



الجمعية الدولية للطوابع البريدية العربية ملاحظات عابرة

Arabian Philatelic Association International
Random Notes



October 2025

NUMBER 103

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The Arabian Philatelic Association International

The Arabian Philatelic Association (APA) was established in 1968 in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia by a group of Aramco employees particularly interested in Saudi Arabian philately. The APA had over 300 members and subscribers worldwide during most of its existence. Its journal (*APA Random Notes*), and *Reference Manual of Saudi Arabian Forgeries*, auctions and new issue service contributed to the large increase in the popularity of Saudi Arabian philately in the 1970s and 1980s. However, interest declined in the 1990s. An initial attempt to start up a conventional Saudi stamp society in the USA failed later that decade. Since then, we have realized that an Internet-based society has a better prospect of success and we have founded the Arabian Philatelic Association International. (APAI). The APAI website is currently at <http://www.the-weatherings.co.uk/APAI/index.html> and has a page to enable members to contact the APAI.

A *Catalog of the Fiscal Stamps of Saudi Arabia* has been written and published by Rudy Thoden and updated as Thoden 2008. A further update is planned. A new version of the *Reference Manual of Saudi Arabian Forgeries* is being written to cover the issues not in the original edition, plus the many new forgery discoveries, including very dangerous ones created by modern computer technology. The first part of this new manual covering stamp forgeries has been published.

The following members are currently serving the APAI in the capacities indicated:

Membership secretary: Marwan Nusair

USA representative: David Jessich

USA Distribution Manager: Marwan Nusair

Treasurer: David Jessich

Editor, Random Notes: Martin Lovegrove

Random Notes

The APAI's publication, *Random Notes*, will be issued three times a year, assuming sufficient material is available, but realistically a single edition once a year is all that is currently possible. The editor is Mr. M C Lovegrove, e-mail: weatherings@aol.com, (The Weatherings, East End, Gooderstone, KINGS LYNN, PE33 9DB, United Kingdom.) Articles on all aspects of Saudi Arabian philately are urgently needed for publication in *Random Notes*, and can be submitted in manuscript, as a text file, as an e-mail or a MS Word document. The right to edit or reject all submissions is reserved. Opinions expressed are those of the authors only. Material from this publication may be reprinted provided credit is given to "Arabian Philatelic Association International" and the author of the article. Please send a copy of the reprint to the editor.

Scott's (2024) and Stanley Gibbons (2016) catalog numbers are used with the kind permission of the copyright owners.

Several organizations and individuals have granted permission for their work to be reproduced in this journal; our thanks go to them and their details are given on the final page of this edition.

Reference may be made in this publication to the following books by their authors' names:

HAWORTH, W.B. and SARGENT, H. L.- *The Postal Issues of the Hejaz* (1922)

WARIN, D.F.- *The Postal Issues of Hejaz, Jeddah and Nejd*. (1927)

MAYO, M.M. - *Barid Al Sa'udiyyah wa al Hijaz wa Najd* (1973)

DONALDSON, N - *The Postal Agencies in Eastern Arabia and the Gulf*. (1975)

WILSON, J.M.- *The Hejaz - A History in Stamps* (1982).

COLES, J.H. & WALKER, H.E - *Postal Cancellations of the Ottoman Empire Part 2* (1987)

THODEN, R. J - *A Catalog of the Fiscal Stamps of Saudi Arabia*, (2001), Thoden 2008

VON UEXKULL, J.- *The Early Postal History of Saudi Arabia* (2001).

RIACHI, G.D. - *The Sultanate of Nejd, A Philatelic Manual* (2015).

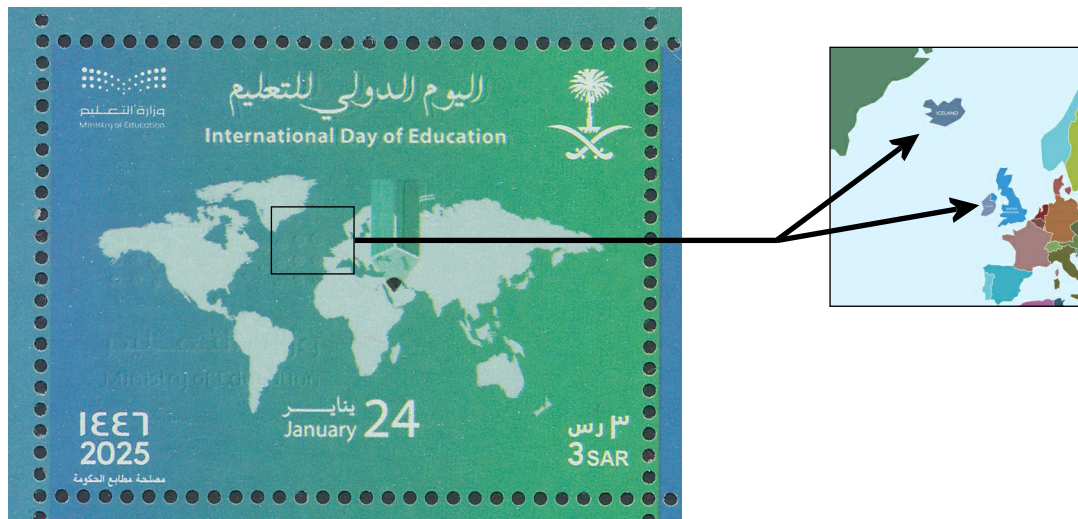
Random Notes #103

Assembled by the Editor

It has been some time since the last issue so I thought it best to publish what I have. There are no articles this time; I have received nothing from members and I am too busy with several books. The notes range from what I hope is interesting to items purely to record facts.

Now for the notes.

1. Oh dear! Echoes of the 2013 issue '2013 King Abdullah bin Abdelaziz Prize for Translation' where the 2SR value had spelling mistakes (RN86.3 item #2). This time we have an issue for the 2025 International Day of Education which displays a lack of geography education. The stamp shows a map of the world but the North Atlantic Ocean has some countries missing. Omitted are Iceland, Ireland and the United Kingdom; whatever their international importance, they are hardly insignificant land masses. The map showing the omitted countries has been adapted from www.freevector.com/world-map-with-countries-names-90662.



Omitted countries

2. For many years up to the 2023 Diriyah season 23/24 issue, it was usual for the stamp face value to be displayed twice, once in Western Arabic numerals with SR as the currency code, and also with the value and currency in Arabic.



Currency code SR

From 2023/1445 ALULA World Archaeology Summit the currency indicator was changed to SAR, the international currency code for the Saudi riyal (ISO 4217).



Currency code SAR



From part way through 2025 it changed again, showing the face value in Western Arabic numerals and the currency (riyal) in Arabic. I am not a fan of the Arabic typeface used.

3 Stylized Arabic 'riyal'

3. A potentially good item appeared on eBay in December 2024. It was a Mohamed Ali Abdou sheet with a set of Caliphate postage due stamps, cancelled by an all-Arabic Makkah type HA50 dated 15-8-1342 (22 March 1924). The stamps look good as does the Abdou sheet, but the cancels look too black with a very even colour. I suspect a laser forgery, but I may be wrong. Unfortunately it was too expensive to take a risk.



4. I have seen two first flight covers for Lufthansa flights LH 632 and 633 with machine cancels type SM10L both having the CDS at right removed. This particular cancel is unusual in that the Gregorian date circle has DHAHRAN A.P. as the office but the Hijri has just DHAHRAN. Was the Hijri date removed because the cover was a first flight and the office was just DHAHRAN with no mention of an airport?

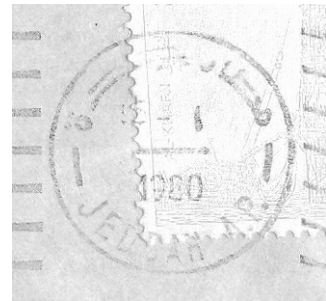


Rightmost date circle removed



Rightmost date circle removed

5. Another SM10L variety is on this cover cancelled JEDDAH A.P. 16-1-1980. The month is an inverted Eastern Arabic numeral, the remaining numbers are Western Arabic.



Inverted Arabic numeral in Gregorian date

6. The 2025 Kaaba issue exists with a complete double print and was probably caused by a paper tension problem during the printing process. On the sheet I have seen, the doubling exists across the entire sheet, but is worse at the top.



Kaaba issue double print



7. I don't recall seeing these for some time, but they are still around, and in several variations. The usual perforation format is to have no perforations extending into the margin adjacent to the short edge of the stamp as in the first Al Sadu example below.



No extension perforation holes

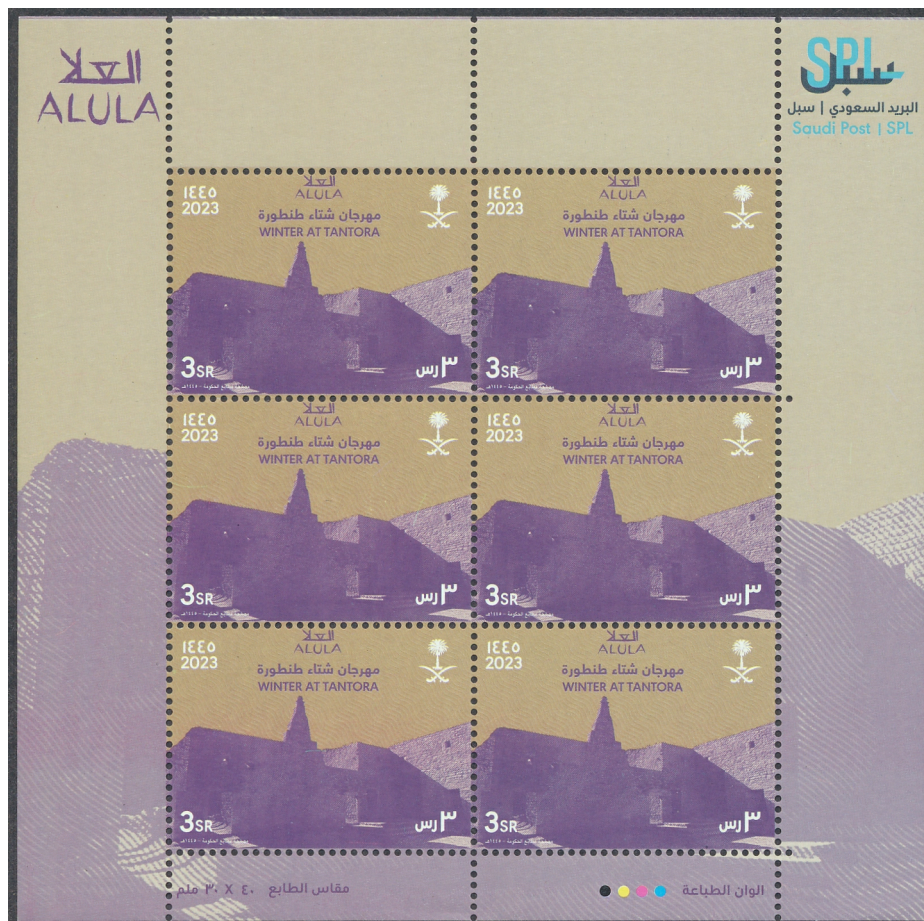
One variation, seen on several issues, is to have a single perforation extension hole in one margin, as illustrated in the Al Sadu below.



Extension hole on all vertical perforation rows

A variation on the single extension hole for every row or column, is to have the hole on alternate rows as seen in the Winter at Tantora issue on the next page.





Perforation hole on alternate rows



If time permits, I will devise a method of listing these perforation varieties, and perhaps the APAI membership can produce a comprehensive catalogue.

8. The 1928 1 qirsh surcharge on 20 paras Turkish Pictorial Type is a controversial stamp and was the subject of an article by David Graham in Random Notes #34. Some of these stamps have the error of an incorrect Arabic *sheen*, not mentioned by David. The *sheen* should have the isolated form and not the final form. Some of the varieties and errors found in this issue are shown.

ش Isolated form

ش Final form



Incorrect final form of *sheen* on both stamps.



Correct isolated form of *sheen* on both stamps.





قرش واحد



قرش واحد

Arabic waw and *alef* transposed. Note that this also has the incorrect *sheen*.

Arabic *khah* instead of *hah*.

9. Ship cancels have appeared in Random Notes at various times, but not this one. It is from the cannoniera Toselli which was based in Somalia 1922 – 1923 and would have passed through the Red Sea, perhaps on several occasions.

I managed to find a scan of a Toselli cover in a binder in the Willie King collection; it is reproduced below. The text alongside the scan was:



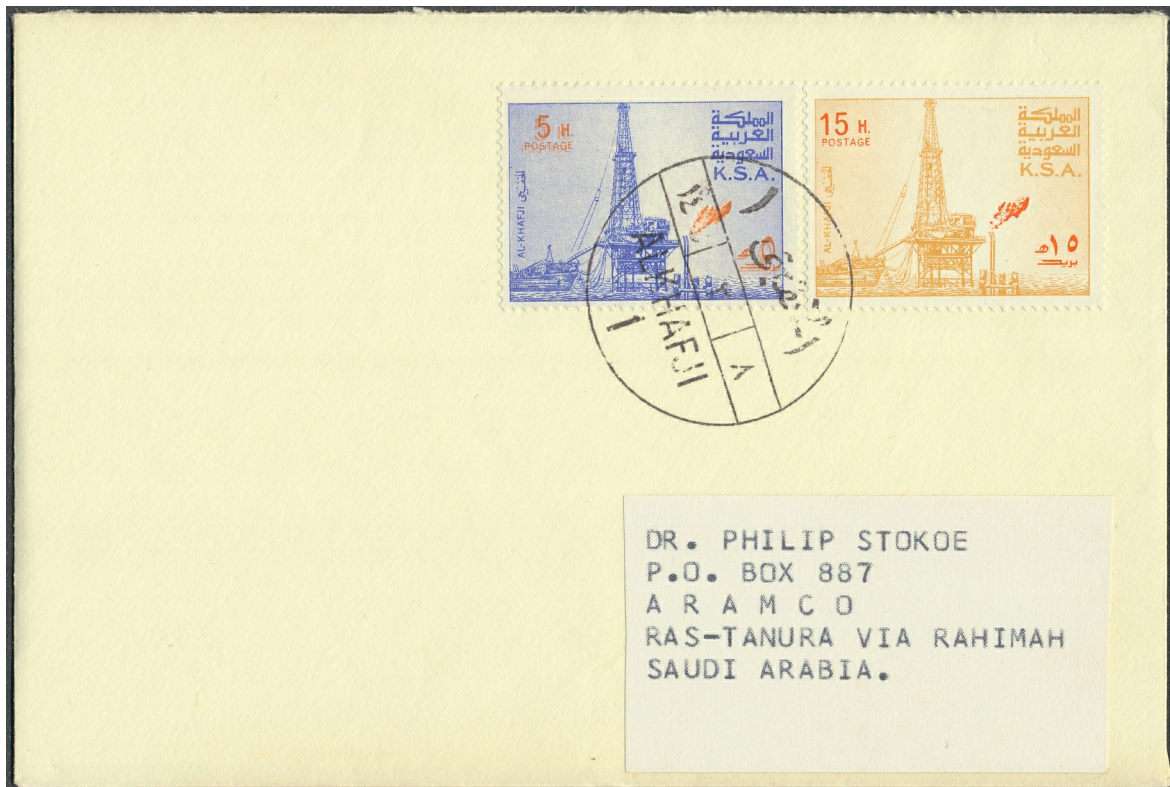
Jeddah 13/10/24 to Pisa from the Commander of Italian gunboat "Magoiore Toselli" sent to protect Italian residents.

Although the postmark gives the date as 13 10 924, there was an error at this time and the date should have been 13 November 1924.



Information is required about S.S. Zamalek operating on the Red Sea and an image of the cancel for S.S. Roda would be gratefully accepted.

10. The double print of the orange colour of the 5 halalah Al Khafji definitive (SG 1167a) has not yet been illustrated in Random Notes, so here it is on a cover. The design of the stamp is the original version and the watermark is inverted.



Cover with 5 halalah error, from Al Khafji to Ras Tanura

11. Part 1 of the new forgery manual has been published in PDF format and is available as a free download from the APAI website:

<http://www.the-weatherings.co.uk/APAI/forgerymanual.html>

Part 1 covers stamp forgeries and Part 2 will detail overprint forgeries. Unfortunately there is no estimate as to when the second part will be completed.



Reference Manual of Saudi Arabian Forgeries



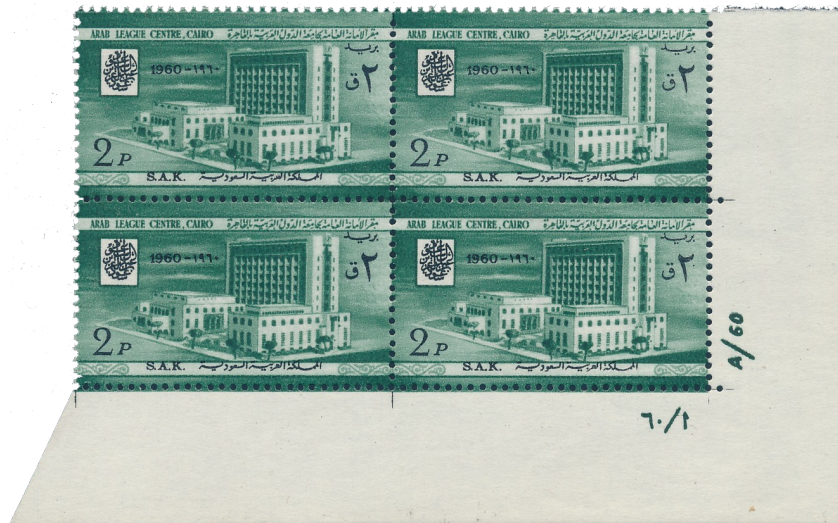
Part 1 - Postage and Revenue Stamps (2025)

(Including Hejaz stamps overprinted for use in Transjordan)

Arabian Philatelic Association International
Edited by Martin C. Lovegrove



12. The 1960 Inauguration of the Arab League Centre, Cairo, 22 March 1960, provides us with a variety of items, most of them affordable. Seven countries issued stamps in green and black all with a common design; the black colour was used for the country and value. The seven countries were Egypt, Jordan, Libya, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen. Some of the items issued are shown below. According to Stanley Gibbons, one sheet was found in Damascus with the black colour (country and value) omitted. From that discovery, perhaps we can assume that it was a Syrian sheet that suffered the colour loss.



Saudi Arabia, control block



Saudi Arabia, imperforate



Black omitted



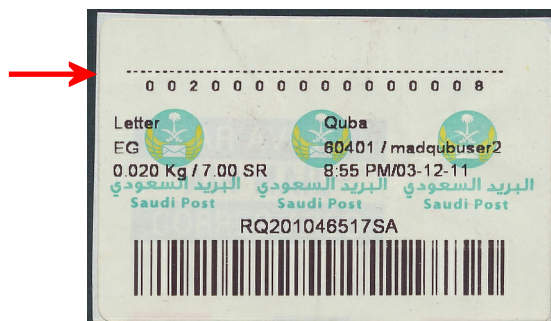
Also issued was an invitation card to the opening ceremony to which have been affixed stamps of six of the countries cancelled by an appropriate registered date stamp. The Jordanian stamp did not appear on the invitation.



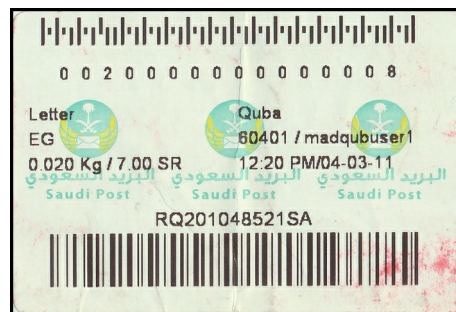
Invitation to opening ceremony



13. This barcode error on the postal label is one that is new to me. The top barcode has been printed as a series of dashes, with the position of each dash being in the same position as a vertical bar in a correct print. The width of a dash is the same as a bar width.



Error barcode

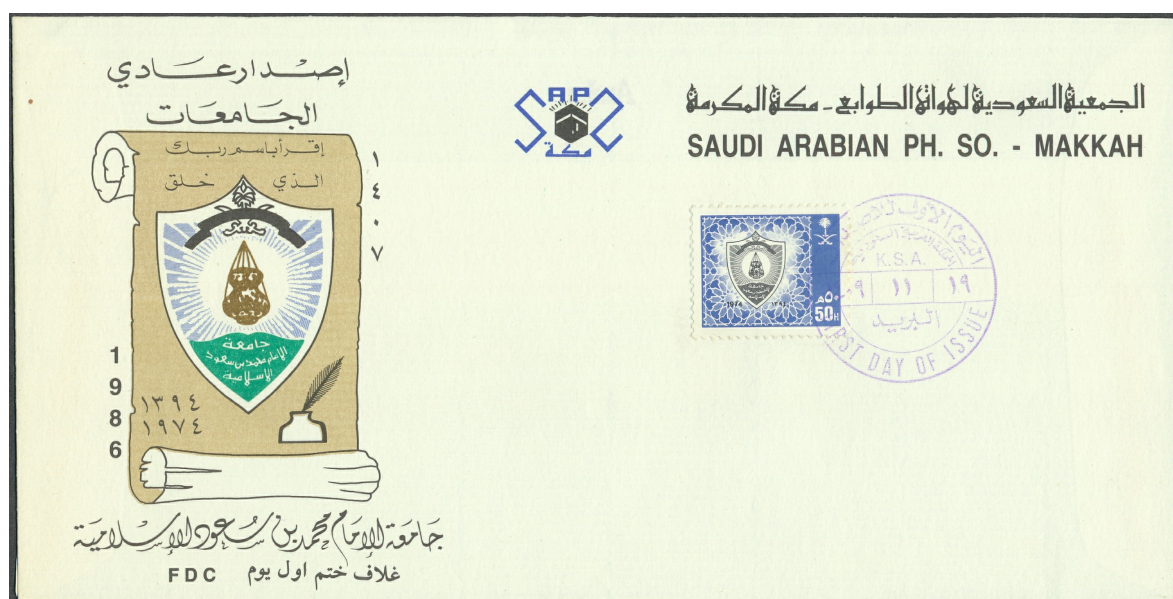


Correct barcode

14. In the APAI checklist for the university definitives and the Stanley Gibbons Arabia catalogue, the first day of issue for the Imam Mohammed ibn Saud Islamic University, Riyadh, 50 Halalah stamp (Scott 1011, SG 1476) is July 1989. Here is a first day cover prepared by the Saudi Arabian Philatelic Society (SAPS) showing the issue date as 22 June 1989. So, was Rudy Thoden's (and SG's) date an error? Perhaps a mistake was made, or have SAPS been a little too enthusiastic with their cover?



From back of FDC



SAPS FDC 19-11-1409 (22 June 1989)

15. This next item is one of cooperation and possibly all of the holes in the Swiss cheeses lining up. I was lucky.

For some time I have been wondering if the Caliphate overprint error 'missing *reh*' exists on the 1 qirsh value. I do not have a copy and I haven't seen one in any auction catalogues.

Following the sad passing of Willie King, his family kindly gave me a copy of the philatelic files on his computer; there are 11,465 files in 395 folders, and that is a lot of information. Just by chance I came across a scan of a set of three of the Caliphate Dues stamps and two had the 'missing *reh*' error, and one was the 1 qirsh value from position 17. The name of the file included the name of an APAI member and contact was made to ensure that the stamp did have the error; images can be deceptive. The APAI member still had the stamps and the error was confirmed. I was in luck; all three stamps exist with the error.

The existence of the error on the 1 qirsh was not guaranteed. The postage due stamps did not all receive the Caliphate overprint at the same time; the existence of the overprint with the narrow top line proves that, so it is possible for at least one of the values to have been overprinted with the repaired plate with the *reh* intact. Also, because so few postage due sheets were overprinted, and their storage was not in ideal conditions, not all of the stamps may have survived.

So, the holes in the Swiss cheeses that lined up to enable the final result are:

Willie had the stamp and scanned it.

Willie named the scanned image after the purchaser.

Willie's family gave me the philatelic data.

I was able to contact the purchaser.

The purchaser still had the stamps.

The purchaser confirmed the error.

تذكار الخلافة for تذكار الخلافة



Set of three with missing *reh*



Stamp with narrow top line



16. This document fragment has a mix of Hejaz-Nejd and Saudi court registration revenue stamps, two of which are not recorded in the Thoden catalogue.

The stamp in position 2 is a Hejaz-Nejd 50 qirsh bright yellow-green, as RCR38 but perforated 11.1. It should be catalogued as RCR38Z. It is well known that the Hejaz-Nejd revenues were in use for a long time into the Saudi Arabia period, but was this as a result of unused stock, or were printings from the Hejaz-Nejd plates still being made?

The first stamp on the bottom row is a 1 qirsh orange on ordinary paper. This stamp is only listed on greyish paper and should therefore be RCR43X.



17. Item 8 on page 9 showed the use of an incorrect form of the Arabic *sheen*; it appears to be a common problem as it also exists on the surcharged stamps with the second Nejd handstamp. The error appears to occur on early plates in positions 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33. I say 'appears' because some of the type is worn and poorly printed and exact confirmation cannot be given from my sheets.



Cross-checking my 1 and 1½ qirsh surcharge sheets I found that the error occurs in the same positions on both values and it is possible that one plate was derived from the other by the substitution of one word of the value. It is difficult to prove when the condition of the type is considered, but is an interesting thought. A comparison of positions 13, 14 and 15 from the two values is shown below.



Positions 13, 14 and 15 for the one qirsh (top) and one and a half qirsh (bottom)

The word *qirsh* for each position is almost identical for each position, although the horizontal positioning has been changed during the plate assembly.

18. Some sad news reached me long after I started these notes, so I thought I would place it at the end.

Our member Martin Kuriger died suddenly but peacefully at home in Shenyang, China on the afternoon of 24 June 2025.

Martin was working on an update to the series of articles about Saudi postmarks; fortunately he had been sending me a copy of his work at regular intervals, so most of his efforts will not be lost. It will be a suitable tribute to Martin if a member, or members, could continue the project. I can supply the data and lots of additional information. Please contact your editor, details on page 2, if you are willing to make a contribution to Saudi Arabian philately.

Saudi Arabia, The Kingdom of Humanity The Contribution of Saudi Post

By: Martin Lovegrove

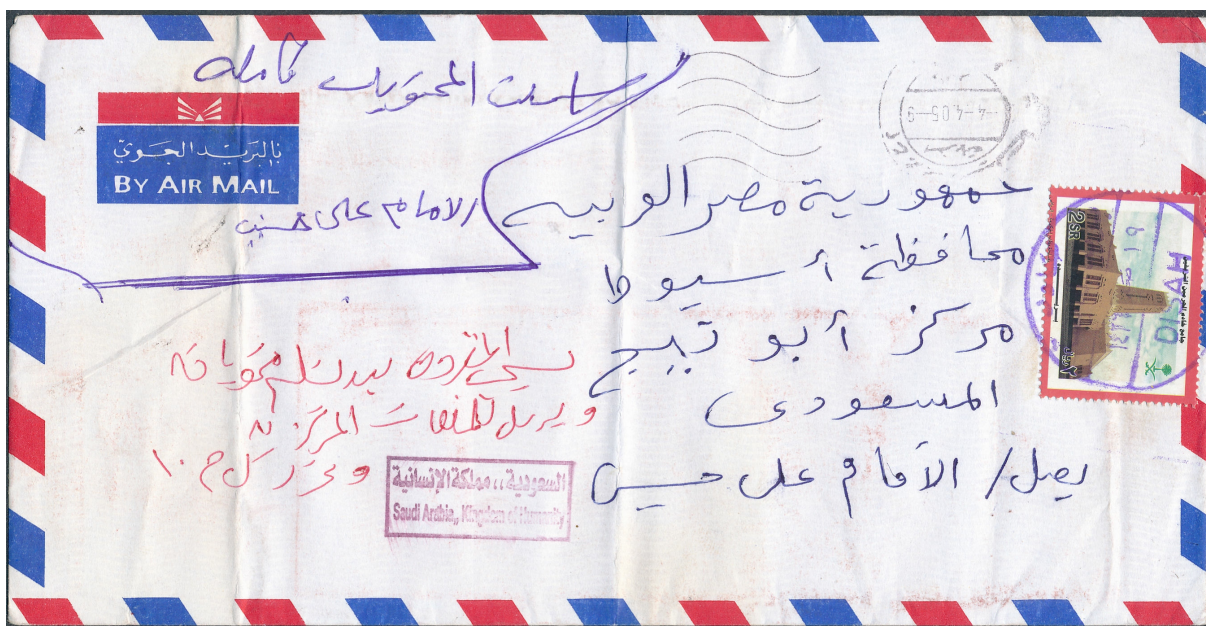
To find the details of when and why the country assigned itself the title 'Kingdom of Humanity' would probably require a search of the archives of Umm Al Qura in Makkah, so I will limit this brief article of some of the postal items I have relating to that title.

The earliest reference I have is a 2005 cover with a special cachet; I will deal with the cachets first.

Cover 1



Cover from Al Disah, Tabuk region, posted 30 March 2005, cachet size 34 x 14 mm.



DISAH, 19-2-1426 (30 March 2005) type SD245

Cover 2



Applied to back of cover from Al Mandaq, Al Bahah region, posted 31 March 2005, cachet size 59 x 40 mm.





Back of cover, front with meter mark AL MANDAQ-1, 20-2-1426 (31 March 2005) type MPB01

Cover 3

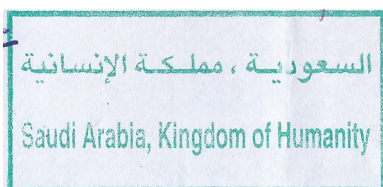


Cover from Al Ula, Medina region, posted 10 April 2005, cachet size 50 x 16 mm.



Meter mark ULA-1, 1-3-1426 (10 April 2005) type MPB01

Cover 4



Cover from Al Hadar, Riyadh region, posted 6 March 2006, cachet size 50 x 23 mm.

Stamps and postmarks on reverse. HADAR 1, 5-2-1427 (6 March 2006) type S195 black. ALAFLAJ 6-2-1427 (7 March 2006) type S150 red.



Cover from Al Hadar, 5-2-1427 (6 March 2006)

Cover 5



Cover from Al Bahah, Al Bahah region, posted 30 May 2006, cachet size 32 x 20 mm.



ALBAHA 3, 2-5-1427 (30 May 2006) type S157

It is not known whether the cachets were applied at the office of posting or at a later point in the journey.

Postal meters also received special treatment. Some machines received a 'Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of Humanity' slogan which may have been manufactured from rubber and suffered a gradual deterioration from the effects of the cancellation ink.

My examples are from covers dated 19 February 2006 to 21 May 2006.



Clear example of meter slogan



Less than perfect example!

The postage stamps were not issued until 23 April 2007, so quite a time after the venture started. The 2SR stamp and a 5SR souvenir sheet were issued; the stamps were distributed to post offices in sheets of 15 (3 rows of 5 stamps).



Sadly, that is the end of my story, but I suspect that there are many more cachets to be found, first day covers to collect, and also I assume brochures providing details of the stamps were printed. I need to keep looking.

From The Auctions

Compiled by: Martin Lovegrove

Harmers of London held a special sale on 15 December 1999 comprising just 10 lots of Saudi material with rare and unique items; the catalogue listed the estimates as 'Price on request'. In one of Willie King's boxes of papers, I found the catalogue for the sale and Willie's notes showing the actual estimates.

I think that all of the lots found their way into the Al Thani collection.

The prices realised and the actual estimates follow:

AUCTION No. 4681

List of
**PRICES REALISED for
THE POSTAL HISTORY AND POSTAGE STAMPS
OF SAUDI ARABIA SALE**
held on the
15th. DECEMBER 1999



LOT	£	LOT	£	LOT	£	LOT	£
1	29,320.00	4	327,033.00	6	6,202.00	8	18,040.00
2	109,950.00	5	23,681.00	7	70,480.00	9	186,070.00
3	3,660.00					10	84,577.00

TOTAL FOR SALE £858,994
- Prices include the buyer's premium -

RATES OF EXCHANGE

United States	Switzerland	Germany	France	Japan
Dollars per £1	Frs. per £1	Dm. per £1	Frs. per £1	Yen per £1
1.612	2.538	3.098	10.391	166.03

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E mail: auctions@harmers.demon.co.uk - Internet: www.harmers.com

Lot

Description

Estimate

- 3 ☆○☒ Hejaz: 1916 and 1917, the first issues: A beautifully written up and highly specialised Collection in two albums, including some sixty-five Proofs and Essays with some from the King Farouk of Egypt Collection, twenty-six covers and cards, including rare Registered from the first issue, perf. 10 lpi. on picture postcard from Yambo, rouletted ½pi. on another card also from Yambo, Censored covers, blocks with many Plate blocks, varieties, printings, etc., chiefly very fine. *A superb and interesting Collection.* Stanley Gibbons Catalogue value £5,000 plus unpriced items and covers with and estimated net value of £7,000+ (Photo-Plate 7) P.O.A.
- 4 ☆ The remarkable specialised Collection of issues from 1916 to 1985 housed in six large volumes. To the best of our knowledge the finest and most extensive Collection outside Saudi Arabia where we know of only one larger Collection. Practically complete with some duplication (including many of the rarities) in shades, ded very rare (some unique!) Nejd errors, including all from the Hejaz and Nejd overprints have been examined by the rel-
Among the highlights of this fantastic Collection are: 1916-17
ing "Royal" Proofs (26), nine Colour trials of the ½pi. (Ex
four imperf. between vertically, etc.; 1921 unframed "1340
perf. 10 lpi. examples with overprint upright and inverted,
Gold overprints; 1922 framed "1340 Hashemite Kingdom
e only, 1922-23 Meccan Sherifian Arms issue with Proofs,
Due (5 sets, including blocks of 4!); 1925 two line "Hejaz
with many rare or unique errors, including roulette 20 ½pi.
, zig-zag roulette 2pi. with blue overprint (11, including the
ue of 1922 ½pi. (2), ½pi. inverted overprint (3), 2pi. inver-
ted (2), on 1922 ½pi. on 1924 10pi., Postage Due with 20pa.
az Government, 4 October 1924" with roulette 20 ½pi. red
it triple (9), Postage Due 20pa. (12); 1925 large three line
zig-zag roulette ¼pi., on 1922 and 1924 issues in red ½pi. (3),
rown-red overprint inverted (3), in blue on 1pi. (8 with a
t, one with overprint inverted, the other without overprint,
one with overprint inverted, the other without overprint,
overprint inverted, Postage Due with 1½pi. red handstamp;
pecialised range with many errors se-tenant with normal,
he unissued values in blocks, 10pi. orange and scarlet (13);
9, including unrecorded inverted overprints); 1925 "Nejd
ing group with errors, Proofs, unissued values, Newspaper
ge with Proofs, inverted overprints; 1925 "Nejd Sultanate
n black (also inverted, sideways and tête-bêche), Railway
inverted, Postage Due 2pi. with handstamp in blue, 1925
s of four; Hejaz and Nejd 1926 large size Essays (55), se-ten-
maller size, many errors, the issued stamps with imperfs.,
½pi., ½pi., imperf. between pairs, 1927 Kingdom 5pi. over-
imperf. between stamp and margin (6), imperf. between
block of six (3 x 2) from the lower-right corner of the sheet
Saudi Arabia with 1934 Heir Apparent (8 sets, incl. imperf.
pairs), 1934-57 with many varieties, 1952 Damman-Riyadh Railway with Proofs (26, including progres-
sives, the unique set of index copies), later issues with Proofs and imperforates, including over 50 imperf.
blocks of definitives with high values, gutter margins, 1961 Official 5p. to 100p. all in imperf. blocks of
24, 1962 Malaria min. sheet with Proofs, 1964-70 Official 50p. and 100p. blocks of 4, Booklets, minia-
ture sheets and much else besides. The condition is mostly superb, the few with faults are mostly as fine as
is available. The collection is arranged in six stockbooks (complete with many notes from the vendor) and
could therefore be easily incorporated into an existing collection or mounted according to the new owners
taste. The Catalogue value over £418,000 plus numerous unpriced items with an estimated net value of
£593,000 (as per detailed list available on request). A magnificent opportunity to acquire a most important
and unrepeatable collection (Photo-Plates 8 to 17)..... P.O.A.
- 5 ☆☒ The specialised Collection in blocks of four or larger. Contained in four large stockbooks, slightly duplicated in places, including a marvellous array of the first issue with Control blocks, Proofs, a marvellous range of the later overprinted and surcharged issues with many rarities, varieties, Plate blocks, etc., a specialised group of King Ali issues with colour Proofs, etc., Nejd handstamped issues with shades, scarce blocks of the first Postage Dues, 1925 Pilgrimage with 4pi. on ½pi. and 3pi. (2 blocks of each value), inverted handstamps, 1934-57 definitives with values to 200g. (17), 1949 Air 100g. imperf. block, 1951 Visit of King Talal "BOYAUME" errors in corner blocks, 1960-61 definitives with imperfs., high values, 1961 Official 5p. to 100p. imperf. blocks, 1964-72 definitives with Gas Oil Plant 10p., 50p., 200p., Boeing 2p., 1966-76 King Faisal Gas Oil Plant 100p., Wadi Hanifa Dam 1p., 23p., later issues to 1996, a few used but mostly mint and chiefly very fine. *An exceptional group with would be practically impossible to duplicate and with a Stanley Gibbons catalogue value in excess of £100,000 plus unpriced items with an estimated net value of £20,000 (Photo-Plates 18 and 19).....* P.O.A.

Est £

1	30,000
2	120,000
3	3,000
4	300,000
5	20,000
6	6,000
7	60,000
8	15,000
9	150,000
10	70,000

Copies of the auction catalogue occasionally appear on eBay; treat yourself!

The auction of **Willie King's collection of Saudi Arabia** took place at Stanley Gibbons Baldwin's (SGB) on Wednesday 2 September 2025. At the time of writing, the auction and hammer prices are on their [website](#). If it has moved, search their past auctions. Not all of the Saudi items were Willie's, lot 594A, a Nejd newspaper stamp SG N208a, was an unsold item from a previous auction. I suspect it did not sell because it is a forgery, albeit in excellent condition and would make a fine addition to a forgery collection.

So how did SGB perform?

I registered to bid and found that straightforward. The listing was easy to follow and most of the lots had images, the larger lots had videos which I found very useful. SGB were offered help from the APAI to assist with Saudi specific things, but the offer was declined, and it shows. Apart from some IT problems with the room camera and sound, the auction ran well with the on-line bidding not affected. I thought that the auctioneers conducted the proceedings in a very professional manner. Now for the sad bit:

Lot: 491: Saudi Hejaz 1925 three-line ovpt reading up block 4 MNH **Image shown was inverted.**

Lot: 494: Saudi Hejaz 1925 three-line ovpt reading down ¼pi block mint **Image shown is inverted.**

Lot: 504: Saudi Hejaz 1925 three-line black ovpt 1pi blue upright and inverted. **Both stamps have upright overprints and the plating information for one is incorrect.**

Lot: 506: Saudi 1924 three-line ovpt 20pa postage due ovpt upright mnh. **The image is inverted and thus the overprint is inverted and it is a right-hand marginal example not left-hand as stated.**

Lot 521: 1920s accumulation of varieties on dealer/auction cards, including Hejaz 1917 Postage Due set in imperf unused proof pairs, 1922 framed surcharge 1pi on 1pa overprint inverted and surcharge both double and inverted part og, 1924 Arms 2pi orange Postage Due unused and unexpertised, 1925 two-line overprint 20pa Postage due inverted without gum, three-line ¼pi green (SG94a) unexpertised hinged mint, an interesting lot for the specialist. **The good video revealed many gems with their catalogue numbers and prices marked on the cards. They were not entered as single lots because they did not have certificates and were not signed. I would have thought that the auction house would have informed the vendor that the items needed certificates as they were catalogued at thousands of pounds each. The lot fell for a mere GBP600 under the hammer. There is something for all of us to learn here.**

Lot: 538: Saudi Arabia 1960-61 Vickers Viscount varieties. **This is what happens when they rely on their stamp catalogue for descriptions. Readers of Random Notes will know that the aircraft is a Convair 340 (2 engines) not a Vickers Viscount (4 engines).**

Lot 594A: NEJD OCCUPATION OF HEJAZ: 1925 1/8p chestnut Newspaper Stamp, black overprint, large part o.g., trivial gum wrinkle, marginal example (thin on selvage, not affecting stamp), A. Eid handstamp on reverse, a rare stamp (SG N208a). **This description demonstrated the auctioneer's lack of knowledge of Saudi philately. The EID handstamp referred to the Nejd handstamp and not the Newspaper one which was a forgery.**

Free Adlets

Random Notes will publish as many free adlets in each issue as will fit on one page. Adlets will run for one issue only but can be renewed by sending a request by email to the editor. There is a maximum of five lines per adlet. The adlet must be relevant to Saudi Arabian philately and the editor's decision is final as to whether an adlet is suitable.

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