

Dr. Prabodh Gupta collection of Indian stamp ephemera

Ms. Coll. 1152

Finding aid prepared by Kelin Baldrige.

Last updated on January 15, 2016.

University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

11/16/2015

Table of Contents

Summary Information.....	3
Biography/History.....	3
Scope and Contents.....	4
Administrative Information.....	4
Controlled Access Headings.....	5
Collection Inventory.....	6
I. First day covers.....	6
II. Stamp brochures.....	7
III. Stamps on envelopes and postcards.....	7

Summary Information

Repository	University of Pennsylvania: Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator	Gupta, Prabodh K.
Title	Dr. Prabodh Gupta collection of Indian stamp ephemera
Call number	Ms. Coll. 1152
Date [inclusive]	1953-1975
Extent	0.2 linear feet (1 box)
Language	English
Abstract	Dr. Prabodh Gupta is a specialist in pathology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and an emeritus professor of pathology and laboratory medicine. His collection of Indian postal ephemera includes first day covers, stamp brochures, and stamps on envelopes and postcards dating from 1953 to 1975.

Cite as:

Dr. Prabodh Gupta collection of Indian stamp ephemera, 1953-1975, Ms. Coll. 1152, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts, University of Pennsylvania.

Biography/History

Dr. Prabodh Gupta is a specialist in pathology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. He is also an emeritus professor of pathology and laboratory medicine. He graduated from University of Delhi in 1955, the Medical College of Punjab University in 1960, and the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in 1965.

Paper post was introduced to India in 1852 and contained British monarchs on the stamps until 1947 when India gained independence from England. After Indian independence, postage stamps became a means of highlighting the country's achievements, showing developments, and displaying cultural heritage.

Scope and Contents

The Dr. Prabodh Gupta collection of Indian stamp ephemera contains first day covers, stamp brochures, and stamps on envelopes and postcards. This collection dates from 1953 to 1975.

First day covers are envelopes or postcards that mark the first day a stamp's issue is authorized for use. The envelopes or postcards include the actual stamp, a logo which is sometimes, but usually not, the same as the stamp, the date, and a postmark from New Delhi. The information with the logo is always in English and the stamps are frequently in English and Hindi. On a few occasions, there is more than one copy of the envelope if multiple stamps for a single commemoration were issued. This series contains seventy-four first day covers from 1956 to 1970. The stamps commemorate people, places, events and developments. Some of the items of note in the collection are the first day covers of Kasturba Gandhi, Abraham Lincoln, the Indian Mount Everest Expedition of 1965, and the XIX Olympic Games.

Stamp brochures are booklets containing commemorative stamps as well as technical information about the stamp and its historical context and significance. Each stamp that is described in a brochure in this series is also represented with a first day cover. Like the first day covers, these stamp brochures cover a range of topics. They date from 1964 to 1968.

The final series contains stamps on envelopes and postcards dating from 1953 to 1975. These items appear to have been collected for the stamps, and not for the content contained on or in the envelopes. Included is a personal letter from a son to his father in 1954, a few blank post cards from 1954, and several empty envelopes, one of which is addressed to Dr. Gupta (1975) and contains fifteen unique stamps.

Administrative Information

University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

11/16/2015

Finding aid prepared by Kelin Baldrige.

Use Restrictions

Copyright restrictions may exist. For most library holdings, the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania do not hold copyright. It is the responsibility of the requester to seek permission from the holder of the copyright to reproduce material from the Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Use Restrictions

Copyright restrictions may exist. For most library holdings, the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania do not hold copyright. It is the responsibility of the requester to seek permission from the holder of the copyright to reproduce material from the Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Custodial History note

Gift of Dr. Prabodh Gupta, 2015.

Controlled Access Headings

CORPORATE NAME(S)

- India. Posts and Telegraphs Department.

FORM/GENRE(S)

- Brochures
- First day covers
- Postage stamps

GEOGRAPHIC NAME(S)

- India--Politics and government--1947-

SUBJECT(S)

- Stamp collecting

Collection Inventory

I. FIRST DAY COVERS, 1956-1969.

	Box	Folder
Honoring 200th Buddha Jayanti, Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi, the Centenary of the High Court of Madras (1862-1962), Children's Day, the International Congress of Ophthalmology, Srinivasa Ramanujan, Swami Vivekananda, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Indian Defense Effort, Freedom from Hunger, the Red Cross Centenary (1863-1963), Dadabhai Naoroji, Dr. (Mrs.) Annie Besant, Wild Life Preservation, and the 15th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights., 1956, 1962-1963.	1	1
Honoring Utkalmani Pandit Gopabandhu Das, the XXVI International Conference of Orientalists, Purandaradasa, Subhas Chandra Bose, Kasturba Gandhi, Dr. W.M. Haffkine, Jawaharlal Nehru, Asutosh Mookerjee, Sri Aurobindo, Raja Rammohan Roy, the International Organization for Standardization, Children's Day, and St. Thomas, 1964.	1	2
Honoring Jamsetji Tata, XXth Congress of the International Chamber of Commerce, National Maritime Day, Abraham Lincoln, Centenary of International Communication, Jawahar Jyoti, Plucking Tea, the India Mount Everest Expedition, Govind Ballabh Pant, Vallabhbhai Patel, the Pacific Area Travel Association, Gopal Krishna Gokhale, Maharaja Ranjit Singh, New Definitives, Homi Bhabha, Children's Day, and the Asian Hockey Champions, 1965-1966.	1	3
Honoring Jai Kisan, the Indo-European Telegraph Line Centenary, Nehru and Nagaland, the International Year for Human Rights, International Conference-Seminar of Tamil Studies, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Amrita Bazar Patrika Centenary, Maxim Gorky, First	1	4

Triennale-New Delhi, 100,000 Post Offices, the Wheat Revolution, the Calcutta GPO Building, Lakshminath Bezbaruah, XIX Olympics, Bhagat Singh, Marie Curie, Navy Day, Ghalib, and V.I. Lenin, 1967-1970.

II. STAMP BROCHURES, 1964-1968.

	Box	Folder
Describing stamps which honored Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Children's Day, Jamsetji Tata, XX Congress International Chamber of Commerce, National Maritime Day, Abraham Lincoln death centenary, International Telecommunication Union centenary, Jawaharlal Nehru first death anniversary, Vallabhbhai Patel, Homi Bhabha, Asian Hockey champions, Jai Kisan, Hundred Thousandth Post Office, and the XIX Olympics, 1964-1968.	1	5

III. STAMPS ON ENVELOPES AND POSTCARDS, 1953-1975.

	Box	Folder
1953-1975.	1	6