Postal History of the Palestinian National Authority
The Stamps, Postmarks & Registration Markings

An exhibit by Tobias Zywietz, Neulingen, Germany

http://www.zobbel.de/stamp/pna_intro2014.htm

This research into the stamps, postmarks and registration markings of the Palestinian Authority is based largely on my own and fellow collector Thomas Schubert's work, the study of the stamps themselves, of public documents and information as well as contacts with official of the PNA's Ministry of Telecom & IT, and aided by a few other collectors.

There is very few relevant literature on the subject by other authors, just Professor Phillips (Canada), who is cooperating with me, and Dr. Wallach (Israel) have published on the general postal history and some special aspects. The classifications of postmarks and registration labels were created by me and Mr. Schubert and have been published in the journals of the relevant German and international philatelic societies and study groups. The stamp catalogue was created by myself using a different scheme to Michel.

The exhibit, whose parts covering postmarks and registration markings was previously shown at "Euregio Egrensis" (Rank 2, Schleiz 2012) and "IPhLA" (Rank 1, Mainz 2012) consists of the three broad parts several additional auxiliary and informational pages. The language of the exhibit is English as the interested public is to be found almost exclusively in non-German speaking countries. To create and maintain the pages in two languages has proved rather impractical, especially due to the large number of changes and updates. The following description is current as of February 2014.

The Stamps of Palestine (pna_1994.htm, pna_1995.htm, etc.)

This part consists of 19 pages, one each for every year (1994 to 2014) plus a pages on booklets, building a comprehensive catalogue of the stamps issued by the Palestinian Authority. There's a short description of each issue with the relevant philatelic information as well as details on the motifs and relevant to links to topical websites.

Due to the increasingly inferior quality of Michel, a new numbering system had to be adopted. Each stamps, sheet and FDC is shown: clicking on the thumbnails reveals high-resolution illustrations. Some pages contain further aspects of postal history where appropriate.

Post Offices and Postmarks (pna_11.htm)

This page shows, after a short technical introduction, the classification of postmark types created in cooperation with fellow collector Thomas Schubert. A map of the country leads to the list of post offices. For each postal office I present its spellings, province, the population figure, postcode, post office code and number, and opening date as well as a map of the area (with geographical coordinates, links to Wikipedia) and photographs of the offices. This is followed by brief descriptions of the development and current situation.

This is followed by the individual postmarks: each is shown and described with inscriptions, type, dimensions and dates of use. Concluding this pages is a summary of the special handstamps and other dated and undated cachets.

Registration Labels and Markings (pna_11.htm)

This page is structured similar to the postmark page: after a more detailed introduction, the individual types of registration labels and markings are classified. A map of the country leads to the list of post offices. As research into the use of registration markings is still in an early stage, this page shows (unlike with the postmarks) all examples individually: besides a depiction and details of the inscriptions the type is specified, as well as postmark date of the cover, the postmark number and of course the registration number. At a later stage I plan to changed into summarizing by dates of use (as with postmarks).

Additional pages:

- **Population Statistics (Villages, Towns, and Governorates) (pna_18.htm)**
  Grouped by governorate (province) and sorted into categories above and below 2,500 inhabitants, all localities with their population figures are shown. Data is derived from the two censuses and intermediate extrapolations.
- **PNA Meter Marks (pna_15.htm)**
  A summary of known machine cancellers and essays, mainly illustrations as research in this field is at its infancy.
- **Postal Stationery, Forms, and Miscellanea (pna_40. htm)**
  An overview of known postal and official forms and stationery.
- **Postal Statistics (pna_19.htm)**
  Official postal statistics taken from publications of the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics.
- **Postal Rates and Charges: Tariff 2012 (pna_60.htm)**
  The current postal tariff with the main charges selected and translated from the official postal tariff (the original document is linked directly). Summaries of previous tariffs are also linked.
- **Concise List of Books and Articles (lit.htm and lit_10.htm)**
  Bibliography of monographs (around 300 entries) and journal articles (around 7,000 entries) relating to the entire field of Holy Land and Palestine philately.
- **Links & Organisations: Collectors' Societies, Study Circles, Websites, &c. (org.htm)**
  A list of links to relevant philatelic organizations and publications, with a focus on currently active German and international study groups and clubs.
- **Log of Changes and Additions (changes.htm)**
  A log of all changes to the website and its pages, with a facility to be alerted automatically by e-mail.
- **Impressum/Imprint (impress2011.png)**
  An imprint according to German law.

Pre-Qualifications:

2012   V. Euregio Egrensis Ostthüringer Briefmarkenausstellung, Schleiz, Thuringia (Rank 2)
       82 Points (Gold)
2012   International Philatelic Literature Exhibition, Mainz (Rank 1)
       79 Points (Vermeil)