

## Hejaz : Unframed Overprint

“The Hashemite Arab Government 1340”, overprinted in December 1921

### One Para

Year at Right Omitted  
Position 41 →



Positions 36-7, 41-2, 46-7

Signed wak

60 sheets overprinted  
Arabic control Th.19 or J.20 (plates N-9-F & G)

### Year at Left Omitted



Position 48

Signed DG



## Hejaz : Unframed Overprint

"The Hashemite Arab Government 1340", overprinted in December 1921

### Eighth Piastre : Roulette 13



Positions 44-5, 49-50

200 sheets overprinted. Arabic control J.20, plate N-5-E



Posns 6-8, 11-13

Position 12 – Year Right Omitted

Signed wak

#### Double Overprints



Posns 10/15

Signed wak

#### Overprint Inverted



Posn 35

Signed RJT

#### Double Both Inverted



Posn 8 inv

Signed DG

#### Double One Inverted



Posn 30 up 21 inv

Signed DG



## Hejaz : Unframed Overprint

"The Hashemite Arab Government 1340", overprinted in December 1921

### Quarter Piastre

#### Roulette 20



Posn 15

Signed wak



Posn 22

Signed wak

All copies recorded source from one of two sheets of each variety

#### Roulette 13



Positions 4-5, 9-10

200 sheets overprinted  
Arabic control D.20, plate N-4-H

#### Year Omitted



Posn 13

Signed DG



Posn 30

Signed DG

#### Overprint Inverted



Posn 18

Signed wak

#### Overprints Double One Inverted



Posn 15

Signed DG



Posn 38 up 13 inv

Signed DG

#### Both Inverted



Posn 18 inv

Signed DG



## Hejaz : Unframed Overprint

### Date Varieties

The year dates were inserted individually into the setting and there were particular problems with the fixing of the individual dates, particularly the right year in positions 12 and 41 and left year in position 30. The problems were eventually resolved by fixing the overprint and dates into a frame as shown on the next issue.



Positions 6-8, 11-13, 16-18  
Signed wak  
Block of  $\frac{1}{4}$  piastres with right year date missing in position 12 – central stamp

### Right Year Date Doubled



Position 25

Only the right date is doubled - see the scan

This is the only example seen of this unusual and probably transient variety possibly caused by a 'loose' date slug?



## *Hejaz : Unframed Overprint*

### **Half Piastre : Roulette 13**

200 sheets of the half piastre stamps were, in December 1921, overprinted  
"The Hashemite Arab Government 1340"



Signed wak



Position 12

Signed wak

### **Date Omitted on Right**

Position 41 in the block above and position 12 are both recorded by John Wilson.

Mecca HA50 cancel dated January 1922.

### **Inverted Overprint**



Position 15

Signed wak

### **Overprint Double**



Position 14

Signed wak

### **Overprint Double Both Overprints Inverted**



Position 38

Signed RJT



## Hejaz : Unframed Overprint

### One Piastre

#### Perforation 10



Position 9

Signed RJT

#### Roulette 20



Position 11

Signed RJT

LL Corner Missing

Possibly two sheets of each Perforation 10 and Roulette 20 were overprinted in black

### Roulette 13

#### Black Overprint



Posns 41-42, 46-47

Signed wak

#### Red Overprint



Posns 41-42, 46-47

Signed wak

Probably less than 20 sheets were overprinted in black out of the total of 200 sheets overprinted.  
Overprints noted on Arabic Control T.19 (Plate N-1-D) and TH.20 (Plate N-1-E)

#### Inverted Black Overprint



Posn 40

Signed RJT

#### Year Missing at Right



Posn 18

Signed DG



## Hejaz : Varieties of Unframed Overprint

### One Piastre : Roulette 13

#### The "Brown" Overprint



Deep Opaque Brown

Many colours of overprints and surcharges were used but this is the only 'brown' to have been catalogued.

The strange brown overprint appears to derive from a decision to change the overprint ink colour from black to red, and then proceeding, without completely cleaning the plate and/or the ink container.



Brown

Position 14

A sequential range of shades exist from  
deep opaque brown in the block  
through to a translucent red.



Carmine

Position 11



Deep Red

Position 27



Light Red

Position 19



## Hejaz : Unframed Overprint

### Two Piastres

Right Year Date  
Missing

Position 41



Posns 41-42/46-47

200 sheets were overprinted in late December 1921.  
Partly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 2 piastres printing shown above  
but also on the distinctive 2<sup>nd</sup> printing below.



Posns 16-17/21-22

Signed wak

**Overprint Doubled** : Listed (but unpriced) by Gibbons  
No genuine copy has been registered with APAI at 2003



## Hejaz : Unframed Overprint

### Postage Dues

#### 20 Para

##### Normal Overprint



Posn 4 Signed wak

##### Double Overprint One Inverted



Posns Normal 4 Inverted 47 wak

##### Inverted Overprint



Posn 47 Signed DG

A Matching 'Set' of positions!

### One Piastre : Black and Red Overprints



Posns 18-19, 23-24 Signed wak



Posns 4-5, 9-10 Signed wak

### Inverted Black Overprint



Posn 35 Signed wak



## *Hejaz : Unframed Overprint*

### **Postage Dues**

#### **Two Piastres**

200 sheets overprinted

#### **Normal Overprint**



Posn 29 Signed wak

#### **Date Omitted Variety**



Posns 18 (date omitted) & 23 Signed wak

#### **Overprint Inverted**



Posns 12 & 17

Signed wak

Date slugs occasionally fell out as above right.  
Possibly one of the reasons for a introducing the 'framed' overprint

#### **Double Overprint, One Inverted**



Posns Normal 20-25 Signed wak, PH  
Inverted 31-36

This variety was catalogued by Gibbons in 1990 for the first time.



## Hejaz : Unframed Overprint

### Cancelled to Order

Unframed overprint set cancelled by Mecca cancel for 4<sup>th</sup> Sha'ban 1340 equivalent to 1<sup>st</sup> April 1922

Mohamed Ali Abdou produced these pages, which show examples of the genuine overprint.

Each of the 50 positions on a sheet is plateable, each showing consistent characteristics.

These sets provide useful evidence of genuine overprints and also examples of variations in inking.

**Example :** In this set both the eighth piastre and the one piastre postage due show the position 14 overprints.

This is easy to recognize due to major break in the alif, right end of top row of the overprint.



Overprint Positions : Row 1 Left to Right : 8, 14, 24    Row 2 : 39, 49, 28    Row 3 : 50, 14, 25



# Hejaz : Unframed Overprint

2 Piastres Postage Due : Complete setting of 50 positions

200 sheets overprinted in December 1921





## *Hejaz : Unframed Overprint*

### **Half and One Piastre Surcharges on One Para**



Posn 14

Signed DG



Posn 26

Signed DG

It is understood that a shortage of half and one piastres in Mecca led to the surcharging of one para stamps. Mayo and Wilson both noted that 500 one para stamps (10 sheets) were overprinted with each new value.

### **One Piastre Surcharge : Overprint Omitted**



Posn 47

Signed wak

**Ex David Graham Collection**

A few stamps have been reported with overprint missing. However whether it is the unframed or framed overprint that is omitted is unknown.



## Hejaz : Gold Unframed Overprint

### Two Piastres



Position 21

APAI 23162

Ex Al Mojaddedi

#### History :

**Mohammed Sadik Al Mojaddedi** (1889-1965) : A merchant in Makkah, who, between 1916 and 1924 also sold stamps from his store. He moved to Jeddah following the capture of Makkah by Ibn Abdulaziz in October 1924 and the abdication of King Hussain in favour of his son Ali.

In 1925 during the siege of Jeddah he imported sugar, which was stolen by troops. King Ali accepted the loss and authorized re-imbursement but, with no money left in the treasury and with the that knowledge Al Mojaddedi also dealt in stamps, authorized him to take stamps to the value of his cargo of sugar from the Jeddah Post Office.

Mohammed Al Mojaddedi died in 1965 with many Hejaz period stamps still stored in files, which were inherited by various family members.

#### Research :

In 1997, a Riyadh dealer requested opinions on stamps which were not listed in any current catalogue. The opportunity was taken to record photographs. Since then Al Mojaddedi family members have located and released additional material, generally as large accumulations. Much of the material has been 'tropicalized' due to over 80 years storage in Arabian heat without benefit of air conditioning.

All of the gold overprinted 2 piastres value stamps can be plated to the regular unframed setting of 50 stamps. This has been done and positions noted on the graphic representation below. Original photos are available of those seen in 1997 (Green) or catalogue photos of those released to the market (Magenta). The 30 stamps recorded by the exhibitor have come from a single sheet including the stamp shown above (in blue). No stamps have been seen or located from another sheet.

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35
36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45
46	47	48	49	50

Why a single sheet is not known – but it appears probable that this sheet was a specially made 'proof' sheet for the approval of King Hussain and/or the Hejaz Post Office. This 'political' overprint proclaiming the Hashemite Arab Government 1340 (1921) would certainly require royal approval. It probably formed part of stocks transferred from Makkah to Jeddah during the Nejdi-Hejazi conflict and formed part of the 'reparations' to Mohammed Al Mojaddedi in 1925.

Sources : Personal files, Nutmeg /Harmers catalogues & scans kindly provided by Harmers of London



## Hejaz : Gold Unframed Overprint

### Two Piastres Postage Due



Positions 24,19                      APAI 33137

*Ex Al Mojaddedi*

*Ex R. J. Thoden Collection*

**Research :** In 1997 five copies of the 2 piastres postage due with gold unframed overprints reading up were submitted to the exhibitor for examination and these were photographed and plated – shown as green below.

Later the Al Mojaddedi family released further examples of the 2 piastres postage due with a major accumulation sold at Harmer's including some multiples in strips. All stamps can also be plated to the regular unframed setting and are shown in magenta. Plating again confirms that all 27 stamps seen or placed on the market come from a single sheet and no stamps have yet been seen or located from another sheet. The above pair shown in blue. All stamps are tropicalized and position 14 was badly torn.

46	41	36	31	26	21	16	11	6	1
47	42	37	32	27	22	17	12	7	2
48	43	38	33	28	23	18	13	8	3
49	44	39	34	29	24	19	14	9	4
50	45	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5

These overprints are very clearly printed from the plate and there are no signs of the plate wear apparent in some regular overprints. This supports the hypothesis that these gold unframed overprints are probably 'proofs' from Hejaz Post Office archives transferred from Makkah to Jeddah and forming part of the 'reparations' to Mohammed Al Mojaddedi in 1925.



## *Hejaz : Gold Unframed Overprint*

### **One Para**



Position 38

APAI 23168

Ex Al Mojaddedi

The one para value is of particular interest, because it can now be established that it does not come from the 'regular' plate for which a complete setting is shown above. The individual clichés do plate but not in the sequence found on the regular plate. For example whilst the above example is position 38 it is not 39 to the right as part of the regular plate 39 position would be shown on this stamp. It appears likely that the stamp above actually was from column 5 in this earlier setting.

### **Research (ongoing)**

**Earlier Unframed Plate :** The existence of an 'earlier' plate was suggested by J. M. Wilson in his book (page 46) but, in the absence of a sheet or large multiples, the format of this plate has never been established. The few examples recorded have been on the one para value. The main characteristic of this earlier format is that no positions have the characteristic slant down to the left found on 8 positions of the regular plate e.g. see vertical positions 28 and 33 and also 49 in the sheet above.

Because the overprint is on the chocolate colour stamp plating is rendered virtually impossible from normal catalogue pictures, however none have the typical slant. To complete this particular puzzle either actual examples of stamps or very high quality scans are essential. This particular jigsaw puzzle may take years to complete!