

**Number 23**

**Spring 2023**

***Turkish-Bulgarian Postal War of 1886/1888***

***Mail from Bombay Disinfected in Persia 1897***

***Railway Mail Services in Ottoman Europe (II): Station Post Offices and TPOs***

***Istanbul Mosques on Ottoman Postcards (I): Ayasofya***

***Ottoman Officers' Field Post Stamps and Military and Field Post Postmarks***

***Emergency Post Cards of Turkey***

***Postal War: Kuwait's refusal of Iranian Stamps***

***Syria: The Withdrawn 2016 National Day Stamp***

***Archive: Maritime and Road Traffic in Constantinople (1875)  
plus Book Reviews, Reactions, Comments, Queries, and more!***





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## Postage Due Covers from the Turkish-Bulgarian Postal War of 1886 to 1888

by Hans-Dieter Gröger

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The Turkish autonomous vilayet of Eastern Roumelia was occupied by Bulgaria in September 1885 and incorporated into Bulgarian administration (*map 1*). Turkey did not recognise this and from 1886 until presumably the end of 1888 charged postage due on mail from Eastern Roumelia that was franked with Bulgarian postage stamps. However, the additional postage charged only amounted to the single-rate fee, but there are also known covers that were charged at double the rate.

Until 13<sup>th</sup> March 1888, postage was paid with postage stamps (period without postage due stamps), thereafter preferably with the new postage stamps. No official orders concerning this postal war have been found so far.

Unfranked letters exist in the Dana correspondence: the sender was aware of the postage due to be charged. These covers should have been charged at double the rate, but even here only the single postage rate was post-franked.



Fig. 1: Two single stamps 10 st<sup>1</sup> with 5 st on cover from "AHIELO 8 IX 88" to Istanbul with arrival postmark "STAMBOUL ARRIVEE 22 SEPTEMBRE 1888".

The Bulgarian franking was not accepted at the post office of destination and the letter was post-franked with two pairs of 10 paras postage stamps, cancelled "DERSADET 23 SEPT 88".

1 100 stotinki = 1 Lev (pegged to the French Franc as part of the Latin Monetary Union).









Fig. 4: **Single-rate postage due.** 10 st foreign postal stationery with blue railway cancel "SOFIA-BURGOS 26 IX 88" to Istanbul, arrival cancel "BEYOGLU 10 OCT 88" on the reverse. The Bulgarian postal stationery was not accepted and was franked at the post office of destination with a 20 paras postage stamp, cancelled "STAMBOUL ARRIVEE 10 OCTOBRE 1888".



Fig. 5: **Double-rate postage due.** 10 st foreign postal stationery from "SLIVNO 13 XII 87" to Istanbul. Arrival postmark on the reverse "STAMBOUL ARRIVEE 29 DECEMBRE 1887" with "T" cachet, as the Bulgarian postal stationery was not recognised. Re-franked at the post office of destination with a 1 piastre postage stamp (twice the domestic postage), cancelled "CONSTANTINOPLE-GALATA ARRIVEE 29 DECEMBRE 1887".





Fig. 6: 10 st and 15 st in rare franking combination on cover from "PHILIPPOPLE 13 9 86" to Istanbul. Arrival cancel "STAMBOUL ARRIVEE 27 SEPTEMBRE 1886", affixed "T" cachet as the Bulgarian franking was not recognised. Re-franked at the post office of destination with a 1 piastre postage paid stamp and cancelled with "CONSTANTINOPLE ARRIVEE 27 SEPTEMBRE 1886".





Fig. 7: 25 st with multi-bar-cancel, on the front "HASKEUY 7 V 86" on a letter to Istanbul; transit cancel "ANDRINOPLE TURQUIE" as well as "T" cachet on the front, as the Bulgarian franking was not recognised. Re-franked at the post office of destination with a pair of 20 paras postage stamps and cancelled "DERSAADET 21 MAY 86".



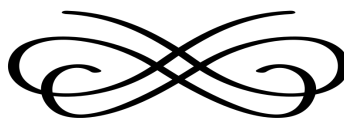
Fig. 8: Letter from "BURGOS 22 I 88" with single-stamp franking of 50 st (2nd weight band) to the British Embassy in Istanbul with arrival postmark "BEYOGLU 6 FEV 88". The Bulgarian franking was not recognised at the post office of destination and the letter was franked with a strip of six 20 paras postage stamps, i.e. double the sea rate for 21 to 30 grammes), cancelled "CONSTANTINOPLE-GALATA ARRIVEE 6 FEVRIER 1888". (image reduced in size)



## Registered Letter



Fig. 9: 50 st on registered cover from "PAZARDJIK 22 IX 87" to Istanbul. Arrival postmark "STAMBOUL ARRIVEE 7 OCTOBRE 1887" and "T" cachet set aside as the Bulgarian franking was not recognised. Re-franked at the post office of destination with two 1 piastre postage stamps with the rare cancellation "DERSAADET-CONSTANTINOPLE".







*Fig. 10: Letter franked 50 st (2nd weight band) from “PHILIPPOLE 31 VII 88” to Istanbul. Arrival postmark on the reverse “STAMBOUL ARRIVEE 14 AOUT 1888” and “T” cachet as the Bulgarian franking was not recognised. Re-franked at the destination post office with two unperforated pairs of 20 paras postage stamps and cancelled “DERSAADET BAB-I ALI DEPART CONS/PLE S PORTE 14 AOUT 88”. (imaged reduced in size)*

Until 12th March 1888, the postage due charge was paid with regular postage stamps;  
only after that date Turkey reintroduced postage due stamps.



*Fig. 11:*

25 St, pair and single stamp, on registered cover (16–30 grammess) from "BURGOS 22 IX 88" to Istanbul with arrival postmarks "GALATA ARRIVEE" and "STAMBOUL ARRIVEE" on the reverse. The Bulgarian franking was not recognised and the cover was franked with two 2 piastres postage due stamps, cancelled "DERSAADET-STAMBOUL 7 OCT 88".

**Registered postal war letters are very rare, in the 2nd weight band this is a unique specimen.**





Fig. 12: Unfranked letter with postmark "PHILIPPOPLE 30 I 88" and alongside postage due cachet to Istanbul. The letter received another "T" cancellation at the post office of destination and was re-franked with postage due stamps of 2×10 paras and 20 paras, cancelled "DERSAADET 3". Letter from the Dana correspondence, of which some Eastern Roumelia letters were posted unfranked in the knowledge of the postage due charge. Although the charge was double, from 13th March 1884 these letters posted unfranked were only charged the single rate only.





Fig. 13: Letter posted without stamp to Istanbul, the postage-due to be charged was known (from the Dana correspondence) with postmark "PHILIPPOPLE 5 II 87" and postage due cachet set alongside.

Arrival postmark "STAMBOUL ARRIVEE 18 FEVRIER 1887" and "T" cachet.

Re-franked at the post office of destination with a pair of 20 paras postage due stamps, cancelled "DERSAADET-CONSTANTINOPL 18 FEVRIER 87".







Fig. 14: Letter posted without stamp to Istanbul, the postage-due to be charged was known (from the Dana correspondence) with postmark "T. PAZARDJIK 17 I 87", railway postmark "DU TRAIN BUREAU AMBULANT 17 I 87" to Istanbul. Arrival postmark "STAMBOUL ARRIVEE 31 JANVIER 1887" and "T" cachet. Re-franked at the post office of destination with a 1 piastre postage due stamp, cancelled "DERSAADET-CONSTANTINOPLE 31 JANVIER 87".





## A Golden “Oildie”

by Oscar van der Vliet<sup>1</sup>

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At a Christoph Gärtner auction I once bought this postcard that was transported to Germany showing a cancellation of a steamship. The card was sent from Constantinople on 9<sup>th</sup> December 1892, went to Bremen first and arrived there on 14<sup>th</sup> December 1892. The address was then crossed out in red with a redirection to Hamburg Dovenhof, where it arrived on 15<sup>th</sup> December 1892. The addressee Deutsch-Amerikanische Petroleum Gesellschaft had only recently moved there.



Fig. 1: Postcard sent from steamship S. S. Sophie (20 paras postal card of 1894, Birken 17):  
“CONSTANTINOPLE-GALATA / DEPART / 9 / DECEMBRE / 1892”.

Mail from Constantinople was often transported by steamship, but what happened with this specific card? In the top left there’s a hand-stamp “Atlantic / Dampfer-Gesellschaft / S. S. Sophie”. The manager of the company was Paul Wedekind, son of Karl Wedekind. Investigations reveal that this was a small company, but a precursor to a multinational concern which still exists today.

The story begins with Karl Wedekind (1809–1881): between 1830 and 1838 he worked at trading company F. Gruber & Co. in Genoa and was eventually in charge of its branch in Palermo. There he founded the trading company Carlo Wedekind & Co., which traded mainly in tropical fruits, salt and sulphur. During the 1860s his interests shifted to the oil trade and banking. He had offices in

<sup>1</sup> Revised translation of an article first published in Al-Barīd in 2015. Edited by Tobias Zywiets.



Palermo and Rome. In southern Italy he obtained a monopoly in the oil trade. During this time he was also Consul for the Kingdom of Hanover until 1866.

From 1873 there were contacts with Standard Oil Company of John D. Rockefeller. After Karl's death, the company was lead by his son Paul. In 1891 the two companies established a joint venture: the Società Italo-Americana pel Petrolio (SIAP). It had its office in Venice. Paul remained co-chairman until 1893.

Paul Wedekind (1845–1910) continued the enterprise C. F. Wedekind & Co. He became Consul-General for the German Empire in Palermo. He married Sophie (1856–1937), the daughter of the German 'petroleum king' Franz Ernst Schütte (1836–1911).

In 1888 his company bought his first newly-built petroleum tanker, which he named Sophie, after his wife. Later he bought the ship Bayonne. The Sophie, built in 1888 by Armstrong & Mitchell Co. Ltd., Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, had a net tonnage of 1,114 tons and was almost 72 m long; the Bayonne was much bigger with 2,154 tons.

In 1890, his father-in-law and his brother had founded a German joint venture with Standard Oil Company and the freight & transport company of Wilhelm Anton Riedemann (1832–1920): the Deutsch-Amerikanische Petroleum Gesellschaft (DAPG) which took over Hamburg oil importer G. J. H. Siemers & Co. DAPG became ESSO AG in 1950 and since 1999 trades as Deutsche Esso GmbH.

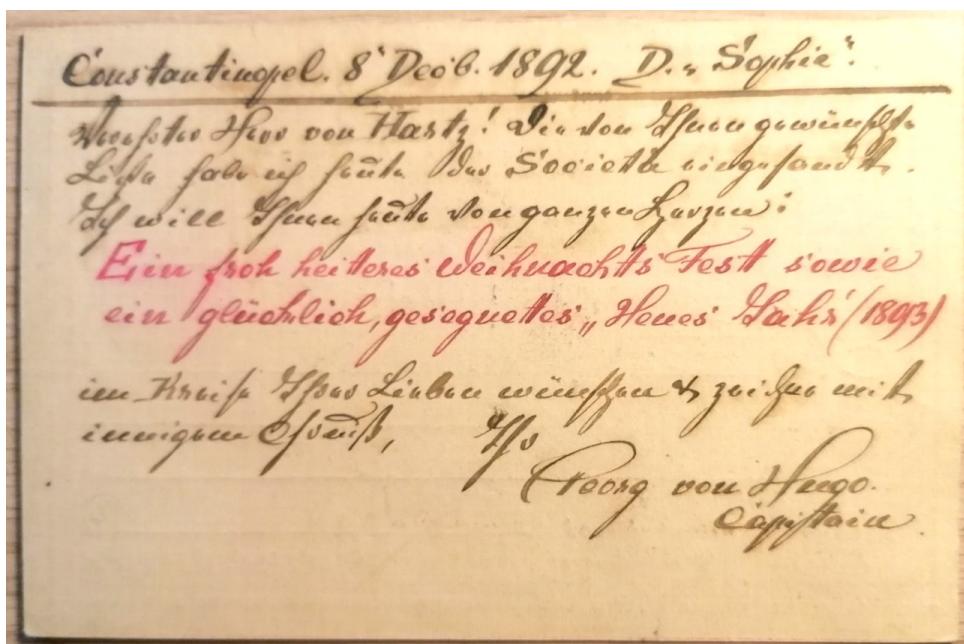


Fig. 2:

Reverse of the postcard. It is dated Constantinople 8.12.1892: D. „Sophie“ (Dampfschiff = steamship).

Georg von Hugo, captain of the Sophie, tells Mr. von Hartz (likely a director at DAPG) about documents he sent and wishes him and his family a merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

In 1892, the shipping company Rhederei der DAPG was moved from Bremen to Hamburg: this directly led to the forwarding of our postcard! That shipping company became Waried Tankschiff Rhederei in 1928 and was renamed Esso Tankschiff Reederei GmbH in 1956; it was dissolved in 1994. DAPG and the SIAP formed in 1894 from the acquisition of Carl Stumm (Basel) a new company for Switzerland: Petroleum Import Company (PICO), which became ESSO Standard (Switzerland) in 1949 and since 2001 operates as Esso Switzerland GmbH. SIAP itself transformed into today's Esso Italiana.

About 1891 ownership of the Sophie must have changed changed to Atlantic AG, based in Geestemünde (now part of the city of Bremerhaven, an important port for oil and petroleum since the 1850s), that seems to be the Atlantic Dampfer-Gesellschaft as per the cachet on the postcard. Lloyd's Register has the ship owned by Atlantic AG in 1893, a joint venture founded in 1891



involving again Standard Oil. This company was managed by C. Wedekind & Co., Palermo, changing around 1895 to P. Wedekind (Berlin).

The Sophie transported the majority of SIAP's oil supplies. The Atlantic AG was later not so lucky: the Sophie caught fire on 31<sup>st</sup> May 1907 and ran aground at the mouth of the Bosphorus; she was later broken up at Dunkirk. The Bayonne disappeared from the books after 1912/13. It is unclear whether this was due to any further merger.

After Paul's death, his wife and children Carlo and Oskar were raised to the German peerage in 1915.

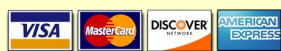
This concludes a story that started with a drop of information, a cachet on a postcard, until a source with a rich history was tapped.

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## Mail from Bombay Disinfected in Persia 1897

by Bo Andersson

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*The original article "Bushire 1897: Disinfection of Bombay Mails" was printed in India Post, vol. 53, 2019, pp. 54–56. An addendum was published in India Post, vol. 55, 2021, pp. 82–84.*

*The reprint in Indien-Report, no. 116, 2021, pp. 102–111 brought both articles together.*

*Reprinted here, with some revisions, by kind permission of the author.*

Pandemics have not only tormented us since 2020. We know from history that mankind was repeatedly afflicted with major plagues in the past. In philately, disinfected letters tell about such events.

In my collection I have two covers mailed from Bombay to Persia in 1897 (*figs. 1 and 2*). The letters were posted more than two months apart, on 9<sup>th</sup> April and 18<sup>th</sup> June. Both were forwarded via the Persian Gulf and entered Persia at Bushire, where they were date stamped at the Persian P.O. on 23<sup>rd</sup> April and 2<sup>nd</sup> July, respectively. From Bushire the letters were forwarded overland to Isfahan.

The two covers have one unusual feature in common: they have been pierced. Both covers show a regular pattern: ca. 35×95 mm of 4×3 holes. The identical pattern and the way the holes are formed by angular spikes, all indicates that the letters were deliberately pierced and the purpose can only have been one: to admit purifying fumes for cleaning the letters. Where and why were the letters disinfected?

### The Bombay Plague 1896/97

In September 1896 the plague broke out in Bombay. It spread rapidly and by January it had reached Karachi and Poona. Panic prevailed and many people fled from Bombay (*fig. 2*). The Indian Government was forced to take extreme measures to ensure that the plague would be stopped at India's shores.

From 1<sup>st</sup> February inspection of travellers along all main line communications was implemented. All ocean-going vessels leaving Bombay were inspected before sailing and pilgrim ships were prohibited from leaving Bombay.<sup>1</sup>

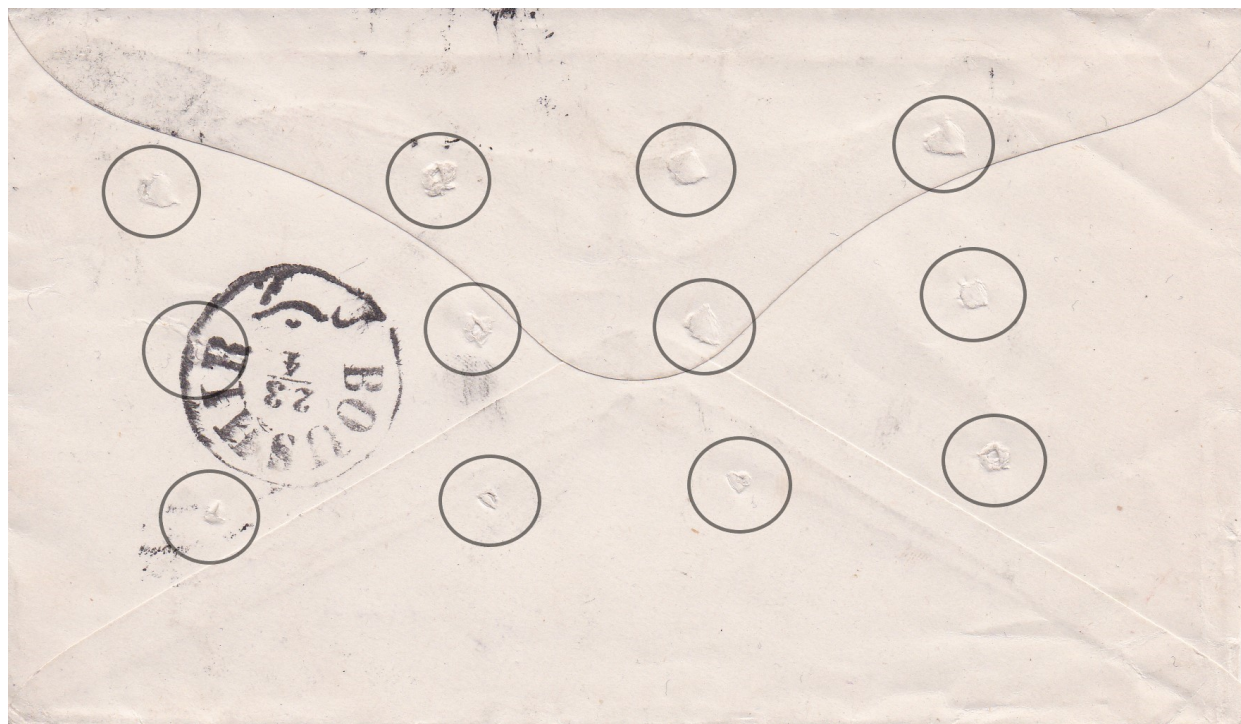
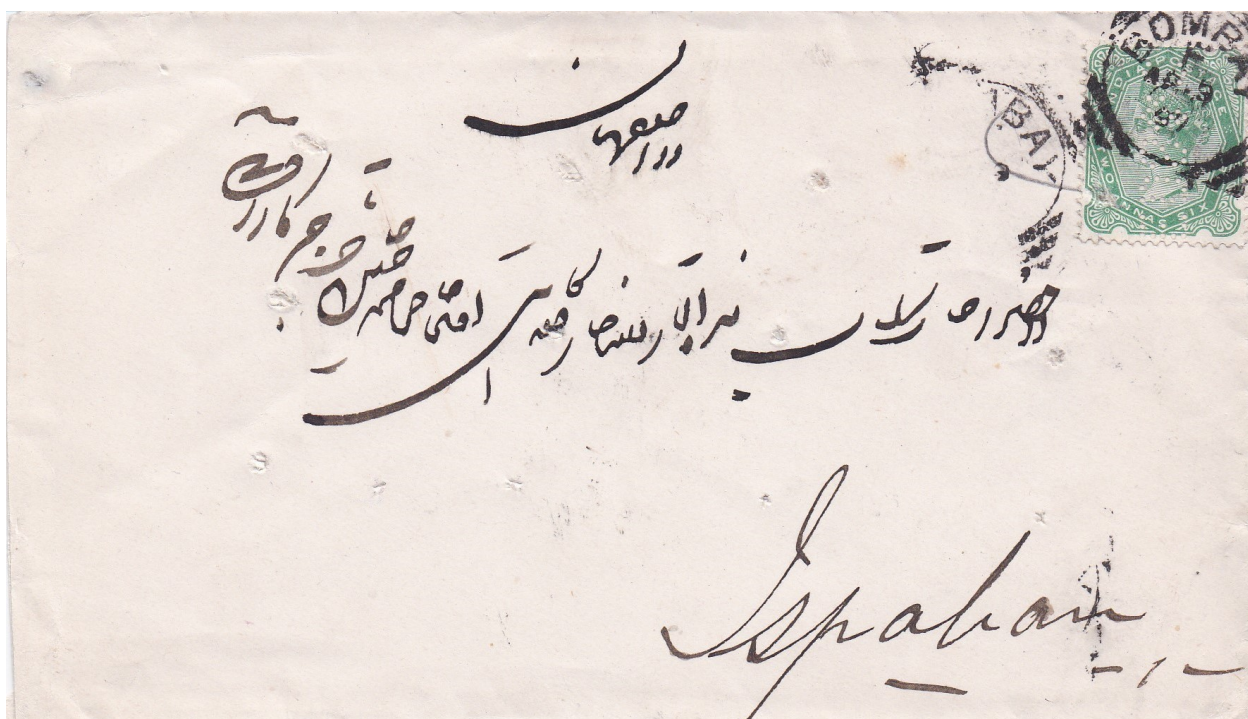
As soon as the plague was officially acknowledged in October 1896, quarantine was imposed against Indian vessels at Suez and at numerous ports the world over. In Persia, quarantine measures were introduced at Bushire by mid-November.

The Persian P.O. at Bushire, established in 1878, also served as an office of foreign exchange with the Indian P.O. The Indian P.O. at Bushire was established in 1864 within the compound of the British Governor. It was appointed the Head P.O. of the Indian postal administration for the Persian Gulf. Bushire was the starting point for the great and ancient caravan route that ran through Shiraz to Isfahan, and thence on to Teheran.

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1 Cf. The Times, 3.02.1897.



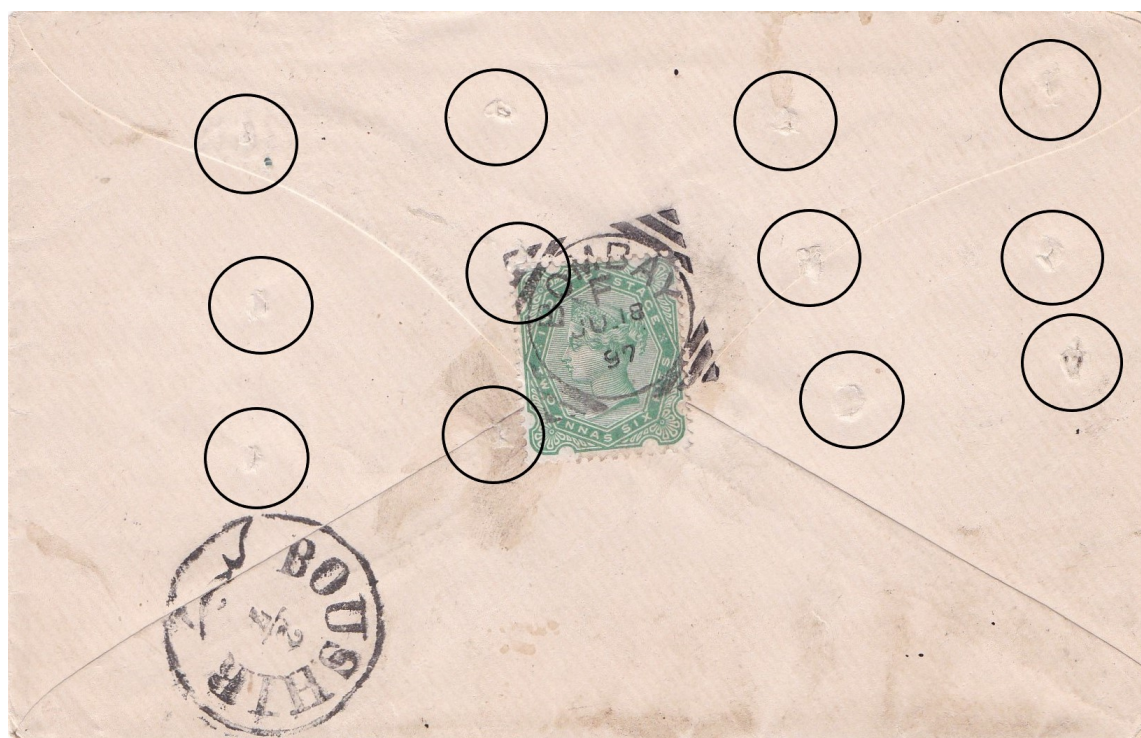
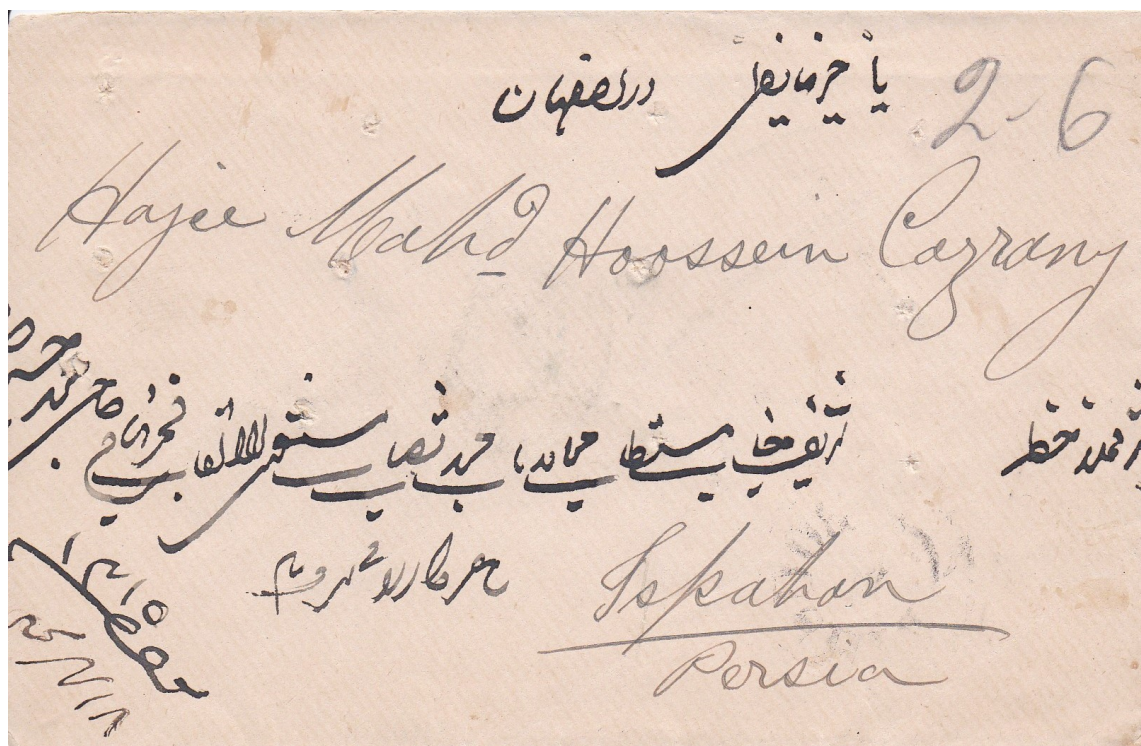


*Figs. 1–1b: Front and back of disinfected letter to Isfahan, posted "BOMBAY / F / AP. 9 / 97", transit Persian P.O. "BOUSHIR / 23 / 4". One stamp is missing, probably a 2½ Annas stamp, so as to make up double letter rate.*

The letter has 4×3 pin-holes to assist fumigation. The spikes entered the letter front and exited the back. Spike holes on the back circled.







Figs. 2–2b: Back and front of single rate letter from Bombay Foreign:  
 “BOMBAY / F / JU. 18 / 97” to Isfahan.  
 Transit Persian P.O. “BOUSHIR / 2 / 7”.

Perforated with 12 pin-holes from the letter front to aid fumigation.  
 Holes on the back circled.







Fig. 3: Modern map of the Persian Gulf showing the position of Bushehr (Bushire).<sup>2</sup> Bushire was the principal sea port of Persia and port of entry for the steamers of the British India S.N. Co., carrying passengers, goods and the weekly mails from Bombay.



Fig. 4: People fleeing from plague-infested Bombay.

*"Victoria terminus every evening is a sight not to be forgotten. Over a thousand natives swarm together tightly packed at the barriers of the platforms and on the gates being opened they struggle and fight to get seats in the train which become so overcrowded that special trains have to be added."*<sup>3</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Detail from: UN Geospatial: Iran (Islamic Republic of). 1.01.2004. In: United Nations / Geospatial. Online: <https://www.un.org/geospatial/content/iran-islamic-republic> (accessed 25.02.2023).

<sup>3</sup> Etching by Herbert Johnson based on a sketch by Frederick Airay, R.N. In: The Graphic, 30.01.1897, p. 7.





Figs. 5 and 5a:

Egypt 1 piastre postal stationery letter from Alexandria 24.05.1897 to Isfahan: "ALEXANDRIE / D / 24 V 97 TVI".

Transit stamped on P&O India: "SEA POST OFFICE / B / MY 30 / 97". Arrived at Bombay 4.06.1897, then forwarded via the Persian Gulf: "BOUSHIR / 18 / 6".

The letter has 2 sets of 4×3 pin-holes. Owing to its size, 112×145 mm, the letter was punched twice, from the front and the back.



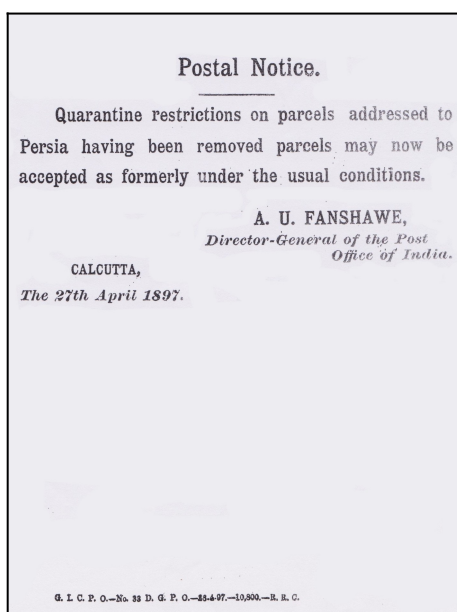
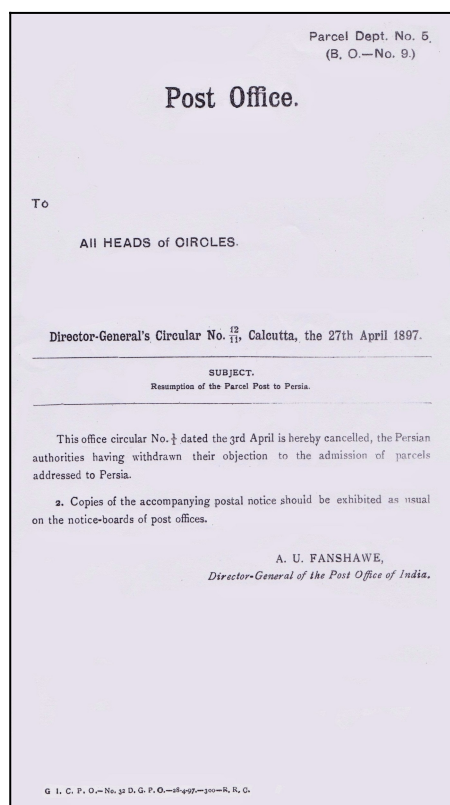
### Bushire: Quarantine Regulations

The quarantine was established by the British Surgeon-Captain Lumsden. He arrived at Bushire on 12<sup>th</sup> November following a meeting of the Diplomatic Corps at the Turkish Embassy in Teheran on 8<sup>th</sup> November. Lumsden regulated the quarantine as follows:<sup>4</sup>

1. *Should neither a suspected nor a real case develop itself during the eight days' voyage [from Bombay], full liberty is accorded. If a suspected case should manifest itself then there will be five days of quarantine; should there be a case of the plague, eight days, and if the suspected case should turn out to be the plague, eight days of quarantine after its appearance.*
2. *The persons subject to quarantine shall be disembarked and put on an island, and the healthy separated from the infected and the suspects. The baggage will be inspected and disinfected before being discharged at the expiration of the period of detention.*
3. *First-class European passengers may be placed in quarantine, a mile from the town, if they should judge it advisable, on account of the absence of sufficient provisions on the island.<sup>5</sup> The cargo will be kept on board twenty-four hours, and then submitted to fumigation.*

The regulations were sent to Bandar Abbas and Linga as well, but

*[...] the governor insists upon the difficulty of executing them, on account of the want of competent sanitary officers, and asks that European doctors be sent to these posts. Information of the adoption of these measures has been communicated to Jask and Mohamrah, and recommended to the Sultan of Muscat.*



Figs. 6 and A6:

Post Office Circular no. 12/11, Calcutta 27.04.1897 and Postal Notice, Calcutta 27.04.1897.

The Persian P.O. did not admit parcels from India for about three weeks in April 1897, for fear of the plague.

- 4 Tyler, John: *Persia : quarantine measures against importation of the plague*. In: Public Health Reports (1896-1970), vol. 12, no. 3 (15.01.1897), pp. 59-61. Online: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/41437386>. The reports are dated 11.11.1896 and 28.11.1896 and are attached with a telegram detailing the quarantine measures as quoted. Tyler was United States Vice-Consul-General in Teheran.
- 5 The island mentioned by Captain Lumsden is Abbasak (عباسک, 'Abbāsak), an oblong island on the eastern side of the inner harbour of Bushire with the quarantine station and hospital, Bar Abbasak, near its southern tip. The island was a low and sandy plain, covered in places with coarse grass, and mostly flooded by the sea at high tide. The quarantine station was reputedly poor. Source: *The Persian Gulf Pilot*, The Hydrographic Office, Washington 1920, pp. 260-261, 266-267).



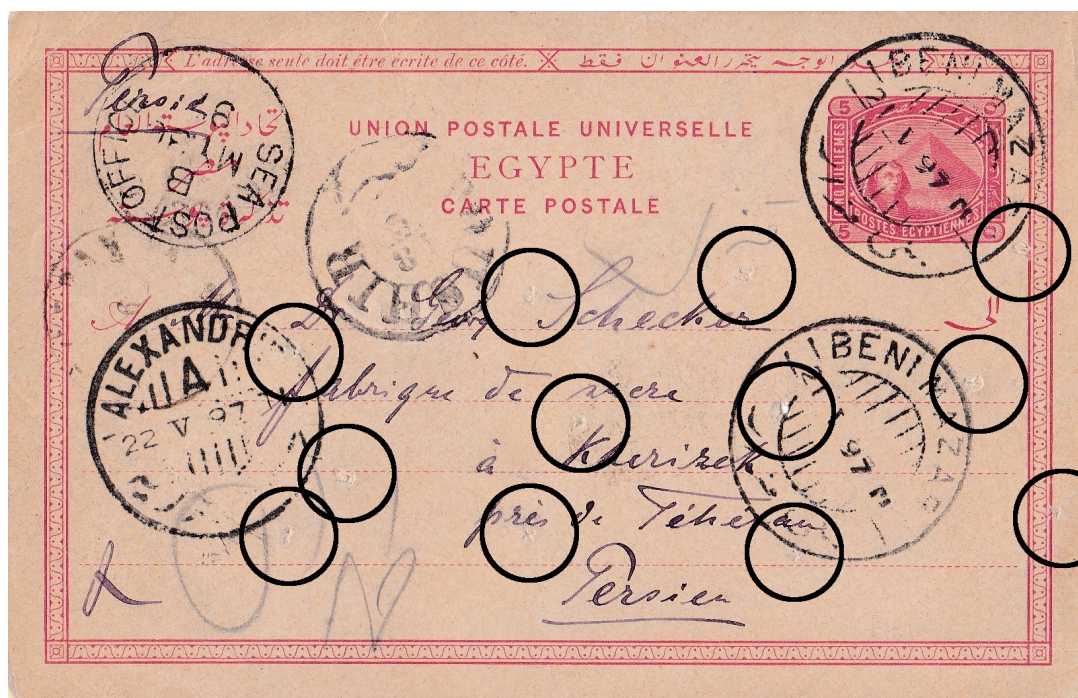


Fig. 7: Egyptian U.P.U. postcard from "BENI MAZAR 21 V 97" to Kherizek near Teheran.<sup>6</sup> Transits: "ALEXANDRIE / A / 22 V 97 T?", "SEA POST OFFICE / B / MY. 30 / 97" applied on P&O India, which arrived at Bombay on 4.06.1897. Persian P.O. "BOUSHIR / 18 / 6". Arrived "TEHRAN / 6 / 7". Disinfected against plague. All 12 pin holes are present (circled), but their alignment is misaligned. This card and the letter fig. 5 were sent in the same mail batch from Egypt to Persia.

### The Mails

While Lumsden's sanitary regulations initially encompassed ships, passengers and cargo, the regulations were extended in 1897 so as to include the mails. From 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1897, India quarantined parcel mail to Persia, the importation of parcels from India being blocked by the Persian P.O. (figs. 6 and A6). This coincides with the earliest known perforated cover from Bushire, dating from 9<sup>th</sup> April. So, from early April the Persian P.O. refused to accept parcels from India and letters were now being disinfected in Bushire on entering Persia.

The new restrictions were probably following discussions on the 10<sup>th</sup> International Sanitary Conference that took place in Venice from 16<sup>th</sup> February to 19<sup>th</sup> March 1897. The Conference dealt exclusively with the Bombay plague. The delegates represented each of the Powers of Europe, the US, Persia and Egypt.<sup>7</sup>

On 27<sup>th</sup> April the quarantine restrictions on parcels to Persia were removed. Parcels from Bombay were admitted again, but the Persian authorities kept on fumigating the letter mail.

So far, I have recorded 9 incoming covers from the period in question. All were disinfected and date stamped at the Persian P.O. in Bushire from 9<sup>th</sup> April to 16<sup>th</sup> July.<sup>8</sup> Two covers are from India, (figs. 1 and 2). The remaining covers come from Egypt of which four covers derive from the Meshki

6 Likely Kahrizak/Kahrisak/Kehrizak/Kahrizak/کهریزک in Ray county, Teheran Province.

7 Jones, W. S.: *Report on the International Sanitary Conference held at Venice (February 16 to March 19, 1897)*. In: *Public Health Reports (1896–1979)*, vol. 12, no. 19 (7.05.1897), pp. 452–459. Jones was Consul-General of the United States at Rome. The programme for the conference was, 1) particular aspects of the plague, as disclosed by the most recent investigations, 2) measures to be taken for preventing an invasion of the malady from India, 3) measures to be taken in case the plague makes its appearance in Europe.

8 Covers from Egypt with Bushire dates as follows: 9.04., 16.04., 23.04., 18.06. (three covers to Joulfa, Isfahan, and Teheran), and 16.07. Covers from India: 23.04. and 2.07.



archive, see the letter *fig. 8*. In general, there were close commercial relations between trading companies in Egypt and Persia in the 1890s.

One may wonder why the Persian authorities disinfected mail from Egypt at all. Evidently, they feared that the bacteria might spread from mailbag to mailbag during the voyage from Bombay to Bushire. And so, the whole mail batch might be contaminated.<sup>9</sup> Probably for the same reason also postcards were disinfected (*fig. 7*).



*Figs. 8 and 8a:*

Mailed from Cairo on  
31.03.1897: "CAIRE / D /  
31 III 97 T3".

Transit: "SEA POST  
OFFICE / C / AP 5 / 97"

The letter reached Persia  
in the same mail batch as  
the letter posted from  
Bombay (*fig. 1*).

Both were disinfected and  
stamped at the Persian  
P.O. "BOUSHIR / 23 / 4".

Before posting the letter,  
the sender repaired the  
back with a label.



<sup>9</sup> Just touching Bombay was problematic for the mail steamers. The French steamers of the *M.M. Ligne Q* that ran a monthly service between Marseilles–Aden–Bombay–Colombo suspended their calls at Bombay from April to September in 1897 to avoid quarantine at Colombo. Cf. R. Salles: *La poste maritime française*. Vol. 4, 1993, p. 73.



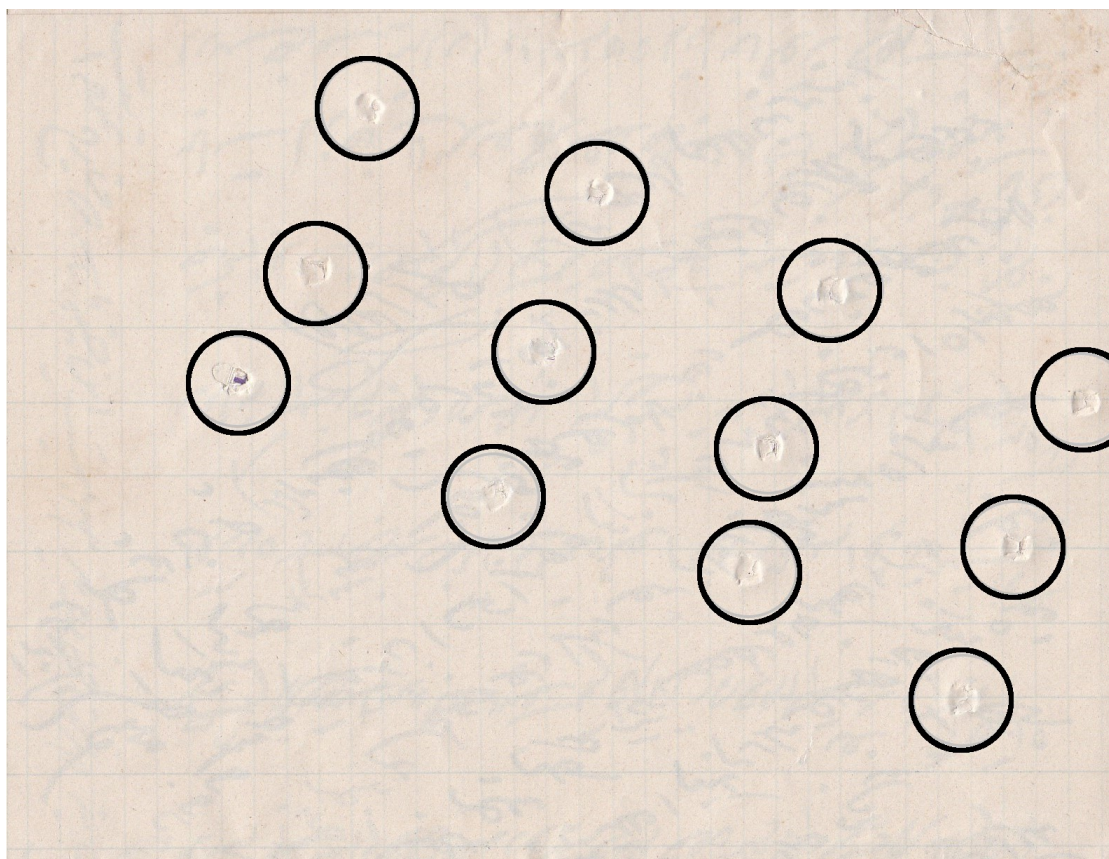


Fig. 9: Mail disinfection was a nuisance to the public. Not only was the mail delayed, the contents might also be damaged – especially if the letter contained photographs that were cut into! The pin-holes are visible all over on this letter, which was folded twice before being put into the envelope, but still readable.

The letter, written in Persian, deals with business matters between a merchant in Egypt and his agent (?) in Persia. Isfahan was part of the ancient Silk Road system.

The device used to perforate the covers was probably a handheld punch with twelve spikes affixed to a metal plate. The covers show a progressive misalignment of the holes, as the spikes in the plate loosened. Letters and cards were treated alike. Both were pin-holed before fumigation.

The disinfection in Bushire was clearly an *ad hoc* arrangement and the fumigation may well have taken place in simple conditions.

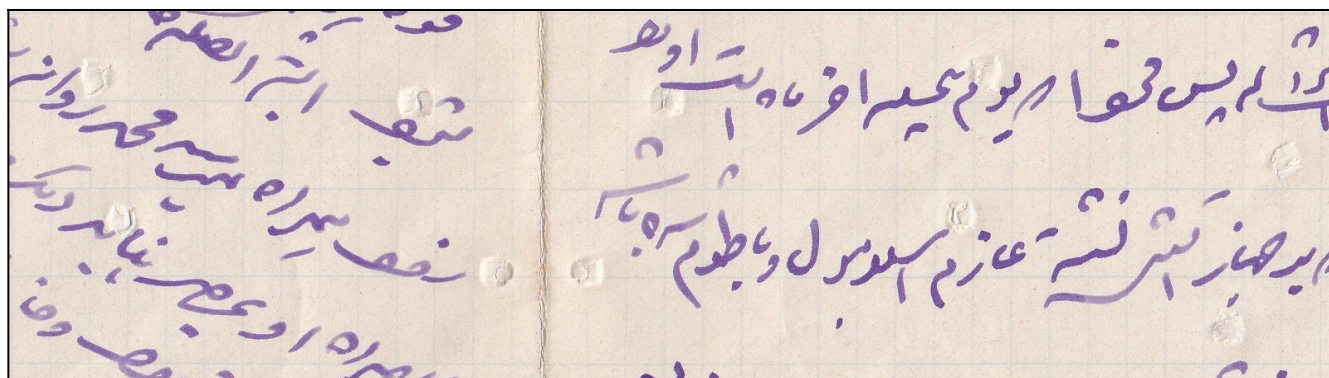
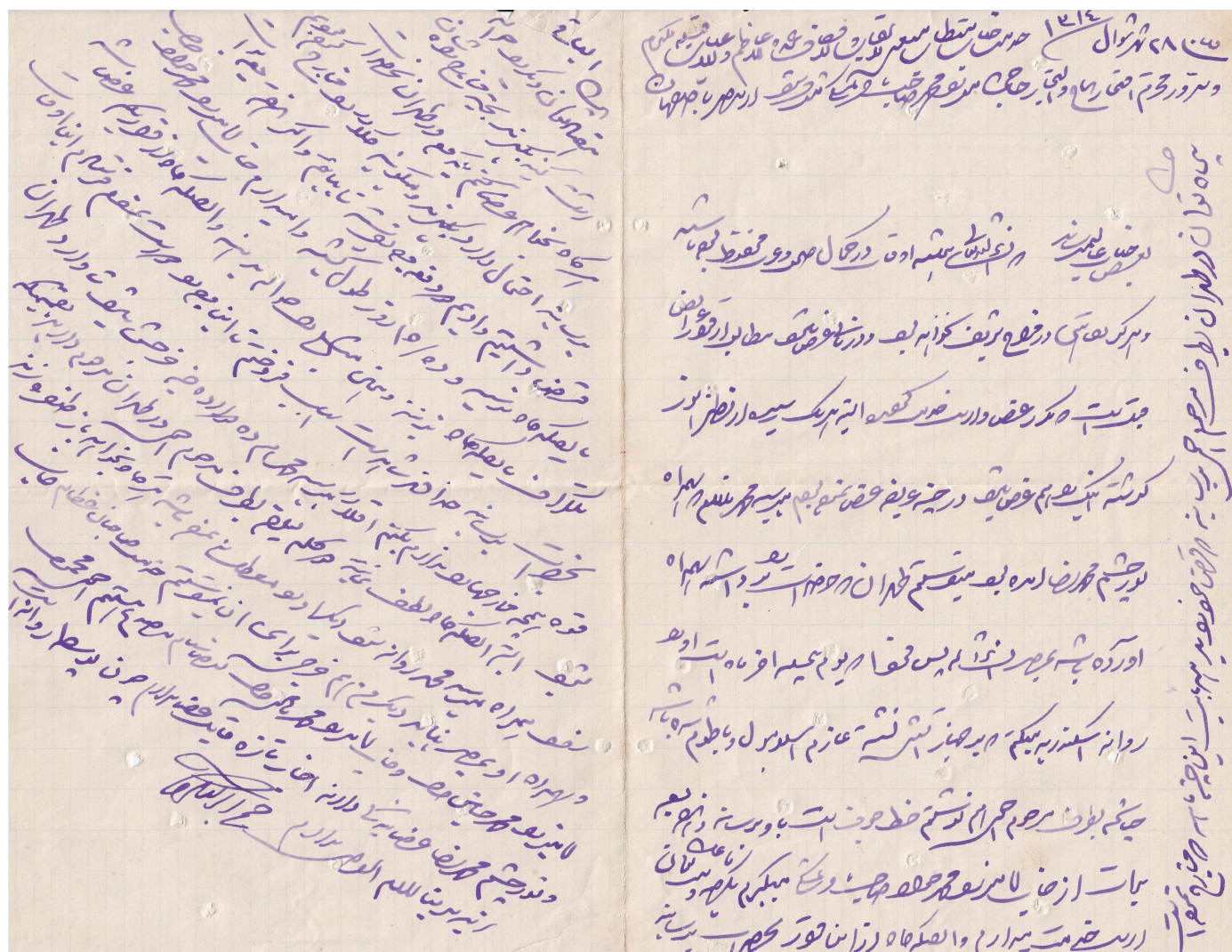


Fig. 9a and 9b (overleaf): Further images from the letter in fig. 8.





The Bushire disinfection is the only known example of incoming mail from India disinfected by the Persian P.O., while outgoing mail from Persia was disinfected by the Russian P.O. on entering Russian postal territory.

We have seen mail from India and Egypt being disinfected in Bushire. Most mail from Europe to Persia in the 1890s took the northern route via Russia into Persia and never passed plague-infected Bombay.

### Acknowledgments

*I thank Bjørn Sohrne for helpful suggestions and for showing me the two postal documents (figs. 6 and A6).*

### Sources and Literature

- Vandervelde, Victor Denis: *Disinfection of mail against plague, from 1897*. In: *Pratique*, no. 33, 2008, pp. 70–78.
- The Times: The Times of London, digital archive.
- The Graphic, vol. 40, 1897, no. 1418 (30.01.1897), p. 7.



## Railway Mail Services in Ottoman Europe (II) Ottoman Railway Station Post Offices and TPOs

by Atadan Tunacı and Folkert Bruining

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*This is a third article in a series looking at Ottoman Railways, the companies licensed to build and operate the railway lines, the state and company postal services that existed in Ottoman times, the travelling post offices in Ottoman Europe, regular Ottoman post offices at railway stations, railway stations in Thrace and Macedonia after the Balkan Wars, and the Greek railways in Thessaly.*

### Introduction

In “Railway Mail Services in Ottoman Europe I”<sup>1</sup> we wrote about the postal (and other) services delivered by three railway companies (C.O., C.O.S.M., J.S.C.) at their railway stations in Ottoman Europe. These services were needed by absence of regular Ottoman postal services at most of the stations. In this article we describe official Ottoman post offices established at some stations and in trains (TPOs) on various sections. Both types of post offices are described in the official Ottoman lists.<sup>2</sup>

### Official Ottoman Post Offices at Railways Stations

In part I of this article (MEPB 22) we described the ‘All Arabic’ postmarks used at some stations. In this paragraph we only describe the station postmarks with Ottoman/Arabic and French inscription.

#### Salonica Oriental Railway Station

In (about) 1900 Salonica had three railway stations.<sup>3</sup> Among them the Oriental railway station used by the companies of C.O. (direction of Üsküb) and C.O.S.M. (direction of Monastir).

#### Salonica Jonction Railway Station

Although the J.S.C. station in Salonica had a post office<sup>4</sup> since ca. 1898/1899, no postmarks are seen by us used at this station. The post office is not mentioned in the lists of Ottoman post offices.

#### Üsküb (Oriental) Railway Station

In the handbook of Dr. Andreas Birken<sup>5</sup> the station post office is mentioned of:

- Üsküb (vilayet Kosova, sandjak Üsküb).

1 See MEPB, no. 22, 2022, pp. 19–50.

2 For bibliography see MEPB 22, p. 50. Additional sources are listed at the end of this article.

3 Cf. MEPB, no. 22, 2022, pp. 22.

4 Tozoğlu, 2013, p. 354.

5 Birken, 2019.



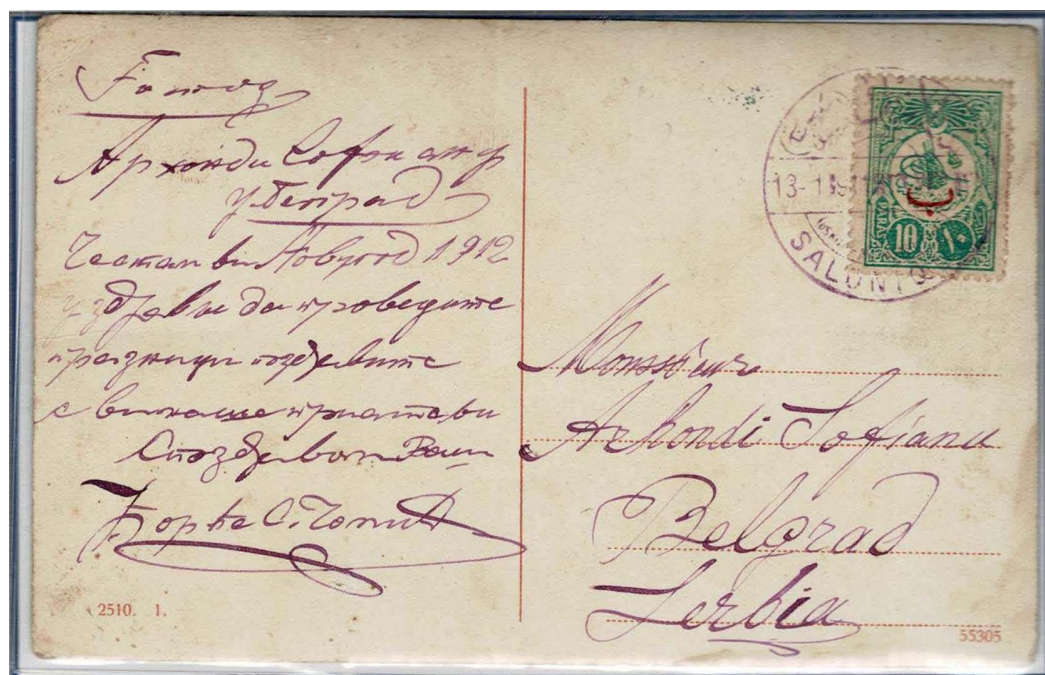


Fig. A1:

Railways in Ottoman  
Europe after 1912.

Source: Plate after p.  
176 in Woods, 1918.





Figs. 1 and 1a: Picture postcard sent on 13.01.1912 to Belgrad (Serbia). The card is cancelled with the station postmark "SALONIQUE (USKUB MONASTIR GARE?)" (C&W type C61).<sup>6</sup> This post office is mentioned in older lists of Ottoman post offices but strangely enough neither in the "nomenclature" of 1909,<sup>7</sup> nor the UPU list of 1909/1912.<sup>8</sup>

A similar postmark of the J.S.C. station at Salonica is not known.

*This very rare piece is in the collection of Atadan Tunacı.*



Fig. 2: Ottoman station postmark "USKUB (GARE)" [Üsküb demiryolu şubesi] (C&W type C3).

<sup>6</sup> Coles & Walker, part 1 (1984), addendum to part 1 (1984), and part 4 (1995).

<sup>7</sup> *Nomenclature ... 1909.*

<sup>8</sup> *Dictionnaire des bureaux de poste. 1909 and 1912.*



### Stations between Salonica and Üsküb

Birken mentions these four stations without showing (post)marks:

- Kara-Sou gare (Indicateur 1884: Kara Soulou gare), vilayet Selanik, sandjak Selanik, alternative names Karasouli, Karasu, Polikastro, the 'Indicateur 1884' gives a wrong position (vilayet of Kosova);
- Keukli gare. Birken suggests that the station of Keukli (Indicateur 1884: Keukli, vilayet of Cossova) is possibly the station of Guevghili (vilayet and sandjak of Selanik);
- Kirolak gare. The station of Kirolak (Indicateur 1884) is, according to Birken, not located in Eastern Roumelia. Birken suggests that it concerns the station of Krivolak (Krolak) in the vilayet of Selanik (sandjak Selanik).
- Stroumdja station, Stroumdja gare, vilayet Selanik, sandjak Selanik, alternative names: Stroumdjé, Strumdja, Strumica, Strumiza, Stroumnitza, see addendum Hodova gare (station mark recorded). Birken mentions the village of Miroftcha in the description of Stroumdja station but it concerns two different stations (see map in addendum).

### Stations between Üsküb and Mitrovitza

Birken mentions these three stations without showing (post)marks:

- Glyodor (Priştine gare) (vilayet Kosova, sandjak Priştine). Pristina was situated at some distance from the railway station. The office Gléodor (Pristina gare) is mentioned in the "Nomenclature des Bureaux de Poste" of 1903<sup>9</sup> and the UPU list of 1909,<sup>10</sup> but not in the "Nomenclature" of 1909!<sup>11</sup> Alternative names are: Gléodor, Globodovar, and Globoderica (Глободерица). In 1912 the place was renamed Obilić (Обилић, Albanian: Obiliq or Kastrioti);<sup>12</sup>
- Elyashan istasyonu (Indicateur 1884: Ellias-Han gare), Vilayet Kosova, sandjak Üsküb, alternative names: Eles-Han, Eleshan, İlyas Han, Serbian: General Jankovic;
- Lipyan gare, Lepian gare, vilayet Kosova, sandjak Priştine, alternative names: Liplian Lipljan, Lepian.

76	<b>Lipljan</b> , 550 metres.
86	<b>Priştina</b> station, 10 km. SW. of the town of Priştina.
95	<b>Obilić</b> station (532 metres), 10 km. W. of the town of Priştina. This was formerly Priştina station.

Fig. 3: A second station referred to as "Priştina Station" is said to have been situated about 10 km southwest of the city, opened after 1912 (on the basis of a map of that year).<sup>13</sup>

9 *Nomenclature ... 1903.*

10 *Dictionnaire des bureaux de poste. 1909.*

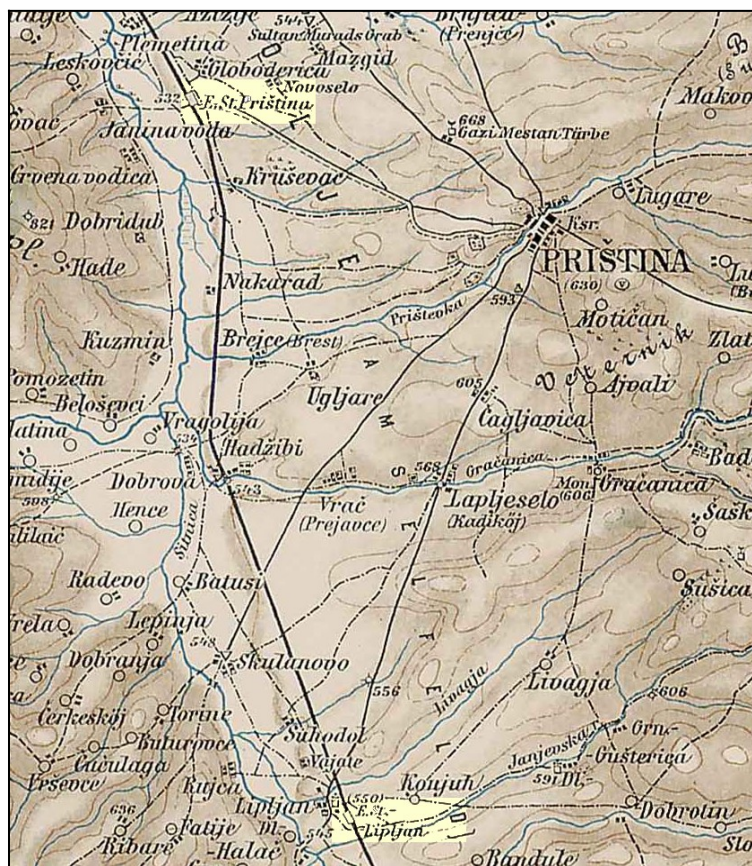
11 *Nomenclature ... 1909.*

12 *Dictionnaire des bureaux de poste. 1912.*

13 Cf. p. 377 in: *A handbook of Serbia, ...*, 1920; and this military map at issued in Vienna in 1940:

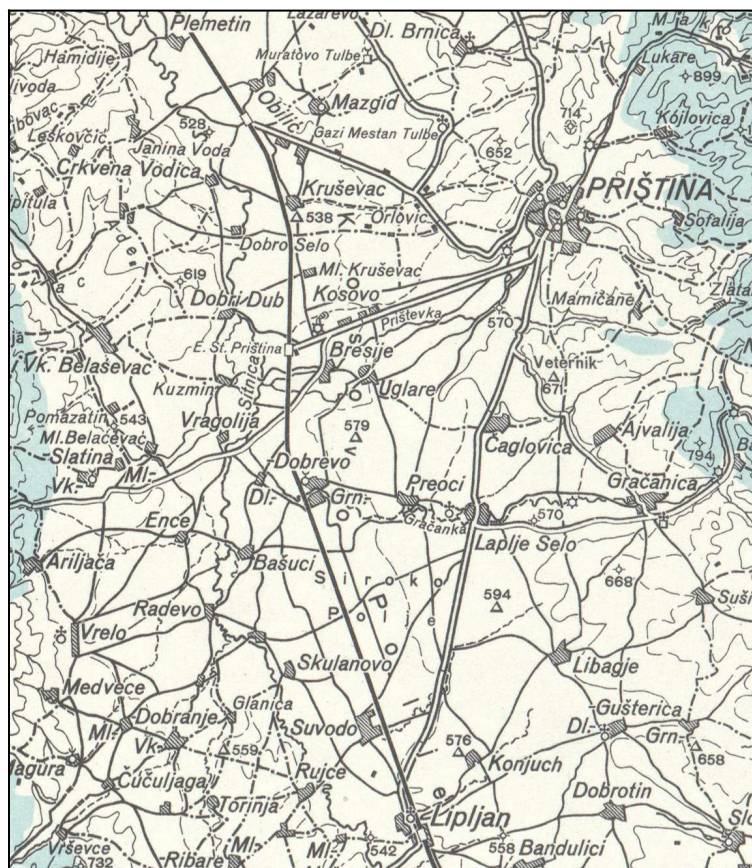
<http://geographie.ipt.univ-paris8.fr/rubriks/carto/cartorub/cartes/cartesnum/26741.jpg>. Used by permission obtained from Université Paris VIII Vincennes-Saint-Denis.





Figs. 4 and 5:

The railway station,<sup>14</sup> in Globoderica (Obilić) along the line Üsküb–Mitrovitza, at some distance north west of Pristina.<sup>15</sup>



<sup>14</sup> "E. St." = Eisenbahnstation = railway station

<sup>15</sup> Generalkarte von Mitteleuropa, 1:200.000, sheet 39–43.



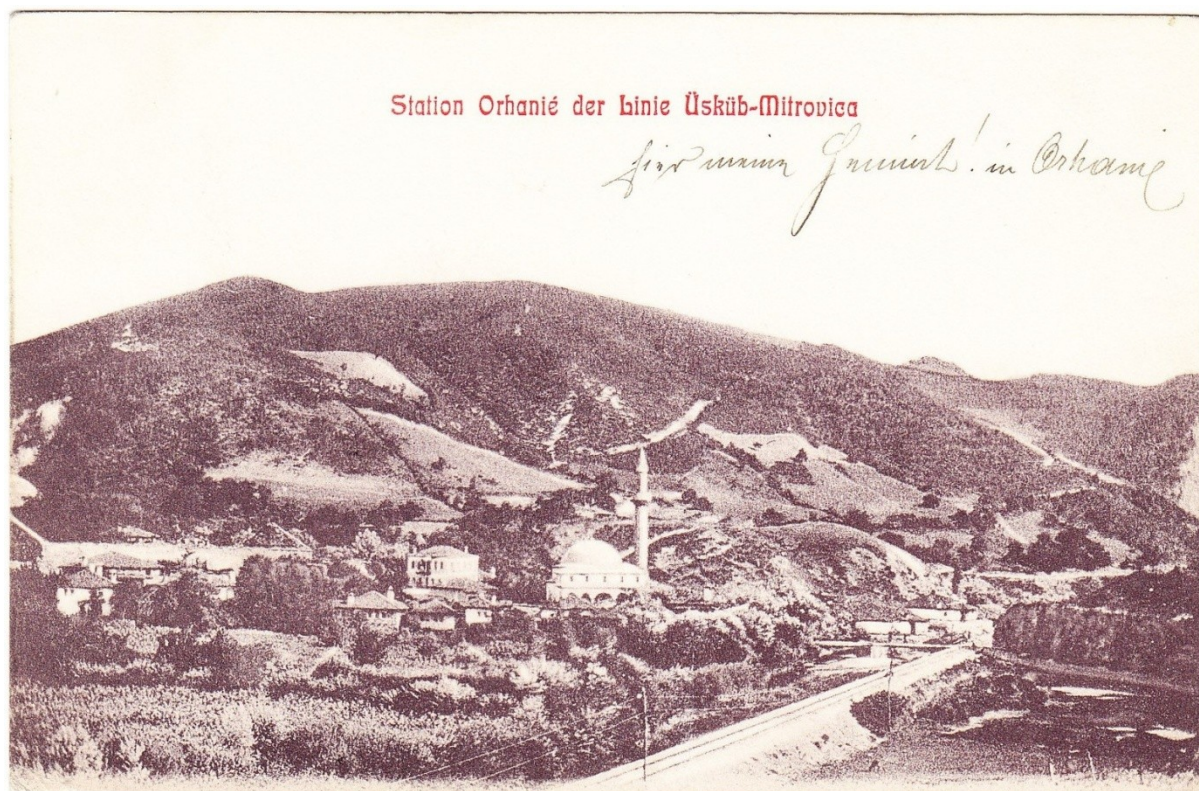


Fig. 6: Picture postcard sent to Vienna, mailed at the station of “Orhanié” (Orhaniye, Katchanik, Kačanik). Although the place had a station no (post)mark has ever been seen. On the address side the TPO postmark “MITROVITZA – USKUB”.<sup>16</sup> Birken mentions this postmark with spelling “USKUP”.<sup>17</sup>

### Stations between Üsküb and Zubeftche

Birken mentions one post office without showing a postmark:

- “Zozalidjé Gare” (vilayet Kosova, sandjak Priştine, Serbian: Žuželjica, Жужељица). The station is mentioned by Cervati<sup>18</sup> as the station of Bouyeneftché (Bujanovçe, Bujanovci, Boyanoftcha, Serbian: Staniza Bujanovac, станица Бујановац).<sup>19</sup> The town of Boyanoftcha is situated north of the railway line, the station south of it. It is the last but one station before the Serbian border station of Zubeftche (Zubefçe, Žbevac, Жбевац). No (post)mark is known. Only (limited?) telegraph services were available at the station.<sup>20</sup>

### Monastir C.O.S.M. Station

In the handbook of Birken the railway station post office is mentioned of:

- “Monastir (Gare)” (vilayet Monastir, sandjak Monastir).

16 See Addendum 1 on p. 54.

17 Illustration courtesy of Rolf Weggler (on Delcampe “rolfweggler”).

18 *Guide horaire* ... 1919 and 1911.

19 станица (staniza) = railway station.

20 *Nomenclature* ... 1903, and 1909.





Fig. 7:

Žuželjica at the railway line  
from Üsküb to Zubeftche  
(Žbevac).<sup>21</sup>



Fig. 8 and 9: Ottoman post office of "MONASTIR (GARE)" [Manastır demiryol şubesi]  
(type C3). Not listed by C&W.<sup>22</sup>

Postcard: Collection of Atadan Tunacı.



21 Bujanovce station lies south of the railway line near Žuželjica. "Ž. st." = железничка станица (železnička stanica) = railway station. Source of map: *Kumanova-Skoplje*. Belgrade: Geografski Institut Kraljevine Jugoslavije [Militärgeographisches Institut des Königreichs Jugoslawien], 1940. Online at University of Paris 8 (Vincennes Saint-Denis, France. Used by permission: <http://geographie.ipt.univ-paris8.fr/rubriks/carto/cartorub/cartes/cartesnum/25150.jpg>.

22 Coles & Walker, part 1 (1984), addendum to part 1 (1984), and part 4 (1995).



## Stations between Salonica and Monastir

Birken mentions:

- Ekşi Su station: “EKCHI-SOU-STATION (FLORINA)” (vilayet Monastir, sandjak Monastir).<sup>23</sup> Today: Xino Nero, Ξινό Νερό (a.k.a. Ekşisu, Eği Sou, Vrbeni, ‘Ano Vërbiani Άνω Βέρμπιανη).

## The many Places called Ekşi-Su

There were many places of this name in the Ottoman Empire: “اکشی” (ekşi) means sour, and “سو” (su) means water in Ottoman Turkish, so this generic *compositum* is often used for places with a cold mineral springs or baths.

Our Ekşi Su is widely known in Greece as its natural mineral water is bottled and marketed by Αμιγής Δημοτική Επιχείρηση και Βιομηχανική Ξινό Νερό (Xino Nero) and sold all over the country.

Nearby there's another place called Ekşisu, now a district in the city of Skopje called Kisela Voda (Кисела Вода) – which is “sour waters” in Macedonian & Bulgarian! (editor)

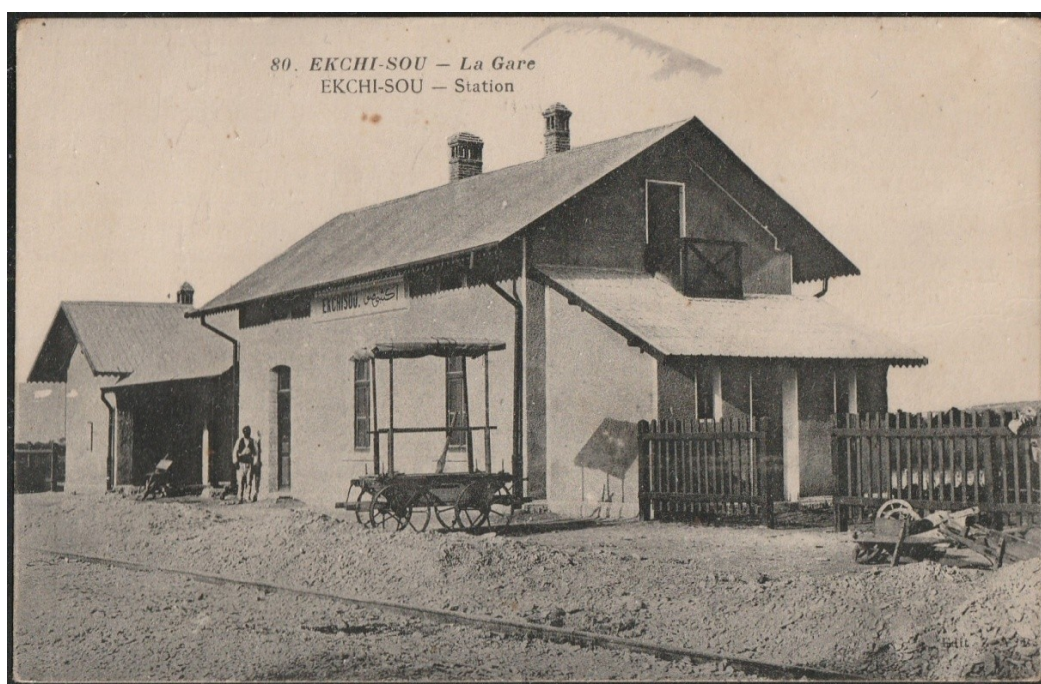


Fig. 10: Picture postcard of the station of Ekchi-Sou.



Fig. 11: Ottoman post office of “EKCHI-SOU-STATION (FLORINA)” (C&W type BO). Today the place is in Greece, called Xíno Néro and well known for its acidic mineral water: “Ekşi-su” means ‘sour’ in Turkish.<sup>24</sup>

<sup>23</sup> Give the addition “Florina”, one has to note that Florina Railway Station is situated in the village of Mesonisi (Μεσονήσι), now part of the Greek city of Florina (Φλώρινα, in Macedonian: Lerin, Лерин).

<sup>24</sup> Source: Karamitsos Public Auction 229 (April 2006).



### Stations between Salonica and Dédé Agatch

In the catalogue of Birken is mentioned:

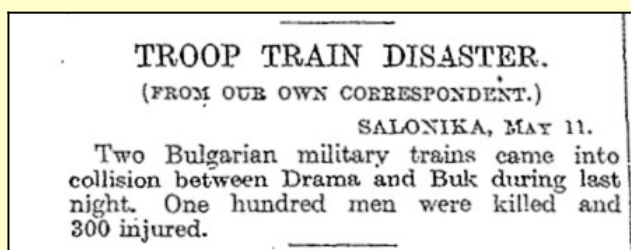
- Bük (Drama) (vilayet Selanik, sandjak Drama). Names: Osman Buk, Paranésti, Παρανεῖστι. As per *fig. 15*, the inscription is „STATION BUK (DRAMA)“ [*Bük istasyonu (Drama)*].

Strangely enough, the railway station post office is not to be found in the Ottoman or UPU lists.<sup>25</sup> Apparently this office opened in 1912, just before the outbreak of the First Balkan War.

#### The “Drama” Railway Accident of 1913<sup>26</sup>

Amidst the ongoing peace negotiations between Turkey, Bulgaria, Greece, and Serbia, a serious railway accident took place near Bük (now Paranésti) on 11.05.1913.

A Bulgarian military train carrying 30 wagons was travelling on the Saloniki–Dedeagaç–Mustafapaşa railway line when the coupling of the fifth wagon broke on an incline, causing 25 wagons to roll backwards. Near Bük they collided with 28 wagons of a military train stationary there. In the end 150 people died and 200 were injured (after initial estimates of 100 and 300, respectively). (*editor*)



*Fig. 12: Notice in The Times.*<sup>27</sup>

As already stated in MEPB 22 the existence of a regular Ottoman post office at either of the two stations in Dédé Agatch is not known by the authors.



*Fig. 13: The railway station of Ekchi Sou (Ekšisu), along the line Salonica–Monastir (Bitolj).*<sup>28</sup>

<sup>25</sup> *Dictionnaire des bureaux de poste*. 1909; and *Nomenclature ...* 1903, and 1909.

<sup>26</sup> Cf. *Eisenbahnunfall von Paranesti*. In: Wikipedia. Online: [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eisenbahnunfall\\_von\\_Paranesti](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eisenbahnunfall_von_Paranesti) (accessed 12.01.2023).

<sup>27</sup> The Times, 12.05.1913, p. 5. Sadly, there were no further details in later editions of this newspaper. In the same issue, Bulgarian total casualties for the war were given as 26,000, with 86,000 losses on the Turkish side.

<sup>28</sup> *Generalkarte von Mitteleuropa*, 1:200.000, sheet 39-41.



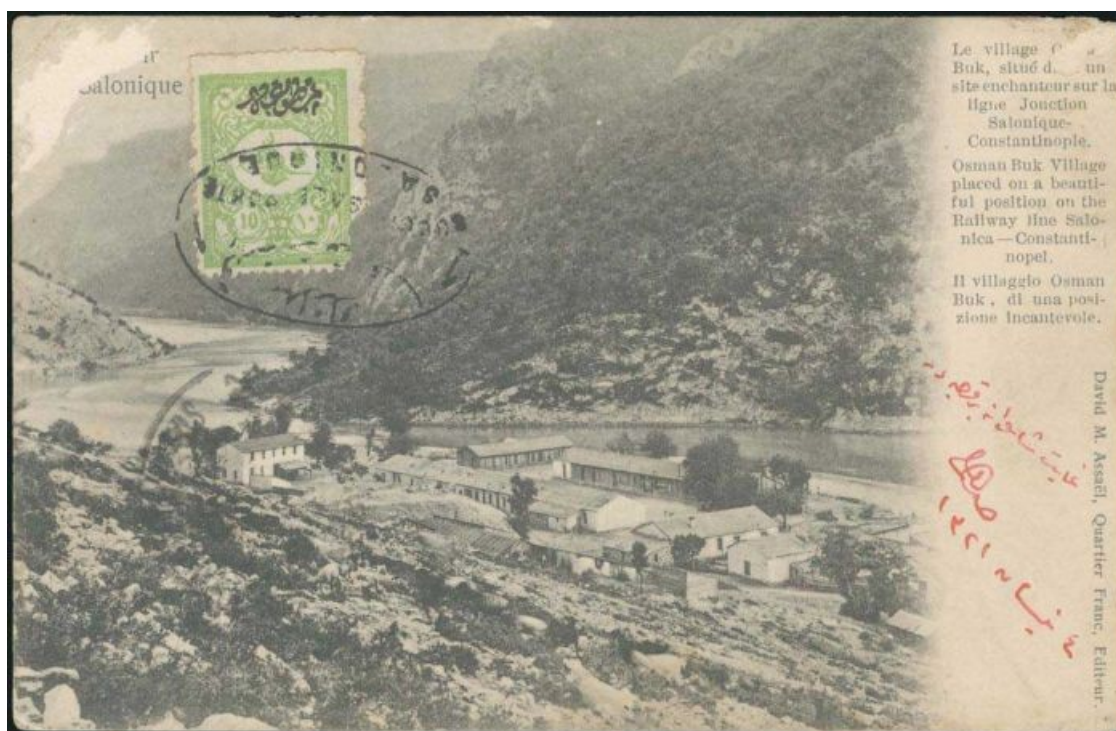


Fig. 14: Picture postcard of Osman Buk (Paranésti) on the left bank of the Kara Sou (Mesta) river. The railroad follows this river side for some distance.<sup>29</sup>

Postmark: "[*Selanik posta şubesi*] / Succursale Poste Salonique" (branch post office Salonica).

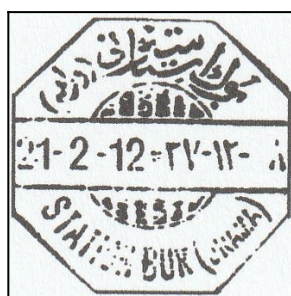


Fig. 15: Postmark "STATION BUK (DRAMA)"<sup>30</sup> (C&W type BO).<sup>31</sup>

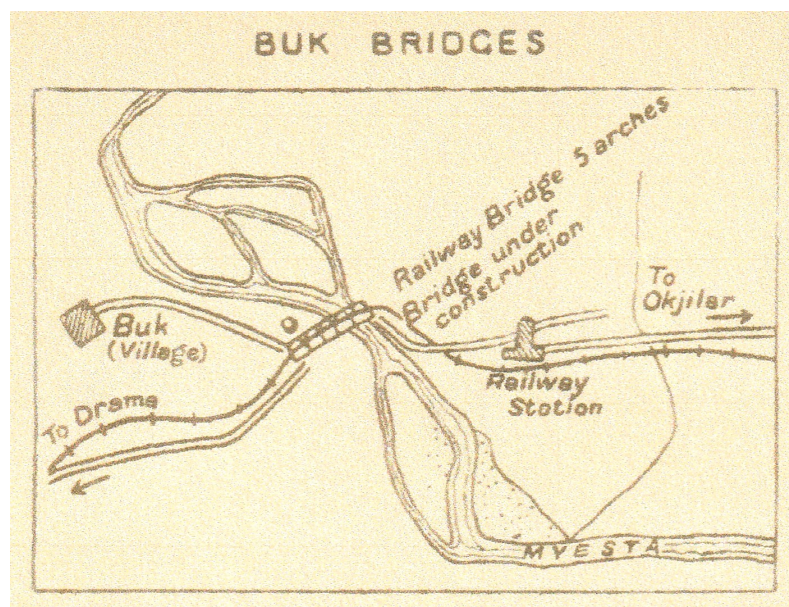


Fig. 16: Buk and Buk Station in Western Thrace, at the crossing of the railway between Drama and Iskedje and the Kara Sou river (Néstos, Νέστος).<sup>32</sup>

29 Source: Karamitsos Public Auction 484 (May 2014).

30 Birken, 2019.

31 Coles & Walker, part 1 (1984), addendum to part 1 (1984), and part 4 (1995).

32 Source: map facing p. 165 in: *A handbook of Bulgaria* / compiled by the Geographical section of the Naval intelligence division, Naval staff, Admiralty. [London]: HMSO, [1920]. Online: <https://archive.org/details/handbookofbulgar00grea/>.



### Stations between Kouléli-Bourgaz and Constantinople

Birken mentions:

- Lulé-Bourgaz (vilayet Edirne, sandjak Kirkkilise);
- Ouzoun Keupru (Cisr-i Ergene, Uzunköprü, vilayet Edirne, sandjak Edirne);
- Baba Eski station (vilayet Edirne, sandjak Kirkkilise);
- Constantinople Sirkedji station (vilayet İstanbul, sandjak İstanbul).

#### Lulé-Bourgaz

In the “Indicateur” of 1884<sup>33</sup> an Ottoman post office at the railway station is mentioned delivering postal services.<sup>34</sup> In the “Nomenclature” of 1903<sup>35</sup> only telegraph services at the station are mentioned while in the “Nomenclature” of 1909<sup>36</sup> again postal and telegraph services are mentioned.

Covers with postmarks or even postmarks on loose stamps are evidently very scarce. No Ottoman postmarks of the station during the period 1898–1912 are seen by us. Two postmarks are shown by Birken from the period after 1912.



Fig. 17: Registered cover with postmark “STATION LULÉ-BOURGAZ” 9.12.20 on a Greek 50 Lepta stamp of 1920 (MiNr. 200) with two-line overprint “Διοίκησης Θράκης” (Thrace administration, MiNr. 43). On the backside transit marks of the Greek postoffice of Andrinople (ΑΔΡΙΑΝΟΥΠΟΛΙΣ) and Thessalonica. *Collection Atadan Tunacı*.



Fig. 18:

Postmark of “STATION LULÉ-BOURGAZ” 14.07.1920 on an Ottoman stamp of 1919 (MiNr. 654) with overprint “Υπάτη Αρμοστεία Θράκης” (Thrace High Commission, Thrace, MiNr. 61).<sup>37</sup>

<sup>33</sup> *Indicateur* ... 1884.

<sup>34</sup> In their article in MEPB 22 the authors mentioned an ‘All Arabic’ postmark used at the station in the period 1889–1898, based on material from the collection of Atadan Tunacı.

<sup>35</sup> *Nomenclature* ... 1903.

<sup>36</sup> *Nomenclature* ... 1909.

<sup>37</sup> Source: Delcampe.



## Ouzoun Keupru

According to Birken four postmarks of the station are known.



Fig. 19–19b: Front and back side of letter sent on 9.10.1915 from “OUZOUN-KEUPRU (GARE) / 1” (C&W type C6).

The negative seal reads [Ouzoun KEUPRU hatt-ı] (?)  
= Ouzoun Keupru railway(?).<sup>38</sup>

Collection Atadan Tunacı.



38 Not listed by Birken, nor A&P, nor Papuçcuoğlu, 2022.



### Baba Eski Station

The railway station of Baba Eski was situated south-east of the actual town, closer to Alpoullou (Alapje, north of the railway line) and Sinanlou (Senanli, south of the railway line). Birken mentions 5 different postmarks of the station of Baba Eski (Sinanlou, Alpoullou).

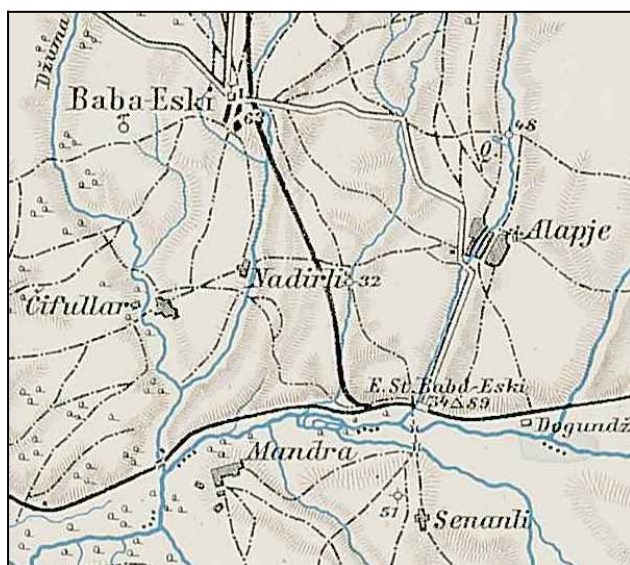


Fig. 20:

The railway station<sup>39</sup> of Baba-Eski (also indicated as the station of Alpoullou/Alapje or Senanli) in Eastern Thrace along the line from Edirne to Constantinople.<sup>40</sup>



Fig. 21: Postmark "BABA-ESKI (GARE)" (C&W type C2).  
Collection Atadan Tunaci.

<sup>39</sup> "E. St." = Eisenbahnstation = railway station.

<sup>40</sup> *Generalkarte von Mitteleuropa*, 1:200.000, sheet 45-41.





Fig. 22: Stationery card sent from "BABA-ESKI (GARE)" (C&W type C3) to Dédé Agatch.  
Collection Atadan Tunacı.

### Constantinople Sirkedji Station (C.O.)

Birken mentions 4 different postmarks of the Sirkedji station of Constantinople (Sirkeci garı).



Fig. 23: Letter transported by the Orient Express, sent 13.02.1890 from  
"CONSTANTINOPLE / GARE-SIRKEDJI" (C&W type CF) to Harburg (near Hamburg).  
Collection Atadan Tunacı.





Fig. 24: Postmark "CONSTANTINOPLE-GARE" of Sirkedji station (C&W type C3).<sup>41</sup>

#### Stations between Edirne and the Border of Eastern Roumelia

The only station mentioned by Birken is:

- "MUSTAFA PACHA" (vilayet Edirne, sandjak Edirne). Mustafapaşa, today Svilengrad, Свиленград (Bulgaria).



Fig. 25: Bilingual intaglio postmark "POSTE IMP. OTTOMAN / MOUSTAPHA PACHA-GARE" (C&W type BM). Collection Atadan Tunaci.

<sup>41</sup> Source: Corinphila auction, 2019.



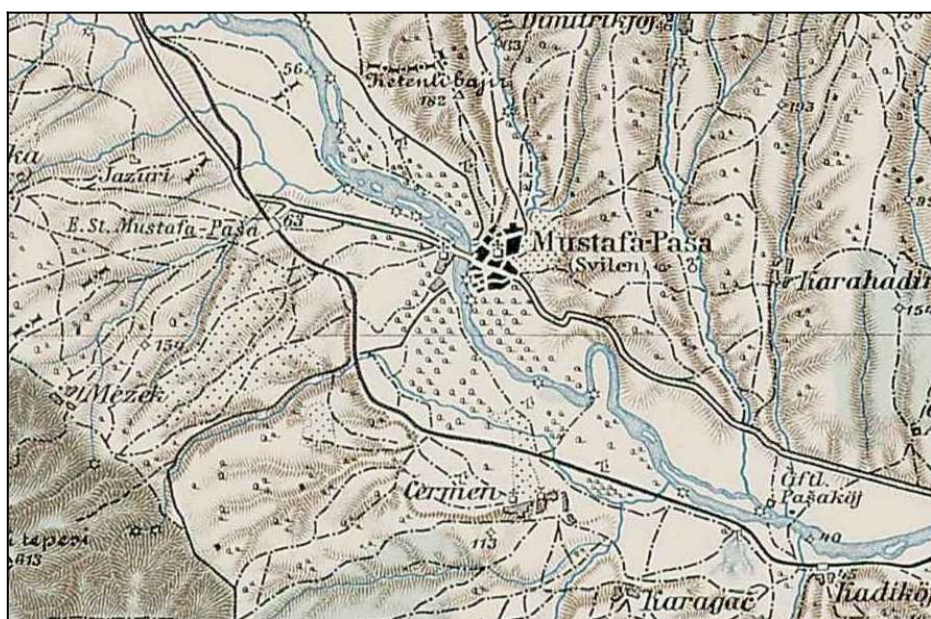


Fig. 26:

The railway station<sup>42</sup> “Mustafa-Paşa” (Mustafa Pacha, Mustafa-Paşa) situated west of the city.

The railway station of Edirne at Demir Tache is situated south-east of Mustafa Pacha along the line.<sup>43</sup>



Fig. 27: “MOUSTAFA-PACHA (GARE)” (C&W type C2).  
Collection Atadan Tunacı.

42 “E. St.” = Eisenbahnstation = railway station.

43 *Generalkarte von Mitteleuropa*, 1:200.000, sheet 44-42.



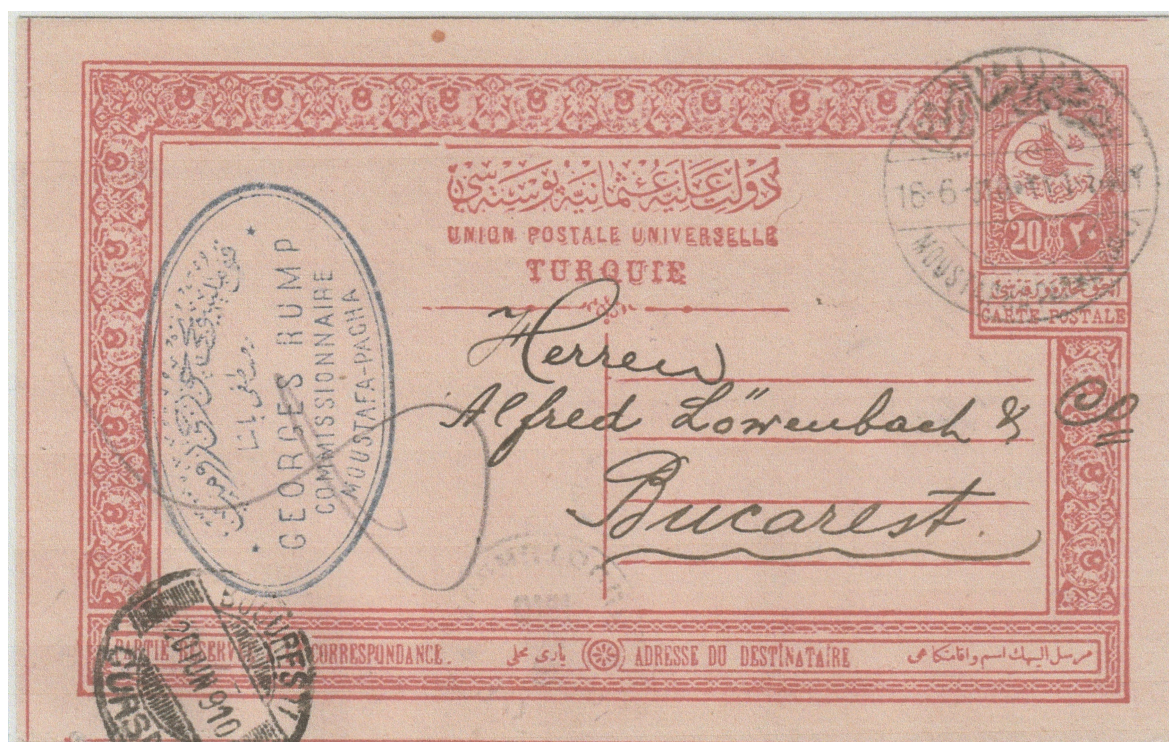
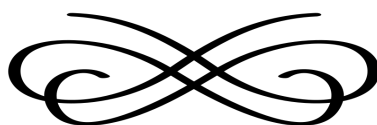


Fig. 28: Postcard with cancel "MOUSTAFA PACHA (GARE)" (C&W type C3).  
Collection Atadan Tunacı.



### Travelling Post Offices

If available, mail was handed over to travelling post offices (TPO) in operation on several trains. These TPOs were regular (ambulant) Ottoman post offices mentioned in the Ottoman lists.<sup>44</sup> In this paragraph we describe the postmarks of the 'all Arabic' type as well as those with Ottoman-Turkish (in Arabic script) and French inscription.

On the basis of literature, especially the lists of the Ottoman P.T.T., the following travelling post offices are known on the following lines:

- Salonica–Zubeftche (via Üsküb);
- Üsküb–Mitrovitza;
- Salonica–Monastir;
- Salonica–Dédé Agatch;
- Salonica–Constantinople/Stamboul;
- Dédé Agatch–Andrinople/Edirne;
- Constantinople–Andrinople/Edirne;
- Constantinople–Mustafa Pacha (border Eastern Roumelia);
- Demotica–Demir Tache (station of Andrinople/Edirne).

<sup>44</sup> *Nomenclature ...* 1903, and 1909.



### Types of Postmarks Used

In general the various TPOs used postmarks with the two terminal stations of the route (giving as a rule the direction of the train).

Two main types of postmarks can be distinguished:

- ‘all Arabic’ postmarks (the older types);
- bilingual postmarks with Ottoman-Turkish (in Arabic script) and French inscription.

A common feature of the ‘all Arabic’ postmark type is an inscription in the Ottoman language in Arabic script. Terminal stations are indicated as well as some administrative remarks and sometimes a year (most likely the year the seal was commissioned).

In the Ottoman/French type the direction of the train is usually clear, as a rule for both of the directions there was a separate postmark (compare illustrations below). In the Addenda<sup>45</sup> you can find an overview of known TPO marks with Ottoman/Arabic and French inscription.

### Railway Lines and Postmarks

#### Salonica–Zubeftche (over Üsküb)

#### Postmarks with Ottoman/Arabic and French inscription

The type has some subtypes, see Birken and Addendum 1<sup>46</sup> for a complete overview.



Fig. 29: Stationery card sent from Salonica to Vienna on 4.09.1899 and cancelled with the bilingual (brown) intaglio “BUREAU AMB. SALONIQUE-ZIBETCHE” [Selanik–Zubeftçe seyyar merkezi] (C&W type BM). Arrival mark of Vienna, 7.12.1899. Collection Atadan Tunacı.

45 Starting on p. 54.

46 See p. 54.



### Postmarks in Catalogues – and the Reality

by Tobias Zywiets

Looking at *figs. 24 and 35/36* one wonders how and why the reality of actual strikes and the illustrations in the relevant postmark catalogues (more often than not) diverge.

One argument is that there were not enough partial strikes available and that the quality of these strikes often was too inferior. This lead to drawing (partly) based on fantasy (or what would have been expected) and artistic imagination. But there are also deliberate decisions made by catalogue editors to leave out the date-bridge and (most of) the diacritics, *sukūn*, or other ornamental details.

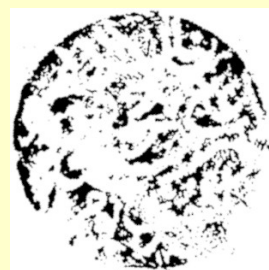
Let's compare these two examples shown elsewhere in this article:



*Figs. 30–33: The postmark as depicted on Tunaci's card (1, fig. 29), Birken (2 and 3),<sup>47</sup> and A&P (4).<sup>48</sup>*

The drawing in Birken is taken from Nicolas & Galinos. One notes that the two dots (stars?) at the bottom are much smaller in reality, also there is no dot at "BUREAU AMB." and the font in the surrounding inscription is very different as well. That's why Dr. Birken aimed to include actual strikes in addition!

The drawing in A&P is not much closer as it leaves out all the diacritics/sukūn, etc., and all three signs (dot, star, square) are wrong, as is the outer perimeter, especially in relation to the inner perimeter!



*Figs. 34–37: The strike from Tunaci's card (1), separated from the background (2), the drawing in Papuççuoğlu (3),<sup>49</sup> and the drawings of the 'other' seal in Birken & A&P (4).<sup>50</sup>*

The strike on Tunaci's card is certainly challenging but does look very similar to the drawing by Papuççuoğlu. The two seals only differ in the first line, the rest seems identical; and I really mean identical! (as if the first line was transposed onto the rest of the other seal): s-l-ā-n-k-d-d-ġ vs. s-l-ā-n-k-d-d. The *tā' marbūṭa* (ة) at d-d-ġ-ā-ġ-ā-ġ appears in some of Dedeāğaç's other postmarks as well.<sup>51</sup>

47 Birken, 2019, vol. Selanik, p. 17.auction

48 A&P, vol. 9, p. 131. Same illustration also in Papuççuoğlu, 2022, vol. 3, p. 141.

49 Papuççuoğlu, 2022, vol. 3, p. 141.

50 Birken, 2019, vol. Selanik, p. 17, and A&P, vol. 9, p. 131. Same illustration also in Papuççuoğlu, 2022, vol. 3, p. 141.

51 Cf. Birken, 2019, vol. Selanik, pp. 41/42.



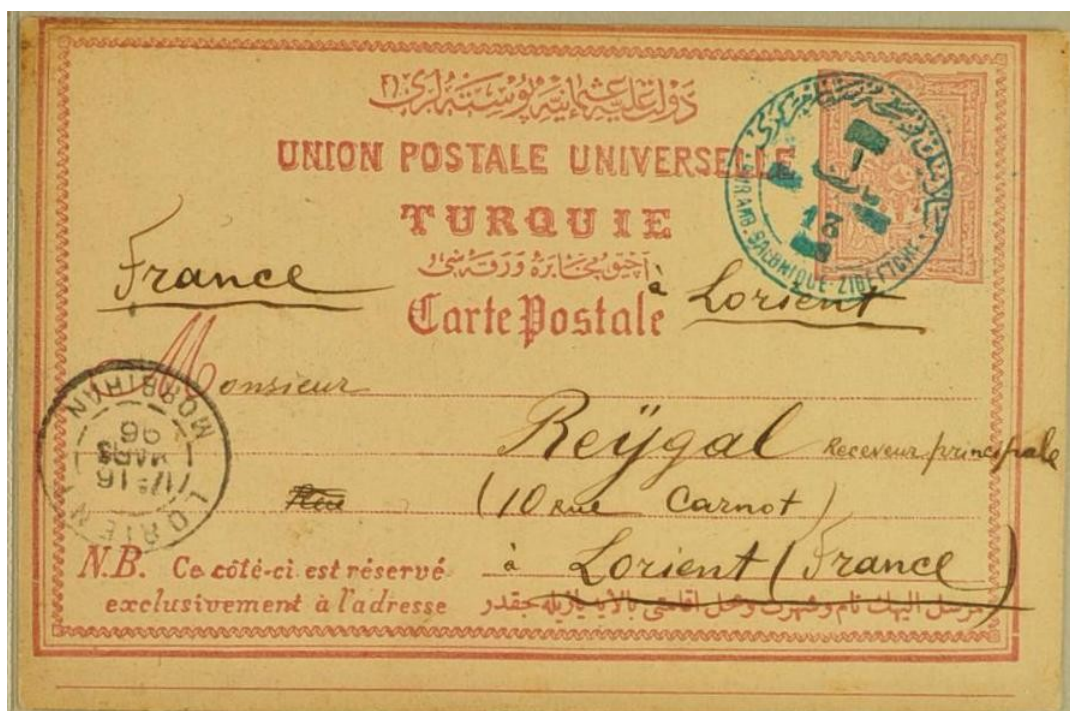


Fig. 38: Postcard sent on 13.03.1896 to Lorient (France):  
 "BUR.AMB.SALONIQUE-ZIBEFTCHE" [Selanik-Zubefçe seyyar merkezi] (C&W type C2).<sup>52</sup>



Fig. 39: Postcard sent on 27.02.1906 to Paris with  
 "BUR. AMB./SALONIQUE-ZIBEFTCHE" [Selanik-Zubefçe seyyar merkezi] (C&W type C3).<sup>53</sup>

<sup>52</sup> Source: Corinphila auction, 2019.

<sup>53</sup> Source: Corinphila auction, 2019.





Fig. 40–41: Postmark “BUR.AMB.ZIBEF.SAL.–”  
[Zibefçe–Selanik seyyar merkezi] (ambulant post office) (C&W type C5).<sup>54</sup>



Fig. 42: Picture postcard sent on 29.04.1908 from Guevgchili to Kruševac (Serbia).  
The card is posted at the railway station of Guevgchili and put in the trains's letterbox or handed over to the postal employee in charge.

“BUR. AMBUL. / SALONIQUE-ZUBEFTCHE” [Selanik–Zubefçe seyyar merkezi]  
(C&W type C3, Bayındır 81, N&G 22)

Note: slightly different from type C3 in fig. 24: “AMBUL.” instead of “AMB.”.

<sup>54</sup> Source: Corinphila auction, 2019.





Fig. 43:

Direction Zubeftche-Salonica: "BUR. AMBUL. /  
ZUBEFTCHE- SALONIQUE"  
[Zubefçe – Selanik] (C&W type C3).

### Üsküb–Mitrovitza:

#### Postmarks with Ottoman/Arabic and French Inscription

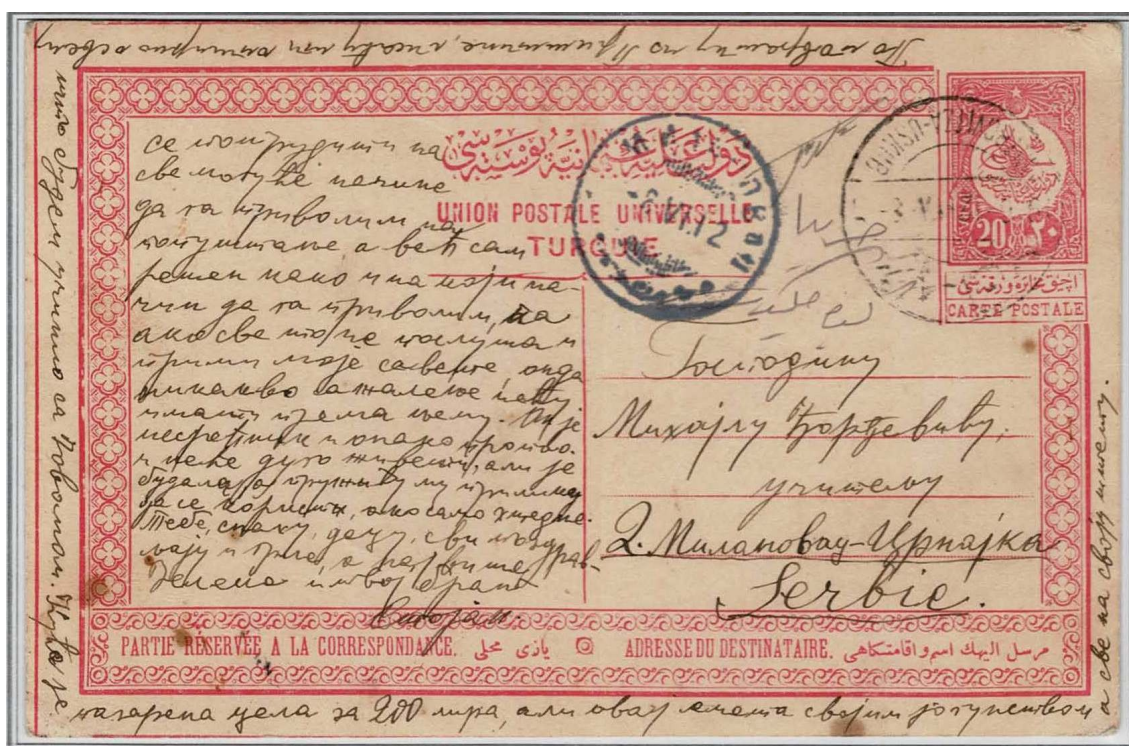


Fig. 44, 44a, and 45: 20 paras stationary card (correct rate to Serbia) with bilingual postmark "MITROVITZA-USKUB" [Mitroviča–Üsküb] (C&W type C3), sent on 6.06.1912, arrival 8.06.1912.

The drawn illustration of the postmark is from Birken showing the spelling "USKUP".<sup>55</sup> The postmark "MITROVITZA-USKUB" (with "B") is not mentioned by Birken. Collection Atadan Tunacı.



<sup>55</sup> Birken, 2019, vol. Kosova, p. 32. Birken's illustration stems from Bayındır, vol. 3, p. 808.





Fig. 46:

Inscription  
"DE MITROVITZA / À USKUB"  
(C&W type C3).

### Salonica–Monastir

### Postmarks with Ottoman/Arabic and French Inscription

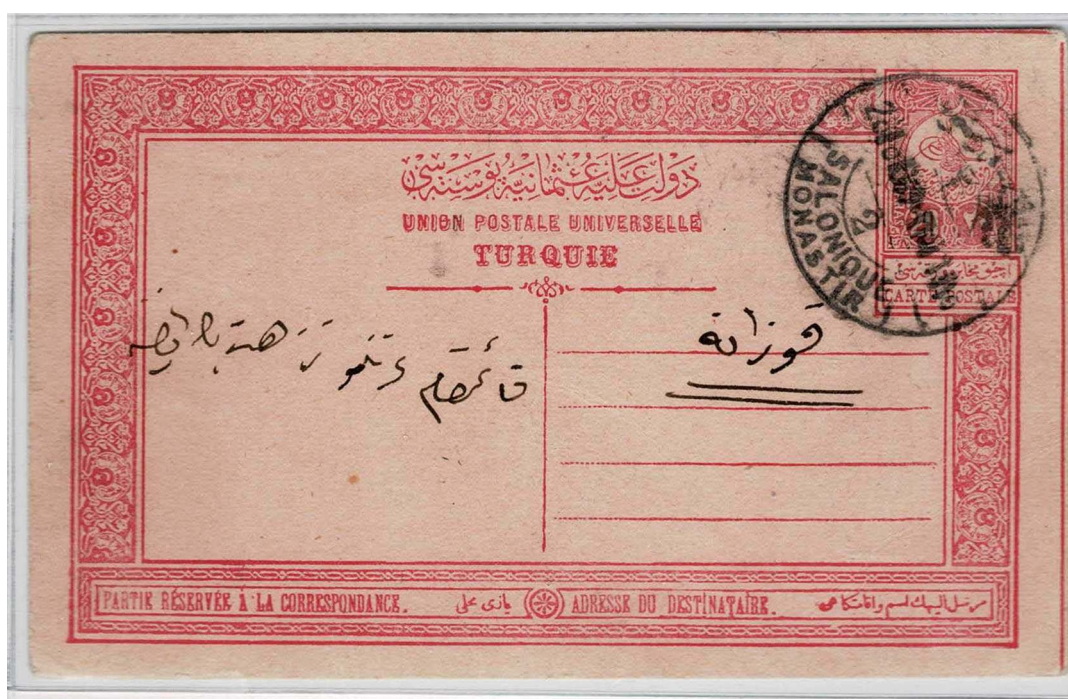


Fig. 47: 20 para stationary card sent in January 1909 from Monastir to Kozani [*kâ im makâm izzet'lu nâhid beğ efendi*] and cancelled with the bilingual mark "SALONIQUE/ ( MONASTIR ) / 2" (C&W type C6).

In the postmark "( MONASTIR )" is inbetween parentheses. Collection Atadan Tunaci.



Fig. 48 and 49:

Galinos<sup>56</sup> mentions this type with parentheses (left),<sup>57</sup> Birken shows it without parentheses (right).<sup>58</sup>



<sup>56</sup> Galinos, 1993.

<sup>57</sup> Source: Corinphila auction, 2019

<sup>58</sup> Birken, 2019.





Fig. 50 and 51: Ottoman TPO mark (Ottoman/Arabic and French inscription) used on the train from Salonica to Monastir (C&W types C6 and C3). Left with parentheses, right without parentheses.<sup>59</sup>

### Salonica–Dédé-Agatch

#### ‘All Arabic’ Postmarks

Fig. 52 (left) :



TPO mark of Salonica to Dédé-Agatch (C&W type GA) with inscription “[Selanik-Dedeagac simendöfer seyyar posta mamuri numero 5 / 1315]” (Salonica-Dédé Agatch ‘Chemin de Fer’ ambulant post office employee no. 1).<sup>60</sup> This type is slightly different (first line only) from the one from the collection of Atadan Tunacı (fig. 46).<sup>61</sup>



Fig. 53 (left) and 54 (above):



20 paras postal card to Dresden with an ‘All Arabic’ postmark “[Selanik-Dedeagac simendöfer seyyar posta mamuri numero 5 / 1315]” (Salonica-Dédé Agatch ‘chemin de fer’ ambulant employee, numero 5 – 131” (H. 131 = 1899) (C&W type GA).

The card is sent from Kilich and (very probably) posted at the nearby station of Kilindir.<sup>62</sup>

Collection Atadan Tunacı. Illustration of postmark from Papuçcuoğlu.<sup>63</sup>

<sup>59</sup> Source for the illustration on the right: Corinphila auction, 2019

<sup>60</sup> Source: Birken, 2019, vol. Selanik, p.17. A&P catalogue this as AP06 in vol. 9 on p. 133.

<sup>61</sup> See also discussion on p. 44.

<sup>62</sup> S.a. Bruining, 2020.

<sup>63</sup> Papuçcuoğlu, 2022, vol. 3, p. 141.



### Postmarks with Ottoman/Arabic and French Inscription

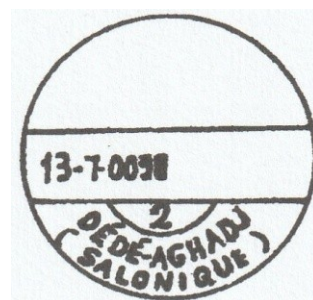


Fig. 55, 55a, and 56: Letter sent on 20.08.1908 to Bulgaria (Orchaniée, Орхание, today's Botevgrad, Ботевград). Bilingual postmark "DÉDÉ-AGHADJ / ( SALONIQUE ) 2" (C&W type C6). Collection Atadan Tunacı. Postmark drawing from Galinos and Birken.<sup>64</sup>

### Demotika–Demir Tache

Until 1915 a small area in Thrace at the right bank of the Maritza river, including the places of Demotika, Kouléli-Bourgas, Demir Tache and Kara Agatch, was Ottoman territory.<sup>65</sup> In 1915 the area was transferred to Bulgaria in exchange for its entrance in WWI on the Ottoman side.<sup>66</sup>

The Ottoman TPO service Demotika–Demir Tache, as follow-up to the former TPO service Dédé Agatch–Andrinople was in operation until the mentioned transfer.



Fig. 57:

Postmark "AMBULANT / DÉMOTIKA-DEMIR TACH / 2" (C&W type C6).<sup>67</sup>

The railway station of Adrianople was situated near the village of Demir Tache

<sup>64</sup> Galinos, 1993, and Galinos/Nicolas, 1996; Birken, vol. Edirne, p. 43.

<sup>65</sup> See my article *Kouléli-Bourgas of all places...* in MEPB 21, p. 28.

<sup>66</sup> Cf. Galinos, 1993.

<sup>67</sup> Source: Galinos, 1993.



### Postmarks with Ottoman/Arabic and French inscription

Birken mentions two postmarks, both for the direction Demotika–Demir Tache.

### Dédé-Agatch-Adrianople (Andrinople/Edirne)

### Postmarks with Ottoman/Arabic and French inscription



Fig. 58: 20 paras postal card of sent in 1908 from Andrinople to Dédé Agatch: “ANDRINOPLE / DÉDÉ AGHADJ” (C&W type C3, not listed by A&P and Birken). Bilingual marks used on this train are from the period 1908–1910.<sup>68</sup> Collection Atadan Tunacı.

### Constantinople–Adrianople (Andrinople/Edirne)

### ‘All Arabic’ postmarks

Gallinos as well as Birken negative show a postmark “Dersa‘adet-Edirne seyyar memuri 1310” (fig. 59).<sup>69</sup>

### Postmarks with Ottoman/Arabic and French inscription

Birken shows a postmark with “BUR.-AMBUL. / CONS/PLE-ANDRINOPLE” [Der‘aliye–Edirne seyyar merkezi] (fig. 60).

<sup>68</sup> Cf. Birken, 2019, vol. Edirne, p. 43.

<sup>69</sup> Galinos/Nicolas, 1996; and Birken, 2019, vol. İstanbul Merkez, p. 60.





Fig. 59 and 60: "Dersa'adet-Edirne seyyar memuri 1310" and "BUR.-AMBUL. / CONS/PLE-ANDRINOPLE".<sup>70</sup>

### Salonica–Constantinople/Stamboul

#### Postmarks with Ottoman/Arabic and French inscription



Fig. 61: TPO postmark "SALONIQUE-STAMBOUL" (C&W type C6).<sup>71</sup>



Fig. 62: TPO postmark "BUR. AMB. CONS/PLE-SALONIQUE" (C&W type C6).



<sup>70</sup> Source: Birken, 2019, vol. İstanbul Merkez, p. 60.

<sup>71</sup> Source: Corinphila auction, 2019



## Constantinople–Mustafa Pacha (border Eastern Roumelia)

## Postmarks with Ottoman/Arabic and French inscription



Fig. 63: Bilingual intaglio postmark "BUREAU AMB. CONSTANTINOPLE-MOUSTAFI PACHA" (C&W type BM). Collection Atadan Tunaci.



Fig. 64: Stationery card sent on 18 February 1914 from the station of Constantinople Postmark "BUR. AMBUL./CONS/PLE-M. PACHA" (Mustapha Pacha, Svilengrad) (C&W type C3).<sup>72</sup>  
In 1914, Mustafa Pacha was, as a result of the First Balkan War, Bulgarian.<sup>73</sup>

<sup>72</sup> Not listed by Birken.



### Kirk Kilisse–Alpoullou

This was a branch line of the railroad between Constantinople and Edirne and had a travelling post office. The line was not exploited by the C.O.

For the sake of completeness we mention this TPO because it was part of the railway mail service in Ottoman Europe. At Alpoullou/Sinanlou the station of Baba Eski was situated.

### Postmarks with Ottoman/Arabic and French inscription



*Figs. 65 and 66: Postmark of the TPO  
“KIRK KILISSE ALPOULOU / AMBULANT”.*<sup>74</sup>

### Addendum 1

#### Travelling Post Offices

Types conform to Coles & Walker.<sup>75</sup> Relevant are the types GA, CF, C3, C4, C5, C6, C6R, BM, and BO. Note that C&W did not describe TPO postmarks in their books. Information in the tables is mainly on the basis of Birken.

Willy Pijenburg, member of the Dutch philatelic society Al-Barīd, wrote an interesting article about the travelling post offices between Constantinople and Mustafa Pacha.<sup>76</sup> He states that although some postmarks are not seen, they should exist, this on the basis of some logical arguments. He concluded that the theoretical number of postmarks used is 24 for each direction.

With Pijenburg the authors are convinced too that a lot of marks are not seen and it is just a matter of time that interesting things will appear. For the time being, we restrict us as much as possible to actually recorded marks or postal items. So, of course, we are glad to extend the tables with two newly recorded postmarks: “BUR. AMBUL./M. PACHA-CONS/PLE” (type C3) and “MOUSTAFA-PACHA CO...” (type CF). No other mark of type CF is mentioned in our tables. Thank you, Willy!

<sup>73</sup> The railway was however still operated by the Turkish railway company Compagnie des Chemins de Fer Orientaux. Cf. Pijenburg, 2021.

<sup>74</sup> Source: Corinphila auction, 2015 (left) and Birken (right).





Figs. 67–68:

The two postmarks discovered  
by Willy Pijnenburg:

“BUR. AMBUL. / M. PACHA-CONS/PLE”  
and  
“MOUSTAFA-PACHA CO[NSTANTINOPLE]”

### Salonique–Zubeftche v.v.

Type	French Inscription	Notes
BM	BUREAU AMB. SALONIQUE-ZIBEFTCHE	Intaglio
C2	BUR. AMB. SALONIQUE ZIBEFTCHE	
C3	BUR. AMB./SALONIQUE-ZUBEFTCHÉ	
C3	BUR. AMBUL./SALONIQUE-ZUBEFTCHÉ	
C5	SALONIQUE-ZUBEFTCHÉ	
C2	BUR. AMB. ZIBEFTCHÉ-SALONIQUE	
C3	BUR. AMBUL./ZUBEFTCHÉ-SALONIQUE	
C5	BUR. AMB. ZIBEF. SAL.-	
C5	ZUBEFTCHÉ-SALONIQUE	
C5	ZUBEFTCHÉ-SALONIQUE	

### Üsküb–Mitrovitza v.v.

Type	French Inscription	Notes
C3	MITROVITZA-USKUP	Birken, after Bayindir
C3	MITROVITZA-USKUB	on picture postcard (fig. 44 in this article)
C3	DE MITROVITZA/Á USKUB	
C3	DE USKUB/Á MITROVITZA	

### Salonique–Monastir v.v.

Type	French Inscription	Notes
C2	BUR. AMB. SALONIQUE-MONASTIR	
C3	SALONIQUE/MONASTIR	
C6	SALONIQUE/(MONASTIR)	Nr. 2
C3	MONASTIR/(SALONIQUE)	
C3	MONASTIR/SALONIQUE	
C6	MONASTIR/(SALONIQUE)	Nr. 1
C6	MONASTIR/(SALONIQUE)	Nr. 2

75 Coles & Walker, part 1 (1984), addendum to part 1 (1984), and part 4 (1995).

76 Pijnenburg, 2021.



## Salonique–Dédé Agatch v.v.

Type	French Inscription	Notes
GA	<i>Selanik-Dedeağaç şimendöfer seyyar posta mamuri</i>	Nr. 5
C6	SALONIQUE/(DÉDÉ AGHADJ)	Nr. 2
C6	DÉDÉ-AGHADJ/(SALONIQUE)	Nr. 2

## Dédé Agatch–Andrinople

Type	French Inscription	Notes
C3	DÉDÉ AGHADJ/ANDRINOPLE	C3

## Demotika–Demir Tache

Type	French Inscription	Notes
C6	AMBULANT/DÉMOTIKA-DEMIR TACH	Nr. 1
C6	AMBULANT/DÉMOTIKA-DEMIR TACH	Nr. 2

## Salonique–Constantinople v.v.

Type	French Inscription	Notes
C6	SALONIQUE-STAMBOUL	Nr. 1
C6	SALONIQUE-STAMBOUL	Nr. 2
C6	SALONIQUE-STAMBOUL	Nr. 3
C6	SALONIQUE-STAMBOUL	Nr. 4
C6	SALONIQUE-STAMBOUL	Nr. 5
C3	BUR. AMB./CONS/PLE-SALONIQUE	
C6	STAMBOUL-SALONIQUE	Nr. 1
C6	STAMBOUL-SALONIQUE	Nr. 2
C6	STAMBOUL-SALONIQUE	Nr. 3
C6	STAMBOUL-SALONIQUE	Nr. 4
C6	STAMBOUL-SALONIQUE	Nr. 5

## Constantinople–Mustafa Pacha v.v.

Type	French Inscription	Notes
BM	BUR. AMB. MOUSTAFA PACHA-CONSTANTINOPLE	Intaglio with numerals IX and VII
C2	BUR. AMB. MOUST. PACHA-CONSPL	A-D in inner ring
C3	BUR. AMBUL./CONS/PLE-M. PACHA	
C3	BUR. AMBUL./M. PACHA-CONS/PLE	Pijnenburg
CF	MOUSTAFA-PACHA CO(NSTANTINOPLE)	Pijnenburg
C6	MUSTAFA-PACHA-STAMBOUL	Nos. 1–8
BM	BUREAUX CONSTANTINOPLE-MOUSTAFA PACHA	Intaglio
BM	BUR. AMB. CONSTANTINOPLE-MOUSTAFA PACHA	Intaglio, no. VIII, also recorded no. IV



## Constantinople–Andrinople v.v.

Type	Inscription	Note
GA	<i>Dersa'adet-Edirne seyyar memuru 1310</i>	Birken/Galinos
C3	BUR.-AMBUL./ANDRINOPLE-CONS/PLE	Birken/Galinos
C3	BUR. AMBUL./CONS/PLE-ANDRINOPLE	Galinos
C3	BUR.-AMBUL./CONS/PLE-ANDRINOPLE	Birken/Galinos

## Addendum 2

## Ottoman Vocabulary: Post and Post Office

Transkription	Enmglisch	Ottoman
cihet(-i)	side, direction	جهت
demiryol(-u) timuryol(-u)	railway	تیمور یولی
hatt(-i)	(rail)way, road, line	خط
iltisak	connection, junction	یلتصق
istasyon(-u)	station	استسیون
mamur(-i) mamur(-u) memur(-u)	empolyee, chief	مامور
merkez(-i)	centre, station	مرکز
posta(-si)	post	پوستا
seyyar(-i)	ambulant	سیار
simendöfer şömendöfer simendefer	corruption of “chemin de fer”	شمندوفر
şube(-si)	(sub)office	شبعه

## Addendum 3

## Geographical names

Ottoman Name	Modern name	Ottoman Name
Ağostos	Náoussa	اغستوس
Bük	Paranésti	بوك
Dersa'adet	Istanbul/Constantinople	در سعادت
Dédé Agatch	Alexandroupolis	دده اغاج
Demotica/Dimetoca	Didymoteicho	دمتوقه
Drama	Drama	درامه
Edirne/Andrinople	Edirne	ادرنه



Ottoman Name	Modern name	Ottoman Name
Ekşi Su	Xínon Néron	اكشى صو
Gléodor	Obilić, Obiliq	غليودور
Kosova	Kosovo	قوصوه
Mitrovitza	Mitrovicë	مترويتچه
Manastir/Monastir	Bitolj	مناستر
Prishtine	Pristina	پرشتنه
Selanik	Salonica/Thessalonica	سلانيك
İstanbul/Stamboul	İstanbul	استانبول
Üsküb	Skopje	اسكوب
Zozalidjë	Žuželjica	ژوزةليجة
Zubeftche/Zibeftche/Zibefçe	Zjbevac	زيبفجه

#### Addendum 4

##### Post Offices at Railway Stations Mentioned in the *Indicateur* of 1884

In the *Indicateur 1884* the next stations are mentioned which are not (in one way or another) described by Dr. Birken:

##### Vilayet Selanik

- Ahmed Ova gare, vilayet Selanik, sandjak Selanik, alternative names: Ahmèdova, Amatovo, Hamatovo, Aspro(u), (C.O.-mark recorded);
- Demir Capou gare, vilayet Selanik, sandjak Selanik, alternative names: Timour Kapou, Demir Kapija (C.O.-mark recorded);
- Gradsco gare, vilayet Selanik, sandjak Selanik, alternative names: Gradsko, Gradisco, Gradsço (C.O.-marks recorded);
- Hodova gare, vilayet Selanik, sandjak Selanik, alternative names: Udovo, Udowo, Udorvo, Hidvé;
- Meroftcha gare, vilayet Selanik, sandjak Selanik, alternative names Mirovche, Miroftcha, Miroftché, Mirofça, Miravci, Miravči, Mirarvzi;
- Salonique gare (C.O., C.O.S.M.), vilayet Selanik, sandjak Selanik (for postmark see this article);
- Topdji gare, vilayet Selanik, sandjak Selanik, alternative names: Topsin, Topçi, Géfira.

‘Hodova gare’ is the alternative name of the railway station of Stroumitza (Strumica, Strumiza, Strumitsa) (see map Bf. Strumiza). The small town of Stroumitza is situated about 20 kilometers north-east of this station.

Birken mentions the station of Strumica as well, but not the station of Hodovo. In later Ottoman post lists the two stations are not mentioned any longer.



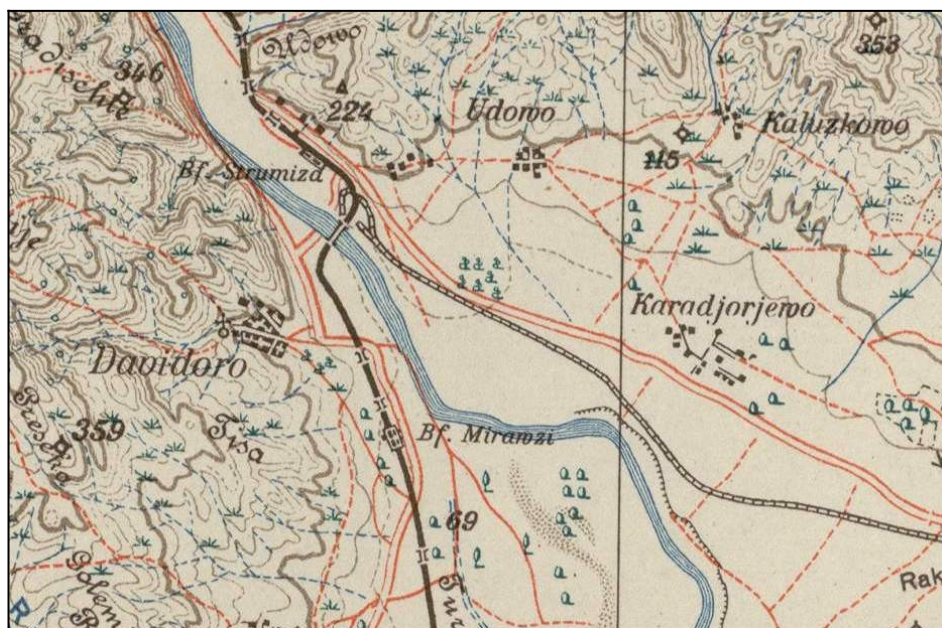


Fig. 69: Detail of map Gewgeli (Guevgheli) with the stations of Strumiza and Mirawzi. Above in the middle the village of Udowo (Hodova).<sup>77</sup>

### Vilayet Edirne

- Feredjik gare, vilayet Edirne, sandjak Dedeagaç, alternative names Fercik, Férrai, Ferres;
- Gumuldjina gare, vilayet Edirne, sandjak Gümülcine, this station did not exist in 1884, the J.S.C.-line opened later, so incorrectly mentioned in the *Indicateur*), alternative name Komotini (J.S.C.-mark recorded);
- Kadikeuy gare (Edirne?);
- Kouléli Bourgas gare, vilayet Edirne, sandjak Edirne, alternative names: Pythion (C.O.-mark recorded);
- Mouradli gare, vilayet Edirne, sandjak Tekfurdağı, alternative names: Mouradli-Keupekli, Mir'atle, Muradli, Muratli;
- Orlou gare, vilayet Edirne, sandjak Edirne, alternative names: Ourli, Orli, Urlu, Thourion, Orestias;
- Pavli gare, vilayet Edirne, sandjak Edirne, alternative names: Pavliköy, Pehlivanköy (C.O.-mark recorded);
- Petekli gare, vilayet Edirne, sandjak Dedeagaç, alternative names: Pitikli, Bidigli, Tychion;
- Siéler gare, vilayet Edirne, sandjak Kirkkilise, alternative names: Seydler, Seyidler (C.O.-mark recorded);
- Tchoulou gare, vilayet Edirne, sandjak Tekfurdağı, alternative names: Çorlu, Çorli (all Arabic postmark recorded).

### Vilayet Kosova

- Firzovik gare, vilayet Kosova, sandjak Priştine, alternative names: Firozabey, Firouz Bey, Verisovitz, Firizović, Uroševac;
- Keuprulu gare (Selanik or Kosova/Üskub?);
- Mitrovitza gare, vilayet Kosova, sandjak Priştine, alternative names Mitroviçe, Kosovska Mitrovica (all Arabic postmark recorded, C.O.-mark recorded);

<sup>77</sup> Source: Austrian Generalstabskarte. University of Paris 8 Vincennes Saint-Denis (used by permission).



ÛSKÛB (SKOPLJE)—MITROVICA, 122 km.	
km.	
0	Ûsküb, alt. 247 metres.
5	Crosses <b>Vardar</b> ; follows first r. and then l. bank of the <b>Lepenac</b> . There is a halt, with double line, near Vučidol village, called <b>Vučiji Do</b> .
26	<b>Eles-han</b> (officially called by the Serbians Djeneral Jankovic).

Fig. 70: Listing in A Handbook of Serbia.

### Railway stations not mentioned in the *Indicateur 1884* or in Birken

It is not improbable that some railway stations are not mentioned in Birken or the *Indicateur 1884* but indeed did exist. On the internet we found additional information<sup>78</sup> but it is not clear whether (post)marks are recorded or even reported but not seen. Mentioned in parenthesis are the station marks described in MEPB 22.

Note that J.S.C.-line is opened in 1896, so stations along this line are not mentioned in the 'Indicateur 1884'.

- Aghostos (C.O.S.M.-mark recorded);
- Banitza (C.O.S.M.-mark recorded);
- Boukaroftjé/Boukoftjé (station mark recorded);
- Drama (J.S.C.-mark recorded);
- Florina (C.O.S.M.-mark recorded);
- Gumendjé;
- Gumuldjina (J.S.C.-mark recorded);
- Hademkeui (C.O.-mark recorded);
- Isketche (J.S.C.-mark recorded);
- Karabounar (C.O.-marks recorded);
- Katchanik (Orhanié);
- Olgaré cariyéssi;
- Philipoppel (C.O.-mark recorded);
- Tatar-Bazardjik (C.O.-marks recorded);
- Tcherkeskeui (C.O.-marks recorded);
- Tirnova Seymenli;
- Vertekop (C.O.S.M.-marks recorded);
- Vildjétrine;
- Vodena (C.O.S.M.-marks recorded);
- Yédikoulé (C.O.-mark recorded, shown in Birken with a question mark).

### Acknowledgment

*The authors wish to thank Tobias Zywiets for his effort to publish the article in MEPB 23 and his advice about and additions to the text.*



<sup>78</sup> Based on a list of post offices prepared by Osman Levend Seral. Online: <https://doczz.biz.tr/download/16343>.

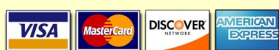


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<sup>79</sup> Additional to the bibliography in MEPB 21 on p. 50.

## İstanbul Mosques on Postcards Part 1: Ayasofya General Views

by Hakan Yılmaz

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The name Ayasofya stems from the Ancient Greek: *Αγία Σοφία* = Hagia Sophia. The word “aya” (*Αγία*) means holy or saint; the word “sophia” (*Σοφία*) comes from “sophos” (*σοφός*), which means wisdom. Therefore, the name “aya sofya” means “holy wisdom” or “divine wisdom” (*ilahi hikmet*) and is considered one of the three attributes of God in Orthodoxy.

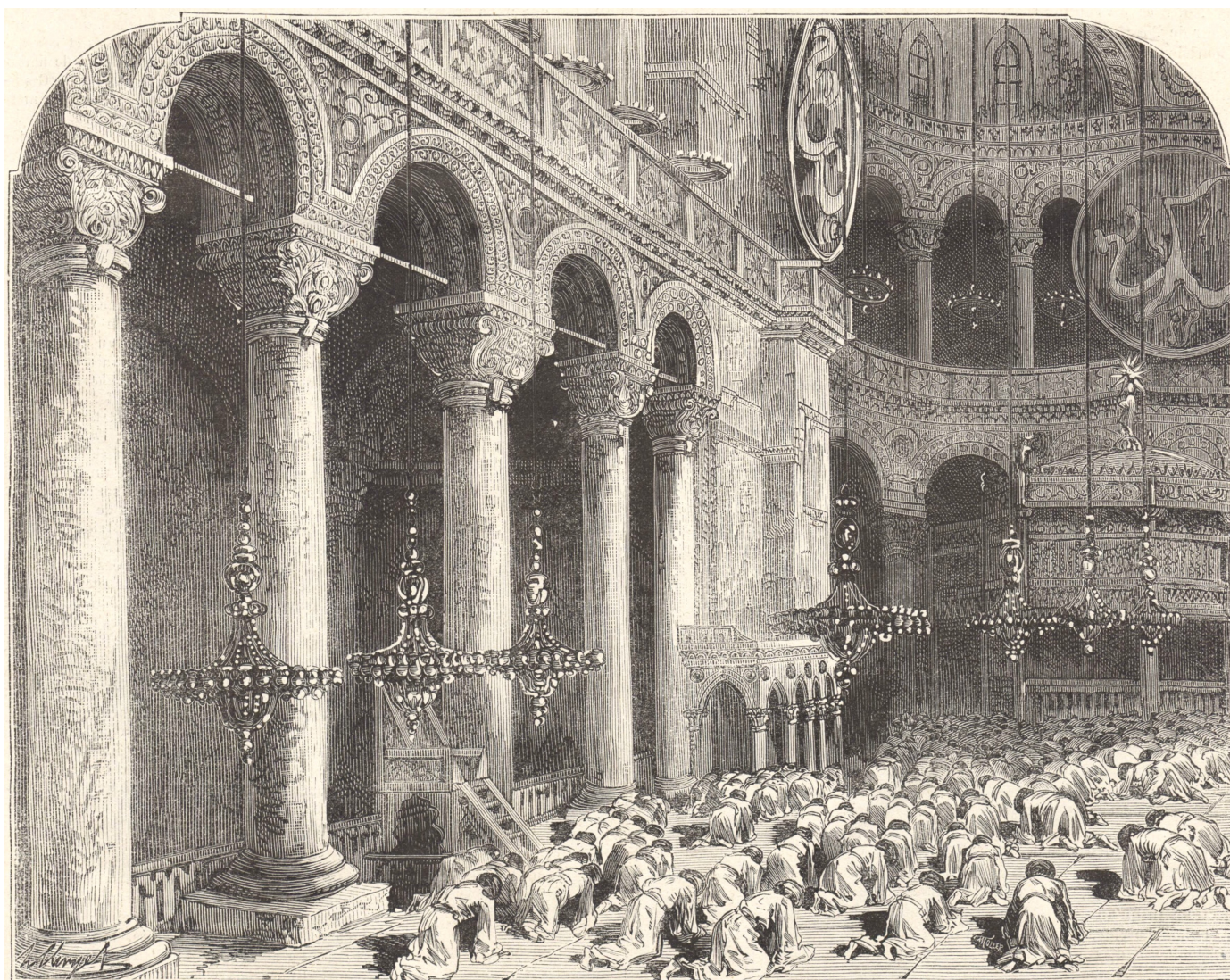
The Ayasofya is a religious building that is very important for both Christians and Muslims. It served as a cathedral for about 900 years of its history. In the following years, after the conquest of İstanbul, it became a mosque for about 500 years. During the Republican period, President Atatürk had the American Byzantinist Thomas Whittemore<sup>1</sup> overhaul the tiles and mosaics and it was turned into a museum on 1<sup>st</sup> February 1935. On 10<sup>th</sup> July 2020, it was turned into a mosque again with a presidential decree and opened for worship on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2020: Ayasofya-i Kebîr Câmî-i Şerîfî.



Fig. 1: “Constantinople, St. Irène et Ste. Sophie” (Aya Irini/Hagia Irene and Aya Sofya).  
Publisher: “WS” = Wladimir von Sender (uncirculated).

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Whittemore (1871–1950) was an American scholar and archaeologist. He founded the Byzantine Institute of America. He was instrumental in uncovering and preserving the Byzantine mosaics in the Ayasofya.





A Sainte-Sophie.

STAMBOUL LE 4 JANVIER 1877. — Les Softas demandant la guerre. — (Dessins de MM. Ferdinandus et Clerget, d'après croquis de M. Julien Viaud.)

Fig. 2: An 1877 engraving showing parts of the mosque's interior.  
 "Les softas demandant la guerre dans la mosquée de Sainte-Sophie"  
 (Softas, religious students, calling for war in the Hagia Sophia Mosque, 4.01.1877).<sup>2</sup>

### Editor's Notes

*This series of articles was developed from a presentation given by the author. Some illustrations were revised and comments added. Due to the nature of material shown and with the usual constraints of layout and space, it may feel a bit different to most other articles. I thank the author in enabling the publication and for his help in the development of the article.*

<sup>2</sup> Artists: Ferdinandus & Clerget based on a sketch by Julien Viaud. Source: Le Monde Illustré, 21. 1877, no. 1033 (27.01.1877), p. 60. Online: <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/bpt6k63845804/f12.item.r>.





Fig. 3: On 10.07.2020 the museum was turned into a mosque again with a presidential decree and opened for worship on 24.07.2020: Ayasofya-i Kebîr Câmî-i Şerîfî. Commemorative postcard with special postmark: "Camii'nin İbadete Açılışı / 24.07.2020 İstanbul" (opening of the mosque for worship) cancelling two stamps issued for the occasion.



Fig. 4: FDC for the two-stamp series of postage stamps issued on the occasion of the opening of Ayasofya for worship on 24.07.2020. Special postmark: "Camii'nin İbadete Açılışı / 24.07.2020 İstanbul" (opening of the mosque for worship).





Fig. 5: “Salut de Constantinople. Ste. Sophie” (publisher unknown).  
Sent from the Italian Levant post office in İstanbul.



Fig. 6: “Ste. Sophie – Constantinople. – آيا صوفيه جامع شريفك دخولى ” (Ayasofya Mosque welcomes visitors).  
(publisher unknown).  
Sent from Pera, İstanbul, with a 20 para Hamid postage stamp, 1911.





Fig. 7: "La mosquée Ste. Sophie, Constantinople" (The St. Sophie Mosque).

Publisher: Max Fruchtermann (photographer: Andriomenes) (postmarked at the French Levant post office).



Fig. 8: "Stamboul: Mosquée Ste. Sophie".

Publisher: Antonie Zellich Fils (Zellich Brothers) (uncirculated).





Figs. 9 and 10:

"Constantinople. Mosquée Ste. Sophie. آيا صوفيه جامعى Sophien-Moschee."

"Constantinople. Mosquée Ste. Sophie. آيا صوفيه جامعى"

The same photograph (slightly different image detail) of the western face, colourised and monotone.

Postcards with the same image were published at different times.

Publisher: MJC (Moïse Israelowitz).





Fig. 11: "Mosquée Ste. Sophie. آيا صوفيه جامعى"  
(same original photograph as in figs. 9 and 10).  
Publisher: MJC (Moïse Israelowitz).



Fig. 12: "Constantinople. Place et Mosquée de Sainte Sophie. استانبول : اياموفيه جامعى":  
Publisher: MJC (Moïse Israelowitz)  
(uncirculated).





**Fig. 13: "Constantinople – Stamboul. / Mosquée Ste. Sophie. / آيا صوفيه جامع شريف" (Ayasofya Imperial Mosque).**

**Publisher: Max Fruchtermann (uncirculated).**



**Fig. 14: "Constantinople – Mosquée de Sainte Sophie".**  
(publisher unknown) (uncirculated).





Fig. 15: The west face of Ayasofya  
(painting after the photograph in fig. 16)  
Publisher: Lapina (uncirculated).



Fig. 16: "Mosquée Ste. Sophie. Constantinople. آيا صوفيه جامعى"  
(photo used for the painting in fig. 15).  
Publisher: MJC (Moïse Israelowitz) (uncirculated).





Fig. 17: “Constantinople – Mosquée St. Sophie”  
(publisher unknown) (uncirculated).



Fig. 18: “Salut de Constantinople. Mosquée Saint-Sophie”.  
(publisher unknown, serial number 6198)<sup>3</sup> (uncirculated)

3 There are versions of this card with the “6198” at the bottom and with the serial number only on the backside. Cf. <https://www.cardcow.com/740771/istambul-turkey-salut-de-constantinople-mosquee-saint-sophie-greece-balkan-states/> and <https://www.hippocard.com/listing/salut-de-constantinople-mosquee-saint-sophie/15829737>.



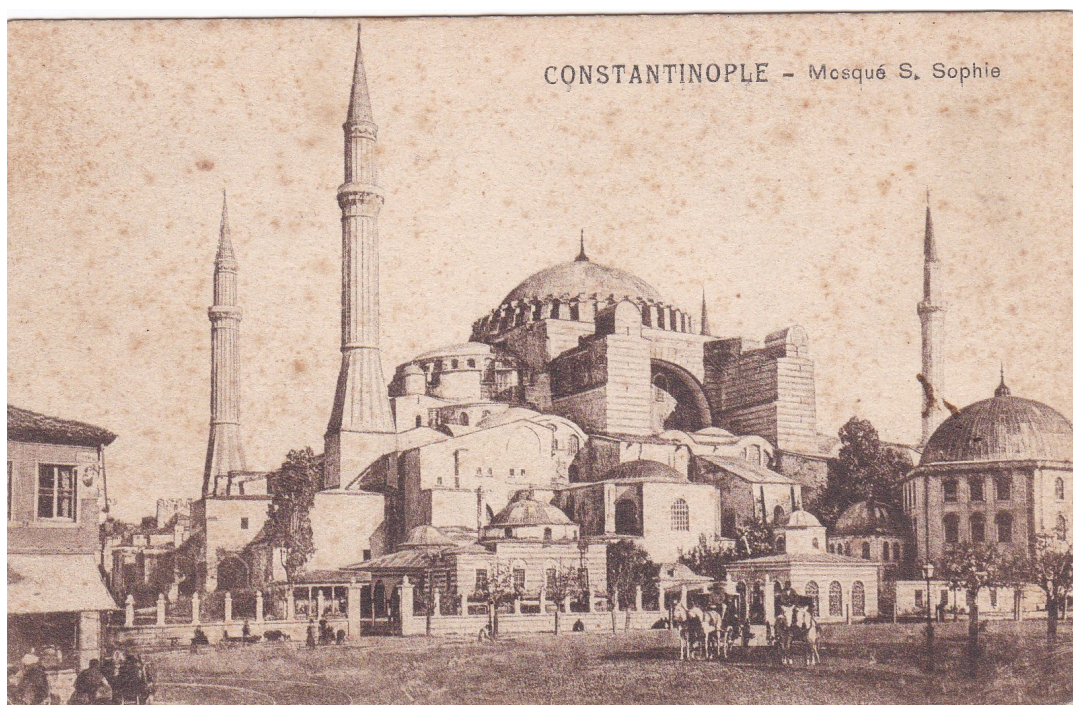


Fig. 19: "Salut de Constantinople. Ste. Sophie."  
Publisher: Postcartoglob (uncirculated).



Fig. 20: "Constantinople. Mosquée de Sainte Sophie".  
(Publisher: Isaac M. Ahitouv) (uncirculated).





*Fig. 21: "CONSTANTINOPLE – Mosqué de S. Sophie".  
(publisher unknown) (uncirculated).*



*Fig. 22: "CONSTANTINOPLE – Mosqué S.<sup>te</sup> Sophie"  
(publisher unknown) (sent through the French military post office, June 1920).*



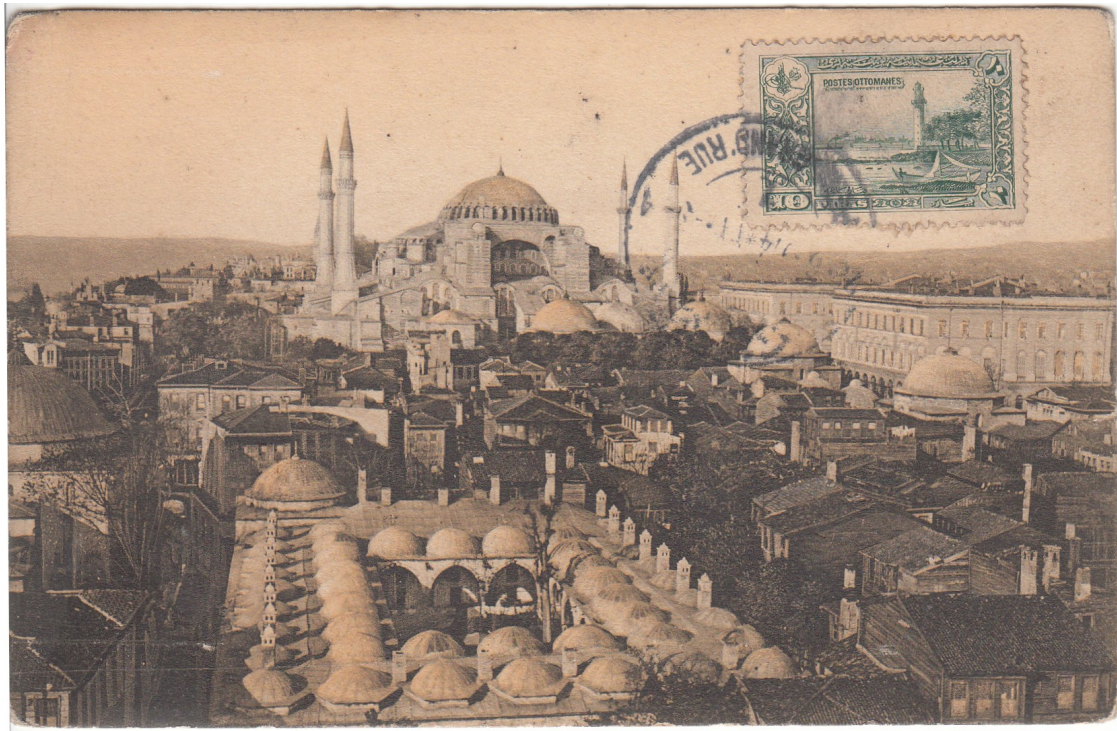


Fig. 23: Ayasofya Mosque with Sultan Ahmed Madrasa (Sultan Ahmet Medresesi) in the foreground (publisher unknown) (Ottoman postmark).



Fig. 24: "Aya Sofia – İstanbul / 25. Saint Sophia Museum"  
In the foreground: Sultan Ahmed Madrasa (Sultan Ahmet Medresesi)  
(publisher unknown, serial number 25) (uncirculated).

From the Republican period: the houses to the right (as seen in *fig. 23*) have now been cleared.





Ayasofya Camii, ve Sultan Ahmet Camii Medresesinin Kubbeleri

**ŞUBAT 1950**

**ÉPHÉTONİNE'Lİ ŞURUBU**

Öksürük  
Kasaba iltihabı  
Boğmaca  
Grip  
Takribi 170 gr. lık şişelerde.

---

**ÉPHÉTONİNE'Lİ MERHEMİ**

nezlelerde, burun iltihapları ve şişayi  
muhatı iltihaplarında. Orijinal tüplerde  
10 gr. lık tüplerdedir.

*EMerck*

Kimya Maddeleri Fabrikaları • Darmstadt  
Türkiye Mümessilliği:  
**ALFRED PALUKA VE ŞERİKLERİ**  
P. K. 1532 • İSTANBUL

1	Çarşamba
2	Perşembe
3	Cuma
4	Cumartesi
5	Pazar
6	Pazartesi
7	Salı
8	Çarşamba
9	Perşembe
10	Cuma
11	Cumartesi
12	Pazar
13	Pazartesi
14	Salı
15	Çarşamba
16	Perşembe
17	Cuma
18	Cumartesi
19	Pazar
20	Pazartesi
21	Salı
22	Çarşamba
23	Perşembe
24	Cuma
25	Cumartesi
26	Pazar
27	Pazartesi
28	Salı

III/71.37/1596/6,2/119

Fig. 25: A 1950 advertising calendar with Ayasofya Mosque and Sultan Ahmed Madrasa (Sultan Ahmet Medresesi).



### The Minarets

The four minarets of Hagia Sophia were built at various times. Of the four, one was made at the time of the Conqueror Mehmed II (reg. 1451–1481), the ones at the north-western corner at the time of Sultan Bayezid II (reg. 1481– 1512), the two thick minarets on the west side at the time of Sultan Selim II (reg. 1566–1574). The same sultan had the two flying buttresses in the north built and during the reign of Murad III (reg. 1574–1595) the buttresses made at the time of Mi'mār Sinān (1490–1588) were reinforced by the addition of walls and thus the building was saved from a partial collapse.<sup>4</sup>

4 Gülekli, 1952, p. 27.





Fig. 26: "İstanbul: Aya Sofya Müzesi / Musée d'Aya Sofya." (museum).  
 Prominent here are the two enormous Turkish buttress walls (Türk payanda duvarları) on the south face.  
 (publisher unknown) (uncirculated).  
 From the Republican period.



Fig. 27: "Stamboul. — Sainte-Sophie, Côté Ouest" (Western face)  
 (publisher unknown) (uncirculated).





*Fig. 28: Sheep in winter.*  
(publisher unknown) (uncirculated).





Fig. 29: Ayasofya Mosque from a similar vantage point as fig. 118.  
(publisher unknown) (uncirculated).



Fig. 30: "Constantinople La Mosquée Ste Sophie (Côté Est)" (east face).  
Publisher: "NELS" (uncirculated).



Fig. 31: "İstanbul: Ayasofya Camisi." (İstanbul: Ayasofya Mosque).  
(publisher unknown) (uncirculated).





Fig. 32: "Constantinople – Stamboul. / Mosquée Ste. Sophie. /  
آيا صوفيه جامعہ ..."  
(Publisher: Max Fruchtermann) (uncirculated).



Fig. 33: Similar view as in fig. 32.  
Publisher: F. Rochat (uncirculated).





Fig. 34: "Mosquées Ste. Sophie et Ste. Irène, Stamboul, Constantinople"  
 (Hagia Irene Museum = Müze-i Hümayun = Aya İrini).  
 (publisher unknown) (uncirculated).



Fig. 35: Ayasofya viewed from the Bosphorus.  
 (publisher unknown) (uncirculated).





Fig. 36: "Constantinople. La Mosquée St. Sophie".  
Publisher: Isaac M. Ahitouv (uncirculated).



Fig. 37:  
Map of the area  
surrounding the  
Ayasofya.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Detail from the city plan in Bædeker, Karl: *Konstantinopel und das westliche Kleinasien : Handbuch für Reisende*. Leipzig: Baedeker, 1905. 389 p.



### The Hippodrome (Sultanahmet Square)



Fig. 38: "La Mosquée de Ste Sophie et l'Hippodrome. Salut de Constantinople."  
with the Obelisk of Theodosius (Theodosius Obeliski/Dikilitaş).  
(publisher unknown) (posted, 1905)



Fig. 39: "CONSTANTINOPLE / St. Sophie – Côté N." (north face)  
(same motif as figs. 9 and 10).  
Publisher: "J.M. & F." (Joseph Matalon & Fils)





Fig. 40: "Constantinople. Ste. Sophie et l'hippodrome" with the Obelisk of Theodosius.  
Publisher: "MB" (Moïse Barouh) (posted).



Fig. 41: "Constantinople. Place de l'Hippodrome" with the Obelisk of Theodosius.  
Publisher: "RKL" (Sent from the French Levant Post Office, 1908).





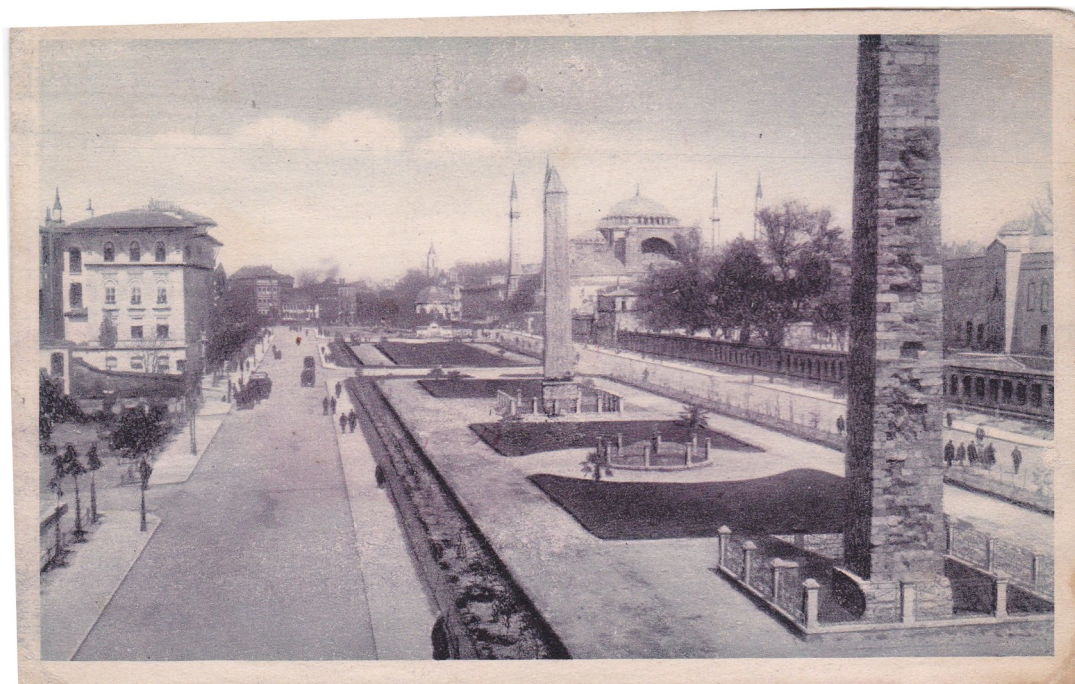
96. L'Obélisque de Théodose Importée d'Égypte.

*Fig. 42: "L'Obélisque de Théodose Importée d'Égypte"*  
(Theodosius Dikilitaşı, the Obelisk of Theodosius, imported from Egypt)  
(publisher unknown, series no. 96) (uncirculated).



*Fig. 43: "Constantinople / L'Obélisque de Théodose (importée de l'Égypte en 390.)"*  
Publisher: "S.D.T." (no.32202) (uncirculated).





*Fig. 44: The Hippodrome with two obelisks (Theodosius Dikilitaşı and Konstantin Dikilitaşı/Örme Dikilitaşı) and the Serpent Column inbetween.  
Publisher: Au Bon Marché (Louis Bortoli) (uncirculated).*



*Fig. 45: "Constantinople – Place de l'Hypodrome"  
Publisher: Lapina (Paris) (uncirculated).*





Fig. 46: "Constantinople, Mosquée Sainte Sophie."  
(publisher unknown) (uncirculated).



Fig. 47: "La Mosquée Ste Sophie, Stamboul, Constantinople."  
Publisher: Max Fruchtermann (no. 1363) (uncirculated).



### The German Fountain (Alman Çeşmesi)

Designed by Max Spitta in the neo-Byzantine style (reputedly based on drawings by Kaiser Wilhelm himself) the fountain was a gift of the German government in order to commemorate the Kaiser's visit to Turkey in 1898. It is known as II. Wilhelm Çeşmesi, Alman Çeşmesi, German Fountain, Deutscher Brunnen, Kaiser-Wilhelm-Brunnen, or the Fountain of Emperor Wilhelm II.

It was inaugurated on 27<sup>th</sup> January 1901. Eight green porphyric columns stand on a marble pedestal, and are crowned by an octagonal copper-covered bronze dome, decorated with gold mosaic tiles on the inside (designed by August Oetkens) showing Wilhelm's cypher and the sultan's tughra.



Fig. 48: "Zur Erinnerung an die Enthüllung des Kaiser Wilhelm-Brunnens in Stambol, At-Meiden, 27. Januar 1901." (to commemorate the unveiling of the Kaiser Wilhelm Fountain in Stamboul, At-Meidanı,<sup>6</sup> 27.01.1901).

Publisher: Max Fruchtermann (no. 249) (sent from the French Levant post office)

6 At-Meydanı (ات میدانی) = Sultanahmet Meydanı or Hipodrom = Sultanahmet Square or Hippodrome or Circus Maximus.



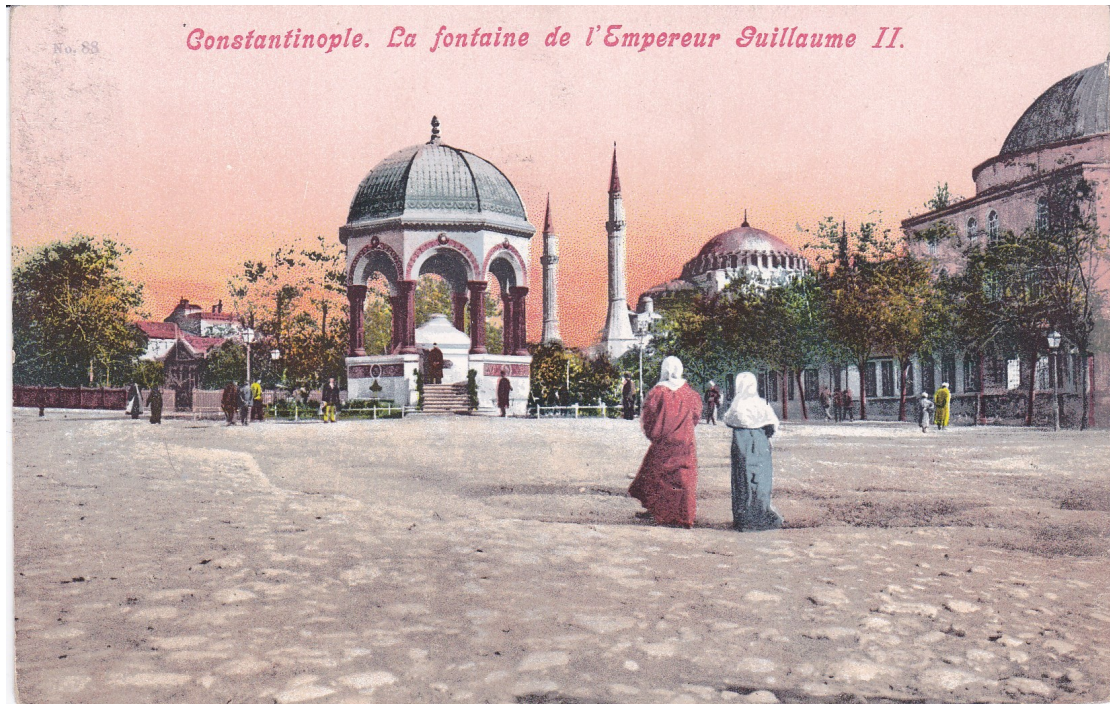


Fig. 49: "Constantinople. La fontaine de l'empereur Guillaume II."  
(Alman Çeşmesi, German Fountain)  
(publisher unknown) (uncirculated).

**Part 2 will appear in the next MEPB:  
Interior, Annexes, and Outbuildings**





## Ottoman Officers' Field Post Stamps and Military and Field Post Postmarks

by Hofrat Ing. Hubert Gerzabek <sup>†1</sup>

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Ottoman military and field post was free of postage for non-commissioned officers and regular soldiers, while commissioned officers had to pay full postage. Military censorship considerably increased the length of postal delivery. In order to give priority to officers' letters and postcards, their mail had to be marked somehow. This was done with a hand-stamp in red or black with a crescent moon without date and a five-pointed star (*fig. 1*).

Initially, only lower-value postage stamps (2 Paras, 5 Paras, and 10 Paras) were overprinted. At a later point higher-value postage stamps were due to be overprinted as well, but this was never executed. These field post stamps were issued from 1<sup>st</sup> June and were still in use, at least sporadically, until 1931.



*Birken writes:*<sup>2</sup> "Passer does not list these stamps, in the Michel and Isfila catalogues they can be found:

Red on 10 Paras green of 1915 (1890).	MiNr. 4	YPO 212
Red on 10 Paras "matbu'a" green of 1915 (1894).	MiNr. 5	YPO 213
Black on 5 Paras purple of 1915 (1901)	MiNr. 1	YPO 214
Black on 10 Paras purple of 1917	MiNr. 6a	YPO 215
Red on 10 Paras purple of 1917	MiNr. 6b	YPO 216
Red on 5 Paras orange of 1917	MiNr. 2	YPO 217
Red on 5 Parason 2 Paras olive of 1919	MiNr. 3	YPO 218

There are no images of the first three stamps in these catalogues, so it is unclear what the double overprint looks like." (*editor*)



*Figs. 2 and 3:*

Vertical pair with surcharge in regular and inverted orientation (left).

Stamp with double overprint: regular and inverted orientation (right).



<sup>1</sup> Translated by Tobias Zywiets. First published in *Türkei-Spiegel*, no. 142, 2022, pp. 23–33.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 43 in: Birken, Andreas: *Die Kriegsaufdruck-Serien*. Hamburg: AROS, 2018 (Handbuch der türkischen Philatelie, I : Osmanisches Reich ; 9)





Fig. 4:

Cover with strip of three overprints 1919  
5 Paras on 2 Paras with military  
overprint star and crescent without year.

Dispatch postmark: Galata 9 of  
30.09.1919. Outgoing postmark: Şehir-  
Galata of 30.09.1919.

During World War I, the military and field  
post of officers in Turkey was subject to  
postage. The military overprint was  
used by the military censors to identify  
and expedite officers' mail.



Fig. 5: Cover with horizontal strip-of-four and vertical pair of the  
1919 overprint issue 5 Paras on 2 Paras and military overprint  
star and crescent without number (1332).

Dispatch postmark: Pangalti 7.10.1919 (Headquarters of the 1st  
Ottoman Army) and delivery mark "189" for Beyoğlu.



Fig. 6: Military surcharge stamp  
no. 5 (star and crescent without  
1332) on MiNr. 484.

Postmark: Pangalti 10.10.1919.







Fig. 7: Officer's cover with a block-of-four of the 1335 (1919) surcharge of 5 Paras on 2 Paras. In this block-of-four only the bottom pair had received stamps with additional military overprint (star and crescent without year 1332). So far the only known example of this variety.

Dispatch postmark Galata 26.11.1919, Outgoing postmark Sirkeci 1 of 27.11.1919. Use of these military stamps in the area of the 1st Ottoman Army (Istanbul, Bosphorus, and surroundings) from 5.01.1919 to 24.04.1920.

Signature stamp: Consul İsmail Hakkı Tefvik Okday (1881–1977), former commander on the Syria-Palestine Front and son of the last Grand Wezir Ahmed Tefvik Paşa.

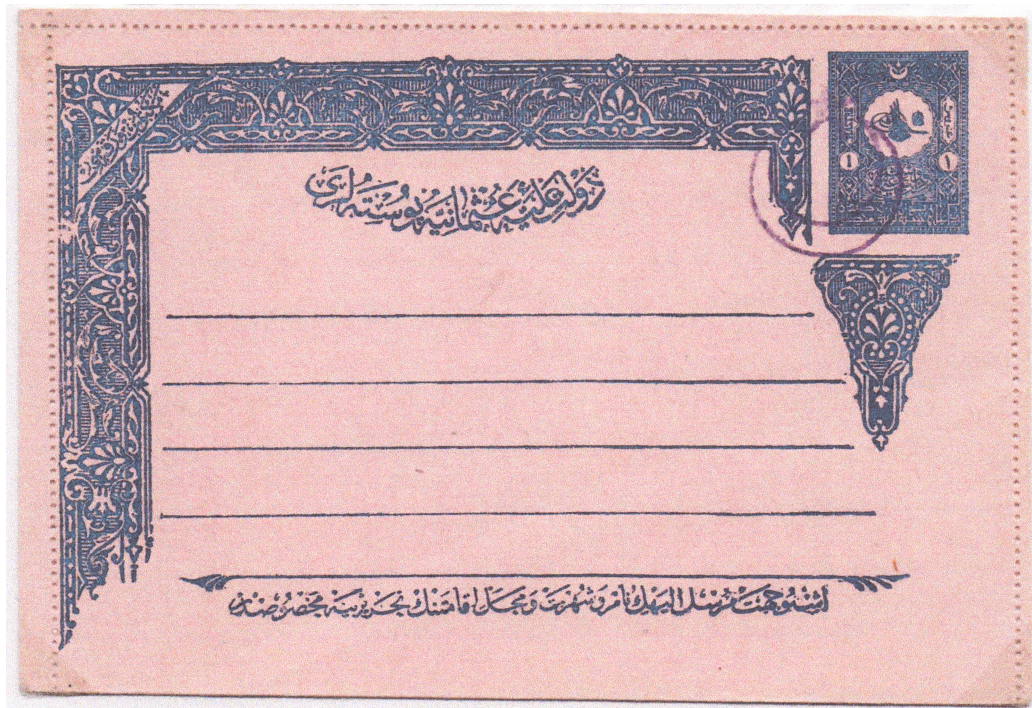


Fig. 8: Piece with field post cancel 46 of the 3rd Turkish Army in Tul Karim (Beni Saab) dated 10.06.1918 with a 10 Paras surcharge on a 20 Paras stamp (MiNr. 626).



Fig. 9: Cover with field post stamp no. 6 on 5-para stamp of 1917 (MiNr. 620). Postmark: Péra Départ of 20.12.1919.





*Fig. 10: Officer's surcharge (star and crescent without year) on a letter card with 1 Piastre imprint (1901 issue). (Birken 53).*



*Fig. 11: Officer's letter card sent from Baghdad dated 26.03.1916 to Leipzig.  
Sender: Capt. İsmail Hakkı Tefvik Okday, Adjutant to Field Marshal Freiherr v.d. Goltz Paşa,  
6th Ottoman Army.*

Seal of the Adjutant (on the reverse), unit seal of 1st Headquarters, Baghdad (twice).  
German marine post cancel: "Kais. Deutsche Marine-Schiffspost Nr.14" of 4.05.1916.





Figs. 12 and 13: Two picture postcards of the Ottoman Red Crescent:  
Field Post no. 12 dated 10.05.1916 and  
Field Post no. 29 of 11.07.1917.





Figs. 14  
and 15:

Two letters  
with Field  
Post cancel  
no. 13:  
13.09.1917  
and  
22.09.1917.







Fig. 16:

Soldier's letter, therefore free of postage, to Istanbul with Field Post Office cancel no. 23 dated 8.05.1914, corresponding to the 23rd Infantry Division.

Arrival postmark "Galata Arrivée" (date illegible).

Fig. 17:

Austrian field post card with cachet "Proviantamt der 19 ottom. J. T. D. Feldpost / 205" (provisioning office of the 19th Ottoman Infantry Division), Austrian cancel "K.u.K. Feldpostamt 205" dated 22.04.1917 and Turkish field postmark "Kolardu Sahra Postasi 57 1333" (1917).



Regarding this cover, Eva Zehenter provides this information from Heinz Nagel's book "Katalog der k.u.k. Feldpostämter und deren Einsatzgebiete mit Truppen und Kriegsereignissen": FPA 205 was assigned to the 1st Marching Brigade (Krakow) 1st Corps in Galicia from the beginning of the war until Oct. 1914, to the 1st Corps Command Krakow in Galicia and Poland from Oct. 1914, and to the Imperial Ottoman 15th Corps Command in Serbia and Galicia from August 1916 to August 1917 (ed.)





Figs. 18 and 18a:

Cover dated 2.12.1916  
from İstanbul to Akhisar  
(arrival mark: Akhisar 2).

Censorship cachets  
İstanbul No. 44 and  
"İstanbul Sansür 1"  
dated 3.12.1916.  
İstanbul censorship  
sealing label.



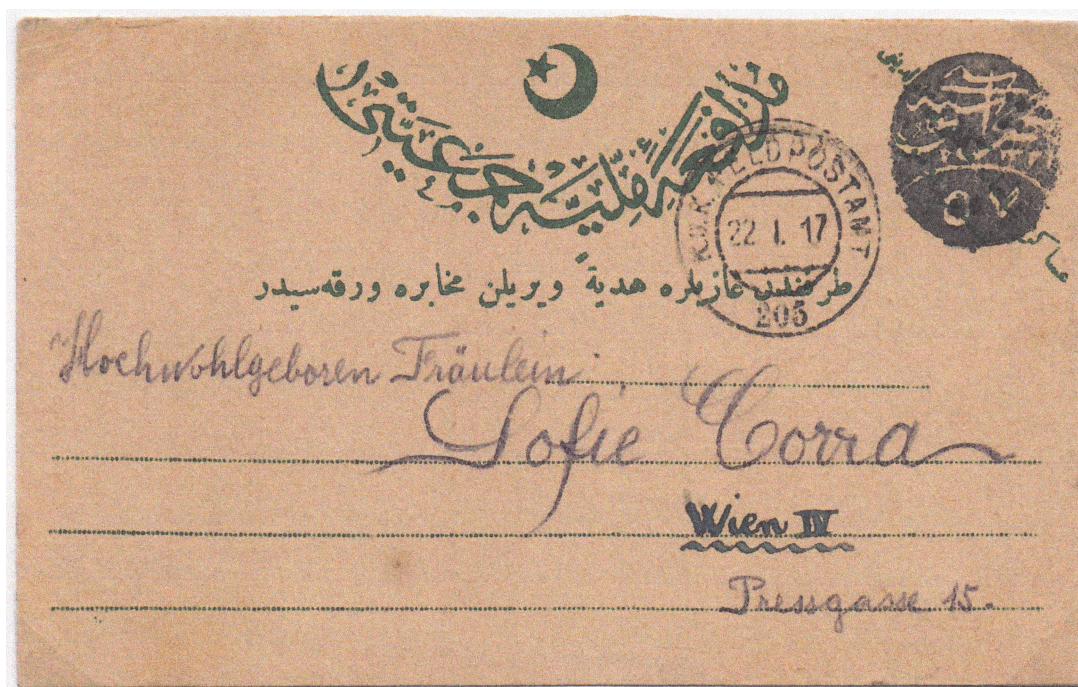


Fig. 19: Turkish Field postcard with Austrian cancel "K.u.K. Feldpostamt 205" dated 22.01.1917 and Turkish field postmark "Kolardu Sahra Postasi 57 1333".



Fig. 20: Illustrated envelope for Russian prisoners of war in Turkey, sent to Russia. Red cachet "Croissant Rouge Ottoman / Bureau des Prisonniers de Guerre". Negative POW camp seal 1331 (1916).



## Iranian Parcel Post 1876–1981 (Colis Postaux)

by Saeed Bakhtiari Soltani  
edited by Fariborz Goodarzi

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*After Mr. Soltani sent me his original manuscript, I asked Robert Jack, the editor of the Iran Philatelic Study Circle's journal, for advice regarding the translation and the contents. He shared the article with Prof. Fariborz Goodarzi who revised and edited the article to create the current version.*

*The article will later this year also be published in the IPSC Bulletin.*

### Introduction

The historical background of Parcel Post in Iran dates back to the reign of Nasser ed-Din Shah Qajar (1876).<sup>1</sup> Shaida documented in detail the various type of waybills used during Qajar period. The most important route of entry and exit of trade goods between Europe and Iran was via Russia.

In 1883 Russia imposed heavy customs duties on trade goods between Iran and Europe. This situation led to expensive transportation of goods by mail in the form of 'postal deposit.'



Fig. 1: During the early Qajar period (1876–1907) postage stamps were used for Parcel Post receipts.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Shaida, 2001; and Sadri, 2002.

<sup>2</sup> Eftekhari, 2003; and Sadri, 2002, and 2019.



## Parcel Post Stamps

## Mohammad Ali Shah Qajar (1907–1909)

During the reign of Mohammad Ali Shah Qajar (1907–1909), for the first time regular postage stamps were overprinted for Parcel Post,<sup>3</sup> including the 26 shahi overprinted in black by Enschede in the Netherlands with “Colis Postaux”, or Parcel Post (*fig. 2*), and other stamps from one shahis to ten krans hand-stamped “Colis Postaux” in blue and sometimes black after the attaching the stamp to document (*fig. 3*).<sup>4</sup>



*Figs. 2 and 3: Some of the “Colis Postaux” overprints.*

<sup>3</sup> Eftekhari, 2003.

<sup>4</sup> Eftekhari, 2003, Sadri, 2002, 2019.



The postage parcel receipts with “Colis Postaux” were issued at the border crossings with Russia: Bandar Enzali on the Caspian Sea and Houdan in northern Khorasan. These stamps are used on two types of receipts (*figs. 4 and 5*):

- Shipping Receipts (Bulletin d’expédition)
- Value Declaration Receipts (Valeur déclarée)

These receipts were received and archived by the post office and eventually (after the follow-up period) were destroyed so that they would not be misused. For this reason, most of the existing receipts have been cut, leaving only the stamps (*fig. 6*). Only 13 examples of complete receipts are known.<sup>5</sup>



*Figs. 4–6: A shipping receipt (parcel card, bulletin d’expédition), and a value declaration receipt (parcel card, valeur déclarée).*

<sup>5</sup> Nassre and Bajgiran, 2017.



## Ahmad Shah (1909–1925)

Regular postal stamps were used on waybills during his reign, and include the coronation stamps of Ahmad Shah, issued in 1915 at denominations from one shahi to five toman, which were overprinted of “Colis Postaux”, (امانت پستی), i.e. Parcel Post and used extensively.



Figs. 7 and 8: The 1915 Coronation issue overprinted “Colis Postaux” and “امانت پستی”.



Later on, high values of the Ahmed Shah 1909 Coat of Arms set were twice overprinted and used for Parcel Post.<sup>6</sup> The remainders of four values of the 1909 Coat of Arms series were hand-stamped 1334 (1916), and used on parcel receipts. Again, all kran value remainders of the 1909 Coat of Arms 1909 series were overprinted, and used for Parcel Post.<sup>7</sup>

### The Pahlavi Era (1925–1979)

Regular postage stamps were used during reign of Reza Shah Pahlavi (1925–1942) on Parcel Post receipts (*fig. 9*).



Fig. 9: Two Parcel Post receipts with regular postage stamps.

During the reign of Mohammed Reza Pahlavi (1942–1979), the first series of stamps for Parcel Post was issued in May 1958.<sup>8</sup> The value of stamps used on the Parcel Post was equal to the cost of freight (bill of lading) and was cancelled with the postmark of the destination post office.

The first series of postage stamps was issued in 11 values, from 50 dinars to 200 rials. The series was printed on paper with Watermark No. 2, with perforation 12½: the word “IRAN” was printed in black with a water-soluble ink on the back of stamps to increase security and prevent fraud.



6 Sadri, 2002, 2019.

7 Eftekhari, 2003, Sadri, 2002, 2019.

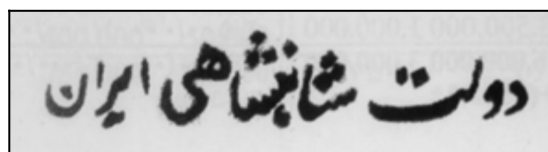
8 Farahbakhsh, 2016.





Figs. 11–13: The May 958 issue. The box printed on the back of this first series of postage stamps is found in two sizes: 20 by 28 mm (left), and 16 by 24 mm (right).

The second series of Parcel Post stamps was issued in 1961: seven denominations, from 5 to 200 rials with Watermark No. 3 and perforation of  $12\frac{1}{2}$ . The size of the black rectangular box printed on the back of the stamps of this series is 20 by 28 mm.



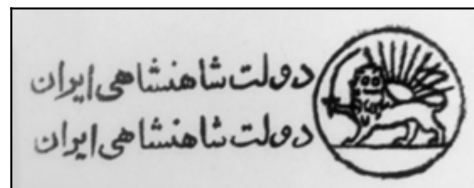
Figs. 14 and 15: The Stamps of the second issue with Watermark No. 3.

The third series of Parcel Post stamps was issued between 1964 to 1967, in values of 2 to 200 rials on type 5 watermarked paper, with  $12\frac{1}{2}$  perforation and with "IRAN" printed on the back (16 by 24 mm). The third series was printed on two different types of paper and gum:

- Chalky paper with thin white gum
- Rough paper with shiny gum.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>9</sup> Farahbakhsh, 2016.





Figs. 16 and 17: The Stamps of the third issue with Watermark No. 5.



Figs. 18–19a: Two receipts (reverse and front)



### Islamic Republic

The fourth series of Parcel Post stamps was issued in 1981, during the Islamic Republic, in three denominations: 50, 100 and 200 Rials. The 100 Rials stamp was printed using a Printing Plate of the previous series, but for the 50 and 200 Rials stamps, a new plate was designed. The fourth series was printed on paper with Watermark No. 5. This set does not have the word “IRAN” on the back.

The set was used in the post only for a short time due to the imperial insignia in the watermark. Thereafter no new Parcel Post stamps have been issued.



Fig. 20: The 1981 series.

### Acknowledgments

I would like to thank Professor Fariborz Goodarzi for review of the paper and valuable suggestions, which upgraded the paper.

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<sup>10</sup> For all Persiphila publications see <http://www.persiphila.persi.com/books/index.html>.



## The Emergency Postcards of Turkey

by Otto Graf (AIJP)<sup>1</sup>

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Being in the midst of a pandemic where emergency measures are taken all over the world, this may be a good time to look at a postal emergency that occurred to Turkish Posts during and after World War I: a shortage of postal cards.

This small article is only an introduction to the topic. The main focus is to explain the connections to other Turkish postal cards and habits of postal customers in Ottoman Turkey. Given the more schematic treatment of emergency postcards by Passer<sup>2</sup> and Birken,<sup>3</sup> it is important to understand that these different emergency postcards were not available at the same time. Rather different styles were issued at different times to overcome a shortage of postal cards.

Unlike letters, of which we usually only have the envelopes, the humble postcard preserves the message that was sent, which adds a lot of social philatelic interest. So I could not resist the temptation to show postcards that not only illustrate my emergency postcard argument, but are interesting for their messages or senders as well.

### Early History of Postal Cards in Turkey

The first postal cards with imprinted stamps were issued by Austria-Hungary on 1<sup>st</sup> October 1869 (*fig. 1*). What, in the beginning, was thought of as yet another idea of novelty that would soon disappear, really became a big success. Postal customers had no reservations about sending messages openly, as postcards could be sent at a cheaper rate than letters. Turkey in these years was very keen to introduce all kinds of reforms to make the country more modern. So it is not surprising that Turkey was a founding member of the Universal Postal Union on 9<sup>th</sup> October 1874.

When it came to postal cards Turkey was also very quick to introduce this new form of communication. In 1870, shortly after Austria-Hungary had introduced the world's first postal card, a postcard form was issued by Turkish posts (*fig. 2*). This was generally sold with a regular stamp attached to it. This card is inscribed *postahani-i amirenin acik muhabere varkasi* (open correspondence card of the main post office).

Andreas Birken in his book about Ottoman postal stationery gives the date as 1870.<sup>4</sup> One could argue though that this card was issued a bit later, e.g. in 1874, when Turkey was a founding member of the UPU. At this point it was necessary to inscribe stamps and postal stationery not only in Turkish but also in the language of the UPU, French, and so this first formular postcard of Turkey is inscribed in Turkish and French. Then on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1877 the first postal card with imprinted stamp was introduced. These initial policies will influence measures taken during and after World War I to fill shortages of postal cards.

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1 Reprinted from The Levant with kind permission.

2 Passer, 1938, pp. 237–238.

3 Birken, 1995, pp. 66–69.

4 Birken, 1995, p. 6.





Fig. 1: First postal card of Austria-Hungary, sent from Graz (19.11.1869) to Vienna, an early usage. The card was only inscribed in German.



Fig. 2: First Turkish formular postcard of 1870/1874. This example had a stamp attached as it was sold at post offices. Most cards in modern collections are from the sale of withdrawn stocks, without stamps.

This formular card was issued already in Turkish and French, suitable for international use.





Fig. 3: First Turkish postal card, issued on 15.01.1877. The design is very similar to the one of the first formular postcard, the main difference being that the stamp is imprinted now.

Another aspect is very relevant. Postal cards became very popular in Turkey, so much so that businesses, rather than using their own forms and putting stamps on them, would buy postal stationery at the post office and then print their own forms on them. This shift might also be explained by the fact that – unlike many other postal administrations around the world – the Turkish Post did not charge anything for the post card itself, but only for the postage, which made the official postal cards very economical. I have not found any mention of this fact in the literature, but I feel safe to assume that. Postal cards sent from the Ottoman Empire were often used to advertise goods made in Turkey. An advertisement arriving in one's mail box all the way from Turkey certainly made more impression on a potential customer than a locally distributed advertisement (figs. 4–4a).

Coming to practical aspects of collecting. When I began to collect commercial post cards printed on Post Office cards, it is clear that these are relatively scarce. There are a small number of postcards with typewritten messages or commercially printed postcards, but the majority of business mail was sent with postal cards from the Post Office (figs. 5–5a).

While the first commercially successful typewriters came on the market in the late 1870s, they were only available for the Latin alphabet (fig. 6). Turkish being written in Arabic letters at the time, these new typewriters did not have any significance in the country. Therefore the good old handwritten postal card remained the preferred means of communicating shorter messages.

### The Situation at the Beginning of and during World War I

In 1913, just before the outbreak of World War I, Turkey commissioned high quality stamps and postal stationery with Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. (England) (fig. 7). The postal stationery was delivered on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1914. Turkey entered World War I on 29<sup>th</sup> October 1914 by attacking Russia's Black Sea coast. Thereafter, it was obvious that no further supplies of stamps and postal stationery would be available from England. So the Turkish Post ordered new stamps and postal stationery from the Vienna State Printer. At this time there must have been no plans to raise postal rates as the postal stationery was ordered with the old value imprints.



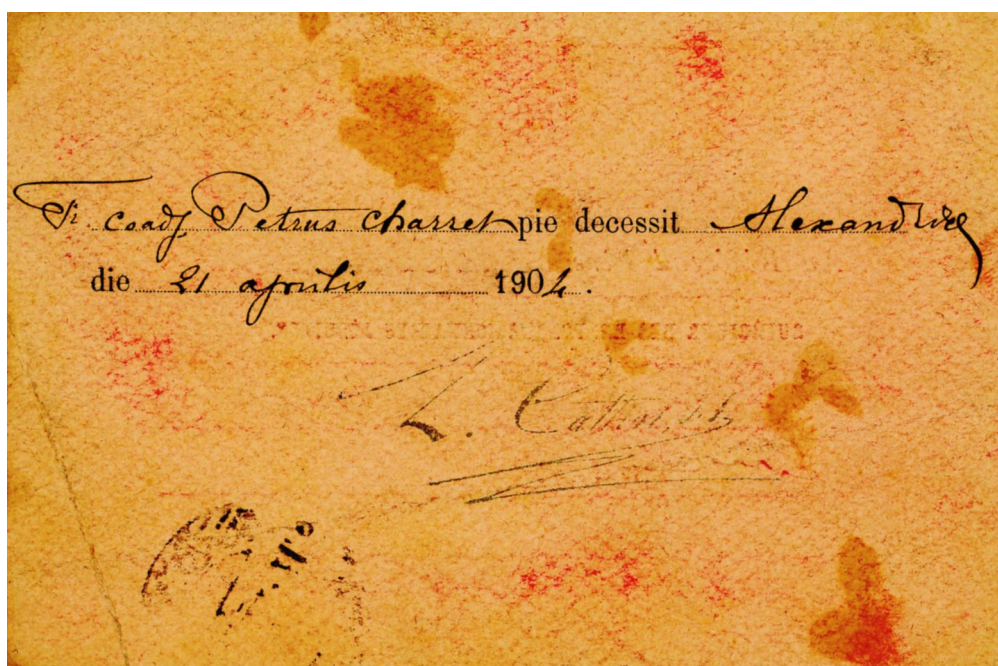
Until these new supplies arrived from Austria-Hungary, the first emergency measures had to be taken. Firstly, formular cards were printed and sold through the post offices (figs. 8–9). One has to assume that these formular cards were mainly sold with stamps already stuck on them, so that they were not for free. Otherwise these cards would have been a welcome supply of notepads. Passer only describes the version inscribed in Turkish, but there was also a bilingual version in Turkish and French that may be found used from all parts of the Empire.



Figs. 4 & 4a: Postal card sent around 1901 from Stambul to Switzerland. On the back a message was printed, advertising plums from Turkey.

Consul Rueff had married a daughter of the Swiss Kölle family, so he could buy up dried fruit for two traders in Switzerland and Germany. Sending advertisements from Turkey was a way to attract attention to products being soon on sale. Most such advertisements relate to the carpet trade though.





Figs. 5 and 5a: Postal card sent from Beirut (22.04.1904) to Istanbul.

The card was used as a standardised death announcement sent to the superior of the Jesuit missionaries in Istanbul. The message text is printed in Latin.







Fig. 6: Scarce usage of a typewriter postcard (see perforation top and bottom as well as the inscription "Schreibmaschinen-Postkarte"), sent from Galata (24.06.1913) to Germany. The message on the back is indeed written with a typewriter. The form was sold by Ludwig Carl Beck of Nuremberg, an important stationery dealer of the time.



Fig. 7: 10 paras postal card of the Bradbury & Wilkinson design sent from Mirgün (5.07.1915) to Arnberg, Germany. This postal card for local use was sent to a foreign destination by adding a 10 paras stamp to make up the 20 paras postcard rate. This can be seen as the first emergency measure: using up local postcards for international mail.





Fig. 8: Formular card used from Izmir/Smyrne (22.12.1916) to Breslau, Germany. This is the type of formular card described by Passer. It exists in different paper types, thick and thin, cream and grey card stock.



Fig. 9: Bilingual formular card sent by a member of the construction team of the Baghdad railway on 28.11.1915, posted at Tarsus 1 (3.12.1915) to Munich, Germany.

A little later it must have been realised that these formular cards were using up valuable paper supplies. Therefore the idea came up to use old stocks of demonitised postal stationery as formular postcards. At this stage all kinds of old postal cards, letter cards and even envelope fronts were put on sale with stamps attached to make them usable as postcards. Reply postal cards were cut in half and each part sold separately as formular postcard (fig. 10).

This situation went on until the new stock of postal stationery arrived from Vienna and could be put on sale in 1916. From then until the end of World War I regular postal cards were available. It is



worthwhile mentioning that these postal cards were printed with values current before the war. Therefore stamps had to be attached to meet new higher rates. This was especially true for the 10 Paras local postcard, which is very scarce without additional franking (fig. 11). The volume of this order of stamps and postal stationery must have been huge as the postal cards lasted until the end of the war. They may be found used later, even after another round of emergency postcards and supplies of new postal stationery.



Fig. 10: Back of an international letter card of 1901 used as an emergency postcard from Harput (Kharpout, 26.12.1915) to Butte, Montana, USA.



Fig. 11: 10 paras postal printed in Vienna card sent from Karaköy (1.9.1917) to Sofia, Bulgaria.

This is one of the very few options to use this card without additional franking. All mail was subject to a 10 paras surcharge for the war orphans. But in 1916 for Bulgaria special rates were introduced, with a reduced postcard rate of 10 paras. The Bulgarian case must have been forgotten in the law about the war orphans surcharge, so a postcard to Bulgaria cost only 10 paras.





Fig. 12: 20 paras postal card printed in Vienna sent from Mardin 2 (14.05.1923) to Springfield, Missouri, USA. Oddly, the imprinted 20 paras postage was not counted towards the whole postage, although this card was still valid at the time. But it must have been a very rare sight at the time as most imprinted cards were used up much earlier.

Former Ottoman stamps and postal stationery were valid in the Turkish Republic until 30<sup>th</sup> June 1926; their use was tolerated until 31<sup>st</sup> December 1926.

### **The Situation Between the End of World War I and the Consolidation of the Turkish Republic**

When World War I ended, war did not end for Turkey. First the country was occupied by foreign troops, and then Turkey was fighting the War of Independence. So the difficult economic situation just continued. These disruptions affected the supply of postal cards.

When the stock of the Vienna printed postal stationery was exhausted by January 1919, emergency formular postcards had to be used again. This type of formular card has a special printing on front, which looks a bit like a watermark, but in fact it is printed (*fig. 13*). Specimens may be found where the margins of the card are not overprinted. The design is very hard to reproduce as illustration.

These emergency postcards were not only used in the areas controlled by the government of the Sultan, but also in Anatolia and the occupied areas. In the areas occupied by Greek troops, Ottoman Turkish stamps were used without any overprint. Mail from these areas can be identified by the date of the postmark and the Greek censor markings (*fig. 14*).

These formular cards were used until the Ankara government ordered new stamps and postal stationery from Barabino & Graeve (Genoa, Italy) in 1920. Passer wrongly states that the postal cards were ordered from the Austrian State Printer in Vienna. At the time the postcard rate, domestic and international, was uniformly 2 kuruş, therefore only one value was ordered. These postal cards were introduced in 1922. But on 1<sup>st</sup> April 1921 the rates had been raised. So the new postal stationery could only be used with additional stamps (*fig. 15*).





Fig. 13: Formular card of new design sent from Izmir/Smyrne 8 (3.10.1919) to Italy.

The rate is not explicable. According to Birken a foreign postcard cost 30 paras at the time, but this card is franked with 50 paras.



Fig. 14: Formular card of the new design used from Greek occupied Bursa (28.01.1921) to Pangalti/Istanbul. The card was censored by the Greek censor.

On this example the overprint can be seen relatively well. As it is shifted down and left, the top and right margin of the card remained without overprint.





Fig. 15: Barabino postal card sent from Ankara 8 (25.03.1922) to Munich, Bavaria. The card is paid with 4½ kuruş, the foreign postcard rate. Interestingly enough the 20 paras surcharge for homeless children was counted towards postage; maybe because during World War I foreign mail had been exempt from the surcharge for war orphans. In most cases the surcharge for homeless children was not counted towards postage.



Fig. 16: Formular postcard (small lettering – no ornament under inscription) sent from Bursa (12.10.1924) to İzmir. Correct inland postcard rate of 3 kuruş.





Fig. 17: Formular postcard (medium lettering – wide ornament under inscription) sent from İstanbul to Bursa (5.05.1924). As the card has only a greeting message at the back, it could be sent for the printed matter rate of 2 kuruş.



Fig. 18: Formular postcard (large lettering – narrow ornament under inscription) sent from Galata 7 (26.02.1926) to Leipzig, Germany. Current international postcard rate of 6 kuruş.



Theoretically this postal card could be used without additional franking as a local postcard in Istanbul, a special rate which Ankara allowed. Such a specimen still has to be found. The wartime custom of raising funds for social needs continued after World War I, so this postal card nearly always has a hand-stamp reading *himayeti etfal manfaatine - para 20* (20 Paras for war homeless and orphans). Mint cards without this hand-stamp have to be considered proofs, as the card was not issued without this hand-stamp.

When Turkey was able to print its own stamps again, the *Ay Yıldız* issue of 1923, it did not foresee postal stationery, although one trial print of a postal card exists. This trial print is imprinted with a value of 500 kuruş, and so it is a test run, not a real postal rate. This meant that after the postal cards printed by Barabino & Graeve were exhausted, yet another type of formular postcard was needed. These were put on sale from May 1924. There are three distinct types of such cards (*figs. 16–18*).

### End of Emergency Measures

Finally in 1926 new stamps and postal cards were obtained from Bradbury & Wilkinson, and emergency measures finally came to an end. This order of stamps and postal cards must have been generous, as these postal cards may be found used well into the 1930s (*fig. 19*).

But despite the generous supply the new cards didn't abolish the older ones; the new postal cards were put on sale only as older stocks were used up. This must have been especially true for İstanbul, the only place where locally sent postcards were used in a significant number. The local 2 kuruş postal card is properly used without additional franking – a rather rare sight (*fig. 20*). Only a handful are recorded to date.



*Fig. 19:* Late usage of the 2 kuruş postal card sent registered from Bayezit (24.10.1934) to Altenberg, Germany. At this time an international postcard was 7½ kuruş, registration was 17½ kuruş, therefore correctly paid at 25 kuruş. All registered mail, postage was checked in Istanbul, as indicated by the red postmark under the Altenburg receiving postmark.

The sender of this card was Professor Harry Dember, a German-Jewish physicist. When the Nazis came to power he emigrated to Turkey where he received a chair at İstanbul University in Beyazıt. In 1941 he moved on to Brunswick University in New Jersey. He discovered the Dember-effect, the best known application of this effect being the solar cell.





Fig. 20: 2 kuruş postal card used by the American Consular Service and sent from Pera (24.01.1927) to Samantia within the İstanbul city limits. Very rare usage of this postal card without additional franking.

### Summary of Regular Postal Cards and Emergency Measures

The information presented in the article and the following list were drawn from material in my collection. It is well understood that new earliest recorded usages may always be found. The latest known usages are of little relevance as emergency postcards and formular postcards were never demonetised, they were simply used up. The time spans given reflect the phases when most items of an emergency measure were used.

Period	Regular Postal Cards and Emergency Measures
1st January 1914	Postal cards printed by Bradbury & Wilkinson
December 1914 – November 1917 (main period of use)	Formular cards of first style in different types
May 1915 – October 1916 (main period of use)	Use of old stocks of postal cards
1916	Postal cards printed by Vienna State Printer
January 1919 – September 1923 (main period of use)	Formular cards of second style in different types
1922	Postal cards printed by Barabino & Graeve
May 1924 – August 1927 (main period of use)	Formular cards of third style in different types
1926	Postal cards printed by Bradbury & Wilkinson

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## The Arab-Israeli Clandestine Mail Revisited

by Avo Kaplanian<sup>1</sup>

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In the last issue of the Middle East Philatelic Bulletin, Peter Moorer wrote a short article titled “Arab–Israeli Clandestine Mail: Covers and IRCs”.<sup>2</sup> In that article Peter concentrated on the mail between Arab countries and the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip via the main post office of Nicosia (Cyprus).

This method of exchanging mail was called ‘*clandestine*’ because the mail went through Cyprus due to the absence of mail services between Israel, the Occupied Territories and the Arab countries.<sup>3</sup>

### Head Post Office, London E.C. 1

While Peter concentrated only on the mail via Cyprus, there was another post office which played a big role in such clandestine mail. I mean here the head post office of London (*figs. 1 and 2*). And as Peter mentioned “to pay for the second part of the journey [...] International Reply Coupons (IRC) were used.”



*Figs. 1 and 2: Two clandestine covers to London: one from Jenin (1977), the other from Abu Dhabi (1977).*

In *figs. 3 and 4* we see two covers containing letters which were addressed by persons in an Arab country and then mailed to the London post office with an IRC with the request to mail the letters to the Gaza strip and to the city of Nablus in the West Bank. Both covers were franked by British stamps and both carry the arrival Zahal posmark of Gaza and Nablus on the back.

<sup>1</sup> Special thanks go to Peter Moorer for reading the first draft and for his comments as well as to Tobias Zywiets for his excellent work on the layout and other improvements.

<sup>2</sup> MEPB, no. 22, 2022, p. 119.

<sup>3</sup> Recommended further reading: Kibble, Daryl R.: *The Arab-Israeli conflict : no service, returned and captured mail*. Kibble, 2014 [distr.: Fremantle, W.A.: Vivid]. 384 pages. ISBN: 978-1-925086-58-4.





Figs. 3 and 4: Two forwarded letters via London: to the Gaza strip and to the city of Nablus.

### General Post Office Nicosia

Furthermore, Peter was wondering how did such letters get into the hands of collectors? He asks: “Did the Cypriot Postal Service or Government auction or sell them to dealers or collectors?” Or was this done illegitimately by postal employees. Well, I am inclined to believe that such letters, or should I say covers, were sold to dealers or interested persons for I myself have bought a big collection of hundreds of such covers from a dealer in Cyprus (figs. 5 and 6).

When the letters were mailed to Cyprus or London to be further mailed to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, International Reply Coupons (IRCs) were included in the envelopes, along with the to be forwarded letters, to be used as fees for mailing the letters to their final destinations.

An interesting registered cover is shown here in fig. 7: the cover was mailed in Jahraa (Kuwait)<sup>4</sup> to the General Post Office of Nicosia. Under the address we see the hand-written phrase reading: “not [sic!] inside there are two coupons and a letter”. Probably the address writer meant “Note” instead of “not”. See how “via nequicia” is wrongly written. The arrival postmark of Nicosia is on the back. The cover explains the method in which a letter plus an IRC were enclosed in an envelope and then mailed to Nicosia to be forwarded to a family member or a contact person in the occupied territories. The enclosed IRC coupon is meant to pay for the fee of forwarding the letter to its final destination.



Figs. 5 and 6: Two covers to Nicosia: from Jabalya (1972) and Derna (Libya, 1969).

4 Registration label says: “Jahara – Kuwait”.





Fig. 7:

Registered cover from Jahraa  
(Kuwait, 1970).

### Forwarding Agents

At a certain moment this clandestine mail via the main post offices of London and Nicosia, which took place between 1969 and 1978, became so successful that some commercial travel agencies in Amman (Jordan) saw that they could make some money by offering the services of their travel agencies to take care of their letters plus the IRC for a small service charge. The agency would in turn carry the letters plus the IRCs and mail them in a new envelope at the first post office in the occupied West Bank or the Gaza Strip.

In *figs. 8 and 8a* we see such a cover with a “Halabi Travel Company” adhesive label in green and blue tied by a violet oval travel agency cachet in Amman. The letter plus other ones too were carried by the agency’s clerk and was mailed at Gesher Allenby (Allenby Bridge) postal agency; see the *zahal* (military) postmark on the 1.10 shekel stamp. The same all Arabic oval travel agency cachet is found on the back.



*Figs. 8 and 8a*: Forwarded letter by Halabi travel company to Allenby Bridge (1979).<sup>5</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Post office of the Israeli military occupation forces at the border crossing to Jordan (*gesher* = bridge).



## Cancelled IRCs

The second question raised by Peter Moorer is this:

*I have never seen an IRC with both the Israeli or Arab country and Cypriot cancellation. Where are they? Does any reader have an example with both cancellations?*

Well, my answer is twofold, viz. "NO" and "YES":

- No, I have never seen an IRC with the Cypriot postmark plus and Israeli or Arab country one in spite of the fact that I have been collecting such covers for more than thirty years and in spite of the fact that I have a very big collection of such clandestine covers.
- And, Yes indeed, I have some IRCs that went through the London main post office with both cancellations. In *fig. 9 and 10* we see two IRCs carrying the postmarks of the selling post office i.e. Ramallah in the West Bank with the date of purchase 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1977 and Abassan in the Gaza Strip with the purchase date of 5<sup>th</sup> June 1978. Both IRCs were cashed at the London Post Office (see postmarks on the right).



Figs. 9 and 10: IRCs from Ramallah (1977) and Abssan (1978).

In *figs. 11 and 12* we see another two IRCs carrying first the postmarks of Doha 1 and the London oval registered Chief Office E.C.1 and secondly the same oval London Chief Post Office cancel plus the Zliten (Libya) postmark. According to Josef Wallach in the description of these IRCs<sup>6</sup> "these IRCs are V.R. because these were destroyed at the receiving post office."



Figs. 11 and 12: IRCs cancelled London and Doha (1979) and Zliten (Libya, 1978).

6 Dr. Wallach Public Auction catalogue of 19-20 November 1996.



## Kuwait's Refusal of Mail Franked with Certain Iranian Postage Stamps

by Jan Heijs and Wolfgang Elsner

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Postal history collectors have for a long time wondered whether the political instrumentalisation of postage stamps, often observed in the Middle East region, has left philatelic traces.

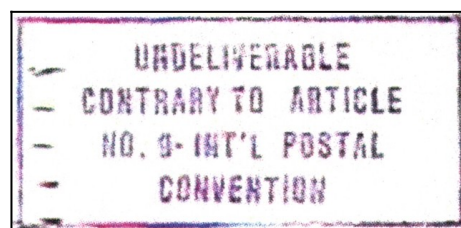
Collectors specializing in “Postal War”, i.e. measures by a country against politically unwelcome postage stamps of another country<sup>1</sup>, had to wait until Mrs. Mashael Abdulaziz Alhajari published an article in 2003.<sup>2</sup> The author showed two covers sent from Iran to Kuwait in 1988 with politically explosive postage stamps which were refused by the Kuwaiti authorities and returned to Iran.

One of the covers shown by Mrs. Alhajari is franked with Iranian stamps issued to commemorate the so-called “Massacre of Muslim Pilgrims at Holy Mecca” (fig. 1),<sup>3</sup> an unfortunate incident when Saudi police intervention at disturbances during the Hadj pilgrimage led to the deaths of several hundred mainly Iranian pilgrims. In another case, an Iranian stamp used as postage showed anti-American propaganda (figs. 1–4).<sup>4</sup>



Fig. 1–4: Iranian anti-American and anti-Saudi propaganda stamps.

Both covers were returned by the Kuwaiti authorities with explanatory cachets stating that the mail items were “UNDELIVERABLE. / CONTRARY TO ARTICLE / NO. 9 INT’L POSTAL / CONVENTION”. In one case in English and in the other case in Arabic and English (fig. 5).



1 For a more detailed definition of Postal War see [www.postalwar.info](http://www.postalwar.info). There is a specialized catalogue of Postal War items: Burhop/Heijs, *Catalogue of Postal War 1870-2008* (2011). There’s also an RFI on the Iraq-Kuwait postal war in MEPN, no. 20, 2022, pp. 123–124.

2 Alhajari, Mashael Abdulaziz [Dr. Mashael Abdulaziz Al Hajri]: *Kuwaiti diplomacy prevails*. In: *The American Philatelist*, 2003, no. 6, pp. 538–539.

3 MiNr. 2296 (22.07.1988).

4 MiNr. 2238 (27.08.1988) and MiNr. 2135 (4.11.1986) “The Takeover of US Den of Espionage” and MiNr. 2298 (11.08.1988) “Disastrous U.S. Missile Attack against Iranian Air Liner”.



It is a moot point whether Kuwait herself felt insulted or whether Kuwait acted because the stamps constituted “inflammatory messages” against Saudi Arabia and the United States, both being very close allies of Kuwait. The fact is that Kuwait acted and did so decisively. Kuwait justified her action by reference to article 9 of an “International Postal Convention”. But such convention did not, and does not, exist. It was only reasonable by the author to presume that the Universal Postal Union (UPU) and article 9 of the UPU’s Universal Postal Convention were meant. She accordingly asked the UPU in Berne for clarification of said article 9.

It turned out that article 9 of the Universal Postal Convention dealt with postal security and required national postal authorities to take “necessary measures to adopt and implement a proactive security strategy.” Mrs. Alhajari understandably “found it questionable that this article really was meant to be used as a tool.” And that is where this issue rested for many years; a satisfactory interpretation of the Kuwaiti covers remained elusive.

### The Solution to the Conundrum

The author probably made her UPU inquiries not long before her article was published in 2003.<sup>5</sup> The UPU based its information on the rules, and article 9, in force at that time, namely those of the Universal Postal Convention adopted in Seoul in 1994 or, possibly, those adopted in Beijing in 1999. Under these rules article 9 of the UPU Convention was indeed as the author quotes. But this approach is legally flawed.

The UPU rules, and their numbering, are updated and, where necessary, modified by every UPU Congress held about every 5 years. In the case of the two Iranian covers, which were refused in 1988, it is imperative to apply the UPU rules in force in 1988 which were those adopted by the UPU Congress in Hamburg in 1984, more specifically the Hamburg Universal Postal Convention 1984 which entered into force on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1986.

Article 9 §2 of the Hamburg Universal Postal Convention states:<sup>6</sup>

*The subjects and designs of postage stamps shall be in keeping with the Preamble of the UPU Constitution and of decisions taken by the Union bodies.*

The text of the preamble to the UPU Constitution stipulates, in summary, that the images on postage stamps must promote international cooperation and peace. This objective was not new in 1984. It found explicit mention in earlier UPU Recommendations concerning themes on postage stamps, such as Recommendation C 14 adopted at Ottawa in 1957 and Recommendations C 85 and C 93 adopted at Rio de Janeiro in 1979.<sup>7</sup>

The Hamburg Congress incorporated the gist of the Recommendations into the UPU Convention and thus gave the issue a higher visibility. At the same time, the Hamburg Congress gave some guidance on the subject in Recommendation C 27:<sup>8</sup>

*Postal administrations, in choosing themes for their issues of postage stamps, should*

- *make every attempt to avoid topics or designs of an offensive nature in respect of a person or a country; and*
- *choose themes calculated to contribute to the dissemination of culture, the strengthening of bonds of friendship among peoples and the establishment and maintenance of peace in the world.*

5 The author’s article of 2003 states that she bought the cover ‘recently’.

6 In the original French: “Les sujets et les motifs des timbres-poste doivent être conformes à l’esprit du préambule de la Constitution de l’UPU et des décisions prises par les organes de l’Union.”

7 The recommendations were published in *Compendium of Congress Decisions 1947–2016*, pp. 162–163. Online: <https://www.upu.int/UPU/media/upu/files/UPU/aboutUpu/acts/compendiumOfCongressDecisions/actCompendiumDecisionsCongressEn.pdf>.

8 Recommendation C 27/1984, in: *Compendium ...*, p. 163.



Kuwait clearly took the view that the Iranian stamps did not promote international cooperation and peace and that it was appropriate to take action. However, article 9 §2 does not specify the consequences where its principles are violated.

Kuwait's decision to refuse mail franked with offensive postage stamps and to return it to Iran is not covered by article 9 §2 but by the Convention's specific clause for prohibitions, namely article 36.

Article 36 §4(f) prohibits:<sup>9</sup>

*the insertion in letter-post items of articles of which the importation and circulation is prohibited in the country of destination*

Whilst this clause refers to inserted articles, it has been applied by many UPU member countries in cases comparable to Kuwait's refusal where the articles (read: postage stamps) were found *on* letter-post items.

For collectors of Postal War items there is now evidence that there was indeed a postal war between Iran and Kuwait; Mrs. Mashael Abdulaziz Alhajeri's article has the merit of mentioning this fact first. Now that it is established that Kuwait relied on UPU rules to carry out postal war measures against certain Iranian postage stamps, we can be confident to interpret correctly another Iranian cover.

This commercial cover was mailed on 25<sup>th</sup> February 1986 from Tehran to Hamburg in Germany. One of the two stamps on the cover commemorates "The Takeover of US Den of Espionage"; it is blacked (fig. 6).<sup>10</sup> Germany is known not to have blacked Iranian, nor any other stamps, and the Iranian authorities certainly did not black their own stamp.

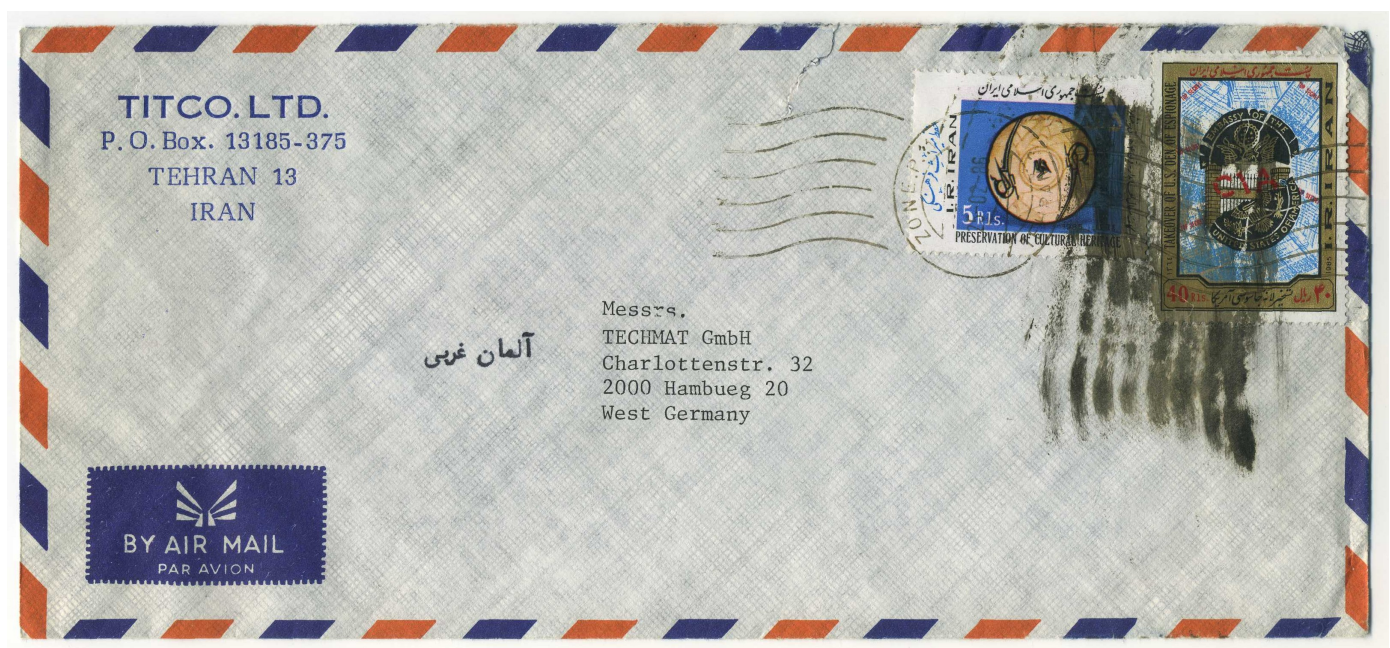


Fig. 6: 1986 cover from Teheran to Hamburg with stamps blackened.

### So what does Kuwait have to do with this Cover?

Germany's postal links with Iran, whether they were direct or indirect links, were severed before the end of the Shah's régime. It took many years after the Iranian revolution before direct postal links

<sup>9</sup> In the original French: "les objets dont l'importation ou la circulation est interdite dans le pays de destination."

<sup>10</sup> MiNr. 2135 (4.11.1986).



became reliable again. Meanwhile mail to and from Iran had to transit through a third country, so Kuwait was an obvious choice.

The freedom of transit of postal items is one of the key UPU principles set forth in article 1 of the UPU Constitution. It carries with it the obligation for each postal administration to forward, always by the quickest route, letter-post items which are passed on to it in transit for another country.

When the Kuwaiti authorities received transit mail from Iran, they will have noticed the politically sensitive postage stamp and considered what, if any, action to take in application of international rules. We have seen above that Kuwait, unlike other countries, was willing to take action. But contrary to the action described above, where mail was returned to Iran, the cover to Germany was not returned. The stamp which commemorates the occupation of the American embassy in Tehran was blacked instead and the cover then conveyed to Germany.

### Why did Kuwait not return the cover to Iran?

The answer can be found hidden deep in UPU rules. In short, the rules for letter-post items in transit are different from those governing items received by the postal administration of the letter-post's final destination. Art. 36 §9 of the UPU International Postal Convention sets out the right of every member country to deny conveyance in transit to items which do not satisfy its legal requirements.

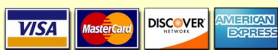
But there is an exception to this exception: this rule does not apply to letters and postcards which must be conveyed to their final destination. In other words, a postal administration cannot deny transit to letters and postcards. Kuwait's only option to show her disapproval when she discovered the offensive Iranian stamp was to black it.

*The authors of this article would welcome any supplementary information.<sup>11</sup>*

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## Courious Stamps from Damascus (I): The Withdrawn 2016 National Day Stamps

*by Johann Baumgartner with additions by Tobias Zywietsl*

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Some time ago, my long-time exchange partner from Damascus sent me two very curious stamps, one of which I will first briefly present here:

He sent me a stamp for “National Day 17 April 2016,” commemorating of the withdrawal of French forces from Syria in 1946 and thus of Syria's de facto independence. Usually, a special stamp for this occasion has been a fixed part of the Syrian Post's canon of issues for decades. Only for 2016 no issue was catalogued for this important commemoration day.



*Figs. 1 and 2: The withdrawn National Day stamp 17.04.2016, 210 lira.<sup>1</sup>*

This stamp is in the possession of the author.

This stamp was shown in April 2016 by the eminent Syrian collector Chaker Areksoussi on Facebook.

My exchange partner wrote me that this stamp was delivered to the post office counters in the usual way, but on the day of issue itself, soldiers are said to have turned up at the post offices and confiscated all the remaining stamps. No reasons were given, and since in Syria the actions of the security forces are hardly questioned (for understandable reasons), the reasons for the whole action remained largely in the dark.

It is therefore only assumed, according to my exchange partner, that the motif might have irritated or even angered the ‘establishment’. The stamp depicts, in fact, next to an equestrian monument, another monument of soldiers raising a Syrian flag. However, this monument is identical to the US Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, depicting the legendary scene on Iwo Jima in 1945; a highly symbolic event in the USA. It seems that the designer of the Syrian stamp simply hijacked an image of this American memorial and replaced the waving US flag with that of Syria.

<sup>1</sup> The Syrian Pound (Lira, SL) has an exchange rate of 250 SL per Euro. 210 SL were thereforer equivalent to about 84 Cent. Today, the exchange rates is abou 2,700 SL to 1 Euro (*ed.*)



Probably the reason for the withdrawal of this stamp is not so much the fear of infringing any copyright, but rather the fact that the image of the flag-raising is so well known worldwide that its brazen appropriation by the Syrians could have been embarrassing for the regime in Damascus.

It seems strange to me, however, that this would only have been noticed on the day of issue. Therefore, it cannot be ruled out that other, perhaps quite banal reasons – such as the (even by Syrian standards) poor printing quality, were responsible for the sudden withdrawal of the stamp.

In any case, it should be noted that the stamp corresponds to the usual design of the Syrian commemorative stamps and also has the current watermark of Syrian stamps. It seems to me that the stamp was indeed a planned regular Syrian issue.

### Additions by Tobias Zywietz

In relevant groups on Facebook,<sup>2</sup> and from fellow collectors I obtained further information. In summary, the stamp was regularly issued on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2016. The print-run is said to have been 10,000. A known collector is mentioned as eyewitness at the sale in the main post office in Damascus that day. Other collectors say that only two (proof?) sheets (2×100 copies) were delivered to the Damascus main post office on the day of issue and that the actual regular printing was never carried out. Only 80 copies were sold. The withdrawal of the stamp was later announced on the Syrian Post website (fig. 3).

Currently, originals are being traded for up to €350. This has put counterfeiters on the scene: it is reported that forgeries in primitive printing (presumably using inkjet printers) are in circulation, featuring, however, the watermarked paper of the original.

This information seems credible. It is quite possible that counterfeiters were able to obtain genuine watermarked paper (possibly already perforated) in the midst of the civil war; and the use of ink-jet printers seems commonplace. Caution is therefore advised!



Fig. 3:

Screenshot dated 25.04.2016: إلغاء إصدار طابع اليوم الوطني لعام 2016 (cancellation of the 2016 National Day stamp issue).

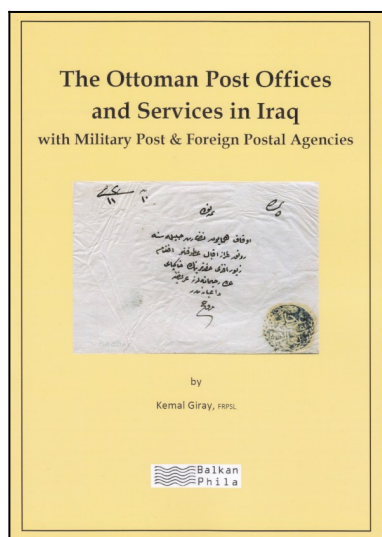
<sup>2</sup> هواة الطوابع السورية The Syrian Philately. This includes posts by Chaker Areksoussi (19.04.2016, incl. the images in figs. 2 and 3): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1672402369662128/posts/1747921682110196/> and (following a RFI of mine on the topic) by Mohammad Khalaf and 'Ruud van Nostelrooy' (4.03.2023): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1672402369662128/permalink/3528404067395273>.



## Kemal Giray: The Ottoman Post Offices and Services in Iraq

*reviewed by Tobias Zywietz*

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*Kemal Giray: The Ottoman Post Offices and Services in Iraq with Military Post & Foreign Postal Agencies*

236 pages, A4, softbound, b/w and coloured illustrations and maps

London: BalkanPhila, 2023.

Price: £30.00 (plus p&p). Orders: <https://www.balkanphila.com/>

Collectors of Iraq have now one comprehensive book on the postmarks during Ottoman times. The book is edited by London philatelic trader Kemal Giray (BalkanPhila) and gathers together in one volume information about the postal history of the places in today's Iraq, detailing all the postal towns and their postmarks.

The introduction looks at the general and postal history up-to World War I. It is supplemented by information on weights and measures and simplified tabulations of Ottoman postal rates 1840–1916. Each vilayet is introduced with its history, population statistics and maps of postal towns (taken from the Birken Catalogue). After an overview of the Tatar post, each postal town is then sketched with its characteristics and postal developments. The postal services offered at these offices is traced through the postal guides. Additional information is taken from sources like official Government yearbooks (*salnamé*). The towns are often illustrated with contemporary picture postcards or photographs.

The individual postmarks are detailed with their measurements, colour, inscriptions, known dates of usage (years only, no actual recorded first and last dates) and references to A&P and the 2022 Papuççuoğlu catalogues. Other catalogues of Ottoman postmarks (Bayındır, Coles/Walker, Brandt/Ceylan, Birken, etc.) are mentioned as sources in the foreword. Rarity is noted in 15 (!) price bands, ranging from 5–7 € to 4,000–4,500 €, plus “price between seller and buyer.”

As is custom with cataloguing Ottoman postmarks, the cancels are shown as idealised drawings. Some were apparently taken from the 10-volume catalogue of A&P, the 2022 Papuççuoğlu catalogues, others are identical to Birken, some were seemingly revised or newly drawn. These illustrations are accompanied by at least one actual strike shown on a cover, postcard, form, or on stamps. The chapter on Baghdad is supplemented by military and censor marks (same for Kirkuk and Mossul), and by five pages on the 1889/1892 bisects, referencing Giray's article on the topic in MEPB.<sup>1</sup>

The Ottoman military marks and cachets (Field Post Offices) are given their own chapter, detailing the offices' movements during the war. The foreign postal agencies operated by British and Indian companies (East Indian Co., Lynch's Euphrates & Tigris S.N. Co.) and consulates are detailed; the

<sup>1</sup> Giray, Kemal, and Tobias Zywietz: *Baghdad Provisionals Revisited*. In: MEPB, no. 5, 2017, pp. 3–8.



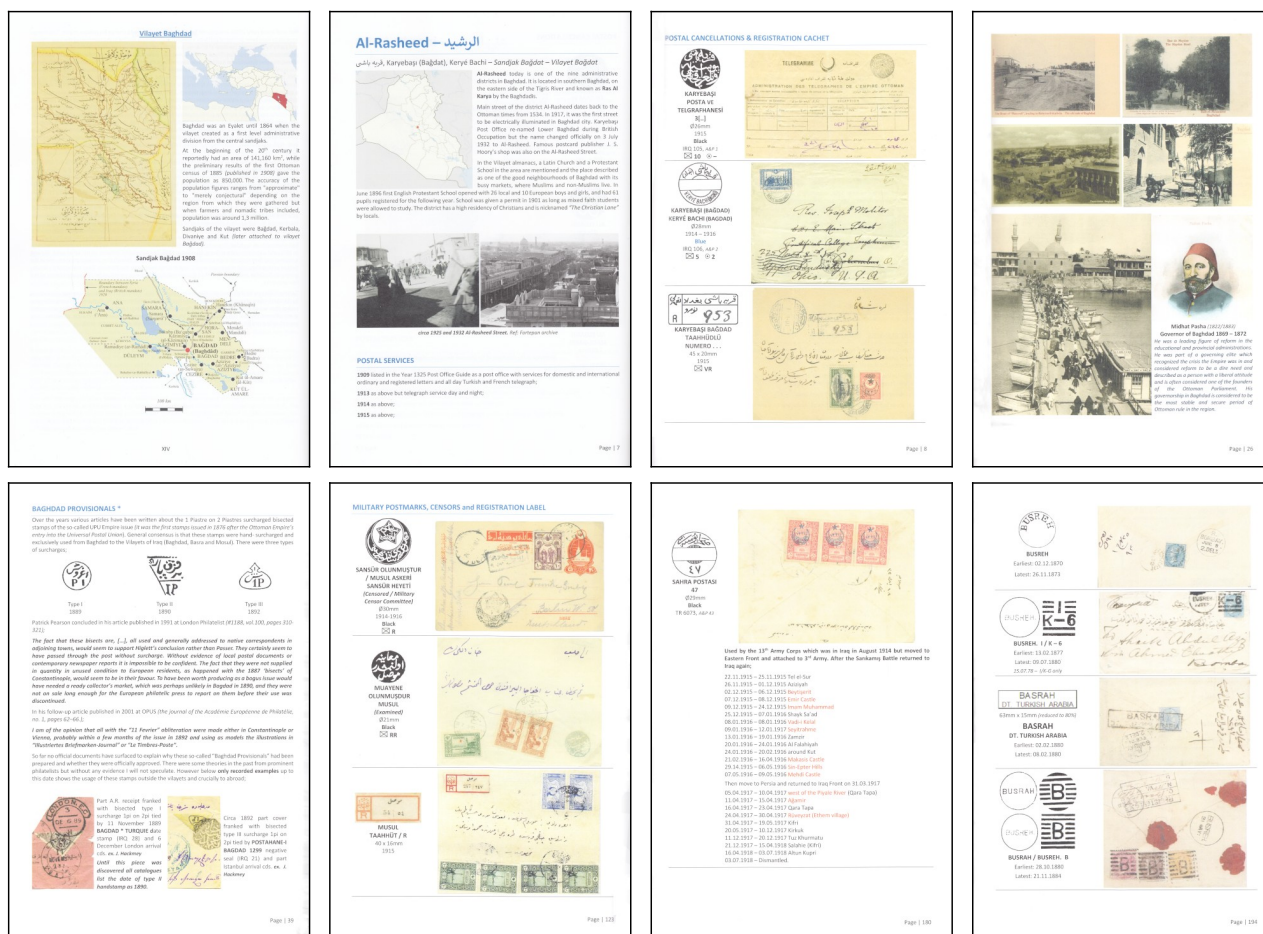
dromedary service from Baghdad to Damascus by the British consulate is mentioned in passing. An extensive chapter, written by Otto Graf, describes the postal history associated with the building of the Baghdad Railway.

I can wholeheartedly recommend this new publication! Especially the improvements in the drawings of postmarks must come highly welcome to collectors!

### Bibliographical Record

Giray, Kemal: *The Ottoman post offices and services in Iraq : with military post & foreign postal agencies /* by Kemal Giray. – [London]: BalkanPhila, 2023. – [4], xxiii, 209 p. : ill. (b/w and coloured) ; maps. £30.00 (softb.)

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## Reactions, Comments, Queries

*This section gathers reactions, comments, criticism, and queries sent in by readers in response to articles published in MEPB, or in general.*

**German Levant: Printed Matter Wrapper, Jerusalem & Beirut 1900**  
(Hakan Yılmaz, Tilmann Nössig)

**Hakan Yılmaz** writes:

Attached I am sending a wrapper sent from the German Post Office in Jerusalem. Interestingly enough I think it went to Beirut and from there was sent registered, as the label proves. Do you have any idea about this application?



*Fig. 1: German Post in Turkey, printed matter wrapper (S1) imprinted 10 Para on 5 Pfennig. Cancelled Jerusalem 11.06.1900. A second stamp, likely 1 piastre and cancelled in Beirut, fell off due to moisture (?). The registration label was added in Beirut, not Jerusalem.*

*Editor: I asked for help on this, and Tilmann Nössig replied:<sup>1</sup>*

The cover sent to me looked familiar. I therefore checked the standard handbook for this area “Die deutsche Post in Palästina” by Jürgen Falk and found exactly this piece on page 444. There it is described as follows:

*S1 Jerusalem 11.06.1900. Beirut, as registered mail. From Beirut to Posen. The franking from Beirut has fallen off due to the influence of moisture.*

The missing franking must have been a 1 Piastre on 20 Pfennig overprint stamp (MiNr. 8d). I just couldn't explain why the necessary franking was not done in Jerusalem, the place where the S1 wrapper was cancelled, using a registration label available there. It is possible, however, that the registration labels were missing from a bulk mailing and that the label and the cancellation of the missing one piastre stamp were therefore added in Beirut, or that it was only in Beirut that it became apparent that the letter was registered and was therefore only there treated as such.

<sup>1</sup> Tilmann is an expert on German post offices abroad, and officer of the specialist society Arge Sammler Deutscher Kolonialpostwertzeichen e. V.: <https://kolonialmarken.de/>.



*Editor: Jürgen Falk's handbook explains the existence and usage of German Levant printed matter/newspaper wrappers in Palestine:*<sup>2</sup>

#### 6.8 Streifbänder

Alle Streifbänder wurden nur in Jerusalem und Jaffa verkauft. Sie durften auch nur dort verwendet werden. Die Exklusivität für Palästina ist bei der Bewertung dieser Ganzsachen von Bedeutung. Ein Stempelzuschlag für Jerusalem bzw. Jaffa entfällt, da diese Stempel den Normalfall darstellen. Allenfalls ist ein geringer Zuschlag für Jaffa gerechtfertigt, da der Jaffa-Stempel auf Streifbändern seltener ist als der Jerusalem-Stempel.

Gelegentliche Verwendungen in anderen Levante-Postämtern kommen vor, sind aber relativ selten. Diese Fremdverwendungen haben oft Zusatzfrankaturen. Es ist dann nicht immer sicher zu erkennen, ob hier eine echte Fremdverwendung vorliegt oder ob das gedruckte Wertzeichen für das Porto nicht anerkannt wurde und die Zusatzfrankatur daher erforderlich war. Daran ändert auch eine Abstempelung des Wertzeicheneindrucks nichts. Im Deutschen Reich gab es diese Streifbänder nicht.

In Palästina gab es einen Hauptkunden und das war das Syrische Waisenhaus, erkennbar an dem rechteckigen Absenderstempel sowie den vorgedruckten Etiketten für die Anschriften. Dieses verwendete die Streifbänder für den Versand seiner Quartalsschrift. Andere Absender sind selten und auch dann handelt es sich in der Regel um Absender oder Adressaten, die irgendwie mit dem Syrischen Waisenhaus zu tun hatten. Die Stempel sind auf Streifbändern naturgemäß in der Regel unsauber. Gute Abschläge rechtfertigen daher erhebliche Qualitätszuschläge.

#### 6.8 Printed matter wrappers

All wrappers were sold only in Jerusalem and Jaffa. They were also only allowed to be used there. The exclusivity for Palestine is important when valuing these postal stationery items. There is no value uplift for cancellations from Jerusalem or Jaffa, as these are the norm. At most, a small uplift may be justified in the case of Jaffa, as the Jaffa postmark is rarer on wrappers than the Jerusalem one.

Occasional uses in other Levant post offices occur, but are relatively rare. These 'foreign' uses often have additional frankings. It is not always possible to tell whether this is a genuine foreign use or whether the imprinted stamp was not recognised for the postage and the additional franking was therefore necessary. Even the cancellation of the imprinted stamp does not change this fact. In the German Empire itself, such wrappers did not exist.

In Palestine there was one main customer and that was the Syrian Orphanage, recognisable by the rectangular sender's cachet and the pre-printed labels for the addresses. The Orphanage used the wrappers for mailing its quarterly journal. Other senders are rare, and even then they are usually senders or addressees who had something to do with the Syrian Orphanage. By their very nature, the postmarks are usually unclear on wrappers. Good cancellations therefore justify considerable uplift for their quality.

*There existed a total of six different types of wrappers issued only at Jaffa and Jerusalem between 1900 and 1914.*<sup>3</sup>

*Type 1 is catalogued thus:*

*S1: on sale from June 1900 until the end of 1900, still valid until 30.09.1901, light brown paper, 148×300 mm. Indicum: German 5 Pfennig "Ziffernmuster" (Reichspost) with "10 PARA 10" overprint in black. Exists also as "SPECIMEN".*



<sup>2</sup> Translated from: Falk, Jürgen: *Die deutsche Post in Palästina : 1898–1914*. Bremen: Falk, 2007 [i.e. 2008], p. 443.

<sup>3</sup> Falk, 2007, pp. 443–449.



***The Postal Conditions in Tripoli (Libya) in 1879***  
(Gerhard Rohlfs, Andreas Birken, Tobias Zywietz)

**Tobias Zywietz** writes:

I recently found this short notice whilst looking for unrelated material. It was originally printed in a Berlin newspaper<sup>4</sup> and then reprinted by ARCHIV FÜR POST UND TELEGRAPHIE.<sup>5</sup> The writer, Gerhard Rohlfs, was the leader of an expedition to the interior of Africa. Rohlfs is a name on a par with explorers like Gustav Nachtigal, Heinrich Barth, David Livingstone, and Henry Stanley.

*Ten years ago, the city was connected to Malta by telegraph, but the cable broke, and the Turkish government, of course, has no intention of repairing it. But now they have regular mail steamers, Italian ones, which are supposed to arrive in Tripoli every Thursday; but ‘tempo permittendo’ they say, and sometimes they fail to arrive. A great improvement is the establishment of an Italian post office, which is provided by the Italian consulate. Letters are sent to and from Tripoli at the same price as in all countries that have joined the Universal Postal Union.*

*In fact, a postmaster has arrived from Constantinople in recent weeks to set up a Turkish post office. Will this succeed? They even want to set up a postal station in the regency, i.e. in Rhadames, Sokna, Mursuk, etc.<sup>6</sup> This is a truly Turkish measure, to push the completely useless, while omitting the necessary. One hardly thinks to exaggerate when one says that, apart from the official letters to and from the places of the interior, scarcely 50 letters are written during a whole year.*

*Europeans do not live in the interior and the natives write only under the pressure of extreme necessity. And then every native merchant, or whoever, prefers to despatch message when opportunity arrives or with a caravan, rather than to pay the post office for a letter, even if it only costs one piastre. Whether the letter arrives later does not do any harm; stock exchange prices are not to be communicated, and the saying ‘time is money’ is not even known by the governor, much less so by the subjects. So this Turkish postal service in Tripolitania will only function on paper.*

Connected to Rohlfs’ report is the topic of known postmarks of Tripoli (Trablus-ı Garb). On this Dr. Birken wrote in 2012:<sup>7</sup>

*At the time of the establishment of the Ottoman state post, Tripoli was not yet connected to the Tartar mail system (official correspondence went by sea, of course). Orhan Brandt and Sadık Ceylân have assigned the rectangular postmark with double frame with the Arabic inscription TRABLUS from 1871 to the city in Libya, other authors have followed them, only John H. Coles and Howard E. Walker have become suspicious and also list it with Trablus-ı Şam (Tripoli in Lebanon), but with the addition “(LIBYA?)” and without any indication of a date or a rating. This would mean, however, that the Syrian port city of Tripoli, which is also not insignificant, would be missing from the 168 cities that were issued this cancel in 1871. In any case, no other Libyan city belongs to this group, not even the important Bingazi. The case could only be clarified with the help of letters with legible senders. [... A&P] come down for the Syrian Tripoli.*

*The matter becomes clearer with the postmark with the inscription TRABLUS GARB, which was introduced in 1880. From then on we can expect regular postal traffic (Bingazi followed only in 1892). The earliest known date on a negative seal cancel (inscription: Trablus Ğarb sevk-i*

4 Berliner Tageblatt und Handels-Zeitung, Morgen-Ausgabe, 25.01.1879, pp. 2–3. Online: <https://www.deutsche-digitale-bibliothek.de/newspaper/item/T5BMS7EH5LYSDW3IR5HN2V73MSIZ45PO?>

5 Archiv für Post und Telegraphie : Beihefte zum Amtsblatt der Deutschen Reichs-Post- und Telegraphenverwaltung, 8. 1879, no. 5 (March 1879), p. 165.

6 Ġadāmis, Saukna (Sökne, Seukné), Murzūq.

7 Birken, Andreas: *Eine Provinzstadt stellt sich vor: Trablus-ı Garb*. In: Türkei-Spiegel, no. 99, 2012, pp. 22–30.



*memekatib-i taahhüdye*) is the year 1298 of the Hidjra = 1881 AD (misinterpreted by Bayındır as 1882).



**MEPB 16: Request for Information: Ottoman Postal Route to Persia via Trebizonde, Erzurum, Bayazid, and Tabriz** (Björn Sohrne, pp. 94–96)

**MEPB 20: RFI: Ottoman Postal Route to Persia via Trebizonde, Erzurum, Bayazid, and Tabriz** (Björn Sohrne, pp. 151–153)

**MEPB 21: RFI: Ottoman Postal Route to Persia via Trebizonde, Erzurum, Bayazid, and Tabriz** (Tobias Zywiets, pp. 117–118)

**Tobias Zywiets** writes:

In the annual report of the German Consulate in Trabzon (Trapezunt) for 1871, the developments regarding trade with Persia and the Bayezid route get mentioned:<sup>8</sup>

*For the commercial traffic of Trapezunt,<sup>9</sup> the railway line starting from Poti, which is almost completed as far as Tiflis,<sup>10</sup> is beginning to exert a strong influence in important mercantile circles. The goods of the European, Caucasian, and Persian trade are increasingly taking the route via the cities of Poti, Tiflis and Tabriz,<sup>11</sup> and this will probably be the case to an even greater extent after the opening of the entire railway line from the Black Sea to Tiflis in September of this year, as is generally expected. In view of this change in the goods route, several important Persian merchants living here are said to be planning to move to Poti.*

*On the other hand, the Turkish government is doing practically nothing to maintain Persian trade on the old Trapezunt–Erzerum line. The road leading from here to the interior has not yet been completed further than Erzerum, and has been so neglected that, as a result of landslides, spills, etc., it has become completely impracticable in places. Also, nothing has yet been done for the establishment of a post carriage to Erzerum; the postal service is still provided on this route by Tartars on horseback.*

*The construction of the port of Trapezunt, which has long been planned and is so urgently needed, has not yet been made a start of, and it almost seems as if the enterprise has been completely abandoned. Under such circumstances, it is inevitable that Trapezunt's commercial importance will decline more and more, as can actually be detected.*

*In contrast to this neglect of its own interests on the part of the Turkish government, Russia's eager efforts with regard to Turkey are aimed at gaining an ever greater influence in this country, in the first instance in the border provinces on this side. Thus Anatolia and especially the Black Sea coast are richly endowed with Russian consuls and consular agencies, which have succeeded in acquiring such an important position vis-à-vis the Turkish authorities that they are scarcely inferior in influence to the latter themselves.*

*Furthermore, the Russian government is said to have the intention, after the construction of the*

<sup>8</sup> Source: Deutsches Postarchiv : Beihefte zum Amtsblatt der Deutschen Reichs-Postverwaltung, 1. 1873, no. 4 (February 1873), p. 118.

<sup>9</sup> Trebizonde, Trabzon.

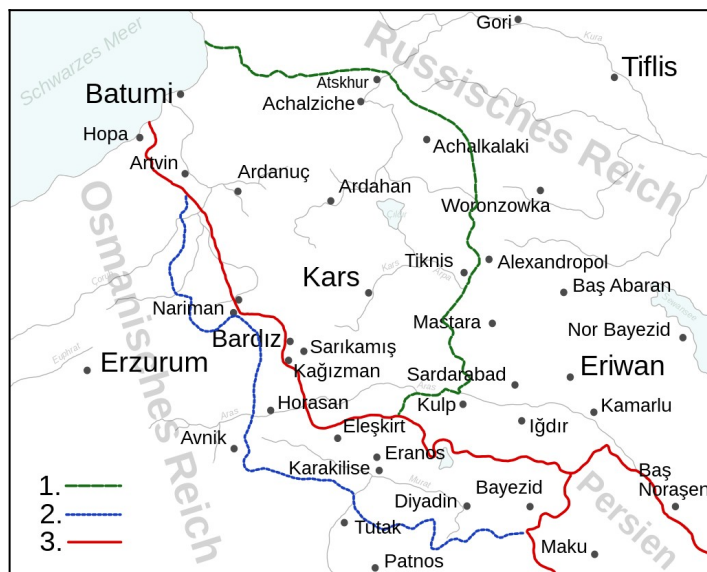
<sup>10</sup> Tbilisi.

<sup>11</sup> Täbriz, Tauris.



harbour at Poti has apparently proved impossible, of gaining Batum,<sup>12</sup> the best harbour of the Black Sea, for itself, and it is generally believed here that negotiations are in progress for the transfer of this place to Russia. The acquisition of Batum – from which, by means of a branch railway, the connection with the Poti–Tiflis railway line could easily be established – would, however, be of the greatest importance for Russia with regard to European, Caucasian, and Persian trade, and, together with the possession of the port of Sebastopol,<sup>13</sup> would make that country, so to speak, the master of almost the entire Black Sea.

After the Turko-Russian War of 1877/78, the regions of Adjara (incl. Batum), Ardahan, and Kars were occupied by Russia. The peace treaty of San Stefano (2, in blue) was revised by the Conference of Berlin: Adjara and Kars remained with Russia, only a small band of land (Bayezid, Kirkelisse, Horasan) was returned to Turkey (3, in red).<sup>14</sup>



**MEPB 18 & 19: International Reply Coupons of Turkey: Greek Occupation of the Island of Lesbos with Mytilene 1912 (Wolfgang Leimenstoll)**

**Wolfgang Leimenstoll** writes:

The controversial Turkish IRC overprinted at Mytilene in 1912<sup>15</sup> was recently sold at the 693<sup>rd</sup> Karamitsos Auction. Lot 758 achieved 420 € + expenses from a starting price of 280 €. <sup>16</sup>

So much for the discussion about its genuineness (and value)!



<sup>12</sup> Batumi.

<sup>13</sup> Sevastopol, Aktyar.

<sup>14</sup> The green line represents the position of the peace treaty of Adrianople, 1829.

Map by "Alexandar.R.". Source: Wikipedia Commons, 3.05.2008. Online:

<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Russischtuerkischberlinsanstefanoost.svg>.

<sup>15</sup> Leimenstoll, Wolfgang: *International Reply Coupons of Turkey: Greek Occupation of the Island of Lesbos with Mytilene 1912*. In: MEPB, no. 18, 2021, p. 126.

Leimenstoll, Wolfgang ; Buscke, Bernd-Dieter: *International Reply Coupons of Turkey: Greek Occupation of the Island of Lesbos with Mytilene 1912*. In: MEPB, no. 19, 2021, p. 135

<sup>16</sup> Cf. <https://www.karamitsos.com/auctionLot.php?auction=693&lot=497557>.



### Mixed Results for Ottoman Era Material at a Recent Auction – Felzmann 175

Editor: Looking at some auctions I noticed quite mixed results at the Felzmann summer auction of 2022.<sup>17</sup> I present a selection of some of the interesting lots with their original lot descriptions:



Lot 4707: FRENCH LEVANT P.O. / ONLY RECORDED CITY POST USAGE WITH FRENCH P.O. TO FRANCE BUYUKDERE 1870, in complaint [sic!] with 1868 rate schedule, cover with 1870 issue 1 Pia yellow tied by "BUYUKDERE" (AP Type 04, no.2) octogonall type all arabic cancellation, to french P.O. Constantinopel with Napoleon pair 20 C blue and 40 C orange tied by Grand Chiffre "5083" and red boxed "P.D." alongside to Paris. Unique BÜYÜKDERE Local & Levant Combination. Cert. Expertised Nakri, Holcombe, ex Plantinga Coll. [latest certificate: Guy de Vachat 2009]  
Offer: 4,300 € – Result: 5,000 €.<sup>18</sup>



Lot 4508: Cover from PIREE with large Hermeshead 20 L rose and 5 L green for greek rate tied by "PIREE" c.d.s., at arrival crescent issue pair 1 Pia grey black affixed and tied by "EDREMIT" negative type all arabic cancellation. Only few of these Egeo mixed rate covers are known. Ex Kuyas Collection, [latest certificate: Guy de Vachat 2009]  
Offer: 4,000 € – Result: unsold.



Lot 4536: 1921, 50 Pia. brownish yellow mint hinged, fresh color, fine and very scarce, Isfila catalogue value 1.800,- Euro. MiNr. A721, Isf 995  
Offer: 400 € – Result: unsold.

Los 4537: 5 Pia rose handstamped 1336, mint hinged original gum, tiny usual gum crease, fine and very fresh, an important rarity, certificate Friedl Expert Committee. MiNr.: 704  
Offer: 4,000 € – Result: 3,600.



<sup>17</sup> Auction 175, 28.06.–2.07.2022. Source: <https://auktionen.felzmann.de/Auktion/KatalogArchiv?intAuktionsId=1209>.

<sup>18</sup> Note that the green map on the reverse is from the presentation page.





Lot 4509:

1886, folded envelope from PATRAS with large Hermeshead 20 L rose and 5 L green for greek rate tied by "PATRAS 28/9/1886" c.d.s., at arrival 20 Para rose affixed and tied by "CHIO TURQUIE" c.d.s., including content, only few of these Egeo mixed rate covers are known, showpiece, [latest certificate: Guy de Vachat 2009]

Offer: 4,000 € – Result: unsold.

نومرو	مکاتیب	انواع	نوع	مقدار	اشیا	مکاتیب	انواع	نوع	مقدار	اشیا
۱	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب
۲	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب
۳	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب
۴	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب
۵	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب
۶	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب
۷	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب
۸	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب
۹	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب
۱۰	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب
۱۱	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب
۱۲	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب
۱۳	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب
۱۴	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب
۱۵	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب	مکاتیب

Lot 4511:

Turkish Post Office : "AN CANIB-I POSTA-I KALAS" internal Tatar post document for carrying 35 covers and two registered covers from Galatz to Deraliye in 1850, usual fold, an extraordinary clear all arabic cancellation, showpiece

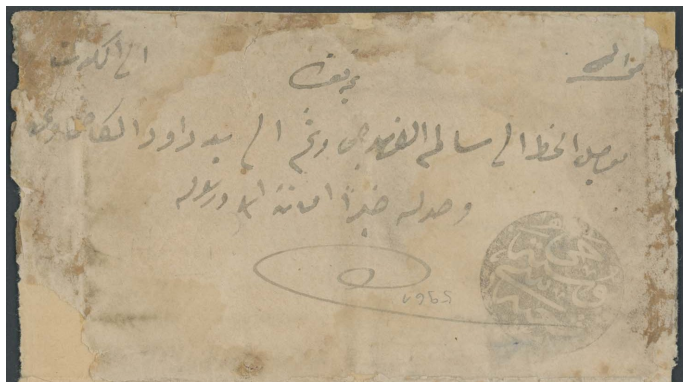
Offer: 500 € – Result: unsold.



Lot 4512: BERGOS 2/1876, UPU period double rate cover. the ottoman post carried in this period not to Romania, two single 1 Pia yellow tied by Bulgaria "BERGOS" (A&P type 04, no.1, RR) circular type all arabic cancellation (today Burgas), and at arrival in Istanbul ms. "in Istanbul carried by hand" (Dersaadetde elden verilmiştir) and forwarded by Austria Levant P.O. with 10 Sld blue tied by "CONSTANTINOPLE 25/2/76" c.d.s. with arrival mark "BRAILA 27/2/76", certificate du Vachat BPP and Holcombe, a cover of highest importance in Levant postal history.

Offer: 8,000 € – Result: 8,000 €.

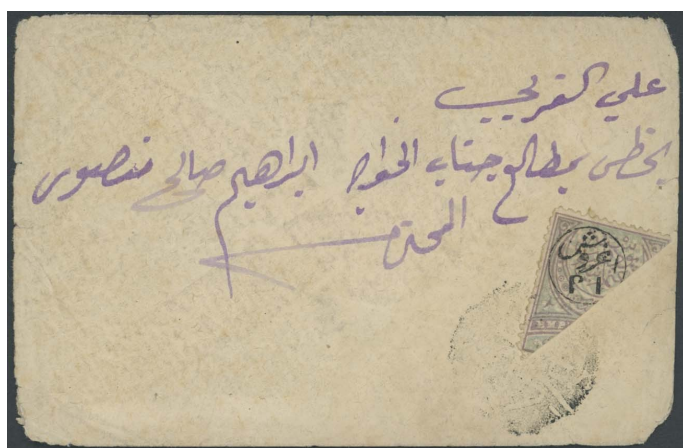
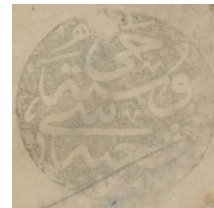




Lot 4514: IRAQ "HAY POSTA SUBESI", all arabic negative cancellation on faulty cover to Mosul with 4x 10 Para black violet, 1876 issue, stamps defective, this is the only known cover from this small town in eastern Iraq according to the AP catalogue.

Unique showpiece for the advanced collection.<sup>19</sup>

Offer: 1,800 € – Result: 2,000 €.



Lot 4515: 1890, "TELGRAF VE POSTAHANE-I ALI EL GHARBI 300" (1886), (Bayindir no.1 RRR, isfila unrecorded) red arrival mark on reverse of cover bearing Baghdad local bisect stamp 1 Pia. on 2 Pia. on front, tied by "POSTAHANE-I BAGDAD" all arabic cancellation. Cover with some edge tears, still fine strikes of these unusual cancels and an important rarity of Ottoman and Iraq postal history

Offer: 1,000 € – Result: unsold.



Lot 4539:

1915, Ottoman RED CRESCENT charity stamps booklet, 20 panes complete, many glued, two stamps apart, great rarity of ottoman philately and one of the most scarce booklets worldwide, catalogue value for panes over 20.000,-  
KN 8

Offer: 7,000 € – Result: unsold.

<sup>19</sup> This seal itself is catalogued under Hay/Kut ül-Hay (BAY 1, C/W II 48, A/P 1). Cf. Birken, 2019, vol. Basra, p. 13.



**Syrian IRC: Spectacular Auction Result for a very rare Version**  
(Wolfgang Leimenstoll)

**Wolfgang Leimenstoll** reports:

Recently a very early and rare Syrian IRC was sold on Delcampe for a spectacular price: even for this rare version of an IRC, the final price was an astonishing 1,350 €. What makes this one special, is the five-line black overprint, a translation of the terms of use as this type (Rome 8) only featured these rules in French, German, English, Spanish, and Italian. The coupon was issued in Lattakia in March 1932.

There are IRCs specific to the Alaouite State: London type 9 Syria 10 Piastres IRC with a purple hand-stamp “Gouvernement de Lattaquié”. These are every rarer than this one!



Fig. 1 and 1a: Front and reverse of the rare Syrian IRC with a five-line overprint in Arabic.

**RFI: “Licence of Vehicles” at Amman Central Post Office** (Bernd-Dieter Buscke)

**Bernd-Dieter Buscke** writes:

The postcard from Jordan shown below was recently acquired on the internet. The postmark from Amman raises the question: Who can say something about this cancellation from 1996, which bears the inscription “AMMAN CENTRAL / POST OFFICE / LICENCE OF / VEHICLES”? What is the meaning of the text in the 3rd and 4th lines?

*Editor: Arab post offices are often mainly dealing with matters like taxes, vehicle taxes, health insurance, administrative issues like renewal of residence permits, local services, electricity and water bills, payout of grants and aids, executing court orders, etc. So postal matters take a backseat in day-to-day transactions.*

*I presume that in a large post office like Amman Central there are many counters for the many services offered, including non-postal business. Here an official struck the cancel intended for documents relating to vehicle licensing and taxes on a postcard in error. Cancelled is cancelled.*

*Any other explanations?*





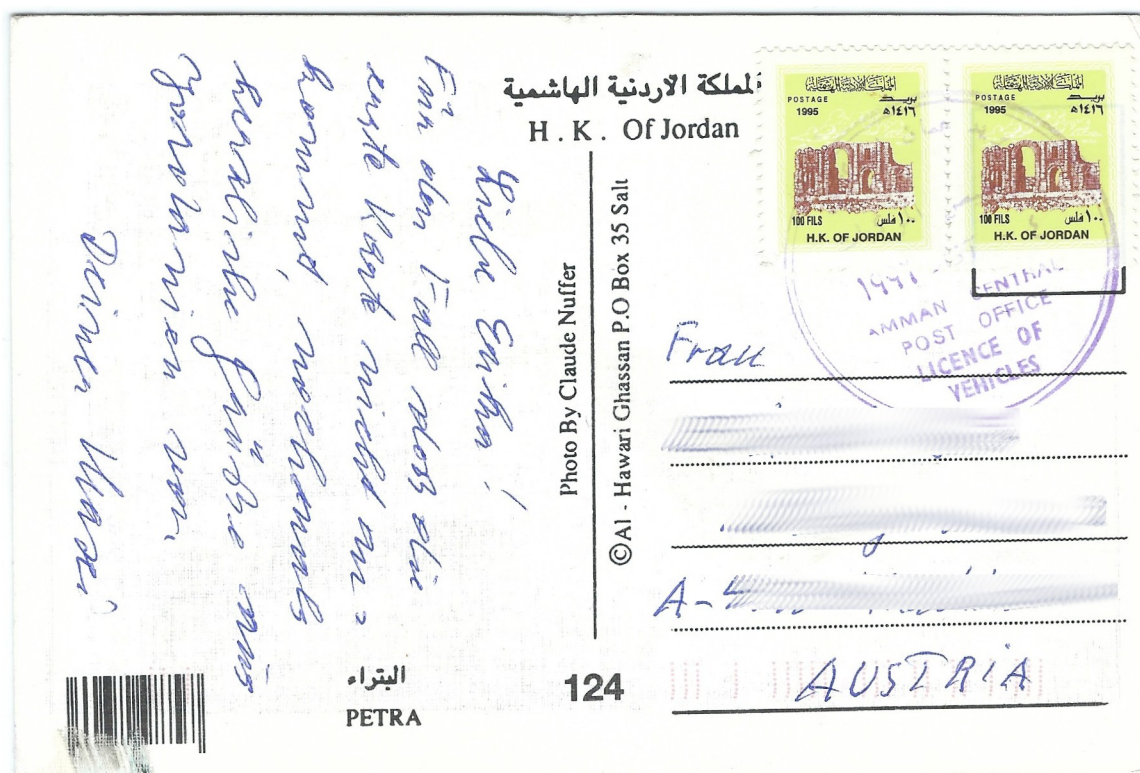


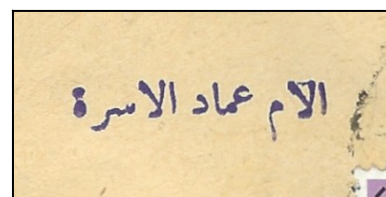
Fig. 1: "AMMAN CENTRAL / POST OFFICE / LICENCE OF / VEHICLES".

**RFI: Jordan Cachets – what is their use and meaning?** (Bernd-Dieter Buscke)

**Bernd-Dieter Buscke** asks for the meaning of a number of cachets found on letters from Jordan. With help from other collectors I could decipher some of them only (*editor*):



Fig. 1: Airmail (بريد جوي) cover, Amman 5, 1964.



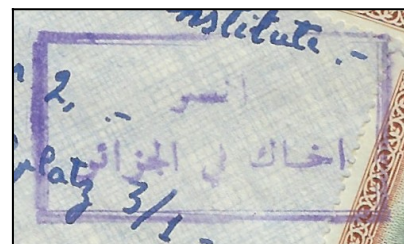
الام عماد الاسرة  
The mother is the pillar of the family.

*What was the occasion? Is this an official or private cachet? Has it any connection to the Pope's visit to the Holy Land in 1964?*





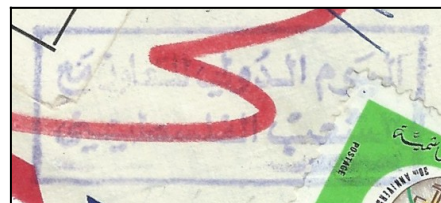
Fig. 2: Airmail cover from El Taiyiba to Germany, 1961.



أنصر أخاك في الجزائر  
Help your brother in Algeria!

*In 1961 Algeria was amidst its war of independence.*

Fig. 3: Irbid El-Taiyiba 1978. Registered cover to Germany.



اليوم الدولي للتعاون مع الشعب الفلسطيني  
The international day of cooperation with the Palestinian People.



Fig. 4: 1974 Airmail cover to Germany.



١٩٧٤ / اللارندنية  
1974 ??? Jordanian

*The remainder is illegible to me.  
Any ideas?*





**RFI: Saudi Arabia 1950s Censorship? (Govenco, Djeddah) (Bernd-Dieter Buscke)**

**Bernd-Dieter Buscke** writes:

In my hometown collection of Mainz there has been cover to Saudi Arabia for many years, which I have recently rediscovered. It shows a negative seal probably from Djedda on the front. What does the Arabic text say? I would be very grateful if you could decipher the text with the help of your colleagues (figs. 1) ...

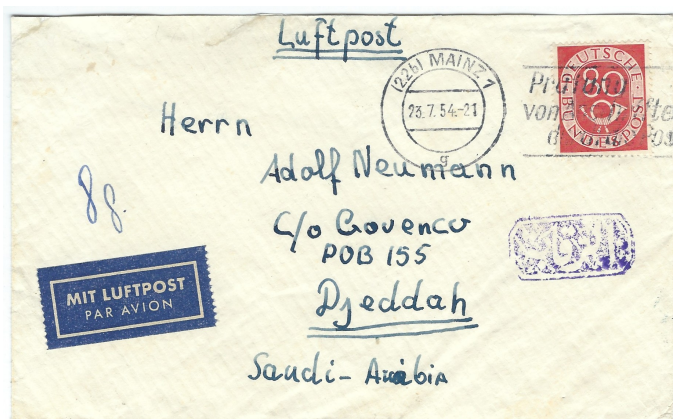
*Editor: The negative seal says “الرقابة” (al-raqaba’), i.e. censorship, control, supervision. I asked Martin Lovegrove of the Arabian Philatelic Association International (APAI)<sup>20</sup> for his advice.*

**Martin Lovegrove** writes:

I sent the images to our best postal history man and he knew nothing about it. I understand that GOVENCO was a bit controversial but I don't think Saudi had a postal censorship department willing to put their mark on anything. Who knows what went on undercover?

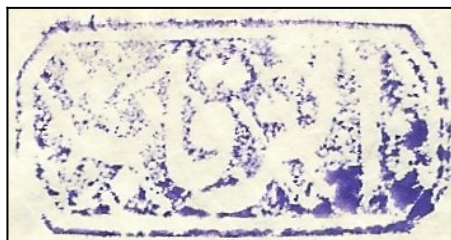
*Editor: Has any MEPB reader knowledge about this mark?*

GOVENCO (Governmental Engineering Corporation) was a German engineering company, a joint-venture between Hansa-Stahl-Export GmbH (Düsseldorf) and Julius Berger Tiefbau AG. Hundreds mainly German experts were employed in development projects in Saudi Arabia. Chief engineer Otto Hertling and 140 employees were held hostage for 7 weeks in the summer of 1954 (i.e. exactly when our letter was written), only to be freed after diplomatic intervention by the German government. This was part of a corruption scandal amidst rivalry with American companies; it involved the royal family, the new King Saud and his father's finance minister Abdullah bin Suleiman Al-Hamdan.<sup>21</sup>



Figs. 1–4:

1954 airmail cover from Budenheim, Germany (postmarked Mainz 1) to Djeddah, addressed to “Govenco”, with negative seal “الرقابة”. Djeddah arrival mark on the reverse.



<sup>20</sup> Website: <http://www.the-weatherings.co.uk/APAI/index.html>.

<sup>21</sup> Cf. *Opfer der Palast-Intrige*. In: Der Spiegel, 1954, no. 41. Online: <https://www.spiegel.de/politik/opfer-der-palast-intrige-a-231318a5-0002-0001-0000-000028957613>.



**RFI: Turkish Post operating in Northern Syria (Jinderes, Shayk al-Hadid, Rajo Afrin, Azaz, Marea, Al-Rai, Jarabulus, Tell Abiad, Ras al-Ayn) (Tobias Zywietz)**

**Tobias Zywietz** writes:

In 2018, the Turkish government-controlled official news agency *Anadolu Ajansı* announced the opening of post offices in Turkish-controlled areas of Northern Syria. The report says:<sup>22</sup>

*Ankara. The Turkish post office is preparing to open a new branch in Afrin, a northern Syrian city liberated from terrorists this January by Turkish soldiers. A building formerly used as a post office by the Assad regime was renovated to be the Turkish Post and Telegraph Organization's (PTT) Afrin branch. The branch will provide mail, banking, and logistics services to Syrians as well as local Turkish officials. The Afrin PTT will also offer account transaction, money withdrawal, transfer, and shipping services. Afrin was liberated from YPG/PKK terrorists by Turkey's Operation Olive Branch in January 2018. The PTT currently serves in five cities in Syria, as it opened branches in Azaz, Jarabulus, Al-Bab, and Mare.*

There are two more more reports. One dates from from 2017:<sup>23</sup>

*Ankrara. Turkey's national postal authority will open post office branches in the towns of Al-Bab and Cobanbey (Al-Rai in Arabic) in Syria's northeastern Aleppo province. Turkey provides educational, healthcare and security services in parts of northern Syria from which the Daesh terrorist group was ejected earlier this year by a Turkish military operation. Postal, banking and logistics services will be provided once the Turkish General Directorate of Post and Telegraph Organization (PTT) opens branches in both towns. A building in Al-Bab was recently renovated to be used as a PTT branch office. In Cobanbey, located across the border from Turkey's Kilis province, preparations for a new PTT branch office reportedly stand on the verge of completion. Last month, the PTT opened a branch office in the Syrian city of Jarabulus, located near Turkey's Gaziantep province. An official inauguration ceremony, however, has yet to be carried out. [...]*

The other report dates from March 2018:<sup>24</sup>

*Halab. ALEPPO, Syria. The Turkish postal service or PTT is now serving a Syrian city liberated from terrorists in 2016 by Turkish soldiers. A PTT branch in Jarabulus, Aleppo has been providing mail, money transfer, and logistical services for Syrians as well as local Turkish officials since last November. Jarabulus was liberated from Daesh terrorists by Turkey's Operation Euphrates Shield in September 2016. The operation, which concluded in March 2017, was meant to clear terrorists from areas of Syria bordering Turkey. The Jarabulus PTT is also used to pay salaries to local police forces and Turkish civil servants working in the city. The branch also handles money, mail, and cargo transfers using the same rates as inside Turkey. In January, the branch delivered gifts to local orphans from Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim.*

*Helping hospitals, schools, police. Since the city's liberation, Turkey has been supporting normalization in Jarabulus by supporting healthcare, education, and safety services for locals. In fall 2016, Turkey's Health Ministry opened a hospital to service thousands of people.*

- 22 Koparan, Omer, and Levent Tok: Turkey to open post office in liberated Afrin, Syria : post office set to provide mail, money transfer, and logistical services for Syrians. *Anadolu Ajansı*. 13.11.2018. Online: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/turkey-to-open-post-office-in-liberated-afrin-syria/1309840> (acc. 4.03.2023).
- 23 Kako, Adam and Sibel Ugurlu: Turkey to open post office branches in Syria's Aleppo : Turkey provides educational, healthcare and security services in parts of northern Syria recently cleared of terrorists. 24.11.2017. Online: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/turkey-to-open-post-office-branches-in-syria-s-aleppo/977393> (acc. 27.03.2023).
- 24 Cicek, Deniz: Turkish post office serves freed Syria city : after Turkish troops liberated Jarabulus in 2016, Turkish PTT office offers the city mail, money, logistical services. 10.03.2018. Online: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/turkish-post-office-serves-freed-syria-city/1084953> (acc. 27.03.2023).



Additionally, the Turkish Red Crescent (Kızılay), the state Disaster and Emergency Management Agency (AFAD), and some Turkish municipalities have repaired local schools, included Ahmet Selim Mulla High School, the city's largest, recently used as a prison by Daesh terrorists. Turkey has also helped the Free Syrian Army (FSA) to create a local police force. Various Turkish humanitarian aid groups such as the Humanitarian Relief Foundation (IHH) are also helping in both Jarablus and other regions of Syria.

A report published in 2021 by ENAB BALADI says:<sup>25</sup>

[...] When military Operation Euphrates Shield ended, launched by Turkey and armed opposition groups in the cities of al-Bab, Azaz, and Jarabulus, against the Islamic State (IS), the Turkish government opened the first branch of the Post and Telegraph Directorate (PTT) in Jarabulus city, northeast Aleppo. The Turkish government then set up five additional branches across areas held by the opposition armed groups and in the two cities of Tell Abiad and Ras al-Ayn, installing ATM machines too. The PTT manages financial operations of crops sold to Turkey, paying farmers prices of wheat and barley through the PTT accounts they have opened earlier. The Turkish government forced organizations operating in Aleppo, both local and international, to transfer money exclusively through its PTT branches in Syria. Turkish directorates, including the PTT, have become northern Syria's "bloodline." These directorates are running a banking system and operating as an alternative to absent banks in the area, researcher in economics Firas Shaboo told Enab Baladi. Several organizations working in Turkey depend on PTT to send money to northern Syria; merchants also resort to PTT to conduct safe transfers. [...]

This report lists more PTT Post offices in Northern Syria (west to east): Jinderes, Shayk al-Hadid, Rajo Afrin, Azaz, Marea, Al-Rai, Jarabulus, Tell Abiad, and Ras al-Ayn. ATM machines also exist in Suran, Al-Bab, Bza'a, and Qabasin.

**Moritz Traub** directed me to two images on Facebook:



Fig. 1: Piece of a cover featuring the postmark  
"PTT CERABLUS / FEVZİÇAKMAK  
GAZİANTEP / ŞUBE 75"  
(Jerablus, Fevzi Çakmak,<sup>26</sup> Gaziantep,<sup>27</sup> branch 75).<sup>28</sup>

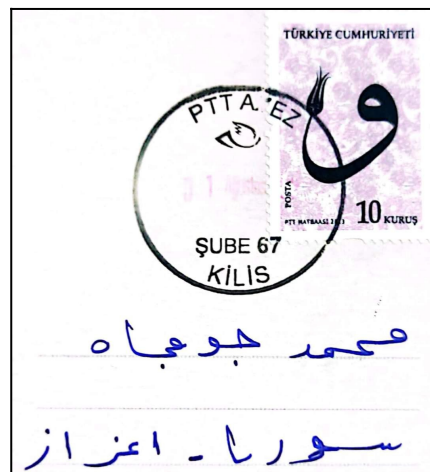


Fig. 2: Piece of a cover from  
"PTT AZEZ / KİLİZ / ŞUBE 75"  
(A'zaz, Kilis, branch 67).<sup>29</sup>

25 Masri, Zeinab: *Turkey is shaping northern Syria's economy – but who is benefitting?* Enab Baladi. 3.03.2021. Online: <https://english.enabbaladi.net/archives/2021/03/turkey-shaping-northern-syrias-economy-who-is-benefitting/> (acc. 4.03.2023).

26 Mustafa Fevzi Çakmak (1876–1950) was a Turkish Field Marshal, Chief of General Staff, and Prime Minister.

27 'Ayıntāb.

28 Image courtesy of Erik Sunguryan. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/opossumpetya>.

29 Image courtesy of Dr. Muhammet Çömçe. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=1444836645937737>.



*Editor: Can anyone contribute more information about this part of modern postal history? Opening dates, FDCs, commercial mails, operating. I cannot show here any images of these offices from the news agency reports for copyright reasons.*

**RFI: Queen Elizabeth II State Visit to Jordan, March 1984** (Irv Osterer)

**Irv Osterer** writes:

Do you know of anyone writing anything about the late Queen Elizabeth II's visit to Jordan? Was there any philatelic material connected to her visit?

*Editor: Having asked several contacts, nothing came up! Pretty much nothing on Ebay and Delcampe, only scant evidence (photographs) of the visit on the internet.<sup>30</sup> Wikipedia lists<sup>31</sup> "26–30 March 1984 – Jordan – Amman, Petra, Aqaba – King Hussein". The New York Times printed a report by Associated Press, with only brief details about the five day state visit.<sup>32</sup>*

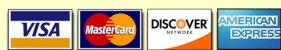
*Were there any philatelic memorabilia on this occasion at all?*



Fig. 1:

Photograph depicting Prince Philip, Queen Elizabeth II, King Hussein, and Queen Noor during the state visit in March 1984.<sup>33</sup>

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30 *British State Banquet at Raghadan Palace, 1984*. In: The Royal Watcher. 26.03.2018. Online: <https://royalwatcherblog.com/2018/03/26/british-state-visit-to-jordan-1986/>.

31 Cf. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_state\\_visits\\_made\\_by\\_Elizabeth\\_II](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_state_visits_made_by_Elizabeth_II).

32 Elizabeth in Jordan under tight guard. In: The New York Times. 27.03.1984, p. 3. Online: <https://www.nytimes.com/1984/03/27/world/elizabeth-in-jordan-under-tight-guard.html>.

33 Source: Bridget Brind. Twitter, 7.02.2021. Online: <https://twitter.com/BridgetBrind/status/1358440958824710144>.



**RFI: Palestine Fiscal Stamps (*'iradat*) and MOPIC** (Thomas Schubert, Arthur Harris)

**Thomas Schubert** writes:

In the 1990s, the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) not only issue postage and official stamps but also Fiscal stamps (إيرادات = *'iradat*) printed at the Bundesdruckerei in Berlin. I have a set of 11 stamps (50 to 500 milliems, مليم) for a long time; but some time ago, a collector friend showed me a Fiscal stamp with the same motif but the currency in Fils (فلس) (figs. 1 and 2).

Does anyone know of other stamps of this type or can anyone provide information on these fiscal stamps, e.g. the issue, the period of manufacture or other stamps with Fils currency? I am grateful for any information.



Figs. 1 and 2: The Milliems and Fils stamps.

*Editor:* In his catalogue,<sup>34</sup> Arthur Harris shows and describes only the 11 stamps “Milliems” set. Andrew McClellan told me in 2017 this:

*The large square stamps inscribed “The Palestinian Authority / Fiscal” and denominated in milliems were possibly the first revenues issued by the new administration. Eleven values were produced (50m, 75m, 100m, 125m, 150m, 200m, 250m, 300m, 350m, 400m, and 500m). The Authority’s use of the Mil currency for postage stamps in early 1994 was quickly condemned by the Israeli government as being a violation of peace agreements, so the offending issues were surcharged in Jordanian currency (Fils/Dinar). The revenues are not known with this surcharge and it is possible that the stamps were withdrawn.*

**Arthur Harris** asks:

Would you be so kind as to look closely at the attached scan that shows the \$5 MOPIC stamp on the left and what might be a forgery/proof on the right. There are quite a few differences between the two stamps. I have gotten several very different opinions from genuine to an obvious fake.

*Editor:* Looking closely at the scans I judge the right stamp to be printed very crudely with an inkjet (or laser) printer. The ‘perforation’ is non-existing. However, what makes me doubtful for it to be a straightforward forgery are the differences with “فلسطين”, the “5” and the “٥”, the eagles’ feathers, as well as the positioning of the ‘mesh’ in the background, which are so strikingly different! Surely any official (here the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) would have detected these differences! That makes it possible that the stamp on the right might have been printed locally, maybe as an essay or design trial; only that would explain all the design deviations, as no forger would make such obvious changes to the design!

Any other opinions?

<sup>34</sup> Harris, Arthur: *The Revenue Stamps of the Palestinian Authority*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 2022, p. 4. [Reviewed in MEPB 22].





Figs. 3–3f: Two 5 Dollar PNA Fiscals. Is the one on the right original or fake, or an essay/trial print?

**MEPB21: *The Air Defence School (FLAK-Schule) at San Stefano (Yeşilköy)***  
(Peter B. Feuser, pp. 74–78)

Editor: I can now add a photograph of the San Stefano airfield taken in 1917. It comes from an article by Ernst Frank published in 1923.<sup>35</sup>

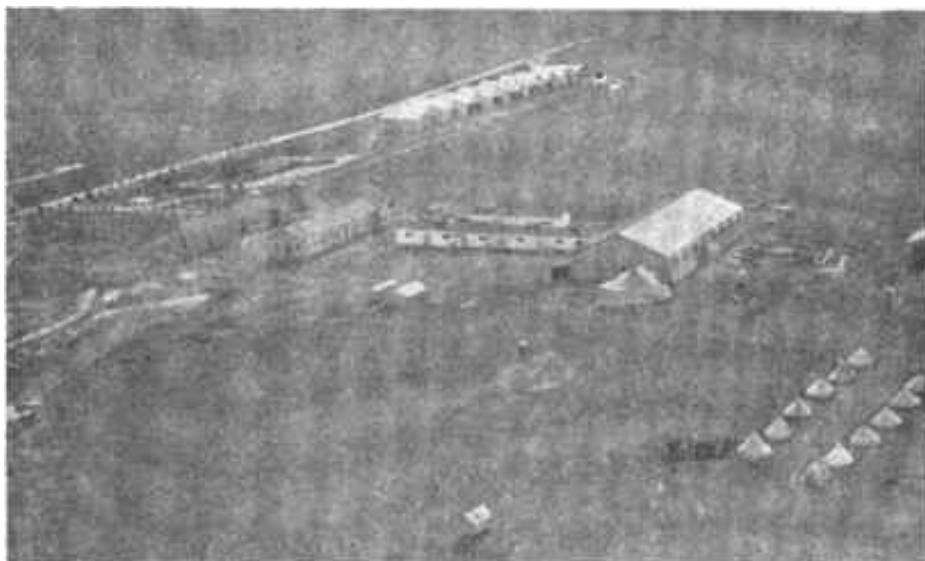


Fig. 1:

View of the San Stefano  
airfield near Constantinople  
taken from an aircraft.

(Summer 1917)

<sup>35</sup> Frank, Ernst: *Als Flugzeugführer mit den Türken zum Kaukasus*. In: Deutsche Luftfahrer-Zeitschrift, 23. 1923, no. 5/6 (19.03.1923), pp. 14–16. Online: <https://www.luftfahrt-bibliothek.de/zeitschrift-luftfahrt-1919-luftschiffe-flugzeuge-luftverkehr.htm>.



## Maritime and Road Traffic in Constantinople (1875)

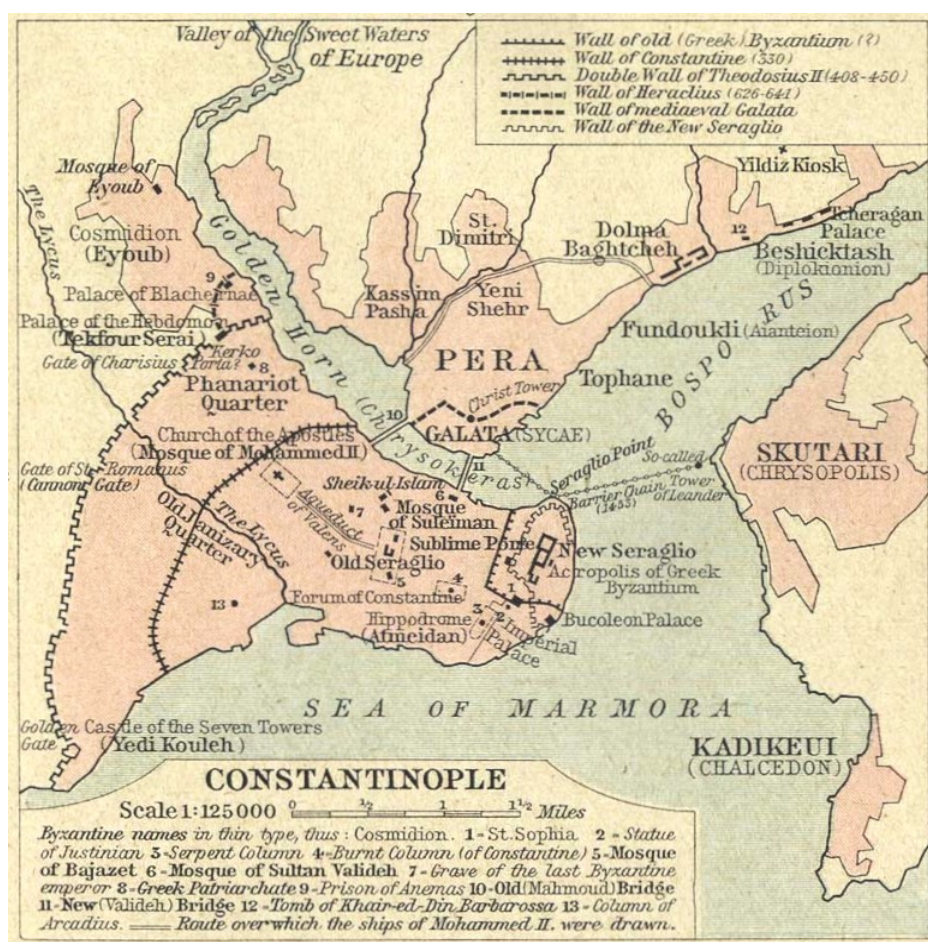
by Postal Secretary Unger at the Imperial German Post Office in Constantinople<sup>1</sup>  
found, translated, and illustrated by Tobias Zywietz

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### The Topography of Constantinople

Even only after a short stay, a stranger arriving in Constantinople will be struck by the diversity of the local means of transport. As soon as the ship enters the harbour, it is surrounded by flocks of graceful *kaiks*, a type of vehicle that cannot be found anywhere else outside Turkey. Both the extent and the location of the city, where land and sea alternate so often, the considerable unevenness of the terrain, and the southern climate have been the causes for the introduction or use of the most diverse means of transport.

Before I take a closer look at the latter, a general description of Constantinople's situation is probably in order to facilitate understanding.



Constantinople lies approximately at latitude 41° North and longitude 46° East. The city is divided into six main parts: Stambul, Galata, Pera, Scutari, the Princes' Islands and the suburbs.

The total population, according to the latest, admittedly only imperfect estimates, amounts to about 980,000

Fig. 1:

General plan of Constantinople.<sup>2</sup>

- 1 Source: Unger: Der Hafen- und Strassenverkehr in Constantinopel / von Herrn Postsecretair Unger, bei dem Kaiserlich Deutschen Postamte daselbst. In: Deutsches Postarchiv : Beihefte zum Amtsblatt der Deutschen Reichs-Postverwaltung, 3. 1875, no. 14 (September), pp. 428–437. Translated by Tobias Zywietz.
- 2 Wolkenhauer, Wilhelm: Illustriertes kleineres Handbuch der Geographie. 3. Aufl. Leipzig, 1899. In: Wikimedia Commons: Online: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:58\\_...\\_\(11251427713\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:58_..._(11251427713).jpg).



The quarters of Stambul and Galata on the European side are separated by the Golden Horn inlet, which stretches with a slight bend in the direction from south-east to north-west about  $\frac{3}{4}$  miles<sup>3</sup> into the country and forms the actual port of Constantinople. More than 20 fathoms deep<sup>4</sup> at the entrance, and therefore suitable for receiving the largest ships in the world, the beautiful bay gradually becomes shallower. It finally runs out into a basin where it receives the rivers Ali-Bey-Ssu and Kiathane-Ssu.<sup>5</sup> The latter has become renowned in Europe under the name “Sweet Waters of Europe.”<sup>6</sup>



Fig. 2: View towards the North (later postcard, unknown publisher).

On the southern side of the Golden Horn lies Stambul, which extends into the Sea of Marmora<sup>7</sup> in the form of a mighty triangle. Like ancient Rome it is built on 7 hills, only 5 of which, however, can be clearly distinguished. It forms the actual old city, has a circumference of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  German miles<sup>8</sup> and is inhabited not only by Greeks, Armenians and Persians, but predominantly by Turks, who have almost all their government buildings and 11 large, as well as over 100 small mosques here. The city, which rises gently from the sea, with the *Serail* at its top projecting out from the dense greenery, offers a view of the various types and colours of the houses, the multitude of large and small domes and the slender minarets of the mosques that rise up to the sky dome. A view that is not to be found in any other place on earth.

Opposite the tip of Stambul, which extends into the Sea of Marmara, on the northern side of the Golden Horn, is Galata. It is connected to Stamboul by two bridges, one iron and one wooden, the length of which is almost 700 paces.<sup>9</sup> To the north of Galata, a rather steep mountain rises inland, which bears the city of the Franks, Pera, on its summit and slopes. While Galata, criss-crossed with

3 Ca. 5,6 km (1 German mile = 7.500 km).

4 Ca. 36 m (1 fathom = 6 foot = 1.8288 m)

5 Alibey Deresi und Kağıthane Deresi.

6 Sadabad, Glykà Nerà, Kâğıthane.

7 Sea of Marmara, Marmara Denizi.

8 Ca. 18.75 km.

9 Ca. 0.5 km (1 Prussian pace “Schritt” = 0.7532 m).



its narrow and indescribably dirty streets, its numerous landing places, customs stations, steamship agencies and the stock exchange, is primarily the seat of commerce, Pera is the home of the Franks and all the legation buildings, with the exception of the Persian embassy which is situated in Stambul.



Fig. 3: The "New Mosque" (Yeni Djami) (postcard of publisher E.F. Rochat, Constantinople).

Stambul, Pera and Galata are separated from the Asian coast by the Bosphorus, which has at this point a width of  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  German miles and a depth of 30 fathoms midstream. Just opposite the European parts of the city are Scutari, the Turkish Üsküdar, and the friendly little town of Kadıköy (village of the judges). The latter serves as an annual summer residence for numerous Perotians. Scutari is inhabited almost exclusively by Mohamedans; it has a circumference of a little more than a mile and is surrounded inland by a grove of mighty cypresses, whose gloomy tops rise above the tombs of the faithful.

It now remains to mention the Princes' Islands and the cities on both sides of the Bosphorus. The former, situated in a bay of the Marmara Sea, southeast of Scutari, can be reached by steamer in  $1\frac{1}{4}$  hours from the wooden bridge of Galata. In the direction from west to east, they are called Proti, Antigone, Chalki and Prinkipoe.<sup>10</sup> As their names indicate, they are mainly used by the Greek population.

The suburbs on the Bosphorus, on the other hand, extend along both the European and the Asian shores, each 3 German miles in length and in almost uninterrupted succession, almost to the Black Sea. They form a total of 28 settlements, which nestle along all the bends of the Bosphorus. They do not, however, reach deep inland because of the mountainous ranges that begin behind them. On the European coast, Rumeli-Hissar, Boyoukdéré and Therapia<sup>11</sup> deserve special mention, the former because the Bosphorus narrows to a width of no more than 900 paces; the latter two as summer residences for almost all foreign legations.

It is now time to move on to the consideration of the different means of transport.

<sup>10</sup> Kınalıada, Burgazada, Heybeliada, Büyükkada. There are further smaller islands: Sedef (Terebinthos/Antiroythos), Yassıada (Platé), Sivriada (Oxeia), Kaşık (Pita), and Tavşan (Neandros).

<sup>11</sup> Rumelihisarı, Büyükdere, and Tarabya.



### The Kaik

As a specifically Turkish invention, I have already mentioned the *kaik*:<sup>12</sup> these are very elongated, light and slender boats, which, similar to the snowshoes of the Eskimos, run from the wider middle to point on both ends. The ribs of the *kaiks* are made of oak rafters starting from a keel barely an inch deep, which are clad inside and outside with boards of birch. The latter being so skilfully planed and fitting together so precisely that they give a perfectly smooth surface without the use of other binding material. Similar boards join together on both ends of the *kaik* to form a canopy that closes the unused hollow space. Only the middle of the boat is deepened and provides space for the seats of the oarsman and the passengers.

The advantage of the *kaik* is the ease with which it can be steered and the speed with which it cuts through the water. Their use is extraordinarily widespread. As early as 1846, according to a note in my possession, they numbered 19,500, with 24,000 *kaikdjis* (oarsmen)<sup>13</sup> in their service, and it can be assumed that this number has at least not decreased since then. Although they can be found on the waves of the Bosphorus as well as on the coasts of the Princes' Islands, the Golden Horn in particular seems to be full of them in summer, and even on Fridays, as is well known, the Turkish Sunday, one dainty *kaik* pushes the other out of the way to the Sweet Waters. They shoot across the sea in all directions and the shouting of the captains, who are already calling out to each other from afar, makes a deafening impression on the newcomer.



Fig. 4: Postcard viewing over the Bosphorus towards the eastern shore (publisher: F. Rochat).

The ticket prices for journey with *kaiks* are moderate by local standards. The fare for crossing from Galata to Stambul along the new bridge, the beams of which radiate an intense glow in summer, i.e. making passing the bridge not very pleasant, is twice the bridge fare for natives, 20 Paras or 8 Pfennigs. A journey from Galata to Scutari is adequately paid for with 8 copper Piastres or 128 Pfennigs, although it takes almost an hour because of the violent currents of the Bosphorus.

<sup>12</sup> Kaïk, Kaïki, Kajik, Kayık, Caique, Caic.

<sup>13</sup> Kayıkcı.





Fig. 5: Postcard from 1899: "The Quay of Bujukdérè" (published by Max Fruchtermann, Constantinople).

For the foreigner, boarding a *kaik* is always associated with some difficulty, as these vehicles tend to flip over easily due to the lightness of their construction, and one must therefore jump from the higher landing bridge right into the centre. However, once you have settled into your seat, the *kaik* offers an immensely pleasant ride. As I have already mentioned, the seating area is exactly in the centre of the vehicle, opposite the *kaikdji*: it is usually  $1\frac{1}{4}$  metres long and almost 1 metre wide, so that two people can sit comfortably side by side.

The floor and side walls are covered with cushions, on which one can either stretch out comfortably or, according to Turkish custom, crouch down with legs folded underneath. The *kaikdji* himself sits on a bench, separated from the passengers by a narrow board, and handles the oars with astonishing dexterity. The oars are attached to wooden stakes by means of leather straps, still in the Greek way Homer describes it to us, and thicken to form a strong drum immediately behind the handle in order to balance against their length. Since they always protrude half a foot above each other in the middle of the vessel, it is necessary to hold one hand quite a bit higher than the other when rowing.

With the exception of a few Spanish Jews, the corps of the *kaikdjis* consists of Turks and Greeks, mostly handsome figures darkened by the sun. They wear the fez as headgear, a light shirt of flannel or Broussa silk around the upper part of the body, which leaves the chest bare, and baggy leggings that reach below the knees, from which the bare legs and feet can be seen.

In addition to the *kaiks* just described, which are designed for ordinary passenger traffic, another type of more cumbersome appearance and clumsy construction is encountered in Constantinople, the so-called bazaar or market *kaiks*. They are operated by 10 to 14 oarsmen, depending on their size, and are used by the poorer mass of the natives to bring goods, fruits and vegetables from the islands and remote villages of the Bosphorus to the city for sale.

These vehicles make very slow progress and take, for example, 6 hours from Bouyoukdéré to the wooden bridge, so that the departure usually takes place before sunrise. Because of the weight of the immensely long oars, fitted with foot-thick wooden drums behind the handle, the *kaikdjis* are



forced to slowly rise from their seats and stand upright on the bench for each stroke of the oar, in order to return to their previous seated position when the oars are pulled back. For this gruelling work, which is especially strenuous in summer, they are paid only a few Paras by the individual passenger.



Fig. 6: Postcard "View from Sirkedji" with Kaiks in the foreground.

The model of all *kaiks* is the Sultan's boat. Its length is between 75 and 80 feet, it is manned by 24 oarsmen, and the speed with which the graceful boat, decorated with magnificent carvings, speeds across the water is astonishing. The seat of the *padishah*<sup>14</sup> is situated under a crimson canopy supported by gilded poles and trimmed with heavy fringes. On Fridays, when the Sultan travels from his palace Dolma-Baghtsche<sup>15</sup> on the Bosphorus to the mosque of Ortakoei<sup>16</sup> half an hour further upstream, the crowds of small *kaiks* surrounding it at an awe-inspiring distance, the transparent brightness of the fresh water, the rays of the midday sun gilding the numerous domes, minarets and palaces, provide a spectacle that is suitable for presenting the Orient in its full colourful splendour.

In Constantinople rowing boats with steering wheel and benches that are common in Germany can only be found in a few places, mainly in Galata next to the steamship agencies. They mediate the passenger and goods traffic between the arriving and departing ships, for which the *kaiks* are not suitable because of their design. The oarsmen consist almost exclusively of Italians and island Greeks, who try to persuade the stranger approaching them to board in the most importunate manner and with deafening shouting

<sup>14</sup> Pâdişah = Sultan.

<sup>15</sup> Dolmabahçe Palace.

<sup>16</sup> Ortaköy.



### Passenger Steamers

The *kaiks* and boats are facing increasing competition from the local passenger steamers. These ships belong to two Turkish companies, the Azizié and the Chirket-i-Hairie, the latter of which was founded at the beginning of the 1840s. They are, without exception, paddle steamers and somewhat larger than those commonly used on the Rhine. They have a flat deck projecting only a few feet above the water level and, above this, a smaller upper deck resting on poles in the middle.

During the whole year, in summer because of the sun's rays and in winter because of the almost incessant rain, both decks are covered with a roof of linen canvas, which extends over the whole length of the ship. It can be lowered at the sides and gives the vehicle the appearance of an ark. As the chimneys, for reasons unknown to me, do not contain any combustion apparatus, and usually only poor quality coal is used, they emit the most enormous masses of smoke in an unpleasant manner.

These vehicles can comfortably hold 700 to 800 people; they are divided into two classes and also contain a room, separated by a curtain, which is intended only for Turkish women and access to men is strictly forbidden.



Fig. 7: Kaiks in Karaköy port (20th century).<sup>17</sup>

The starting point for these steamships is the wooden bridge. Each boat is assigned a specific place here: in addition to the number painted on the chimney, each ship carries a large board above the wheel's housing, on which the departure times and the stops to be called at are indicated in Turkish and Latin script.

At certain times, e.g. at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, 5 to 6 steamships leave the bridge at the same

<sup>17</sup> *Karaköy Pier (Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality, Atatürk Library)*. Aus: Akyıldız, Ali: *Sea transportation in Ottoman Istanbul (modern period)*. In: *History of Istanbul*. Online: <https://istanbultarihi.ist/585-sea-transportation-in-ottoman-istanbul-modern-period>.



time. Each company has its own routes. The boats of the Chirket-i-Hairie visit both shores of the Bosphorus and carry traffic to Scutari, the ships of the Azizié company go to Kadikoei, the Princes' Islands and to the villages south of Stambul in the Sea of Marmara.

In addition, there are boats of smaller construction, which serve exclusively for traffic between the scales of the Golden Horn and take their way to the outflow of the Sweet Waters. The connections leave nothing to be desired. In one day, for example, 15 different steamers can take you to Bouyoukdéré, 2½ miles from Galata, and as many as 27 times to Scutari. The first-class fare to Bouyoukdéré is 6 copper Piastres or 96 pfennigs, to Scutari only 1¼ piastres or 20 pfennigs, while second-class fares are almost half as cheap. Other price discounts, such as return or monthly tickets, are not offered.

A peculiarity of steamship traffic here is that it stops completely at sunset. As soon as the sun has set, no larger ships are allowed to leave or enter the port, and anyone who wants to cross to Asia after this time is dependent solely on the *kaiks*.



Fig. 8: The Haydarpaşa ferry (undated).<sup>18</sup>

The captains of the local steamers are mostly of Greek or English nationality. Their job requires great stamina and skill, since the currents are strong and vary greatly depending on the prevailing direction of winds, and the numerous anchored ships, hundreds of jumbled *kaiks*, sailing boats, and barques, make it very difficult to embark. Nevertheless, accidents are relatively rare.

As a precaution, as long as the ships are in the harbour, the blaring steam whistles sound incessantly; furthermore, a sailor with a horn and a red flag is posted on the top of the bowsprit, who, by blowing and waving, draws the attention of the vessels that are straying into the course of the steamer to the danger threatening them.

18 *Haydarpaşa passenger ferry (Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality, Atatürk Library)*. Aus: Akyıldız, Ali: *Sea transportation in Ottoman Istanbul (modern period)*. In: History of Istanbul. Online: <https://istanbultarihi.ist/585-sea-transportation-in-ottoman-istanbul-modern-period>.





Fig. 9: An 1880s postcard of Dolmabahçe-Palast (publisher: Sebah & Joallier).<sup>19</sup>

### The Araba

If we now turn to the means of land transport in the Turkish metropolis, we should first mention the *araba*, very simply made carriages consisting of a low box resting on two axles, to which a long drawbar is attached. Above the body, which is covered with carvings and painted in bright colours and curved out at the sides, a scarlet or blue canopy rises on poles, its fringes falling far down.



Fig. 10: A highly decorated Araba (painting 1825).<sup>20</sup>

19 *Dolmabahçepaleis aan de Bosporus in Istanbul*. In: Wikimedia Commons: Online: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/....\\_RP-F-F01141-CC.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/...._RP-F-F01141-CC.jpg).

20 Henikstein, Auguste de: *Araba : voiture de Constantinople*. In: Wikimedia Commons: Online: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/...\\_Araba.\\_Voiture\\_de\\_Constantinople.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/..._Araba._Voiture_de_Constantinople.jpg).



The *araba*'s carriage consists of two shiny black, almost hairless bulls, many of which are fantastically adorned with glass and pearl necklaces, giving the whole a highly original appearance. A guide with a long pole walks besides the wagon and drives the ponderous bulls along. In the city proper, the *arabas* are rarely seen, they are now used almost exclusively to convey traffic between the surrounding villages. On Fridays, you can be sure to see some of them in the meadows of the Sweet Waters. Then the Turkish women and children in their richly coloured robes lie stretched out on carpets and cushions in the wagon and watch the colourful hustle and bustle.



Fig. 11: Excursionists on their way to the "Sweet Waters of Asia" (postcard by publisher MJC).

### Sedan Chairs

Another means of passenger transport, which is almost nowhere to be found in Germany, but which provides excellent service here, is the sedan chair, as it is generally called here by its Italian name *portantina*.<sup>21</sup> Especially on winter evenings, when balls and parties are organised by the legations or financiers, one can see long trains of sedan chairs in Pera Street.

The winter here, which is very mild in most years, consists almost exclusively of rainy days: incessant downpours soon transform the streets and alleys into a condition that is difficult to imagine in civilised countries. Since the city administration does practically nothing to remove the dirt, and only the packs of stray dogs take care of the disappearance of at least the coarser scraps of food thrown out of the windows, and since the cobblestones, even in the main street of Pera, have deep holes and depressions at every turn, the sedan chair is sometimes the only means of getting across the street without becoming wet. Most of the streets in Pera are so narrow and steep that the use of carts is completely out of the question.

<sup>21</sup> Litter, litière, portechaise, chaise à porteurs.





Fig. 12: A sedan chair in action (undated postcard).<sup>22</sup>

### Tramways, buses, and fiacres

There are three types of carriages in Constantinople: tramway carriages, omnibuses and fiacres.<sup>23</sup> They are all owned by a joint-stock company whose constitution was approved by Imperial Decree of 26<sup>th</sup> August 1869. On 31<sup>st</sup> July, 1871, the first tramway line was opened from the iron bridge in Galata to the suburb of Ortakoei on the Bosphorus, and it was not until the end of 1872 that the first omnibuses were installed. The joint-stock company has a share capital of 800,000 Turkish Pounds (about 14,880,000 Marks). It has an exclusive privilege for a period of 40 years and in turn has undertaken to maintain the roads used by the tramway cars and omnibuses.

The tramway lines currently existing are as follows:

1. from the iron bridge to Ortakoei on the Bosphorus, a length of 6,040 metres;
2. from the wooden bridge in Stambul to Ak-Serai,<sup>24</sup> a dazzling white mosque located almost in the centre of Stambul, a length of 3,730 metres;
3. from Ak-Serai to Yedi-Koulé,<sup>25</sup> the castle of the seven towers, located at the southern tip of Stambul on the Sea of Marmara, a length of 3,600 metres.
4. from Ak-Serai to Top-Kapou, a gate located inland on the west side of Stambul, which received its name "Cannon Gate" from the gigantic guns set up there in 1453 during the siege of Constantinople, a length of 2,630 metres.

Accordingly, the entire local tramway lines have a length of 16 kilometres. Without exception, they are single-tracked and only widen to two tracks at the stops to allow oncoming trams to swerve. Between 7 a.m. and sunset, there are usually two carriages running behind each other every 10 minutes, one of which is for male passengers, the other is for Turkish women. The former carriages

<sup>22</sup> Henikstein, Auguste de: *Araba : voiture de Constantinople*. In: Wikimedia Commons. Online: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/...\\_Araba\\_Voiture\\_de\\_Constantinople.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/..._Araba_Voiture_de_Constantinople.jpg).

<sup>23</sup> Hackney carriages.

<sup>24</sup> Aksaray ("white palace").

<sup>25</sup> Yedikule.



have an uncovered space with benches on top, which forms the second class. The price of a ticket for the shortest distance is 1 Piastre or 16 Pfennigs in first class, 20 Paras or 8 Pfennigs in second class. The journey on the longest route, from the iron bridge to Ortakoei, costs 3 Piastrs or half.

Travellers visiting Constantinople should never miss a ride in a tramway carriage. The streets through which the tracks run are sometimes so narrow that there is no room for people to get out of the way on either side of houses; sometimes the tracks bend around the corner almost at a right angle. This is especially the case on the road from Ak-Seraï to Top-Kapou. There, the road leads through old Turkish quarters, still completely untouched by European culture, in which deep silence and oriental tranquility reign; there, the balconies, which are not missing on any Turkish house, almost touch the car and have had to be shortened here and there by whole sections in order to make it possible to pass.

But despite these conditions, and despite the fact that the tramway carriages run at great speed, accidents rarely occur. This is mainly due to the runners, mostly Negroes, who run ahead of every tramway car, waving a red flag and shouting loudly to drive people and dogs off the tracks. The noise of the runners is constantly mixed with the blaring horns of the drivers.

### The Société des Tramways de Constantinople

According to this entry on page 154 in the 1891 edition of the "Annuaire Oriental (ancien indicateur oriental) du commerce, de l'industrie, de l'administration et de la magistrature" (published by Cervati Brothers in Galata), 16 years after the publication of Unger's article, the tramway company Société des Tramways de Constantinople served several routes in the districts of Galata (Karaköy/Pera/Beyoğlu) and Şişli, as well as in Stambul (Eminönü/Fatih); in Galata even with first and second class! (ed.)

# SOCIÉTÉ DES TRAMWAYS DE CONSTANTINOPLÉ.

Rue Tchinar, 10, Galata.

(Les bureaux sont ouverts de 9 h. à 12 h. et de 1 h. à 5 h.)

Capital L. T. 582,658.

Conseil d'Administration.

Président, Casanova (Georges).

Vice-président, Ralli (Alex.).

Administrateurs

Azarian (B.), Anastasiadès (J.).

Paspalli (D.), Edwards (R.), membres.

Directeur-général, Hodji (J. Effendi).

TARIF EN ARGENT 1<sup>re</sup> Clas. 2<sup>me</sup> Clas.  
LIGNE DE GALATA Paras Paras

Galata à Ortakoeuy.	60	40
Galata à Cabatach.	40	30
Cabatach à Béchiktache.	40	20
Béchiktache à Ortakoeuy	40	20
Militaires	20	20

LIGNE DE CHICHLI. Paras

Galata à Galata-Séraï	40
Galata-Séraï à Chichli.	40
Galata à Chichli.	60
Municipalité au Taxim	40
Service de nuit.— Prix uniforme	60
Militaires	20

LIGNE DE STAMBOUL. Paras.

Emin-Eunu à Ak-Séraï	60
Emin-Eunu à Sultan Mahmoud	40
Sultan Mahmoud à Ak-Séraï	40
Sultan Ahmed à Sultan Bayazid.	40
Vlanga à Yédi-Coulé.	30
Ak-Séraï à Top-Capou	60
Ak-Séraï à Yuksek Calderim	40
Yuksek Calderim à Top-Capou	40
Militaires	20

CARNETS D'ABONNEMENTS VALABLES SUR TOUTES LES LIGNES.

Carnet de 20 Billets de 30 Paras, Piastrs 15	} Médjidié à 20 Piastrs.
Carnet de 20 " de 40 " " 20	

The omnibuses belong to the same company and run on two lines, one of which leads from Galata to the suburb of Ferikoei,<sup>26</sup> a small hour inland behind Pera. Because of the steepness of Pera it was necessary to make a fairly significant diversion around it. The other line goes on the Asian shore from one of the steamship scales of Scutari to the foot of the Tschamlidscha,<sup>27</sup> a mountain from whose summit one has an incomparably charming view.

To the north, the Bosphorus unfolds with all its meanders, bays and picturesque villages, to the west, the view sweeps over the blue expanse of the sea, the forest of masts of the Golden Horn, around which Stambul, Galata and Pera nestle in a wide arc; to the east, a bare, barren hill country almost devoid of trees, to the south, on the other hand, the Marmara Sea bounded by the horizon, the Gulf

<sup>26</sup> Feriköy.

<sup>27</sup> Büyük Çamlıca Tepesi, Big Çamlıca Hill.



of Ismid with the Princes' Islands, from whose fragrant blue coastal mountains the Bithynian Mount Olympus<sup>28</sup> still looks down snow-covered in the middle of summer.

In addition to the omnibuses, which are similar to those in use in Germany, the same company has in recent years acquired and introduced one- and two-horse fiacres. The number of these carriages initially amounted to 300 to 350, but has now fallen to barely 100 and there is even talk of abolishing them altogether, as the material suffers too much from the abominable condition of the street paving. For the purpose of fixing the rates, Stambul, Pera and Galata are divided into four districts: a single journey within each of these districts costs 6 Piastres or 96 Pfennigs.

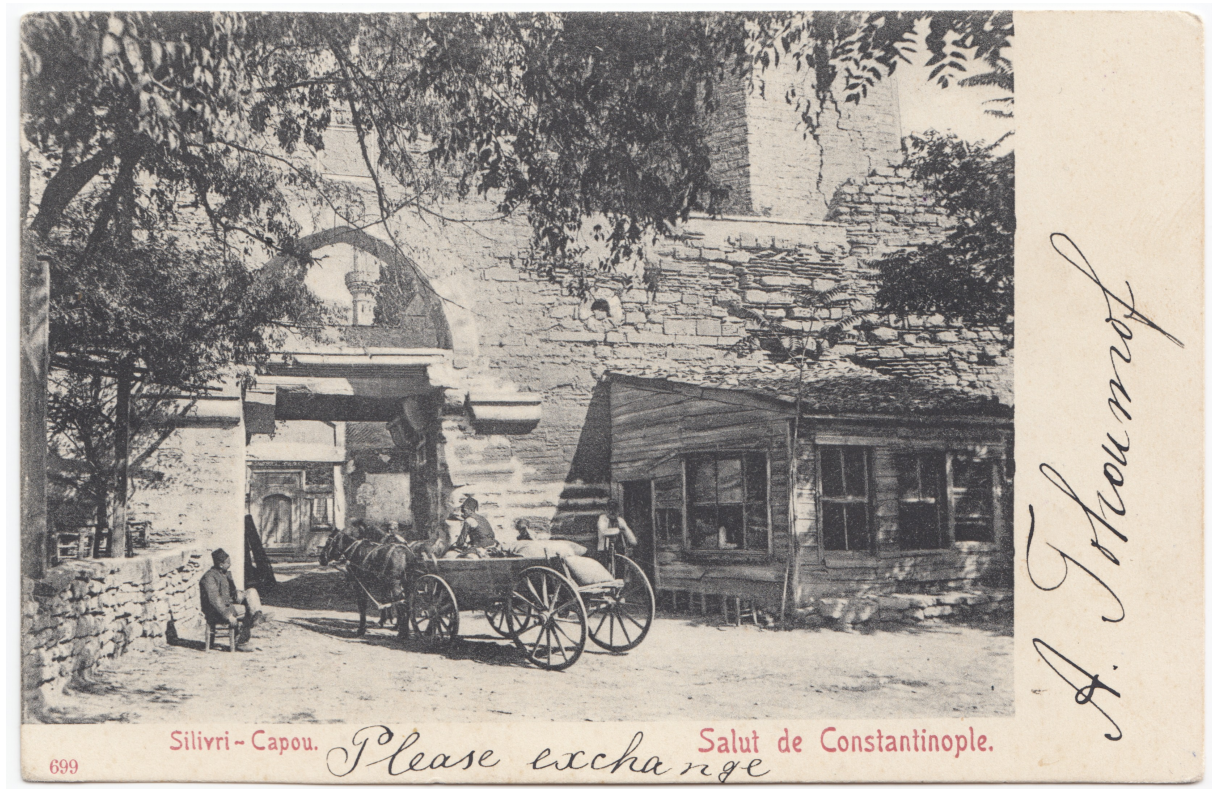


Fig. 13: Postcard depicting a horse-drawn cart (unknown publisher).

The annual increase in the use of the carriages is interesting: the total number of persons transported by tramways and omnibuses during 1872 was 5,035,042, for which a revenue of 6,545,596 Piastres was achieved, whereas the year 1873 already shows a total number of 7,230,745 persons with a revenue of 9,962,365 Piastres. However, it should be taken into account that the use of the omnibuses only began in the second half of 1872.

### Horses and Camels

Of the means of transport in Constantinople, there remain horses and camels, the tunnel and the railways. The latter are so extensive and give rise to so many different considerations that they would be better dealt with in a separate article, all the more so as there are no railways here intended solely for local transport, with the exception of the cable railway in the tunnel.

Constantinople is the northernmost point for the use of the camel as a pack animal. These helpful and usable animals are still frequently used here to bring heavy loads, mainly coal and grain, from the surrounding villages to the old city. The starting point of almost all caravans is the open space in

<sup>28</sup> Uludağ.



front of the extensive, highest positioned Sultan Mahmud Mosque in Stambul. There you can see trains of 15 to 20 camels, all hung with bells and loaded with heavy sacks on both sides. Each caravan is led by a donkey, which the camels follow willingly, like sheep with the leader of the pack.



Fig. 14: Pack camels (postcard, publisher unknown).

Horses are found in great numbers in Constantinople and are used both for riding and for carrying loads of all kinds. Sometimes the already narrow streets are completely blocked when two long trains of horses meet, one of which is carrying beams and stones to a building site, while the other is carrying away rubble and earth in baskets hanging on the sides of the animals. Many vendors use horses to carry their goods around the city. The butchers, bakers, and milkmen, for example, can be seen roaming the streets with their loaded horses, shouting loudly.

Riding is much more common here, as in the south, more than in the north of Europe. One sees one or more riders in the larger streets at any time of the day, and especially the old Turks with long white beards, wearing caftans and turbans on their heads, are an attractive sight on horseback. There's always opportunity to use horses to get around. In every large square of the city, there are *süredjis*,<sup>29</sup> drivers, with their horses, who often wear pearls, shells and triangular pieces of cut glass around their necks, which Turkish superstition considers an effective remedy against "the evil eye."

If one approaches such a group, the most heated competition ensues among the *süredjis* regularly: with lively gestures and an almost stupefying shouting, each one of them tries to offer his horse. When one has finally made up one's mind and swung into the saddle, the *süredji* runs after the horse to the destination, drives it with shouts and blows and holds on to the tail if it goes too fast.

There are no actual tariffs for the use of the horses, one is rather forced to negotiate the price with the drivers for each individual case, whereby those who are not familiar with the situation and the Turkish language always find themselves significantly overcharged. In general, one can calculate 6

<sup>29</sup> *Sürücü*.



Piastres or 96 Pfennigs for half an hour within the city; for larger excursions that take a whole day, the price varies between 2½ and 3 Medjidiehs,<sup>30</sup> in German money 9.60 or 11.52 Marks.



Fig. 15: Pack horses drinking water at a fountain (postcard of publisher FNH).

Almost all street horses originate from Bosnia and Bulgaria. One sometimes finds magnificent and noble animals among them. I was told by *süredjis* that they had bought horses, whose good looks amazed me, for the low price of 8 Lira or about 93 Marks.

You can imagine how much these animals, which are almost all stallions, are spoiled by the fact that they constantly change riders. They are all good trotters and are particularly suited to climbing up the slippery pavements of the steeply ascending streets. Their dexterity is all the more admirable because the horseshoes of Turkish horses are completely round, and the rear curves are not bent downwards, as in other countries, but curiously upwards.

### The Tunnel Funicular Railway

Finally, I would like to turn to the funicular railway<sup>31</sup> that connects Pera and Galata in a tunnel, the construction of which has been welcomed with great enthusiasm. Before this railway was opened, in order to get from Galata to Pera, if one did not want to follow the buses and take significant diversions, there was nothing left to do but climb the steep staircase that connects the two places.<sup>32</sup> Since this staircase contains 103 metre-wide, very badly paved steps and the road continues to climb steeply for 10 minutes once the steps have been climbed, one can imagine how much effort was involved in such a course, especially on hot summer days.

To remedy the situation, after an earlier similar undertaking had failed in its inception, a joint-stock company with a capital of 250,000 Pounds Sterling was formed in London, which succeeded in

<sup>30</sup> Medjidiye, Mecidiye = 20 Piastres.

<sup>31</sup> Funicular or cable railway.

<sup>32</sup> Yüksek Kaldırım Caddesi.



obtaining the Sultan's approval in 1869.<sup>33</sup> Unforeseen obstacles of all kinds delayed the construction of the railway to such an extent that it could not be opened to traffic until 18<sup>th</sup> January of this year.



Fig. 16: Yüksek Kaldırım Caddesi (postcard by publisher W. v. Sender).

The Funicular was built according to completely new principles and differs from all similar railways in other countries in the way it is set up. To build it, it was necessary to bore a tunnel, which begins not far from the wooden bridge in Galata, runs under the city and ends at the highest point of Pera near the town hall.

It has a length of 610 metres with a width of 7.70 metres and an average gradient of 1 in 30 feet. Inside the tunnel, there is a track on each side, which carries one enclosed carriage divided into first and second class, and also a low open carriage for the transport of horses and freight.

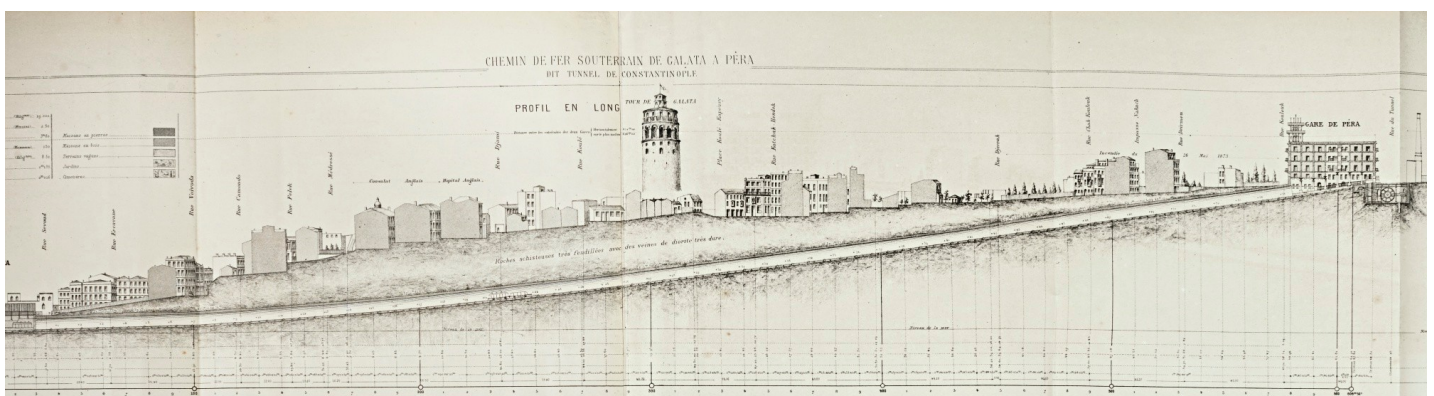


Fig. 17: Cross-section of the "Tünel".<sup>34</sup>

<sup>33</sup> Metropolitan Railway of Constantinople from Galata to Pera Ltd.

<sup>34</sup> Source: Gavand, Eugène-Henri: *Chemin de fer Metropolitan de Constantinople au Chemin de fer Souterrain de Galata Pera dit Tunnel de Constantinople*, Paris. (1876). In: Wikimedia Commons. Online: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Chemin\\_de\\_fer\\_m%C3%A9tropolitain\\_de\\_Constantinople.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Chemin_de_fer_m%C3%A9tropolitain_de_Constantinople.jpg).



The carriages of each track are attached to a wire cable, which runs over iron rollers placed between the rails and has a length of 650 metres, a thickness of 15 millimetres and a width of 13 centimetres. Both wire cables are set in motion by a steam engine located underground at the upper stop in Pera. This was constructed by Creusot in Paris and brought here from Marseilles by means of a special steamer. It has a strength of 150 horsepower, which, however, is only used to a small extent, as the weight of the wagon rolling down from Pera also contributes to pulling up the wagon coming from Galata. By means of two lever rods, four metres long, two powerful wheels are set in rapid rotation by this machine, to which the two cables are attached in such a manner that, while one is being wound up, the other is being unwound, one wagon therefore running up, the other down.

An interesting feature of this device is that it enables the operator to be informed immediately of any accident, which is hardly conceivable given the load-bearing capacity of the cable. For this purpose, a wire is attached to the side wall of the tunnel, which runs from a battery and is connected to the iron wheel just described. If the officer in charge holds this broom made from copper-wire against the wire stretched out in the tunnel, an electric current is immediately generated by the closing of the chain, a bell sounds and the operator can immediately apply the powerful brake.

The carriages are set in motion from 7 o'clock in the morning until 8½ o'clock in the evening according to need, on average every 5 minutes, so that in the course of a day 240 to 250 trains run up and down. The fares are 1½ Piastres or 24 Pfennigs for a single ride, 2 Piastres or 32 Pfennigs for a return ticket, while the second class fares are cheaper by half. According to the director, to whose kindness I owe the information concerning the funicular railway, between 11,000 and 11,500 people are now transported on one day.

From this article it may be seen how much of the facilitation and improvement of transport in the Turkish capital belong to the modern era. After all, tunnels, tramways, omnibuses and carriages are only an achievement of recent years! It was only after the great fire in Pera in 1870 that the narrow, badly paved streets were replaced by wide streets with pavements.



Fig. 18: Amusement on the Caique. Painting by Fausto Zonaro.<sup>35</sup>

35 Source: Wikimedia Commons. Online: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Fausto\\_Zonaro\\_-\\_Amusement\\_on\\_the\\_Caique\\_-\\_Google\\_Art\\_Project.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Fausto_Zonaro_-_Amusement_on_the_Caique_-_Google_Art_Project.jpg).



## Recent Philatelic Journals

by Tobias Zywiets

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*A selection of articles related to Middle East Philately from recent philatelic journals. Usually these journals are only available to members of the respective societies. Where known I am listing the price at which the society provides individual journals to non-members. Please enquire with each society for its conditions of supply.*

### OPAL Journal 244 – February 2022

[Oriental Philatelic Association of London](#)

English, A5, colour, –

- W. Pijnenburg researched the “meshed background” (burelage) on the Duloz 1p of 1865 and the Tughra issue (4–8). T. Huxley adds his observations (9–11).
- J. Garton shows pages from his exhibit on the Liannos and State city post of Istanbul. The editor adds several footnotes [The exhibit transformed into an article is shown in MEPB 20] (12–22).
- The editor interviews Kerry Hutchinson about his collection of Mandate Palestine resulting in a good guide for beginners (23–33).
- T. Huxley shows a tobacco tax stamp of Samos (Anezins & Co.) (34).
- O. Graf reports on the application of censorship on international mail (35–43).
- A. Green reviews “Prisoners of War at the Ottoman Front” by Kemal Giray (43–44). Notice is given of two further books: John Garton’s “Ottoman Empire Military Censorship” and Zvi Aloni’s “Postal History of the Ottoman Post in the Holy Land” (44–48).
- Tim Huxley reports on becoming editor and seeking contributions (2–3).*

*No new OPAL Journal has been issued since.*

### The Levant Vol. 11, No. 4 – January 2022

[Ottoman & Near East Philatelic Society](#)

English, A4, colour, US-\$ 4.00

- G. W. Brown reports the find of a listed but hitherto elusive 1925 Lebanon revenue stamp 20p “Passports” (55).
- P. Winders describes a 1951 philatelic cover from Taiz (Yemen) to Sydney (Ohio, USA) first misdirected to Australia and reports on the genesis of the stamps used (1948 UN Admission) (56–58).
- T. Pateman shows a cover sent from Helsinki to San Stefano (near Istanbul) in 1878 where the Russo-Turkish peace treaty was signed and a related picture postcard (58).

- R. B. Rose researched the philatelic remnants of the Turkish invasion of the Sinai and the British pushback in 1916 (59–64).
- T. Lewis presents two of Karl Lewis’ covers dated 1929: one from Galata to Japan franked 43½ p, the other to the USA franked 12½ p (65).
- E. Condon dissects an 1827 letter from the Hungarian quarantine station Rotherturm to Scotland: it bears a one-line “Turquie” ascribed to the French post office in Constantinople [the contents of the letter do not bear this out IMHO] (66–68).
- Reports from the 2021 AGM. ONEPS has 97 members. After 21 years service, president Bob Stuchell stands down, with Richard Rose succeeding. ONEPS seeks a new editor to replace Rose (53).*

### The Levant Vol. 11, No. 5 – May 2022

[Ottoman & Near East Philatelic Society](#)

English, A4, colour, US-\$ 4.00

- O. Graf looks at the languages admissible by Ottoman Censorship (72–80).
- D. Doren researched the 1914 “Gjirocastër” (Argyrokastró) issue (overprints on Ottoman stamps for Epirus) (81–84).
- G. Riachi writes about the 1969 Abu Dhabi “10th Anniversary of Accession” series (85–86).
- Book announcements: “The Postal History of the Ottoman Post in the Holy Land” (Kemal Giray/Joseph Hackmey) and “Guide To The Postal Stationery of Iraq” 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Clayton Rubec/Akhtem Al-Manaseer) (87–88).
- T. Zywiets announces the resumption of the Ottoman Postmarks Project with updates to the Birken Catalogue being collected (71). T. Zywiets’ article on the Ottoman Censorship Instructions (see MEPB 20) is available to ONEPS members as download (80). P. Moorer explains his Zotero database of books and articles on Middle East philately (85).*





**The Levant Vol. 11, No. 6 – September 2022***Ottoman & Near East Philatelic Society**English, A4, colour, US-\$ 4.00*

- The cover features a postcard of the court of El-Jazzar's mosque in Acre/Akko, ca. 1965 (89).
- Michael Sharnoff researched how the stamps of Jordan treat maps of the West Bank, 1952–1985 (91–99).
- Cheryl Ganz presents a 1936 Turkey Zeppelin cover sent to the USA via Berlin (99).
- John P. Garton's article on the Constantinople city post 1865–1882 is re-edited and reprinted in from OPAL Journal 244 (100–102).
- Uzay Togay looks at the first cancels of North Cyprus (102).
- Denis Doren researched the history of the Syrian Orphanage Jerusalem (103–106).
- A short piece on the 1955 commemorative stamps on the 10th intern. Byzantine Congress in İstanbul is reprinted from Cornucopia [no. 65, p. 12] (106).
- Uzay Togay found a report about "A business transaction in the East" describing the convoluted customs of Ottoman times [reprint from The Christian Life, 2.04.1881, originally from Kölner Zeitung] (107–108).
- Notice on Kemal Giray's book "Prisoners of War at the Ottoman Front" (108).
- Richard B. Rose presents the new Secretary: Barry Feddema [after Barry's recent resignation, the vacancy is now filled by Dan Boyd] (89).*

**The Levant Vol. 12, No. 1 – January 2023***Ottoman & Near East Philatelic Society**English, A4, colour, US-\$ 4.00*

- Allan D. Smith gives an introduction to the philately of Macedonia (3–9).
- Yavuz Çorapçıoğlu looks at the June postal cards 1942 issue surcharged 3 Kuruş (10–12).
- Carl D. Shankweiler responds to Denis Doren's piece (vol. 11, no. 6, p. 103) on the Schneller Syrian Orphanage (13–15).
- Richard B. Rose surveys the known "proofs" of the 1911 Sultan's visit to Macedonia (15–17).
- Richard M. Stevens presents a Bulgarian fore-runner tobacco stamp (18–19).
- Yavuz Çorapçıoğlu and Aybala Yentürk write about the Cyprus souvenir sheet on the 1922 Smyrna (İzmir) 'catastrophe' (19–20).

**Türkei-Spiegel 140 – 2/2022***Arge Osmanisches Reich/Türkei**German, A5, colour, €5.00*

- H.-D. Gröger shows a complete sheet of the 1891 "Imprimé" overprint (5–8).
- J. Warnecke reports on an uprated German Reply-Postcard from 1916 (9).
- H. P. Soetens presents his catalogue of Ottoman censor hand-stamps. This fourth part presents the positive seals N–Z (10–18).

- H. Gerzabek shows frankings of the 1917 "Ox Head" overprints (19–33).
- H. P. Soetens replies to the article on a Greek-overprinted IRCs for Mytilene with his thoughts about contemporary machinations (34–38).
- T. Zywiets updates the list of Lebanon stamps with reverse-side security overprints (39–41).
- Hålfdan Helgason & T. Zywiets researched the IRCs of the Arab Postal Union (concluding part 2) (42–47).
- A. Kaplanian und B.-D. Buscke look at Touristic postal cards of Jordan (48–51).
- T. Zywiets reviews by Zvi Aloni's "The Postal History of the Ottoman Post in the Holy Land" and J. P. Garton "Turkey Ottoman Empire Military Censorship" (53–57).
- The "Ottoman Postmarks Project" (joint between AROS, OPLAN, and ONEPS) seeks contributors (53). T. Zywiets muses on how best to abbreviate currency descriptions (57). Portraits of two new members: Ralf Kollmann und Dr. Elmar Dorr (58). Report from NOTOS 2021 (Athens) (59).

**Türkei-Spiegel 141 – 3/2022***Arge Osmanisches Reich/Türkei**German, A5, colour, €5.00*

- L. Döderlein researched the Austrian post office of Çeşme and explores its history and the postmarks in this first of two part (5–20).
- T. Nössig looks at the postal routings of the German post office in Constantinople to Germany before 1872 (21–26).
- E. Rosen reports a possible plate error of the 1911 2pa 'Small Tughras' (MiNr. 180): "PAPAS" (27).
- H. P. Soetens continues his catalogue of Ottoman censor hand-stamps. This fifth part presents insured items (valeur déclarée) with wax seals (28–49).
- T. Zywiets found information of the Greek post office and its tariffs in Alexandria in an 1872 directory (50).
- T. Zywiets reviews "The Ottoman Post Offices and Services in Albania" by Kemal Giray and Otto Graf (51–52).
- New books in the AROS library: Indicateur PTT 1884, Guide Postal 1914, and "Osmanlı İmparatorluğu Posta Tarihi" by Turhan Turgut. Updating the Birken catalogue. Invitation for the AGM in Cologne.*

**Türkei-Spiegel 142 – 4/2022***Arge Osmanisches Reich/Türkei**German, A5, colour, €5.00*

- Dr. Leonhard Döderlein looks at known covers of the Austrian post office in Çeşme in the second part of his article (7–16).
- Folkert Bruining reports on the postal history of the small village Kouléli Bourgas near Edirne with its important railway junction (17–20).
- The famous explorer Gerhard Rohlfs reports on the postal situation in Tripoli as he found it on his journeys in 879 (21–22).



- Hubert Gerzabek describes the Ottoman officers' Field Post stamps and related cachets and postmarks (23–33).
- Tobias Zywiets recounts the mail robbery between Jaffa and Jerusalem in March 1912 [transl. from MEPB 1] (34–41).
- Martin Rhein gives advice on the changeover from Austrian to Hungarian postal administration in relation to the article on Bihać in TS 138 (41).
- Yvonne Berger researched a 1914 Christmas cover from Germany to İstanbul [social philately] (42–43).
- Peter B. Feuser reports on the German flight training school (Flak-Schule) at San Stefano (today İstanbul-Yeşilköy) [transl. from MEPB 21] (44–49).
- Willy Pijnenburg, Otto Graf, and Hans-Dieter Gröger discuss plate errors and printing varieties (50–53).
- Notice on "Devlet-i 'Aliyye Osmanlı İmperatorluğu Posta Şubeleri" by M. Bülent Papuççuoğlu (57).
- Obituary for Hubert Gerzabek, 1923–2022 (5–6).

### Türkei-Spiegel 143 – 1/2023

*Arge Osmanisches Reich/Türkei*

German, A4, colour, €7.00

- Jürgen Endemann shows on the title page a postcard with cachet "Dersa'adet Fransa Qonsoloshanesi" i.e. French Consulate İstanbul (1).
- German postal official Unger's report about the harbour and street transportation systems in İstanbul in 1875 is annotated and illustrated by Tobias Zywiets (5–21).
- Hans-Dieter Gröger shows postage due items affected by the postal war between Turkey and Bulgaria/East Rumelia from 1886 to 1888 (22–30).
- Tilmann Nössig surveys early printed matter frankings with North-German stamps in 1870/71 [transl. in MEPB 22] (31–36).
- Tobias Zywiets researches the uncorroborated existence of an Ottoman post office at the annual Usunca Owa fair (now Bulgaria) (37–39).
- Tobias Zywiets shows a 1980 maximum-card of Northern Cyprus on "Solidarity with the Palestinian People" (39).
- Willy Pijnenburg wonders about the surcharge variety "chisel" at MiNr. 739 (*Osmanlı Postaları 1337*) catalogued by Mayo as "AY" (40).
- Rolf Wernecke and Tobias Zywiets dissect a 1928 Palestine Mandate registration envelope with missing indicium [transl. in MEPB 22] (41–47).
- Tobias Zywiets reviews Hans Peter Soetens' book "Stempels van Scheepsagenturen & de Regionale Scheepvaart in het Egeïsche en Ionische Zee" [cancels and cachets of regional shipping agencies in the Aegean and Ionian Seas] (48–49).
- In the Q&A section, Udo Angerstein asks for an article on the forthcoming foundation of the Turkish Republic, Tobias Zywiets asks for collaborators on Ottoman postmarks, and Willy Pijnenburg looks for information on forgeries of *Şehir* overprints (49), as well as an apparently unrecorded multi-overprinted MiNr. 638 (57). The editor shows two 1930s Christmas cards of

the Pera Palace Hotel (60).

*New books acquired by the AROS Library (50). Reports from the 2022 AGM (51–55). Review of recent philatelic journals (56–57).*

### Türkei-Spiegel 144 – 1/2023

*Arge Osmanisches Reich/Türkei*

German, A4, colour, €7.00

- Postal Secretary Unger details the organisation of the Ottoman Posts in 1875 (5–15).
- Tobias Zywiets reports on the introduction of telephones in the 1880s in Constantinople (16–18).
- Oscar van der Vliet looks at a post card sent from "SS Sophie" unearthing details on the emerging international oil trade in the 1890s (19–21).
- Willy Pijnenburg dissects a registered cover from Russia to Jerusalem, delivering money between three rabbis: arrival ROPiT Jerusalem 14.12.1906 (22–24).
- Otto Graf studies the admissible languages for Turkish civil censorship during World War I [transl. from *The Levant*] (25–32).
- Jan Heijs and Wolfgang Elsner report on the Postkrieg involving Iran and Kuwait (33–36).
- Johann Baumgartner reports on curious stamps from Damascus: the first part studies the withdrawn 2016 National Day Stamp (37–38).
- Tobias Zywiets reviews two books: "Bombay-Aden Sea Post Office" by Mike Dovey & Peter Bottrill and "Post Offices of the Ottoman Empire" by M. Bülent Papuççuoğlu (39, 40).
- Christopher C. Smith poses a research request on Austrian steam navigation 1834–1845 (Austrian post offices abroad) (41–42).
- Tobias Zywiets announces Otto Graf's book on Essad Pasha and the postal history of central Albania (42).
- Jens Warnecke answers Willy Pijnenburg's question on a doubtful overprint variety of MiNr. 638 (42).
- Hans Gerd Schilde looks for information about Turkish stamps manufactured at the Vienna State Printer during WWII (42).
- Türkei-Spiegel in A4: AROS in DBZ Nr 7/23 (43); Review of recent philatelic journals (44–45); Gold-Medal for Rainer Fuchs at Cape Town 2022 (48).*

### The Quarterly Circular 280 (Vol. 24, No. 9) – March 2022

*The Egypt Study Circle*

English, A4, colour, –

- R. Atiya reports on his efforts to plate the "Second Issue" (201–206).
- V. Varjebedian gathered revenue stamps of Upper Egypt universities (207–208).
- M. Murphy reports on forgeries of Zeppelin overprints (209–210).
- A. Hay looks at Liebig cards with Egyptian topics (210–212).
- A. Winter presents T.P.O. postmarks denoted by "خط" (khat = line or route) (212).



- L. Toutounji shows types of the “AERIAL POST / E E F” cachets (213).  
 M. Murphy looks at Winter Palace (Luxor) covers with two different cancels (215).  
 M. Ramadan adds news research to his book on the MAP: The “مرور” (morour or Egyptian Transit Company) was formed in 1844 to monopolise transport in the country, purchasing ships and stage-posts (216–217).  
 Y. Aboul-Enein queries about overprint error on a block-of-four of the 5m Farouk Investiture: 3× “Sudan”, 1× “Suban”. This turned out to be a forgery (217).  
 H. Cowley reviews John Davis’ 3<sup>rd</sup> part of “Egypt from the Postal Concession until Suez 1932–1956” (British and allied army postal services) (218).  
 2022 meetings programme (196). Reports from the 2021 AGM [165 members, an increase of 4 on 2020] (197–199, iii). Egypt exhibits at London 2022 (199). MacArthur Award (200).

### The Quarterly Circular 281 (Vol. 24, No. 10) – June 2022

[\*The Egypt Study Circle\*](#)  
 English, A4, colour, –

- M. Ramadan presents a display “Egypt’s Postal Expansion into Africa” (221–230).  
 M. Murphy updates the knowledge about “Start & Crescent” postmarks (type X) (231–232).  
 R. Atiya researched plate errors of the 1872 1p stamps (233–239).  
 V. Varjebedian adds further revenue stamps of Upper Egypt universities (240–241).  
 M. Murphy looks at novelty perforations of recent Egypt stamps (242, iii).  
 Meeting reports (220–221). Invitation for Autumn Stampex 2022 (iii).  
 J. Davis poses the “Gizeh Enigma”: a series of registered letters (uprated 5m envelopes) sent in 1910 to Gizeh (Giza Succursale) (iv).

### The Quarterly Circular 282 (Vol. 24, No. 11) – September 2022

[\*The Egypt Study Circle\*](#)  
 English, A4, colour, –

- Richard Wheatley studies Samuel Shephard, hotelier & forwarder (246–249), followed by Mahmoud Ramadan’s update on forwarding agents (250–253).  
 Ramez Atiya researched plate errors of the 1872 1p stamps (II) (254–260).  
 Mike Murphy explores “POSTAGE PAID” postmarks used on prepaid bulk mail (261–264).  
 Mike Murphy looks at Gabriel Boulad’s Cairo FDCs (265–266).  
 Anabright Hay studied Aida’s philatelic links to Egypt (266–iii).  
 Mahmoud Ramadan queries 1873 mails from Massawa via Suez to Genova (iv); Richard Wheatley looks at a 1913 OHHS cover (iv); and Patrick Moore focusses on the Belgian Congo Exped. Force in the Middle East

1943/44 (iv).  
 Report of the 2.07.2022 meeting with Sami Sadek display on TPOs (244–245).

### The Quarterly Circular 283 (Vol. 24, No. 12) – December 2022

[\*The Egypt Study Circle\*](#)  
 English, A4, colour, –

- Mike Murphy presents his study of Tutankhamun on Egypt’s stamps (270–273).  
 Denis Doren looks at Champollion deciphering of the hieroglyphs (274–275).  
 Alain Stragier & Ronny van Pellecom study the postal history and cancels on Ismailia, in the first part of a series (276–281).  
 Paul Grigg researched the Suez Canal stamp forgeries by Saatjian (282–284).  
 Michael Ryan presents Siwas Italian ‘occupation’ stamps (285–287).  
 Christopher C. Smith researches the Austrian Steam Navigation 1834–1845 and asked for contributions (288–289).  
 Socratis Sigalas shows the 1907 5m ‘Official’ overprint without watermark (289).  
 Greg Todd revisits the topic of Egyptian forwarding agents (290).  
 Report of the 1.10.2022 meeting (268–269); *The committee issues a plan to create an all-encompassing Egypt catalogue to replace Nile Post, Abdel-Hady & Balian* (269); *Meeting report 17.11.2022; Tutankhamun centenary display* (269); *MacArthur Award 2023*.

**Supplement:** “The Egypt Study Circle display to the Royal Philatelic Society London Thursday 17 November 2022 : to mark the centenary of the discovery of Tutankhamun’s tomb” ([1–15]).

### The Quarterly Circular 284 (Vol. 24, No. 12) – March 2023

[\*The Egypt Study Circle\*](#)  
 English, A4, colour, –

- Mike Murphy looks at the depiction of ‘The Boy Pharaoh’ Tutankhamun (5–6).  
 Alain Stragier and Ronny van Pellecom present part 2 of the series on the postal history of Ismailia (7–14).  
 Ramez Atiya writes about the connection of Pauline Bellisle to Egypt (15–16).  
 Denis Doren looks at the ‘Eye of Horus’ in Egyptian philately (17–19).  
 John Clarke responds on Siwa Italian occupation stamps [QC283]; Bob Brier responds to Champollion 200 years of hieroglyphs [QC283]; Mike Murphy responds to Gabriel Boulad’s Cairo FDCs [QC283] (19).  
 John Davis queries on parcel cards (20–21).  
 Mike Murphy reports news about the Philatelic Society of Egypt (22).  
 David Ogden gives background to the ‘Spark of Liberation’ stamps (October War, SG 1218) (23).



Pierre Louis Grech reviews Ronny van Pellecom & Alain Stragier's second part of "Alexandria : Postal History until 1818" (24).

Zubin Kabraji tells why he collects Egypt (26).

*Report of the AGM 18.02.2023: new chairman: David Ogden; membership stands at 169 (+8 yoy) (2-3); Mike Murphy: writes an obituary for Cyril Defries (4); ESC Accounts 2021/2022 (25).*

### Al Barīd 91 البريد – March 2022

*Filatelistische Contactgroep Islamitische Wereld*  
Dutch/English, A5, colour, –

W. Pijnenburg researched the "meshed background" (burelage) on the Duloz 1p of 1865 and the Tughra issue (2429–2430).

A. Tunaci and F. Bruining the mail services of the various railway companies operating in the European part of the Ottoman Empire (2425, 2431–66, 2472).

F. Bruining reports on the Turko-British border commission delineating the borders north-west of Aden 1902–1905 (2467–2468).

*Reflections on the current state of the society with its 40 members, of Al-Barīd and its future (2470–2472).*

### Al Barīd 92 البريد – November 2022

*Filatelistische Contactgroep Islamitische Wereld*  
Dutch/English, A4, colour, –

Folkert Bruining and Jos Strengtholt introduce this special issue on early Airmail in the Middle East (4–5).

Jos Strengtholt reports on the 1910 Air Week in Heliopolis (6–15), the Emergency Airmail Service of the E.E.F. in 1919 (16–23), and the first Airmail between Cairo and Khartoum in 1914 by pilot Marc Pourpe (24–33).

Peter Moorers reviews William C. Andrews' book "The Royal Air Force Cairo-Baghdad Air Mail Service 1921–1927" (34–35).

Avo Kaplanian presents colour-proofs of the first Airmail stamps of Jordan (36–37).

Willy Pijnenburg reports on the history of the first Turkish Airmail stamps, 16.02.1925–28.05.1934 (38–42).

Jos Strengtholt looks at the first Egyptian Airmail stamps, 1926–1929 (43–47), and reviews the book "Airmails Across The Middle East 1918–1930" by Laurence Kimpton (48).

### Al Barid Nieuwsbrief 1 – March 2023

*Filatelistische Contactgroep Islamitische Wereld*  
Dutch, A4, colour, PDF only, –

Jan van Zelle reviews "Great Bitter Lake Association" by Peter Valdner (2nd edition) (3–8).

Peter Moorers poses question on the uses of IRCS for clandestine communication between Israel and Arab countries [reprint from MEPB 22] (9).

Avo Kaplanian answers some of Peter Moorers' question [reprint MEPB 23] (9–13).

Jan van Zelle looks at recent new issues of Egypt # (14–16).

Jan van Zelle introduces the new concept of the "Al

*Barid Nieuwsbrief" (newsletter) to appear several times per year in digital form only. Al Barīd itself will only continue as once-a-year special issue in printed form (2). New additions to the FCIW library: Holy Land Postal History 1–122 (16).*

### The Dhow 87 (Vol. 23, No. 1) – March 2022

*Aden & Somaliland Study Group*  
English, ca. A4, colour, –

G. Mentgen reports on a postcard booklet of Catholic Mission of Somaliland (3).

T. Cochrane shows two mourning covers, Aden 1884 (4).

N. Williams reports on the philatelic use of a Money Orders date-stamp as canceller in Aden 1944 (5).

N. Williams researches the opening dates of post offices in Aden Colony and Protectorate linking these to economic and political factors (6–8).

N. Williams looks at multiple Army unit cachets (Aden Brigade) at Sheikh Othman & Al Mansoura (9–10).

J. Rankin shows two 1953 Qu'aiti covers (11).

G. Mentgen dissects two covers sent by airmail from the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games to Berbera (Somaliland) (12–13).

M. Lacey contributes a 1972 commercial airletter sent from Taiz to the UK (14).

N. Williams reviews "The First Victory: The Second World War and the East African Campaign" by Andrew Stewart.

*Report from the joint meeting of the Aden & Somaliland Study Group and the Indian Ocean Study Circle at London 2022 (3). Index to The Dhow, vol. 22 (2021) (15–16).*

### The Dhow – Special Issue No. 5 – March 2022

*Aden & Somaliland Study Group*  
English, ca. A4, colour, –

N. Williams produced a 44-page study of British Field Post Offices in Aden and the Federation of South Arabia, 1957–1967.

Introduction (2); Background: The 1940s and early 1950s (2); The FPO system in Aden (2–3); The date-stamps and cancellers (3–4); FPO cancellers: dates of use (4–11); Slogans and Instructional Marks (12); The issue of Location (12–14); Postal Stationery, Registration Etiquettes, Office Numbers & Certificates of Posting (14–16); Postal rates, local mails, mail other than to UK & mails transferred into the civil mails (16–18); Inter-British unit and Federal & South Arabian Army mails (18–19); Ships' Mails (19); Courier Service (20–21); Notes and Sources (22).

Annexes: Recorded usage of Aden Field Post Office cancellers 1957–67 (23–26); British military cachets (27–36); Federal National Guard, Federal Regular Army & South Arabian Army cachets (37–39); Other markings found on FPO items (40); Representative Unit Badges & Crests (41).





**The Dhow 88 (Vol. 23, No. 2) – June 2022**

*Aden & Somaliland Study Group*  
*English, ca. A4, colour; –*

- A. Gondocz shows a 2022 Yemen FDC with “Emirates 2022 World Stamp Exhibition” cancel (1).
  - B. Livingstone researched the unissued 1937 Harrison & Sons Edward VIII definitives for Aden (3–7).
  - N. Williams looks at perforations of the 1942 Kathiri & Qu’aiti low value definitives (I) (8–10).
  - G. Mentgen follows up on Ethiopian international mail transiting Somaliland Protectorate with a 1904 philatelic cover Zaila–Berne (11–12).
  - G. Mentgen shows an Aden Airways envelope used in 1962 (13).
  - T. Zywietz and N. Williams give an update on Aden Meter Marks, reprinting the main tables from the article in MEPB 20 (13–16).
- Proposed meeting at STAMPEX 2022 or alternative venue (2).*

**The Dhow 89 (Vol. 23, No. 3) – Sept. 2022**

*Aden & Somaliland Study Group*  
*English, ca. A4, colour; –*

- Tony Cochrane shows an 1889 Jeddah to Bombay via Aden and the Sea Post Office cover (1) and an 1865 officer’s letter sent at normal rate from Aden to Jersey (3).
- Germain Mentgen reposts on a Christmas flight from Kenya via South Africa to Somaliland Protectorate in 1931 (4–5).
- Neil Williams looks at airmail from Aden to France by Messageries Maritime and Ala Littoria in 1940 (6–9).
- Neil Williams shows an EFM (Expeditionary Force Message) telegram from Aden in 1940 (10–11).
- Neil Williams researched the perforation varieties of the 1942 Kathiri & Qu’aiti low value definitives (II) (12–15).
- Mike Pettifor shows a 1945 letter to Rothamsted experimental station in Harpenden (Hertfordshire) (16).

**The Dhow 90 (Vol. 23, No. 4) – Dec. 2022**

*Aden & Somaliland Study Group*  
*English, ca. A4, colour; –*

- Germain Mentgen shows a 1946 registered cover sent to Aden, franked with several Victory stamps cancelled Berbera ; [FDC, 15.10.1946] (1).
- Stanley Gibbon’s Hugh Jefferies looks for information on India stamps used at Aden Sub-Offices (3).
- Neil Williams & Malcolm Lacey alert about forged WWII censored covers (4).
- Malcolm Lacey presents a 1903 ‘India Service’ postal card (5).
- Bo Anderson reports on “last minute mail for the Sea Post Office” in 1911 (6).
- Mike Pettifor shows mail of Group Captain CM Vincent, C.O. RAF Khormaksar 1940–43 (7).
- Simon Adams looks at unusual cancellations of the

Seiyun definitive set 1944 (8).

Germain Mentgen on salvaged mail of the SS Jebba wrecked on the Devon coast in 1907 (9–12).

Malcolm Lacey shows PDRY stationery: a 1987 registered letter (13).

Bruce Walker & Germain Mentgen contribute on the British Military Administration of Somalia in 1949 with a Mogadishu Trade Fair cachet (14).

Neil Williams reviews the second edition of Peter James Bond’s “Postage Stamps of Aden 1937–1968” (15).

Germain Mentgen shows a 1957 amateur radio reception (QSL) card [VS9AG, Aden Airways] (15) and Neil Williams shows Christmas Greetings of the RAF Armoured Car Section from 1938 (16).

*Malcolm Lacey notes the death of Tony Cochrane (3).*

**The Dhow 91 (Vol. 23, No. 5) – March 2023**

*Aden & Somaliland Study Group*  
*English, ca. A4, colour; –*

Neil Williams shows a cover of US Army Post Office 663, Salalah 1944 (1).

Neil Williams studies the issue dates of the 2 rupee and 5 rupee Aden States definitives (3–5).

Bo Andersson looks at unusual examples of Aden Paquebot 1900 to 1933 (6–7).

Germain Mentgen looks at the Italian occupation of Somaliland Protectorate (1940/1941) (8–13).

Neil Williams reports on the sheet numbers on surcharges and overprints of the Aden States (14–15).

Bruce Walker shows an 1893 cover from Aden via London to South Africa then forwarded to the Bedford (UK) (15).

*Neil Williams prepared the index for The Dhow 2022 (volume 23, whole numbers 87–90) (15–16).*

**Random Notes 98 – February 2022**

*[Arabian Philatelic Association Int.](#)*

*English, ca. A4, colour, digital only, gratis*

- In Random Notes #98 M. Lovegrove assembled short notes on a number of topics: 1986 Universities 150h with the wrong background; DGA plate block varieties; DGA plate errors; Framed Kaaba error (correction to RN91); Mekka branch office cancels: “Mecque” 1, 2, and 4; Plate errors of the Instalment of King Faisal series; *Kahfi’a* varieties; Unusually popular revenues on eBay; Dammam Port perforation variety; More triangular fantasy stamps; King Ali 10q essays; DGA plate block varieties (3–6, 14, 22, 32).
- D. Jessich shows the 2020 Second Flowers Series (7–13).
- K. D. Knight reports on the “Albarid Almutaz” (Saudi Express Mail Service) (15–22)
- D. Jessich updates the plate errors of the Framed Kaaba 150h (23–24).
- M. Lovegrove continues his series on Regional Postmarks of Saudi Arabia (25–32).
- S. Abrar Ahmed & M. Lovegrove present the new issues of 2020 (part 2) (33–42).
- M. Lovegrove details the Saudi Arab Postal Union *Reply*



*Coupon of 1956 (43).*

- M. Lovegrove reports from recent auctions: A 1935 Overland mail cover from Lebanon via Baghdad and Basra to Bahrain (44).

### Random Notes 99 – July 2022

*Arabian Philatelic Association Int.*

*English, ca. A4, colour, digital only, gratis*

- In Random Notes #99 M. Lovegrove assembled short notes on a number of topics: Convair 340 gutter plate blocks and perforation varieties; 1966 ATU Congress: mis-perforated gutter block; Registration barcode (type BV15) on paper of the previous issue (BC6); The Frederick Jones covers (Hejaz); 1925 Djeddah provisionals varieties; Proofs of the 1952 Dammam-Riyadh Railway issue; Hejaz & Nejd 1926 imperf. essay sheets; Use of ordinary stamps on official mail (Mecca 1970); Official stamp with wide-tooth perf.; "Al Saudia" hand-stamps; 1/4q postage due stamp ("T" overprint on Tughra); Nedjd 1q proof?; "TO BE RETURNED FOR STAMP EFFICIENCY" marking 1962; marginal print-marks; Delcampe quickly acting on fraudsters (3–8, 22, 32, 48).
- M. Lovegrove shows covers with official wax and paper seals and hand-stamps (9–11).
- M. Lovegrove adds information to K. D. Knight's report on the "Albarid Al Mumtaz" (Saudi Express Mail Service) in RN98 (12–21).
- M. Lovegrove continues his series on regional postmarks of Saudi Arabia (23–31).
- S. Abrar Ahmed & M. Lovegrove present the new issues of 2020 (III) (33–47).

### Random Notes 100 – April 2023

*Arabian Philatelic Association Int.*

*English, ca. A4, colour, digital only, gratis*

- Martin Lovegrove assembled short notices for Random Notes #100: Barcoded registration labels for official mail with Saudi Post logo, and with SPL logo; Different first day cancels for the two 3 Riyals issues of 23.12.2021; Stamps issued on paper with fluorescent fibres; Missing date in first day cancels for the National Day 1992 issue; Delay of the Hajj 1443 issue; QR code on the 2022 'Digital Tourism Strategy' block; DGA errors: split dots on "ق" (50p) and damaged frame (75p); security details stated in issue brochures; Updated Al Barid Al Mumtaz stationery; 1953 Royal Visit issue: changed cliché setting leads to variety on 'jubilee line' at the top margin; missing fluorescent ink on the 2020 Falcon issue (RN97.28); barcode label without 2D-barcode; 2 Royals road tax stamp 1971; 20 Riyals 'Entry Visa' stamps [forgery]; ½p Hejaz Caliphate overprint forgery; postmark "ALGHAAT"; 3q Damman Port variety; machine cancel SM10 (Djedda 1950–1960); Postmark "BEESHA" (S22 or S48); 5h Khafji paper fold and errors; Al Barid Al Mumtaz date-stamp Riyadh; 1982 50h Kaaba perforation error; Cover forgery (1924

Transjordan) (3–16).

- Martin Lovegrove reports on instances of misaligned numerals: the leaning '3' of Radhwa [1945] (19–20).
- Martin Lovegrove continues his series on regional postmarks of Saudi Arabia with a fifth part (21–23).
- Martin Lovegrove studies Visa labels of 2000–2002 (24–28).
- D. E. Jessich and Martin Lovegrove report the Saudi Arabian new issues of 2021 (I) (29–33).
- Martin Lovegrove shows a 1918 "O.A.S." cover from Aqaba to Cairo, 2×1/2p from the Cherrystone of 13.12.2022 (35–36).
- Reaching the 100th issue, Martin Lovegrove and Jim Kearney recollect on Jack Wilson, founder editor (3). Martin Lovegrove remembers Willie A. King (1940–2023) (17–18).*

### Iran Philatelic Study Circle Bulletin 213 – November 2021

*Iran Philatelic Study Circle*

*English, A4, colour, –*

- M. Kuriger prepares an update of IPSC Worksheet 42b "Censors" providing several examples of markings (4534–4536).
- M. Kuriger catalogues censor marks of the Anglo-Soviet-Persian Censorship during WW2 (4537–4548).
- F. Goodarzi researched the early years of Qajar Air Mail, 1922–1926 (4549–4562).
- S. Pejhan reports on "Transport of slow speed parcels at reduced tariffs" for the years 1918–1922 (4563).
- W. Morscheck <BS> shows "Historical Site Admission" revenues (4564).
- Next meeting will be during LONDON 2022 at the Business Design Centre on 22.02.2022.*

### Iran Philatelic Study Circle Bulletin 214 – February 2022

*Iran Philatelic Study Circle*

*English, A4, colour, –*

- M. Kuriger researches "Dunsterforce," a British unit to repel German and Turkish advances in north-west Persia in 1818, led by Maj.-Gen. Lionel Dunsterville (4565–4579).
- F. Goodarzi continues his research into the early years of Qajar Air Mail, 1922–1926 (4580–4592). There's a corrected map for part 1 on Kurdish tribal areas on p. 4600.
- S. Pejhan reposts on the "Slow Speed Parcel Service" 1916–1922 (4593–4600).
- B. Nassre looks at the earliest use of picture postcards in Iran in 1899 (4601).
- M. Kuriger queries about an unstamped cover from Bushire to Teheran in 1898 (4602).



### Iran Philatelic Study Circle Bulletin 215 June 2022

*Iran Philatelic Study Circle*

*English, A4, colour, –*

- Fariborz Goodarzi continues his research into the early years of Qajar Air Mail, 1922–1926 (4604–4617).  
Behruz Nassre looks for the earliest newspaper wrapper ; [26.06.1878] (4617).  
Martin Kuriger researched the British “Norperforce” censor markings (4617–4621).  
Sassan Pejhan and Martin Kuriger follow up to a query in Bulletin 214 on an unstamped cover from Bushire to Teheran in 1898 (4622).  
Werner Lade shows inverted postal tax for telegrams surcharge (4622).  
Nigel Gooch queries on postal forms: proof of delivery for a domestic parcel (4624).

### Iran Philatelic Study Circle Bulletin 216 March 2023

*Iran Philatelic Study Circle*

*English, A4, colour, –*

- Farhad Diba shows a 1920 cover via Baghdad to Switzerland. The addressee is Abolhassan Diba, ‘Saghat-ed Dowleh’ (4626).  
Martin Kuriger starts his survey of registration hand-stamps (4627–4633).  
Nigel Gooch queries on “AD” perfins and gets a reply by Sassan Pejhan Queries [Administration des Douanes?] (4634).  
Behruz Nassre queries on the earliest newspaper wrapper [26.06.1878] (4634).  
Nigel Gooch asks for the identification of a postal document; Sasan Baharaeen answers: it’s a letter from Kazvin to Teheran, with a redirection request by the sender (4635).  
Behruz Nassre queries on postcard tax, showing a 1903 postcard to Istanbul with add. 2 ch. “Contrôle” surcharged stamp (4636).  
Martin Kuriger catalogues Taxe Perçue markings (4637–4642).  
*Reports from the IPSC virtual meeting 19.05.2023 (4625).*

### The Israel Philatelist – Winter 2022 (Vol. 73, No. 1)

*Society of Israel Philatelists, Inc.*

*English, ca. A4 (letter), colour, US-\$ 6-95*

- B. O’Connor looks at airmail covers sent from Ireland to Israel (12–13).  
A. Harris reports on the 1952 red revenue proofs (17) and some recent auction finds (25).  
E. Kroft reports on rare Palestine destinations in a 3rd part to his series (18–21).  
M. Richmond continues his series on Mandate postmarks of small towns (26–27).  
S. Morgenstin and L. Fisher look at the overprint varieties

- of the 1948 Jerusalem Interim issue (34–35).  
R. Pildes shows a rare destination for pre-WWI mails: Haifa by Austrian Post to Korcula (Croatia) in 1899 (37).  
R. Pildes presents the eighth part of pages from his exhibit of Holy Land forerunners (39–42).  
The report of the SIP Educational Funds reports on two planned publications by Ed Kroft: “The Jewish Colonies in Palestine and Their Postal Operations 1870–1918” and “The Transformation of the Civilian Postal System in Palestine: December 1917–November 1918” (51).  
*Obituary: Michael Madesker (1925–2021), former SIP president (15). Report from Emirates 2022 (22–24, 25) and NOTOS 2021 exhibitions (52).*

### The Israel Philatelist – Spring 2022 (Vol. 73, No. 2)

*Society of Israel Philatelists, Inc.*

*English, ca. A4 (letter), colour, US-\$ 6-95*

- J.I. Spector & E. Helitzer look at Postage Due covers of the Mandate era featuring “T” hand-stamps (6–7).  
A. Harris shows car registrations fiscals of Israel (15).  
E. Kroft reports on rare Palestine destinations in a fourth part to his series (18–21).  
M. Richmond continues his series on Mandate postmarks of small towns (26–28).  
R. Pildes presents the ninth part of pages from his exhibit of Holy Land forerunners (38–42).  
R. B. Rose researched the “A.D.P.O.” Revenues, i.e. O.P.D.A. in French (44–50).  
The editor shows pages from the Zvi Alexander collection: Jewish colonies (56–57).  
*E. Kroft reports from LONDON 2022 (54–55).*

### The Israel Philatelist – Summer 2022 (Vol. 73, No. 3)

*Society of Israel Philatelists, Inc.*

*English, ca. A4 (letter), colour, US-\$ 6-95*

- Ed Kroft reports on rare Palestine destinations in part 5 of his series (18–19).  
Arthur Harris looks at Israel Entertainment Tax stamps (21).  
David Piercey reviews Ed Kroft’s book “The Doar Ivri First Issue of Israel: Postal and Commercial Usages of the Three High Value Stamps” (22).  
Melvin A. Richmond continues his series on Mandate postmarks of small towns (XII) (24–25).  
Robert Pildes presents the 10th part of pages from his exhibit of Holy Land forerunners (38–43).  
Alon Cohen compiled a list of basic Israel inland postage rates 1948–2022 (45–52).  
Irv Osterer gives advice on how best to scan philatelic items for publication (36).





### The Israel Philatelist – Fall 2022 (Vol. 73, No. 4)

[\*Society of Israel Philatelists, Inc.\*](#)

English, ca. A4 (letter), colour, US-\$ 6.95

- Ed Kroft reports on rare Palestine destinations in part 6 of his series (16–17).  
 Arthur Harris revisits Israel's 'Agrah Sherutim' fiscals (22–23).  
 Dr. Melvin A. Richmond: Palestine small town postmarks ; part 13 (24–25).  
 Avo Kaplanian shows proofs and essays of Transjordan and Jordan (26–28).  
 Robert Pildes presents the 11th part of pages from his exhibit of Holy Land forerunners (38–43).  
 Joe Weintrob shown an Israel colour error: 0,70 IS "electronic computer" (57).  
 Obituary: Zvi Aloni (21).

### The Israel Philatelist – Winter 2023 (Vol. 74, No. 1)

[\*Society of Israel Philatelists, Inc.\*](#)

English, ca. A4 (letter), colour, US-\$ 6.95

- Sid Morgenstern reports on a 1955 Israel essay for the teachers' organisation (14, 15), and summarises the Israeli inland postage rates for 1982–2022 (15).  
 Ed Kroft reports on rare Palestine destinations in part 7 of his series (16–17).  
 Arthur Harris looks at the treasury seal design on Israeli revenue stamps (21–23).  
 Melvin A. Richmond continues his series on Mandate postmarks of small towns (XIII) (24–25).  
 Avo Kaplanian shows interesting proofs and essays of (Trans)Jordan [MEPB 20] (26–27).  
 Arthur Harris introduces us to the traffic safety revenue stamps of Israel (34).  
 David Matlow shows a 1922 letter by Herbert Samuel, High Commissioner for Palestine (36).  
 Robert Pildes presents the 12th part of pages from his exhibit of Holy Land forerunners (38–43).  
 Uria Selwyn shows a Doar Ivri cover with compulsory registration (54).  
 Irv Osterer gives technical tips about scanning stamps for publication (12); Les Glassman reports on Cape Town 2022 World Stamp Championship (18–20); Yoram Lubianiker presents a virtual exhibition and lecture series "Israel 75 Philatelic Academy" (49).

### Israel-Philatelie 36 – März 2022

[\*IG Israel\*](#)

German, A4, colour, –

- T. Zywiets researched photographs from the Jerusalem I overprinting process at Greek Convent Press Jerusalem in August 1920 and shows contemporaneous records of the "B" variety [reprint from MEPB 13] (4–10).  
 Statutes of IG Israel, data protection rules (1–2, 1–2).

### Israel-Philatelie 37 – October 2022

[\*IG Israel\*](#)

German, A4, colour, –

- Torsten Berndt commemorates the 100th birthday of Jitzhak Rabin [DBZ] (7).  
 Thomas Schindler shows a 1907 postcard from Jerusalem to Würzburg [10 C/10 H Austrian Levant] (27–28).

### Israel-Philatelie 38 – March 2023

[\*IG Israel\*](#)

German, A4, colour, –

- Stephan Göllner shows a thematic study of desalination (9–10).  
 Willy Pijnenburg dissects a registered cover from Russia to Jerusalem, delivering money between three rabbis: ROPi Jerusalem 14.12.1906 [TS 144] (14–15).  
 Torsten Berndt studies the myriad of overprints on Israel's IRCs (20–26).  
 Invitation to the AGM in Stuttgart, 22.04.2023 ([1–2]).

### Doar Ivri 54 – January/April 2022

[\*Cercle Français Philatélique d'Israël\*](#)

French, A4, colour, –

- J.-B. Parenti looks at the usage of E.E.F. stamps in Cilicia in 1918/19 (6–9).  
 J. Weiner continues his series on the postmarks of Jerusalem (III) (10–17).  
 C.-D. Abravanel reviews the varying airmail labels "ALA LITTORIA" (18–19).  
 A. Ben Arie reports a [IMHO questionable] discovery of an earlier than known outward mail from Haifa in May 1948 (24–25).  
 The editor interviews Jean-Louis Emmenegger (30–31).  
 B. Boccarar shows a 1982 letter with two Israeli meters (31).  
 The editor show varieties of Israel's Zodiac stamps ([32]).

### Doar Ivri 55 – May/August 2022

[\*Cercle Français Philatélique d'Israël\*](#)

French, A4, colour, –

- J.-P. Danon looks at the 'Running Stag' as emblem of Israel Post (5–7).  
 C.-D. Abravanel reports on the Ottoman "Jerusalem Quart Israelite" postmark, and Mandate stamp booklets (10).  
 J.-P. Danon studies the usage of the 1950 Israel issue "Third Maccabiade" (11–13).  
 L. Fisher shows his exhibit "The Palestinian Refugee" featuring propaganda cachets [rather unsympathetic IMHO] (16–23).  
 B. Boccarar looks at some of the 1948 'emergency' stamp issues (Tiberias, Affula, Nahalal) (24–29).  
 A. Benhaim shows a 1949 cover from France to Tel Aviv, taxed 48pr (31).  
 The editor shows a recent auction lot: Doar Ivri, 3m, L10, plate block (1, 018) ([32]).

**Doar Ivri 56 – September/December 2022***Cercle Français Philatélique d'Israël**French, A4, colour, –*

Genady Berman researched Israeli taxi post labels (5–11).  
 Jean-Paul Danon looks at Doar Ivri sheet numerators (12) [erratum in *DI* 57, p. 3] and studies the Jaffa light-house] (13) and shows a registered cover “Quartier Israélite” of 1916 (13).  
 Zvi Aloni reports on crash mail involving Palestine and Israel (14–19).  
 Max Michel Mann presents a 1947 cover to Iceland [transl. from *MEPB* 18] (20).  
 Christian-Daniel Abravanel shows a 1940 cover from Jerusalem to the unoccupied part of France (21).  
 Jean-Paul Danon looks at the usage of Doar Ivri booklet stamps on cover (22–23).  
 Zvi Aloni & Joseph Hackmey show a few examples from their book (24–25).  
 Jean-Paul Danon presents a 1949 cover franked Israel no. 13 C ([32]).

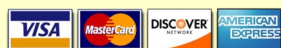
**Doar Ivri 57 – January/March 2023***Cercle Français Philatélique d'Israël**French, A4, colour, –*

Christian-Daniel Abravanel show as naturalisation document from 1940] (5).  
 Ed Kroft with Jean-Paul Danon & Albert Schneider present 1948 covers from Canada to Kfar Darom, all taxed with Israel PD complete series (6–7).  
 Fran Adams presents part of his thematic study on the UN: UNSCOP (10–15).  
 Paulo Duck shows the Old City of Jerusalem with Israeli maximum cards (20–23).  
 Jean-Paul Danon notes the 2021 issue of the Yvert & Tellier (standard) catalogue of the 2021 “Timbres d’Asie: Moyen-Orient d’Aden à Yémen” [one volume, 792 pages, €49,90; one notes the two-volume Michel catalogue covers the area in 1,300 pages] (31).  
 Jacques Rémond shows an item of choice: a 1957 taxed cover from Constantine (Algeria) to Jerusalem ([32]).

**Please come forward with your articles,  
 comments, research, or images!  
 MEPB needs interesting new material!**



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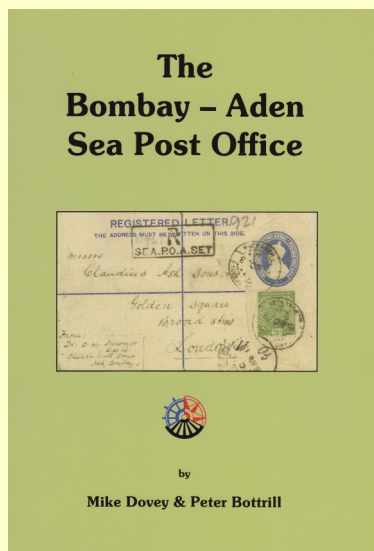
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**HC** – Gratis-Anzeige 19/202

***If you collect Bombay–Aden Sea Post Office  
then these two books are a must have!***



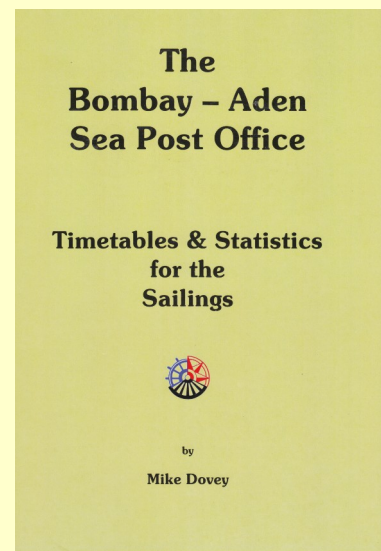
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[mikedovey@btinternet.com](mailto:mikedovey@btinternet.com)



£12.50

Private Gratis-Anzeige 03/001

### World War One Indian Army Field Post Offices

For research purposes, collector is interested in exchanging scans and information on the WWI Indian Army Field Post Offices in what is today Lebanon, Syria and Cilicia.

Replies to:

Bob Gray

[robertgray@me.com](mailto:robertgray@me.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 12/006

### Palestinian Authority Revenue Stamps

Wanted:

Palestinian Authority revenue stamps  
Israeli Military revenue stamps  
MNH as well as on document

Replies to:

Arthur Harris

[arthurhythec@gmail.com](mailto:arthurhythec@gmail.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 13/002

**Wanted: Ottoman Fiscals**

I'm looking for nos. 467–471 and 477–491 according to Suleymaniye catalogue "Revenue Stamps of Ottoman Empire" (pp. 62/63)

Please contact:

Willy Pijnenburg  
[verpijn@xs4all.nl](mailto:verpijn@xs4all.nl)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 11/003

**President Arafat Signed FDCs 1.01.1995**

Two very unique **Gaza-Jericho First Day** issue envelopes signed by the late President Yasser Arafat. One stamped Gaza and the other Jericho, both are dated 1st January 1995.

Enquiries to:

MEPB Adverts – Box Number 11/003  
[mep-bulletin@zobbel.de](mailto:mep-bulletin@zobbel.de)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 10/004

**Holy Land Cancels on Austrian Stamps**

Collector seeking to purchase the following Holy Land-related material with postmarks from Jerusalem (Gerusalemme), Jaffa, or Haifa (Caifa):

**Lombardy-Venetia** stamps from 1863 or 1864, perf. 14 or perf. 9 (Michel: 14–23)

**Austrian Levant** 20 Para on 10 Heller with varnish bars (Michel: 40)

**Austrian Crete** 25 Cent (Michel: 3)

Replies to:

Aaron Huber (APS member)  
[ashuber@gmail.com](mailto:ashuber@gmail.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 17/009

**Wanted: German to English Translator for Philatelic Literature**

I am seeking someone who can translate selected chapters of Eva Zehenter's book on WWI military postal history of Austro-Hungarian troops in Turkey: "Stempelhandbuch der k.u.k Truppen in der Türkei." Must be familiar with military postal history terminology. I can supply the material as a pdf document. Will pay reasonable fee.

Replies to:

Zachary Simmons  
[zsimmmons101@gmail.com](mailto:zsimmmons101@gmail.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 14/002

**Wanted: Perfins**

Perfins (stamps and covers) of the Middle East, Levant, Turkey and Egypt.

Offers to:

Rainer von Scharpen  
 Tucholskyweg 5, 55127 Mainz, Germany  
[rainervonscharpen@t-online.de](mailto:rainervonscharpen@t-online.de)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 14/006

**Research into Ladino Correspondence**

For an archival database, I'm looking for correspondence (letters and post cards) from/to the Ottoman Empire and the Balkans 1850–1913 (Serbia, Roumania, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Greece, Austria) written in a script that looks like Arabic or Hebrew but is actually the Jewish script "Soletreo". It encodes an old Spanish called Ladino (Judeo-Spanish) spoken by Sephardic Jews. Don't worry about a correct identification: I'll do that.

Please send scans/photocopies to  
 D. Sheby ([hosp@voicenet.com](mailto:hosp@voicenet.com))



Private Gratis-Anzeige 10/005

**Qatar Postal History**

Collector looking for unique Postal History items such as covers, letters, rare overprints and surcharges.

Offers to:

Adil Al-Husseini, P.O. Box 695, Doha, Qatar

[ezgert@yahoo.com](mailto:ezgert@yahoo.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 03/009

**Jordan Postal Rates 1948–1967**

Information on all Jordan postal rates during the Palestine annexation period (1948–67) is requested. I am trying to compile my own list as I cannot find any tables in the literature.

Replies to:

Paul Phillips

[paulxlpe@gmail.com](mailto:paulxlpe@gmail.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 11/002

**Ottoman Transdesert Mail  
Overland Mail Baghdad–Haifa  
Iraq Railway Stamps 1928–1942**

Advanced research collector and exhibitor is interested in exchange of information, philatelic and historical material, photos, etc. related to the mentioned areas as well as purchase of interesting items missing in my collections.

Additional information can be found on my award winning websites:

<http://fuchs-online.com/overlandmail><http://fuchs-online.com/iraq>

Replies to:

Rainer Fuchs

[rainer@fuchs-online.com](mailto:rainer@fuchs-online.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 10/008

**International Reply Coupons**

I collect International Reply Coupons (IRC) worldwide, 1907 until today. I am always interested to buy both single items and entire IRC collections and lots of whatever size.

A good stock of duplicates (only IRCs) is available for trade and exchange. Please contact me with whatever questions or suggestions you would like to make.

If you are a country collector and interested in information about IRC of your country please also don't hesitate to contact me!

Replies to:

Wolfgang Leimenstoll

[wolfgang.leimenstoll@t-online.de](mailto:wolfgang.leimenstoll@t-online.de)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 01/005

**Palestine World War I**

For research purposes I'm looking for originals, photocopies, or scans of issues of

**The Palestine News**

This was the weekly military newspaper of EEF and OETA(S), published in Cairo in 1918/1919.

Replies to:

Tobias Zywiets

[zobbel@zobbel.de](mailto:zobbel@zobbel.de)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 12/009

**1956 Suez Canal Crisis & United Nations  
Peacekeeping Operations**

Looking for interesting covers of this period and UN Peacekeeping Operations such as UNEF I and UNIKOM as well as operations on the African continent.

Can offer much likewise material as well.

Please contact:

Marc Parren

[marcparren@hotmail.com](mailto:marcparren@hotmail.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 02/004

**United Nations in the Middle East**

I offer commercially used (really mailed) covers from UN observation missions and military forces for sale:

*UNTSO, UNEF I and II, UNDOF, UNIFIL, etc.*

Can be sorted out by contingents nationalities.

I'm looking for early UN missions 1947–1950 in Israel and Palestine, such as:

*UNTSOP, UN-Mediator Mission, UNSCOP, etc.*

Replies to:

J. L. Emmenegger, Switzerland

[jl.emmenegger@gmail.com](mailto:jl.emmenegger@gmail.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 01/012

**Wants:  
Sharjah, Yemen, Oman**

Sharjah Scott O1-9, NH or used (S.G. O101-09)  
Yemen Scott 597, 607, 615, 632, 633, 634, 635, C145 (S.G. 74, 82, 94, 112, 126, 127, 128, 129)

Oman Yemen (combined), any, used  
Scott 110, 111, 112, 114, 115, 116, 118, any, used  
(S.G.: same numbers)

Buy or trade.

Offers to:

Burl Henry

[henrysatshamrock@aol.com](mailto:henrysatshamrock@aol.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 02/003

**Wanted:  
Ottoman Postal History**

To buy or exchange Ottoman postal history (no Foreign Offices) with a bias toward material from the Middle Eastern area, e.g. Lebanon, Syria, Jordan etc. However, all areas are welcome.

Replies to:

Robert Stuchell

[rstuchell@msn.com](mailto:rstuchell@msn.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 01/004

**Palestine Mandate 1918–1927**

To complete and illustrate my article series on official postal announcements I'm looking for covers, cards, forms and images thereof, showing:

- rare usage of stamps
- postal rates
- rare destinations
- stamp combinations
- unusual franking
- postal forms, telegramme forms

from the pre-Pictorials era.

Replies to:

Tobias Zywiets

[zobbel@zobbel.de](mailto:zobbel@zobbel.de)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 13/003

**Wanted: Russian Levant**

I'm looking for 10 kop. 1872  
Michel nos. 9x and 9y (perf. 14½×15)  
*Please do not offer the 10 kop. of 1888  
(perf. 14¼×14¾)!*

Please contact:

Willy Pijnenburg

[verpijn@xs4all.nl](mailto:verpijn@xs4all.nl)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 12/008

**For Sale: Saudi Arabia**

Saudi Arabia stamps, singles and sets,  
mint and used.

Please contact:

Marwan Nusair

+1-513-289-6337

[hejaz@tccincinnati.com](mailto:hejaz@tccincinnati.com)



Private Gratis-Anzeige 10/006

### **Jordan and Palestine Revenue Stamps and Reply Coupons**

Wanted:

Revenue Stamps of Jordan  
Revenue Stamps of the Palestinian Authority  
International Reply Coupons (IRCs)  
of Jordan and Palestine

Offers to:

Avo Kaplanian, Noordeinde 82,  
1121 AG Landsmeer, Netherlands  
[avo1945@hotmail.com](mailto:avo1945@hotmail.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 11/004

### **Digitisation of Philatelic Knowledge: "Holy Land Postal History"**

I offer a complete run of the journal "Holy Land Postal History" (1979–2017) to anyone willing to scan and digitise it.

Technical and logistical help is assured. Further information was published in MEPB 10.

Offers to:

Mark Sommer  
[brocean@aol.com](mailto:brocean@aol.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 04/002

### **Holy Land Stamps and Literature**

I seek high quality and high value Holy Land stamps and postal history as well as Literature (eg. The Holyland Philatelist, BAPIP Bulletins, and monographs).

Please contact:

[rmasch@fairmanage.com](mailto:rmasch@fairmanage.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 22/003

I am interested in adding to my list of articles at

### **A Philatelic Bibliography for Yemen and the Arab Gulf States**

The list is very heavy on American and English sources, and lighter on other sources. I would appreciate additions to the list.

Please contact:

Andrew Gondocz  
[andrew\\_gondocz@yahoo.com](mailto:andrew_gondocz@yahoo.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 17/010

### **Palestine Mandate: Censor Permits**

Certain institutions and companies were permitted to send correspondence, particularly bulk mail and circulars, free of censorship. The correspondence had to bear a special hand-stamp certifying the nature of the correspondence and bearing the permit number. I am trying to collate a definitive list of permits and see what was attributed to each censor office. I am also looking for the applicable rules and regulations which dealt with this and any other supporting information.

Contact:

Martin Davies  
[kuitman@btinternet.com](mailto:kuitman@btinternet.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 17/008

### **Wanted: Jordan Postal Cards and pre-1949 Airmail**

I'm looking for pre-1949 Airmail covers, both inwards and outwards; used 1956 12 Mils Postal Cards; other postally used Postal Cards and Souvenir Cards.

Offers to:

Bernie Beston, P.O. Box 5513,  
Bundaberg West, Qld. 4670, Australia.  
[bernardbeston@gmail.com](mailto:bernardbeston@gmail.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 10/001

**Covers: Iraq-USA / USA-Iraq**

I'm looking for interesting covers of Iraq to USA as well as USA to Iraq for the period 1939 to 1945.

Send images (jpeg) with your asking price or ask for my at-market offer.

Replies to:

K. David Steidley, Ph.D.

[David@Steidley.com](mailto:David@Steidley.com)

H - Gratis-Anzeige 02/008

**Ottoman Cancellations Software**

Ottoman Cancellations software for identifying, cross-referencing, cataloguing and documenting Ottoman Cancellations and fragments thereof.

Please ask for free demo version (Windows), user manual, and conditions of sale from:

George Stasinopoulos

[stassin@cs.ntua.gr](mailto:stassin@cs.ntua.gr)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 01/010

**Persia & Yemen Postal History**

Collector of Postal History of Persia (before 1930) and of Yemen (before 1945) wishes to purchase interesting items.

Replies to:

Bjorn Sohrne

[bjornsohrne@gmail.com](mailto:bjornsohrne@gmail.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 12/005

**Wanted: Smyrna Postal History**

Entire letters to and from Smyrna dated before 1800.

Replies to:

Gene Ekonomi

[gekonomi@yahoo.com](mailto:gekonomi@yahoo.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 14/003

**Wanted: Palestine World War I**

Wanted for collection are examples on cover of the following Army Post Office cancels:

APO SZ52 used 1918

APO SZ53 used 1918

APO SZ54 used 1918

APO SZ55 used 1918/19

Unusual WW1 covers from Palestine

Offers to:

Joel Weiner

[jweiner@ualberta.ca](mailto:jweiner@ualberta.ca)

H - Gratis-Anzeige 05/005

**Jordan & Palestine Postal History**

Kawar Philatelics offers a wide range of postal history items, covering West Bank, East Bank, and Palestinian Authority.

**Large collections and stock available for Collectors, Dealers, and Investors.**

[www.kawarphilatelics.com](http://www.kawarphilatelics.com)



Replies to:

Kawar Philatelics, Kamal Kawar

[kamal@kawarphilatelics.com](mailto:kamal@kawarphilatelics.com)



Private Gratis-Anzeige 14/005

**Wanted: Palestine Covers  
(Jordanian Occupation)**

I am looking for covers sent from Palestine franked with Jordanian stamps overprinted "PALESTINE"

Send offers (with scans please) to:

J. L. Emmenegger, Switzerland

[jl.emmenegger@gmail.com](mailto:jl.emmenegger@gmail.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 12/002

**Judaica (Not Israel)**

I am Interested in Judaica-themed stamps from all over the world (not from Israel).

I have many to sell, or ideally exchange with fellow collectors.

Also interested in countries that have issued anti-Israel themed stamps too.

Please contact Gary at

[judaicathematicsociety@talktalk.net](mailto:judaicathematicsociety@talktalk.net)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 12/003

**U.K.-based Collector always interested  
in buying Egypt for his Collection**

I am particularly interested in revenues, Cinderellas, perfins, telegrams, officially sealed labels, Interpostal Seals, Suez Canal Company, stamp dealer's mail, franking meters, Great Bitter Lake Association, Postal Concession, postal stationery, printed illustrated envelopes and anything unusual, but I also buy mainstream subjects.

From single items to whole collections, please let me make you an offer.

Please contact Jon Aitchison:

+44 (0) 1279 870488

[britishlocals@aol.com](mailto:britishlocals@aol.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 15/002

**Wanted: "Dear Doctor" and related drug  
advertising postcards**

Many pharmaceutical companies (Abbott Labs, Biomarine, and Squibb, etc) used postcards sent from exotic locations to promote their products.

These are commonly called "Dear Doctor" postcards since many start with that salutation. Abbott postcards were mailed between 1956-1968 using 182 different cards found to date to 34 countries and in 10 languages. On my website

[www.deardoctormapostcards.com](http://www.deardoctormapostcards.com)

I have documented over 10,000 such items. There are many more discoveries to be made. Let me know what you have!

Please contact Tom Fortunato

[stampmf@frontiernet.net](mailto:stampmf@frontiernet.net)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 22/002

**Transjordan: Help Required**

I am researching the Transjordan overprints on Hejaz stamps and there are two issues in particular causing me trouble. These are:

- the 1924 official stamp (Scott O1, SG O117)
- the 1923 ½ qirsh surcharge on 1-½ qirsh typograph overprint (Scott 91a, SG 111)

I am after scans and information. Please contact me first so that we can discuss the finer details.

Please contact: Martin Lovegrove –

[weatherings@aol.com](mailto:weatherings@aol.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 19/003

**Middle East Stamps: Varieties & Errors**

I'm Interested in buying rare mint Middle East / Arabian stamps, imperforates, errors, varieties, proofs, essays, and colour trials.

My speciality is Egypt: the classical & Royal period, proofs and essays (1866–1962).

The other countries I collect are: Aden, Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, UAE, and Yemen, also Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia.

Offers to:

Adel Al-Sarraf

[asarraf11@hotmail.com](mailto:asarraf11@hotmail.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 19/004

### Red Crescent Thematics Ottoman Empire and Turkey

I am looking for material concerning the theme "Red Crescent" in the Ottoman Empire and Turkey. I am especially looking for covers or cards (maybe FDC) with the cancellation from the **Red Crescent Exhibition Istanbul 1959**.

Please offer with picture and price to:

Jens Warnecke

[jens.warnecke@web.de](mailto:jens.warnecke@web.de)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 22/006

### Duloz Colour Trials

#### Wanted (sale or exchange):

Green: 20 p and 25 p; Yellow: 2p; Blue: 1 and 5 p;  
Orange: 10 and 20 pa and 5 p

#### On Offer (sale or exchange):

Green: 2 and 5 p; Yellow: 5 p and 25 p;  
Lilac: 2, 5 and 25 p; Red: 5 and 25 p.

Please contact: Willy Pijnenburg

[verpijn@xs4all.nl](mailto:verpijn@xs4all.nl)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 23/102

### Meter Markings

I'm looking for meter markings on cover for these countries:

**Abu Dhabi** (Pitney Bowes "Automax" multivalue)

**Bahrain** (Neopost limited value)

**Palestinian Authority** (Francotyp Cc multivalue)

**Dubai** (Pitney Bowes "Automax" multivalue)

**Qatar** (Pitney Bowes-GB "Automax" multivalue)

**Iraq** (Universal "Multi-Value")



Offers to: Bernard.Lachat, [bernard.lachat@bluewin.ch](mailto:bernard.lachat@bluewin.ch)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 05/003

### 1992 Israel-China First Flight Cover Wanted



I am looking to purchase a First Flight cover Tel Aviv-Beijing of 3.09.1992. I have other covers from this event, but am looking for this specific cachet as pictured.

Apparently less than 100 registered covers exist.

Offers to:

Mark Sommer, [brocean@aol.com](mailto:brocean@aol.com)



Private Gratis-Anzeige 17/003

**Wanted: Mint Saudi & GCC Stamps**

Serious collector interested in buying mint Saudi Arabia and GCC nations stamps for my Collection. I am also interested in revenues, telegrams, officially sealed labels, franking meters, postal stationery, printed illustrated envelopes related to Saudi Arabia and Saudi Arabian Oil Company (Saudi Aramco).

Please contact:

Syed A. Ahmed

[abraralki@gmail.com](mailto:abraralki@gmail.com)

H – Gratis-Anzeige 04/003

**The BAPIP Bulletin 1952–2016**

The complete archive of the BAPIP Bulletin, the journal of the **Holyland Philatelic Society**, has been digitised.

Available are entire issues or individual articles from 1952–2016.

Visit:

[www.zobbel.de/stamp/lit\\_09.htm](http://www.zobbel.de/stamp/lit_09.htm)

H – Gratis-Anzeige 02/007



The Lebanese Philatelic Association (LAP) encourages and promotes philately and postal history collecting in Lebanon. It represents Lebanon in the world body of philately, co-operates with Arab and International Philatelic Associations and clubs. It holds symposia and exhibitions and provides a committee of experts for Lebanese stamps and postal history.

The association's journal *LAP Magazine* is published every four months.

[www.lapsite.org](http://www.lapsite.org)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 07/001

**Palestine Articles by Major J. J. Darlow**

For research purposes I'm looking for originals, photocopies, or scans of philatelic articles on Palestine by Major J. J. Darlow published in the 1920s and 1930s, especially two pieces published in 1922 in Harris Publications' journal

**The Philatelic Magazine**

(nos. 170 and 171).

Replies to:

Tobias Zywiets

[zobbel@zobbel.de](mailto:zobbel@zobbel.de)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 12/004

**Wanted: Arabian Gulf Postal History**

I'm looking for Arabian Gulf postal history for research or purchase.

**India used in the Gulf:** Muscat, Guadur, Persia, Iraq, Bahrain & Kuwait

**British Gulf:** Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Dubai, Abu Dhabi & Muscat

**Independent postal administrations:** Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Abu Dhabi, Dubai, UAE & Oman

Please contact:

Thomas Johansen at

[arabiangulfphilately@gmail.com](mailto:arabiangulfphilately@gmail.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 20/001

**For Sale: Israel Stamps and Postal History**

My specialised Israel/Palestine collection is for sale. I am willing to break it down to sell it in pieces. I have uploaded scans of most of the collection to Google Drive:

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1\\_as0sVI9XEBfND1CCouuFO710A6eSwox?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1_as0sVI9XEBfND1CCouuFO710A6eSwox?usp=sharing)

For further details contact Adam Caplan

[adam.caplan@intel.com](mailto:adam.caplan@intel.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 17/002

### For Sale: UAE Complete Collection 1971–2016

United Arab Emirates Complete Collection from 1971–2016 including all issued booklets in mint condition.

Please contact:

Syed A. Ahmed

[abraralki@gmail.com](mailto:abraralki@gmail.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 17/005

### Postal Wars “Postkrieg”

Collector of worldwide postal war/Postkrieg and “disputed political propaganda” on mail is selling his double covers with postal war countermeasures and covers with meter marks and entires on history.

Ask for selling list by email:

Jan Heijs

[heijsmo@xs4all.nl](mailto:heijsmo@xs4all.nl)

What is postal war? See [www.postalwar.info](http://www.postalwar.info)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 20/005

### Wanted: Palestine Mandate Small Towns

Collector of Small Town postmarks looking for postal history material from or to Small Towns.

Please send offers (with scans please) to:

Oren Gazenfeld

[oren@gazenfeld.com](mailto:oren@gazenfeld.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 18/003

### Wanted: Anti-Semitic Postcards

I'm looking for anti-semitic postcards, propaganda cards, and related material from Nazi Germany.

Offers to:

Barry Hoffman

[pakistan@tiac.net](mailto:pakistan@tiac.net)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 20/003

### Wanted: Sudan Revenues

Social Insurance stamps – Revenues issued since the 2019 revolution – Civil war victims – Police Fund – Directly embossed – Field Telegraph (not Army Telegraphs)

Please contact David Sher

[sh25ngc3603@gmail.com](mailto:sh25ngc3603@gmail.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 17/001

### Turkey to Persia Postal History

I'm looking for early Ottoman covers, 1850s to 1870s, sent from Ottoman POs via Bayazid to Persia, and material related to the “Northern Route” between Turkey and Persia.

Replies to:

Bjorn Sohrne

[bjornsohrne@gmail.com](mailto:bjornsohrne@gmail.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 17/011

### Wanted: Syrian Postage Rates 1982–1987

I'm looking for postage rates in force in Syria from 1982 to 1987, domestic and international rates, airmail surcharges, etc. Partial information or ways to obtain information welcome.

Contact:

Luc Guillard

[lucguillard@wanadoo.fr](mailto:lucguillard@wanadoo.fr)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 18/006

### Wanted: Palestine Blues No. 1

I need help to finish a thematic collection: I am looking for a stamp from the “Blues” (Bale 1) with clear dated postmark:

*16th February 1918*

Offers with scans to:

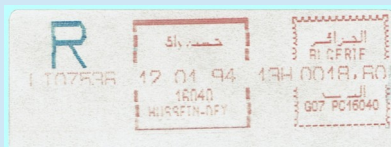
[mmf@comxnet.dk](mailto:mmf@comxnet.dk)



Private Gratis-Anzeige 17/007

### French-made Meter Markings

For research study I look for mail from all countries (except France) franked by franking machines like those used in French post offices. They can often be identified by the indication of time in the imprint.



Offers to: Luc Guillard, [lucguillard@wanadoo.fr](mailto:lucguillard@wanadoo.fr)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 23/001

### Early Postal History: England and Italy

Collector of early postal history 1400–1750 of Italy and England, is interested in buying good quality material of the subject.

Offers only with Scans please! Payment by PayPal or bank transfer.

Please contact me by email to:

Yehuda Kleiner

[yehudak73@gmail.com](mailto:yehudak73@gmail.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 12/007

### Qatar Postal History

Looking for Qatar Postal History items.

Covers of the 1950s – 1960s.

Stamps with errors such as inverted & misaligned overprints (no colour trials please).

Replies to:

Adil Al Hussein, PO Box 695, Doha

State of Qatar

[ezgert@yahoo.com](mailto:ezgert@yahoo.com) – APS # 121752 (since 1982)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 20/004

### Palestine Mandate: Postage Due Rates & Charges

I need help in relation to exchange rates used to calculate Palestine Mandate period postage due rates and charges. If you can help me please make contact:

Martin Davies

[kuitman@btinternet.com](mailto:kuitman@btinternet.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 17/006

### Exhibition "Der ewige Jude"

Buying postcards, propaganda cards, cancels, ephemera and other material of this anti-semitic exhibition in 1930s Nazi Germany.

Offers to:

Barry Hoffman

291 Spurwink Ave., Cape Elizabeth, Maine 04107

[pakistan@tiac.net](mailto:pakistan@tiac.net)



Private Gratis-Anzeige 01/002

**Looking for pro-Palestinian Slogans**

I am looking for postal slogans in support of the Palestinian people and the refugees. I have a small collection of these and there are probably more available. Can you help me out?

Replies to:  
Lawrence Fisher  
[Lf.stamps@gmail.com](mailto:Lf.stamps@gmail.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 01/013

**Turkish Occupation of Thessaly**

Collector is interested in any postal history material related to the Turkish occupation of Thessaly 1897–1898.

Exchange of information is also highly welcome.

Offers to:  
Otto Graf  
[otto@skanderbeg.net](mailto:otto@skanderbeg.net)

**And where is your Ad?**

*Just write to the editor to register your name and e-mail address, and you will be entitled to place an ad of your own in the next issue of MEPB!*

**[mep-bulletin@zobbel.de](mailto:mep-bulletin@zobbel.de)**

Private Gratis-Anzeige 20/006

**Jerusalem Postcards and Documents**

Private collector is always interested in postcards and documents from Jerusalem. Please make your offer to:

Peter B. Feuser  
[feuser-weyrich@t-online.de](mailto:feuser-weyrich@t-online.de)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 17/004

**Wanted: Ottoman Empire – Hungary**

We are looking for mail from the Ottoman Empire to Hungary or vice versa for the period 1900 to 1920.

Please send colour scans of your offers to:  
Ute & Elmar Dorr  
[utedorr@web.de](mailto:utedorr@web.de)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 19/001

**WANTED: Royalist Yemen Postal Stationery Cards**

I am looking for the 1½ b. green “Radio” cards, “Darul Asfahani” printing, ca. 1970, Types I and II (not the Harrison printing). Thanks if you can help!

Replies to:  
Andreas Svrakov  
[asvrakov2008@live.com](mailto:asvrakov2008@live.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 22/005

**Wanted: Greek Rural Post**

I am looking for documents from the Greek rural post from 1911 until now and also from the fore-runners “Dimotika Tachydromeia.” I would also be very happy about a philatelic exchange!

Please contact:  
Benedikt Eberhardt  
[BEberhardt@beberhardt.de](mailto:BEberhardt@beberhardt.de)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 22/001

**Wanted: Philatelic Friends**

I am from India. I want to have Philatelic and Numismatic Friends from Whole World Countries.

Please contact:  
C. Abraham Jos  
[abrahamjohanncheeran@gmail.com](mailto:abrahamjohanncheeran@gmail.com)

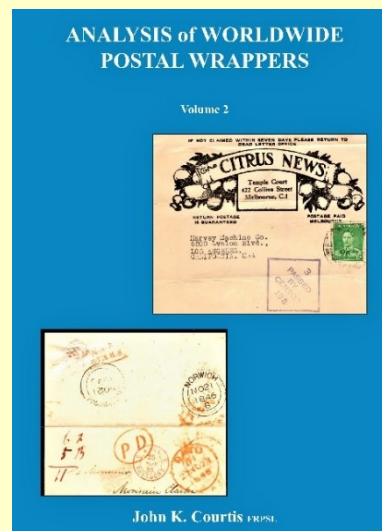
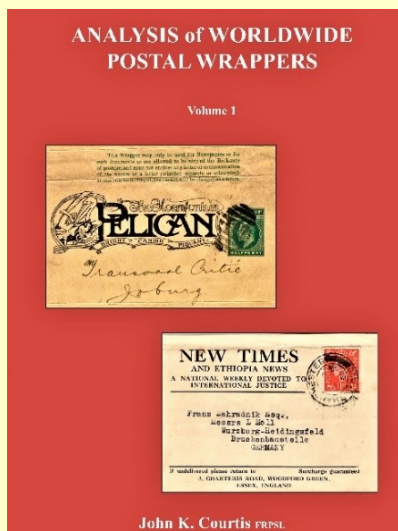


H – Gratis-Anzeige 19/201

## Analysis of Worldwide Postal Wrappers

### Attributes of Postal Stationery, Postal History and Social Philately

by Dr. John K. Courtis FRPSL

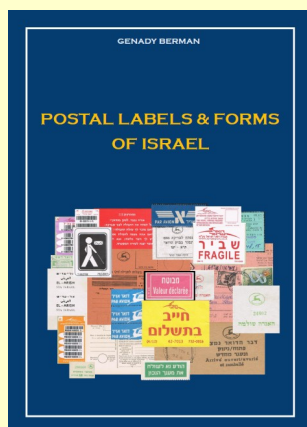


**Volume 1:** 1 Nature and Role of a Wrapper; 2 Book & Newspaper Posts; 3 Attributes of a Wrapper; 4 Indicia; 5 Perfinned Wrappers; 6 Overprinted Specimen Wrappers; 7 Text Instructions; 8 Watermarked Paper; 9 Uncut Multiples; 10 Registered Wrappers; 11 Postage Due Wrappers; 12 Wrappers by Air Mail; 13 Postmarks on Wrappers; 14 Uprated Wrappers; 15 Destination Countries of Wrappers; 16 Routes to Africa, Asia & Australasia; 17 Routes to Europe, Americas & Caribbean

**Volume 2:** 18 Auxiliary Markings; 19 Merchant Marks; 20 Embossed-to-Order; 21 Overprinting on GB Wrappers; 22 Overprinted – Worldwide Survey; 23 Labels, Cinderellas and Seals; 24 Censor & Consular handstamps; 25 Side Collections; 26 Private Postal Wrappers; 27 Country Census of Pr. Wrappers; 28 Mourning Wrappers; 29 Official Wrappers; 30 Parcel Wrappers; 31 Analytical Techniques; 32 Clustering; 33 Market Characteristics.

Vol. 1 and Vol. 2, 33 Chapters, 930 pages: £50 plus postage

Orders: Claire Scott at the Postal History Society: [claire@historystore.ltd.uk](mailto:claire@historystore.ltd.uk)



H – Gratis-Anzeige 10/007

## Israel Postal Labels and Forms Catalogue

Extensive listings of forms and labels: Registration, Official Registration, Air Mail, Express, AR, Insurance, COD, Parcels, Non-Delivery, Customs, and many more.

Book, 2017, 84 pages. ISBN: 978-965-572-473-8. US-\$ 40 plus p&p.  
Large Vermeil Medal at World Stamp Championship 2018.

Enquiries to:  
Genady Berman

[bermangenady@gmail.com](mailto:bermangenady@gmail.com)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 22/004

### For Sale: PNA Christmas Sheets 1999 (type II)

I am selling complete sets of 5 sheets Palestinian Authority Christmas 1999 issue in mint condition.

Sheet type II, which was sold for postal use only:

Michel 126, 128, 130, 132, 134 / SG PA 147, 149, 151, 153, 155 / Scott 108a to 112a

Each sheet of type II has 10 identical stamps, ie. no silver stamp in the upper row as is with the sheets of type I, which were printed for the philatelic market only. Mint sheets of type II are extremely rare.



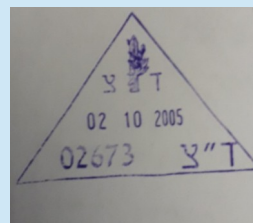
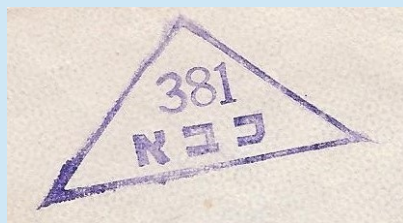
Special offer for readers of MEPB: one set of the 5 sheets 45 € + postage for registered mail.

Please contact Thomas Schubert at [thschubi@outlook.de](mailto:thschubi@outlook.de)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 12/001

### Wanted: Israel's Triangular Military Unit Handstamps

There are 3 styles of triangular Handstamps used on Military Mail in Israel. The first style lowest numbers were used from 1948 to about 1960. I am trying to collect all of these and am still missing a few numbers. The mid period ran from approximately 1960 to 1980.

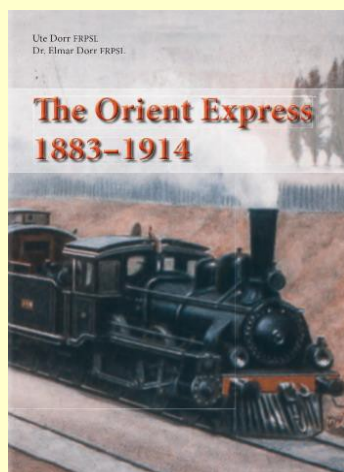


I have almost a complete run of these numbers but am still looking for a few of them including 1014, 1021, 1032, 1035, 1043, 1048, 1049, 1060, 1091, 1094 and 1098 and a few others. The most recent zero series style started about 1980 and is still in use. Zero series numbers I am looking for include 01433, 01455, 01526, 01636, 01833 to 01860, 02129 and 03350.

I am trying to collect all the numbers and I estimate that there are over 5000 issued across the 3 styles. I am also looking for your lists of numbers to check against my database. All correspondence and offers to trade material welcome.

Please contact A. Harris via [stamps@gmx.co.uk](mailto:stamps@gmx.co.uk)





H - Gratis-Anzeige 14/007

## The Orient Express 1883-1914

*The postal history study by Ute Dorr & Dr. Elmar Dorr  
is now available in English!*

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Ute Dorr, Pistoriusstr. 3, 73527 Schwäbisch Gmünd, Germany, [utedorr@web.de](mailto:utedorr@web.de)

H - Gratis-Anzeige 18/201

## Handbook of Bulgarian Philately and Postal History by Dr. sc. Georgi Popov

### Handbuch zur bulgarischen Philatelie und Postgeschichte Band 1

Die türkische Post (bis 1912)  
Die österreichische Levantepost (Staatspost,  
Lloyd, DDSG)  
Der Krimkrieg (französische und britische  
Feldpost)  
Französische Konsularpost  
Russische Konsularpost  
Russische Feldpost 1877-1878  
Russische Administration in Bulgarien  
1878-1879

Dr. sc. Georgi Popov  
Merseburg

**2019**

### Handbuch zur bulgarischen Philatelie und Postgeschichte Band 2

Bulgarien in den Kriegen 1885-1945:

Die Vereinigung Ostrumeliens mit dem  
Fürstentum Bulgarien  
Die Militärmanöver  
Der Serbisch-bulgarische Krieg 1885  
Die Balkankriege  
Bulgarien im Ersten Weltkrieg  
Die besetzten Gebiete im 1. Weltkrieg  
Die fremden Feldposten im 1. Weltkrieg  
Bulgarien im Zweiten Weltkrieg  
Die besetzten Gebiete im 2. Weltkrieg

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Balkan Wars, WWI with Occupations and  
Foreign Field Posts, WWII with Occupations*

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H – Gratis-Anzeige 22/201

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H - Gratis-Anzeige 01/008

**Doar Ivri**  
 Revue du CFPI  
 CERCLE FRANÇAIS PHILATÉLIQUE D'ISRAËL



« **Doar Ivri** » is the 32 page, full colour (A4), award winning, quarterly journal in French of the **Cercle Français Philatélique d'Israël (C.F.P.I.)**, founded in 2004.

It and covers all aspects of Holy Land philately and Judaica. Ask for a free sample copy (PDF) or visit our website:

[www.cfpi-asso.net](http://www.cfpi-asso.net)

Replies to:  
 Jean-Paul Danon

[president.cfpi@cfpi-asso.net](mailto:president.cfpi@cfpi-asso.net)

Private Gratis-Anzeige 01/015

**The online resource for**  
**Palestine Collectors**

The award-winning, non-commercial website

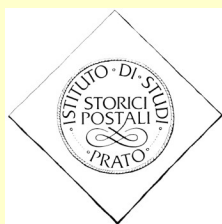
**Short Introduction To The**  
**Philately Of Palestine**

presents a wealth of information for the collector of Palestine: be it First World War FPOs, Mandate stamps and postal history, Egyptian and Jordanian occupation, and modern-day PNA: stamps, postmarks, registration labels, postal history.

Also featured is the index to the BAPIP Bulletin and an extensive bibliography with over 8,000 entries, and much much more!

[www.zobbel.de/stamp](http://www.zobbel.de/stamp)





## The Institute of Postal Historical Studies "Aldo Cecchi" Prato, Tuscany, Italy

H - Gratis-Anzeige 10/201

When you study postal history, you investigate on organized communication, particularly focusing on material aspects. This is a new, productive approach connecting different subjects, such as social history and history of culture, epistolography, history of management and of entrepreneurship, paleography, diplomatics, economic history, historical geography, history of journalism and of commerce, collecting.

Since 1982, in Prato, **Istituto di Studi Storici Postali "Aldo Cecchi"** has been an international reference centre for those concerned. The Institute is aimed at building, improving and sharing knowledge of the postal-historical subjects through publications, courses, workshops, exhibitions, and other cultural events.

One of the highlights of the Institute is his role as a **specialized library**, collecting guidebooks and old postal maps as well as modern philatelic editions. The library includes more than 13,000 items (volumes and booklets). Over time, the library has become a proper documentation centre on organized postal communication. The library is divided into special sections: the periodicals section contains almost 2,000 titles. The special collection of commercial philatelic publications (auction catalogues, fixed-price offers, promotional material, traders' price lists) numbers 15,000 items.

Last but not least, the Institute also holds an archival fond which is extraordinarily important for the history of Italian postal communications: the archive of the **"Direzione Superiore della Posta Militare"** (High office for Military Mail), containing some 400,000 original documents about its activity during the 20th century.

As you may understand, books and publications on postal-historical topics are welcome and ready to be inserted in the always-growing catalogue which can be consulted online. **You are therefore invited to send us your publications: they will be available to the international community of philatelists!**

[www.issp.po.it](http://www.issp.po.it)

Istituto di Studi Storici Postali "Aldo Cecchi", Via Ser Lapo Mazzei 37, 59100 Prato, Italy

H - Gratis-Anzeige 01/006

## OMAN STUDIES CENTRE for Documentation and Research on Oman and the Arabian Gulf

The Oman Studies Centre is pooling resources on Oman and the Gulf to support research on Oman and to provide advisory services. In addition to the Oman Library with books, maps, and documents, the information pool includes special collections such as a philatelic collection and a numismatic collection. For our philatelic collection we buy stamps, postal history, stationery, and documents in the following areas:

- India used in Muscat and Gwadar
- Pakistan used in Muscat and Gwadar
- British Post Office in Muscat
- Muscat & Oman, Sultanate of Oman
- "rebel stamps" State of Oman and Dhufar

We currently also buy early postcards of Oman (pre-1970) and Muscat quarter Anna varieties to complete collections that will result in the publishing of specialised catalogues in these two fields.

We have extensive holdings of duplicate material in all fields and are willing to sell or exchange for other Oman material. Enquiries are welcome.

Replies to:

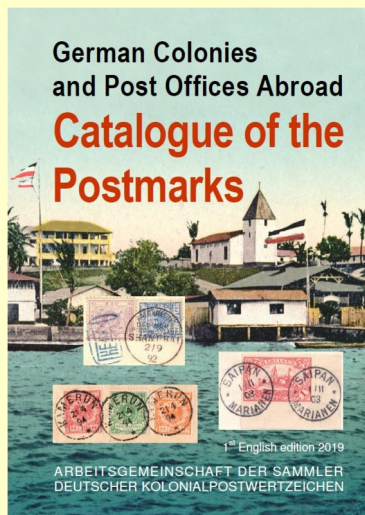
Oman Studies Centre, Berlin Office, Kronenstr. 69, 10117 Berlin, Germany

[collections@oman.org](mailto:collections@oman.org)

H – Gratis-Anzeige 21/201

## German Colonies Study Group

The Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Sammler Deutscher Kolonialpostwertzeichen e.V. was founded in 1928 and is the oldest still existing study group in the German philatelic federation BDPH, and with some 400 members also one of the largest specialist societies.



It publishes every year two issues of its journal "Berichte für Kolonialbriefmarkensammler" and two newsletters.

The latest edition of the society's postmark catalogue, "German Colonies and Post Offices Abroad – Catalogue of the Postmarks" (in English) is available at 39 € (plus p&p).

Information on the collecting areas and publications can be found at:  
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Gratis-Anzeige 11/201



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## The GB Overprints Society

The GBOS promotes the collection and study of overprints on British stamps and postal stationery and their usage, from the first overprints for use outside the United Kingdom issued in Cyprus in 1880 right through the "British Levant" issues to the final use of overprints when the British postal agency at Muscat closed in 1966.

The GBOS range of interests also includes revenues and postal orders overprinted for use abroad as well as the British departmental overprints.

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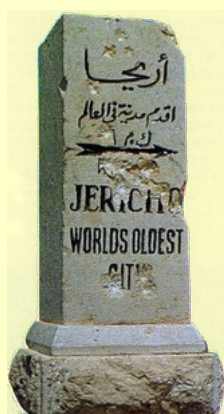
We have an informative and lavishly illustrated website and publish a quarterly journal "The Overprinter", available in paper form or electronically. We have also published books on overprinted British postal stationery for use in many countries, including the Middle East and the Gulf.

For more information visit the website at <http://www.gbos.org.uk>  
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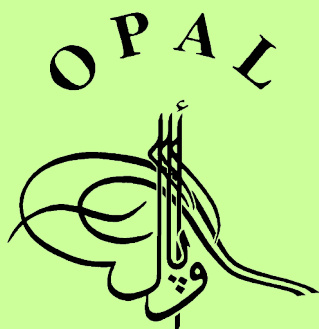
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The Oriental Philatelic Association of London was founded in 1949. Its remit is very broad both geographically and historically as it covers all philatelic aspects of post within the former Ottoman Empire and all its myriad successor states. Nevertheless many members specialise in one small area. Over one third of our membership of over 150 lives abroad, with a particular large number in the USA.

OPAL publishes a couple of journals per year along with a couple of newsletters. Both publications are also used to answer members' queries. If our extensive library can't

help with queries, then our membership invariably contains someone who can help, however specialised or esoteric. There are informal meetings held in various UK locations as well as our annual get together for our AGM.

Membership costs presently £5 per annum. Further details can be found on and contacts can be made via OPAL's website: [www.mclstamps.co.uk/opal/opalhome.html](http://www.mclstamps.co.uk/opal/opalhome.html).

Philip Longbottom, OPAL secretary, email: [prlongbottom@aol.com](mailto:prlongbottom@aol.com)

H - Gratis-Anzeige 16/001

## The Revenue Stamps of the Palestinian Authority

The Revenue Stamps of the  
Palestinian Authority



٠	١	٢	٣	٤	٥	٦	٧	٨	٩
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Compiled and Edited By

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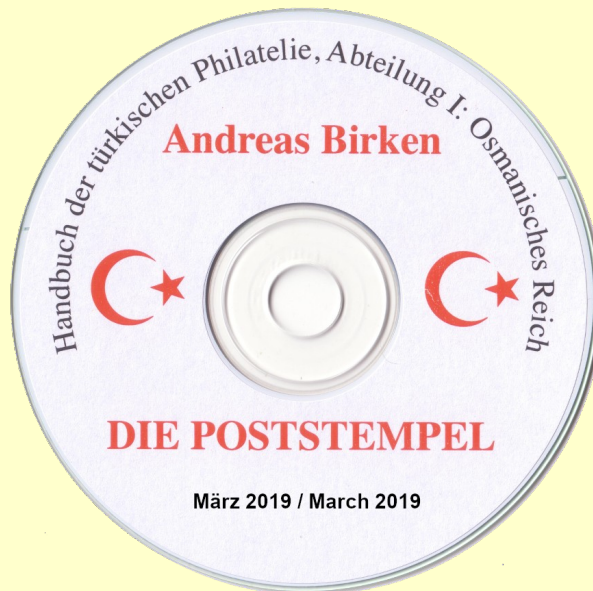


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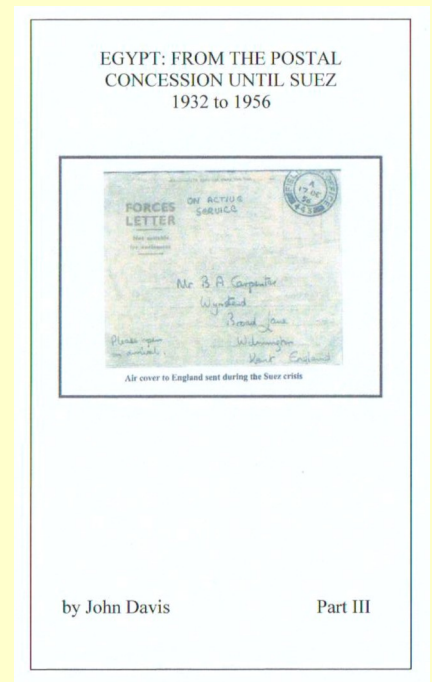
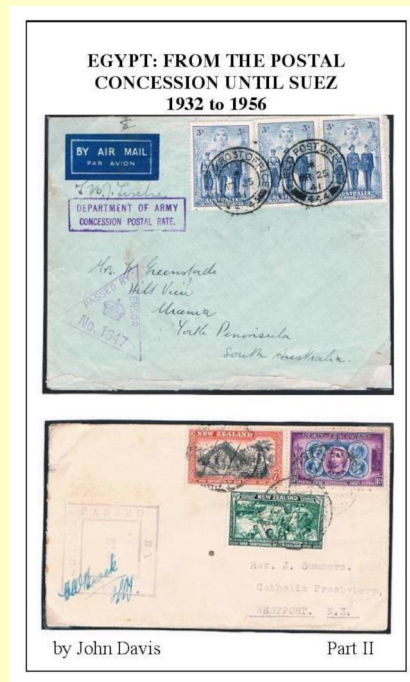
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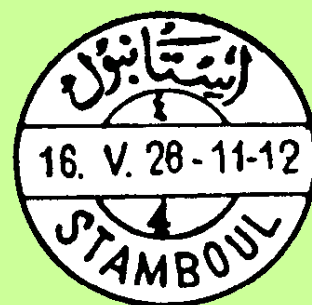
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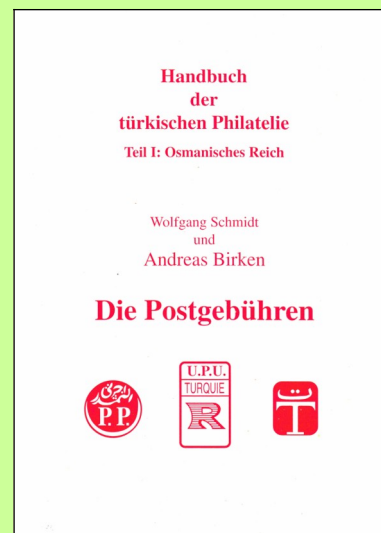
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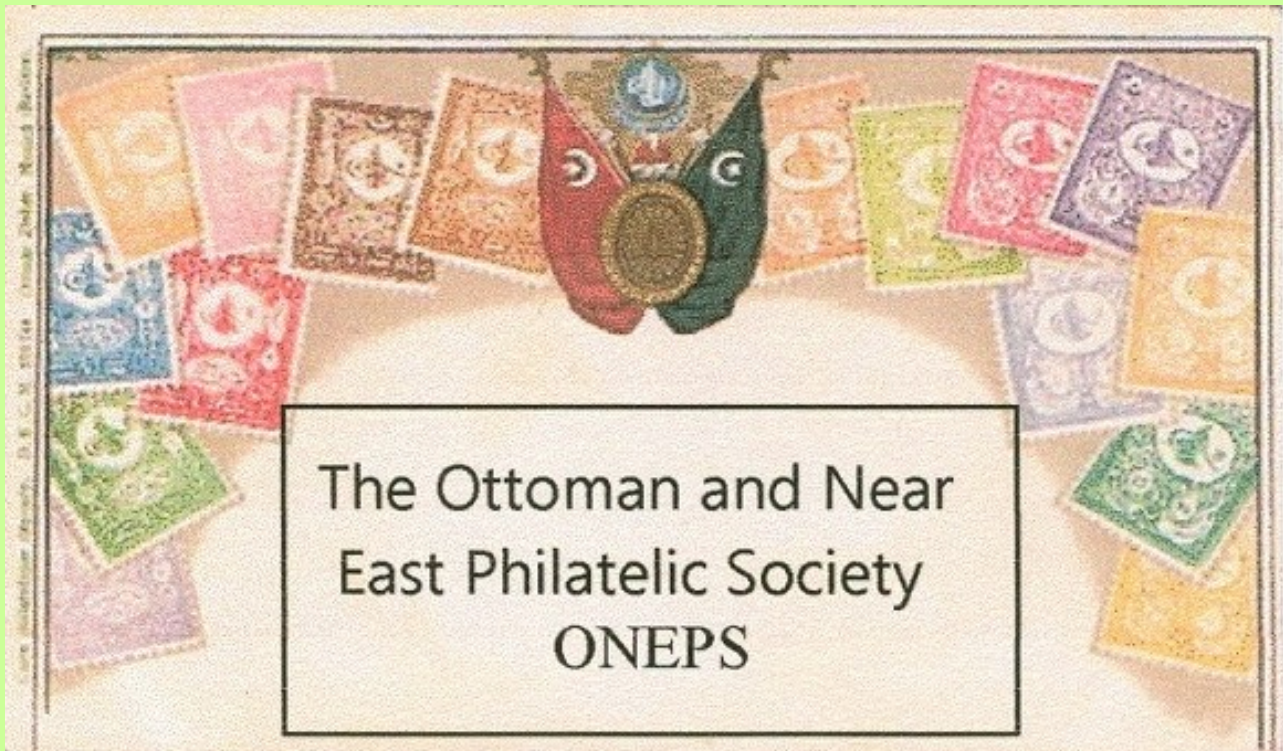
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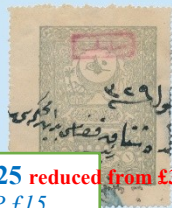


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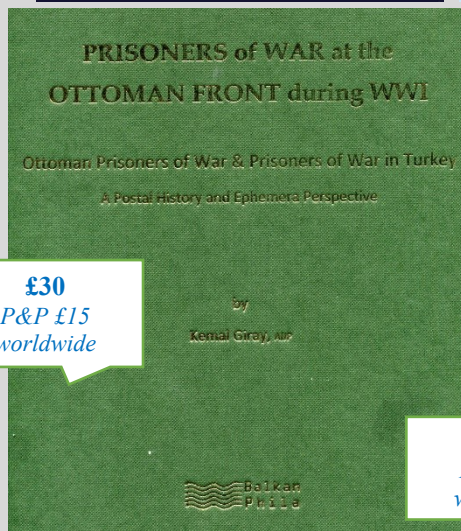
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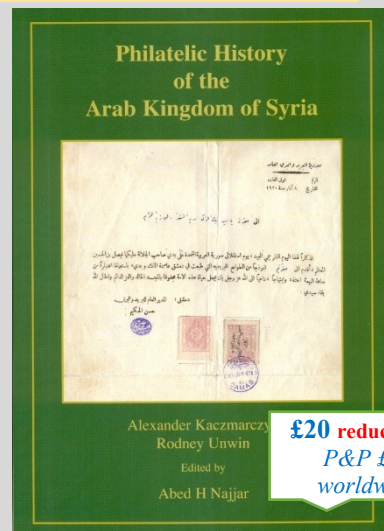
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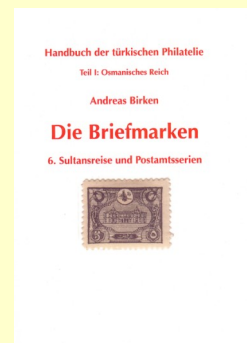
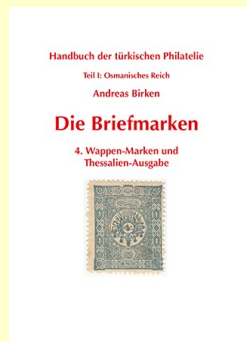
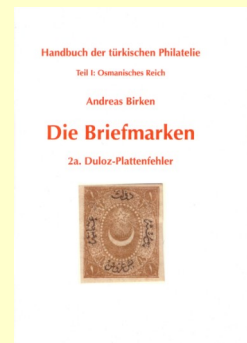
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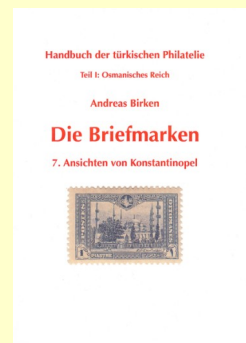
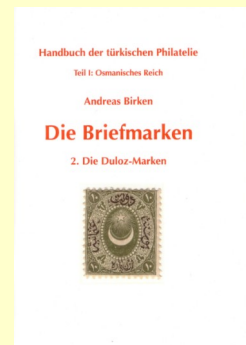
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## Editorial

by Tobias Zywiets ([mep-bulletin@zobbel.de](mailto:mep-bulletin@zobbel.de))  
 Publisher & Editor, The Middle East Philatelic Bulletin

### In this Issue ...

As nobody reads these editorials, I will spare you more of my musings forthwith. Only a few key words: It is getting harder to gather interesting articles. So have to appeal for more people to come forward with their ideas. I will give all the assistance needed to create an article, but there needs to be a core idea and some material: stamps, covers, documents. Nothing comes from nothing...!

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I will consider any article of quality for potential inclusion: be it a large article with original research, a small piece looking at a particular aspect, a concise description of an interesting cover, or a long-forgotten piece of research rediscovered. It can be original writing, or material already published. I will help, advise, and guide. Translation into English can be arranged, and all steps and processes are closely coordinated with the author.

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### Acknowledgements

I'd like to thank all contributors and all those aiding and encouraging me in the creation of this journal. The list would be too long to print here, so I mention just one non-philatelist, who, as native speaker, helped me with proofreading and gave advice on style of writing, namely *Colin Booth*. Several organisations and persons gave me general permission to reprint articles from their journals and archives. One person I have especially to thank is *Barry D. Hoffman*, copyright owner of F. W. Pollack's THE HOLY LAND PHILATELIST. *Many thanks to all!*

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I would like to thank all readers who have donated amounts following my appeal in the last edition. I will not mention any names here as some donors like to stay anonymous. The donations will be used primarily to maintain the website, e.h. increase storage capacity.

### Future Articles and Research Projects

This is a selection of topics and articles I am working on, together with many authors, to include in future issues of MEPB. If you have information, illustrations, articles, opinions, about any of these subjects, please let me know!

- The Barīd: Umayyad, Abbasid and Mamluk Postal Services in Egypt and Syria (MEPB 24)
- The "Er Ramle" Zeppelin covers of 1931
- Julius Bolthausen: The Caiffa Bisects (MEPB 24)
- PNA Issues: Gaza Freedom Fleet 2011
- The 1840 Ottoman Post Inaugural Public Announcements (14.10.1840 and 1.11.1840). November)
- Book Review: Karpovskii II (MEPB 24)
- Examples of Ottoman Military Mail & Consorship in WWI (MEPB 24)
- Postal Conditions in Turkey 1875 (MEPB 24)
- Curious Stamps from Damascus (II): Obligatory Tax 'Martyr' Stamps 2015/2022 (MEPB 24)
- The French Military Mission in the Hejaz
- 17th Century Mail by French Merchant Ships
- The RAF Postal Service in Sharjah

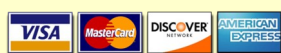


- Overland Mail Surcharges of Iraq, 1923–1929
- Overland Mail Route Instruction Labels
- Court Fee Stamps of Palestine Mandate
- Habbaniya Provisionals – Revisited
- Book Review: Anglo-Egyptian & French Colonial Censorship in WWII
- Book Review: Türkiye’de Postanın Mikrotarihi
- Archive: Mail Communications and the Indian Post Offices in the Persian Gulf
- Archive: The Telegraphs of the Persian Gulf
- Lebanon ‘Palestine Aid’ covers
- RAF Emergency Air Mail 1919: Aerial EEF
- The Iraq/Kuwait Postal War
- Posta Bey’iye Şubesi (Péra Palace Hotel)
- Jordan Stamps & Banknotes, Jordan Half-Dinar Banknote
- Telegraph Codes: Mosse, Liebèr, Bentley, & al. (MEPB 25)
- Early Postcards of Muscat
- Service Automobile Palestine–Syria
- Archive: F. Perlberg’s Bilder a. d. Heiligen Lande
- Book Review: G. Berman’s Israel Postal Labels
- Archive: Annuaire Oriental (1891), Indicateur Égyptien (1897), Egyptian Directory (1908)
- The Austrian Post Offices at Simi and Dardanellen
- Turkish Red Crescent obligatory tax stamps on cover
- Lebanese Consular Revenues (abandoned)
- Post-WWII Iraqi Censorship
- Syria: Coronation 1920
- The IRCs of Palestine
- Gulf States Barcodes
- The Stamps of South Kurdistan
- Aden Stamps & Photos
- WWII Emergency Banknotes: Syria, Lebanon, Djibouti
- The History of Banknotes in Kuwait
- S.S. Karlsruhe
- The Postal History of Maadi
- British Postage Rates to Palestine
- Mandate Postmarks of Lebanon and Syria
- Mail Connection Jerusalem/Damascus
- Tripoli Postal History
- Currency of the Arab Kingdom of Syria
- Ottoman Passport Fiscals
- The Kaiser’s Visit to the Holy Land (abandoned)
- Taxed in Constantinople 1866
- TPO Cisir-i Mustafa Paşa–Dersaadet (MEPB 24)
- Ottoman Fiscal Stamp Law 1893
- Persian Parcel Post and Stamps
- Lebanon Underprints
- Book Review: The Postal History of Paiforce (D. Trapnel)
- Ali Noussret Pulhan Pricelist 1928
- Palestine Mandate Entire Variety (PR13)
- Maritime Transport: Cuppa Lambros

**Please come forward with your articles,  
comments, research, or images!  
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## Imprint

### The Middle East Philatelic Bulletin

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# Datenschutzerklärung zur Mailing-Liste

## Mailing List Data Protection Policy

by Tobias Zywietz ([mep-bulletin@zobbel.de](mailto:mep-bulletin@zobbel.de))  
 Publisher & Editor, *The Middle East Philatelic Bulletin*

### Zusammenfassung

- Jeder Nutzer kann sich kostenlos registrieren lassen, um per E-Mail Informationen zum Erscheinen und Inhalt meiner elektronischen Zeitschrift *The Middle East Philatelic Bulletin* zu erhalten.
- Die gespeicherten Daten umfassen Name und E-Mail-Adresse des Nutzers.
- Die gespeicherten Daten werden zum Versand von Informationen zum Erscheinen und Inhalt meiner elektronischen Zeitschrift *The Middle East Philatelic Bulletin* genutzt sowie zur zweckdienlichen individuellen Kommunikation.
- Jeder registrierte Nutzer kann jederzeit die Änderung oder Löschung der Daten verlangen. Die Änderung oder Löschung erfolgt umgehend.

### Summary

- Any user can register for free to receive information by e-mail about the publication and content of my electronic magazine *The Middle East Philatelic Bulletin*.
- The stored data include the name and e-mail address of the user.
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- Every registered user can request the modification or deletion of the data at any time. The modification or deletion takes place immediately.

### Datenschutzerklärung

Datenschutz hat einen besonders hohen Stellenwert für mich. Eine Nutzung meiner Zeitschrift ist grundsätzlich ohne jede Angabe personenbezogener Daten möglich.

Die Verarbeitung personenbezogener Daten, beispielsweise des Namens, und der E-Mail-Adresse einer betroffenen Person, erfolgt stets im Einklang mit der Datenschutz-Grundverordnung und in Übereinstimmung mit den für mich geltenden landesspezifischen Datenschutzbestimmungen. Mittels dieser Datenschutzerklärung möchte ich die Öffentlichkeit über Art, Umfang und Zweck der von mir erhobenen, genutzten und verarbeiteten personenbezogenen Daten informieren. Ferner werden betroffene Personen mittels dieser Datenschutzerklärung über die ihnen zustehenden Rechte aufgeklärt.

Ich habe als für die Verarbeitung Verantwortlicher zahlreiche technische und organisatorische Maßnahmen umgesetzt, um einen möglichst lückenlosen Schutz der über diese Internetseite verarbeiteten personenbezogenen Daten sicherzustellen. Dennoch können internetbasierte Datenübertragungen, wie E-Mail, grundsätzlich Sicherheitslücken aufweisen, sodass ein absoluter Schutz nicht gewährleistet werden kann. Aus diesem Grund steht es jeder betroffenen Person frei, personenbezogene Daten auch auf alternativen Wegen an mich zu übermitteln.

### I. Name und Anschrift des Verantwortlichen

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### II. Allgemeines zur Datenverarbeitung

#### 1. Umfang der Verarbeitung personenbezogener Daten

Ich verarbeite personenbezogene Daten von Nutzern grundsätzlich nur, soweit diese zur Bereitstellung von Information über eine Mailing-Liste erforderlich ist. Die weitergehende Verarbeitung personenbezogener Daten erfolgt nur nach Einwilligung des Nutzers.

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Soweit ich für Verarbeitungsvorgänge personenbezogener Daten eine Einwilligung der betroffenen Person einhole, dient Art. 6 Abs. 1 lit. a EU-Datenschutzgrundverordnung (DSGVO) als Rechtsgrundlage für die Verarbeitung personenbezogener Daten.

Bei der Verarbeitung von personenbezogenen Daten, die zur Erfüllung eines Vertrages, dessen Vertragspartei die betroffene Person ist, erforderlich ist, dient Art. 6 Abs. 1 lit. b DSGVO als Rechtsgrundlage. Dies gilt auch für Verarbeitungsvorgänge, die zur Durchführung vorvertraglicher Maßnahmen erforderlich sind.

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#### **1. Beschreibung und Umfang der Datenverarbeitung**

Folgende Daten werden hierbei erhoben:

1. Name und Vorname des Nutzers
2. E-Mail-Adresse des Nutzers

#### **2. Rechtsgrundlage für die Datenverarbeitung**

Rechtsgrundlage für die vorübergehende Speicherung der Daten ist Art. 6 Abs. 1 DSGVO.

#### **3. Zweck der Datenverarbeitung**

Die Mailing-Liste dient dem Zweck, dem Nutzer Informationen zu Inhalten und Erscheinen der Zeitschrift zu übermitteln.

#### **4. Dauer der Speicherung**

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#### **5. Widerspruchs- und Beseitigungsmöglichkeit**

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### **IV. E-Mail-Kontakt**

#### **1. Beschreibung und Umfang der Datenverarbeitung**

Auf meiner Webseite ist eine Kontaktaufnahme über die bereitgestellte E-Mail-Adresse möglich. In diesem Fall werden die mit der E-Mail übermittelten personenbezogenen Daten des Nutzers gespeichert. Es erfolgt in diesem Zusammenhang keine Weitergabe der Daten an Dritte. Die Daten werden ausschließlich für die Verarbeitung der Konversation verwendet.

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#### **1. Auskunftsrecht**

Sie können von dem Verantwortlichen eine Bestätigung darüber verlangen, ob personenbezogene Daten, die Sie betreffen, von mir verarbeitet werden. Liegt eine solche Verarbeitung vor, können Sie von dem Verantwortlichen über folgende Informationen Auskunft verlangen:

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- (2) die Kategorien von personenbezogenen Daten, welche verarbeitet werden;
- (3) die Empfänger bzw. die Kategorien von Empfängern, gegenüber denen die Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten offengelegt wurden oder noch offengelegt werden;
- (4) die geplante Dauer der Speicherung der Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten oder, falls konkrete Angaben hierzu nicht möglich sind, Kriterien für die Festlegung der Speicherdauer;
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- (6) das Bestehen eines Beschwerderechts bei einer

Aufsichtsbehörde;

(7) alle verfügbaren Informationen über die Herkunft der Daten, wenn die personenbezogenen Daten nicht bei der betroffenen Person erhoben werden;

(8) das Bestehen einer automatisierten Entscheidungsfindung einschließlich Profiling gemäß Art. 22 Abs. 1 und 4 DSGVO und – zumindest in diesen Fällen – aussagekräftige Informationen über die involvierte Logik sowie die Tragweite und die angestrebten Auswirkungen einer derartigen Verarbeitung für die betroffene Person.

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Unter den folgenden Voraussetzungen können Sie die Einschränkung der Verarbeitung der Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten verlangen:

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- (2) die Verarbeitung unrechtmäßig ist und Sie die Löschung der personenbezogenen Daten ablehnen und stattdessen die Einschränkung der Nutzung der personenbezogenen Daten verlangen;
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- (4) wenn Sie Widerspruch gegen die Verarbeitung gemäß Art. 21 Abs. 1 DSGVO eingelegt haben und noch nicht feststeht, ob die berechtigten Gründe des Verantwortlichen gegenüber Ihren Gründen überwiegen. Wurde die Verarbeitung der Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten eingeschränkt, dürfen diese Daten – von ihrer Speicherung abgesehen – nur mit Ihrer Einwilligung oder zur Geltendmachung, Ausübung oder Verteidigung von Rechtsansprüchen oder zum Schutz der Rechte einer anderen natürlichen oder juristischen Person oder aus Gründen eines wichtigen öffentlichen Interesses der Union oder eines Mitgliedstaats verarbeitet werden.

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- (2) Sie widerrufen Ihre Einwilligung, auf die sich die Verarbeitung gem. Art. 6 Abs. 1 lit. a oder Art. 9 Abs. 2 lit. a DSGVO stützte, und es fehlt an einer anderweitigen Rechtsgrundlage für die Verarbeitung.
- (3) Sie legen gem. Art. 21 Abs. 1 DSGVO Widerspruch gegen die Verarbeitung ein und es liegen keine vorrangigen berechtigten Gründe für die Verarbeitung vor, oder Sie legen gem. Art. 21 Abs. 2 DSGVO Widerspruch gegen die Verarbeitung ein.
- (4) Die Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten wurden unrechtmäßig verarbeitet.
- (5) Die Löschung der Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten ist zur Erfüllung einer rechtlichen Verpflichtung nach dem Unionsrecht oder dem Recht der Mitgliedstaaten erforderlich, dem der Verantwortliche unterliegt.
- (6) Die Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten wurden in Bezug auf angebotene Dienste der Informationsgesellschaft gemäß Art. 8 Abs. 1 DSGVO erhoben.

##### b) Information an Dritte

Hat der Verantwortliche die Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten öffentlich gemacht und ist er gem. Art. 17 Abs. 1 DSGVO zu deren Löschung verpflichtet, so trifft er unter Berücksichtigung der verfügbaren Technologie und der Implementierungskosten angemessene Maßnahmen, auch technischer Art, um für die Datenverarbeitung Verantwortliche, die die personenbezogenen Daten verarbeiten, darüber zu informieren, dass Sie als betroffene Person von ihnen die Löschung aller Links zu diesen personenbezogenen Daten oder von Kopien oder Replikationen dieser personenbezogenen Daten verlangt haben.

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- (3) aus Gründen des öffentlichen Interesses im Bereich der öffentlichen Gesundheit gemäß Art. 9 Abs. 2 lit. h und i sowie Art. 9 Abs. 3 DSGVO
- (4) für im öffentlichen Interesse liegende Archivzwecke, wissenschaftliche oder historische Forschungszwecke oder für statistische Zwecke gem. Art. 89 Abs. 1 DSGVO, soweit das unter Abschnitt a) genannte Recht voraussichtlich die Verwirklichung der Ziele dieser Verarbeitung unmöglich macht oder ernsthaft beeinträchtigt, oder
- (5) zur Geltendmachung, Ausübung oder Verteidigung von Rechtsansprüchen.

#### 5. Recht auf Unterrichtung

Haben Sie das Recht auf Berichtigung, Löschung oder Einschränkung der Verarbeitung gegenüber dem Verantwortlichen geltend gemacht, ist dieser verpflichtet, allen Empfängern, denen die Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten offengelegt wurden, diese Berichtigung oder Löschung der Daten oder Einschränkung der Verarbeitung mitzuteilen, es sei denn, dies erweist sich als unmöglich oder ist mit einem unverhältnismäßigen Aufwand verbunden. Ihnen steht gegenüber dem Verantwortlichen das Recht

zu, über diese Empfänger unterrichtet zu werden.

#### 6. Recht auf Datenübertragbarkeit

Sie haben das Recht, die Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten, die Sie dem Verantwortlichen bereitgestellt haben, in einem strukturierten, gängigen und maschinenlesbaren Format zu erhalten. Außerdem haben Sie das Recht diese Daten einem anderen Verantwortlichen ohne Behinderung durch den Verantwortlichen, dem die personenbezogenen Daten bereitgestellt wurden, zu übermitteln, sofern

- (1) die Verarbeitung auf einer Einwilligung gem. Art. 6 Abs. 1 lit. a DSGVO oder Art. 9 Abs. 2 lit. a DSGVO oder auf einem Vertrag gem. Art. 6 Abs. 1 lit. b DSGVO beruht und
- (2) die Verarbeitung mithilfe automatisierter Verfahren erfolgt.

In Ausübung dieses Rechts haben Sie ferner das Recht, zu erwirken, dass die Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten direkt von einem Verantwortlichen einem anderen Verantwortlichen übermittelt werden, soweit dies technisch machbar ist. Freiheiten und Rechte anderer Personen dürfen hierdurch nicht beeinträchtigt werden.

Das Recht auf Datenübertragbarkeit gilt nicht für eine Verarbeitung personenbezogener Daten, die für die Wahrnehmung einer Aufgabe erforderlich ist, die im öffentlichen Interesse liegt oder in Ausübung öffentlicher Gewalt erfolgt, die dem Verantwortlichen übertragen wurde.

#### 7. Widerspruchsrecht

Sie haben das Recht, aus Gründen, die sich aus ihrer besonderen Situation ergeben, jederzeit gegen die Verarbeitung der Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten, die aufgrund von Art. 6 Abs. 1 lit. e oder f DSGVO erfolgt, Widerspruch einzulegen; dies gilt auch für ein auf diese Bestimmungen gestütztes Profiling.

Der Verantwortliche verarbeitet die Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten nicht mehr, es sei denn, er kann zwingende schutzwürdige Gründe für die Verarbeitung nachweisen, die Ihre Interessen, Rechte und Freiheiten überwiegen, oder die Verarbeitung dient der Geltendmachung, Ausübung oder Verteidigung von Rechtsansprüchen.

Werden die Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten verarbeitet, um Direktwerbung zu betreiben, haben Sie das Recht, jederzeit Widerspruch gegen die Verarbeitung der Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten zum Zwecke derartiger Werbung einzulegen; dies gilt auch für das Profiling, soweit es mit solcher Direktwerbung in Verbindung steht.

Widersprechen Sie der Verarbeitung für Zwecke der Direktwerbung, so werden die Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten nicht mehr für diese Zwecke verarbeitet.

Sie haben die Möglichkeit, im Zusammenhang mit der Nutzung von Diensten der Informationsgesellschaft – ungeachtet der Richtlinie 2002/58/EG – Ihr Widerspruchsrecht mittels automatisierter Verfahren auszuüben, bei denen technische Spezifikationen verwendet werden.

Bei Datenverarbeitung zu wissenschaftlichen, historischen oder statistischen Forschungszwecken:

Sie haben auch das Recht, aus Gründen, die sich aus Ihrer besonderen Situation ergeben, bei der Verarbeitung Sie betreffender personenbezogener Daten, die zu wissenschaftlichen oder historischen Forschungszwecken oder zu statistischen Zwecken gem. Art. 89 Abs. 1 DSGVO erfolgt, dieser zu widersprechen.

Ihr Widerspruchsrecht kann insoweit beschränkt werden, als es voraussichtlich die Verwirklichung der Forschungs- oder Statistikzwecke unmöglich macht oder ernsthaft beeinträchtigt und die Beschränkung für die Erfüllung der Forschungs- oder Statistikzwecke notwendig ist.

#### 8. Recht auf Widerruf der datenschutzrechtlichen

## Einwilligungserklärung

Sie haben das Recht, Ihre datenschutzrechtliche Einwilligungserklärung jederzeit zu widerrufen. Durch den Widerruf der Einwilligung wird die Rechtmäßigkeit der aufgrund der Einwilligung bis zum Widerruf erfolgten Verarbeitung nicht berührt.

## 9. Recht auf Beschwerde bei einer Aufsichtsbehörde

Unbeschadet eines anderweitigen verwaltungsrechtlichen oder gerichtlichen Rechtsbehelfs steht Ihnen das Recht auf Beschwerde bei einer Aufsichtsbehörde, insbesondere in dem Mitgliedstaat ihres Aufenthaltsorts, ihres Arbeitsplatzes oder des Orts des mutmaßlichen Verstoßes, zu, wenn Sie der Ansicht sind, dass die Verarbeitung der Sie betreffenden personenbezogenen Daten gegen die DSGVO verstößt.

Die Aufsichtsbehörde, bei der die Beschwerde eingereicht wurde, unterrichtet den Beschwerdeführer über den Stand und die Ergebnisse der Beschwerde einschließlich der Möglichkeit eines gerichtlichen Rechtsbehelfs nach Art. 78 DSGVO.

## Data Protection Policy

*This is a non-binding translation into English. The only legally binding text is the German "Datenschutzerklärung" above.*

*All references are to the German text of the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR, German: Datenschutz-Grundverordnung, DSGVO).*

Data protection is of particular importance to me. Use of my electronic journal pages is possible without any indication of personal data.

The processing of personal data, such as the name and e-mail address of a person, is always carried out in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and in accordance with the country-specific data protection regulations applicable to me. By means of this data protection declaration I would like to inform the public about the type, scope and purpose of the personal data collected, used and processed by me. Furthermore, data subjects will be informed of their rights by means of this data protection declaration.

As data controller, I have implemented numerous technical and organisational measures to ensure the utmost protection of the personal data processed via this website. Nevertheless, Internet-based data transmissions, like e-mail, may in principle contain security risks, so that absolute protection cannot be guaranteed. For this reason, every person concerned is free to transmit personal data to me also in alternative ways.

## I. Name and address of the person responsible

The person responsible in the sense of the General Data Protection Regulation and other national data protection laws of EU member states as well as other data protection regulations is:

Tobias Zywiets  
Hauptstr. 10  
75245 Neulingen  
Germany  
Phone: +49-(0)7237-44 39 03  
E-mail: [mep-bulletin@zobbel.de](mailto:mep-bulletin@zobbel.de)  
Website: [www.zobbel.de](http://www.zobbel.de)

## II. General information about data processing

### 1. Scope of processing of personal data

In general, I only process personal data of users if this is necessary to provide information by way of a mailing-list. The further processing of personal data only takes place with the user's consent.

### 2. Legal basis for the processing of personal data

Insofar as I obtain the consent of the data subject for the processing of personal data, Art. 6 para. 1 lit. a EU General Data Protection Regulation serves as the legal basis for the processing of personal data.

In the processing of personal data required for the performance of a contract to which the data subject is a party, Art. 6 para. 1 lit. b DSGVO serves as the legal basis. This also applies to processing operations that are necessary to carry out pre-contractual measures.

As far as the processing of personal data is necessary for the fulfilment of a legal obligation, which is subject to me, Art. 6 Abs. 1 lit. c DSGVO serves as legal basis.

In the event that the vital interests of the data subject or another natural person require the processing of personal data, Article 6(1)(d) DSGVO serves as the legal basis.

If processing is necessary to safeguard a legitimate interest of mine or of a third party and if the interests, fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subject do not outweigh the former interest, Art. 6 para. 1 lit. f DSGVO serves as the legal basis for processing.

## 3. Deletion time of data and storage

The personal data of the person concerned will be deleted or blocked as soon as the purpose of storage ceases to apply. Furthermore, data may be stored if this has been provided for by the European or national legislators' regulations, laws or other provisions to which the person responsible is subject. The data will also be blocked or deleted if a storage period prescribed by the aforementioned standards expires, unless there is a need for further storage of the data for the conclusion or fulfilment of a contract.

## III. Mailing-List

Every user is free to subscribe for free to my mailing list via e-mail. This does not create any obligations for the user.

### 1. Description and scope of data processing

The following data is collected:

1. surname and first name of the user
2. e-mail address of the user

### 2. Legal basis for data processing

The legal basis for the temporary storage of data is Art. 6 para. 1 DSGVO.

### 3. Purpose of data processing

The purpose of the mailing list is to provide the user with information about the contents and appearance of the journal.

### 4. Storage duration

The user can leave the mailing list at any time. The data will be deleted immediately.

### 5. Possibility of objection and elimination

The collection of data for the provision of the mailing list is absolutely necessary for the operation of the mailing list. Consequently, there is no possibility of objection on the part of the user. The user can, however, object to the storage at any time and thus leave the mailing list.

## IV. E-Mail contact

### 1. Description and scope of data processing

You can contact me via the e-mail address provided on my website. In this case, the user's personal data transmitted by e-mail will be stored. In this context, the data will not be passed on to third parties. The data is used exclusively for processing the conversation.

## V. Rights of the person concerned



If your personal data is processed, you are affected within the meaning of the DSGVO and you have the following rights vis-à-vis the person responsible:

### 1. The right to information

You can ask the person in charge to confirm whether personal data concerning you will be processed by me. If such processing is available, you can request the following information from the person responsible:

- (1) the purposes for which the personal data are processed;
- (2) the categories of personal data processed;
- (3) the recipients or categories of recipients to whom the personal data concerning you have been or are still being disclosed;
- (4) the planned duration of the storage of the personal data concerning you or, if specific information on this is not possible, criteria for determining the storage period;
- (5) the existence of a right to rectification or deletion of personal data concerning you, a right to limitation of processing by the controller or a right to object to such processing;
- (6) the existence of a right of appeal to a supervisory authority;
- (7) any available information on the origin of the data if the personal data are not collected from the data subject;
- (8) the existence of automated decision-making including profiling in accordance with Art. 22 para. 1 and 4 DSGVO and – at least in these cases – meaningful information on the logic involved and the scope and intended effects of such processing for the data subject.

You have the right to request information as to whether the personal data concerning you is transferred to a third country or to an international organisation. In this context, you may request to be informed of the appropriate guarantees pursuant to Art. 46 DSGVO in connection with the transmission. This right to information may be limited to the extent that it is likely to make it impossible or seriously impair the realisation of research or statistical purposes and the limitation is necessary for the fulfilment of research or statistical purposes.

### 2. The right of correction

You have a right of rectification and/or completion vis-à-vis the data controller if the personal data processed concerning you are incorrect or incomplete. The person responsible shall make the correction without delay.

Your right to correction may be limited to the extent that it is likely to render impossible or seriously prejudicial the achievement of the research or statistical purposes and the limitation is necessary for the fulfilment of the research or statistical purposes.

### 3. Right to limitation of processing

Under the following conditions, you may request that the processing of personal data concerning you be restricted:

- (1) if you dispute the accuracy of the personal data concerning you for a period that enables the data controller to verify the accuracy of the personal data;
- (2) the processing is unlawful and you refuse to delete the personal data and instead request the restriction of the use of the personal data;
- (3) the data controller no longer needs the personal data for the purposes of the processing, but you do need them to assert, exercise or defend legal claims, or (4) if you have filed an objection to the processing pursuant to Art. 21 para. 1 DSGVO and it has not yet been determined whether the legitimate reasons of the person responsible outweigh your reasons. If the processing of personal data concerning you has been restricted, such data may only be processed - apart from being stored - with your consent or for the purpose of asserting, exercising or defending rights or protecting the rights of another natural or legal person or on grounds of an important public interest of the Union or a Member State.

If the processing restriction has been limited according to the above conditions, you will be informed by the person responsible before the restriction is lifted.

Your right to limitation of processing may be limited to the extent that it is likely to render impossible or seriously prejudicial the achievement of research or statistical purposes and the restriction is necessary for the fulfilment of research or statistical purposes.

### 4. The right of deletion

#### a) Duty of deletion

You may request the data controller to delete the personal data relating to you immediately, and the data controller is obliged to delete this data immediately, if one of the following reasons applies:

- (1) The personal data concerning you are no longer necessary for the purposes for which they were collected or otherwise processed.
- (2) You revoke your consent, on which the processing was based pursuant to Art. 6 para. 1 lit. a or Art. 9 para. 2 lit. a DSGVO, and there is no other legal basis for the processing.
- (3) You file an objection against the processing pursuant to Art. 21 para. 1 DSGVO and there are no overriding legitimate reasons for the processing, or you file an objection against the processing pursuant to Art. 21 para. 2 DSGVO.
- (4) The personal data concerning you have been processed unlawfully.
- (5) The deletion of personal data relating to you is necessary to fulfil a legal obligation under Union law or the law of the Member States to which the data controller is subject.
- (6) The personal data concerning you were collected in relation to information society services offered pursuant to Art. 8 para. 1 DSGVO.

#### b) Information to third parties

If the data controller has made the personal data concerning you public and is obliged to delete it pursuant to Art. 17 para. 1 DSGVO, he shall take appropriate measures, including technical measures, taking into account the available technology and the implementation costs, to inform data processors who process the personal data that you as the data subject have requested the deletion of all links to this personal data or of copies or replications of this personal data.

#### c) Exceptions

The right to cancellation does not exist if the processing is necessary

- (1) to exercise freedom of expression and information;
- (2) to fulfil a legal obligation required for processing under the law of the Union or of the Member States to which the controller is subject, or to perform a task in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority conferred on the controller
- (3) for reasons of public interest in the field of public health pursuant to Art. 9 para. 2 lit. h and i and Art. 9 para. 3 DSGVO;
- (4) for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or for statistical purposes pursuant to Art. 89 para. 1 DSGVO, insofar as the law referred to under a) is likely to make it impossible or seriously impair the attainment of the objectives of such processing, or
- (5) to assert, exercise or defend legal claims.

### 5. Right to information

If you have exercised your right to have the data controller correct, delete or limit the processing, he/she is obliged to inform all recipients to whom the personal data concerning you have been disclosed of this correction or deletion of the data or restriction on processing, unless this proves impossible or involves a disproportionate effort. Recipients have the right vis-à-vis the person responsible to be informed about these recipients.

### 6. Right to data transferability

You have the right to receive the personal data concerning you that you have provided to the person responsible in a structured, common and machine-readable format. In addition, you have the right to transmit this data to another person in charge without obstruction by the person in charge to whom the personal data

was provided, provided

(1) processing is based on consent pursuant to Art. 6 para. 1 lit. a DSGVO or Art. 9 para. 2 lit. a DSGVO or on a contract pursuant to Art. 6 para. 1 lit. b DSGVO and

(2) processing is carried out by means of automated methods

In exercising this right, you also have the right to request that the personal data concerning you be transferred directly from one data controller to another data controller, insofar as this is technically feasible. The freedoms and rights of other persons must not be affected by this.

The right to transferability shall not apply to the processing of personal data necessary for the performance of a task in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority conferred on the controller.

## **7. Right of objection**

You have the right to object at any time, for reasons arising from your particular situation, to the processing of personal data concerning you under Article 6(1)(e) or (f) of the DSGVO; this also applies to profiling based on these provisions.

The data controller no longer processes the personal data concerning you, unless he can prove compelling reasons worthy of protection for the processing, which outweigh your interests, rights and freedoms, or the processing serves to assert, exercise or defend legal claims.

If the personal data concerning you are processed for direct marketing purposes, you have the right to object at any time to the processing of the personal data concerning you for the purpose of such advertising; this also applies to profiling, insofar as it is associated with such direct marketing.

If you object to the processing for direct marketing purposes, the

personal data concerning you will no longer be processed for these purposes.

You have the possibility to exercise your right of objection in connection with the use of Information Society services by means of automated procedures using technical specifications, notwithstanding Directive 2002/58/EC.

For data processing for scientific, historical or statistical research purposes:

You also have the right to object to the processing of personal data concerning you for scientific or historical research purposes or for statistical purposes pursuant to Art. 89 para. 1 DSGVO for reasons arising from your particular situation.

Your right of objection may be limited to the extent that it is likely to make it impossible or seriously impair the realisation of the research or statistical purposes and the limitation is necessary for the fulfilment of the research or statistical purposes.

## **8. Right to revoke the declaration of consent**

You have the right to revoke your data protection declaration of consent at any time. The revocation of consent shall not affect the legality of the processing carried out on the basis of the consent until revocation.

## **9. Right of appeal to a supervisory authority**

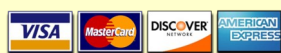
Without prejudice to any other administrative or judicial remedy, you have the right of appeal to a supervisory authority, in particular in the EU member state where you reside, work or suspect the infringement, if you believe that the processing of personal data concerning you is contrary to the DSGVO.

The supervisory authority to which the complaint has been submitted shall inform the complainant of the status and results of the complaint, including the possibility of a judicial remedy under Article 78 DSGVO.

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