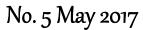


The Afghan Bulletin





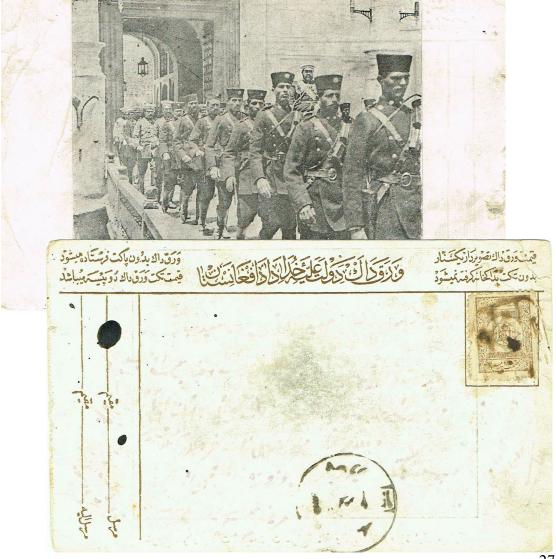
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The First Picture Postcards: A further update

An update on these 1913 cards was given in $Bulletin\ I$ including details of a newly discovered design: Amir Habibullah and Escort. Lo and behold – a second copy of that card has now surfaced, this time used.

The despatch cancel is unreadable but looks like the octagonal Kabul registration cancel, which is a bit odd. The receiver is Peshawar and is dated 1(33)2 Ramadan, which equates with circa August 1914. There is a full message on the back, but the ink is very faded.



And thanks to David Kindley - an eighth design. This one shows Prince Inayatullah,

the Amir's eldest son.

The card was sent from Kabul (with an Afghan Peshawar transit and an unreadable Indian postmark) to the UK, where it was re-directed upon arrival.

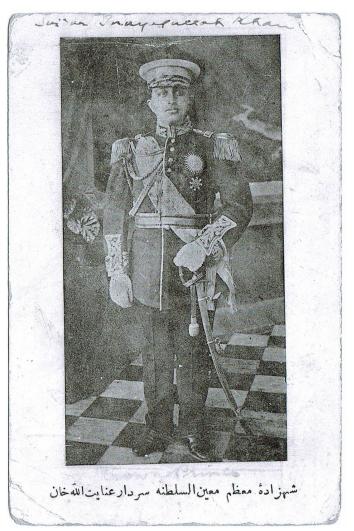
The card has been annotated in English with "Sirdar Inayatullah Khan" at the top, and "Crown Prince" at the bottom.

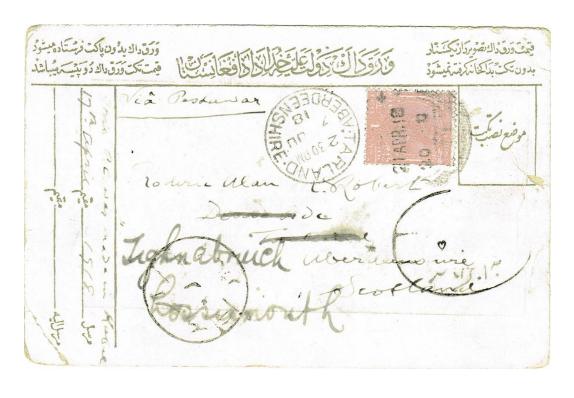
The Afghan 2 paisa stamp has been removed.

The message on the card reads:

"This PC was made in Kabul" and is dated 17th April 1918.

Inayatullah became King for four days on the abdication of his younger brother, Amanullah, in January 1929.





"Under Quarter *Tola*"

I owe thanks to Danielle Fora-Esteve for drawing my attention to this impressed papermaker's mark (a much enlarged example of which is shown alongside) way back in 2012.

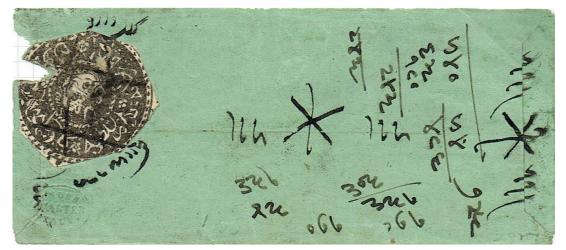
Danielle had found the mark on the 1880's Abdur Rahman circular shown at left below. I have just come across another example shown on the right. I haven't seen or heard of an example on any other Afghan issue, but there are reports of the same mark appearing on paper used for Bundi Sacred Cows and Poonch.







The mark is also found on stationery – as seen directly below the stamp on this 1288 cover.



The Tola is a unit of weight much used in India, Pakistan and South Asia and equivalent to $^3/_8$ ths of one Troy Ounce.

1960 Refugee Year Colour Shifts

A couple of rather more than marginal colour shifts. The top example shows the brown shifted by 3mm to the left, the bottom has the blue shifted, also by 3mm to the left.

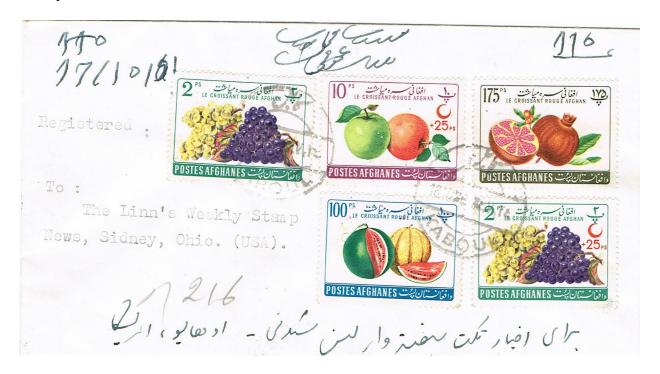


The bottom sheet also has a very low sheet number.

"Appendix" Issue covers

The illustrations following show the front and back of two covers bearing so-called "Appendix" issues which have, unusually, actually gone through the post. They are both from the Ministry of Communications, Direction-General of Post in Kabul to Linns Weekly Stamp News in the U.S.A. Both are registered FDC's with complete sets (including surcharges) and yet because of the unfeasibly low face values of these Appendix stamps, they both required an additional "regular" 3 Afg stamp to make up

the required rate. The Red Crescent cover has a franking of 8 Afg 94 poul + 1 Afg 25 in surcharges. The Teachers' Day cover has 8 Afg 68 poul + 1 Afg 25 in surcharges. The expected rate for a registered cover to the U.S.A at this time would be about 10 Afg 50, so they are both close.









I have other Agency issue covers to Linns with similar typed addresses and "Registered" endorsements, but without the manuscript additions and with frankings nowhere near sufficient (e.g. miniature sheets with a face value of 1 Afg 50 poul). These do not seem to have gone through the post at all and have no American receiving cancel. Covers which have gone through the post are very much the exception.

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