

Classic Persia

Purpose of this Traditional exhibit is to present the Classic Era of philately in Persia. Exhibit starts in the Pre-stamp era (1839), covers the famous “Lion” issues as well as the First Portrait issue, ending in 1882, shortly after joining the UPU.

Background - The first documented postal system was created in the Persian Empire by Cyrus the Great in sixth century BC. Emperor Cyrus created the bill of human rights, and recognizing that communication was fundamental to enforcement of these rights, he tasked military couriers to carry private mail throughout the vast empire.

Despite such a rich heritage, Persia had to turn to Europe in the mid 1860's in order to modernize its postal system. **This exhibit chronicles the establishment and early development of Persia's postal system.**











1808 Contemporary Map of Persia
[includes present countries of Iran, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, Azarbaijan, and Armenia]

Importance

- Documents Establishment, Development and Expansion of Modern Postal System in Persia
- Substantial Research Results with New Reportings for Updates to Specialized Persia Catalogs
- Multiple items of Historic Significance to Persian Philately

Exhibit Plan and Highlights

<p>1. <u>Pre-stamp, Essays and Labels</u> – Pre-stamp mail, essays and lion labels used on letters. Highlights include examples on cover; color and paper varieties of the Riester essays; and rarely seen full sheet plating of all 4 types of Barre essays.</p>	 <p>Frame 1</p>	<p>5. <u>Kran Issue</u> - The 1-Kran carmine lion stamps. Highlight is 1 Kran stamp with mixed franking on Parcel Post Receipt.</p> <p>6. <u>1-Kran Re-engraved</u> - Examples of block-of-four settings demonstrate expansion of the postal system.</p>	 <p>Frame 5</p>
<p>2. <u>1870 Persia First Issue (Bagheri)</u> - Highlights include only known example on a postal document (also tied to the Postmaster General, Herr Gustav Riederer), and rarely found lion covers with letters.</p>	 <p>Frame 2</p>	<p>7. <u>1-Toman Bronze</u> - Highlight is new reporting of copper bronze variety.</p> <p>8. <u>1-Kran Yellow Paper</u> - Highlights are full unused setting and tête bêche block.</p> <p>9. <u>4-Kran Issues</u> - Highlight are unused block-4 and unique 4Kr Blue PBS.</p>	 <p>Frame 6</p>
<p>3. <u>1875 Second Lion Issue (Kardi)</u> - Contains a special grouping of rare early covers, unique on-piece bisect, tête-bêche error, and several original strips-of-four print settings.</p>	 <p>Frame 3</p>	<p>10. <u>5-Kran Issues</u> - Highlights are 5-Kran blue block, 5-kran on-piece and new reporting of 5 Kran Bronze Gold.</p> <p>11. <u>Lion Stamp Authentication and Forgeries</u> – Methods of authentication and examples of genuine and forgery types.</p>	 <p>Frame 7</p>
<p>4. <u>Special Printings</u> - Original print settings of Vertical strips (1 and 2 Shahi) and Horizontal Strips (4 Shahi); and Blocks (1, 2, and 4 Shahi). Highlights are extra rare Special Print lion covers, including only recorded cover from Postmaster Herr Gustav Riederer.</p>	 <p>Frame 4</p>	<p>12. <u>First Portrait Issue and UPU</u> - Highlights are: bisects of all 4 stamp types on cover (only recorded); pre-UPU mixed Russian franking cover to Austria; early post-UPU covers, and UPU Presentation Panel.</p>	 <p>Frame 8</p>