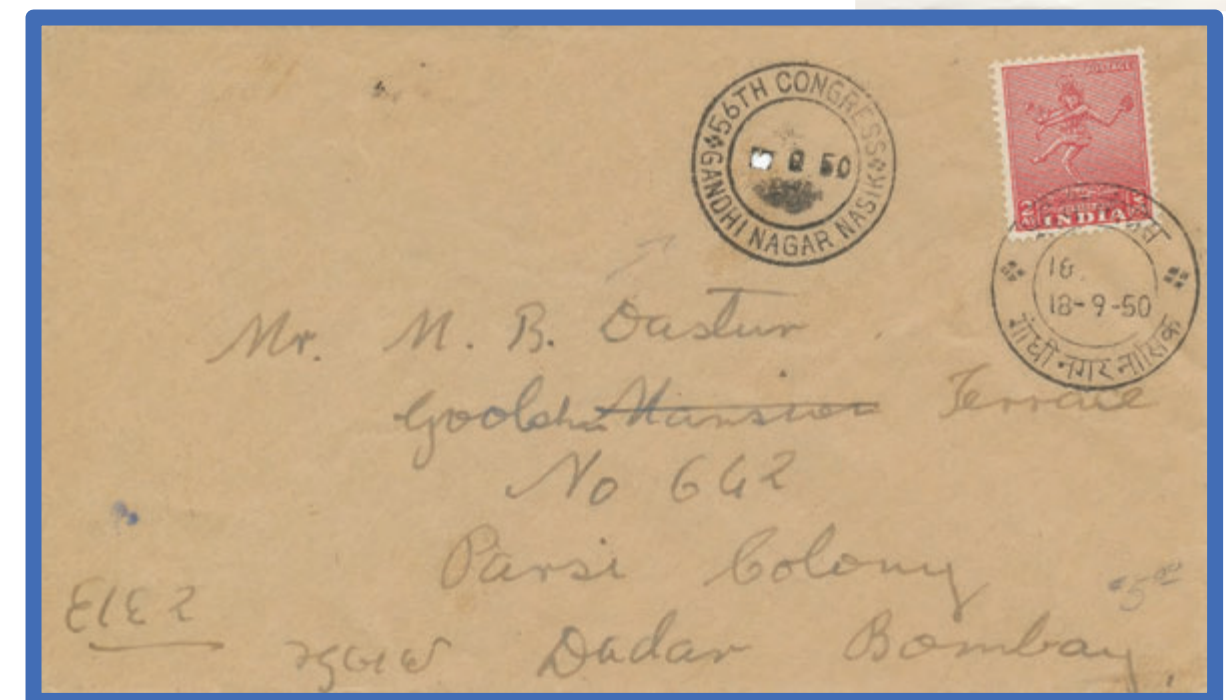
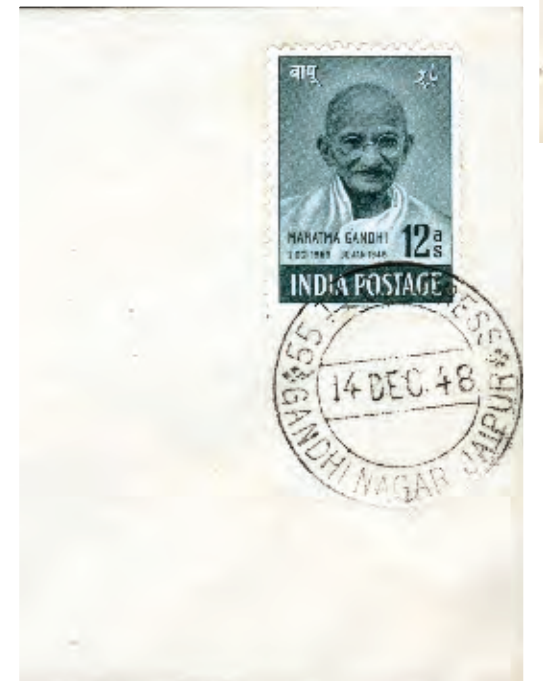
India (1948). Special cancellation applied to mail sent by Congress' delegates. The lower value Gandhi stamp cancelled with an CDS in Hindi only, a new feature in Independent India's post office. The CDS reads- "55th Congress, Gandhinagar, Jaipur". The date, also in Hindi numerals, reads "4 Dec 1948". The higher value stamp is cancelled "14 DEC 1948" in English. India was still a dominion of the British Empire.



Nehru and Patel were considered the logical leaders to take over the strategic reins of the INC from Gandhi. The latter served as Nehru's defense minister in the cabinet and made several decisions that could be construed as "un-Gandhian" during his tenure.



Venezuela (26 Jan 1998). Stamps of Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Patel and Mahatma Gandhi, issued to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Indian Independence.



India (18 Sep 1950). Special cancellation applied to mail sent by the 57<sup>th</sup> Congress' delegates, cancelled in both Hindi and English. The Hindi CDS reads "56<sup>th</sup> Congress, Gandhinagar, Nasik". India was by then a Republic.



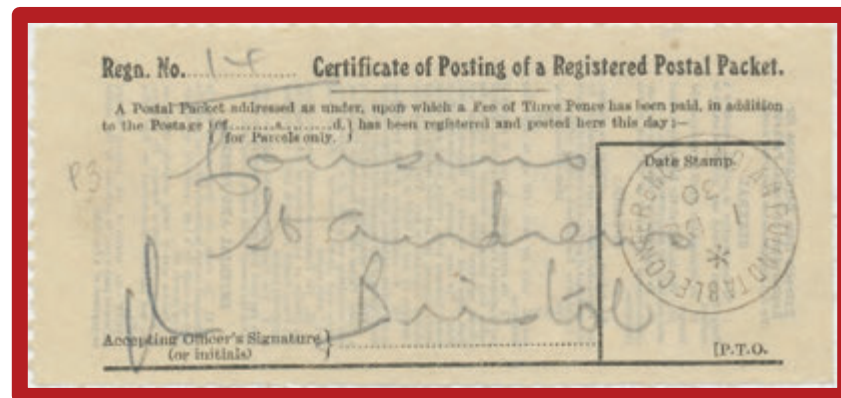
# Political Organizer and Negotiator [1894-1932]

First Indian Round Table Conference without Gandhi [1930-31]

Arrested on 5<sup>th</sup> May 1930, in the aftermath of the Salt March, Gandhi was imprisoned without trial. Ramsey MacDonald, as the Labor Prime Minister, made overtures to Congress for a political compromise. A Round Table Conference was to be held to fulfill a mandate from the British Parliament issued in 1919, after the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, when Brigadier-General Dyer ordered troops to fire their rifles into a crowd of unarmed civilians, killing at least 400 in 15 minutes.

Discussions were held in prison and the Congress held on to Gandhi's demands in June 1930: (1) Constitutional goal of Dominion Status, (2) Repeal of the Salt Tax, (3) Amnesty for political prisoners, and (4) Prohibition of liquor and opium sales. The British government accepted none of the demands. Gandhi did not participate in the London conference that followed.

The First Indian Round Table Conference was held in London 12<sup>th</sup> November 1930 – 19<sup>th</sup> January 1931.



UK (1 Dec 1830). Certificate of Posting of Registered letter with the first INDIAN ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE cancel. Reunion of certificate from sender matching with the same last name of the recipient (Cousins) in the cover below, indicating that possibly six letters or more were mailed by this sender (Reg No. 14 to 19).



UK (1 Dec 1930). Registered airmail to India cancelled with "Indian Round Table Conference" CDS.



India (11 Apr 1969)



India (11 Apr 1973)



India (23 Mar 1981)

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Jallianwala Bagh massacre and eternal flame paying homage to martyrs from the event that triggered the Indian Roundtable Conferences.



India (14 Apr 1966)  
Dr. B. R. Ambedkar

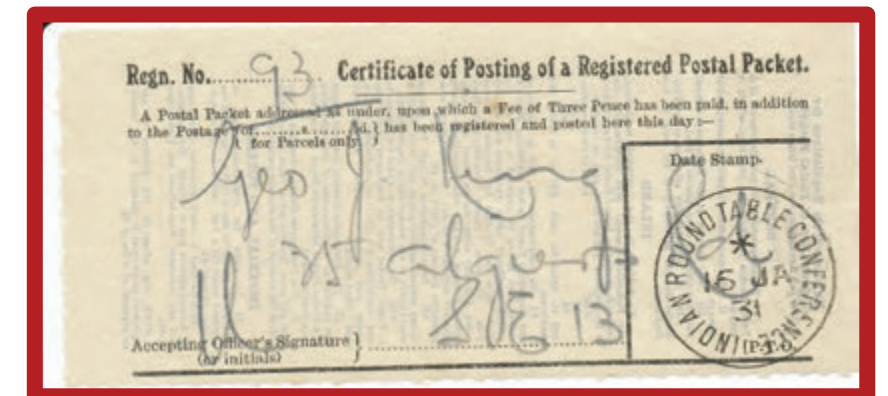


Burkina Faso  
(22 Nov 1988)



India (22 Sep 1969)  
V. S. Srinivasa Sastri

Attending were 60 to 70 Indian representatives handpicked by the Viceroy, including Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, V.S. Srinivasa Sastri, and Mohammed Ali Jinnah.



UK (16 Jan 1931). Certificate of Posting of Registered letter with the first INDIAN ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE cancel. Reunion of certificate from sender matching with the name and address of the recipient in the cover below, indicating that possibly two letters or more were mailed to this recipient (Reg No. 92 and 93).



UK (19 Jan 1931). International Reply Coupon with INDIAN ROUNDTABLE CONFERENCE cancel on the last day.



UK (16 Jan 1931). Registered local mail cancelled with "Indian Round Table Conference" CDS.



# Political Organizer and Negotiator [1894-1932]

## Second Indian Round Table Conference with Gandhi [1931]



Ghana (24 Dec 1998). Gandhi upon release in 1931, after serving 8-month prison term.



UK (Marseille-Gare PAQUEBOT). Maritime mail from the SS Rajputana [France-England]. Same ship that Gandhi took, sailing on the same route.



Gambia (29 Oct 1998)

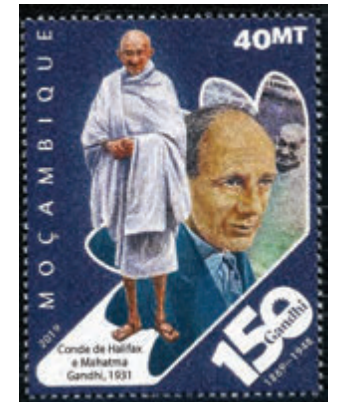


Ghana (24 Dec 1998)

Gandhi at age 61, based on photographs taken aboard the SS Rajputana on his last trip to England in 1931.



Comoro Islands (18 Nov 1991). Imperforate souvenir sheet with margin illustrations including image of Gandhi with the sextant aboard the SS



Mozambique (10 Apr 2019) Gandhi with Lord Irwin

Besides Gandhi, delegates to the Second Indian Roundtable Conference included: 13 British ministers and MPs headed by Ramsay MacDonald, 19 Indian Maharajas and Princes representing states, 75 representatives of British Indian provinces.

Mohammad Ali Jinnah and V. S. Srinivasa Sastri, Indian delegates to the 1<sup>st</sup> RTC, also attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> Round Table conference. Gandhi's other activities while attending this conference left a lasting impression in the West.

Prominent among the British Indian delegates were Madan Mohan Malaviya [founder of Banaras Hindu University], Mohammad Iqbal [poet and philosopher], G.D. Birla [industrialist] and Sarojini Naidu [poet and Congress activist]. All but Mr. Iqbal [who was in London] were also passengers with Gandhi on the SS Rajputana from Bombay to Marseilles. Dr. Ambedkar again represented depressed classes.



India (24 Dec 1962) Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya.



India (11 Jun 1984) Ghanshyam Das Birla.



India (21 Apr 1988) Mohammad Iqbal.



India (14 Apr 1991) Dr. B. R. Ambedkar.



India (13 Feb 1964) Sarojini Naidu.



Togo (25 Feb 2019)



Central African Republic (27 Dec 2011)

Gandhi walks with Sarojini Naidu from the train station at Boulogne to the quay on 12<sup>th</sup> September 1931, where he embarked on the channel steamer for Folkestone.



UK (2 Oct 1931). Certificates of Posting of Registered letters with INDIAN ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE cancel on Gandhi's Birthday.



# Political Organizer and Negotiator [1894-1932]

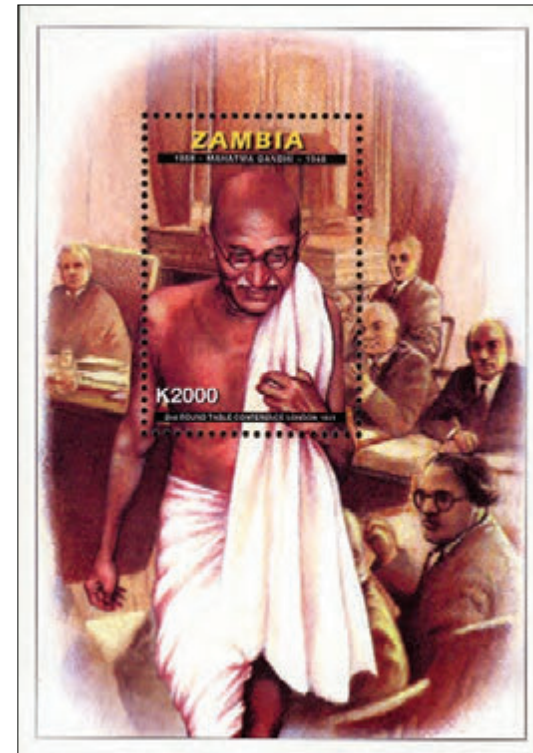
## Second Indian Round Table Conference with Gandhi [1931]

Gandhi had also won many supporters in England. One of them, Muriel Lester, invited him to stay with her in London at a community center she had founded called Kingsley Hall.

Gandhi made his maiden speech at the Second Indian Roundtable Conference on 15<sup>th</sup> September 1931.



India (9 Oct 1931). Envelope addressed to Gandhi at Kingsley Hall in London from "CR" (for C. Rajagopalachari, later first Governor General of Independent India) from Salem with GANDHI ASHRAM- SALEM cancellation.



Zambia (1998)  
Needless to say, all eyes were on Gandhi every time he walked into or out of a session, as shown in this souvenir sheet.



St. Vincent (1998). Gandhi shown seated at the Second RTC next to Malaviya and Sastri. This stamp's face value (\$5) was for fiscal use.



UK (24 Oct 1931). International Reply Coupon with INDIAN ROUNDTABLE CONFERENCE cancellation.



UK (30 Nov 1931). Registered mail with "Indian Round Table Conference SWI" CDS. The cancel was used during the conference for mail from delegates.

Will Rogers, famous American artist, captured the image of Gandhi at the conference thus:

*"All Delegates were well dressed in tailor made suits. But a skinny little fellow with nothing but a breechcloth, with a spinning wheel and an old she-goat comes there representing more humanity and with more authority than all the high hats in the world. It's sincerity versus diplomacy!"*



USA (4 Nov 1979)  
Will Rogers, performer.  
Normal (left)  
Color shifted error (right).



USA (4 Nov 1979). Will Rogers, performer. Imperforate plate block of 12.

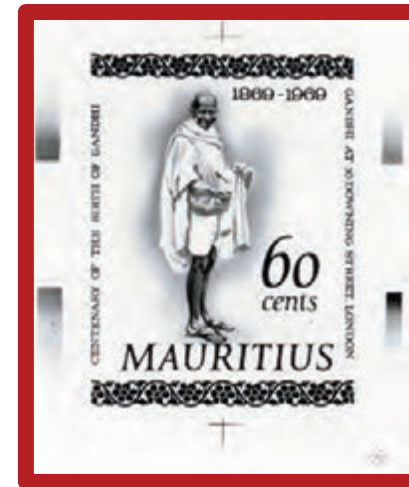


# Political Organizer and Negotiator [1894-1932]

## Second Indian Round Table Conference with Gandhi [1931]

At the Prime Minister's residence in #10 Downing Street, the western image of Gandhi evolved from that of a nationalist and activist to that of a Statesman.

While in England, Gandhi visited Manchester area mills in Lancashire and was warmly welcomed by displaced mill workers and owners. They sympathized with him and appreciated efforts to revive the domestic handloom industry in India! Gandhi's "homespun" movement particularly hit cotton exports from mills in the Lancashire region.



Mauritius (2 May 1969)  
Printer's Die Proof of stamp showing Gandhi at #10 Downing Street. Only known approved copy with signature and approval stamp of engraver on back. One other copy without such markings exists (also in author's collection). Format International Security Printers' former Archives, London.

Gambia (29 Oct 1998)  
Gandhi spinning yarn in India at age 61, in 1931.



Togo (25 Feb 2019). Gandhi visiting mill workers' families in Manchester in 1931.

Lien mills in this region, mostly based on Indian grown cotton, were well established before Gandhi's birth in 1869.

As early as 1920, records indicate that India imported over £34 million in textiles from Manchester and Liverpool mills in the Lancashire region.

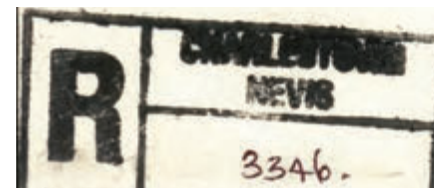
This was part of the £80 million of textile and machinery that were exported to India from England that year.

After over 100 years of stable business, import of British cloth and yarn fell by 75% between December 1929 and December 1930.

DIRECTOR OF POSTS & TELEGRAPHS,  
MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT,  
ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN,  
THIMPHU G.P.O. (BHUTAN)



Nevis (17 Jul 2000). Multiple copies of stamp showing Gandhi outside #10 Downing Street, on registered airmail cover to the USA.



Scottish Local (1979).  
Cinderella depicting Gandhi and PM Ramsey MacDonald



Montserrat  
(18 May 1998)



UK (7 Dec 1866). Liverpool-Shrewsbury letter. Addressed to family of Linen company's owner.



UK (28 Jan 1869). Manchester-Shrewsbury letter. Note embossed seal: Whitwell Linen Thread Yarn & Co. Note Manchester CDS.



# Political Organizer and Negotiator [1894-1932]

## Second Indian Round Table Conference with Gandhi [1931]

While in England, Gandhi also met with C. F. Andrews (3<sup>rd</sup> October), Madame Montessori (9<sup>th</sup> October), and George Bernard Shaw (6<sup>th</sup> November).



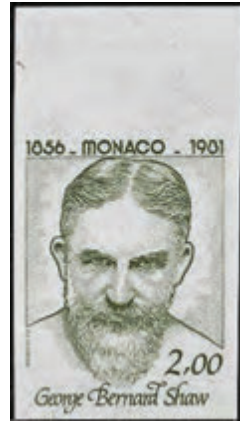
India (12 Feb 1971)  
Charlie F. Andrews



India (31 Aug 1970)  
Maria Montessori



Monaco (5 Nov 1981)  
Bernard Shaw as issued + Imperf Color Trial



Ireland (7 May 1980). Bernard Shaw Gutter Pair

Perhaps the most unusual visitor he had, while in London, was Charlie Chaplin. It was stranger, when Chaplin (an admirer of Gandhi) found out that Gandhi had never heard his name before he met him!



Belgium (7 Feb 2000). Stamps of Gandhi and Chaplin issued in 1999 as a set.  
On Registered airmail cover from Antwerpen to the USA. 34 BF postage + 150 BF registration fee.



Niger (15 Aug 2016)



Guinea Bissau (3 Sep 2011)



Guinea Bissau (23 May 2016)



Sao Tome (13 Mar 2019)

Members of the delegation from British Indian Presidencies included several Muslim representatives, including Aga Khan III, Maulana Shaukat Ali, A. K. Fazlul Huq, Sir Muhammad Iqbal, Muhammad Shafi, Muhammad Zafarullah Khan, Sir Syed Ali Imam, Maulvi Muhammad Shafi Daudi, and Muhammad Ali Jinnah (who also attended the first Indian Round Table Conference).



Burkina Faso (22 Nov 1988)  
Imperf block of four stamps of Muhammad Ali Jinnah.

Gandhi left England on 5<sup>th</sup> December 1931. At 8:30 AM, he was driven to Victoria Station, where he bid farewell to friends, Indian and English. He took the train to Folkestone and traveled through France to Italy and set sail to India.



Antigua and Barbuda (1 Jul 1988). Registered letter to the USA, depicting two Gandhi stamps in the set, including the one showing Gandhi and his traveling companions on the train to Folkestone.



Antigua and Barbuda (1984). Archival gutter pair, with bottom stamp pair showing Gandhi leaving London by train. Mrs. Naidu, who accompanied him to Folkestone, is also shown looking out the train window. Others seen in this stamp are his assistant Pyarelal and Madeline Slade.



# Political Organizer and Negotiator [1894-1932]

## Third Indian Round Table Conference Without Gandhi [1932]

The third and last session of the Indian Roundtable Conference was convened on 17 November 1932. Only forty-six delegates attended, since most of the main political figures from India were not present. The Labor Party from Britain and the Indian National Congress refused to attend. Representatives included delegates from Princely States in India and many Muslim delegates from British Indian provinces, including Aga Khan III (who attended all three Round Table Conferences, like Dr. B. R. Ambedkar) and Sir Muhammad Iqbal (who also attended the Second Round Table Conference).



India (14 Apr 1973)



India (30 Sep 2015)



India (17 May 2008)

----- Dr. B. R Ambedkar attended all three IRTCs, as did Aga Khan III -----

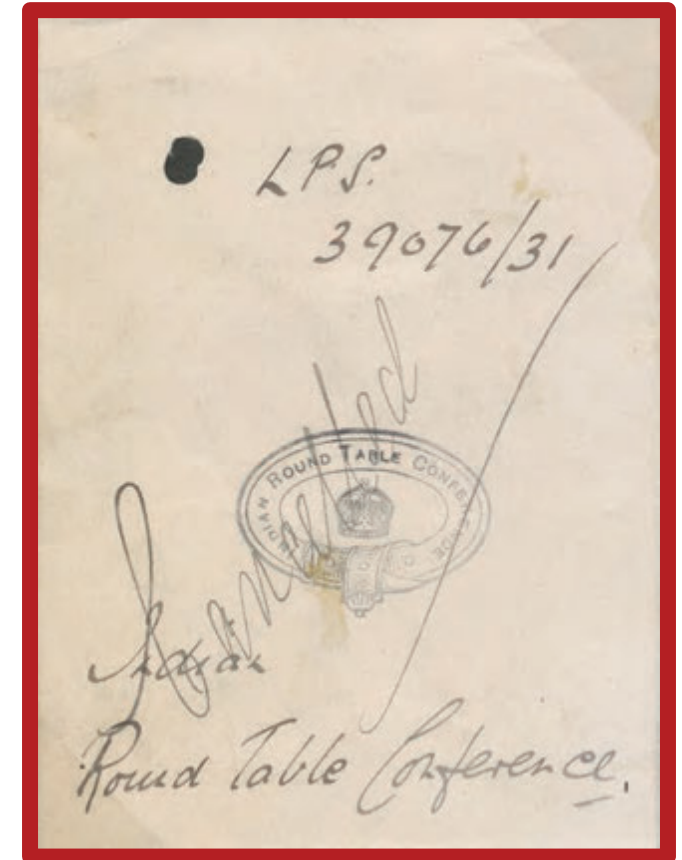
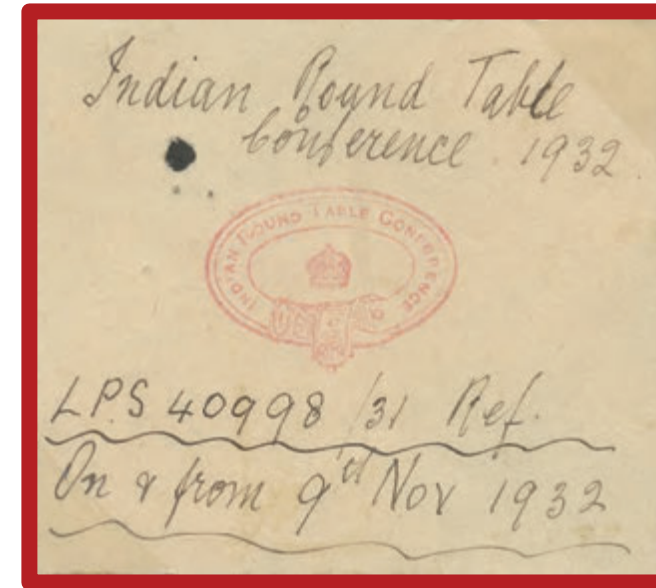


Turkey  
(9 Nov 1977)



Pakistan  
(9 Nov 1977)

Sir Muhammad Iqbal, a good friend of Gandhi, is credited with convincing Jinnah about the separate Muslim state, but did not live to witness the birth of Pakistan.

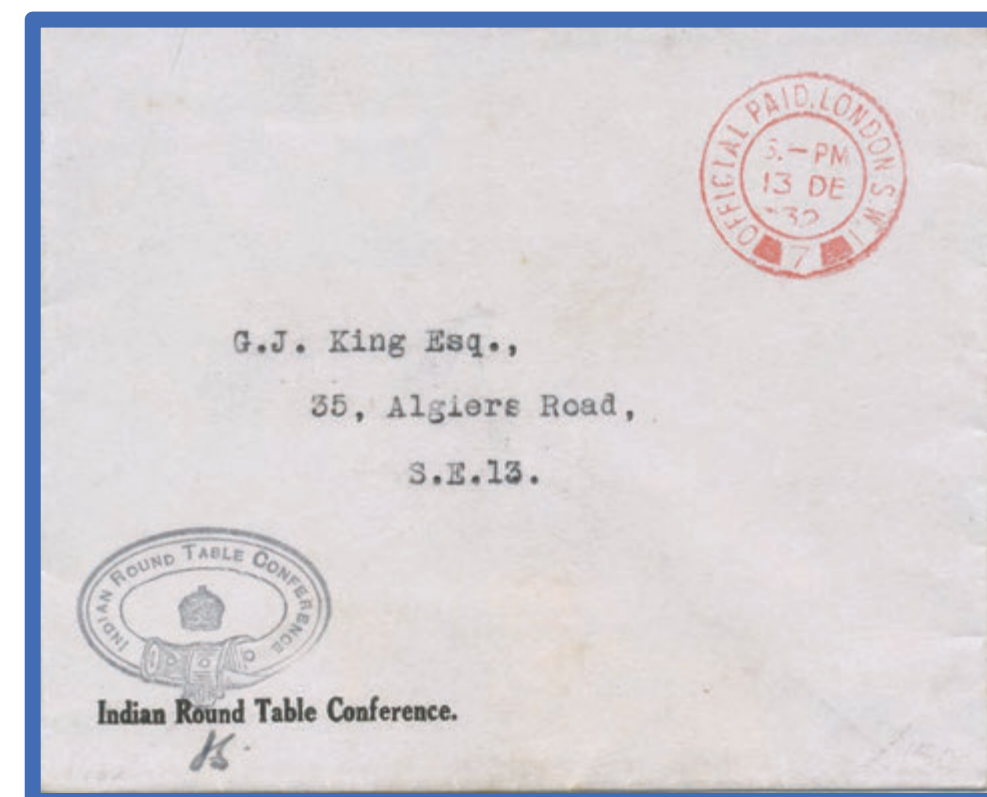


Besides the Indian National Congress, in Britain, the Labor party also refused to attend the Third Indian Round Table Conference. The key outcome of the Third Round Table conference was a "White Paper" issued by the Government, based on which, the Government of India Act 1935 was later passed.

UK (1932). A special undated cachet stamp for the third RTC was prepared, instead of a special CDS cancels used for RTC #1 and #2. Shown here are proofs in red and black submitted for approval.  
Only copies known.



UK (28 Nov 1932). Due to the small number of delegates, postally used covers are uncommon. Official local mail on cover with stamped INDIAN ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE cachet with OFFICIAL PAID LONDON S.W.I. cancellation.



UK (13 Dec 1932). Official local mail on cover with stamped and printed INDIAN ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE cachet with OFFICIAL PAID LONDON S.W.I. cancellation.



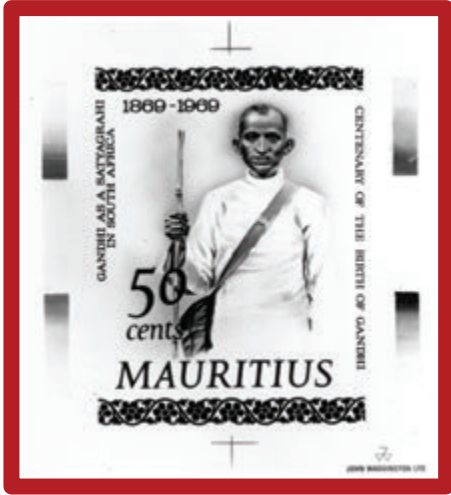
# Architect for Civil Disobedience [1906-1945]

## Satyagraha in Southern Africa [1906-1914]

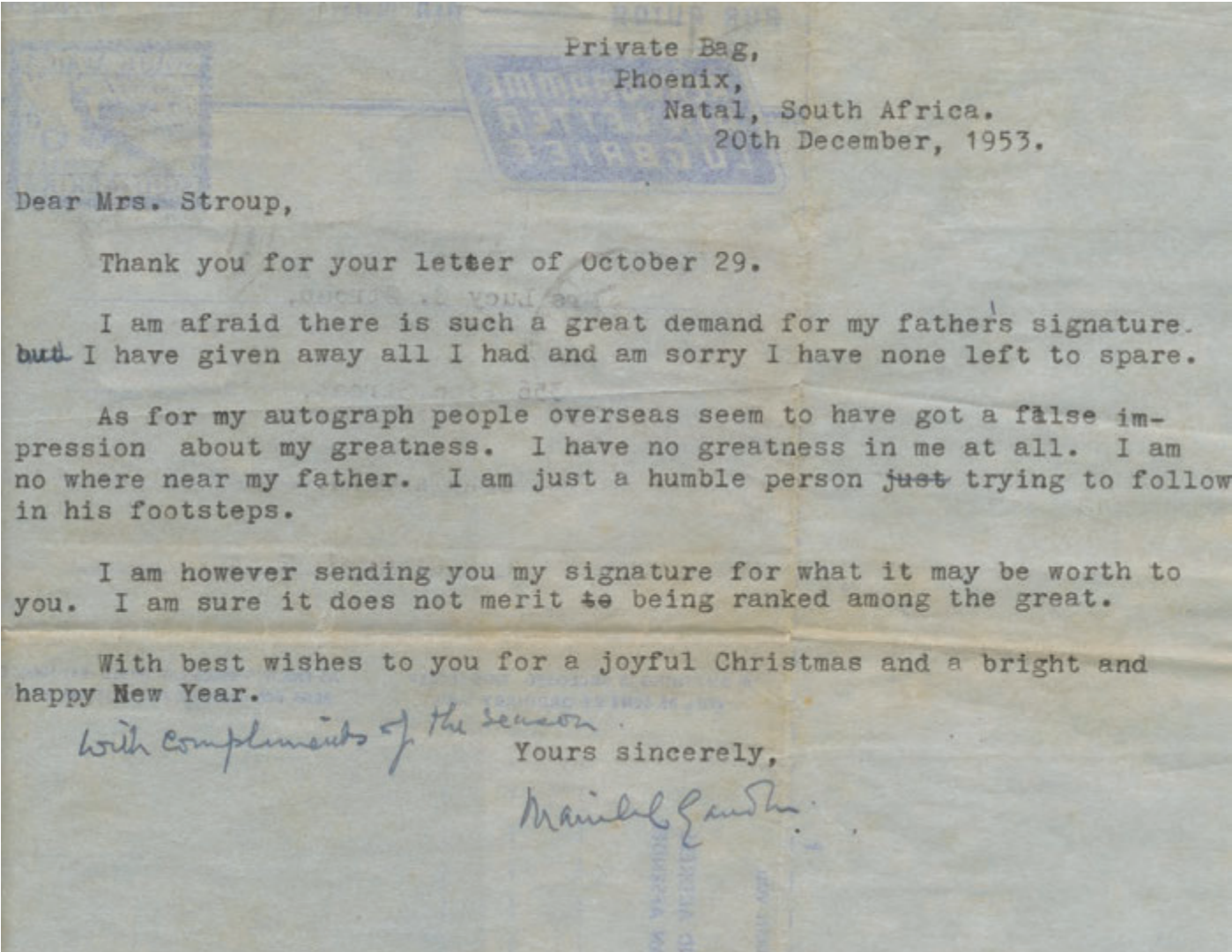
Gandhi convinced his fellow Indians to not submit to the Asiatic Law of 1906, even by risking arrest. Thus was born “Satyagraha” or achieving effect through “truth force”. To assist the several hundreds of Indian resisters who were going to prison and being released repeatedly, as a result of the protest, Gandhi established the Phoenix Ashram near Durban in Natal. In 1903, Gandhi began publishing the periodical *Indian Opinion* as a means to serve and consolidate the Indian community. He proposed that it be run on a co-operative basis in 1904, and that Phoenix Ashram would house the press and its staff, each of whom would be given a plot of land on which to live. The workers would receive an advance payment each month and the remainder of the total profits divided amongst them at the end of each year. The workers were also to be given the option of purchasing their plot of land from the co-operative at the actual cost.



India (2 Oct 2007). Gandhi as Satyagrahi and as publisher of India Opinion at Phoenix Ashram in South Africa.



Mauritius (2 May 1969). Printer's Die Proof of stamp showing Gandhi as Satyagrahi at the ashram near Durban. Only known approved copy with signature and approval stamp of engraver on back. One other copy without such markings exists (also in author's collection). Format International Security Printers' former Archives, London.



Phoenix Ashram, Natal (20 Dec 1953). Letter from Gandhi's son Manilal to a lady in South Carolina (USA) requesting his and his father's autographs.



Chad (2009) Gandhi as Satyagrahi in South Africa.



Nevis (17 Jul 2000). Multiple copies of stamp showing Gandhi as Satyagrahi at Phoenix ashram near Durban, on registered airmail cover to the USA.

After Gandhi left South Africa in 1914, his second oldest son Manilal continued to manage its operations, until his death in 1956. The settlement was destroyed by right-wing vigilantes in 1985, while the apartheid South African police and army looked on.





# Architect of Civil Disobedience [1905-1945]

## Swadeshi Movement- Boycotting British Imports [1905-35]

When Lord Curzon, then Viceroy of India, announced the partition of Bengal in July 1905, the Indian National Congress initiated the Swadeshi boycott movement of British Goods in Bengal- perhaps the first successful mass movement using boycott as a political weapon on a vast geographic scale, spread all over the subcontinent.



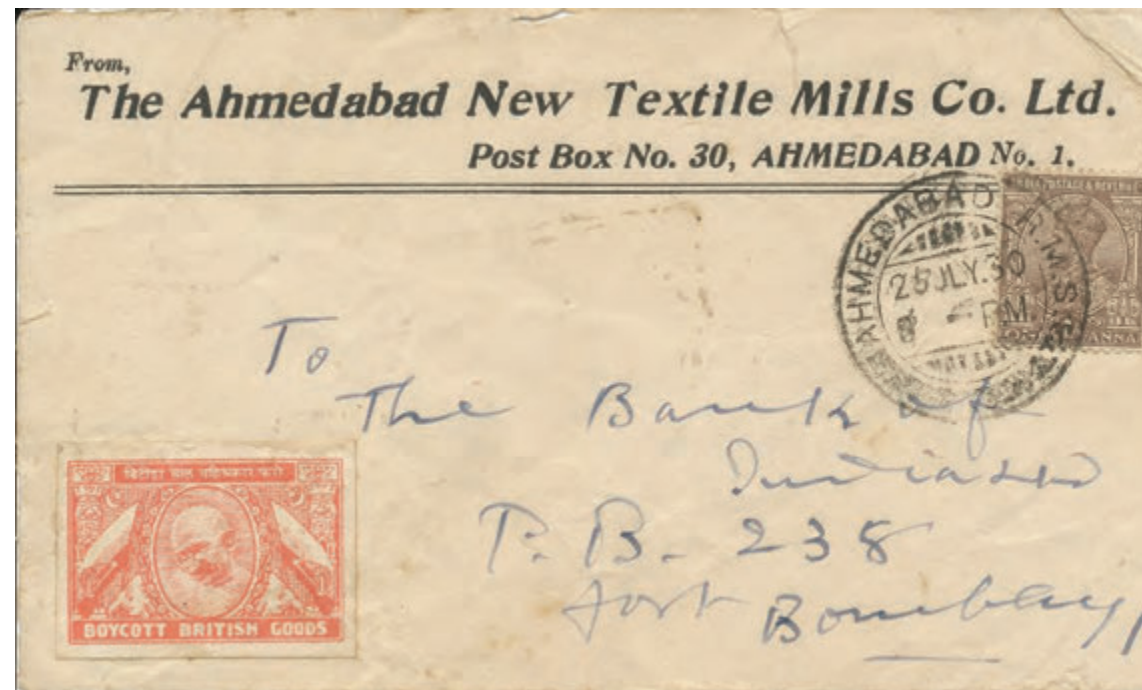
India (1920s). Patriotic Labels calling for patronizing Indian goods.



India (1920s). Labels like the ones shown above were used in mail and the post office was instructed to reject them, due to the slogans specifically targeting British imports for boycott.



India (1930s). Boycott British Goods patriotic labels featuring Nehru, instead of Gandhi. Text in English and Gujarati.



India (26 Jul 1930). Boycott label applied to cover from domestic textile mill in Gandhi's home state of Gujarat.



UK (1935). Private slogan cancel in Gujarati with image of Gandhi and encouraging boycott of foreign made products, on UK silver jubilee set.



India (1930s). When the movement turned violent, labels that also included messages of non-violence and Gandhi's image appeared.



India (7 Oct 1930). Patriotic labels with no boycott text but showing an early draft of an Indian flag with Gandhi's spinning wheel, along with the name of a domestic textile merchant V & SONS".

Rare example of a boycott label applied to cover and actually tied with a rolling cancel, which ironically happens to be an early version of the "SUPPORT INDIAN INDUSTRIES" slogan cancellation with the duplex Karachi CDS applied to domestic air mail postage of 2.5 As and 3 As. The faint rolling cancel mark caught the edge of the label, which was subsequently crossed out with a blue color pencil by the post office.

Only the two copies shown here are known tied to a cover with cancels.





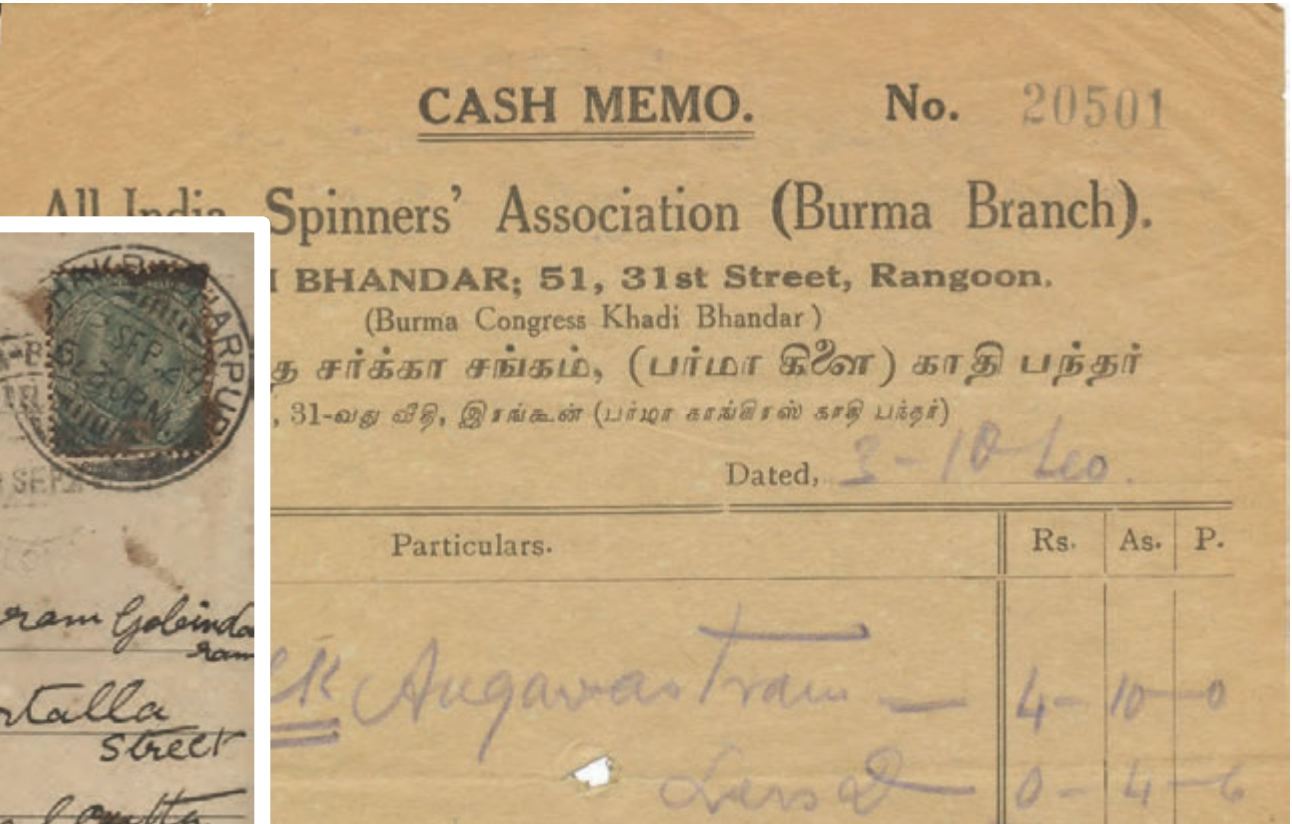
# Architect of Civil Disobedience [1905-1945]

Swadeshi Movement- Boycotting British Imports [1905-35]

Another twist to promoting domestic industries was advertisement covers and cards with similar patriotic slogans. The support for domestic handloom textiles inspired by Gandhi spread far and wide in the Indian diaspora- from Ceylon to Burma and Malaya and lasted much longer.



India (1929). Advertisements on Registered cover to SUPPORT INDIAN INDUSTRIES



Burma (1940). Cash memo from a Khadi (Hand loom) merchant in Rangoon.



India (10 Mar 1959). Even a decade after Independence, the Indian government continued to take advantage of the popularity of messages supporting domestic cottage industries- through slogan meter markings like this one: "Khadi, Symbol of Social Equality".



Malaya Under Japanese Occupation (1942). Cover from merchant with REGISTERED TRADE MARK GANDHI, MADE IN BRITISH INDIA cachet and image of Gandhi on the spinning wheel.



Ceylon (1934). Bill from a Khadi (Hand loom) merchant in Colombo.



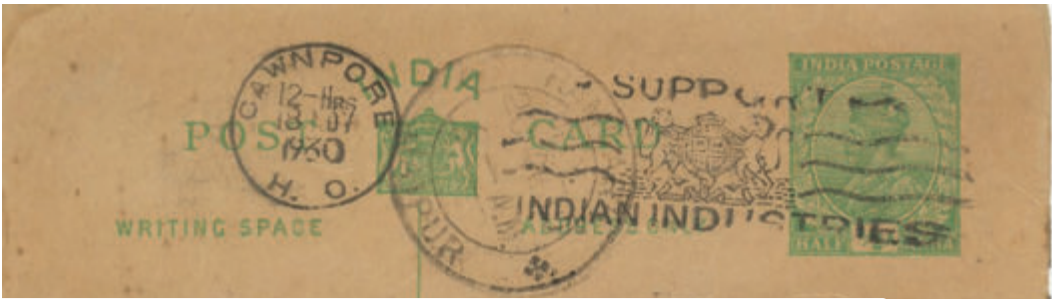
# Architect of Civil Disobedience [1905-1945]

Swadeshi Movement- British Indian Post Office's Pushback

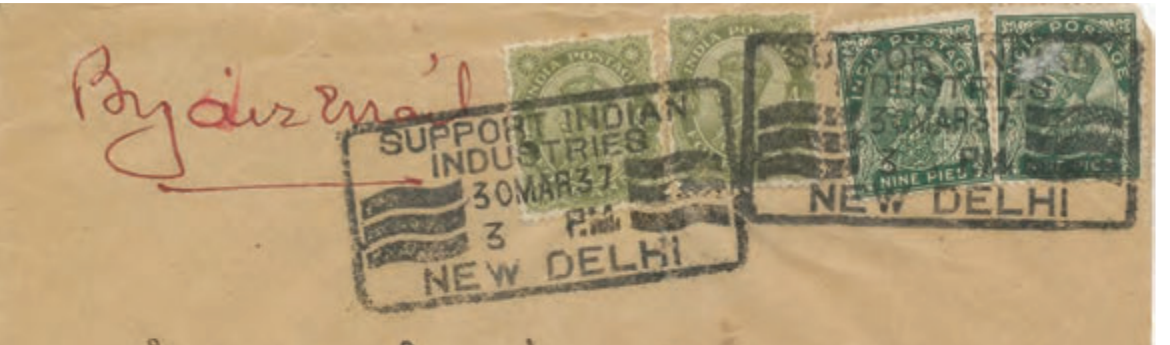
The British Indian PO adopted the "Support Indian Industries" slogan to several special cancels in the 1930s.



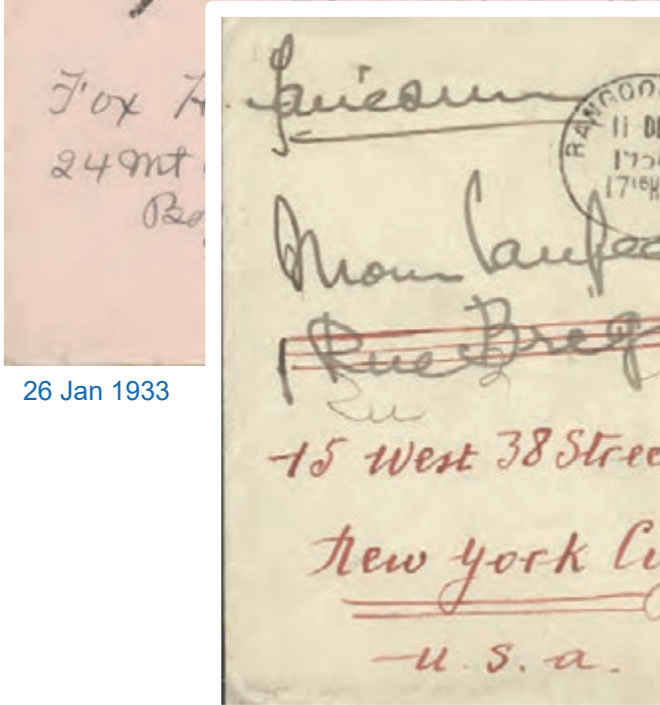
Cawnpore Pictorial duplex SUPPORT | INDIAN INDUSTRIES cancel



30 Nov 1926



18 Nov 1930

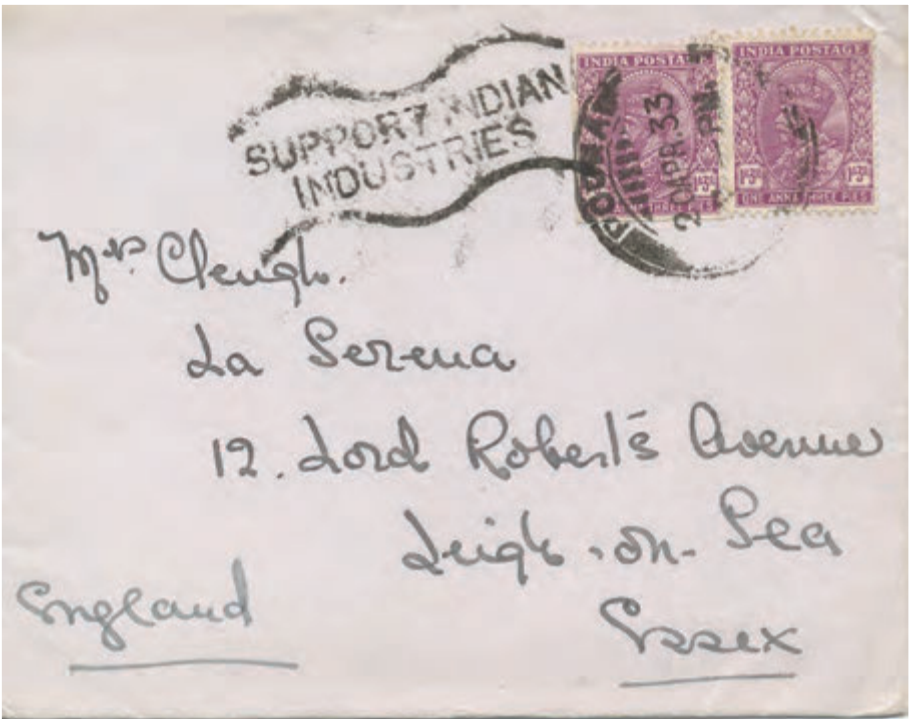


26 Jan 1933



11 Dec 1934

Wavy slogan cancels- SUPPORT | INDIAN INDUSTRIES and SUPPORT INDIAN | INDUSTRIES from Bombay to London, Madras to Austria, Rangoon to Boston, Bangalore to New York, and Poona to Essex.



20 Apr 1933



21 Mar 1938



5 Mar 1938

Boxed SUPPORT INDIAN | INDUSTRIES dated slogan cancels- from New Delhi to Detroit, Allahabad to New York, and Delhi to New York.







# Architect of Civil Disobedience [1905-1945]

## Boycott of King George V's Coronation [1911]

Due to the unresponsiveness of the British Government to the calls of its Indian citizens in South Africa for justice, Gandhi urged the boycott of the coronation celebrations in Durban. At the same time, he affirmed his loyalty to the Crown. Celebrations were held all over India's British Presidencies and Princely States, however, with special commemorative cancellations.



India (30 Dec 1911). "KING EMPEROR'S CAMP PO" from the coronation durbar celebrations in Calcutta.



India (22 Oct 1911). Early usage of a "CORONATION DURBAR" CDS without royal insignia.



India (16 Dec 1911). "QUEEN EMPRESS'S CAMP PO" cancel from Calcutta.



Nepal (23 Dec 1911). Mailed from Imperial Camp on 23<sup>rd</sup> December, transit marking through BANKIPORE on the 24<sup>th</sup> and arrived in Kathmandu with NEPAL 25 DE 11 receiver CDS marking.



India (7 Dec 1911). Uncommon Coronation Durbar Rolling cancel from Delhi, with 1As King George V stamp.



India (7 Dec 1911). Durbar cancels from Calcutta and Delhi are common, ones from Madras are not. Also note rolling cancel from CHELSEA|DE 25 and single and double circle transit marking from BROMLEY|KENT|DE 24, all applied on the cover front.

When King George V visited India to announce his accession to the throne in person, the Maharaja of Nepal arranged a shooting expedition in the Tarai. The Imperial party arrived in Nepalese territory on 17th December 1911 and camps were constructed at Sukibhar and Kasra. Temporary post offices were set up and a special commemorative postmark was used. Note smaller font for date, compared to corresponding special cancellations used within India.



India (12 Dec 1911). CORONATION DURBAR cancels from Northwestern India, where the new King George V stamps were not at the post office yet. Franked with King Edward VII definitives on registered mail to Karachi, with CORONATION DURBAR registration label.



India (11 Dec 1911). CORONATION DURBAR cancels from Karachi, where the new King George V stamps were not at the post office yet. Franked with King Edward VII definitives on registered mail.



# Architect of Civil Disobedience [1905-1945]

## Fighting Untouchability –Harijan Movement [1916-34]

Immediately upon returning to India, Gandhi initiated dialog on the Hindu caste system. He particularly spoke out against the “untouchability” practice. A crowning achievement in this area came in the 1937, when Gandhi convinced the royal family in Travancore to open the doors of its main Temples to untouchables, after centuries of locking them out.



Durban, South Africa (25 Dec 1940). Registered cover with a private cachet commemorating the Travancore Temple Entry Proclamation.



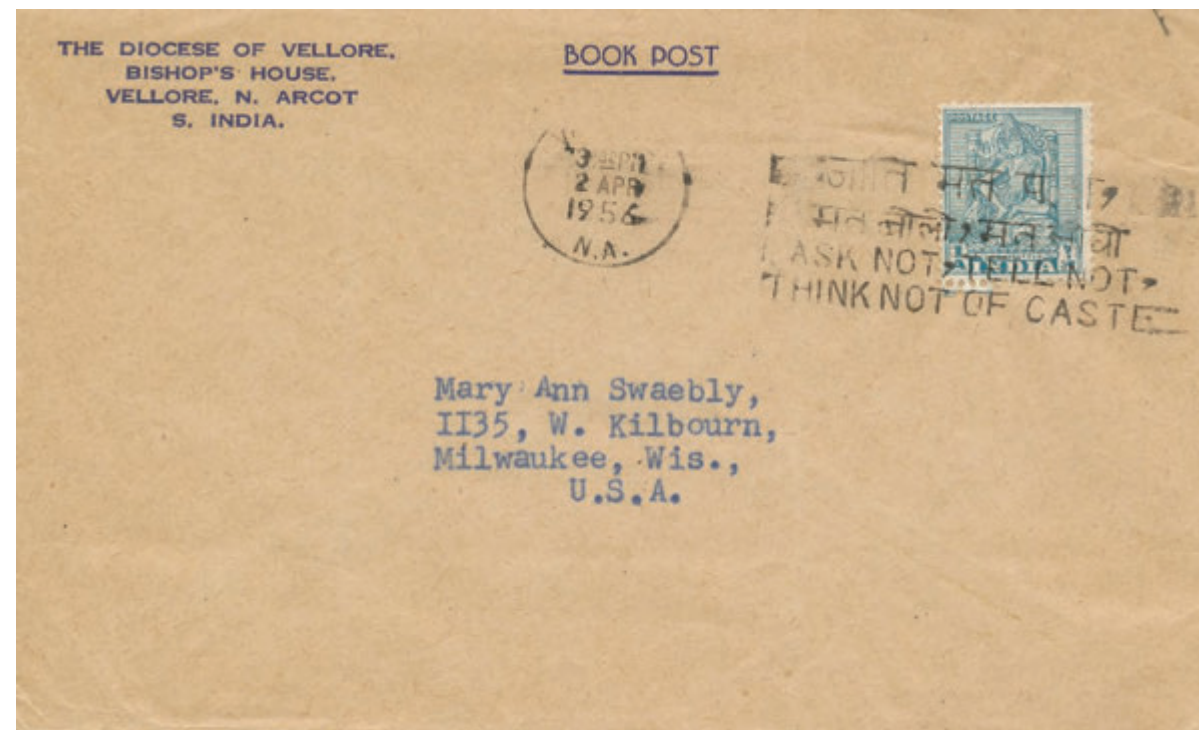
Alleppey, Travancore (14 Jun 1941). Princely state's stamps showing the Padmanabha Temple and sacred chariots, which were off-limits to untouchables until the “Temple Entry Proclamation” was signed.

Many historians note that while Gandhi took up the issue of untouchability, he did not overtly challenge the caste system within the Hindu community. This was attributed to both the fact that many of his benefactors were upper caste Hindus- Brahmins from the priestly caste or Baniyas from the merchant class (which he was born into).

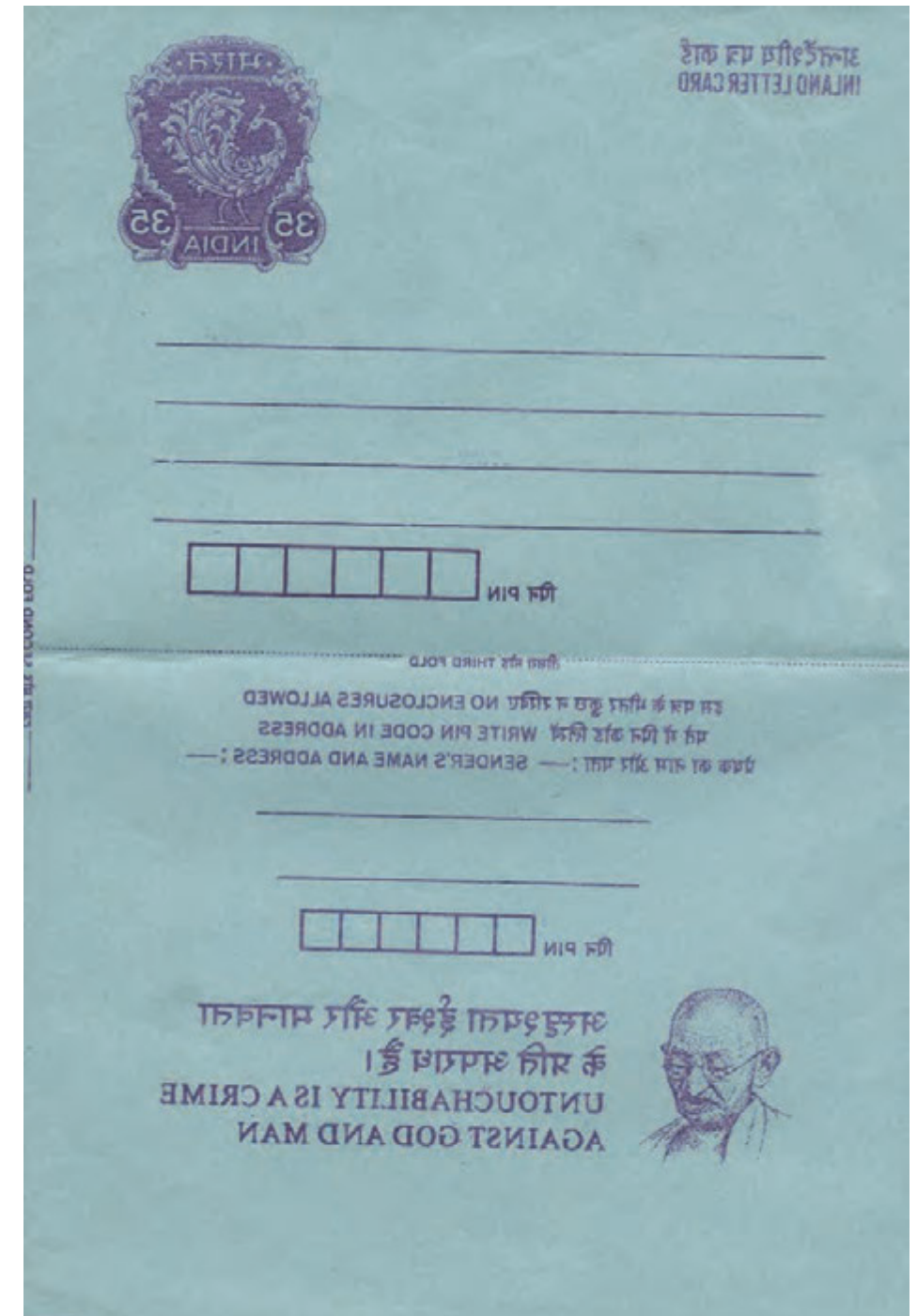
While one could say that he was a product of his times, it is clear that he evolved on the subject of race (his views towards Africans when he first arrived in South Africa in 1892 were very different from when he left in 1915), we did not witness the same evolution on the subject of caste, even after he spent another 33 years back in India.



India (1940s). Slogan in this label claims prematurely that UNTOUCHABILITY HAS BEEN ABOLISHED, with a portrait of Gandhi in the foreground and the Parliament Building in the background.



India (2 Apr 1956). The issue of hierarchical discrimination within caste Hindus continues to plague Indian society, beyond the challenges of untouchability. The post office continues to use messages like ASK NOT, TELL NOT, THINK NOT OF CASTE in slogan cancels.



India (1984). Slogans like this, quoting Gandhi on several social issues, are common in Indian stationery, except when printed on the gum side in reverse. Inland Letter card printed with Gandhi's image and slogan UNTOUCHABILITY IS A CRIME AGAINST GOD AND MAN.



# Architect of Civil Disobedience [1905-1945]

## Fighting for Peasants' Rights [1917-18]

The *Champaran Satyagraha* was a farmer's uprising that took place in the Champaran district of Bihar. Gandhi organized farmers to protest against having to grow indigo with barely any payment for it.

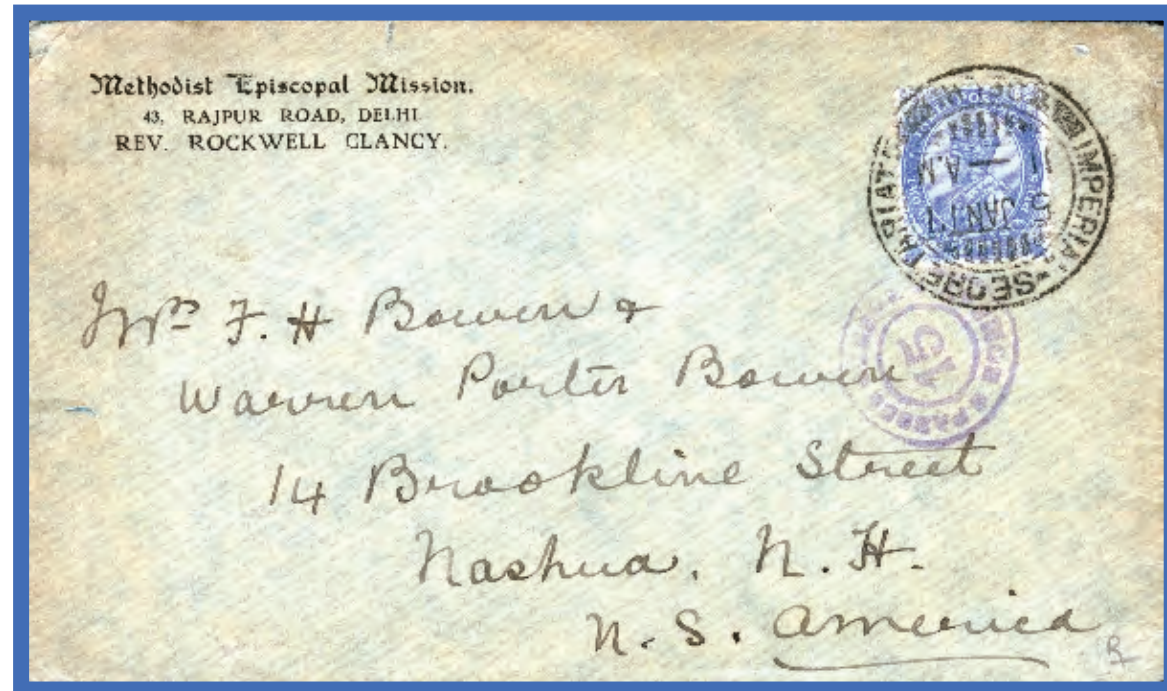


Gambia  
(29 Oct 1998)

Sierra Leone  
(15 Dec 1998)

India (13 May 2017)  
Centenary of Champaran Satyagraha

The effort by Gandhi in Champaran paid off dramatically. Despite objections from the English landlords in Bihar, the Imperial Secretariat in Delhi issued regulations that reversed several despicable practices in 1917.



India (5 Jan 1917). Cover with rare IMPERIAL SECRETARIAT cancel mailed from Delhi to USA during the Champaran Satyagraha negotiations. Note WWI censor marking.

Gandhi, encouraged by the success in Champaran, where he defended Indigo farmers against ruthless English landlords in 1917, organized peasants in Gujarat [western India] against regressive land taxes imposed by the Bombay Provincial Government – the *Kheda Satyagraha* in 1918.



Guinea Bissau (25 Sep 2015).  
Gandhi and Kasturba at Kheda  
Satyagraha in Gujarat (1918).

Gandhi linked the use of Opium in rural India to what he called the 'immoral trade' organized first by the East India Company and later by the Government of British India. He instigated international political pressure on the British to stop their opium dealings in the early 1900s. Under Gandhi's leadership, the Indian National Congress used media and international political platforms like the League of Nations to put considerable pressure on the British to prohibit the opium trade.



Hong Kong (29 Dec 1858). Opium trade from India and smuggling to China pre-dates Gandhi and dates back to the early 1800s. Entire from Hong Kong trader and opium smuggler Jardine Matheson to Parsee trader, ship builder, and opium exporter Cursetjee Furdoonjee, related to the sale and shipping of Malwa and Benares opium from Bombay to Canton.

Canton (29 Jun 1910). Registered letter from Indian merchant in Canton to Parsee merchant in Indore. Indore was at the center of Malwa opium production and export via Bombay. French Indochina stamps overprinted CANTON and mailed via German postal system in Canton.



Gandhi's protracted anti-opium crusade did not target solely the colonial administration. He also campaigned in villages implicated in opium production, consumption and trade, to convince peasants to cultivating poppy. C.F. Andrews, Anglican clergyman and long-time friend and supporter of the nationalist cause, accompanied Gandhi on his tour in Assam and published many articles and pamphlets against opium trade and consumption.



# Architect of Civil Disobedience [1905-1945]

## Boycott of Prince of Wales Royal Visit [1922]

Still reeling under the pain of the General Dyre's army massacre in Punjab and the indignation of European feeding frenzy over remnants of the Ottoman Empire, the Indian nationalist movement was in no mood to accord a cordial reception to the heir apparent. The Royal visit began in Bombay on 17 Nov 1921 and ended in Karachi on 17 Mar 1922. Besides India, the Prince also visited Burma and Nepal.

While not location specific, the royal entourage used a special commemorative cancellation reading HRH PRINCE OF WALES CAMP P.O. Locations can only be identified based on the dates in these cancellations. There were two different dispatch markings, one delivery marking, one registered mail marking and a postage due marking associated with this event. Examples of all of these cancellations are shown in another exhibit dedicated to the Centenary of the 1922 Prince of Wales Royal Visit Boycott, with a few samples shown here, within the context of the boycott organized by Gandhi and the Indian National Congress.



#1. Dispatch



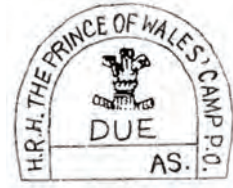
#2. Delivery



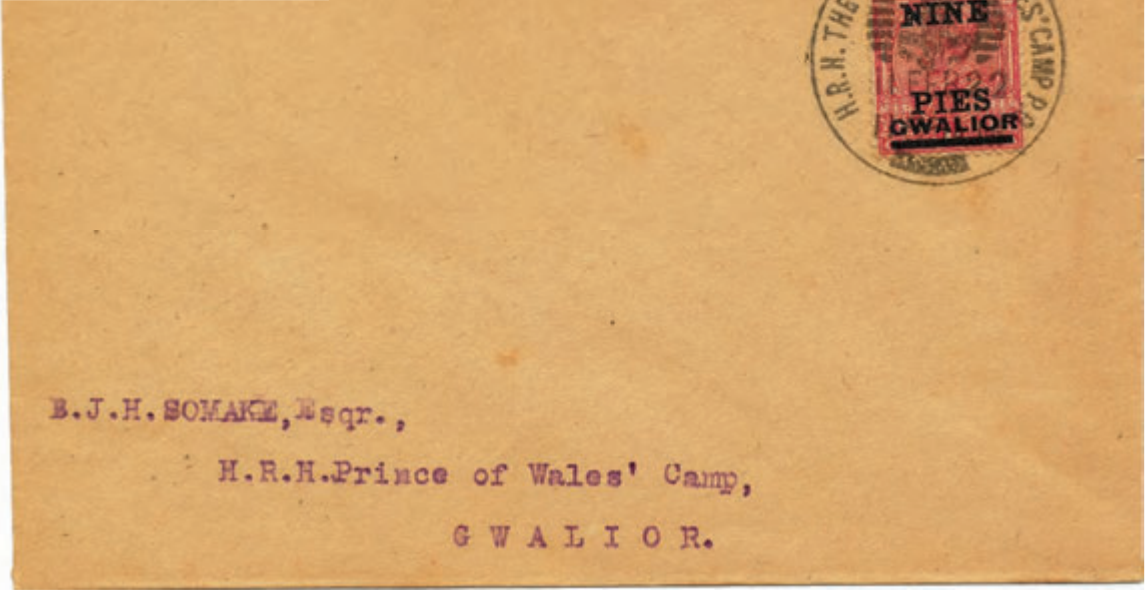
#3. Registered Dispatch



#4. Registration Label



#5. Postage Due



Gwalior (11 Feb 1922)



Patiala (24 Feb 1922)

Gwalior was a native princely state in Central India visited by the Prince of Wales after his tour of native princely states in Rajputana, Nepal, Burma and the princely states in South India. Overt philatelic usage- mailed from the camp to the camp- with both commemorative Type 1 dispatch and Type 2 delivery markings. Patiala was the next native princely state - in the Punjab - that he visited after Gwalior, following stops in Agra and Delhi.

### Gandhi in *Young India* of December 1<sup>st</sup>, 1920

“His Royal Highness will soon be in our midst. It is a matter of great sorrow to me that I should advise a complete boycott of all public functions held in his honour. He is personally an amiable English gentleman. But, in my humble opinion, public interest demands that this official visit should be strictly ignored. His Royal Highness comes to sustain a corrupt system of government, he comes to whitewash an irresponsible bureaucracy, he comes to make us forget the unforgettable.....”



Dehradun (15 Mar 1922)



Karachi (17 Mar 1922)

Dehradun and Karachi were the last two stops in the Royal Visit. Both these covers were mailed as registered, with the Type 3 registration dispatch marking and the Type 4 registration label.

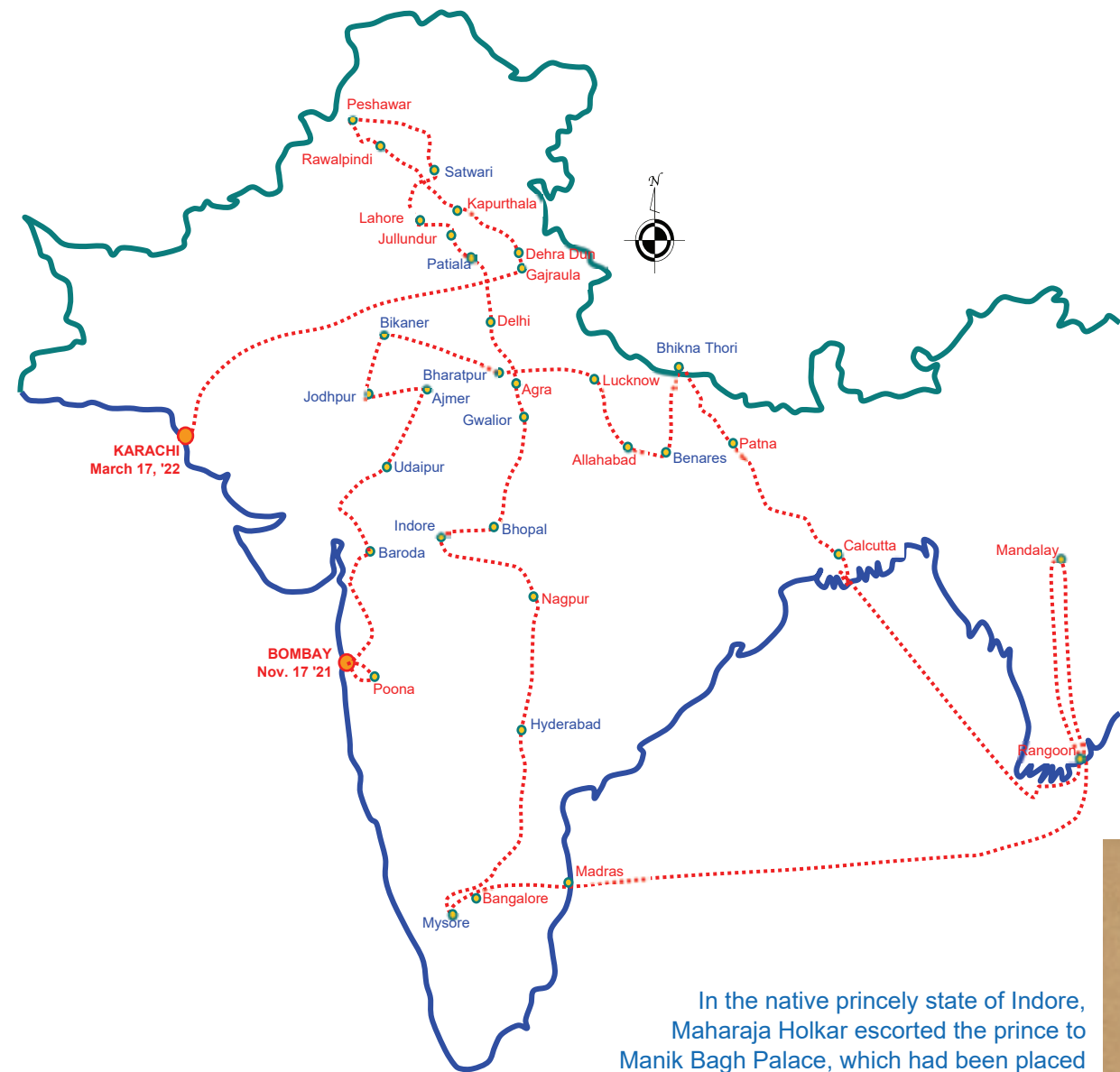


# Architect of Civil Disobedience [1905-1945]

## Boycott of Prince of Wales Royal Visit [1922]

On 10<sup>th</sup> July 1921, Gandhi had suggested that while he would “extend the heartiest welcome to His Royal Highness if he came without official patronage”, a boycott directed at “the insolent bureaucracy and dishonest ministers of His Majesty” was in order. The Prince of Wales visited the Indian subcontinent from November 1921 to March 1922. The special cancellation with the Royal Insignia of the Prince of Wales was used for mail sent by the Royal entourage along the route shown below. Boycott of celebrations were organized in every city in British Indian Provinces, forcing the Prince to spend most of his time in friendly Princely States.

Places where the Royal Party stayed overnight are shown in the map. Anticipating mass protests in the British Presidencies [SHOWN IN RED ON THE MAP], most public events and celebrations were restricted to Indian Princely States loyal to the British Crown [SHOWN IN BLUE ON THE MAP].



In the native princely state of Indore, Maharaja Holkar escorted the prince to Manik Bagh Palace, which had been placed entirely at his disposal. Eighteen ruling Princes and Chiefs of Central India were presented at the Durbar in Indore.

While the Prince was enjoying the calm of these Central Indian Princely states, riots in a far-away city of Chauri Chauria led to twenty-six policemen being killed by an angry mob on 4<sup>th</sup> February 1922. Gandhi immediately summoned a meeting of those Congress Working Committee members who were not in jail and asked them to pass a resolution suspending the movement.



Mysore (20 Jan 1922)



Karapur (23 Jan 1922)



Hyderabad (27 Jan 1922)

The Nizam of Hyderabad was another friendly host. The visit to Hyderabad lasted four days, and included ceremonies, review of troops, and concluded with military sports at Secunderabad, the British cantonment adjoining Hyderabad city.



Bhopal (4 Feb 1922)

Between Hyderabad and Indore, the prince stopped in Nagpur, the capital of the Central Provinces where the non-co-operation movement was officially launched in 1920. His next stop was in Bhopal, where he was hosted by the Begum, last in line of the only four women to successively rule a modern kingdom in Asia.



# Architect of Civil Disobedience [1905-1945]

## Boycott of Prince of Wales Royal Visit [1922]

The boycott organized by the Indian National Congress was most effective in the United Provinces and Bengal. Mass arrests began early in December. Jawaharlal Nehru and his father were arrested in Allahabad a few days before the Prince arrived. This was memorable- Nehru's first of many imprisonments by the British government.

Congress volunteers in Bengal and the United Provinces were declared illegal just before the Prince arrived in India in November. Christmas day in Calcutta, busy Capital of British India, was eerie and silent- with all businesses essentially closed. During December '21 and January '22, about 30,000 persons were sentenced in connection with the boycott across India.



Allahabad (12 Dec 1921)

The Royal Party left Lucknow on December 11<sup>th</sup> and spent a day each at Allahabad and Benares, before proceeding to Nepal. At Allahabad the prince visited the University and the High Court, and met the landowners at Government House. Protests were muted, as most protested were arrested and jailed before he arrived.



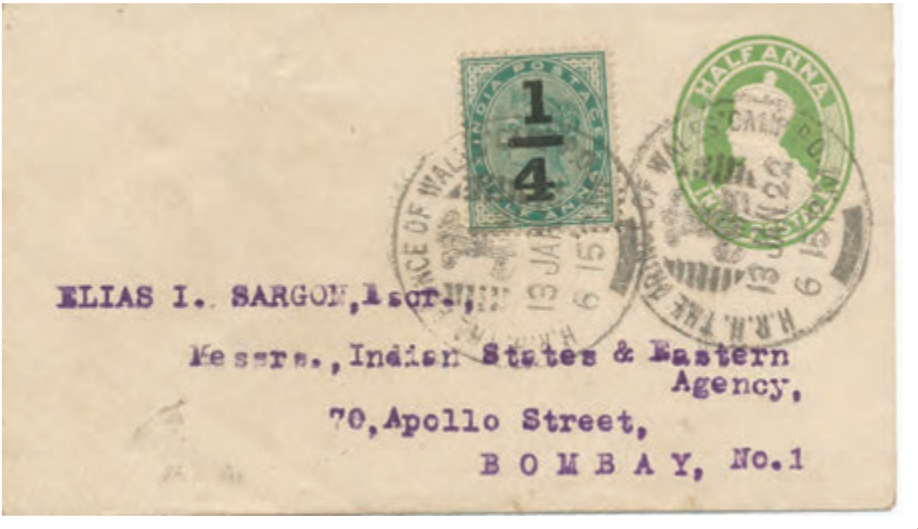
Lahore (26 Feb 1922)

At Lahore, the Prince was in the country of the Sikhs. Special trains brought farmers and villagers from many places in the Western Punjab to see him drive from the train station to Government House on the afternoon of February 25<sup>th</sup>.

On 12<sup>th</sup> February, the Indian National Congress halted the Non-cooperation Movement, leading to the cancellation of all protests in Delhi, Lahore, Peshawar, and Rawalpindi.



Delhi (18 Feb 1922)

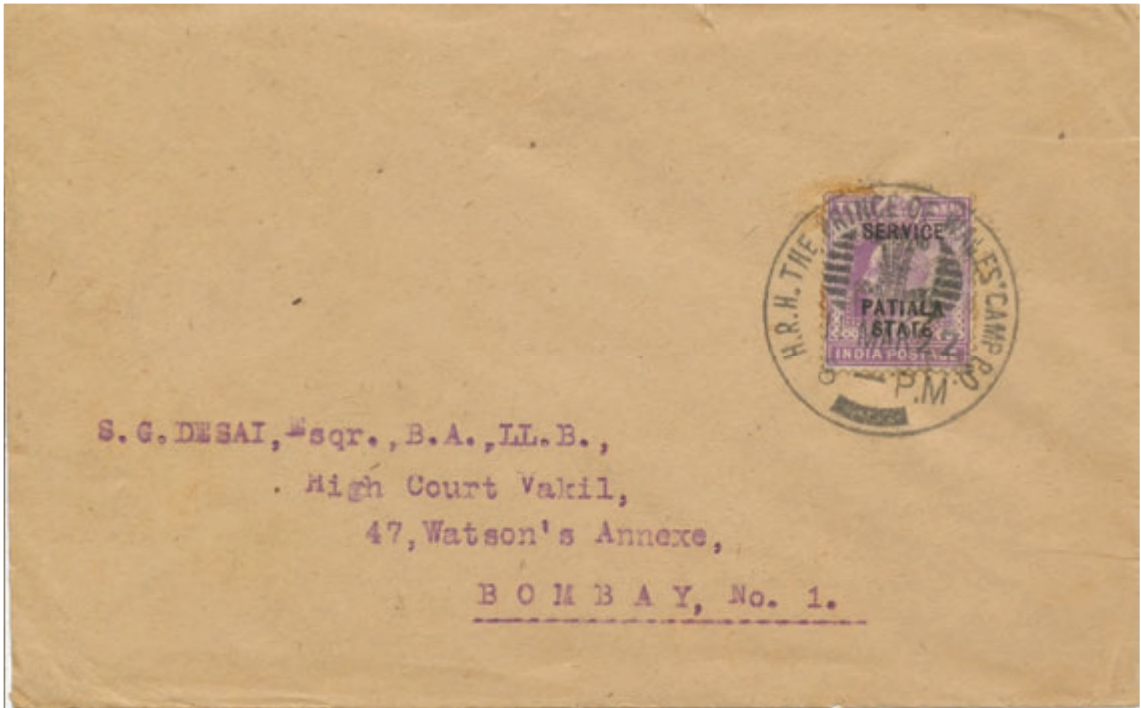


Madras (13 Jan 1922)

The prince spent four days in Madras, two of them at horse races and two playing polo. Protests greeted him in Madras (leading to riots and police shootings) and Bangalore, home to the largest British military cantonment in Southern India.



Bangalore (18 Jan 1922)



Rawalpindi (11 Mar 1922)



Peshawar (5 Mar 1922)



# Architect of Civil Disobedience [1905-1945]

The Simon Commission Boycott [1928] and the Dandi Salt March [1930]

Section 84-A of the Government of India Act of 1919 laid down that a Commission be appointed at the expiration of ten years after its passage. An all-white Commission was constituted under the chairmanship of Sir John Allsebrook Simon under a Royal warrant in November 1927 and sent to India to study and recommend prospects for its political future. Gandhi and all of Congress called for its boycott, which began in Bombay.

Salt Tax in British India. Enacted following the Salt Commission of 1836, salt tax had grown to represent over 95 percent of the price of salt by 1930! Salt and land taxes added up to over a fifth of the overall Indian tax burden. In 1905, people in India were taxed twice as heavily as those in England and three times as those in Scotland.

March 12, 1930. Sixty-one year old Gandhi, along with 78 other residents of the *Sabarmati* Ashram, started the historic march to the sea to make salt, in defiance of the existing Salt Laws of the British Government. The destination was a seaside fishing village *Dandi* and the event turned out to be one of the most significant in the annals of the Civil Disobedience Movement.



Ghana (24 Dec 1998)



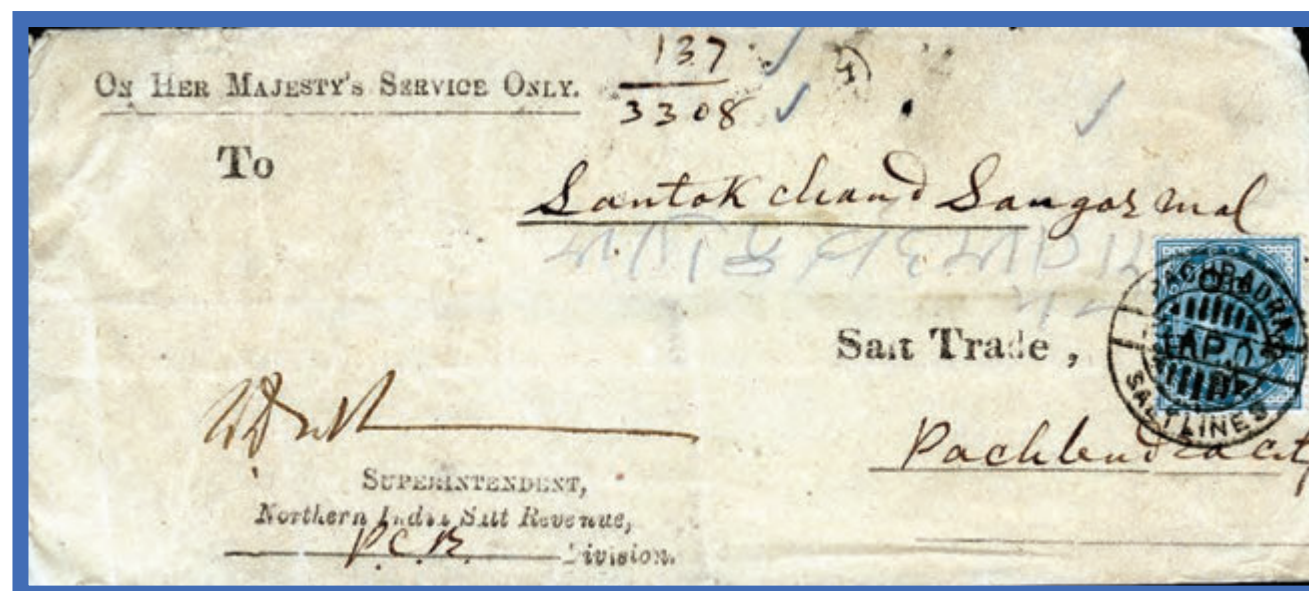
Central African Rep (16 Jan 2019)



----- Gandhi and his supporters march to Dandi in 1930 -----

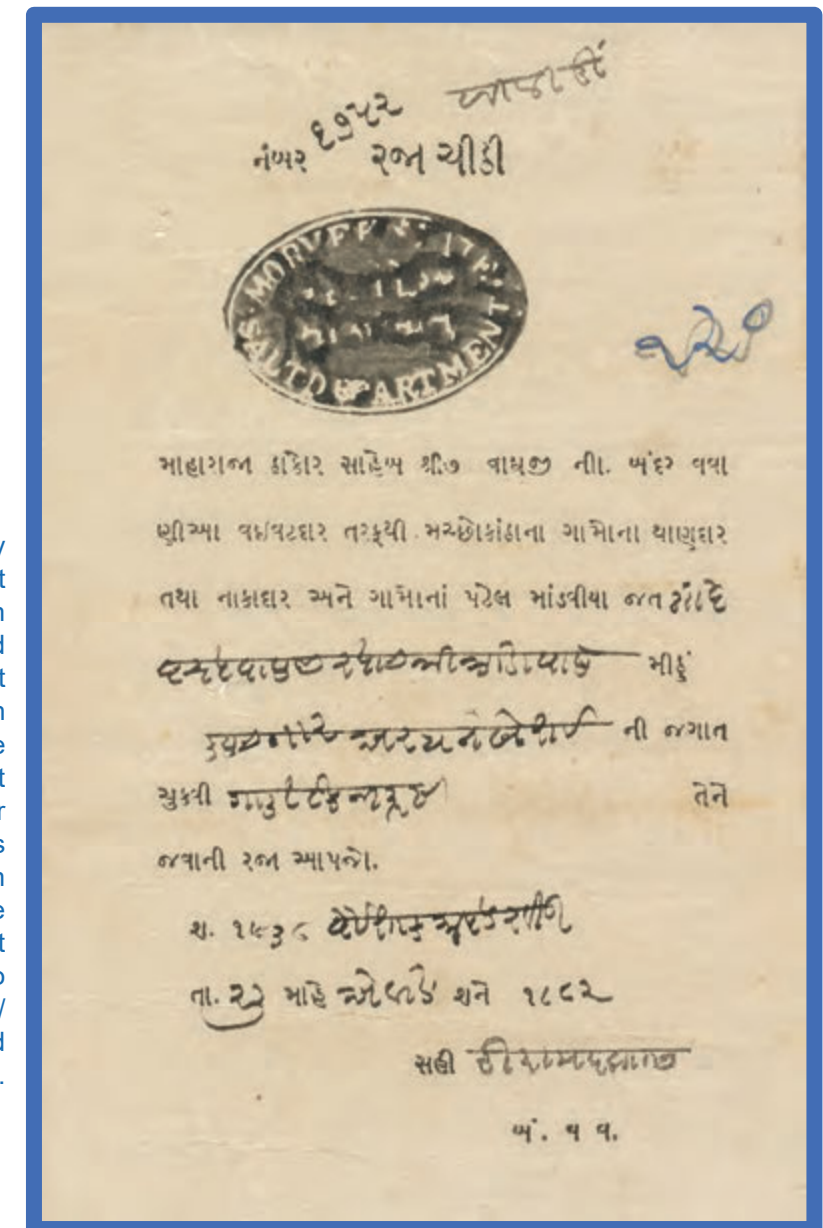


India (2 Oct 1980)  
Gandhi Picking Salt at Dandi.  
Normal (left) and missing gold color error (right)



Salt Tax Demand Notice. Mailed in 1902 to a salt trader in the desert region in NW India. Notation on the flap indicated that 25,000 such notices were printed in 1900 just by the NISR region! Unusual in that these were often mailed "unpaid" with 1 anna postage due to secure delivery, not ½ anna On Her Majesty's Service, as shown here. Note that this over a year after Queen Victoria's passing and King Edward VII's coronation.

Morvee (Indian Princely State) Salt Department Permit printed on Indian Government watermarked paper. Gujarati text translates to "Maharajah Sahib Shree Waghjee authorizes... to collect salt from the banks of the River Machhu villages & informs the policeman, salt pan supervisors and village patel (chief) that zakat (salt tax) has been paid. So please allow him to enter/leave the salt fields and collect salt."



Original artist's watercolor essay of Scottish local, depicting Simon Commission protests in Bombay.  
Only known copy.

Lala Lajpat Rai from Punjab, a journalist who edited *Young India* before Gandhi took over the magazine, was a prominent leader of the Indian National Congress who led the protests. In what was apparently political blunder, Rai was severely beaten by the police during the protests and ultimately succumbed to his injuries a few months later.



India (28 Jan 1965).  
Lala Lajpat Rai, one of the Lal-Bal-Pal trio that Gandhi had to deal with in the Indian National Congress, when he returned from South Africa.



# Architect of Civil Disobedience [1905-1945]

## Dandi March Against Salt Tax [1930]

On the salt march with Gandhi was Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, then the most prominent woman in the Indian Nationalist Movement. Succeeding Gandhi as President of the Indian National Congress, she set the stage for acceptability of women in Indian Politics.



Ghana (24 Dec 1998)



Niger (24 Oct 2018)



Antigua (1 Feb 2019)



Central African Rep.  
(27 Dec 2011)



Kenya  
(2 Oct 2020)

----- Gandhi marching to Dandi with Mrs. Naidu -----



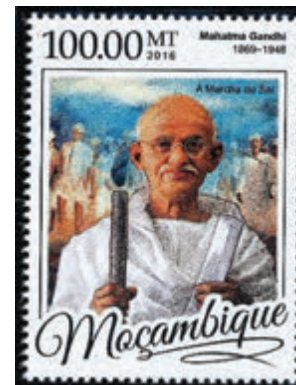
Bhutan (25 May 2019)



Guinea-Bissau (24 Oct 2017)



Maldives (18 Nov 2013)



Mozambique (10 Jul 2016)



Chad (30 Mar 2020)

----- Gandhi on Salt March with hundreds of supporters -----

April 6, 1930. The day began with early morning prayers and a ritual bath in the sea by Gandhi and his followers. This was followed by Gandhi picking a lump of salt from a prepared bed by the sea. This image of Gandhi is as symbolic as the tossing of tea overboard in the Boston Tea Party.

Gandhi had several journalists with him and leveraged the newsworthiness of the event with a bold statement that was to his "Audience in the West" - captured as a headline in western print media: **"I WANT WORLD SYMPATHY IN THIS BATTLE OF RIGHT AGAINST MIGHT"**.



Ghana (24 Dec 1998)

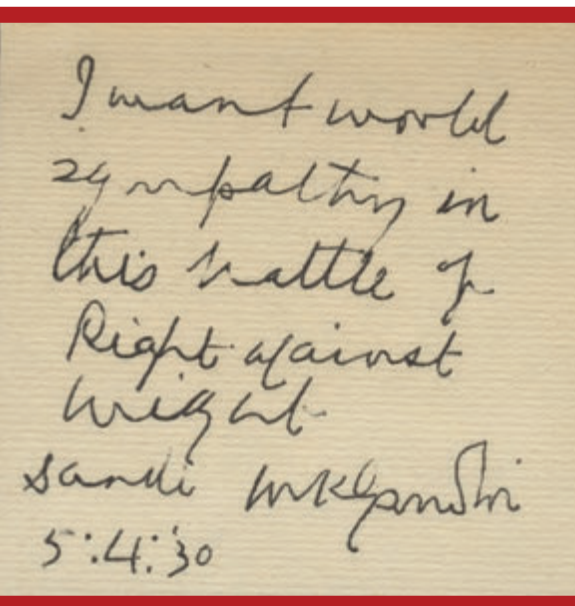


Solomon Islands (25 Sep 2015)



Sao Tome (13 Mar 2020)

----- Gandhi picking salt at the seashore in defiance of British Law -----

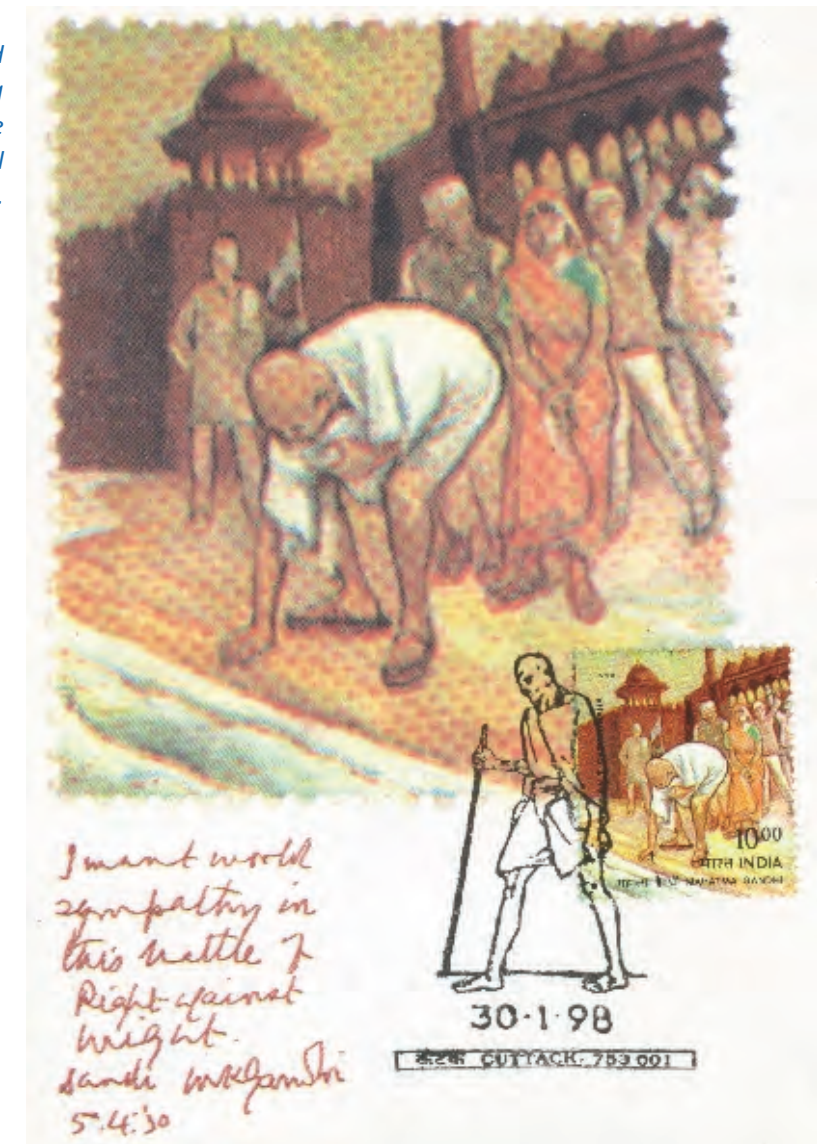


India (5 Apr 1930). This **original handwritten statement** from Gandhi was given to a friend and prominent biographer as a "message to Americans", before he picked the grain of salt that many say "brought down the British Empire". This single sentence captures the essence of the power of civil disobedience- built on faith in human conscience! The statement shown above was released by Gandhi to the Associated Press and has subsequently been touched up and used in philatelic designs.



St. Vincent (29 May 2000). Registered letter with stamp depicting Gandhi marching with Mrs. Sarojini Naidu to Dandi on the Salt Satyagraha.

India (1998). Maximum Card showing image of Gandhi picking salt and the written statement he released to the press (original shown to the left on this page).





# Architect of Civil Disobedience [1905-1945]

## Fighting Separate Electorates & Provinces [1932-42]

As an extension of the divide-and-rule policy, the British government proposed to create ethnically divided provinces within India. This 'separate but equal' policy was vehemently opposed by Gandhi.

Congress negotiated on details of British plans with several leaders in New Delhi and the provinces. One of the leaders Congress negotiated with in 1937 was the Governor of the newly formed Punjab Province. Gandhi also negotiated with the Governor of the United Provinces, Sir William Hailey in 1937. Gandhi met with him in Nainital, location of the Governor's camp in the Himalayan foothills.



India (2 Apr 1937). An error led to brief usage of "U.P. GOVT. CAMP", instead of "U.P. GOVERNOR'S CAMP" on the CDS. Mailed to London from Nainital during the period mentioned above, when Gandhi was there in meetings.

Burma and Aden were officially separated from Indian administration on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1937.

This administrative change also accelerated the demise of the British Indian Post Offices that operated all over Southwest Asia and East Africa.

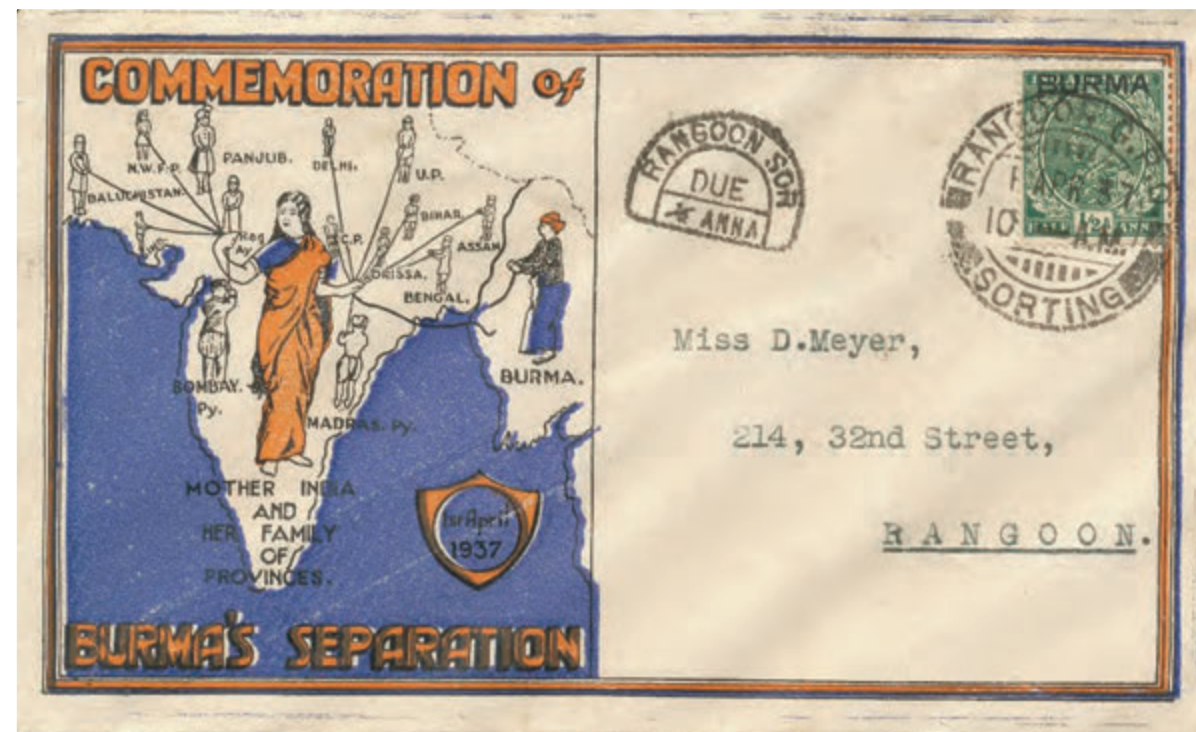
Afghanistan (8 May 1927). Mixed franking with native and British Indian stamps used for mail to Germany.



Bushire (26 May 1907). Indian stamp used abroad in the Persian Gulf region.



India (16 Apr 1937). Very early use of the "PUNJAB GOVERNOR'S CAMP PO" CDS, during the period of bitter negotiations with Gandhi and the Indian National Congress.



Burma (1 April 1937). Cover commemorating the administrative separation from British India.



Aden (5 Dec 1936). Indian stamps used without overprints, as the post office was under British Indian administration.



# Architect of Civil Disobedience [1905-1945]

Quit India Movement [1942] & Boycott of WWII Victory Celebration [1945]

With no relief in sight on legislation regarding home rule, Congress embarked on the “Quit India Movement” in 1942. One individual who made a last ditch effort to negotiate away a major boycott by Congress was Sir Stafford Cripps. As a member of Churchill’s war cabinet, he visited India to make Congress an offer that was summarily rejected. He did not have any room to negotiate and was said to have his “arms and legs tied” by Prime Minister Churchill, who did not want full independence for India in any form. The All India Congress Committee passed the “Quit India resolution” in August 1942.

A full draft titled “My Appeal to the British”, written by Gandhi, was forwarded in advance by Nehru for publication in America and dissemination to the West.



India (9 Aug 1983). Gandhi and Nehru stamps based on photograph taken at the meeting where the Quit India resolution was declared.



India (9 Aug 1992). 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Quit India Movement. Stamps depicting Gandhi’s writing during the Quit India movement, which roughly translates: “achieve it or die in the process of trying”. Simplified to “Do or Die”!



India (9 Aug 2017). 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Quit India Movement. Stamps depicting slogans, resolutions, newspaper headlines and historic images from the movement.



Scottish Local (1 Apr 1979). Progressive color proofs showing Gandhi and Cripps, with no annotation to that effect.

The only Indian Nationalists to celebrate victory in WWII with the British were Jinnah and the Muslim League, who broke ranks with Gandhi to support the British War effort.

Barely six weeks after the end of WWII, the process was underway for commemorative Victory philatelically. Unlike most British colonies that issued the omnibus design, the “Victory” stamps printed in India had their own unique design.



India (1945). Essays submitted for approval, signed by the Head Engraver and Officiating Master of the India Security Press.



Includes both the unadopted (top) and adopted (left) designs.

Unique at this stage of the design process, based on records available to the King George VI Philatelic Society.

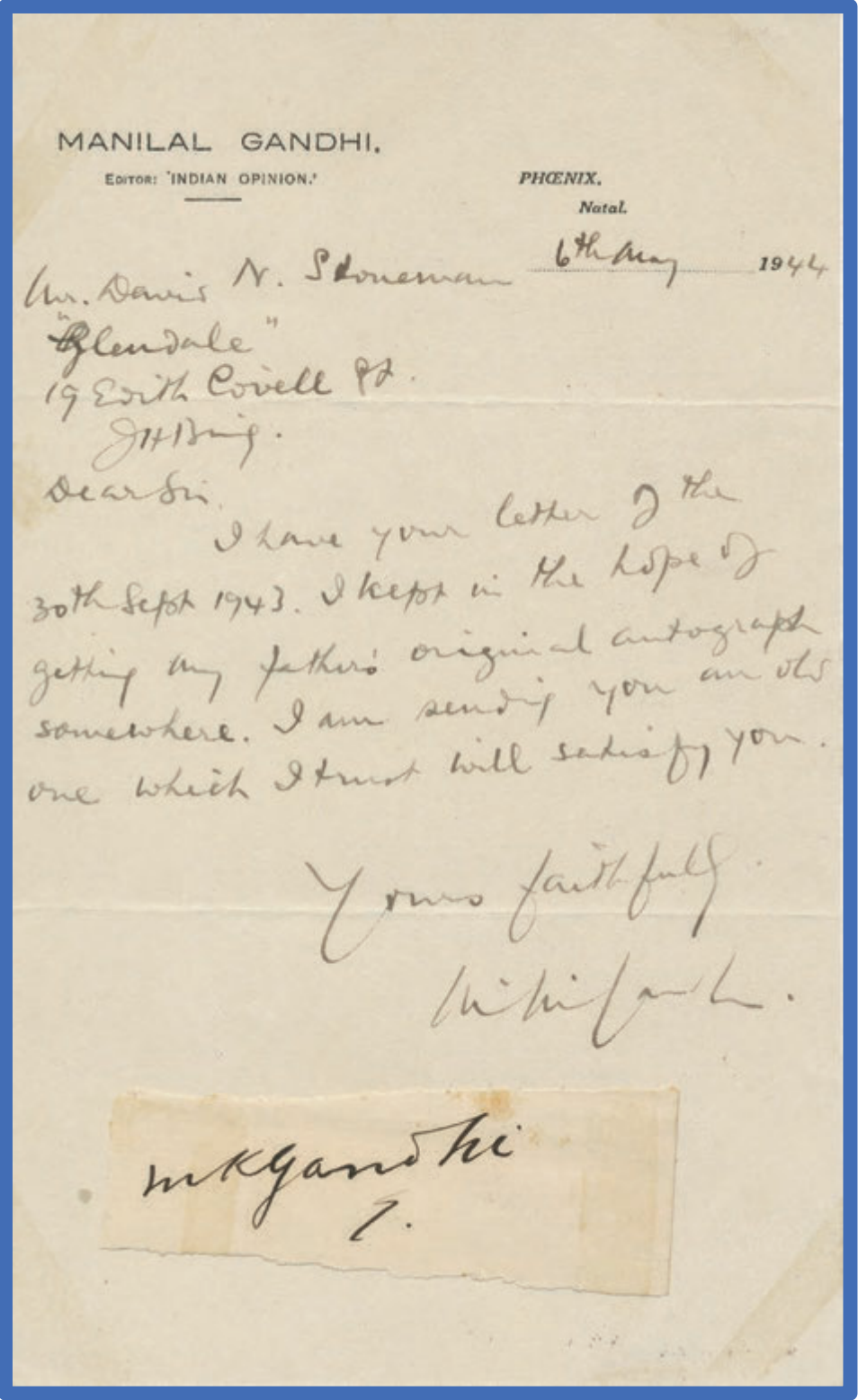


Social Experimenter [1904-1948]

Life in Ashrams [1904-1948]

Simply put, Ashram is the Hindi word that means “community”. Gandhi’s inspiration for a simple life, living off the land, came from reading John Ruskin, leading to Phoenix Ashram in South Africa.

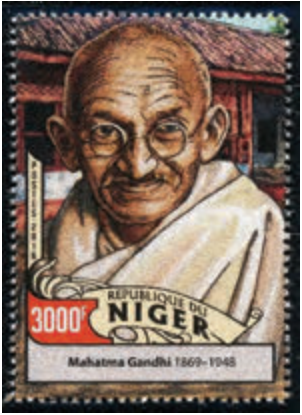
As soon as he came to India, he established *Sabarmati Ashram* at Ahmedabad, in his home state of Gujarat. One hut at *Sabarmati*, Hridaya Kunj, served as a guesthouse for visitors to the ashram. The *Kocharab Satyagraha Ashram* was another home for social activists in Gujarat. Volunteers who helped document the atrocities at Champaran in Bihar established and staffed the *Bhiteswra Ashram* in Motihari. Gandhi also started *Seva Gram* [“service Village”], as ashram in Central India near Wardha, where he spent his later years.



Phoenix Ashram, Natal (6 May 1944). Letter from Gandhi’s son Manilal, enclosing his father’s autograph.



Togo  
(15 Aug 2016)



Togo  
(15 Aug 2016)



Sao Tome  
(30 Mar 2016)



Nevis  
(8 Mar 1999)



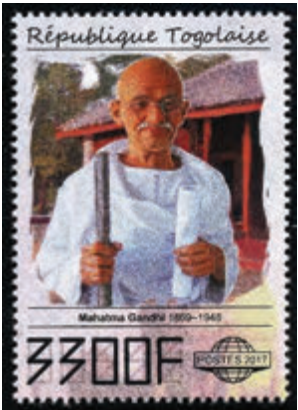
India (4 Apr 1978). Pictorial Cancel of Hridaya Kunj at Sabarmati Ashram.



Togo  
(10 Oct 2017)



Guinea- Bissau  
(23 May 2016)



Togo  
(10 Oct 2017)



India (30 Jan 1998). Pictorial cancel of Kocharab Ashram.



Bhutan  
(15 Aug 1998)



Togo  
(1 Aug 2016)



India (16 Nov 1994). Special Pictorial cancel of Bhiteswra Ashram in Motihari.

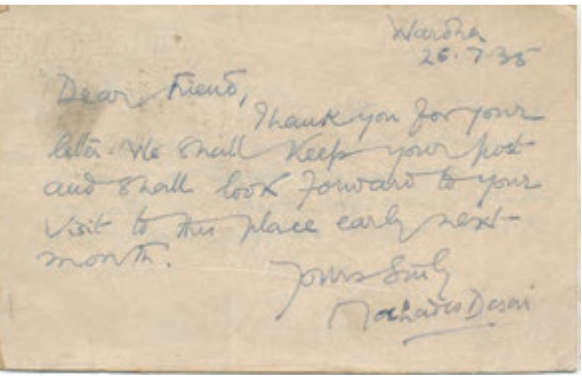
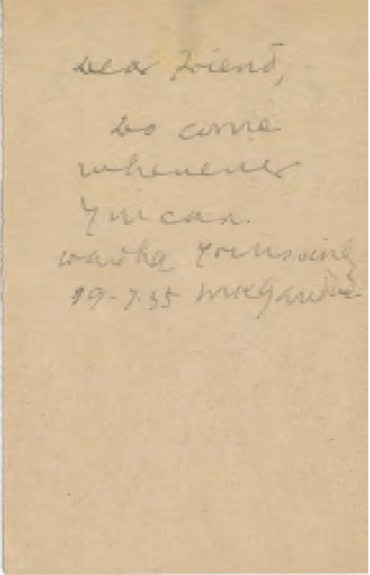
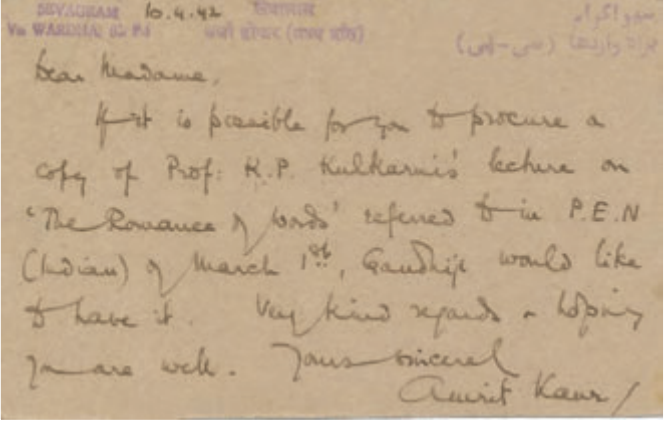
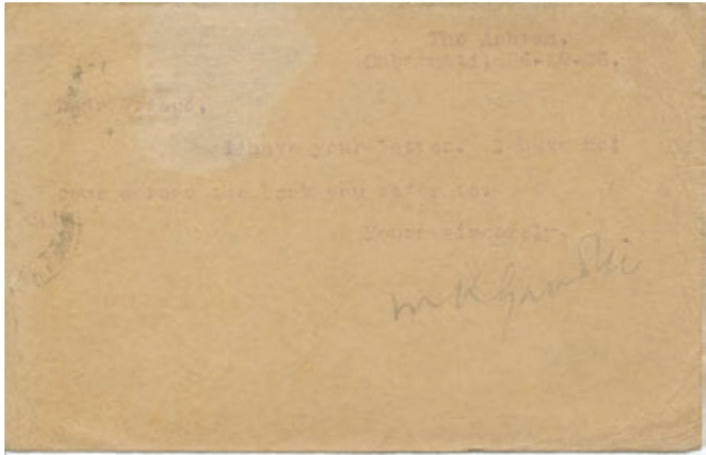
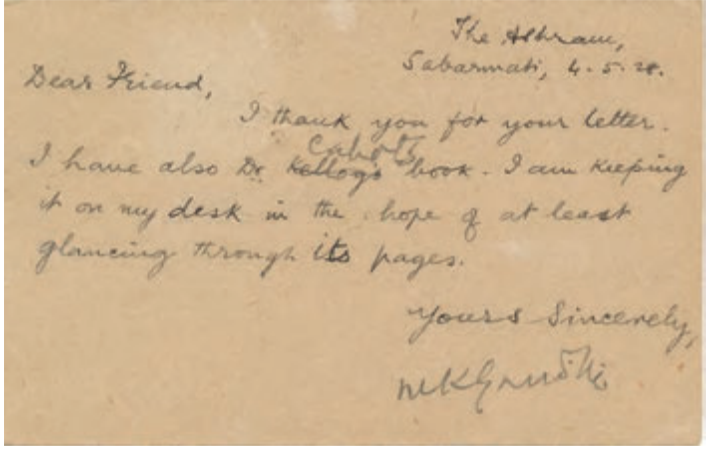
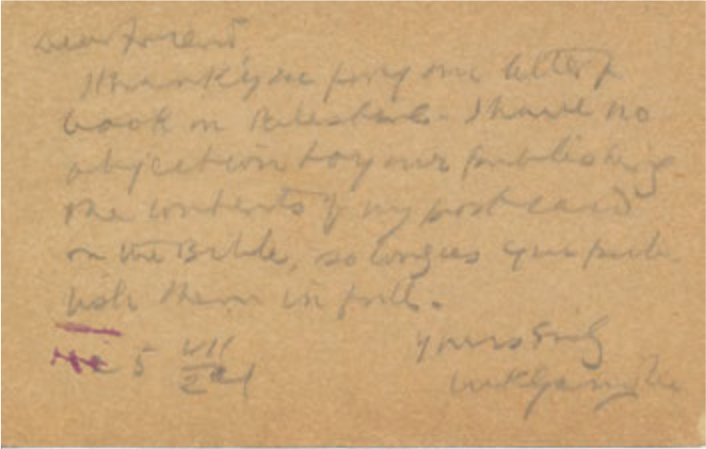
----- Gandhi in front of Hridaya Kunj hut at Sabarmati Ashram -----



# Social Experimenter [1904-1948]

## Life in Ashrams [1904-1948]

While not busy milking the goats or cleaning the toilets, Gandhi was busy writing letters from his Ashrams- almost always in a postcard (uprated for overseas). He was sometimes assisted in these efforts by Mahadev Desai or Rajkumari Amrit Kaur. He often penned his own letters (sometimes with a pencil) or hand signed letters written by one of them, inviting guests to the Ashram.



Sabarmati (25 Jul 1924)  
written and signed by Gandhi

Sabarmati (4 May 1928)  
written by Mahadev Desai  
signed by Gandhi

Sabarmati (26 Oct 1928)  
typed letter signed by Gandhi

Sevagram (10 Apr 1942)  
written and signed by Amrit Kaur

Sevagram (19 Jul 1935)  
written and signed by Gandhi

Sevagram (26 Jul 1935)  
written and signed by Mahadev Desai



# Social Experimenter [1904-1948]

## Fasting for Moral and Social Causes [1911-1948]

Gandhi has extensively written about fasting, insisting that it is a weapon to wield on ones you love- not to extort, but to reform. For example, he said he would never fast to change the minds of the likes of General Dyer and Hitler, who have no love in their hearts for him. Gandhi's fasts ranged from efforts to force decisions on the governments and common men. If one has any doubts about who pays attention to the fasts- here's an anecdote. In an entry in her diary dated Saturday, 27 February 1943 [while in hiding], Ann Frank wrote: "freedom loving Gandhi of India is holding his umpteenth fast". She'd heard it on the BBC!



Gambia (29 Oct 1998)  
Gandhi fasting to eliminate untouchability in 1932.



Guyana (29 Oct 1998)  
Fasting for communal harmony during Hindu Muslim riots following partition in Bengal in 1947.



Micronesia (13 Mar 2000).  
Gandhi fasting for peace in Calcutta in 1948.



Israel (19 Apr 1988). Artist's signed folder commemorating Ann Frank.

Over five months had passed since the partition the two nations were still embroiled in gruesome civil wars. In an effort to influence the frenzied masses, 79-year old Gandhi started fasting on 13<sup>th</sup> January. To publicize and capitalize on the fast, there were propaganda slogans used by the Delhi and Calcutta Post Offices.



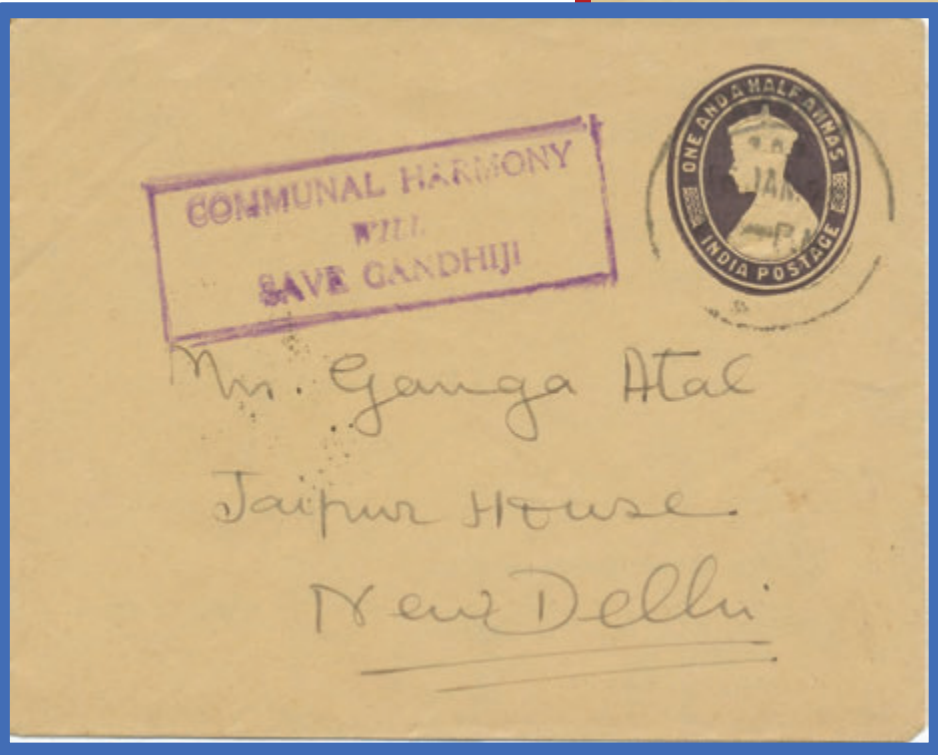
India (15 Jan 1948). Official mail from Calcutta to New Delhi, still carries British India's official franking "GRI". It carries the special slogan mark in English and Hindi.

The English slogan reads "COMMUNAL HARMONY WILL SAVE GANDHIJI".

The Hindi slogan more emphatically states that "IT IS ONLY THROUGH COMMUNAL UNITY THAT GANDHIJI CAN SURVIVE".



Pakistan (15 Jan 1948). Up rated postal stationery from Lahore mailed the day Gandhi started his last fast. Delivered the day before Gandhi ended his fast.



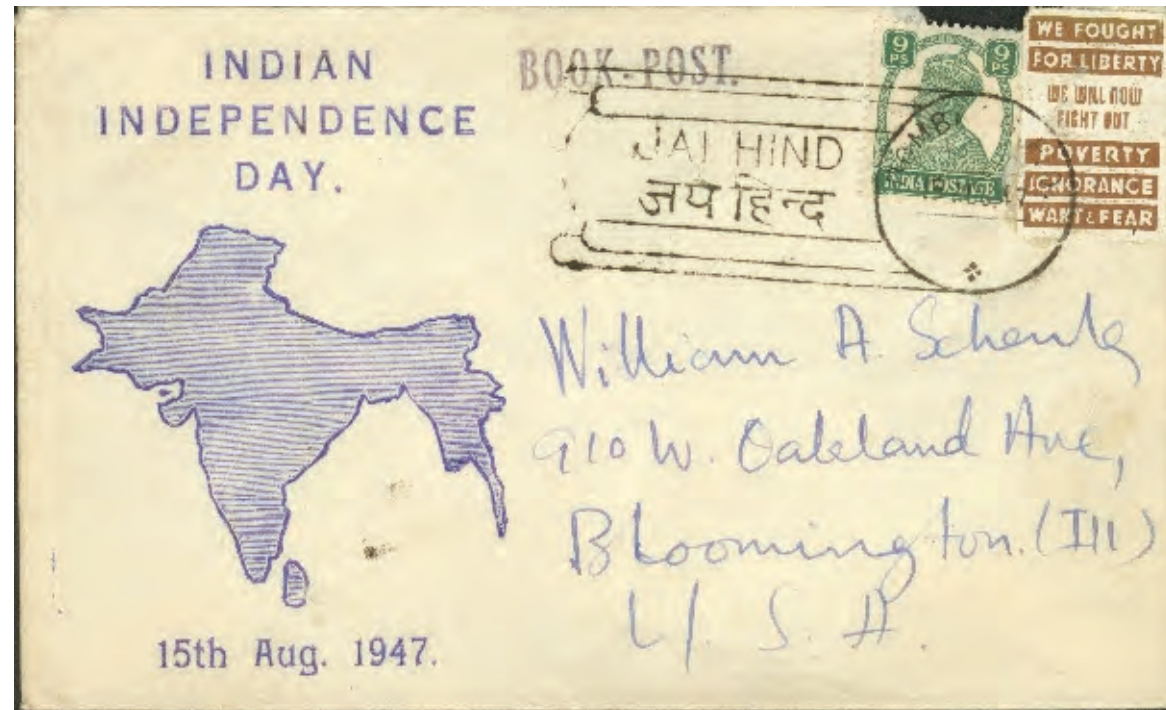
India (16 Jan 1948). Local letter from mailed the day after Gandhi started his last fast. Delivered the day Gandhi ended his fast. Slogan mark applied in New Delhi upon receipt before delivery.



# The Final Days [1947-1948]

## Partition and Independence [1947]

Independence was moved up several months and there was no time to prepare commemorative stamps. A commemorative cancel was used on 15<sup>th</sup> August in both India and Pakistan. The slogan cancel in India says “Jai Hind”, which in Hindi means “Victory to India”. The slogan cancel in Pakistan says “Pakistan Zindabad”, which in Urdu means “Long Live Pakistan”.



India (15 Aug 1947). Interesting Cinderella tied to a postage stamp in this letter mailed to the USA. The euphoria of independence is evident, with the cachet inaccurately showing India, Pakistan, Nepal, Ceylon and Burma all as one in the map! Burma and Ceylon were separate entities- achieved independence later.



Pakistan (15 Aug 1947). Slogan Cancel the day after the mid-night independence, in letter to India.

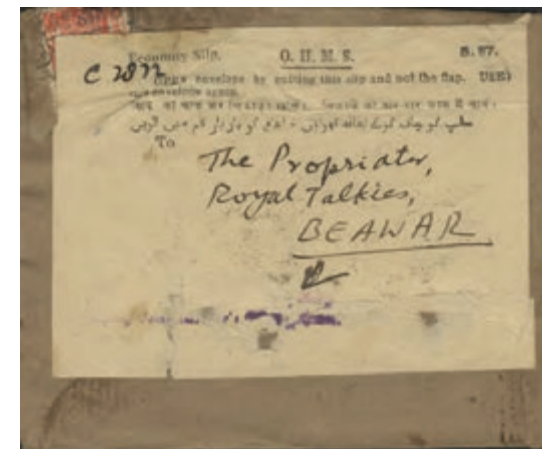


St. Vincent (13 Mar 2000). Gandhi and Nehru, supposedly celebrating India's Independence.

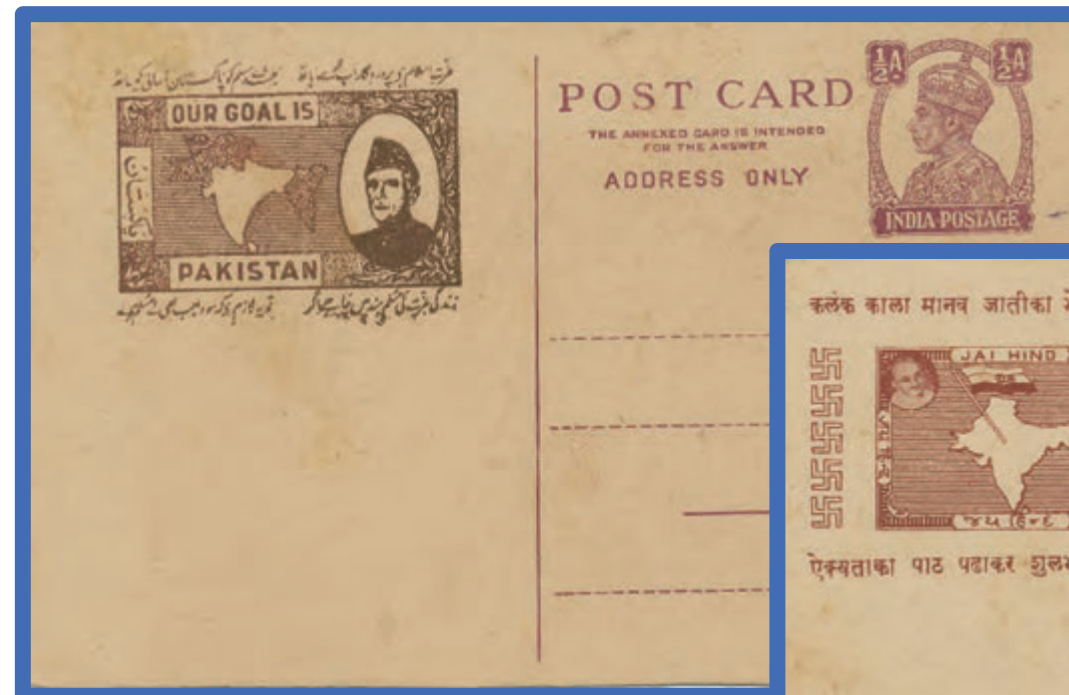
This stamp mentions that Gandhi was celebrating Independence with Nehru! He was not, as mentioned above. The picture is from the 1946 meeting of the Indian National Congress, popularized in several stamps shown earlier.

To Gandhi, the tragedy of partition overwhelmed any euphoria over independence. He was alone in his ashram, spinning and meditating on that day.

That there was reason to mourn was obvious. Millions were killed and tens of millions were displaced during this period. Refugees from Pakistan were in camps in India through the mid- 1950s.



India (17 Mar 1950). Official cover with special REFUGEE CAMP, LAKE BEALE boxed cancel. Instructions on back advise addressee to reuse cover.



India (1942). Two different private cachets on postal cards. One depicting undivided India with images of Gandhi, Nehru and Bose and JAI HIND. Another with image of Jinnah and slogan OUR GOAL IS PAKISTAN, showing Northeastern India including Burma and Northwestern India including all of Punjab and New Delhi as part of an envisioned Pakistan. The partition dream was realized, although not in its entirety.





# The Final Days [1947-1948]

## Partition and Independence [1947]

Upon Patel and Nehru's insistence that he should move back to Delhi to stay close to political leadership pushing for independence, Gandhi agreed to move into a slum called Bhangi Colony (for Dalit workers who were mostly sweepers- he referred to it as Harijan colony) in August 1946. The political leaders were not happy about him staying somewhere without electricity and running water. Industrialist Birla arranged to have electricity connected to a building in the middle of this colony and the Public Works Department in Delhi arranged for well water.

From this modest abode in the Dalit Colony, Gandhi met with international journalists, the Viceroy of India and foreign dignitaries. He later left New Delhi to travel through towns and villages in Bihar and Bengal to engage with the communities and quell communal violence that was erupting everywhere between Hindus and Muslims before partition.



India (27 Dec 1946). Registered letter from Ambala addressed to Mahatma Gandhi at the Bhangi Colony in New Delhi.

In the months leading up to the partition, Gandhi left Delhi and was traversing communal hot spots in Kashmir (Srinagar), Punjab (Lahore), Bihar (Patna) and Bengal (Calcutta). He was in Calcutta comforting refugees on Independence Day, engaging in fasting, spinning and prayer. After India's Independence, while most political leaders moved into official housing, Gandhi preferred to stay with the people.

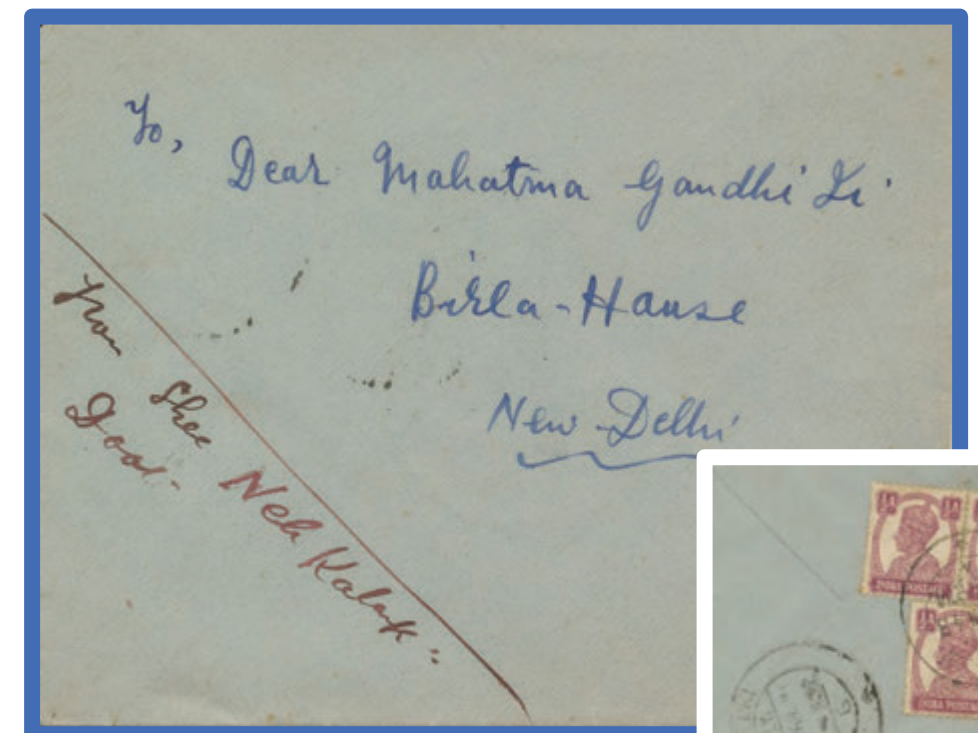
When he returned to Delhi from Bengal after Indian Independence, he found out that the residence in Bhangi Colony was now the home of refugees fleeing violence. Unwilling to displace the refugees, he agreed to move into Birla House, a guesthouse built by the industrialist and friend, on 9 Sep 1947. From Birla House, Gandhi had meetings with Sardar Vallabhai Patel, Jawaharlal Nehru, Sheik Abdullah and other national leaders.



India (15 Jan 1948). Letter from Roorkee to The Director General of Indian Post and Telegraphs in Delhi arrived on 18<sup>th</sup> Jan 1948, the day Gandhi ended his last fast at Birla House. The Delhi Post Office used a slogan mark to urge an end to communal violence that triggered the fast.



India (19 Jan 1948). Registered letter with Urdu script addressed to Mahatma Gandhi at Birla House in New Delhi.



India (18 Jan 1948). Letter addressed to Gandhi mailed in Delhi and delivered on 19 Jan 1948. at Birla House.





# The Final Days [1947-1948]

## The Assassin's Bullet [1948]

In late January 1948, Gandhi was pressing Nehru and Patel to normalize relations with Pakistan. While staying at the house of friend and industrialist G.D. Birla, he announced plans to travel to Pakistan soon. On 30<sup>th</sup> January, when it was time for daily prayers, Gandhi walked out to the garden with his grandnieces Manu and Abha at his side. A man in the crowd raised his arms in salutations and shot him thrice at point blank range. He was a Hindu fanatic upset with Gandhi's "concessions" to Muslims.



Guyana (29 Oct 1998). Stamp showing last meeting between Gandhi, Nehru and Patel, at Birla House on 29 Jan 1948, the day before he was killed.

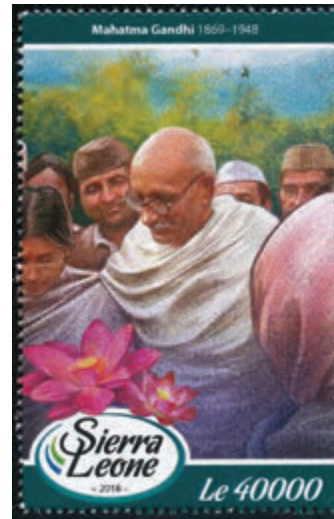


Chad  
(2 Oct 1997)



Mozambique  
(10 Jul 2016)

----- Gandhi with his grandnieces Manu and Abha, just before he was shot at Birla House -----



Sierra Leone  
(30 Jan 2018)



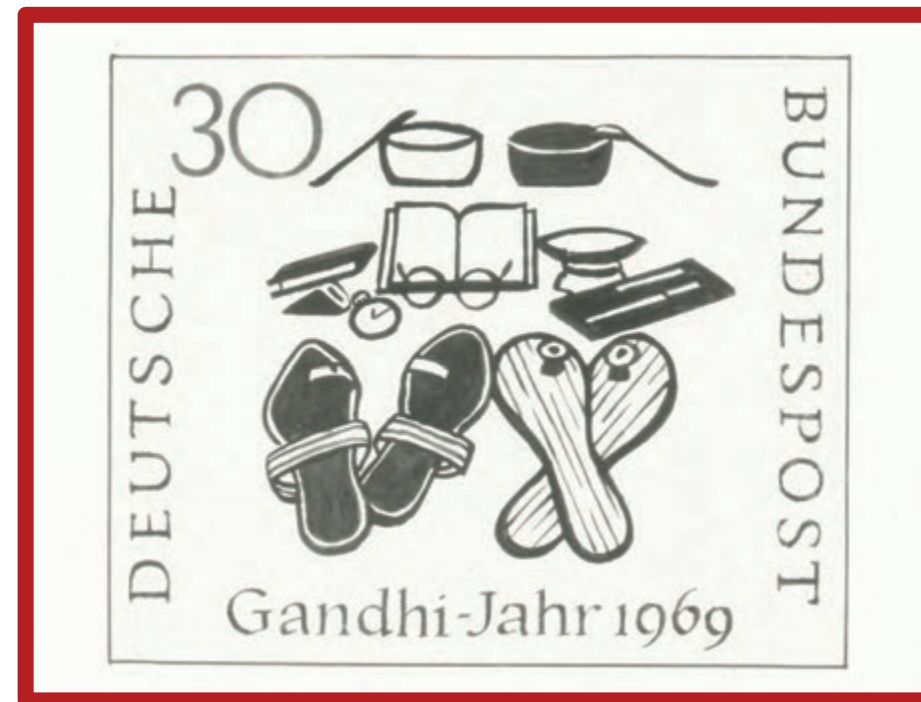
Central African Republic  
(25 Feb 2013)



Niger  
(24 Oct 2018)



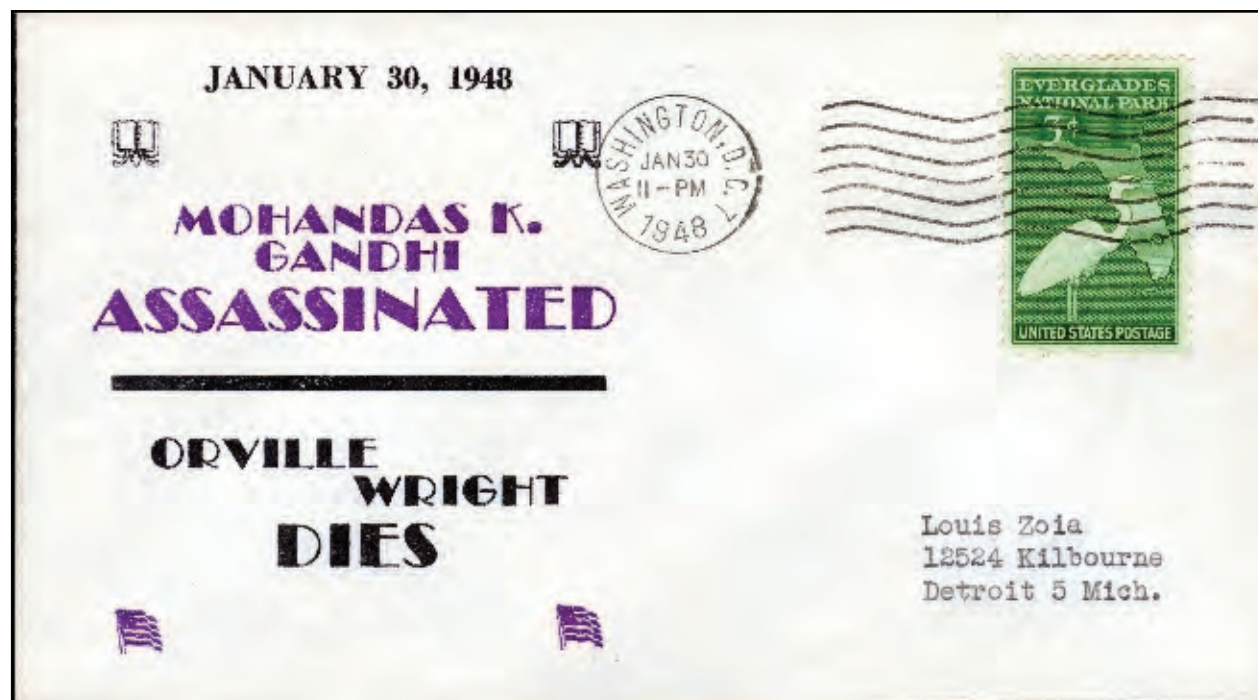
India (1996). Pictorial cancel showing Gandhi's last earthly possessions.



Germany (1969). Photographic essay of an unissued design showing Gandhi's final possessions. Only six copies exist (three on flexible and three rigid photo paper).



Mozambique (2018)  
Gandhi's "Three Monkeys"



USA (30 Jan 1948). Event cover mailed on the day of Gandhi's Assassination. The day is celebrated as Martyr's Day in India- remembering those "willing to die for a just cause, never to kill for any".

At the funeral, Edward R. Murrow, the CBS broadcaster, had memorable coverage of the funeral for the world to hear:

*"Mahatma Gandhi was not a commander of armies not a ruler of vast lands. He could boast no scientific achievement, no artistic gift. Yet men, governments and dignitaries from all over the world have joined hands to pay homage to this little brown man in a loincloth."*



USA  
(21 Jan 1994)



USA  
(4 Jun 1997)



USA  
(26 Jan 1971)

Edward R. Murrow, General Douglas MacArthur, and General George C. Marshall.

General MacArthur said:

*"...if civilization is to survive, all men cannot fail to adopt Gandhi's belief that the use of force to resolve conflict is not only wrong, but contains within itself the germ of our own self-destruction."*

General George C. Marshall said: *"Mahatma Gandhi has become the spokesperson for the conscience of mankind"*.



# The Morning After

## Memorialized in India [1948]

Gandhi was remembered with a memorial issue on the first anniversary of independence, high value examples of which are displayed in the title page.



Certified Mint Service overprints. **BPA #79519, 1976.** Higher value displayed in title page.



India (1948): Specimen overprinted copies found inside special leather folder and envelope from the printer, addressed to the Indian UPU Delegation in Berne. From the collection of Independent India's first Postmaster General, Krishna Prasad, Esq.  
High value displayed in title page.  
Only 10 sets in existence today.

India (15 Aug 1948). Official First Day Cover with all four values were quite uncommon, due to the cost of the 10 Rs. Stamp. Even more uncommon is the destination of this cover (Belgian Congo).



The *ACCURACY* of telegrams is not guaranteed; the Sender and Receiver must accept *ALL RISKS* arising from non-delivery, errors or delays. The receipt granted for the telegram should be enclosed with any reference regarding complaints or refund. In addresses consisting of a name prefixed to a Registered or Abbreviated address, or when a telegram is addressed to one person at the house of another whose name is also given, the words "Care of" or the symbol "C/o" should be inserted after the name of the Addressee. There is always risk of a telegram not being delivered if a full and definite address is not given, in the first instance.

FOR PRITCHETT & COLE AND R.P.E. CO. LTD.

NOT TO BE TELEGRAPHED { Signature and Address of Sender } REPRESENTATIVE

9, Forbes Street, Fort, Bombay

ML. 28-10-48.

India (28 Oct 1948). The high value had no postal use and could be substituted for the high value definitives for fiscal use- like this express telegram from Bombay to Karachi, Pakistan.



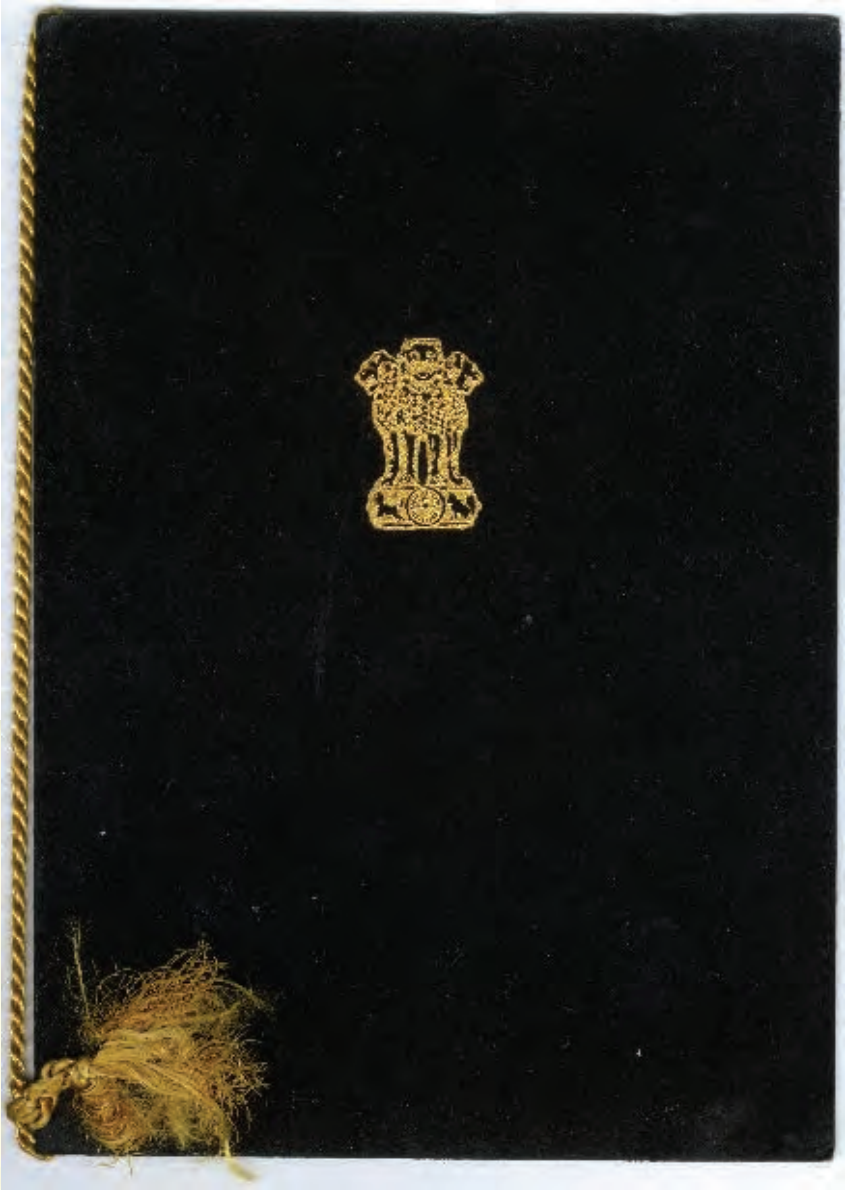
Multiple Service stamps used by the Governor General's Office- 15 May 1949 and 19 May 1949. (latter initialed by Jal Cooper)



Folder that the "specimen" overprinted stamps were mounted in.

This folder was inside an envelope from the Swiss Printer to the Director General of Post, Indian Legation in Berne [printer's address on back flap]

L'ADMINISTRATEUR  
DE  
COURVOISIER S.A.  
Parc 150  
LA CHAUX-DE-FONDS  
(SUISSE)



Monsieur le Directeur Général  
des Postes,  
Légation des Indes,

BERNE.



# The Morning After

Memorialized in India [1948]

Examples of legitimate postal use of multiples of the Gandhi memorial stamps, in registered mail to overseas destinations the weeks and months following its release.



India (19 Aug 1948). 16 As postage paid for registered mail from Calcutta to England.



India (19 Aug 1948). 40 As postage paid for registered mail from Bombay to Chicago.



India (26 Aug 1948). 18 As postage paid for registered mail from Bombay to Switzerland.



India (30 Sep 1948). 18 As postage paid for registered mail from Madras to the USA.



## Death Anniversary- Martyr's Day [30<sup>th</sup> January]

30<sup>th</sup> January 49

To,

Haji Aga

287 Mahatma Gandhi Road

Camp Poona

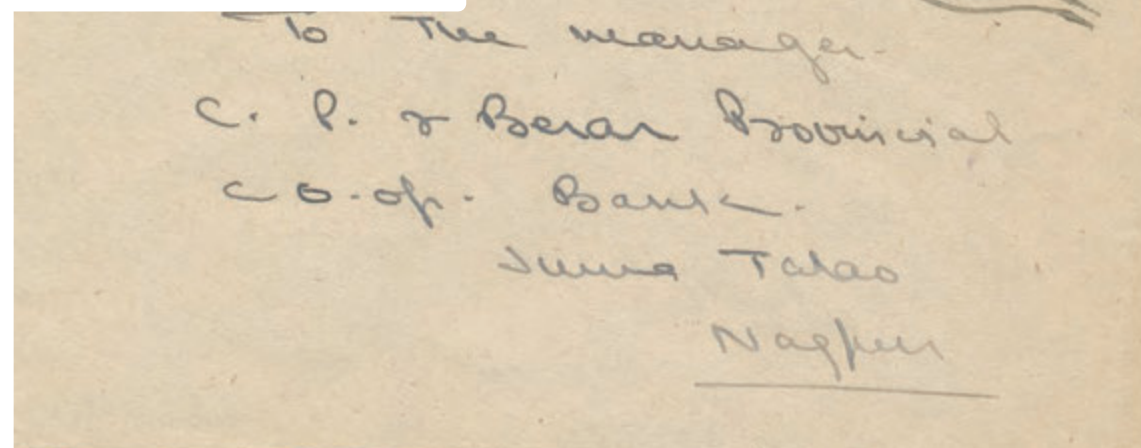
From ..

Haji Aga

287 Mahatma Gandhi Road

Camp Poona.

सबको सन्मति दे भववान



सबको सन्मति दे भगवान

Yash Cooper Esq.,

on Postal Service

सबको सन्मति दे भगवान

manager

Provincial

Bombay

CALCUTTA

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION

RAGPUR  
30-1-42  
AIR

1A  
INDIA POSTAGE

1A  
INDIA POSTAGE

FIRST FLIGHT

Shri Krishna Prasad,  
सबको सन्मति दे भगवान C. E. Des. Jh.  
Director General Post & Tel  
in India  
10 P. M. G.  
Lucknow  
New Delhi

INLAND NIGHT AIR MAIL

INAUGURATION  
JANUARY 30, 1942

To,

सबको सन्मति दे भगवान

The Manager,

ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY OF INDIA?

BOMBAY.

INDIA POSTAGE

गांधी

BOMBAY



# India After Gandhi

Carrying the Torch- at least in the name..

From one Gandhi to another. A twist of political fate, due to a power vacuum after Nehru's death, led to Indira Gandhi (no relative of the Mahatma) taking the reins in the 1960s.

There is no question that Indira Gandhi was able to capitalize politically on the last name she adopted from her estranged husband, who was not related to Mahatma Gandhi. Whether she had any claim to the legacy of Mahatma Gandhi is open to question. For a 21-month period from 1975 to 1977, she headed the most authoritative administration on record in independent India. The advanced militarization of India is also attributed to her leadership and priorities.



Vietnam (1987). Original artist's watercolor essays (unadopted designs) commemorating the Republic of India (1950). This illustrates the relative relevance of these three leaders from India. The handwritten notes form the Director of Vietnam Post asks the artist to include the image of Mrs. Gandhi in the first design and submit it for reconsideration. Only copy known.



Vietnam (1987). Original large artist's watercolor essay (unadopted design) commemorating the Republic of India (1950). This is the rework of the first design in the set of small essays. The emblem of India was replaced with image of Indira Gandhi. This set of stamps was not issued finally. Only copy known.



Sao Tome (30 Mar 2011)  
Indira Gandhi as a child on Gandhi's bedside, based on a historic 1924 photograph.



Turkmenistan (12 Nov 1997)  
Mahatma Gandhi and Indira Gandhi.



Guinea (22 Jun 2015)  
Mahatma Gandhi and Indira Gandhi.



India After Gandhi

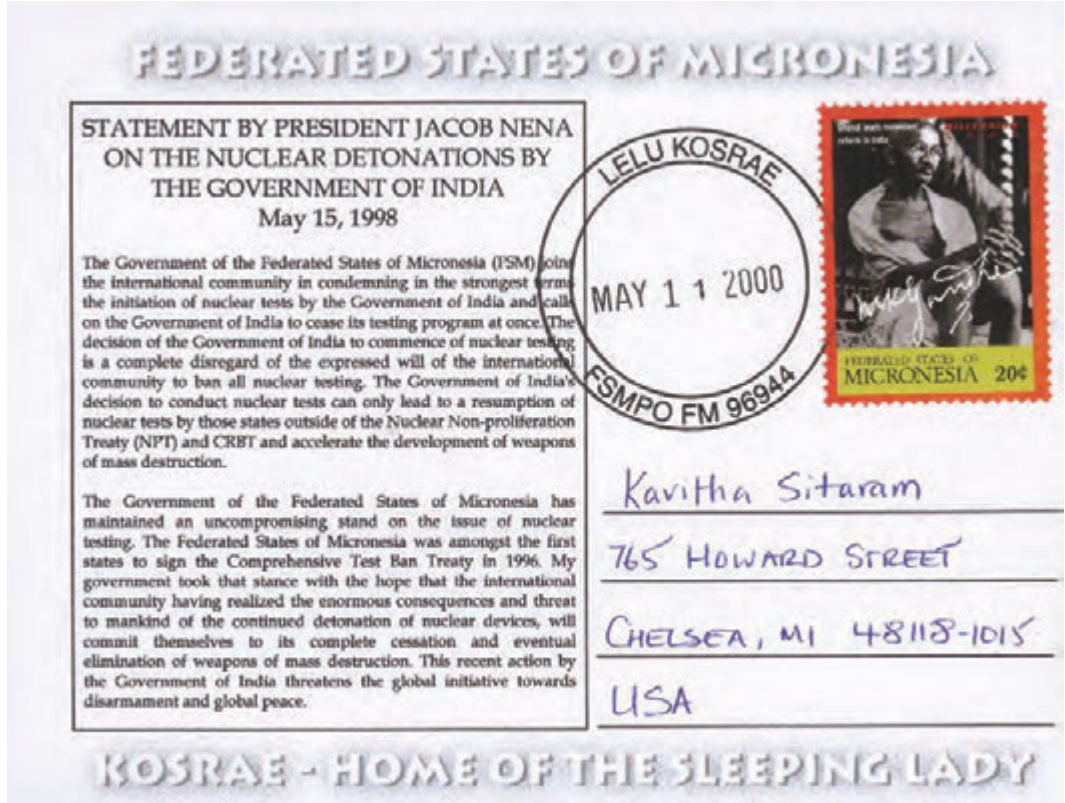
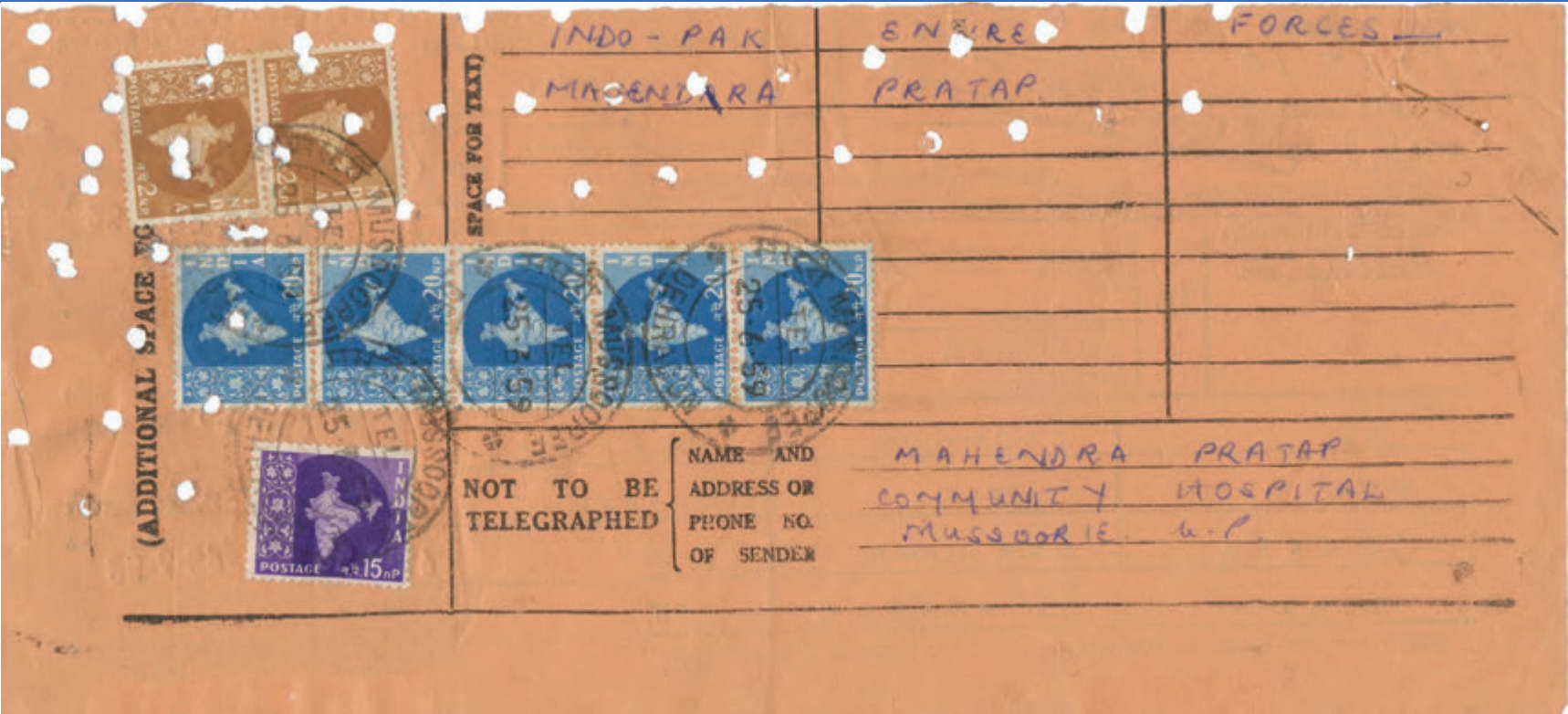
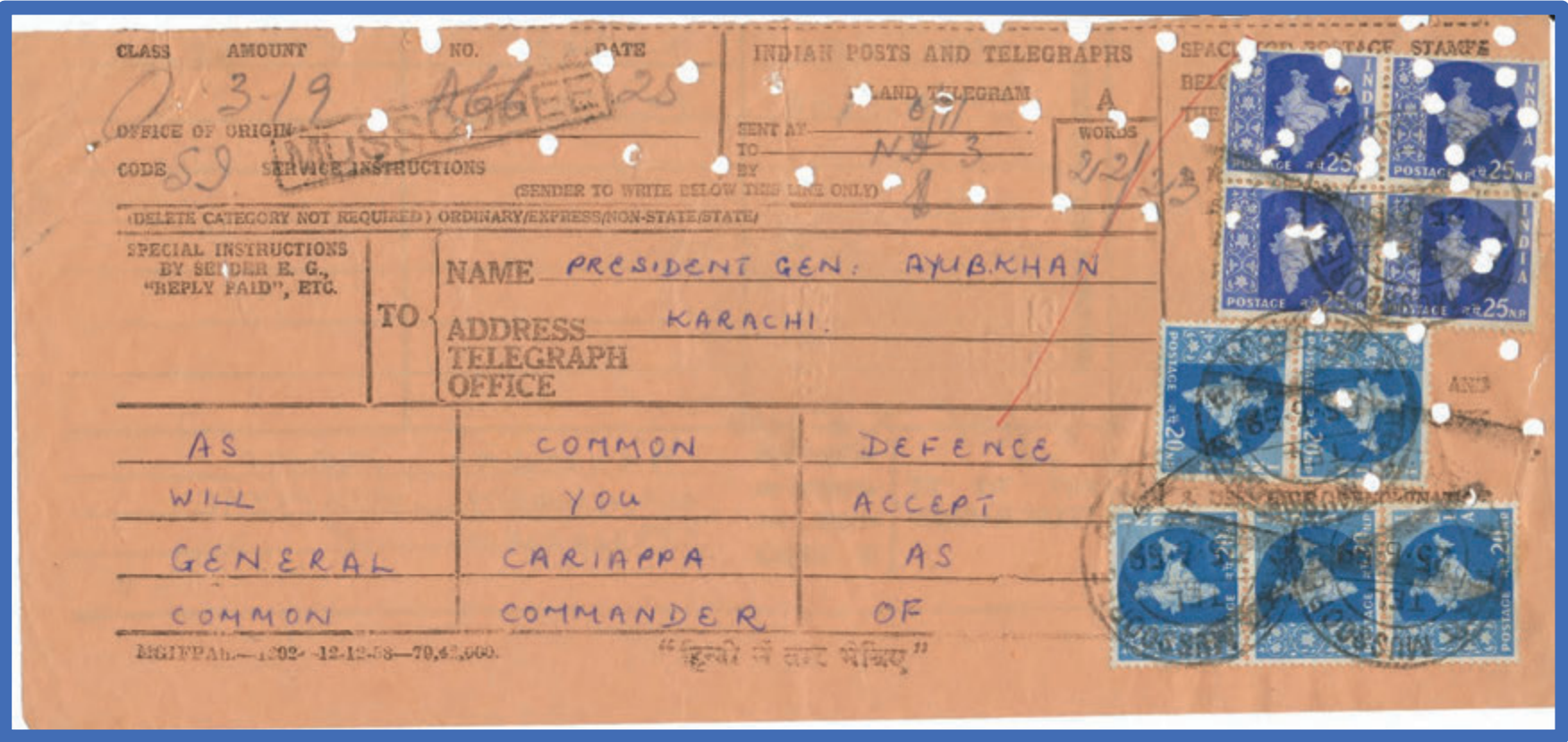
Free India Stands for World Peace... does it, really?

After partition was realized, Gandhi had encouraged India and Pakistan to have a shared defense force, if they felt one was necessary. India’s nuclear program was established immediately after the death of Gandhi (in April 1948), under a directive from Nehru. In 1998, India officially joined the nuclear club with an arsenal of atomic bombs.



India (15 Dec 1948): Special slogan cancel, announcing that FREE INDIA STANDS FOR WORLD PEACE.

India (25 Jun 1959). A fascinating telegram from one of Gandhi’s associates in his final days from his hospital bed, pushing for Gandhi’s dream of constructive engagement. Written from Mussoorie and addressed to General Ayub Khan, President and military ruler of Pakistan, urging him to create the INDO-PAK force under a joint command. He had suggested General K.M. Cariappa, first Indian Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army. He was the first Indian military officer to attend the Staff College, Quetta (now Pakistan), the first Indian to command a battalion, and was also one of the first two Indians selected to undergo training at the Imperial Defense College, Camberley, UK. This remained a pipe dream and the two nuclear powers have been at war many times since: 1965, 1971 and 1999.



Micronesia (2000). Text of the first speech at the UN condemning India’s nuclear detonations printed on this postcard. Mailed from Kosrae Island with a stamp of Gandhi to the USA. Post card rate is was the same as for domestic use in the USA (20c). Micronesia and the Marshall Islands continue to face the legacy of US nuclear weapons testing in the Pacific.



# India After Gandhi

## A Good Neighbor? Ceylon, Nepal, and Tibet

Ceylon has been affected by the ethnic conflicts between Tamils and the Singhalese majority and India has not been able to help resolve this non-violently. India's relationship with the Himalayan Hindu Kingdom of Nepal has been less than cordial.



Ceylon (1949). Mail from the Tamil region of Ceylon to Tamils in Malaysia, with the slogan “Jai Hind” and image of Gandhi and Nehru with “Leaders of New India” slogan, all in the Tamil script.



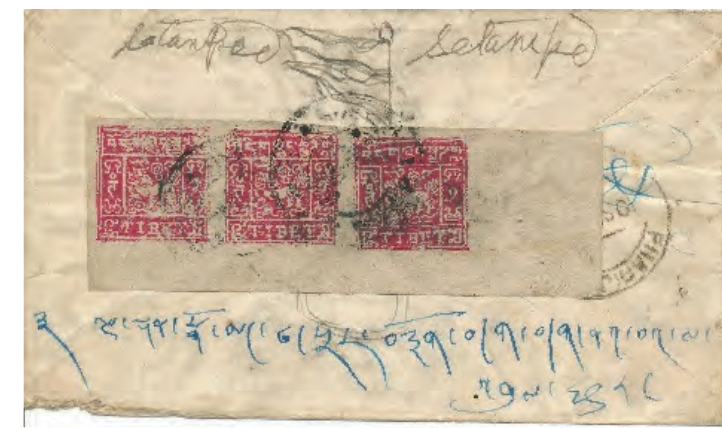
Nepal (1949). Usage of Indian Gandhi stamps at the Indian Embassy in Kathmandu, where an Indian post office operated until 1951 (Registered British Legation label with Indian Embassy overstrike).

India continued to operate post offices at four locations in Tibet at least until 1953: Pharijong, Yatung, Kalimpong and Gyantse (Indian Gandhi stamps used in all locations shown below). India was unable to come to the help of Tibet when it was over-run by China in 1950. India's relationship with Nepal is thus tempered by geopolitical considerations of conflict of interest with China.

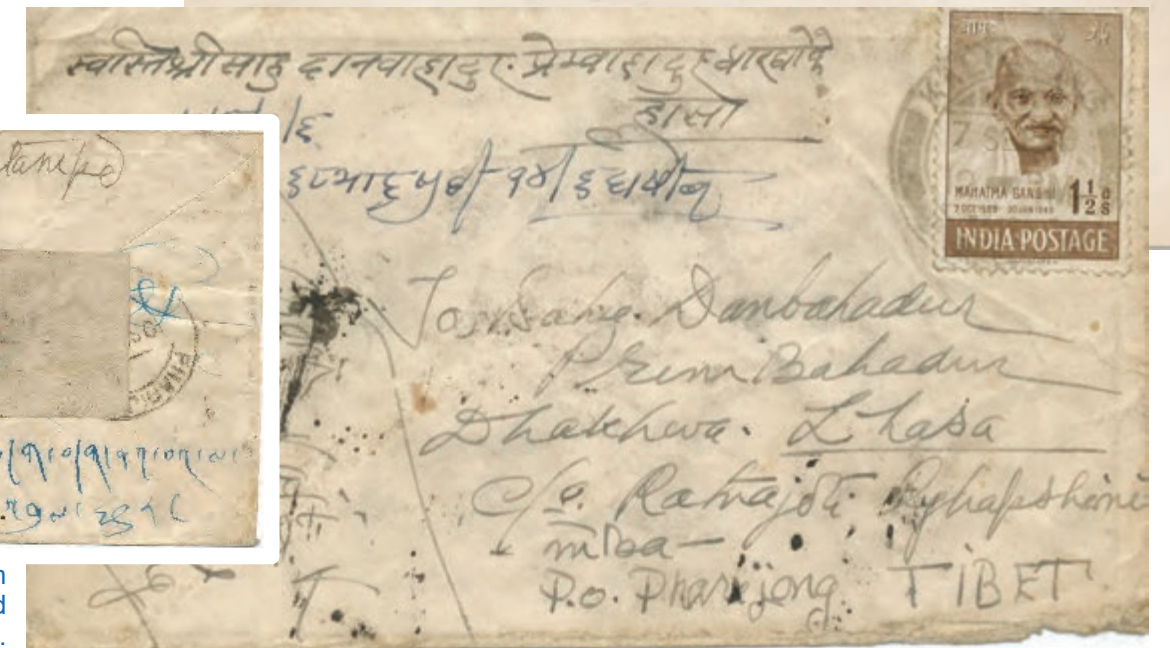


Tibet (8 Apr 1949). Yatung via Siliguri.

Tibet (12 May 1949). Registered mail to USA (printed matter rate) with Indian stamps from Pharijong.



Tibet (7 Sep 1950). Local mail from Kalimpong to Lhasa via Pharijong with mixed franking of Indian and Tibetan stamps.



Tibet (8 Apr 1953). Registered mail to USA with mixed franking of Indian and Tibetan stamps from Gyantse.

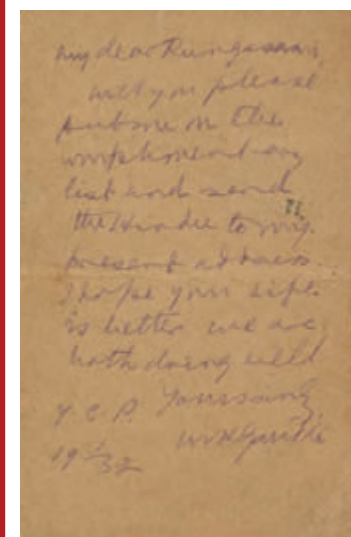
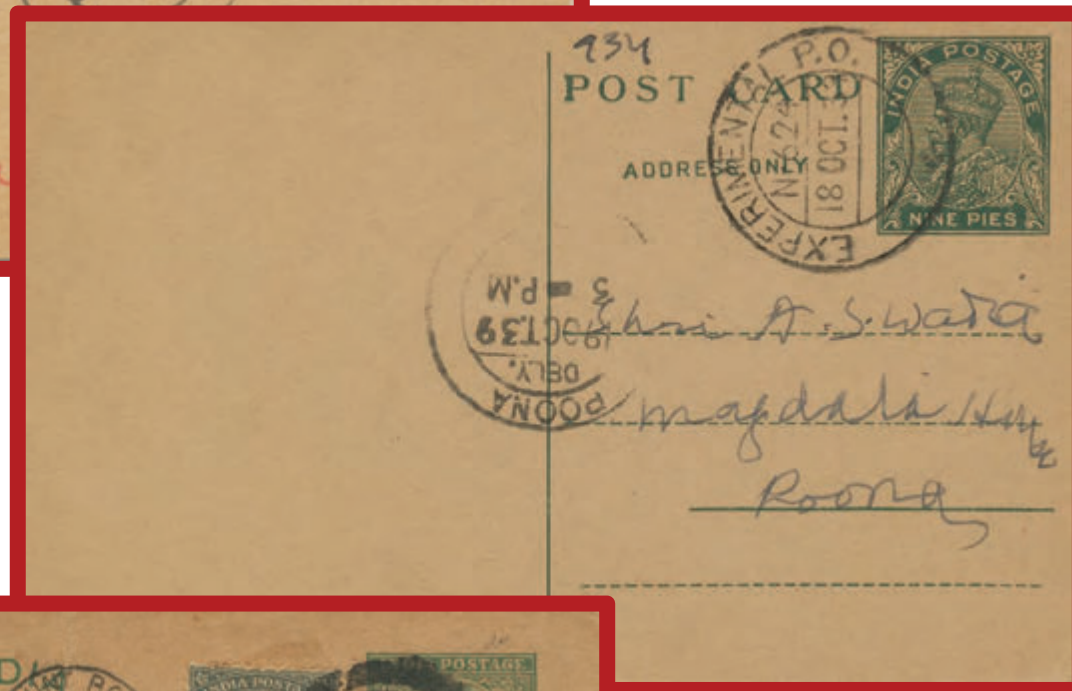
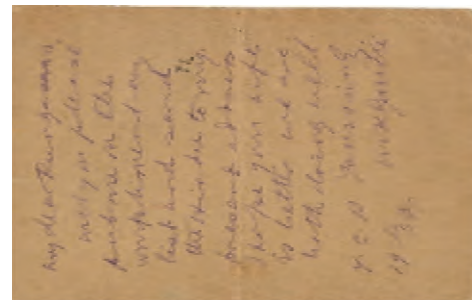
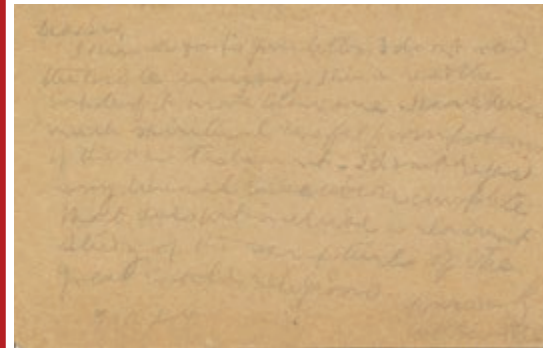




# Lasting Impressions

## Simplicity in Postcards and in Greetings with Folded Hands

Perhaps nothing is more illustrative than Gandhi's practice of writing letters in a postcard (often with a pencil), whether it is from an Ashram or a Prison cell.



Three postcards written by Gandhi from Sabarmati Ashram (9 Jul 1924), Sevagram Ashram (18 Oct 1939) in Wardha, and Yeravda Central Prison (21 Jan 1932). Signed and addressed in Gandhi's own hand.

Prince Charles lamented that if the British took one thing back from India, it should have been the “Namaste”. Greeting others without touching would save us from the spread of infections if nothing else. No world leader’s image is as strongly associated with this way of greeting than Gandhi, irrespective of where in the world he was traveling. Needless to say, there are many stamps depicting this posture.



Armenia  
(23 May 2019)



Serbia  
(28 Feb 2019)



Hungary  
(21 Feb 2019)



Malta  
(2 Oct 2019)



Czech Republic (16 Jul 2019). Registered letter with airmail postage rate to the USA, showing Gandhi stamp with image of greetings with folded hands (“Namaste”).



Maldives (8 Sep 2016)



Fiji (20 Dec 2018)



Chad (20 Sep 2017)



# Lasting Impressions

## The Modest Attire and the Spinning Wheel

Why did someone who took pride in sporting fancy western clothing when he was younger adopt this modest native attire? Gandhi first saw men scantily dressed in a “loincloth” during his visit to Madras. When he chastised them for being dressed indecently, the villagers replied that this was all they could afford to wear. The incident made a strong impression on him. Since he believed that a true leader should “live and feel” like his people, he adopted this attire. But many Indian and Western stamps that depicted Gandhi have not! While stamps from Africa have.



Antigua  
(18 Nov 1998)



Madagascar  
(10 Aug 1998)



Turkmenistan  
(20 Jan 1999)



Panama  
(17 Dec 1971)



Yemen  
(27 Sep 1969)



Somalia  
(2 Oct 1969)



Chad  
(2 Oct 1997)



Central African Republic  
(27 Dec 2011)



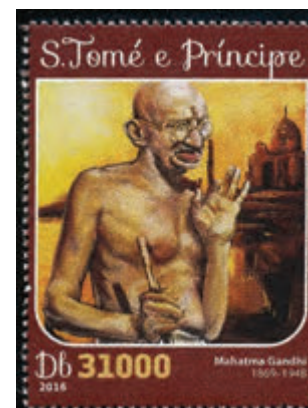
Guinea Bissau  
(10 Apr 2012)



Guinea  
(30 Apr 2013)



Central African Republic  
(15 Dec 2014)



Sao Tome  
(30 Mar 2016)

Gandhi was using the spinning wheel as a tool to organize and energize the boycott of machine made yarn from England. He also believed that handloom would lead to social upliftment in a predominantly rural economy.



Comoro Islands  
(18 Nov 1991)



Panama  
(17 Dec 1997)



Dominica  
(1 Sep 1998)



Grenada  
(13 Sep 1998)



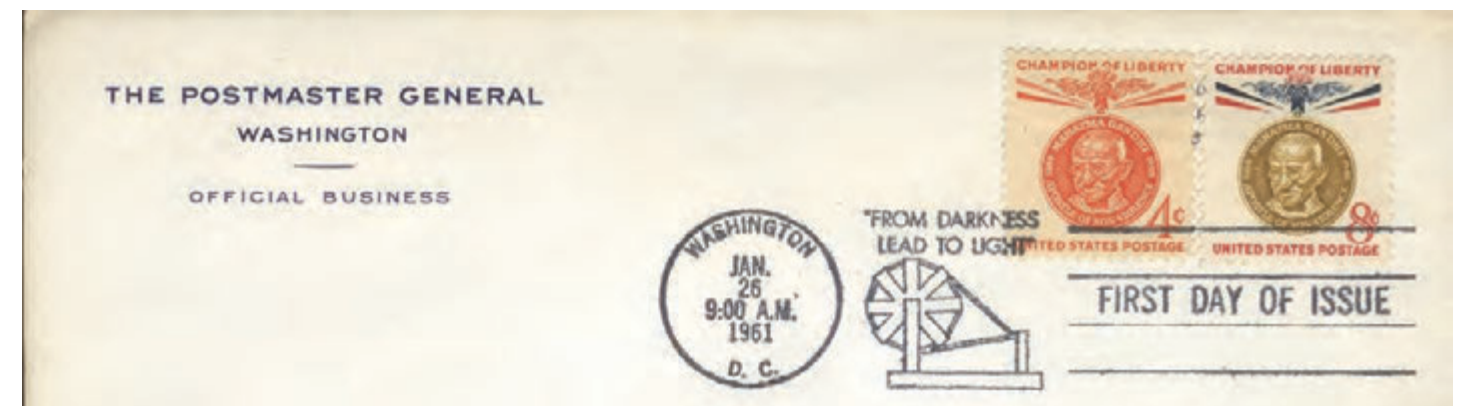
India  
(30 Jan 1998)



Brazil  
(2 Oct 1969)



Venezuela  
(2 Oct 1971)



USA (1961). Pictorial first day cancel of the Spinning Wheel on Postmaster General's Corner Card.



Guyana  
(1 Oct 1969)



India  
(10 Dec 1963)



India  
(2 Oct 1969)

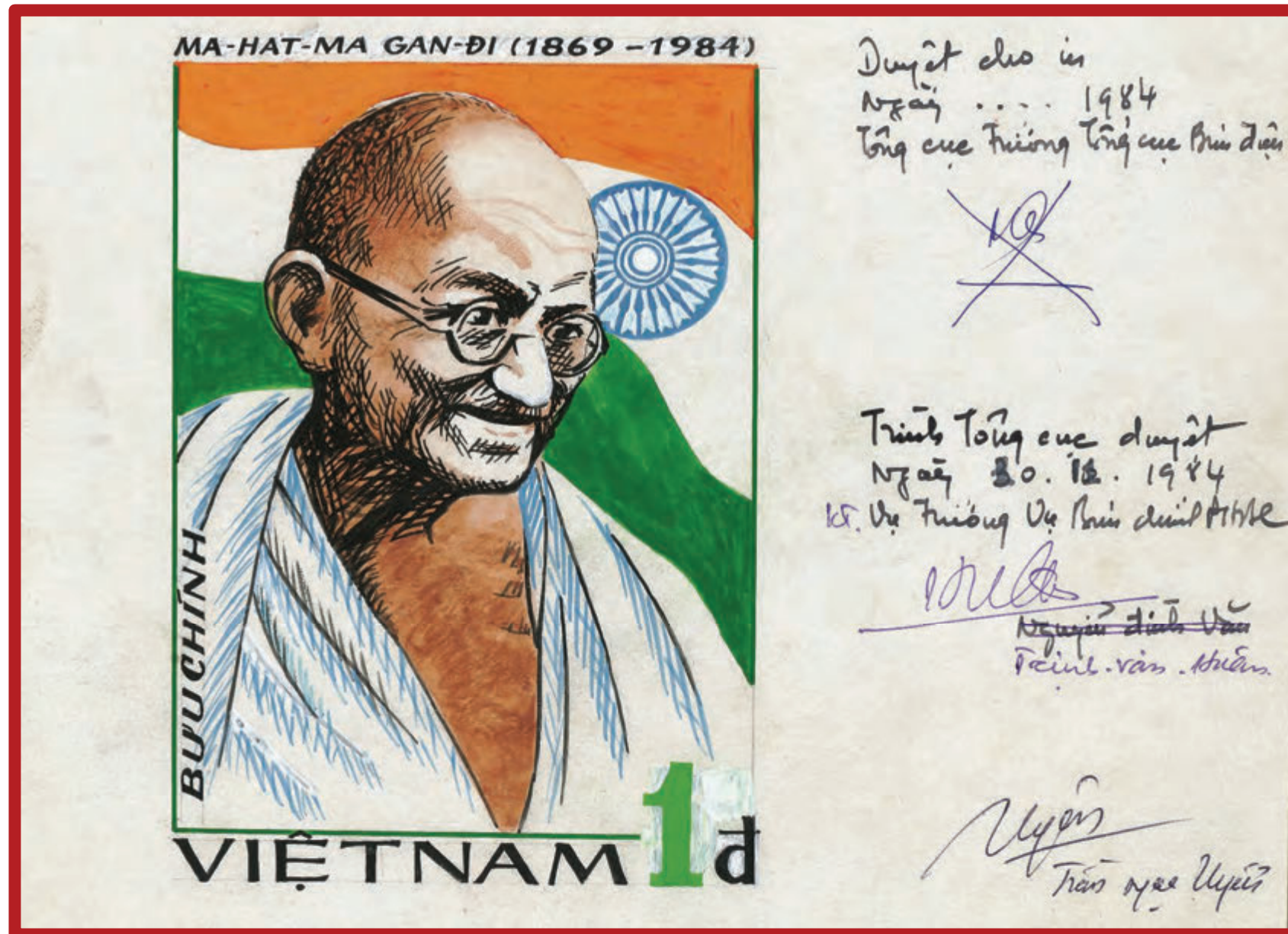


# Lasting Impressions

## The Tricolor Flag, Vegetarianism, and Animal Rights

The image of Gandhi with the tri-color is splashed so often that many give him credit with designing the flag! It was designed by Pingali Venkaiah, a geophysicist from southern India who served in the Boer War with Gandhi when he was 19. The original two color flag, which was introduced to Gandhi in 1921, had saffron for Hindus and green for Muslims. Gandhi suggested that white be added to represent all minorities.

While traditional Indian culture has a preponderance of nature worship and reverence to life, much of India's wildlife was decimated under the Princely states, in their attempt to impress Europeans with their "hunts". Gandhi practiced vegetarianism and encouraged reverence to all forms of life. Hindu communities in India have taken a militant approach to implementing this- particularly in establishing "cow protection homes" in defiance of many Muslim communities.



Vietnam (1984). Unique original artist's watercolor essay (unadopted) of Gandhi portrait. Note the dates on top (1969-1984). The original artist's design notes were dated October 30, 1984, the day Indira Gandhi was killed! Only copy known.



UK (22 Aug 1969). Uncommon use of commemoratives (two in the back) to pay for telegraph charges at St. Aubin (Jersey, Channel Islands).



Cuba  
(15 Aug 1997)



India: Pre-independence fund-raising labels for GANDHI GO-SHALAS for cow-protection.



Printer's proof sheets of embossed monograms for several princely states. Most symbols contain game or trophy animals. In the bottom left of both sheets is a quote from Gandhi- IN THE MIDST OF DARKNESS, LIGHT PERSISTS, VIJAYANAGARAM RAJ- BANARAS.

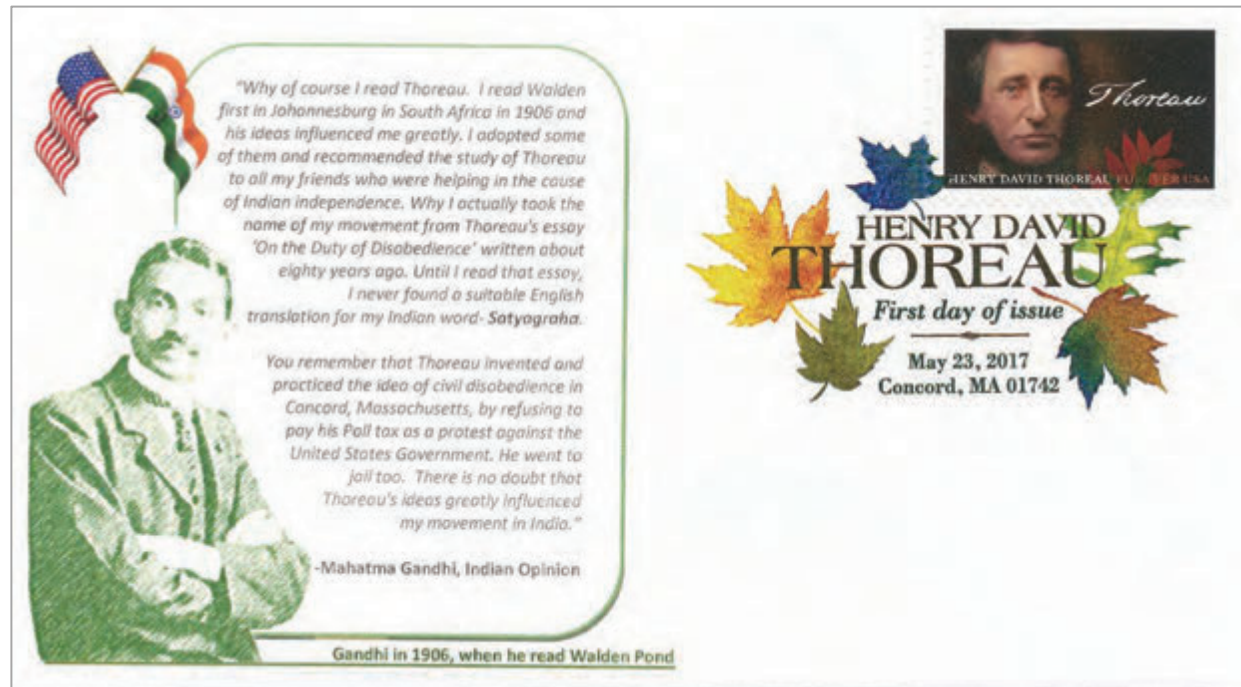




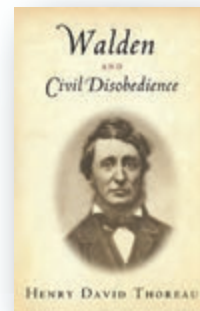
# No Man is an Island

## Those Who Shaped His Thoughts

Gandhi's legal assistant Polak speaks of giving him a copy of Thoreau's writings to read. While Gandhi advanced the passive resistance in South Africa long before he read Thoreau. Searching for a more dynamic expression, he coined the word Satyagraha. When he read Thoreau's Essays on Civil Disobedience, he concluded that it was the best name to communicate with a western audience.



USA (23 May 2017). First Day Cover illustrating the Thoreau-Gandhi connection.

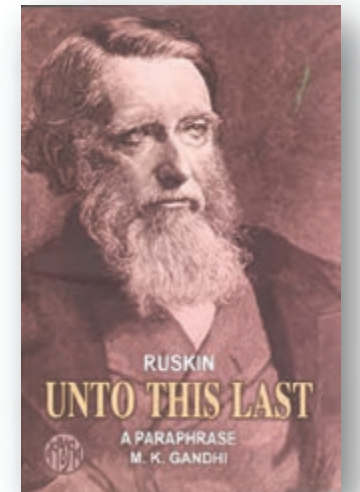


USA  
(27 Jul 1967)

- Gandhi Summarized John Ruskin's influence through his book Unto This Last, as:
- That the good of the individual is contained in the good of all.
  - That a lawyer's work has the same value as the barber's, inasmuch as all have the same right of earning their livelihood from their work.
  - That a life of labor, i.e., the life of the tiller of the soil and the handicraftsman, is the life worth living.



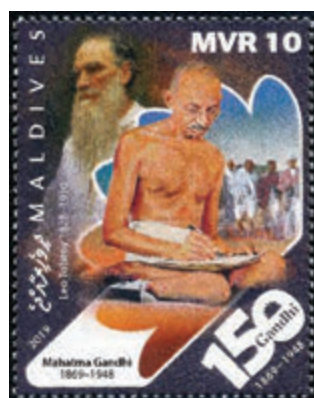
UK (1 Jul 1873). Entire signed letter and address panel on cover written by John Ruskin, who inspired Gandhi.



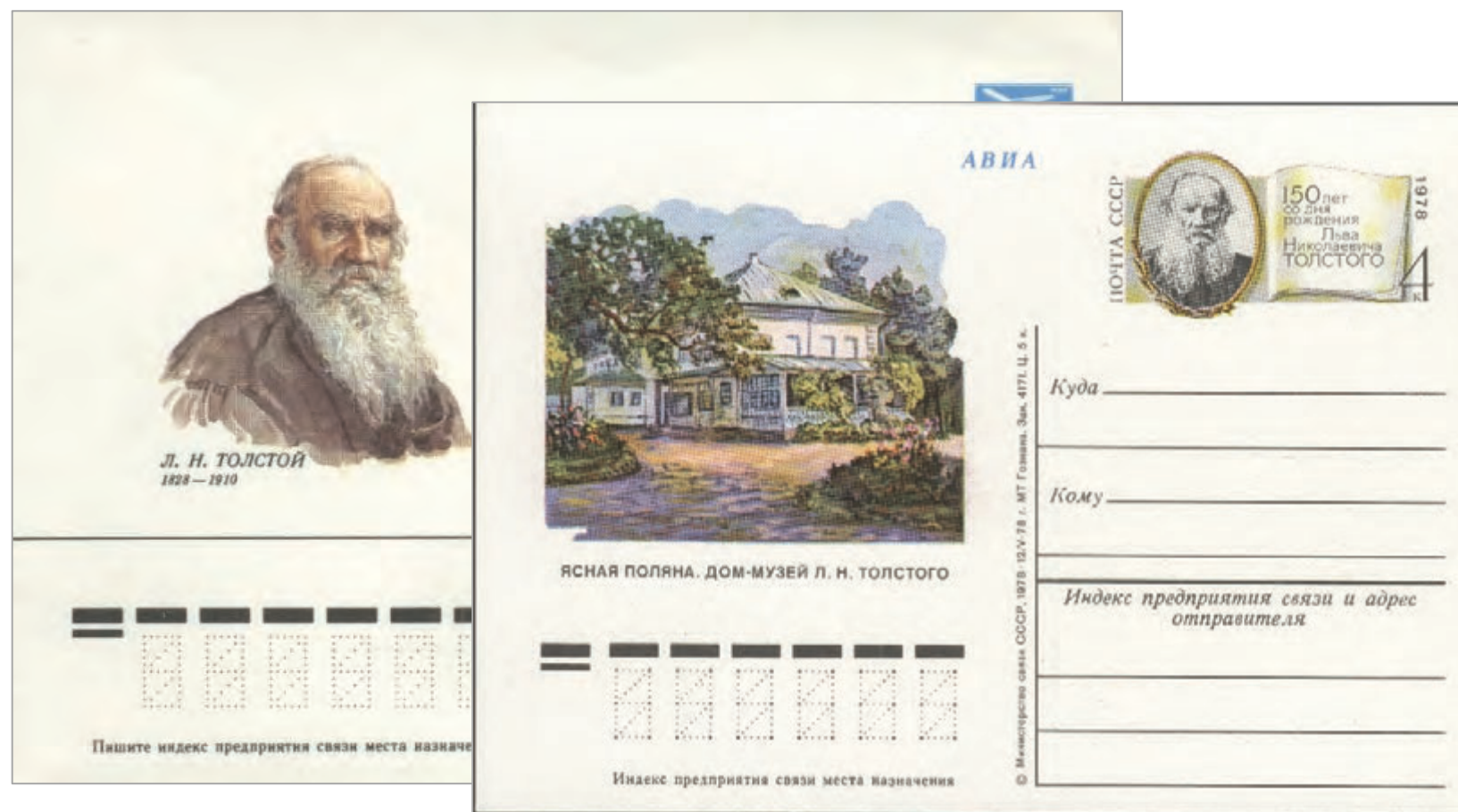
Count Leo Tolstoy was a living spiritual influence on Gandhi. The two corresponded frequently and Gandhi named his second Ashram in South Africa – Tolstoy Farm.



Guinea Bissau (24 Oct 2017)  
Gandhi & Tolstoy



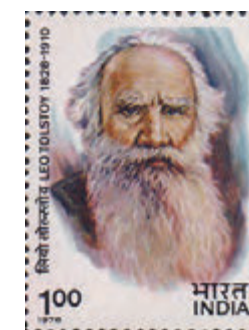
Maldives (15 Jun 2019)  
Gandhi & Tolstoy



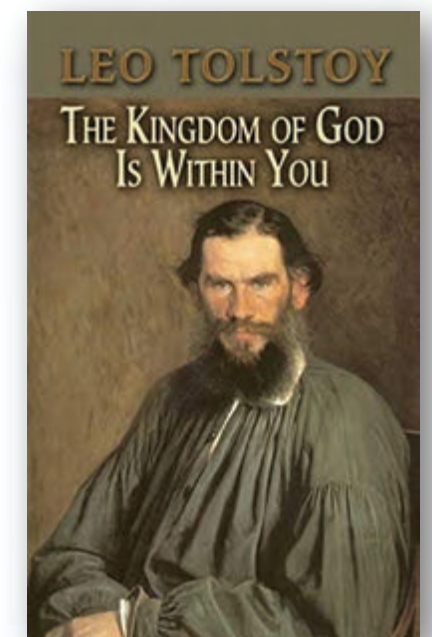
USSR. Commemorative postal stationery with portrait of Tolstoy and a picture of his estate.



Guinea  
(27 Oct 2014)  
Gandhi and Tolstoy



India (1976)  
Tolstoy





# No Man is an Island

## Adversaries and Associates

Amongst India's Muslims, Gandhi had more associates than adversaries. One was Khan Abdul Ghafar Khan, the "Frontier Gandhi", a pathan leader who sat out independence celebrations in Pakistan.



India (9 Aug 1993)  
Khan Abdul Ghafar Khan

Another was Abul Kalam Azad, the "Maulana", who was born in Mecca and was by Gandhi's side through thick and thin.

Mohammed Ali Jinnah had personally welcomed Gandhi on his return from South Africa. Within years, the Hindu core of the Congress party alienated him, and history has cast him as Gandhi's adversary, due to his support for partition of India.

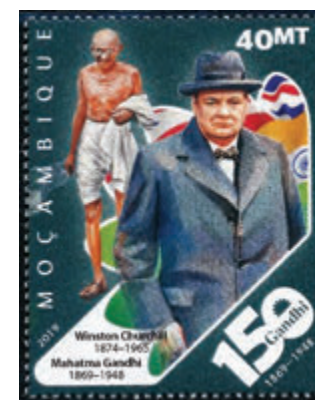
Winston Churchill was another story. Gandhi met Churchill in London as part of the Transvaal Indian delegation in 1906. Churchill gave him the now famous title "half-naked fakir". Churchill biographers have stated that he could not help "but foam in the mouth" whenever he heard Gandhi's name mentioned!



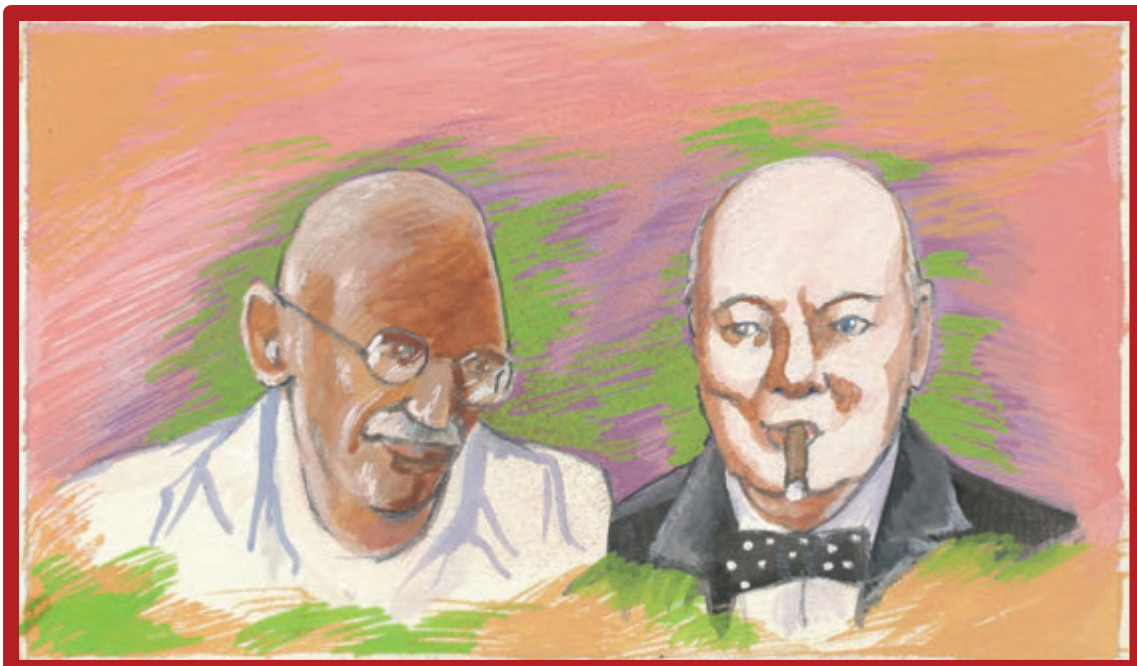
ISO Sverige (30 May 1974)  
Gandhi & Churchill



India  
(11 Nov 1988)  
Maulana Azad

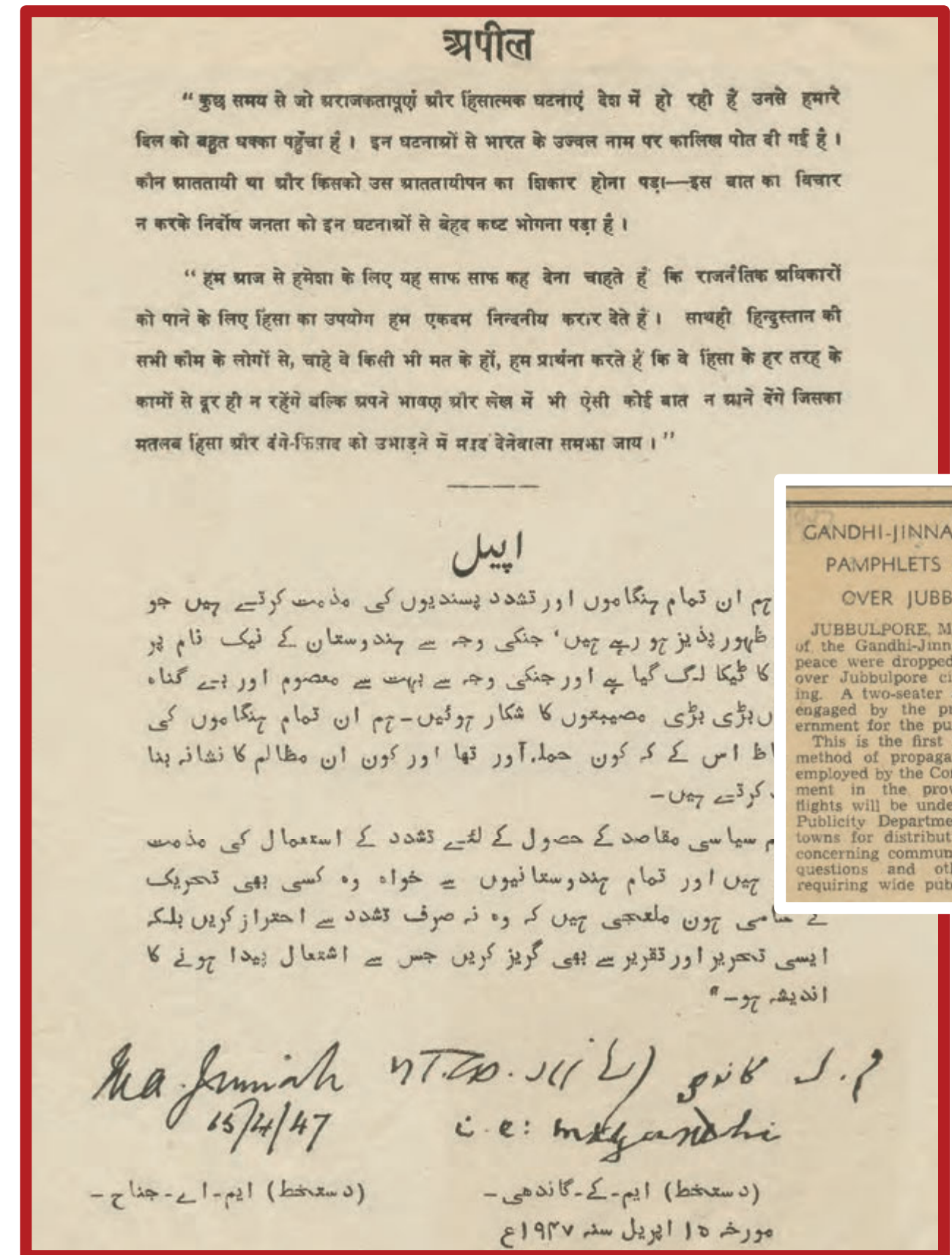


Mozambique  
(10 Apr 2019)  
Gandhi & Churchill



ISO Sverige (Swedish Local, 1974). Artist's Watercolor Proof of Cinderella. [Only copy known.](#)

While Jinnah was always portrayed as an adversary, Gandhi considered him a friend and associate.



India (13 Mar 1947). Air Drop Propaganda Leaflet. Gandhi-Jinnah bilingual Appeal for Peace was air dropped over Jubbulpore City to nip communal Hindu-Muslim violence. [Only 15 copies known to exist.](#)



# No Man is an Island

## Friends and Admirers

Rabindranath Tagore was a friend and close associate of Gandhi and is credited with coining the title “Mahatma”. Both shared an interest in experimenting with ascetic communities (ashrams). They disagreed on several issues- a national language (which Tagore opposed) and support for Bose and the Indian National Army in 1939 (over which they parted ways).

Tagore was the one who coined the nickname “Mahatma” (Great Soul) for Gandhi.



Niger  
(15 Aug 2016)



Sierra Leone  
(26 Feb 2016)



Vietnam (1982). Watercolor original artist essay of Tagore stamp signed by Tran Ngoc Uyen, the designer. Only copy known.



Vietnam (20 Sep 1982)  
120<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of  
Rabindranath Tagore.

Perhaps the most unexpected admirer of Gandhi was Jan Smuts, the Afrikaner who took over as leader of British Transvaal after the Boer War. He opposed a movement for equal rights for South Asian workers, led by Gandhi. Before Gandhi returned to India in 1914, he presented General Smuts with a pair of sandals made by Gandhi himself.

In 1939, Smuts, then prime minister, wrote an essay for Gandhi's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday and returned the sandals with the following message: *"I have worn these sandals for many a summer, even though I may feel that I am not worthy to stand in the shoes of so great a man."*



South Africa  
(24 May 1975)



Chad (1999), Guinea (2014), Guinea (2015).  
Gandhi & Mountbatten

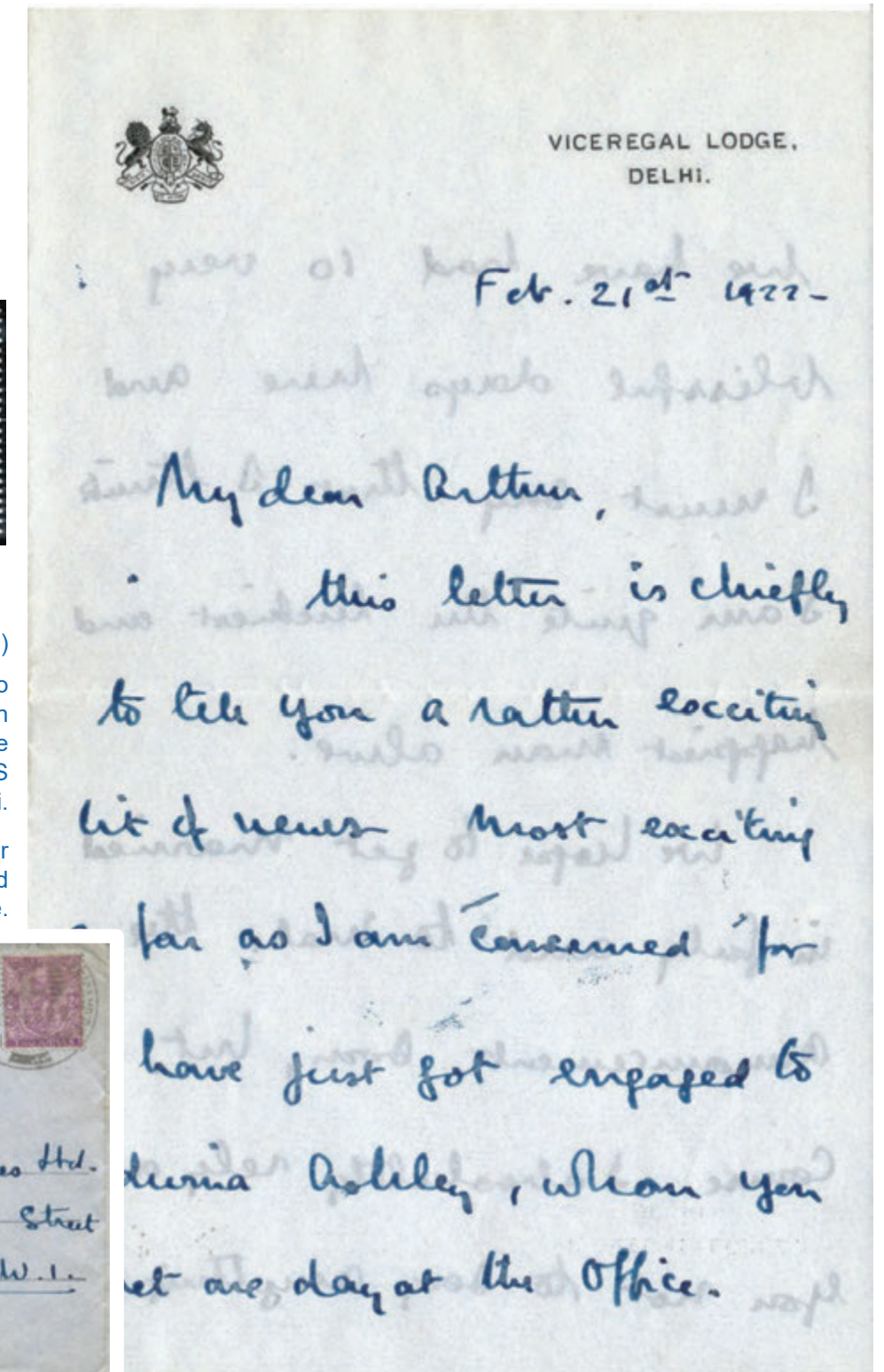


India (21 Feb 1922)

Letter from Mountbatten to a childhood friend in England. Cancelled with the HRH PRINCE OF WALES CAMP PO marking in Delhi.

Envelope initialed LM for Louis Mountbatten and letter signed Dickie.

Ironically, Mountbatten was traveling with the Prince of Wales to India in 1921-22 as his military escort. The same Royal visit that Gandhi arranged a boycott of. Dickie got engaged to Edwina during this visit, as noted in this letter to a friend from the Viceregal lodge in Delhi!



Albert Einstein was a great admirer of Gandhi and invited him to America in 1931.



Central African Rep. (23 May 2019)



Nicaragua (1979). Unissued (w/o OVPT) and issued (w/ OVPT).

Einstein memorialized Gandhi thus: *"Generations to come will scarce believe that such a one as this ever in flesh and blood walked upon this earth."*



# No Man is an Island

## Followers and Adherents

Nehru was Gandhi's most trusted lieutenant in India. But they did disagree on politics- particularly with Nehru's background following the Irish National movement while in England in 1911. Gandhi had to remind Nehru that *"there is no room for Shin feinism in Indian Politics"*.



Ireland  
(27 Jul 1989)



Ireland (2 Oct 1969). Archival Gutter Pairs



Mozambique (15 Jun 2018)  
Gandhi and King

Gandhi's vision that *"It may be through the Negroes that the unadulterated message of nonviolence will be delivered to the world"*, delivered to Howard Thurman, came true with Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.



Burkina Faso (22 Nov 1988)  
Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr.

As president of the African National Congress, Albert John Luthuli upheld the goal of non-violent resistance in the tactics he pursued against the apartheid government of South Africa.



Togo (21 Dec 1969)  
Gandhi and Luthuli.



Togo (21 Jan 1970). Gandhi and Luthuli.  
Overprinted : In Memory of Charles De Gaulle

Luthuli was a lasting symbol of Gandhian influence in Africa that later manifested itself in the likes of Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.



Tanzania (15 Jul 1996)  
Gandhi and Mandela



Solomon Is.  
(05 Jun 2012)  
Gandhi and Tutu



Belgium (2000). Registered mail to the US with Gandhi and Mandela stamps..



Belgium (2000). Registered mail to the US with Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. stamps.



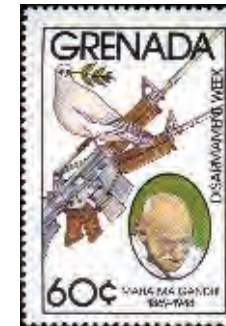
# Inspiration and Legacy

## Anti-War Movements

While Gandhi has always opposed wanton destructive force and the amassment of weapons, his opinions on participation in war appeared to be mixed, during his lifetime. His writings clearly state that if we oppose war and actions that promote war by our government, we have the moral obligation to try and change the social structure that supported that government. Every moment we enjoy the fruits of living in that society. He was, however, co-opted as the mascot for part-time pacifists and the international game of disarmament that just helped destroy obsolete weapon systems, to be replaced by deadlier ones!

Gandhi specifically rejected the notion of war-resistance from people who otherwise participated in a society that has engaged in war.

He was more in line with Thoreau, who refused to pay taxes to support the government that fought the war with Mexico and went to jail for it.



Grenada  
(15 Sep 1986)  
Commemorating World  
Disarmament Week during the  
International Year of Peace

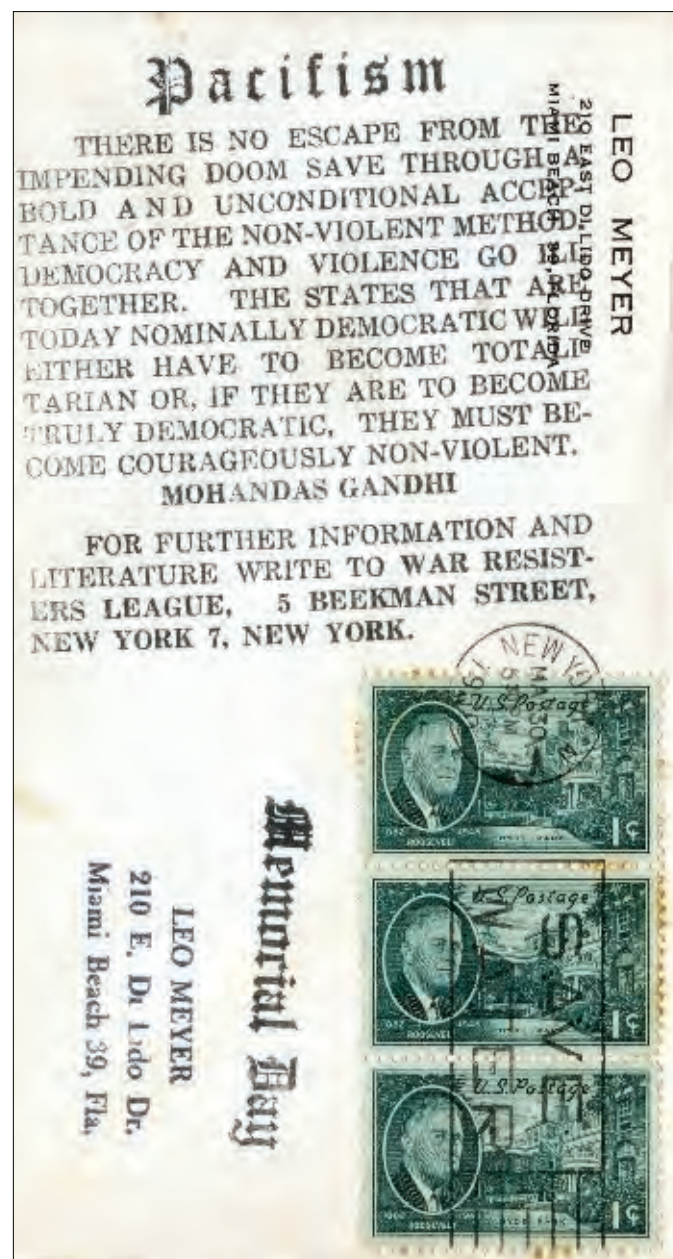
In recent decades, the hotbed of Green Party politics in the west has been post-war Germany. Several scholars who have studied Gandhi's life and ideals have shaped the German movement to be proactive and engaged in politics.

This has helped change the policies of their elected representatives and German social priorities to reflect their beliefs. This is in contrast to the sister movement in England and the United States, which continue to be perceived as anti-social and unpatriotic!



Germany  
(2 Oct 1969): Block  
with two stamps with  
one imperforate side.

Also shown, a  
specimen (MUSTER)  
overprint.



USA (1950). Cachet with Gandhi's quote to support pacifism- from the War Resister's League.



Bhutan (1969). Original Artist's watercolor essay (unadopted) of Gandhi and symbols of peace. One of two copies signed by the artist and signed and stamped by the Director of Post & Telegraphs, Royal Government of Bhutan.



# Inspiration and Legacy

## Anti-Apartheid Movement [1946-1994] and African Nationalism

One cause that the world banded together to fight for was racial equality in South Africa. Governments in all continents, assisted by the United Nations, steadily joined the largest non-cooperation movement in the history of the world. The successful economic boycott of the apartheid establishment in South Africa was a non-cooperation that would have made Gandhi proud! Non-aligned nations like India led the effort to expand this fight against apartheid to South West Africa, leading to the creation of Namibia.

African nations recognize that their freedom from European colonialism was achieved mostly peacefully because of what Gandhi was able to achieve in India.



India (25 Jan 1987)  
Africa Fund, established to support the cause of anti-apartheid activities in South and Southwest Africa.



South Africa (2 Oct 1995)  
Special cancellation recognizing the leadership India provided in international organizations during the struggle against apartheid.



South Africa (26 Apr 1997)  
Special cancel on souvenir sheet commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Congress for a Democratic South Africa. Cancellation reflects the honorary notation of "Mandela-Gandhi Freedom of the City".

Leaders of the South African movement against apartheid - like Albert Luthuli, Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu - adopted the Gandhian non-violent approach to resistance.



Belize (1978). Slogan Cancel APARTHEID DENIES HUMAN RIGHTS.



Congo (1967). Preliminary sketch of stamp design that is the same as the issued stamp. Pencil on thin paper, with official stamp of the artist Andre Spitz in red at the bottom. Only known copy.



# Inspiration and Legacy

## Khilafat Movement and Pan-Arab Nationalism

Modern Arab nationalism dates back to the breakup of the Ottoman Empire after WWI. Many Indian Muslims sympathized with Turkey's treatment by the British and French. Gandhi, who had returned to India from South Africa in 1915, urged India's Hindu leaders to support the Muslims traditionalists in what was referred to as the "Khilafat Movement". Spearheaded by Sunni Muslims in India, the movement aimed to preserve the traditions of Islam that appeared to be eroding under Turkish society's assault from the West. Ironically, the movement inspired in India was killed when modern Turkey abolished the Khilafat (Caliphate). Countries in the region later remembered Gandhi's solidarity with the cradle of Islam.

Egypt, a country Gandhi visited on his way to England, was close to Gandhi's heart. He supported its nationalist movement and is known to have inspired Anwar Sadat, who mentioned reading Gandhi's speeches a lot as a teenager (in his autobiography).

Gandhi's association with the Khilafat Movement came from his intellectual engagement with the likes of Maulana Azad and Dr. Muhammad Iqbal. Iqbal's poem "Sare Jahan Se Achhchha" was the unofficial anthem of the Indian Nationalist movement, before the seeds of partition were sown.



Egypt (1969). Artist watercolor essay of stamp design as issued for the Gandhi Centenary. Only copy known.



Morocco  
(16 Oct 1969)



Iran  
(29 Dec 1969)



Tunisia  
(6 Nov 2018)



Germany (1944) Axis Propaganda leaflet using a poem by Dr. Muhammad Iqbal. Text in Hindi and Urdu reads- " Our India, Better than the Whole World! We hear this famous line of Dr. Iqbal on BBC London radio. There is no doubt that India is one of the most beautiful, prosperous, fertile and brave countries of the world. But this entire wealth and priceless Indian blood is being used by the British Empire that rules India by force."



# Inspiration and Legacy

## Fighting Totalitarianism in Europe [1953-], The Indian Diaspora

Totalitarianism in Europe was finally defeated from within, by people on the streets, not by the military might of the West. The famous Solidarity Movement in Poland did not begin in the 1980s. It was a continuation of Polish working class and intelligentsia movement that began with the “Polish October” in 1956.

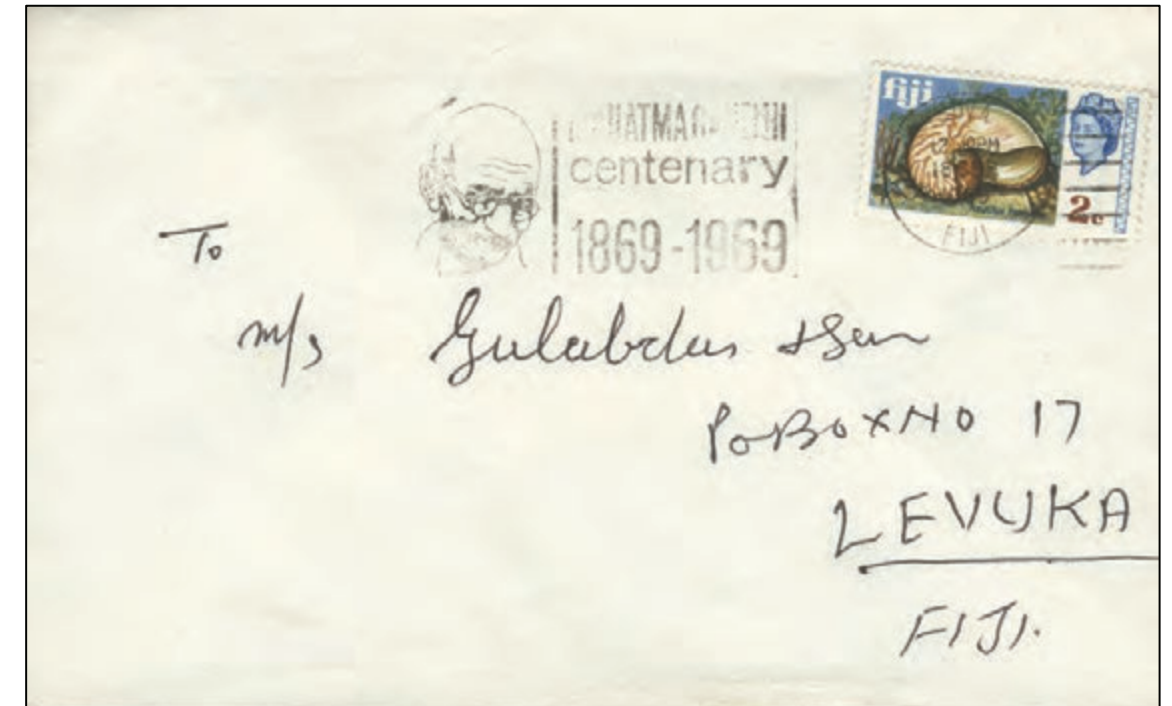


Poland (2 Oct 1969). Airmail postal card issued for Gandhi centenary.

Indians from eastern and southern India migrated to Fiji as indentured labor in the 1800s and settled there. Recently, ethnic tensions have erupted with natives of Fiji.

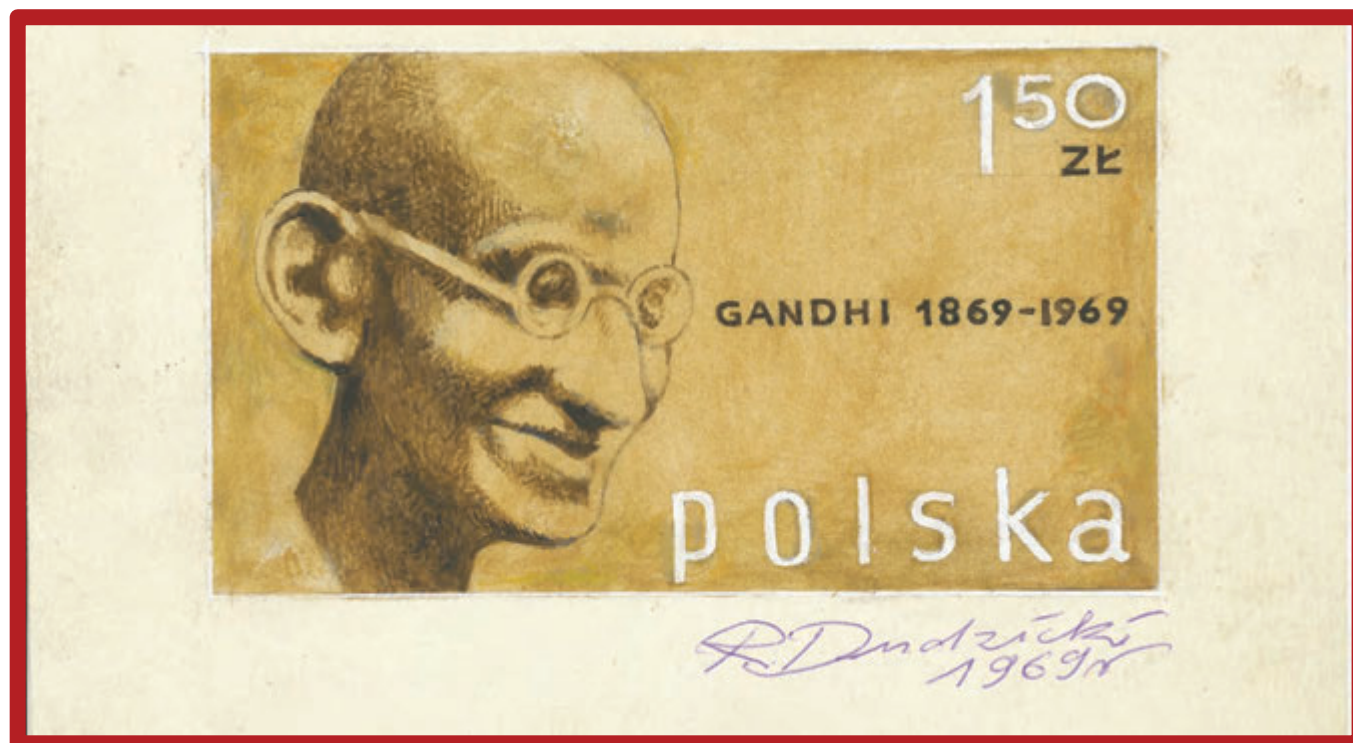


Fiji (20 Dec 2018)  
Gandhi  
Sesquicentennial.



Fiji (2 Oct 1969). Special pictorial cancellation for the Gandhi centenary on local cover.

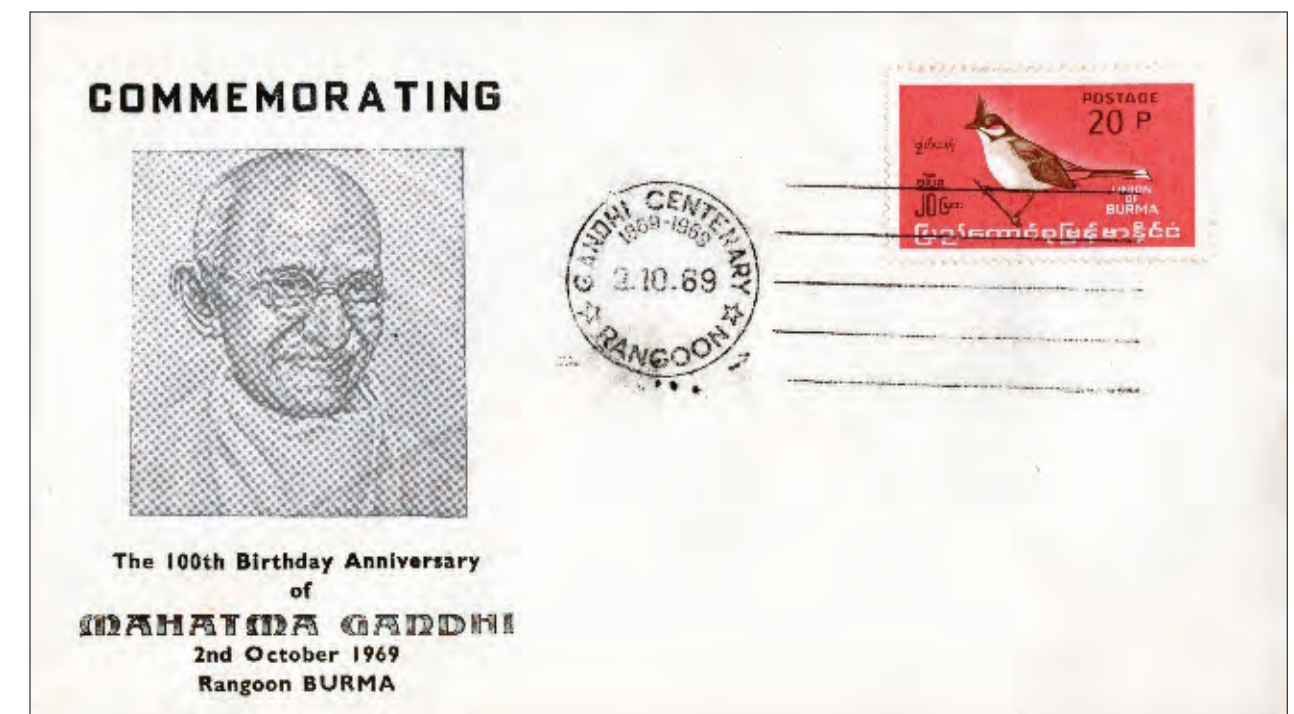
Closer to home, Indian merchants, predominantly from the south, followed European colonization to Southeast Asia. Just in the 1880s, over 140,000 migrated to Malaya, 165,000 to Burma and nearly 500,000 to Ceylon. Gandhi visited both Burma and Ceylon explicitly to help the Tamils understand and bridge their social and cultural differences with the Singhalese and Burmese.



Poland (2 Oct 1969). Artist Watercolor Essay of as issued design. Only copy known.



Myanmar (2 Oct 2019)  
Gandhi  
Sesquicentennial.



Burma (2 Oct 1969). Special cancellation commemorating the Gandhi centenary.  
Used for one day only from the Rangoon post offices.



# Lip Service and More

## Race, Religion and Humanity, Monuments and Memorials

Time and again, Gandhi tirelessly worked to instill ethnic and religious tolerance in India. He dreamt of a world that was not race or class conscious, particularly in South Asia steeped in history and tradition. Leaders of bodies like the UN often quote Gandhi to invoke the spirit of “common cause” amongst nations. *“I am a Hindu, a Moslem, a Christian and a Jew- and so are all of you”*, said Gandhi to his fellow Indians. Post-apartheid South Africa has become a leading example of multi-racial society.

Memorial statues of Gandhi have been erected from India to Brazil, Ceylon to the District of Columbia and Utah to Uganda.



Sierra Leone (6 Sep 1969). Slogan Cancel for Gandhi Centenary.



Jamaica (26 Nov 1968). Slogan Cancel on Rights and Duty quoting Gandhi: “THE RIGHTS OF ALL THE DUTY OF EACH”.



Nicaragua (22 Feb 1995). First day local use of stamp depicting the film GANDHI. One of only three copies known.



Sao Tome  
(18 Sep 2018)

Guinea  
(8 Aug 2018)

Guinea  
(8 Aug 2018)

Central African Republic  
(17 Jul 2017)



South Africa (31 Aug 2001). A Conference against racism that the US boycotted, as slavery reparations were on the agenda.



Czech Republic (4 Oct 1969). This special cancel coincided with the unveiling of a Gandhi statue.

Perhaps the finest monument to Gandhi was the 1984 Hollywood film about him by Sir Richard Attenborough.



Luxembourg (6 Oct 1969). This special cancel coincided with the unveiling of a Gandhi statue in the park in Luxembourg City during birth centennial celebrations.



# Lip Service and More

## The Smile that Never Fades

Where did this image of Gandhi that has been featured in so many stamps and was also the most featured image on modern Indian currency notes come from? It was all based on one photograph, taken on 18<sup>th</sup> April 1946 outside the Viceroy's place in New Delhi. Gandhi had visited with Lord Pethick-Lawrence, British Secretary of State for India, and was photographed with him as he was leaving. The original photograph of the event was the basis of the stamp shown below, while the smiling face was replicated elsewhere.



Guinea (9 Oct 1977)  
Gandhi with Lord Pethick-Lawrence



Syria, Senegal and Cyprus (1969)  
----- Centennial Issues of Gandhi's smiling face -----



Uganda  
(5 Oct 1997)



Vietnam, Mauritius and Cuba (2019).  
----- Sesquicentennial Issues of Gandhi's smiling face -----



Bhutan (1969). Original Watercolor Essay of adopted design signed by artist. Only copy known.



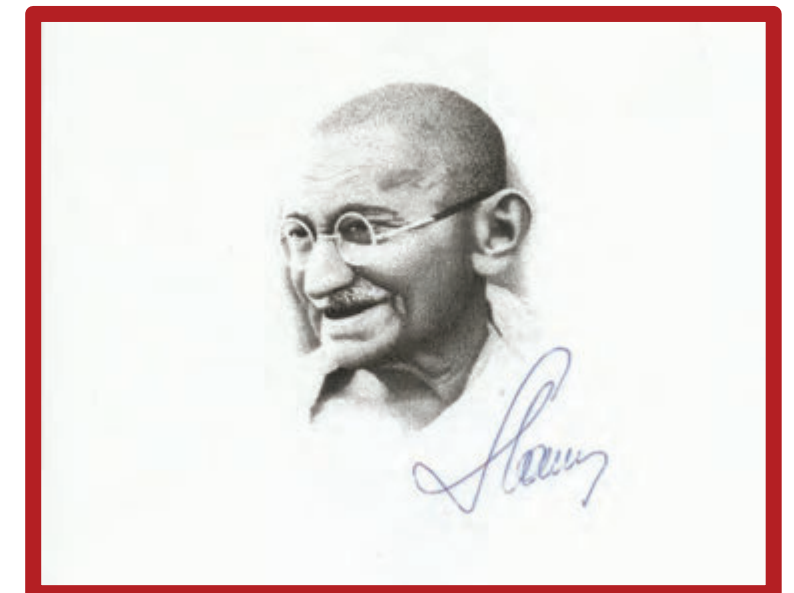
UK (1969). Original Rough sketches of centennial stamp by artist Biman Mullick. Only copy known.



UK (1969). Mullick tried and tested several designs and settled on this smile. Shown here, imperf block, specimen and printing on gum side.



Portugal, Mongolia, Azerbaijan, Turkey, UAE, Marshall Islands, Fiji, Slovenia (2019). Sesquicentennial Issues of Gandhi's smiling face.



India. Original Signed Artist Drawing that was the basis of the Gandhi image in Indian Rupee notes. Only copy known.



# Lip Service and More

Is there a Gandhian Utopia Anywhere?

.... Conclusion

Costa Rica is a classic example of a Gandhian Utopia in one aspect, being the only country in the western hemisphere that has constitutionally rejected a standing army. Gandhi had similar hopes for independent India, lamenting in 1947 *that he saw "no place for him in a new order where they wanted an army, a navy, an air force and what not"*. But that one aspect trickles into other aspects of Gandhian ideals. Costa Rica's main focus on economic growth is ecotourism. And Costa Rica has made more strides into renewable energy generation than any other country in the Americas.



Costa Rica (23 Sep 1988). Registered parcel to the USA with multiple Gandhi stamps.

The story presented in this exhibit shows that the life and legacy thus remembered started as "an empty page to write on"- in a remote corner of India.

Moral strength and divine inspiration turned a mediocre student and timid lawyer into a shrewd politician and a revered leader who motivated humanity like few ever have!



Mauritius (1969). Printer's Die Proof of this Souvenir Sheet, depicting the metamorphosis of Gandhi from an ordinary young man to a virtual saint. Prepared from original artwork. [This photographic proof signed and stamped by the engraver, is the only one believed to exist, based on records from the Crown Agents' Archives.](#)