

## Hejaz : First Issues

**One Piastre : Fourth Printing**  
**Perforation : Straight Line Roulette 20**



992 sheets (49,600 stamps) were printed in 2 panes of 50 stamps on December 12<sup>th</sup>. 1916.  
 The Arabic Control, which reads Th-16, is under stamp 46.

**1917 : Jeddah to London**



This cover was postmarked on June 13<sup>th</sup>. 1917 (22<sup>nd</sup>. Sha'aban 1335)

The Port Taufiq route mark is June 23<sup>rd</sup>. 1917.

The unusual II Symbol is normally seen on letters from Palestine to Europe via APO SZ 22. (Type DM 8)



## Hejaz : First Issues

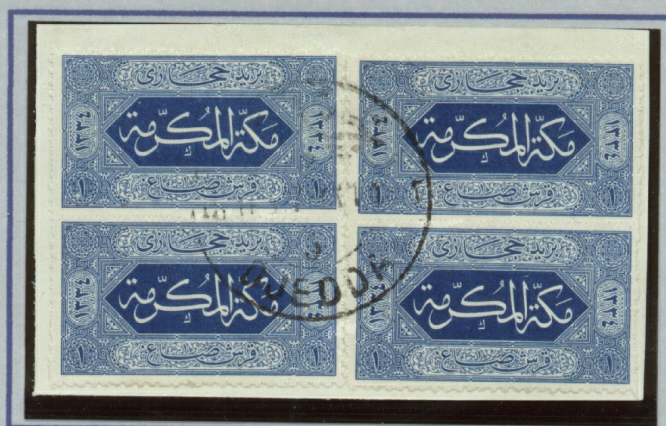
### One Piastre : Roulette 13 Printings

There were five further printings of the one piastre all perforated with roulette 13.

Printing Date	Sheets	Control	Plate
May 13 <sup>th</sup> 1917	3,520	A.17	N-1-C
Aug. 4 <sup>th</sup> 1919	540	B.19	N-1-D
Jan. 19 <sup>th</sup> 1920	2,200	T.19	N-1-D
Dec. 1 <sup>st</sup> 1920	3,480	Th.20	N-1-E
1921	n.a.	J.21	N-1-F



The wide outer marginal line was dropped for the roulette printings



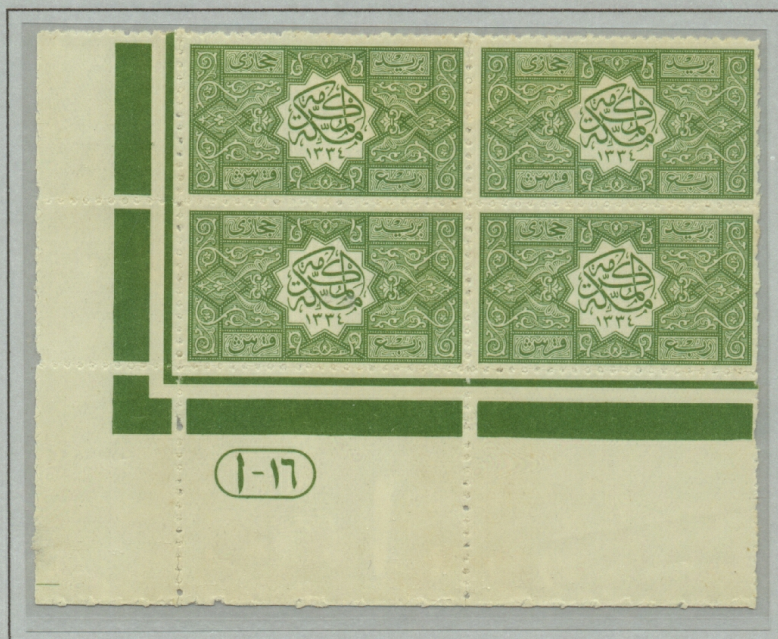
This block is in the light blue shade of the 1917 printing.  
Cancel : Djedda Type H10 1<sup>st</sup> Safer 1336 (16 Nov 1917)



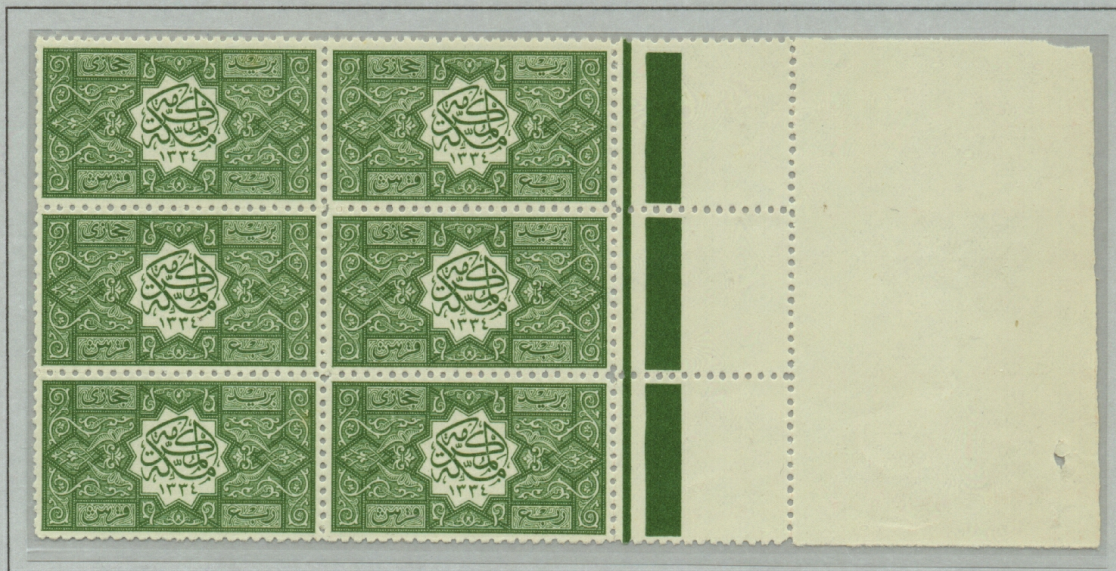
## *Hejaz : First Issues*

### **Quarter Piastre : First Printing : Perforation 12**

The design is based on a door panel at the Mosque of El Salih Talayi', Cairo.  
340 sheets (17,000 stamps) printed by the Survey of Egypt on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. 1916.  
Even with this single printing a range of shades exist.



Pale green block showing the Arabic A-16 control.  
Poor perforation quality is associated with the paler green shades.



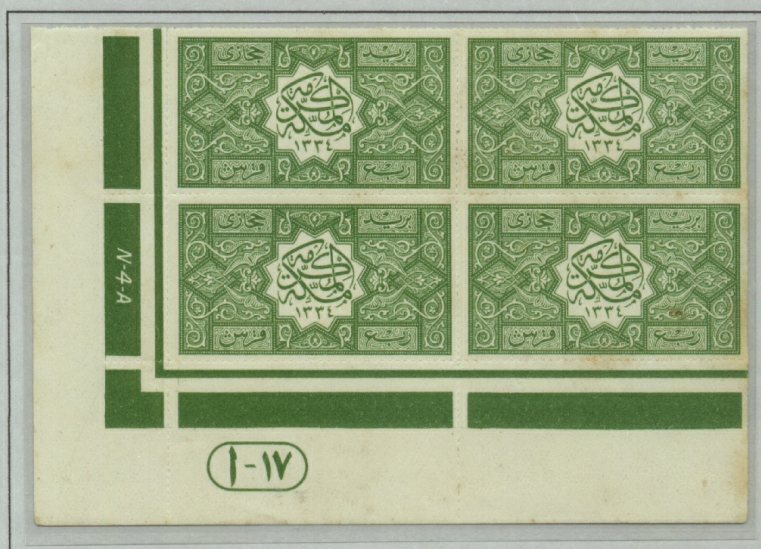
Deeper green showing an unusual extra row of perforations in the margin.

**Other Perforations :** Perforation 10 was initially reported, but all copies seen have had forged perforations.  
A sheet of perforation 12 x 10 was sent to King George V.



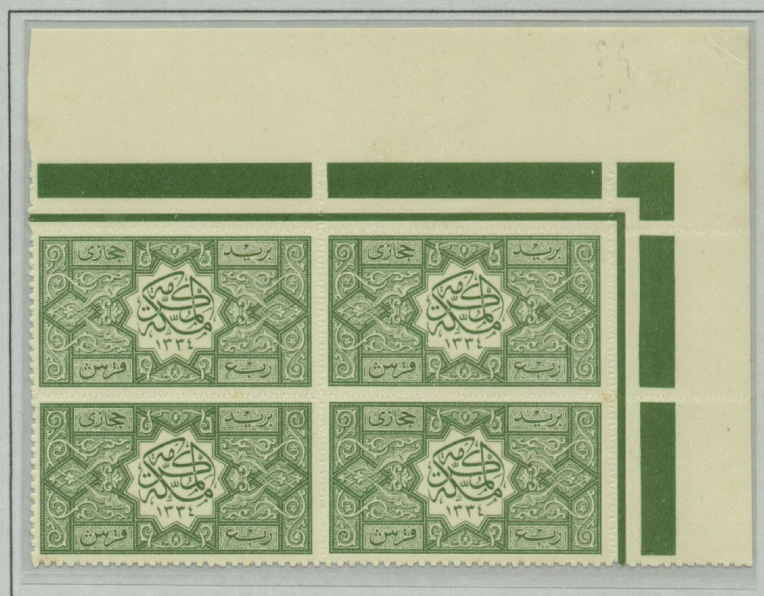
## *Hejaz : First Issues*

### **Quarter Piastre : Roulette 20**



4,689 Sheets perforated with roulette 20 from 2 printings in December 1916 and February 1917.  
The block above is from the 3<sup>rd</sup> printing and shows the flaw in Barid in lower left stamp.

### **Roulette 13**



Over 20,000 Sheets printed and perforated with roulette 13  
from 8 printings between November 1917 and the end of 1920.

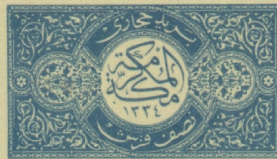


## *Hejaz : First Issues*

### **Half Piastre : Finalization of Design and Colour**

PLATE V.

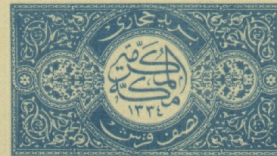
#### Half Piastre : Alternative Scripts



*Fig. 33*



*Fig. 34*



*Fig. 35*



*Fig. 36*

**Plate V from Survey of Egypt Records**



## *Hejaz : First Issues*

### **Half Piastre**

The half piastre design is based on details in a Quran in the Mosque of Sultan Burquq, Cairo

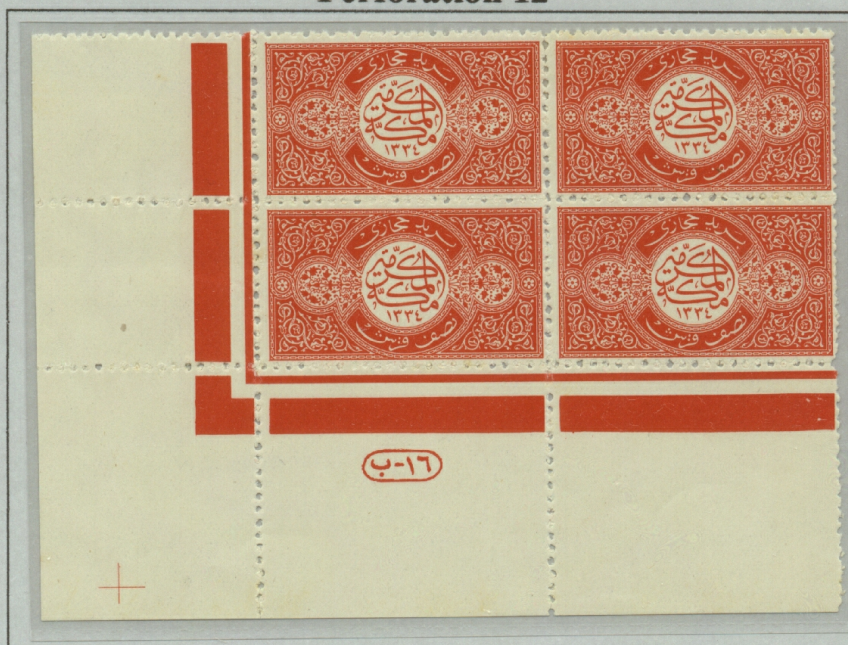
#### **Perforation 10**



The first printing of the half piastre by the Survey of Egypt was September 10<sup>th</sup> 1916. (Control A.16)  
10 of the first 82 sheets were sent to the UPU and learned societies with the remainder shipped to Jeddah.

The majority of the first printing and a small part of the second printing were perforation 10.  
T.E. Lawrence arrived on 16<sup>th</sup> October 1916 and noted in his diary on the 17<sup>th</sup>. that all (of the first printing) had been sold, even though, the official decree to use the new stamps was not signed until October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

#### **Perforation 12**



The second printing was on October 18<sup>th</sup>. 1916  
312 sheets of 50 with the control B-16 as above.



## Hejaz : First Issues

Cover to British Officer

Quarter and Half Pi : Perforation 12



APO SZ 10 (Reduced)  
Receipt on Reverse  
Proud Type F

FPO G.M.  
Is on 1/2 piastre red.  
Proud Type B

An 'officers' cover at correct rate 1 piastre from Makkah. At EEF which with the Arab Bureau, was based at the Savoy Hotel in Cairo. Stamps are a pair of the 1/4 piastre plus a single 1/2 piastre all perforation 12 cancelled with APA type H20 cancel in Makkah on 29<sup>th</sup>. November 1916.

Received in Cairo on 7<sup>th</sup> December 1916 with a Proud (Type F) SZ 10 Army Post Office cancel and also a FPO G.M. (Type B) and also dated 7<sup>th</sup>. December 1916 – **over six months earlier than recorded by Proud**. Note also the blue Arab Bureau cancel.

This cover is initialed CH for Colin Hamilton who claimed that it was sent by T. E. Lawrence (of Arabia). However this is considered most unlikely, and the address script does not appear to be in the hand of Lawrence who, of course, was never in or near Makkah. It is possible that he may have organized the posting as he was still in the area and had not yet begun his forays into the desert and/or attacking the Hejaz railway. The only recorded Lawrence cover from Hejaz is in the Alireza collection.



## Hejaz : First Issues

### Half Piastre : Roulette 20

Third printing : 977 sheets were printed on 23<sup>rd</sup>. Dec. 1916



### Roulette 13

Fourth Printing (Control A-17) : 3,490 sheets printed on 13<sup>th</sup>. May 1917



1-17

### Later Roulette 13 Printings :

(A.18) 1,800 sheets Sept. 1918. (B.19) 960 Sheets January 1919  
(T.20) 2,200 Sheets in August 1919. Th.21 in 1921.



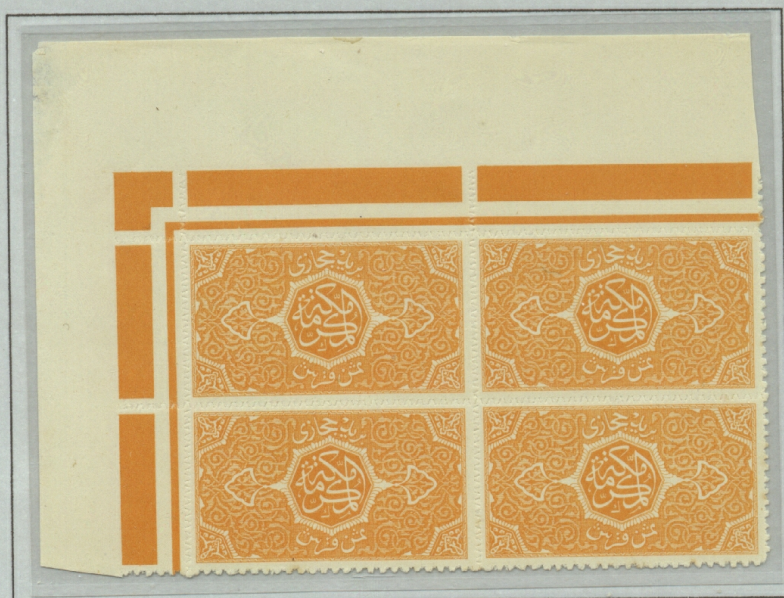
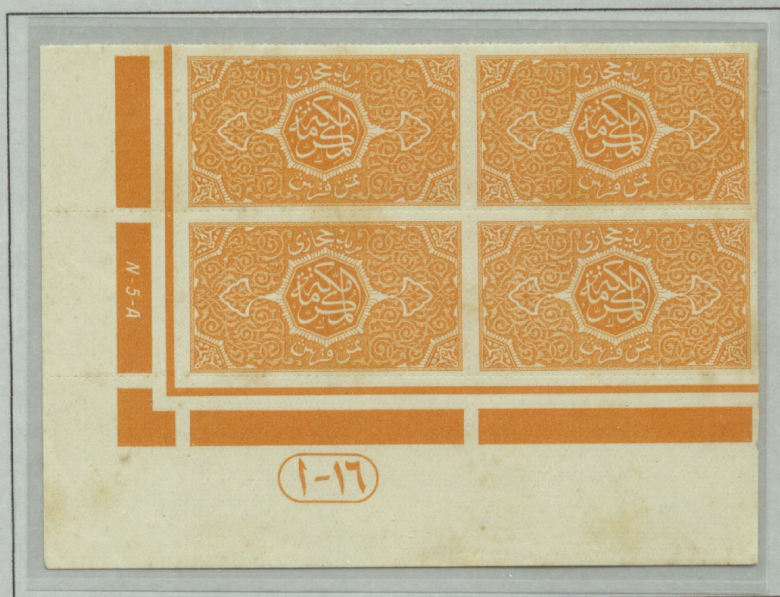
## Hejaz : First Issues

### One Eighth Piastre

#### Roulette 20

First printing of 1/8 piastre

3,600 sheets printed on 5<sup>th</sup> February 1917



#### Roulette 13

Two marginal lines

Second & Third printings

919 sheets printed on 24<sup>th</sup> October 1917

1,880 sheets printed on 4<sup>th</sup> July 1918

#### Roulette 13

Single Marginal Line

Four Printings : 1919-1920

13,440 sheets printed.





## *Hejaz : First Issues*

### **Two Piastres**

The two piastres, issued on 20<sup>th</sup> August 1917, was the final stamp of the first issues.  
The design, by Agami E. Ali, is taken from the Koran of Sultan Farag.



The two piastres was only ever issued as roulette 13.  
895 sheets were issued with the Arabic control A-17.



A further 1,380 sheets were issued in a further 3 printings.  
The purplish shade of the block from the second printing and  
the reddish pair from the third / fourth printings





## Hejaz : First Issues

### Internal Concessionary Rates between Makkah, Medina & Jeddah

For a short period between 1918 and 1920 a concessionary postal rate of 20% discount existed between the cities of Makkah, Medina & Jeddah. The normal internal postal rate of ½ piastre (20 paras) was reduced to 16 paras.

#### Covers from Makkah to Jeddah

**16 Para Basic Rate :** 22<sup>nd</sup>. April 1920 : Rate being made up by 1 para + 1/8 and 1/4 piastre stamps.

**32 Para Double Rate :** 1<sup>st</sup>. December 1918 : This, the only double rate cover so far recorded, makes the 32 para rate using a pair of 1 paras + 1/4 and 1/2 piastres stamps.

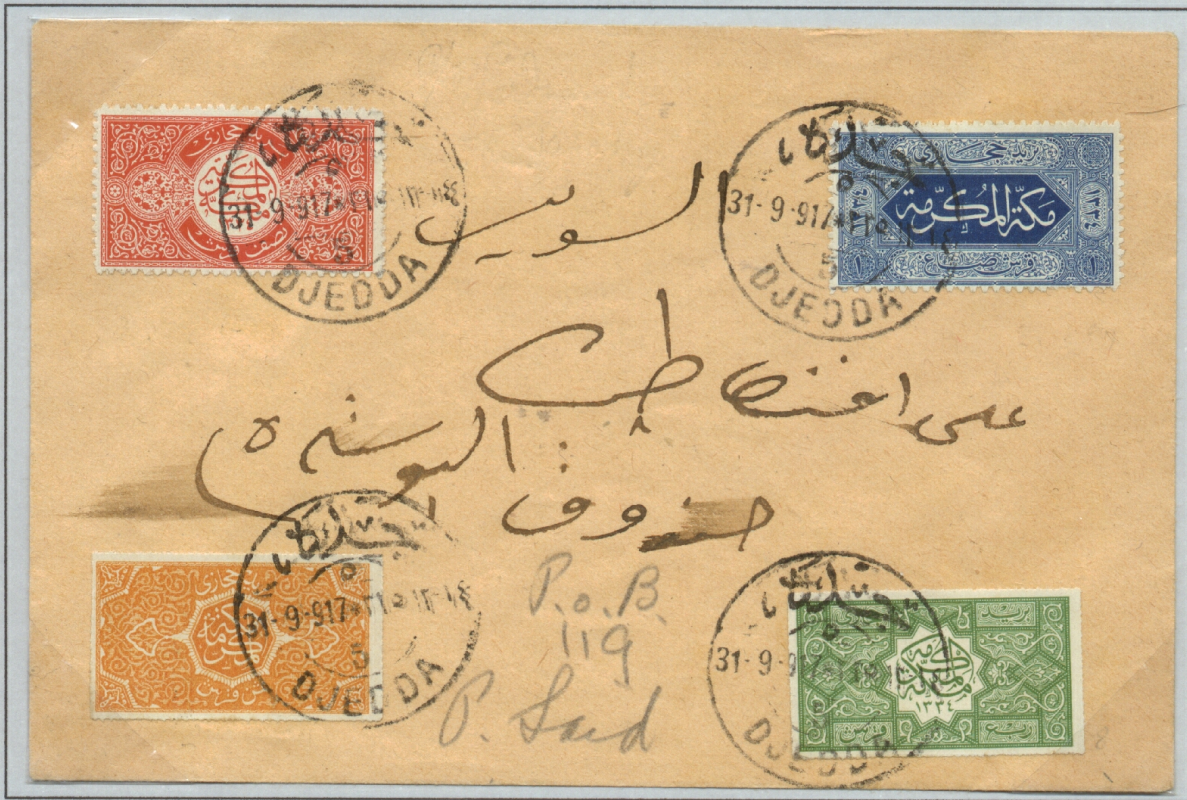
Note these combinations of values are, in both cases, the minimum number of stamps possible to make up the rate.





## Hejaz : First Issues

### Mixed Roulette 20 and 13 Issues on Cover : Jeddah to Port Said



This philatelic cover correctly shows mixed usage of roulette 20 and roulette 13 stamps for the end of September 1917.

Date of printing as roulette 13  
½ piastre red & 1 piastre blue - 13<sup>th</sup> May 1917.

The 1/8<sup>th</sup> piastre yellow : First printed and perforated as roulette 20 on 5<sup>th</sup> February 1917

The second printing and roulette 13 was not until 24<sup>th</sup> October 1917.

¼ piastre green : Also printed and perforated roulette 20 on 5<sup>th</sup> February .

The roulette 13 issues was printed on 6<sup>th</sup> November 1917

### 30 days hath September – Except in Jeddah in 1917 – when it had 31!

The Arabic dates are generally regarded as the 'true' date on any cancel, however minor differences to Gregorian are not uncommon. In this case the result of the conversion by the PO staff resulted in the impossible date  
**31<sup>st</sup> September 1917.**

Even historical conversions sometimes disagree. In this case the Arabic 14<sup>th</sup> Dhu Al Hijjah 1335 converts to 30<sup>th</sup> Sept 1917 or October 2<sup>nd</sup> depending on the reference used and unusual two day variance.

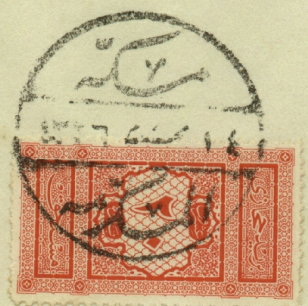
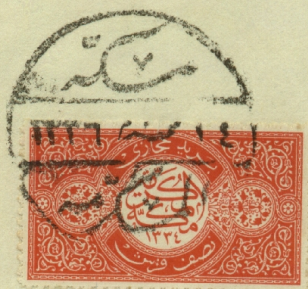


# *Hejaz : First Issues* **Conclusion of Development of First Designs**

MOHAMED ALI ABDOU  
 MECCA  
 HEDJAZ

محمد علي عبد  
 مكة المكرمة

P.T.....



The issue of the first designs was completed with the dues in June, 1 para in July and 2 piastres in August 1917.  
 The final roulette 13 perforation to be issued was the quarter piastre - reported as November 6<sup>th</sup>. 1917.  
 However this 'Abdou' album page shows the complete roulette 13 set  
 cancelled by favour in Mecca one week earlier on 14<sup>th</sup>. Muharram 1336 = 30<sup>th</sup> October 1917.

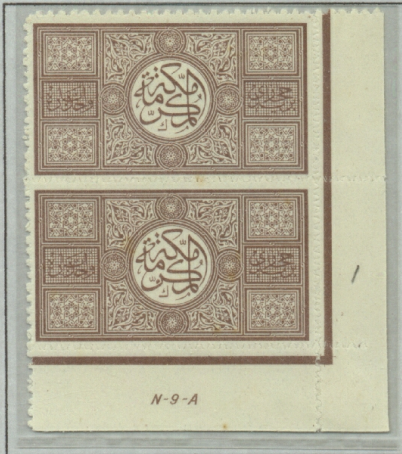


## Hejaz : Flaws & Varieties

### One Para

The printing quality by the Survey of Egypt was high with very few printing flaws except for the very low one para value. The one para was printed in two panes of 50 stamps and whilst one pane, designated 'A' by D.F. Warin has a major number of flaws in the central design circle the second pane has few errors.

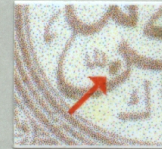
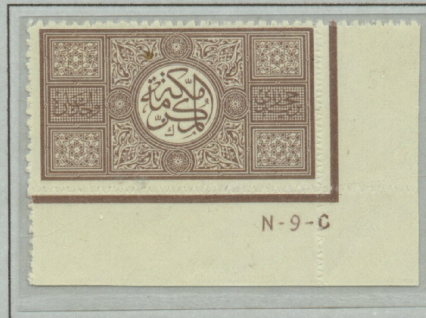
Note pane 'B' has a single major flaw in position 17, pane 'A' has this flaw plus two others. Examples of the flaws can be found throughout the life of the design indicating they were never corrected.



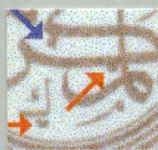
#### Position 50

Plate A and C show Pane A variety.

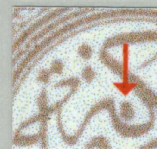
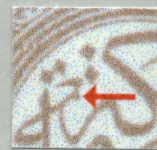
Not shown on plate F – probably from pane B



#### Position 17 (Lower stamp)



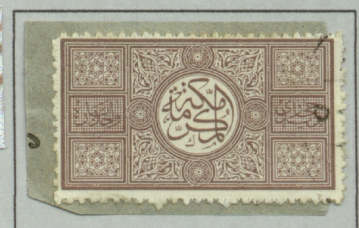
**Pane A**  
⇌ 3 Flaws  
**Pane B**  
1 Flaw ⇌



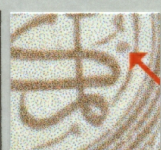
#### Position 2 (Pane A)



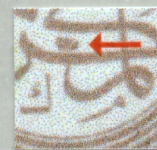
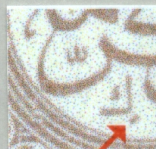
#### Position 4 (Pane A)



#### Position 18 (Panels A & B)



#### Position 36 (Lower stamp) (Panels A & B)



#### Position 26 (Pane A)

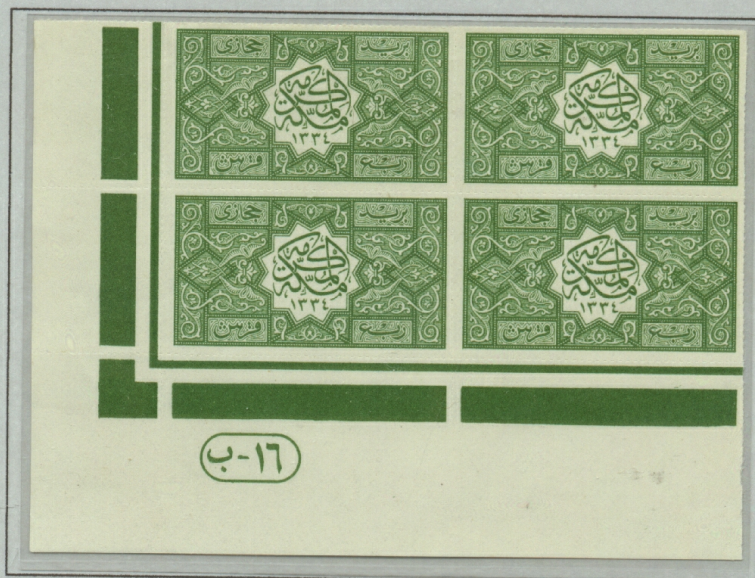




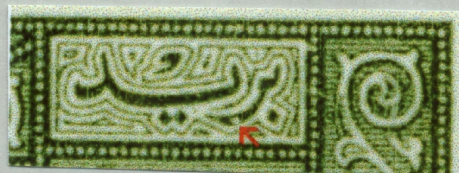
# Hejaz : Flaws & Varieties

## Quarter Piastre

Second Printing : 989 Sheets : December 23<sup>rd</sup>. 1916

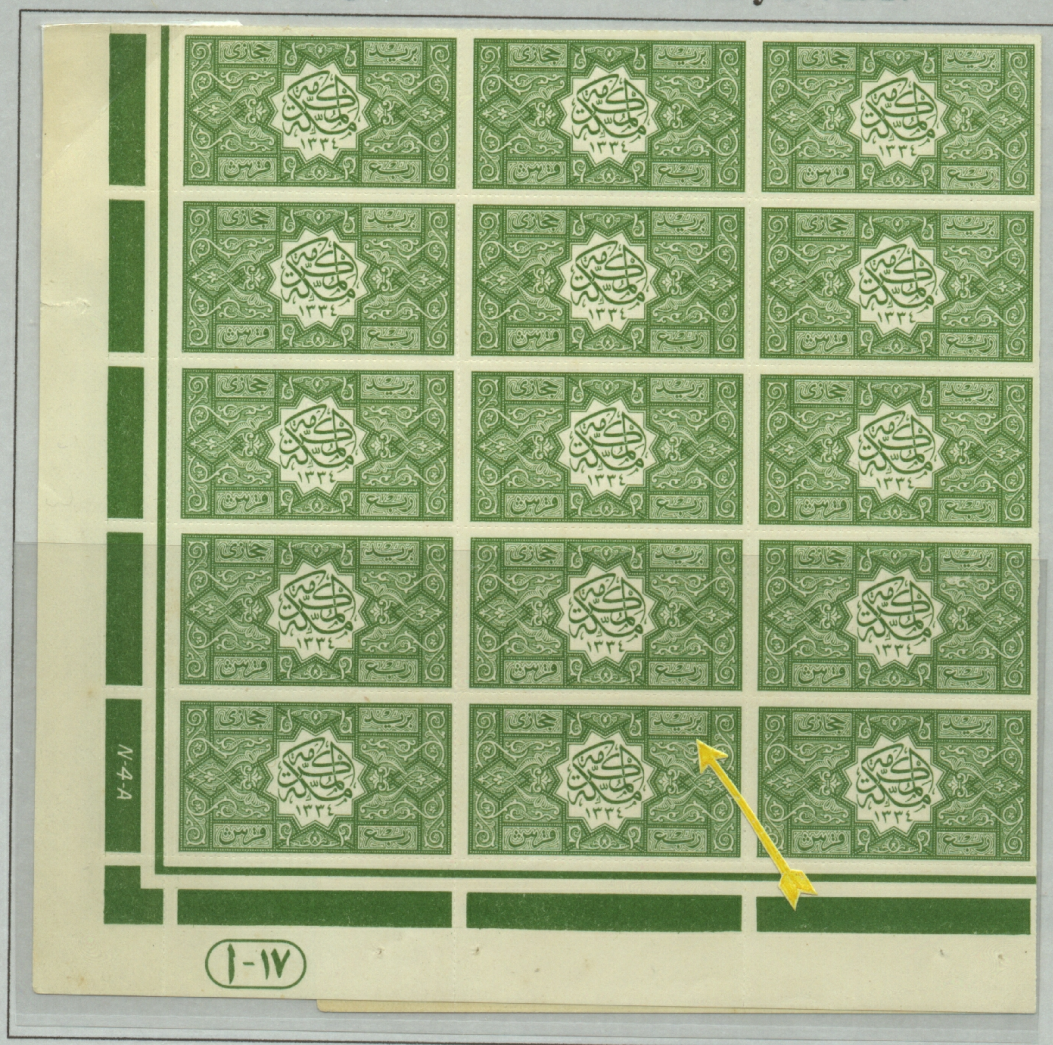


The third printing of the quarter piastre produced a constant minor printing flaw in position 47.



This was not present in the first (perforated) printing or in the earlier 1916 roulette 20 printing shown at left. However it persisted throughout the roulette 13 printings.

Third Printing : 3,700 Sheets : February 5<sup>th</sup>. 1917





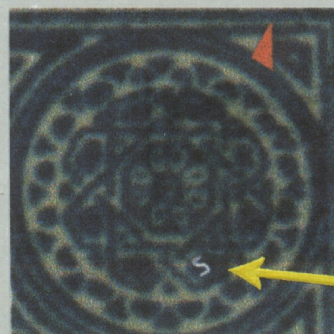
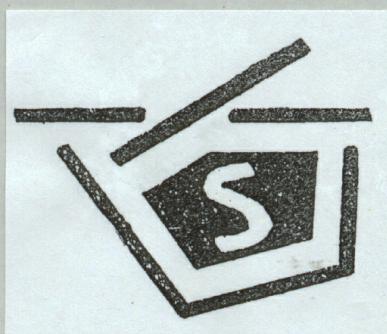
## Hejaz : Flaws & Varieties

### One Piastre

#### Secret Mark in Design

Each one piastre stamp has the letter 'S', possibly for the Survey of Egypt, inscribed in the lower right octagonal segment of the upper right roundel.

Probably a 'secret' mark to aid detection of any potential forgery.



Flaw  
Stamp 31

Secret Mark

#### Second Printing : Perforation 12

Note : 381 Sheets printed September 20<sup>th</sup>. 1916. Only a small proportion were perforation 12.



Position 31 ⇒

#### Stamp 31 Variety

The triangle, upper right corner of stamp 31, shows a distinct flaw. Whilst this flaw has been reported as another secret mark, it was partially repaired prior to the roulette 20 printing and is absent in the roulette 13 printings.

#### Stamp 32

A missing 'wedge' has been reported in the lower left roundel in position 32 but this is not evident in the block above.