

NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION “KURRACHEE 2008”
19-21 December 2008, Expo Centre, Karachi

Stamp Society of Pakistan [SSOP] in collaboration with the Dawn Group, Pakistan Post and patronage of Philatelic Federation of Pakistan [PFP] organized National Stamp Exhibition titled “KURRACHEE 2008” from 19-21 December 2008 at Expo Centre, Karachi. This was largely attended on all 3 days and the 100 Frames exhibition attracted crowd of all ages.

The exhibition included 44 entries from all over Pakistan including 4 from UAE and were judged on competitiveness in 8 different classes, (i) Traditional (ii) Postal History (iii) Postal Stationery (iv) Aerophilately (v) Thematic (vi) Revenue (vii) Youth and (viii) Literature. Mr. Rafiq Kasbati was the Commissioner General of the Exhibition; whereas, the Jury comprised of Mr. Khalid Malik, Mr. M. Aslam Zahid, and Mr. Abid Hussain. The Executive Committee Members of the PFP and SSOP were present during the exhibition, including Dr. Capt.[R] U. A. G. Isani and Mr. Iqbal Nanjee, President of PFP and SSOP respectively. Following are the highlights of exhibits relating to Pakistan.

1.	Pre-Independence Postal Markings of Pakistan	Rafiq Kasbati	5 Frames	Gold
2.	Postal Stationery of Pakistan 1947-1965	Rafiq Kasbati	5 Frames	Gold
3.	Pakistan Pre-Decimal 1947-1960	Mustafa Hasnain	5 Frames	Large Vermeil
4.	Pakistan Postal Stationery 1947-1972	Muhammad Jamil	5 Frames	Large Vermeil
5.	Bangladesh Overprints – A collection of Pakistan Postal Stationery	Mustafa Hasnain	5 Frames	Vermeil
6.	Pakistan Postal Marking on King George	Mohammad Rizwan Kodvawala	5 Frames	Large Silver
7.	9 Pies Chughtai Postcards	Abdul Wahid	5 Frames	Large Silver
8.	Postal Stationery of Pakistan	Mohammed Ali Ajmeri	5 Frames	Silver
9.	Postal Marking of Karachi	Mohammad Rizwan Kodvawala	2 Frames	Vermeil
10.	Postal History of Pakistan-First 2 Years	Ghulam Asghar	1 Frame	Vermeil
11.	First Airmail Flights From & To Karachi	Hashim Zia Jafri	1 Frame	Vermeil
12.	Postal Stationery of Pakistan	Hassan Ahmed Farooqui	1 Frame	Silver
13.	British Indian & Pakistan Hundi Papers used in Karachi	M. Arif Balgamwala	1 Frame	Silver
14.	First Death Anniversary of Quaid-e-Azam	Abdul Wahid	1 Frame	Bronze
15.	Pakistan Catalogue	A. Latif Rashed	Literature	Vermeil
16.	Pakistan Postage Stamp Catalogue	M. I. Choudhary	Literature	Silver
17.	Siddiqui Catalogue 22 nd Edition 2009	Akhtar-ul-Islam Siddiqui	CD	Silver

In addition to above, the other entries were from Middle East-12, Rest of World-9, Thematic-3, Literature-2 and Non-Philatelic-1, as follows:

18	Turkey 1914-15	Afzal Nanjee	5 Frames	Gold
19	Constantinople – International Postal Markings 1868-1920	Iqbal Nanjee	5 Frames	Gold
20	India – 19 th Century Postal Markings	Abdul Wahid	5 Frames	Gold
21	Afghanistan Second & Third Afghan War 1879-81	M. Arif Balgamwala	1 Frame	Gold
22	A Glance on Stamps used in Dubai	Omar Mohammad Ahmed	5 Frames	Large Vermeil
23	Abu Dhabi Stamp 1963-1973	Ahmad Bin Eisa Al Serkal	5 Frames	Large Vermeil
24	Oman	Adnan Hussain	3 Frames	Large Vermeil
25	Local Overprints of Bangladesh 1971-73	Saleem Tabani	5 Frames	Vermeil
26	Dubai 1964 1 ¼ R.J.F. Kennedy- A detailed study	Abdullah Bin Jasim	1 Frame	Vermeil
27	Postal History of Das Island	Falah Mubarak Al Malagheeth	1 Frame	Vermeil
28	Cricket [Thematic]	A. Ahad & M. Saad	5 Frames	Large Silver
29	Saudi Arabia – A collection of stamps & covers of Ottoman Arabia, Hejaz & Najd and King Ali issues	Haji Vali Muhammad	5 Frames	Large Silver
30	Saudi Arabia – King Hussein to King Fahad	Abdul Wahid	5 Frames	Large Silver
31	Malaysia	Muhammad Ali Jahangir	5 Frames	Large Silver
32	Islam	Muhammad Ali Soomro	5 Frames	Silver
33	Egypt 1866-1951	Naseem Khan	5 Frames	Silver
34	Stamps of Odd Shapes	Naeem Iqbal	3 Frames	Silver
35	Saudi Arabia	Shoeb Haji Vali	1 Frame	Silver
36	Bahrain – Indian & British Postal Authority 1933-1952	Hussain Ahmed	1 Frame	Silver
37	Historical Images of Karachi[Non-Philatelic]	Arshad Abdullah	2 Frames	Silver
38	East Africa to K.U.T. Since 1903	Hashim Hussain	1 Frame	Silver
39	Afghanistan Definitive Series – 1939	Muhammad Tariq Khattak	1 Frame	Silver
40	Masks [Thematic]	Saeed Gul	5 Frames	Silver
41	Media - A Source of Information [Thematic]	Malik Sadiq	1 Frame	Silver
42	U.S. Territory and Command Areas WWII	Shahid A. Nazir	1 Frame	Silver
43	Abu Dhabi	Shoaib Haji Vali	literature	Silver
44	Dubai	Shoaib Haji Vali	literature	Silver

This was the second international standard National Stamp Exhibition in 2008. The first was held in Feb. 2008 (which was the delayed version of the Dec '2007 Exhibition, postponed due to the death of Benazir Bhutto). This and the Feb. 2008 exhibition had World class arrangements and the large picturesque setting, wall skins, seating sofas for study and deliberations. Children stamp drawing competition for 2 hour duration resulted in some excellent drawings, then and now, which were judged by Mr. Adil Salahuddin, the renowned Security Printing Corporation, Head of stamp production, who has been awarded Pride of Performance award. The Post Office had drafted a presentation and prepared an essay of the Feb. 2008, children stamps. The design of the Medal is as per **Annexure-A** attached.

The senior management of DAWN Group and the D.G. / Director and senior officials of the Postal Administration deserve all the appreciation and we should commend their contribution and silent effort in holding such a great stamp exhibitions and distributing prizes.

Pakistan Post issued three special cancellations one on each day of Exhibition (i) Kurrachee Day (ii) Jinnah Day & (iii) Posterity Day on 19th, 20th & 21st December 2008, respectively. A dedicated Philatelic Counter of Pakistan Post was established at the Exhibition Hall for the issuance of Special Cancellations and sale of philatelic material. The Additional Director General of the Pakistan Post Mr. Ghulam Punjatan Rizvi, Deputy Post Master General, Mr. Noorul Qamar Qasmi, Asstt. Director General Stamps / Chief Controller of Stamps and Mr. Ali Hassan Farooqui, Asstt. Post Master General were present during the Exhibition and distribution the prizes to the children and the exhibitors.

Stamp Dealers had two full fledged stalls at the Exhibition Hall where a large number of philatelic material, coins, banknotes and publications were available for sale to enthusiasts.

To promote development of Stamp drawing a design competition among the young and budding artist was also held in two age groups (i) 6-10 years and (ii) 11-15 years at the same venue. Competition for 6 to 10 years was on day one with 52 participants followed by 11 to 15 years on day two with 17 participants. Prizes for 1st to 3rd and one Special Prize were awarded in both categories.

SSOP & PFP hosted dinner for the Exhibitors on Saturday, 20 December 2008 at Ming Court, D.H.A., Karachi which was attended by most of the Exhibitors and the senior postal officials.

SSOP organized a grand Stamp Auction on Sunday, 21 December 2008 at Hotel Jabees which was participated by collectors and dealers alike and was a success. An Auction Catalogue was prepared and circulated prior to the Auction.

Prize distribution for the children for the design competition and exhibitors were held on the last day, Sunday, 21 December 2008 at the Exhibition Hall, Expo Centre, Karachi. Representatives of PFP, SSOP and Pakistan Post along with a large number of enthusiasts, collectors and exhibitors were present. Medals, Certificates and Special Prizes were given.

Glimpses of the Exhibition can be checked at the website: www.pakistanphilately.com
