

# Illustrated Identifier

This section pictures stamps or parts of stamp designs that will help identify postage stamps that do not have English words on them.

Many of the symbols that identify stamps of countries are shown here as well as typical examples of their stamps.

See the Index and Identifier on the previous pages for stamps with inscriptions such as "sen," "posta," "Baja Porto," "Helvetia," "K.S.A.," etc.

*Linn's Stamp Identifier* is now available. The 144 pages include more 2,000 inscriptions and over 500 large stamp illustrations. Available from Linn's Stamp News, P.O. Box 29, Sidney, OH 45365-0029.

## 1. HEADS, PICTURES AND NUMERALS

### GREAT BRITAIN

Great Britain stamps never show the country name, but, except for postage dues, show a picture of the reigning monarch.



Victoria



Edward VII      George V      Edward VIII



George VI



Elizabeth II

Some George VI and Elizabeth II stamps are surcharged in annas, new paisa or rupees. These are listed under Oman.



Silhouette (sometimes facing right, generally at the top of stamp)



The silhouette indicates this is a British stamp. It is not a U.S. stamp.

### VICTORIA



Queen Victoria

### INDIA

Other stamps of India show this portrait of Queen Victoria and the words "Service" and "Annas."



### AUSTRIA



### YUGOSLAVIA



(Also BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA if imperf.)

### BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA



Denominations also appear in top corners instead of bottom corners.

### HUNGARY



Another stamp has posthorn facing left

### BRAZIL



### AUSTRALIA



Kangaroo and Emu

### GERMANY

#### Mecklenburg-Vorpommern



SWITZERLAND



PALAU



2. ORIENTAL INSCRIPTIONS

CHINA



Any stamp with this one character is from China (Imperial, Republic or People's Republic). This character appears in a four-character overprint on stamps of Manchukuo. These stamps are local provisionals, which are unlisted. Other overprinted Manchukuo stamps show this character, but have more than four characters in the overprints. These are listed in People's Republic of China.



Some Chinese stamps show the Sun.



Most stamps of Republic of China show this series of characters.

Stamps with the China character and this character are from People's Republic of China.



Calligraphic form of People's Republic of China

- (一) (二) (三) (四) (五) (六)
- 1 2 3 4 5 6
- (七) (八) (九) (十) (十一) (十二)
- 7 8 9 10 11 12

Chinese stamps without China character

REPUBLIC OF CHINA



PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA





Mao Tse-tung



**MANCHUKUO**



Temple



Emperor Pu-Yi



The first 3 characters are common to many Manchukuo stamps.



The last 3 characters are common to other Manchukuo stamps.



Orchid Crest



Manchukuo stamp without these elements

**JAPAN**



Chrysanthemum Crest Country Name

Japanese stamps without these elements



The number of characters in the center and the design of dragons on the sides will vary.

**RYUKYU ISLANDS**



Country Name

**PHILIPPINES (Japanese Occupation)**



Country Name

**NORTH BORNEO (Japanese Occupation)**



Indicates Japanese Occupation Country Name

**MALAYA (Japanese Occupation)**



Indicates Japanese Occupation Country Name

**BURMA**

**Union of Myanmar**



Union of Myanmar

**(Japanese Occupation)**



Indicates Japanese Occupation Country Name

Other Burma Japanese Occupation stamps without these elements



Burmese Script

**KOREA**



These two characters, in any order, are common to stamps from the Republic of Korea (South Korea) or of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea (North Korea).



This series of four characters can be found on the stamps of both Koreas. Most stamps of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) have just this inscription.



Indicates Republic of Korea (South Korea)

South Korean postage stamps issued after 1952 do not show currency expressed in Latin letters. Stamps with "HW," "HWAN," "WON," "WN," "W" or "W" with two lines through it, if not illustrated in listings of stamps before this date, are revenues. North Korean postage stamps do not have currency expressed in Latin letters.



Yin Yang appears on some stamps.



**THAILAND**



Country Name



King Chulalongkorn



King Prajadhipok and Chao P'ya Chakri

**3. CENTRAL AND EASTERN ASIAN INSCRIPTIONS**

**INDIA - FEUDATORY STATES**

**Alwar**



**Bhor**



**Bundi**



Similar stamps come with different designs in corners and differently drawn daggers (at center of circle).

**Dhar**



**Faridkot**



**Hyderabad**



Similar stamps exist with straight line frame around stamp, and also with different central design which is inscribed "Postage" or "Post & Receipt."

**Indore**



**Jhalawar**



A similar stamp has the central figure in an oval.

**Nandgaon**



**Nowanuggur**



**Poonch**



Similar stamps exist in various sizes

**Rajpeepla**



**Soruth**



**BANGLADESH**



Country Name

**NEPAL**



Similar stamps are smaller, have squares in upper corners and have five or nine characters in central bottom panel.



**TANNU TUVA**

**ISRAEL**



**GEORGIA**



This inscription is found on other pictorial stamps.



Country Name

**ARMENIA**



The four characters are found somewhere on pictorial stamps. On some stamps only the middle two are found.

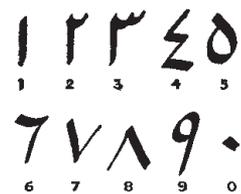


**4. AFRICAN INSCRIPTIONS**

**ETHIOPIA**



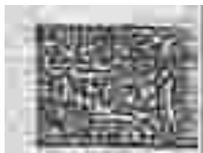
**5. ARABIC INSCRIPTIONS**



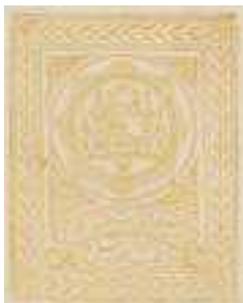
**AFGHANISTAN**



Many early Afghanistan stamps show Tiger's head, many of these have ornaments protruding from outer ring, others show inscriptions in black.



Arabic Script



Mosque Gate & Crossed Cannons  
The four characters are found somewhere on pictorial stamps. On some stamps only the middle two are found.



**BAHRAIN**



**EGYPT**



Postage

**INDIA - FEUDATORY STATES**

**Jammu & Kashmir**



Text and thickness of ovals vary. Some stamps have flower devices in corners.

**India-Hyderabad**



**IRAN**



Country Name



Royal Crown

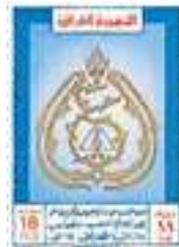


Lion with Sword



Symbol

**IRAQ**



**JORDAN**



**LEBANON**



Similar types have denominations at top and slightly different design.

**LIBYA**



Country Name in various styles



Other Libya stamps show Eagle and Shield (head facing either direction) or Red, White and Black Shield (with or without eagle in center).



Without Country Name

**SAUDI ARABIA**





Tughra (Central design)



Palm Tree and Swords

**SYRIA**



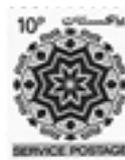
**THRACE**



**YEMEN**



**PAKISTAN**



**PAKISTAN - BAHAWALPUR**



Country Name in top panel, star and crescent

**TURKEY**



Star & Crescent is a device found on many Turkish stamps, but is also found on stamps from other Arabic areas (see Pakistan-Bahawalpur)





Tughra (similar tughras can be found on stamps of Turkey in Asia, Afghanistan and Saudi Arabia)



Mohammed V



Mustafa Kemal



Plane, Star and Crescent

### TURKEY IN ASIA



Other Turkey in Asia pictorials show star & crescent.  
Other stamps show tughra shown under Turkey.

### 6. GREEK INSCRIPTIONS

#### GREECE

Country Name in various styles  
(Some Crete stamps overprinted with the Greece country name are listed in Crete.)



Drachma Drachmas Lepton

Abbreviated Country Name

#### Other forms of Country Name



#### No country name



#### CRETE



Country Name



These words are on other stamps

Grosion

Crete stamps with a surcharge that have the year "1922" are listed under Greece.

**EPIRUS**

**IONIAN IS.**

Country Name



**7. CYRILLIC INSCRIPTIONS**

**RUSSIA**

Postage Stamp



Imperial Eagle



Postage in various styles



Abbreviation for Kopeck

Abbreviation for Ruble

Russian



Abbreviation for Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic  
RSFSR stamps were overprinted (see below)



Abbreviation for Union of Soviet Socialist Republics



This item is footnoted in Latvia

**RUSSIA - Army of the North**



"OKKA"

**RUSSIA - Wenden**



**RUSSIAN OFFICES IN THE TURKISH EMPIRE**



These letters appear on other stamps of the Russian offices.

The unoverprinted version of this stamp and a similar stamp were overprinted by various countries (see below).



**ARMENIA**



**BELARUS**



**FAR EASTERN REPUBLIC**

Country Name





### TRANSCAUCASIAN FEDERATED REPUBLICS



Abbreviation for Country Name

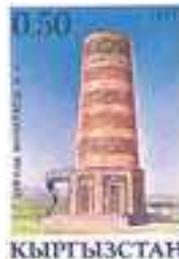


### KAZAKHSTAN



Country Name

### KYRGYZSTAN



Country Name

### ROMANIA

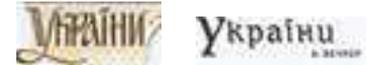


### TADJIKISTAN



Country Name & Abbreviation

### UKRAINE



Country Name in various forms



The trident appears on many stamps, usually as an overprint. Abbreviation for Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic

### WESTERN UKRAINE



Abbreviation for Country Name

### SOUTH RUSSIA

Country Name



### FINLAND



Circles and Dots on stamps similar to Imperial Russia issues

### BATUM



Forms of Country Name

### AZERBAIJAN



Country Name



Abbreviation for Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic

**MONTENEGRO**



**ЦРНА ГОРА**

Country Name in various forms



Abbreviation for country name

No country name (A similar Montenegro stamp without country name has same vignette.)

**SERBIA**



Country Name in various forms



Abbreviation for country name



No country name

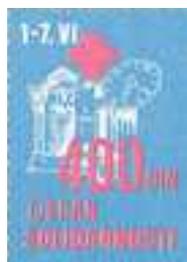
**SERBIA & MONTENEGRO**



**YUGOSLAVIA**



Showing country name



No Country Name

**MACEDONIA**



Country Name



Different form of Country Name

**BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA (Serb Administration)**



**РЕПУБЛИКА СРПСКА**

Country Name



Different form of Country Name

No Country Name



**BULGARIA**



Country Name Postage



Stotinka



Stotinki (plural) Abbreviation for Stotinki

Country Name in various forms and styles



No country name

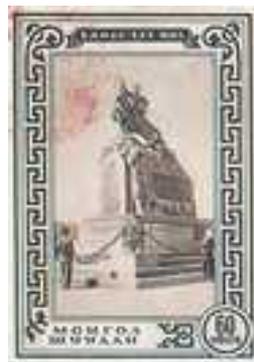


Abbreviation for Lev, leva

**MONGOLIA**



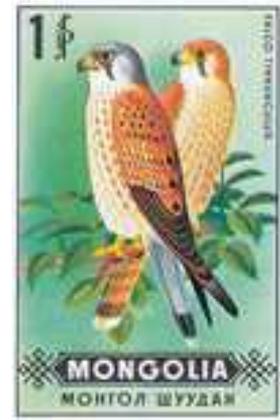
ШУУДАН ТӨГРОГ Country name in one word Tugrik in Cyrillic



МОНГОЛ ШУУДААН Mung in Cyrillic Country name in two words



Mung in Mongolian



Tugrik in Mongolian



Arms

No Country Name

