

Unusual fee & usage for registration

1-chahi registration labels assist when stamp shortages occur



Rates: 24 chahi

Registration fee:

11 chahi

(1887-1904)

Routes: Teheran to

Bouchir probably

1897/98 as the

issue used is from

1897

Notes:

Thereafter other

type of surcharged

stamps came into

use

The only wrapper

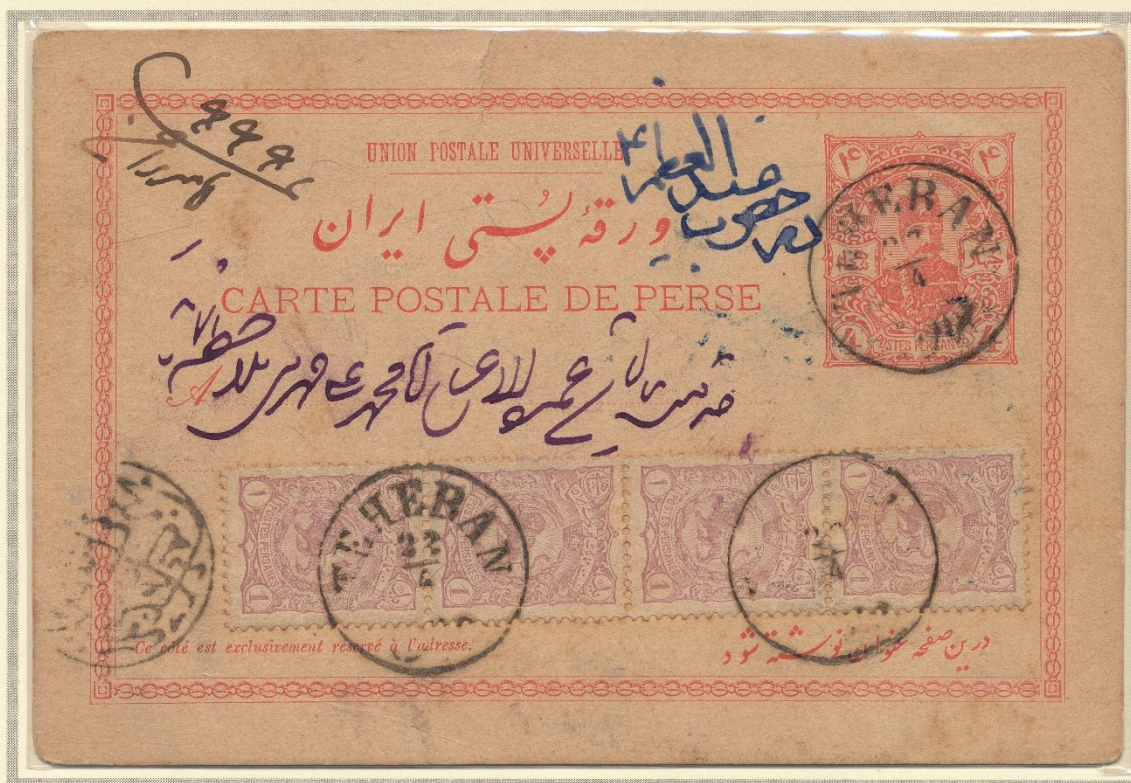
Recorded using a

1-ch registration

to replace a postage

stamp

*A special low-rate 6-chahi registration fee applied at religious shrine at Shah Abdul Azim



Rates: 2 chahi. **Registration fee:** 6 chahi only to normal 11 chahi

Routes: Teheran to Shah Abdul Azim

Notes: Two recorded of this usage

Two different control marks used by the Central Post Office, Teheran. Two recorded each



Rates: 10 chahi double

Routes: Teheran in H 1313 (1895/96)

Markings: There is no certainty as to why this sort of control marks were used

Letter cancelled Teheran Maidan 1901



Rates: 10 chahi double

Routes: local within Teheran

Stamp shortages lead to surcharges

Thus the old 1894 issue was surcharged 5 chahi, 1 and 2 Kran



Rates: 12 chahi. Registration fee: 12 chahi

Routes: Teheran 8 January 1898 to London 9 February

Waybill

From Tabriz in 19 December 1897 (H 24 Rajab 1315). Both 1 and 2 kran surcharges used



II.c 1898+

Printed Matters

The newspaper *روزنامه ایران و اطلاع رسانی* had different patterns printed on the wrappers
Wrapper used to Paris. Rate 3 chahi. Weight unknown. Address at back



US Mission wrapper to London



Rates: 9 chahi. 3 chahi per 50 grams

Routes: Teheran 11 October 1897 to US Despatch Agent, A Mc Donald in London 12 Nov 1897

Notes: The wax seal was applied by the US Embassy in Teheran

Khaneguine, and Bayazid in the Ottoman Empire near the Persian border. No official records known

Khaneguine, Mesopotamia. Two recorded related to this office



Rates: 12 chahi (2 x 5 ch + 2 x 1-ch registration labels)

Routes: Kerend, Kermanschah province (no date in negative postmark) to Khaneguine, Mesopotamia. About 1894-97

Notes: The Kerend mark four recorded on mail. The 1-ch reg. labels used on mail to abroad only six recorded
The cover is cut in both ends

1910

Bayazid. Serving north western Persia

It is known that a Persian post office has existed there since early 1900. Four recorded

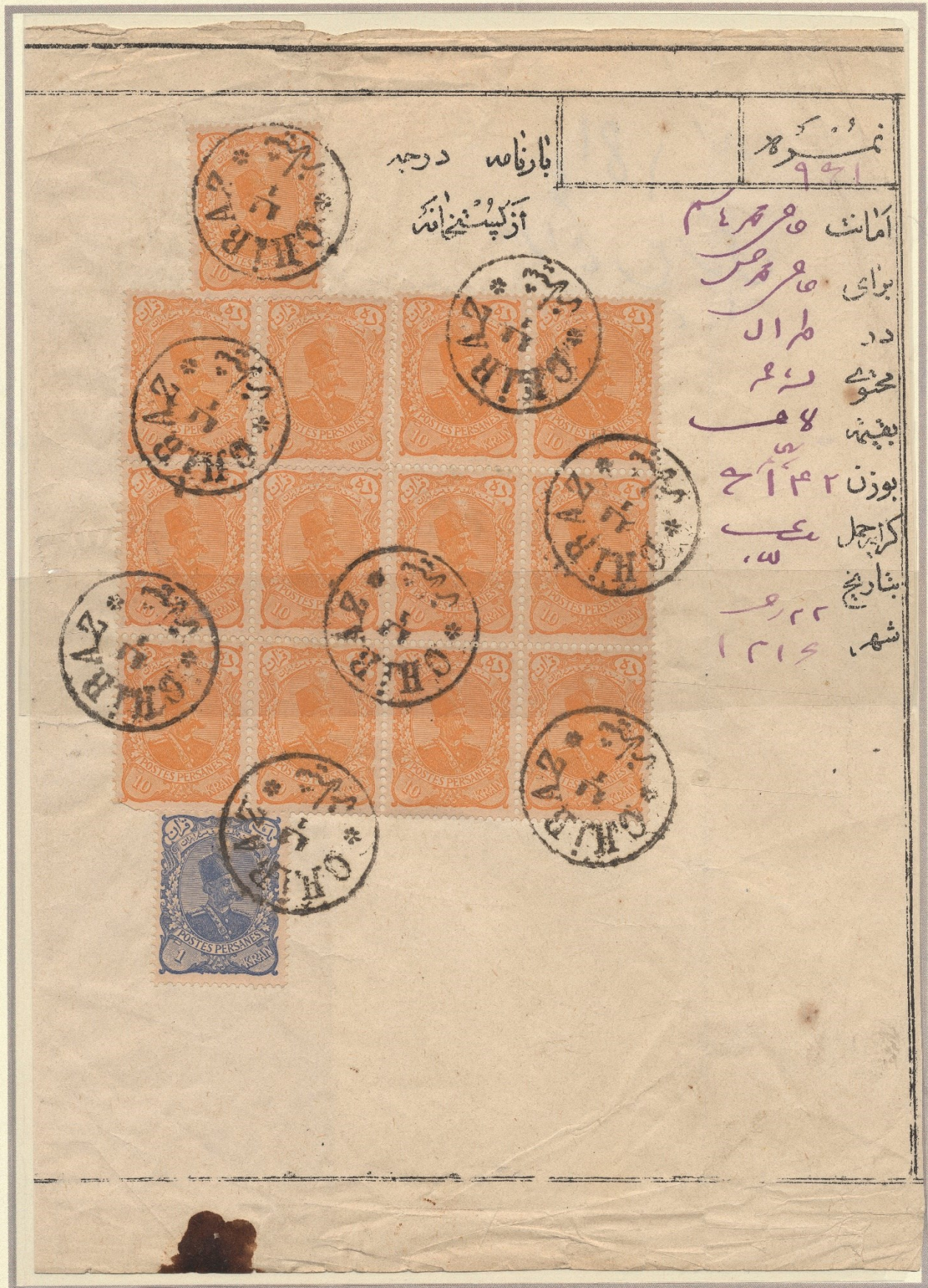
Waybill sent from Salmas, western Azarbadjan. Rates: 6 kran



II.c 1898

Waybill

From Shiraz 1 11 1898 (in H 1316) to Teheran (no arrival cancellation). A parcel of 6142 misgal + about 30 kilogrammes. In total paid 131 Krans which includes insurance fees



II. 1901

Official letter from the Italian Mission
3 Kran of 1899 issue only recorded on two letters

Insured mail



Rates: 7 Kran including insurance fee

Routes: Tedriche (suburb to Teheran) July 1901, via Teheran and the Enzeli Baku EPOs 19 July 1901 (Julian) and Pontebba-Bologna ambulant train (date not clear)

Russia enforced a route into Khorasan, via Gaudan 1896

In a border treaty between Russia and Persia 1892 Russia demanded that a cart road between Ashkabad in Turkmenistan and Mehed, Khorasan province in Persia be built. It went via the Gaudan pass. In 1896 postal communications were established. Later **Disinfection** control was set up at **Gaudan**. In function during two periods

The earliest recorded mail via Gaudan. 11 October 1896. From Good Hope

Gaudan no I
27mm

Large size "I"

Rates: 2 ½d
Cape of Good
Hope rate

Routes:
Cape Town
Sept 1896
"via England"
as per m/s. to
Teheran.
Transited
Tiflis 30 IX 96
Entered via
Russian Gaudan
11 X/96 (Julian).
Misdirected via
Gaudan E PO
and Mehed
in Khorasan



Goudan Exchange post office with Russia. Khorasan province. Opened about 1896

Registered cover to Belgium



Gaudan no 2
25 mm

Small size "2"

Rates: 12 ch
Registration
fee: 12 chahi

Routes:
Ghoutchan
in Khorasan
province
(no date
in postmark)
via Persian
Gaudan
22 Oct 1900
and the
Russian
exchange p o
using **small**
type Russian
Gaudan
Postmark
dated
10 Oct 00
(Julian).
Arrived
Laecken,
Belgium
5 November

ОБЕЗЗАРАЖЕНО = Disinfection mail. Quarantine Cordon

In June 1896, Russia passed a Law stating that mail from plague-infested locations in Afghanistan and India will be subjected to disinfection by steam ... and stamped **ОБЕЗЗАРАЖЕНО** = disinfection. A Cordon 300 km long and situated about 200 km south of the nearest point of the Russian border in Khorasan was installed in 1897

Also a Russian disinfection agency for the control of mail was installed at Gaudan in 1897 (and later also in Julfa). It was in use during two periods. From May 1897 to 8th June 1901 and again during 1904/5.

The earliest recorded disinfection mail via Gaudan, August 7 Oct. 1897

Violet
disinfection
44 mm

Rates: 12 ch
Reg fee:
12 chahi

Routes:
Meched
17 8/97
via Russian
Gaudan
7 VIII 1897
(Julian)
and London
to Edinburgh
AU 31/97



Map of the Cordon



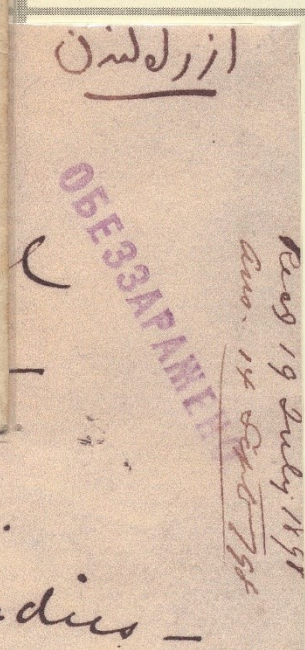
To Curaco

Red violet
disinfection
44 mm

Rates:
12 chahi

Routes:
Meched
June 1898
Via Russian
Gaudan
23 V 98 and
24 V 98
(Julian)
to
Curacao
19 July

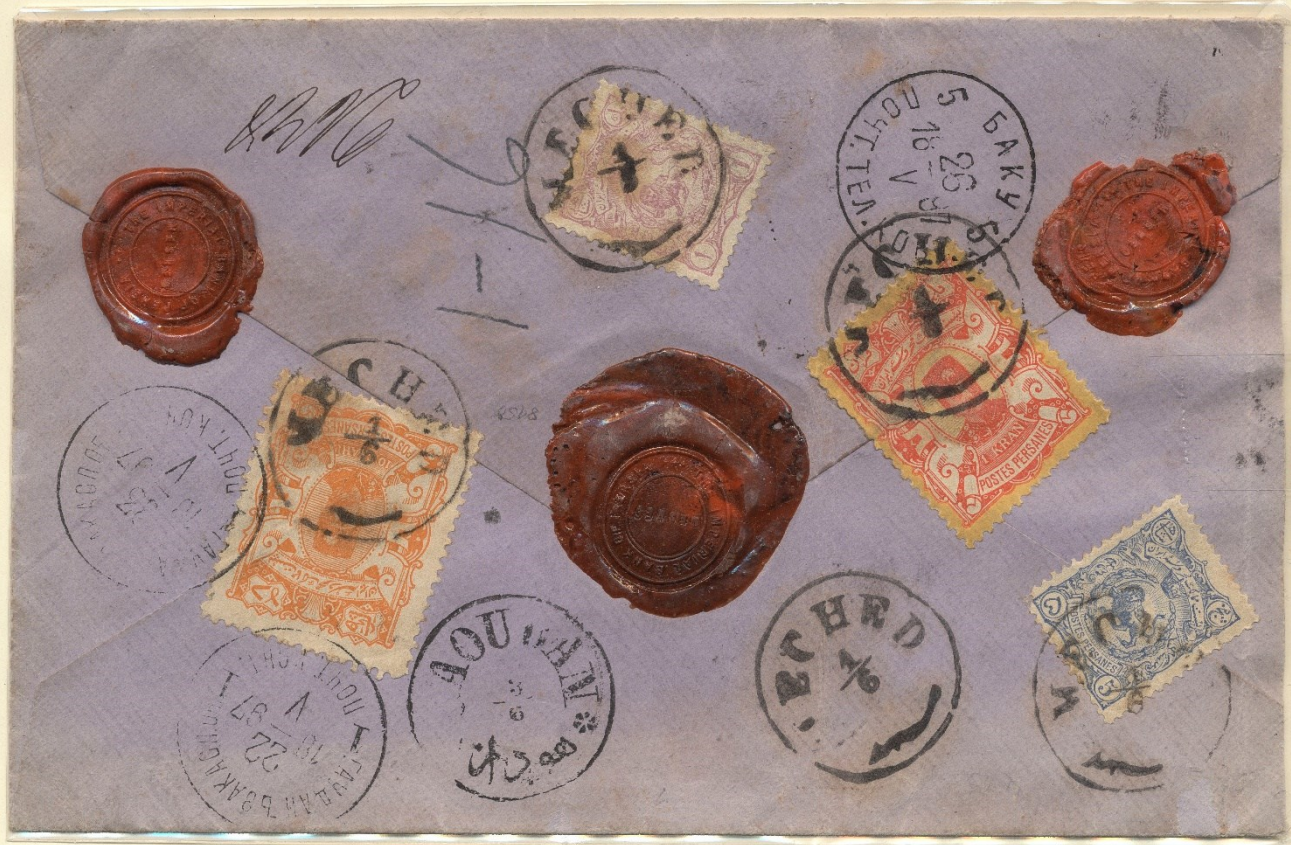
Markings:
Gaudan
Russian
marks
Small 25 mm
Large 29 mm
very elusive



II.c 1895

The Opening of north eastern Persia
Houdan/Gaoudan Exchange Office

Served Khorasan and
Seistan Provinces



Meched Registered
mail 1897

Rates:

24 ch double
Reg. fee: 12 ch

Routes:

Meched 1 June
1897 via Persian
EPO of
Gaudan 3 June.

Forwarded to
Russian
EPO of Gaoudan
22 June (Julian)
and forwarded
23d of June
Addressed to Baku
Arriving 26 June
(Julian)

From Seistan with unrecorded violet registration postmark
Registered letter to USA 1904

Seistan,
Registered
20mm Circle

Rates: 12 chahi
Reg fee: 12 chahi

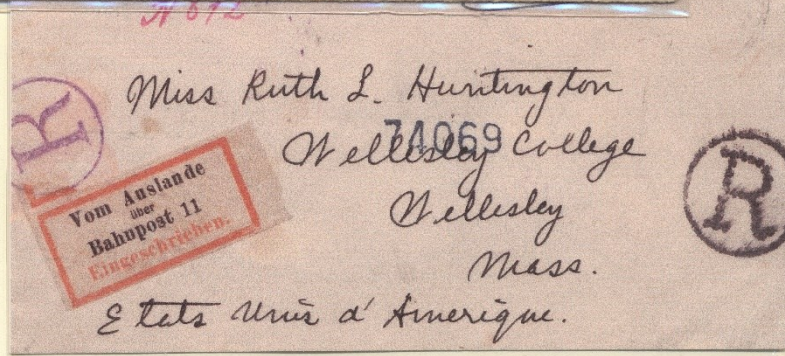
Black reg.
mark Meched
also applied

Routes:

Seistan Jan 1904
violet negative
postmark applied
(four recorded)
via Meched 2 Feb,
Gaoudan EPO
on 8 February
Handed over to
Russian EPO
(26 Jan Julian),
via Moscow 1 Feb
(Julian), via
New York 29 Feb
(reg mark)
forwarded
to destination
1 March 1904



Scan 75%



I.b 1896 – 1930+
Communications
expanded

The opening of north eastern Persia

New exchange P O
established 1896
at Gaudan/Houdan

Russian letter from Ashabad to Yezd in 1899

Route: Ashabad – Gaudan – Meched – Teheran – Yezd. An Ashabad **postage due "T"** mark applied. No evidence that the receiver paid any fee as customary with the Persian postal system

Russian
Gaudan no 1
29 mm
Large size "T"

Gaudan no 3
27 mm

From
Ashabad
10 11 99
via Gaudan
Russian and
Persian
exchange
offices
same date
transiting
Meched in
Khorasan
25 2 99
Teheran
7 3 99

Addressed
to Yezd



Letter to Austria via Gaudan, Soviet Union in 1925

Russian Gaudan exchange office postmark: Double circle, 28 mm diameter outer circle. No "a". Very elusive
After the disruption of mail between Russia and Persia in 1918 as a result of the civil war and Russia became Soviet Union in 1923. Although mail communication resumed about 1922/23 very little exchange of mail took place.



From
Bender-Gez
at the
Caspian Sea
Cancelled
9 10 3
(Persian
calendar)
then with
western date
cancel ? XII 24
transited
Meched 13 10 3
(Persian
calendar)
via Gaudan
Russian
Exchange
Office 12 I 25
(Julian)

No further
markings

The old Persian
calendar
reintroduced
by the new
nationalistic
government 1921

1896 - 1930+
Communications
expanded

The opening of north eastern Persia

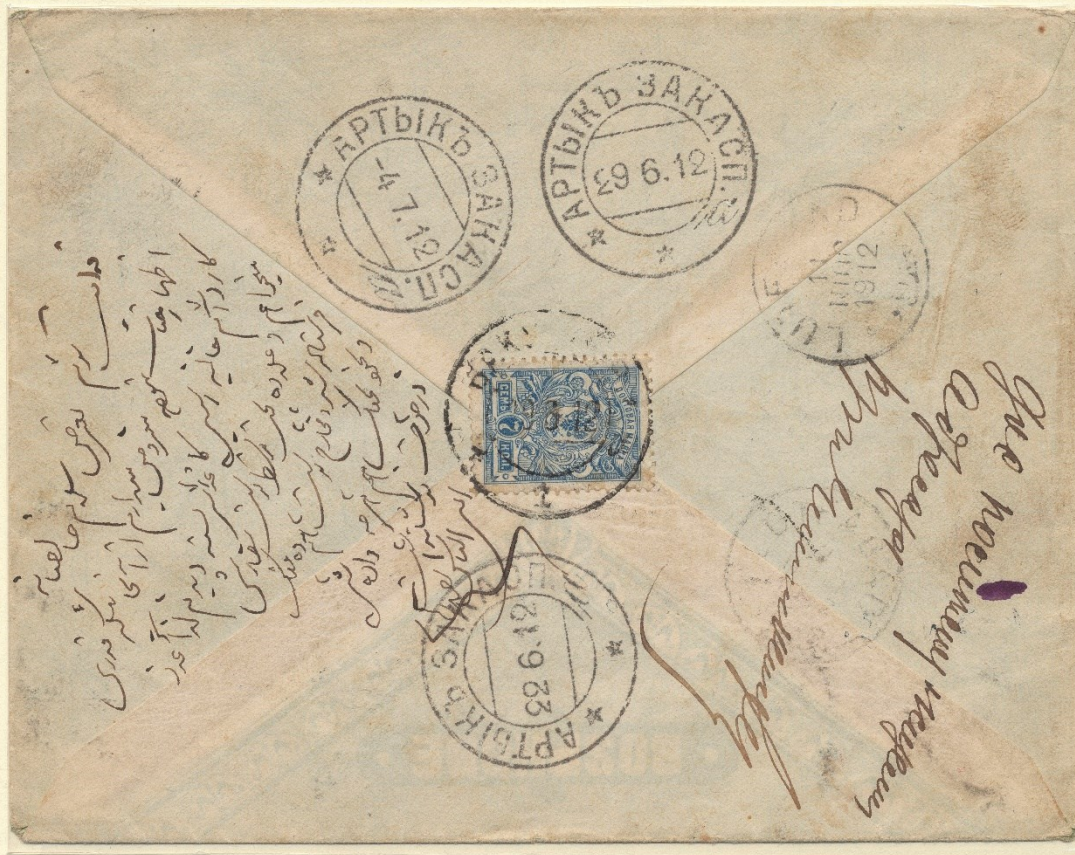
"Transparent"
borders

Loose frontier between Turkmenistan and Khorasan

There are examples of mail into Khorasan that have not used the normal exchange postal routes. Historically, places are linked to caravan routes. Between Lutfabad in Persia and Artik on the Russian side is only 10 km.

Sent from
Baku
19 6 12
to Artik
22 6, 12
Info said
the receiver
now in
Lutfabad
In Persia.
The letter
was sent
to him
there but
was returned
arriving to
Artik 29 6,
Forwarded
4 7 12 to
Shenzheas
as per m/s

Inland letter
rate 7 kopek



Waybill used for freighting imported goods to the interior of Persia from border places

Used from Lutfabad in 1907 (H 1325) as per m/s at back. The cancel say 1904 (H 1322) but it was used many years with the same date) and sent to Meched, the principal commercial city in Khorasan

Montant en timbres du droit perçu.

مجموع حقوق دریافتی تمبرها

ent avis, après remise du colis au destinataire, doit être envoyé à l'Administration Centrale
r le bureau de destination, dont le Directeur est responsable de l'état des timbres y apposés.

این ورقه رسید امانت را پس از رسید امانت بصاحبش باید دفتر دریافتی بداره مرکزیه ارسال دارد و نیز
مسئول تمبرهای مستعمله در آن میباشد

(مطلب مزبور فوق را دقت نمائید)

Rate 20 Kran 10 chahi. It is not known what was the rates and fees of different services

I.b 1896 - 1930+
Communications
expanded

The opening of north eastern Persia

Soviet Union contin-
ued using Gaudan
exchange office

Persian letter to UK via Ashkabad/Poltoratsk in 1927

Postmark: Ashkabad - Poltoratsk

Ashkabad changed name after the Russian revolution to Poltoratsk and also the Gregorian calendar was introduced

Letter from
Meched -
Balakhiaban
26 9 6
(Persian
calendar) =
8 12 1927
via Gaudan
(no mark)
via Ashkabad -
Poltoratsk
23 12 27
(Gregorian)
to UK

Single rate
15 chahi
(end 1925-30)



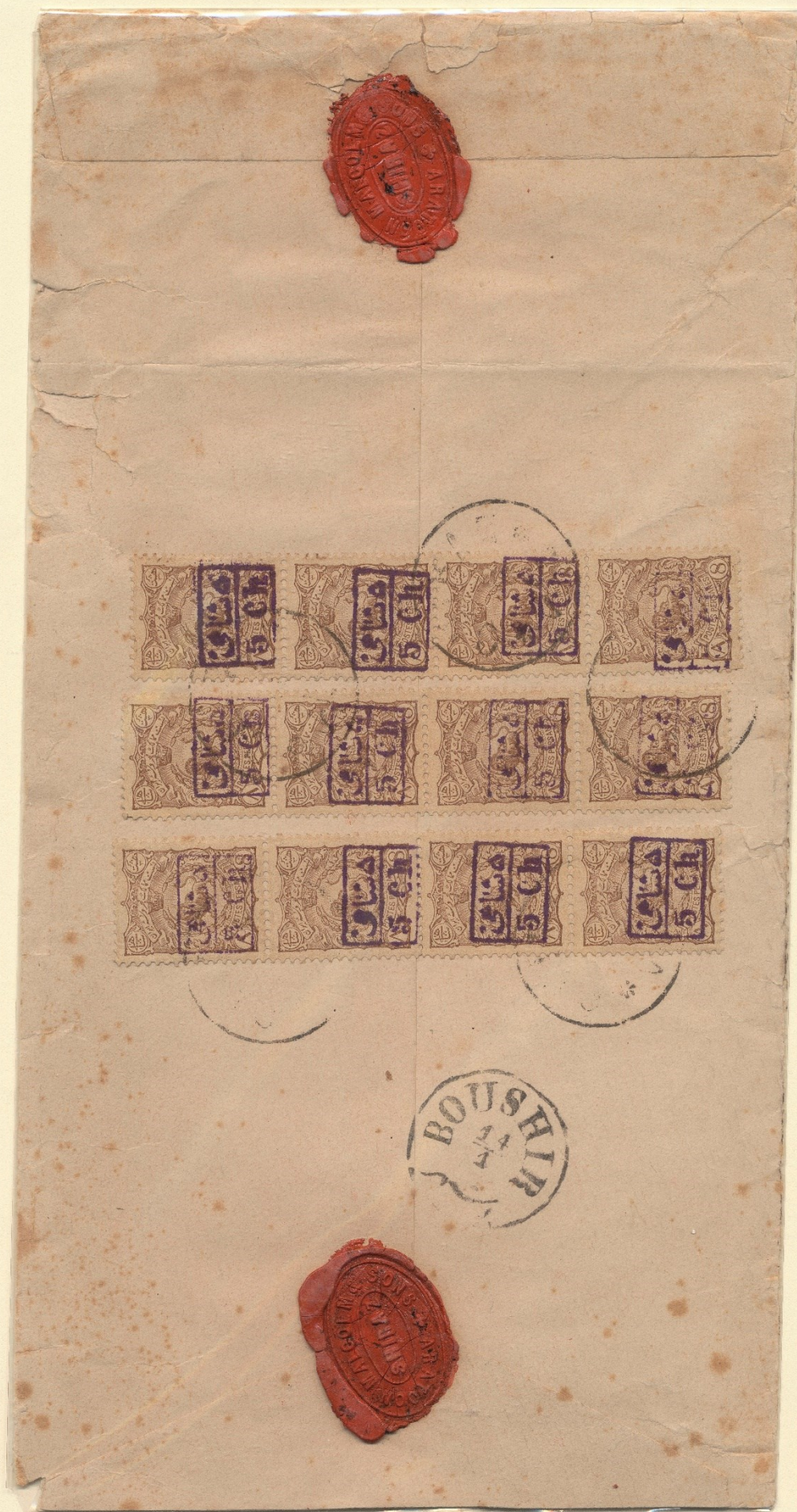
Persian letter to UK in 1925. Rate 15 chahi changed to 1 Kran end of 1925

Another letter sent from Meched Balakhiaban 14 VIII 25 sent via Gaudan, faint Russian postmark, then via Ashkabad 20 8 25 (now Gregorian) and addressed to UK. No further marking.



Shortages

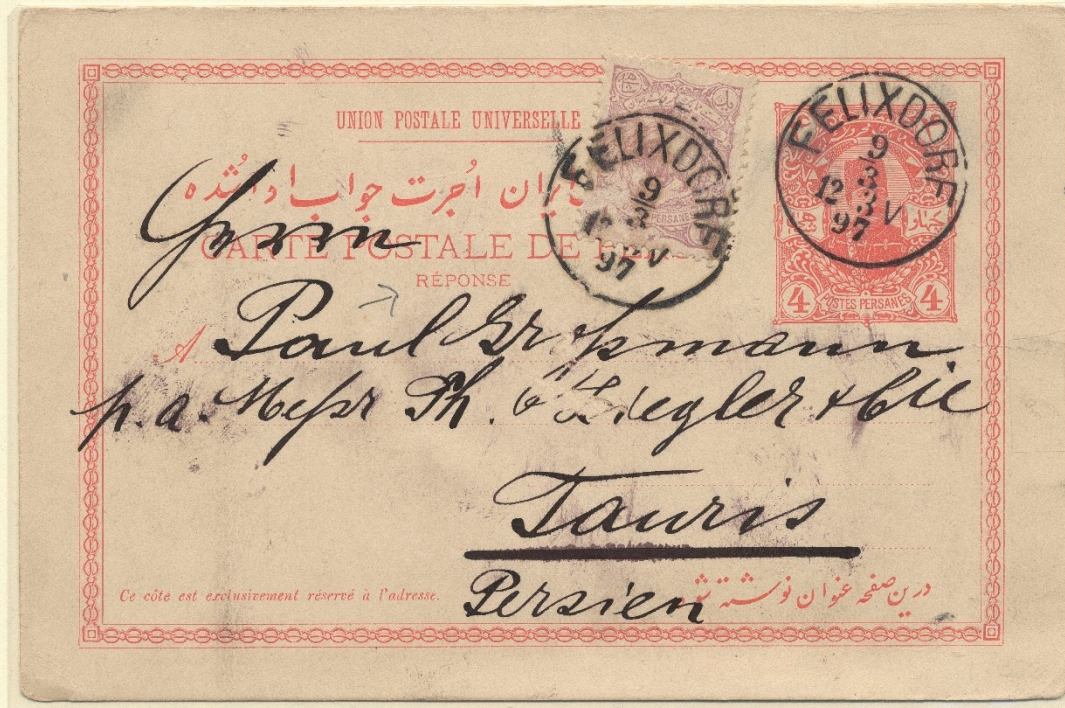
The 5-chahi surcharge of 1897 is scarce and to 98% used as single or in combination with other lower denominations. This cover with three 4-strips is by far the **largest amount** of this surcharge known and **4-strips are hardly known** at all.



Domestic cover from Shiraz to the famous merchant Leo Malcolm at Bushire about 1897/98. Total rate 3 kran

Reply-cards returned from the receiving country

Persian reply-card uprated used from Germany



From
Felixdof
Germany
9 March
1897
addressed
to Tabriz

Foreign
Rate 5 ch

Austria 10 heller reply-card used from Persia

The Austrian reply-card was sent from Teheran 17 July 1902, via Baku 17 August (Julian calendar) to Vienna.
No arrival mark



Insured registered mail

There is no notation for insured mail. Simply one has to figure it out. An unusual and a very high postage, low special registration number plus a red seal applied at back. Maximum value 2500 tomans

Insured registered letter, #256, to Hungary in 1898. A 10 Kran stamp applied



Rates: 10 kran in total. Normal rate 12 ch. **Reg. fee:**

Routes: Teheran to Budapest arriving 20 Jan 1898

Notes: The red wax seal of the Austrian-Hungarian Mission to Persia

Insured registered letter, #15, from Urmia to London in 1895



Rates: Total 3 kran 14 chahi = 74 chahi. Normal rate 12 chahi (July 1895 – 1905). **Reg. fee:** 12 chahi.

So the insured value could go up to 50 chahi at the most

Routes: Urmia in northwestern Persia to London arriving in Nov 1895

II.c 1898

Mourning cover

Registered cover from Yezd to England 1898

The post office at Yezd forgot to cancel the two 1-ch stamps on the back

The main transit office for mail to abroad Teheran Cancelled them



Cancelled at Yezd in September 1898, sent via Teheran where 2x1-ch stamps on the back were cancelled with very elusive 24 mm Teheran postmark. Rate 12 chahi. Registration fee 12 chahi. Scan reduced to 80%

Ghomicheh negative postmark

A small town between Isfahan and Shiraz



Internal letter sent 14 July 1900 (H 16 Rabi al Awwal 1318) from Ghomiche to Shiraz. Rate 5 chahi

Registered picture post card. Very early usage



From Sultanabad 13 Feb 1899 via Teheran 17 February to Zurich arriving 24 III 1899
 Rate 5 chahi. Registration fee 12 chahi. Possibly 1 chahi for the registration label

Double registered letter, damaged, to Germany



Sent in Nov 1898 from Teheran to Pasing, Germany, received 22 Dec via Leipzig same date. According to notification on the envelope the cover was damaged and repaired by the German Train Service (Eisenbahn) with six special labels. Double rate 24 chahi. Reg fee 12 chahi

Trebizonde and Bayazid, both in Ottoman eastern Turkey

Registered letter to Palestina in 1908. Teheran exchanged mail with Trebizonde Ottoman PO



Rates: 13 chahi. Registered fee: 13 chahi

Routes: Sultanabad 21 10 1908 – Teheran (date unclear) – (Enzeli & Baku EPOs – Batum/Poti) – Trebizonde Ottoman PO 21 11 08

By ship via Constantinople to Jaffa

Notes: Registration mark of Sultanabad

Route via *Bayazid, Turkish town near the border. Serving north western Persia

A Persian post office existed there since 1890s. Tabriz had an option using either the normal route via Julfa or Bayazid

Endorsed via Bayazid for mail to Constantinople. Very elusive

Rates: Not known as stamps missing on the back.

Routes: Tabriz 24 May 1899 – Bayazid – Galata (Constantinople) 8 June 1899

Markings: Ottoman transit/receiving marks indicating that the Turkish postal routes from eastern Turkey were used

Notes: *See Migliavacca p 39

The India postal system treated internal Persian mail as foreign mail if Indian POs in Persia involved
Internal Persian letter sent 1898 from Shiraz to Linga IPO via Bushire IPO



Rates: Foreign rate 12 ch as India postal system did not agree using internal rates

Routes: Shiraz Nov 1898 to Linga routed via Bushire Indian postal system 28 Nov arriving Linga IPO 30 November

Markings: Linga IPO arriving mark. Circle type 20 mm

2 ch ship fee charged for Persian mail to and from Persian Arabistan or to Basra. Rare usage

Ship mail under private enterprise. India had special contract but not Persia. About 1895

Rates: 10 ch foreign rate. **Routes:** Schuster, Persian Arabistan, to Isfahan via Mohammerah IEOs and Bushire IEOs

Notes: Closed bags for internal Persian mail the Indian postal system forwarded to Persian ports free of charge



Destinations

Up rated p stat card to Curaco



Rates: 5 chahi

Routes: Teheran 14 June 1897 to Willemstad, Curacao, 31 July

Markings: A transit mark is noted but blurred

German East Africa



Rates: 12 chahis. Registration fee: 12 chahi

Routes: Chiraz 29 June 1901 via Bouchir 6 July, Bombay 18 July to Dar-es-Salaam arriving? August 01 in German East Africa.
Blue seal of the German Vice-consulate at Bushir

II.

Japan & New Zealand. Two early destinations

Redirected from Siberia to two countries

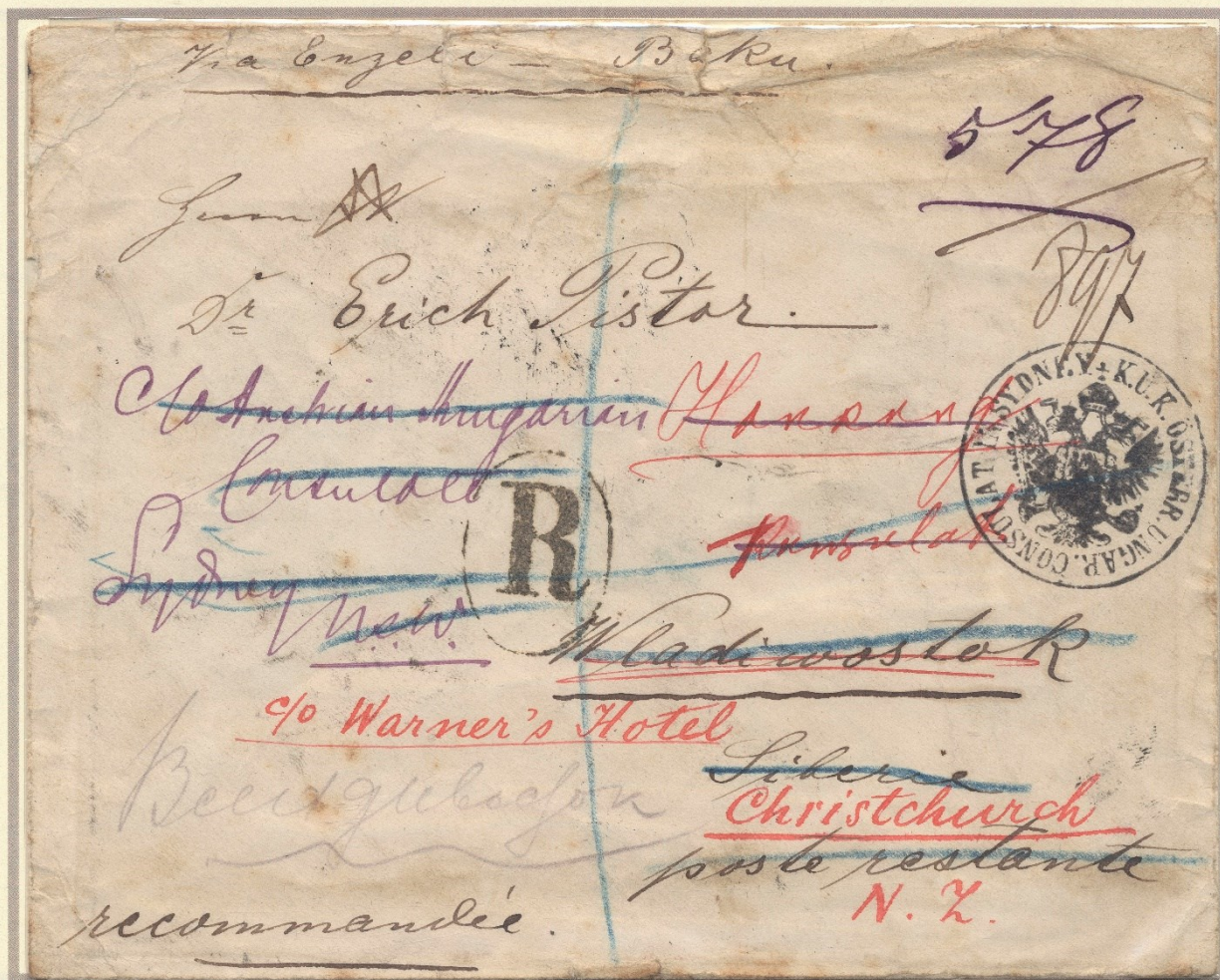
Cover via Siberia to Vladivostok, redirected to Australia and then to New Zealand (earliest known) in 1901

Rates: 12 ch
Reg fee: 12 ch

Routes:
Teheran
(no date)
via Enzeli-
Baku
11 X 1901
Vladivostok
23 X 1901
(both Julian)
re-directed
to Sydney
via Hong Kong
24 Dec 1901

Endorced
via Enzeli
- Baku EPOs

The seal of
Austrian -
Hungarian
Consulate
Sydney



The earliest letter recorded to Japan, in 1895. Returned as "Non reclame"



Routes:
Teheran
via Recht,
Enzeli 30/1
Baku 20/1 95
(Julian) to London
(date not readable)
Yokohama postmark
dated Meiji 28th year
= 2nd April 1895
Returned Yokohama
Postmark (English)
1st July
Baku 1 VIII/95
"ADVERTISED"

Rates: 10 chahi (June – Sept 1895). Reg fee 10 chahi
Markings: Several postmarks are partly unreadable

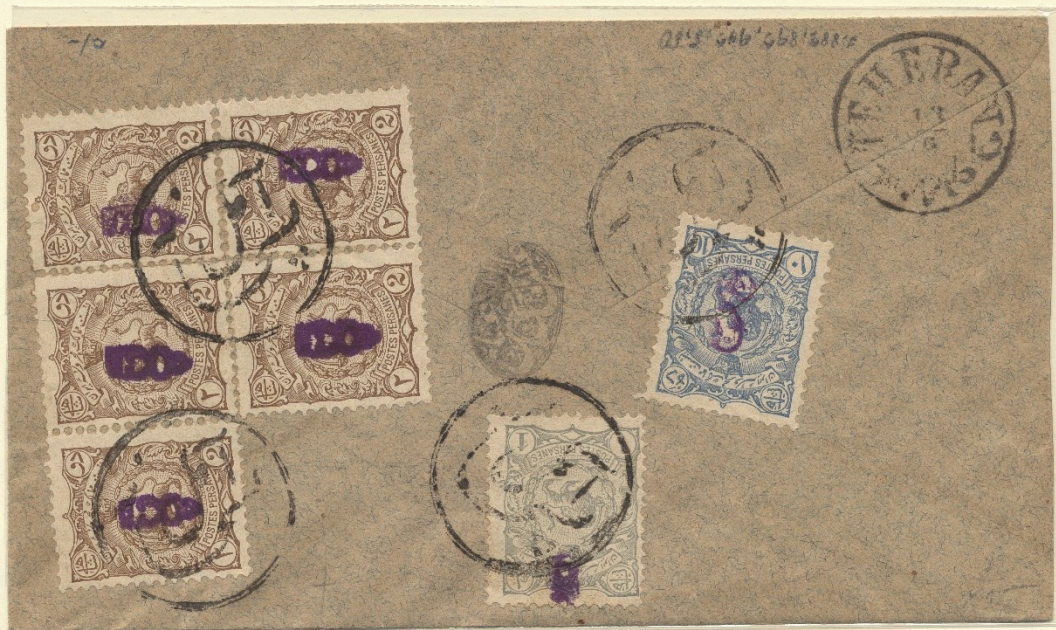


II.

Positive seals. Persian script only

Elusive

**Control marks used on stamps by the farming system reached out to the remotest of post offices
AMOL. Mazandaran province. Registered letter in 1899**



Rates: 10 ch double rate. Reg.fee: 11 ch

Routes: Amol 1899 (H 1317) to Teheran arriving 13 June

Golpaygan. Isfahan province. Double registered letter in 1899



Rates: 8 ch. Registration fee: 11+11 ch. Double registration

Routes: Golpaygan 1899/1900 (H 1317) to Teheran

Shortages & Rates

A bisected 1 Kran w ovpt "PROVISOIRE 1333" used only at Enzeli about 1902

Two recorded of this bisect



Rates: 12 chahi. Registration fee 12 chahi

Routes: Enzeli 14 April 1902 via Baku 2 June 1902 (Julian) to Brussel 22 May

Notes: 1 ch overpaid due to shortages of most values

Avis de Reception

AR-marks for Teheran recorded as from 1898



Rates: 12 chahi. Double registration fee + AR fee 12+12 ch = 24 chahi

Routes: Teheran 23 April 1900 to Berlin 21 May

Notes: The AR-mark is the very first type introduced as from 1898. Early most elusive

Controle marks for farming & Provisoires

Adjutant violet controle across 1 and 2 stamps



Rates: 12 chahi to abroad. Reg fee: 12 chahi

Routes: Teheran Jan 1901 toUK arriving Kew Garden 23 Jan 1901

Internal letter 3d weight class and registered



Rates: 15 ch. III d weight class. Reg fee 10 chahis

Routes: Hamadan 6 June 1899 (H 1317) toNain via Teheran (backstamped)

A combination of Type II and 5 chahi surcharge on 8 ch 1900. Very elusive

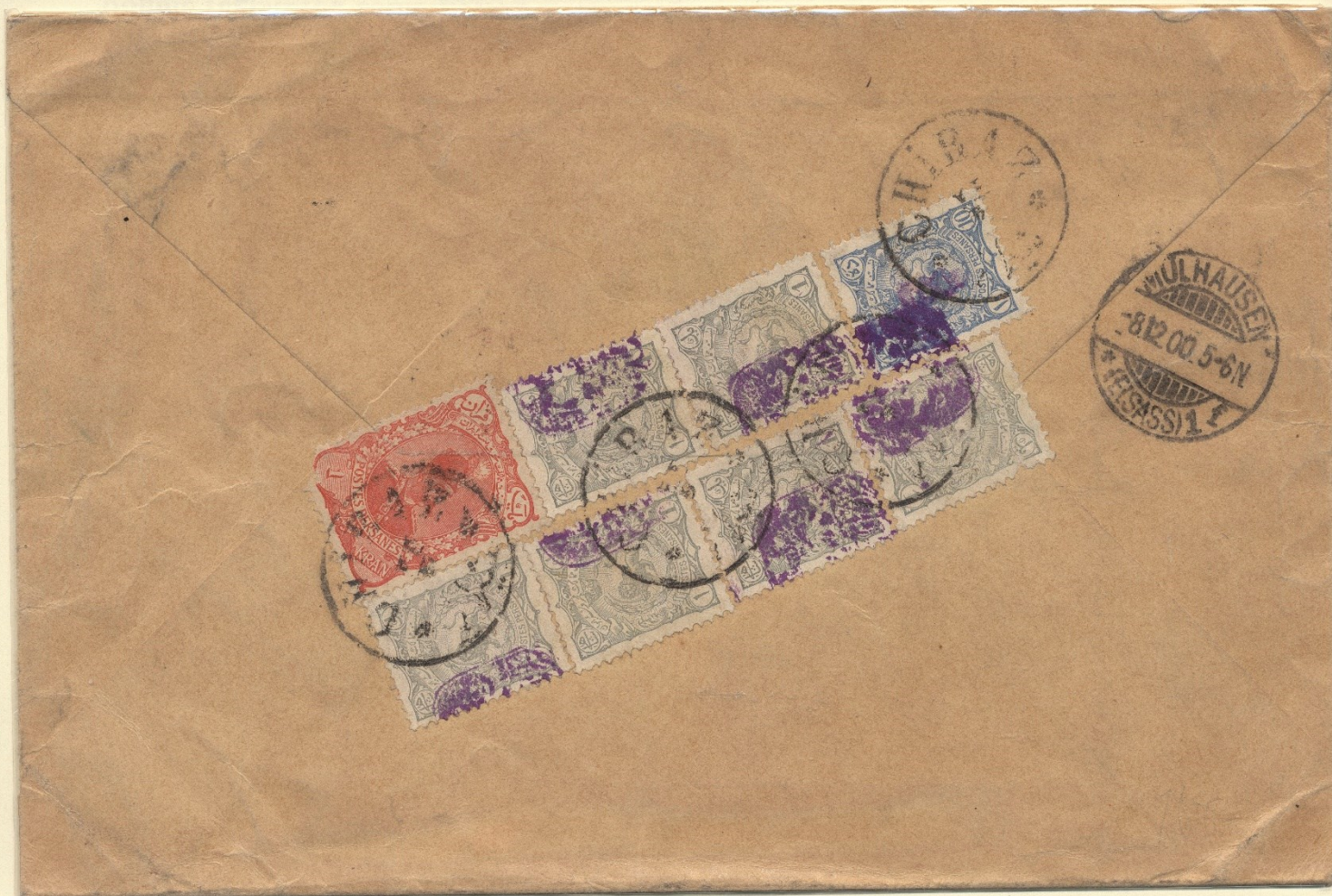


From Teheran 6 Dec 1900 to Kew, England, arriving 31 December. Foreign rate 12 chahi

Double registered combination letter with: without and with Type II and III together

Sent from Shiraz in November 1900 via Bouchir also November (not clear) to Germany arriving 8 12 00

Double rate 24 chahi. Registration fee 12 c hahi



II.c 1899-1902

The farming system, type II

For accounting purposes the farmers had to control the distribution. Violet control marks were used

Registered letter to Switzerland



Rates: 12 chahi. Registration fee: 12 chahi

Routes: Teheran – date unclear – Zurich arriving 23 February 1901

Waybill

From Tabriz to Astara



Rates: Total 13 Kran 10 chahi

Routes: Tabriz to Astara

Note: Higher values overprinted used on document are very elusive. Here endorsed by Dr Dadkhah seal.

5-chahi p st envelope with type I accounting mark uprated



Rates: 12 chahi. Registration fee: 12 chahi

Routes: Sultanabad July 1899 via Teheran 17 July via Russia to Zurich arriving 14 III 1899

Registered to Chile. Higher values used

The higher values of type I is very rare. The 3kran recorded on two letters only



Rates: 6 Kran 10 chahi that includes registration fee of 12 chahi and a insurance fee. A breakdown is not possible due to too limited information

Routes: Teheran 11 9 1900 to Valparaiso in Chile

Markings: The dates of a transit mark of Teheran and of a arrival marking of Valparaiso, both at back, are blurred

Labels: A light blue Valparaiso registration label put on

Note: A leasing system. Each year it went to the highest bidder and the Shah pocket the money. The farmer in turn would squeeze out every possible cent from the postal system to regain his investment I e bad service etc to cut the costs. Each farmed used his own accounting mark

II.c 1899-1903

Control marks used by a farming system

A "leased out" service. 1899, Mr Arnold, the Director of Post, allowed control marks (5 types) on stamps and postal stationery (3 types) to differentiate the stock from the predecessors for accounting purposes

A very early use of ppc, 1899. Registered. Control type "I"



Rates: 5 ch. Registration fee 12 ch

Routes: Tabriz 9 July 1899 (as per m/s) via Julfa exchange office and Russia to Basel arriving 23 July

To Kamerun. West Africa

Control type "II"



Rates: 12 chahi

Routes: Teheran 31 March 1902 (as per Agence Ziegler oval stamp) via Baku 26 March 1902 (Julian) and via Berlin as per m/s to Rio del Rey in Kamerun

Controle marks for farming & Provisoires

Adjutant violet controle across 4 stamps. Elusive



Rates: 12 chahi to abroad

Routes: Isfahan 11 Feb 1900 via Teheran 16 Feb, Enzeli – Baku exchange POs to Rome

Provisoire 1319 ovpt issued 1902 used on internal letter (front)

2 Kran recorded on two items only



Rates: 6 Kran 18 chahi. Most probably registered insured letter.

Routes: Sent internally from Teheran

The only recorded rate table until the 1910s is from 1877/78. Probably the rates had changed

Registered. Two control marks. Only two reg. wrappers w two controls recorded



Domestic rates: 15 chahi. Registration fee: 15 chahi (same as letters)

Routes: Teheran 31 March 1902 to Tabriz. Sent by Ziegler & Co, Teheran handstamp at reversal and with m/s 31 MAR 1902

Printed matter, 1-ch wrapper, sent registered to Brazil 1891



Rates: Not known as additional stamps were put on the item. Registration fee: 12 chahi

Routes: Teheran via Enzeli, northern route to Europé. By ship mail to Pernambuco arriving 26 March 1891 and onwards to destination Pilar de Alagoas arriving 27 March 1891 as per back stamp in the interior

The usages of the 1-ch Registration label

The usage of a registration label at an additional cost of 1 chahi was optional

This letter's label cancelled at arrival instead of at sender's place due to negligence



Rates: Double rate 10 chahi. Registration fee 10 chahi. Registration label fee: 1 chahi

Routes: Recht ab 1901 to Teheran

1 and/or 2-ch stamps replaced by 1-ch Registration label due to stamp shortages

Rates:
5 kran 10 ch

Routes:
Senneh to
Teheran
in H 1315
i.e. 1897

Due to
shortage of
both 1 chahi
and 2 chahi
stamps
two 1-ch
registration
labels were
used instead

Reg labels
used on
waybills
only
4 recorded



Belgian customs and postal administrators

asked to be in charge due to super power politics

Introduction to the period

The Shah governments were always weak and needed constantly money. Great Britain and Russia always "assisted", for a price! Finally the two powers imposed on the Shah to hire Belgians to administrate the customs revenues in 1899. And the treasury for once was full thanks to the collected revenue. So the **Belgians** took charge of the postal services as well, in 1902.

The 1899 issue of Mozaffer ed Din Shah run out. Various overprints and surcharges appeared. A provisional issue the Teheran Typeset was printed in Teheran in 1902. Still, the shortage was so bad that in Meched, Khorasan, in north eastern Persia, the postal director, Mr **Castaigne**, a Belgian administrator for both the Customs and the postal services, decided to print his own stamps without having this cleared with Teheran. The issue has gone down into history as the Meched issue. Castaigne was sacked.

The Belgian administration together with support from UPU made an **agreement with Russia**, for the transit of parcels in 1904. **New exchange offices** were also opened for both ordinary mail and parcel mail. Agreements were reached with both the Indian authorities and Germany concerning the exchange of parcel mail via the Gulf in 1904.

During the whole period between 1902 to 1925 out of more than 500 catalogued stamps only 75 were printed. The difference were made up of **overprints and surcharges**. Few countries can master such huge amount of overprints and surcharges, over such a relative short period.

Registered cover to Germany 1902 using provisional issues



Rates: 24 chahi for 2nd weight class. **Registration fee:** 12 chahi

Routes: Tedriche, suburb to Teheran, via Teheran Depart (unclear), via Baku 20 June 1902 (Julian) arriving at destination Wilmsdorf, Germany, 9 July 1902.

Franking: 1 kran on the front and a pair of 5 CHAHIS of 1902 Rosette issue and 6x1 chahi of the 1902 provisional issue at the back making a total of 36 chahi.

***New rules regulating "Service" mail. No longer always free of charge**

1 kr of 1899 issue overprinted "Service" and surcharged 5, 10 or 12 chahi in July 1902. Only five covers recorded



**5 chahi
surcharged**

Rates:
5 chahi

Routes:
Teheran
26 July ab
1902
to
Enzeli

Notes:
The Customs
Department

Double inland rate



**10 chahi
surcharged**

Rates:
10 chahi
double

Routes:
Teheran
as per m/s
25 Shaban
1320 (25 Nov
1902) to
Shiraz with
faint transit
mark on
reverse

Ministry of
Post, Teheran

*Governmental departments according to new regulations were no longer entitled to send mail free of charge.

Astara Exchange Offices

postage due

Exchange of closed mail, Inaugurated in 1902. Very small amount of mail

Postage Due. One of very few recorded from abroad properly charged in Persia before 1930

Rarely would the Iranian postal authorities bother if an incoming letter was underpaid

Addressed to Ardabil, a town not far from Astara at the border



Rates: 7 kopek = 3 kopek underfranked. **Postage due:** 10 chahis

Routes: Samarkand (in Uzbekistan today) 9 July 1902 to Ardebil vis Baku 13 VII and Astara exchange offices (all Julian calendar)

Notes: : Astara is a border town and a port between Persia and Azarbadjan (Russia) on the western coast of the Caspian Sea.

The Russian P O on the Russian side of Astara opened many years earlier.

The latest provisional set was issued in 1897. Quickly run out and a number of surcharges were introduced

Route via Baghdad to England. Avis de Reception



Rates: 12 ch. **Registration fee:** 12 ch. **AR fee:** 12 ch

Routes: Kasr Shirin August 1902 via Baghdad Ottoman P O 4 Aug, Istanbul, to London. Three transit and arrival marks on **28 August**

Re-directed: to Germany arriving Baden-Baden the next day. The AR waved as forwarded to another country

Markings: The Kasr shirin native type very elusive. Ab 1895 - 1905



Routes: Smaller places

Khelkhal to Kum

Elusive usage of "5/KRANS on 5 KRANS" and type II "small letters" of Teheran set on waybill



Rates: 19 Kran 15 ch.

Routes: Khelkhal to Kum in 1902 (H 1320)

Kenar Takhte to Bouchir

Double rate 10ch on cover to Bouchir 1903 (H 1321)



Rates: 10 chahi

Routes: Kenar Takhte via Kazeroun – no transit mark – to Bouchir arriving 8 August 1903

III. 1902

Routes

**Teheran type set used on waybill. Big and small letters. Only two 10 kran on mail recorded
Tabriz to Urmia in Azarbadjan province, the north west.**



Rates: 13 kran 17 chahi in total

Routes: Tabriz in 1903 (H 1320) to Urmia

Markings: The large black seal is the Russian Bank's at Tabriz

Insured cover to England about 1902/3

Pair of 2 kran of 1902 issue used is very elusive. Only two recorded on document



Rates: Heavy letter. Insurance fee unknown. Weight unknown. Thus only Registration fee 12 chahi known. Total 4 kran 16 chahi

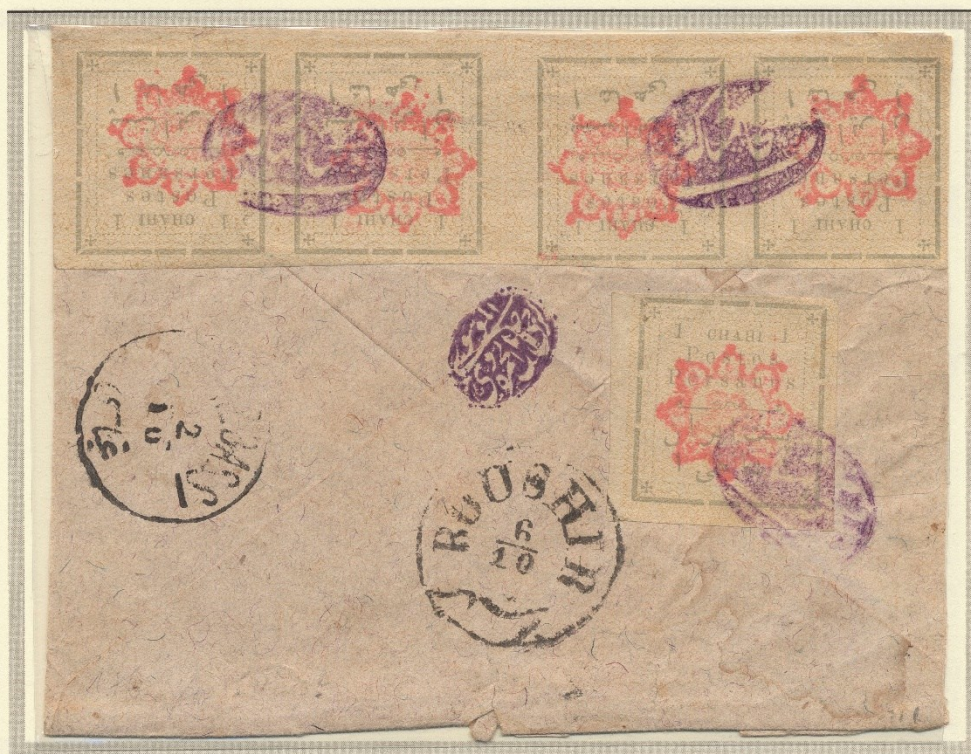
Routes: Isfahan 30 Nov ?, via Teheran, Baku arriving London 24 December Year date not visible

Nain - Kerman

Rates: 3 Kran

*Stamp shortages

Route: Minab - Bandar Abbas (ABBASSI) - Bouchir - Shiraz



Minab

Rates:
5 chahi

Routes:
Minab late
Sept 1902
(H 1320)
transitting
Bandar
Abbass
2 October
and Bouchir
6 October
to Shiraz

AR, Avis de Reception

From Recht in December about 1902/03 addressed to Tabriz

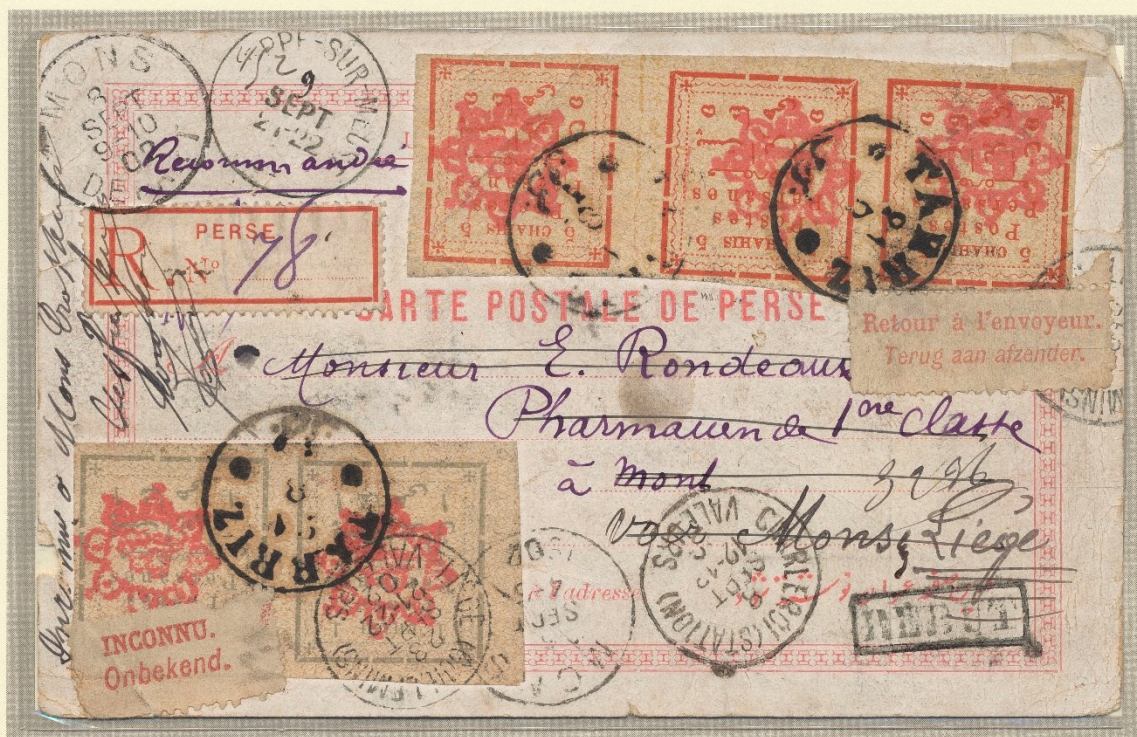


Rates: 15 chahi. 3d weight class. Registration fee: 10ch.AR-fee: 10ch

Routes: Recht in Dec 1902/3 to Tabriz (no arrival canc)

Notes: 1ch for the recording, a special fee used by the postal authorities at times

Sent to Belgium. First redirected, then unknown and thus returned to sender



Rates: 5 chahi. Registration fee: 12 chahi

Routes: Tabriz 21.8 02 via Russia to Liege, Belgium, redirected to Mons and then returned to sender

Notes: There are two labels and one cachet. INCONNU, REBUT and Retour à l'envoyeur

Letter to England



Rates: 12 chahi

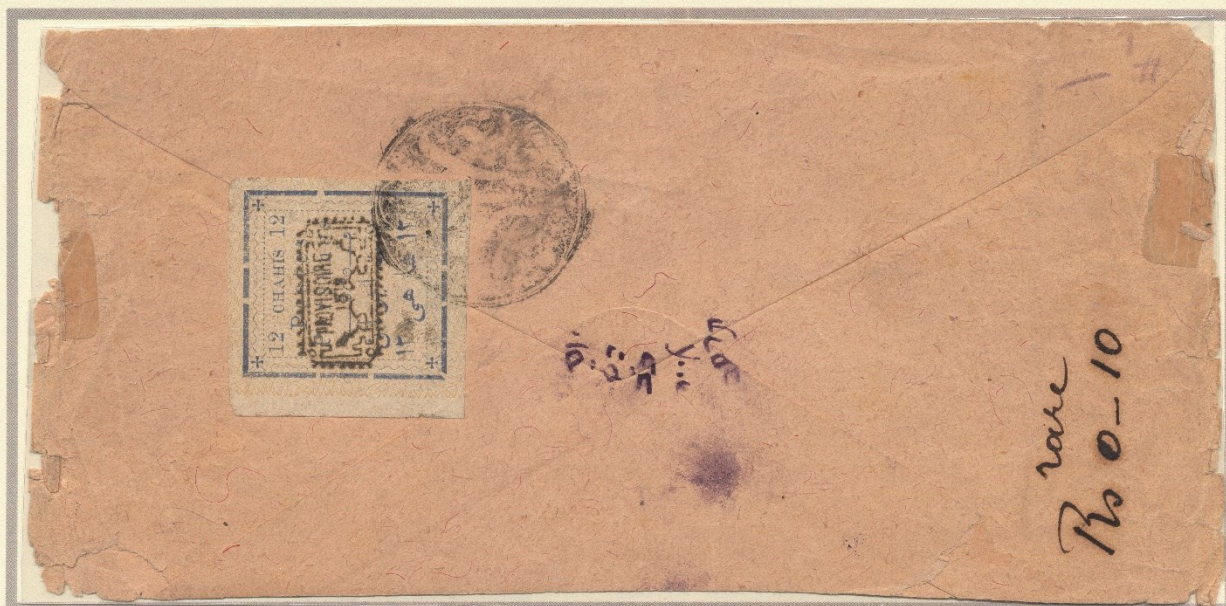
Routes: Teheran Maidan (date unclear) via Baku 1 VIII/1902 (Julian) to Kew, England, 21 August

III.a April 1902

Further shortages. "Provisoire 1319" issue about 4 weeks only

Only 11 items of this issue of 500 recorded on cover

Single rate cover to Mesopotamia



Rates: 12 chahi to abroad

Routes: Kerend, western Persia, addressed to Mesopotamia

Markings: Negative marking of Kerend. Five recorded of this marking

Registered letter to France



Rates: 12 chahi. Registration fee 12 chahi

Routes: Tabriz 8 April 1902 via Julfa, Tiflitz and Berlin as per m/s. Arriving 24 April

There are altogether 12 covers recorded using this overprint

5-chahi rate for cards to abroad



From Tabriz 24 March 1902 to Tiflis arriving 19 III 02 (Julian) = 1 April 1903. Rate 5 chahi. Repaired

5-chahi internal rate for single letters

From Kermanshah (preprinted month and year date existed several years) to Teheran about 1902.



III. 1903

Further shortages. The Octagonal PROVISoire issue

Aug/Sep 1903

Used mainly in Tabriz, Azarbadjan A few used in Teheran and its suburb Schimeran

This issue has a similar history to that of 1902 "PROVISoire 1319". About 15 items recorded only



Combination cover to France

Rates: 12 chahi

Routes:

Schimran (Teheran) in August 1903/04 to France (front only)

Note:

The 2 chahi Surcharge of 1903 is only recorded on 6 items

Registered Double rate to Basel. Redirected



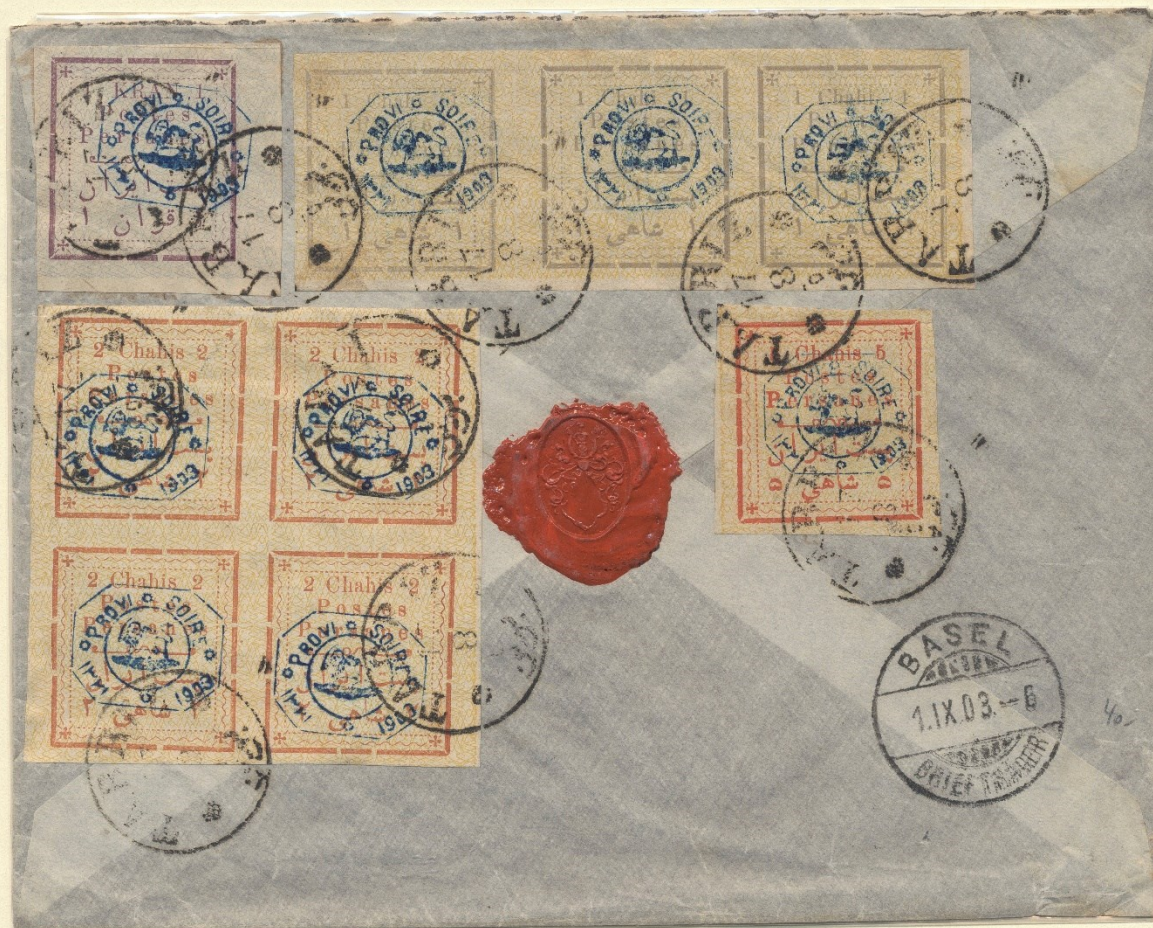
Rates: Double rate 12 + 12 chahi. Registration fee: 12 chahi

Routes: Tabriz 5 Sep 1903 to Basel via Julfa and Tiflis, arriving 20 IX 03 and re-directed to Zurich arriving 21 IX 03

III.a 1903

Stamp shortages in Azarbadjan

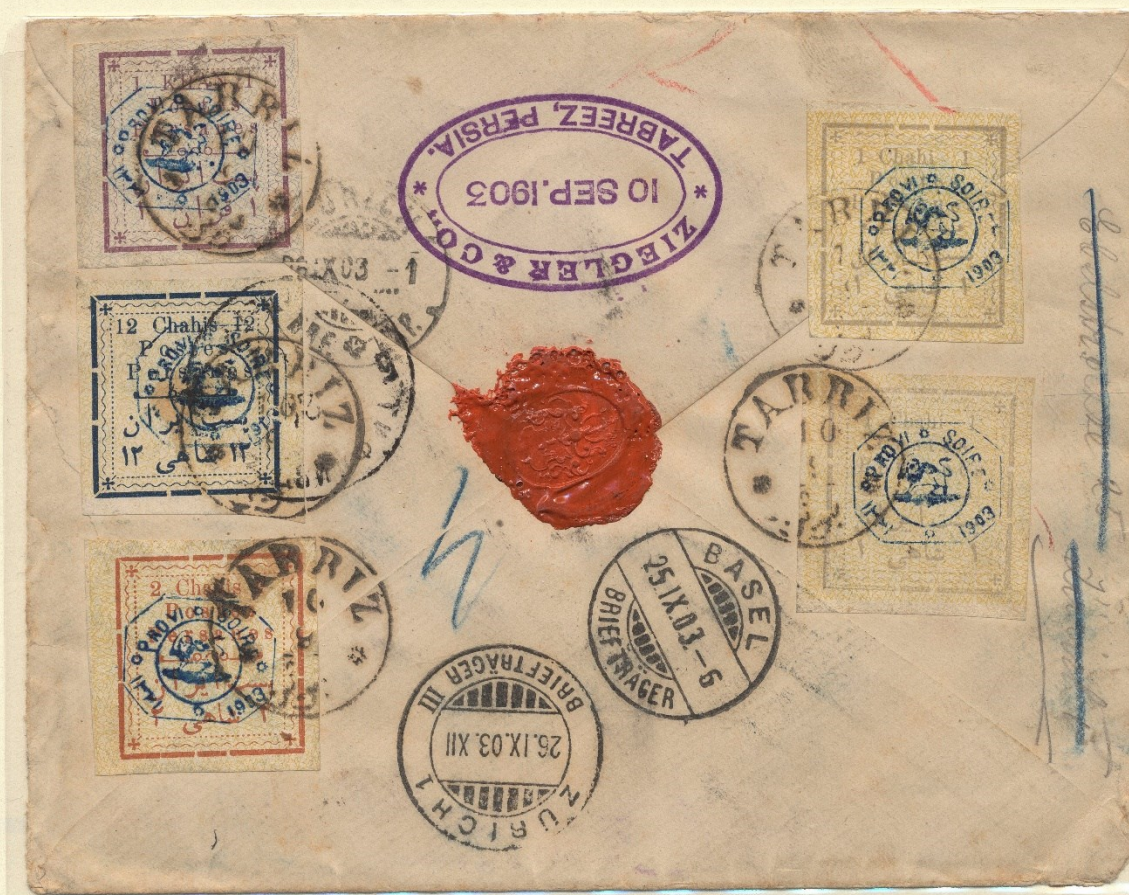
A March 1903 Overprint used only in Tabriz with one or two exceptions. 18 covers recorded



Registered
letter from
Tabriz
17 8 1903
sent to Basel
arriving 1 IX

Double rate
24 chahi
Registration fee
12 chahi

Letter to Switzerland



Registered
letter
from
Tabriz
10 Sept 1903
sent to Basel
arriving
25 Sept
redirected to
Zurich
arriving on
the 26th

Double rate
12 chahi
Registration fee
12 chahi

III.a 1902-08

Poste Locale for Teheran

Between 1902 to 1908 a local 2 chahi rate was introduced replacing the ordinary 5-ch rate
Six different 2-ch stamps were overprinted with different "P.L./TEHERAN. Regular 2-chahi stamp not accepted
In all 14 items recorded. 4 shown here



Rates:
Local 2 ch

Routes:
Within
Teheran
28 Nov
1903
(8 Muhar-
ram
1321)

Registered letter



Registered
P.L. letter

Rates:
2 chahi
Reg fee
10ch

Routes:
Within
Teheran
11 April
1906
(H 1324,
14 Safar)

Dr Dadkhah
Seal

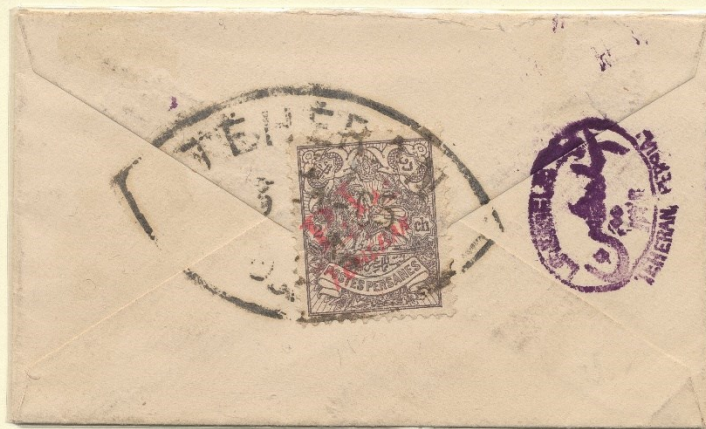
1902/3
ordinary
issue
overprinted

III.a 1902-08

Poste Locale for Teheran

Between 1902 to 1908 a local 2 chahi rate was introduced replacing the ordinary 5-ch rate
Six different 2-ch stamps were overprinted with different "P.L./TEHERAN. Regular 2-chahi stamp not accepted

1904 overprint on 1903 issue



Rates: 2 chahi

Routes: Local within Teheran cancelled 3 - 1 - 05

Postmark: "Teheran/1" shield type (shield type came into use in 1905)

1902 overprint on "2 Chahis" stamp. Registered letter. Special local registration fee of 10 chahi applied

Four recorded in total of this type. One used registered



Rates: 2 ch. **Reg. fee:** 10 chahi

Routes: Local within Teheran cancelled about 1902/3

Postmarks: Teheran circled type. Arrival mark "TEHERAN MAIDAN" oval type

Special info: Seal of Dr. Dadkhah

III.a 1902-08

Poste Locale for Teheran

About 1902 to 1908 a local 2 chahi rate replacing the ordinary 5-ch rate was introduced
During this period six different 2-ch stamps overprinted "P.L./TEHERAN". Regular 2-chahi stamp not accepted
There are six different overprints. In all 14 items recorded. 4 shown here

Violet P.L. overprint on 1903 regular issue

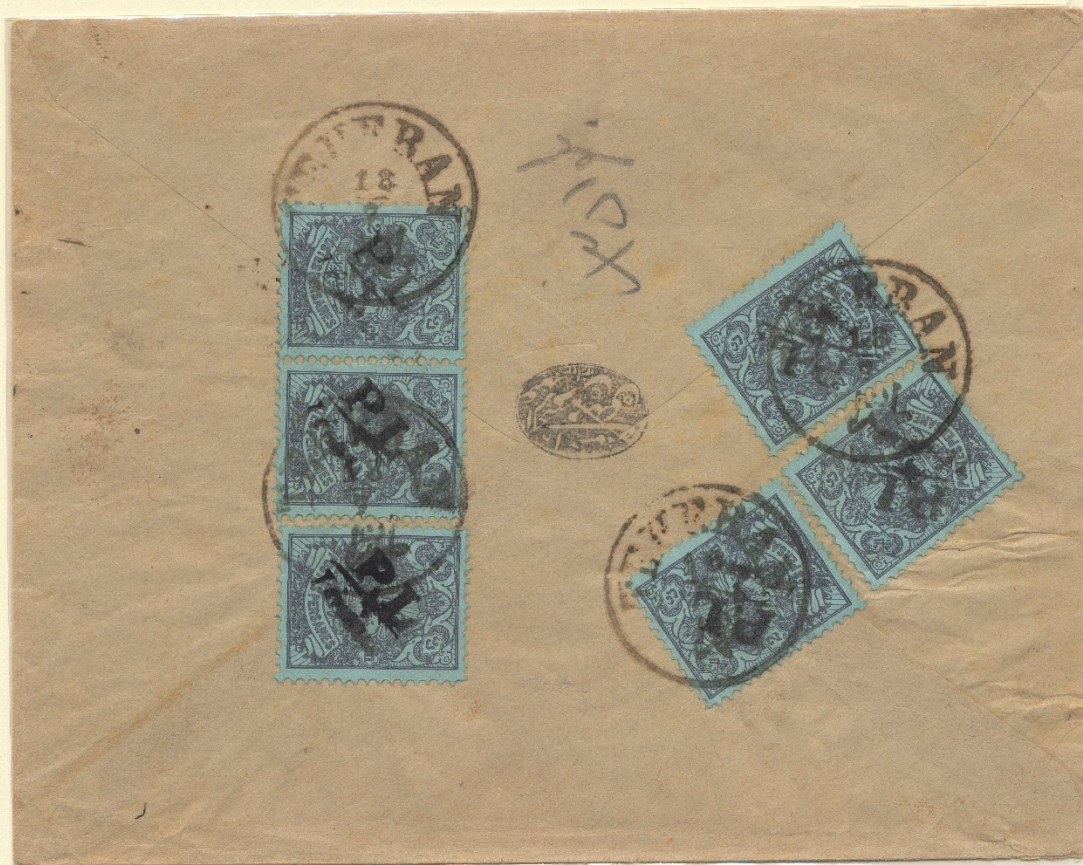


Sent
1904
in m/s
1322

1902/3
ordinary
issue

Dr
Dadkhah
Seal

P. L. overprint on 1907 regular issue. Registered letter



Registered
P.L. letter

Rate 2 chahi
Reg fee 10ch

Sent
18 July ?

III.

Persia to Persia via Russia. Thus foreign rate applied

In Northern part of Persia the use of "via Russia" was often much quicker and safer
From Khorasan to a Persian port at the Caspian Sea



Monsieur, Bontent.
Directeur des Douanes.
via Ashkabad *a Bender, griz.*
Krasnovodsk
Уездъ Крoсноводскiй
136 Астрабадскiй Тажикi
Берекъ.
Генъ Бонману



Foreign rates: 12 chahi

Routes: Ghoutchan Nov 1902– via Gaoudan Persian & Russian Exchange POs – Ashkabad – Krasnovodsk 30 Nov (Julian)– Russian ship mail – to Bandar-Djez (Persia) as per m/s

Markings: The violet Ghoutchan, native type, is very elusive. It has no date.

The Ghoutchan red postal seal indicates the sender was the Belgian post master

The two scans are in 60 and 75% respectively

III.

"Service" mail. The Customs department

1902 issue overprinted "Service". Service stamps used by different governmental departments

Mohammerah to Lingah Persian post offices



Rates: Double rate 9 chahi

Routes: Mohammerah 10 Nov 1904 to Lingah (date unclear), probably via Bushire

Markings: The Mohammerah large circled 30mm in diameter is very elusive, normally used as transit

The wax seal was used by the **Muhammerah** Customs. Scanned in 100%

Notes: The heading of the envelope states that it was used by the customs authorities. However with the emergence of the customs and the postal services in 1902 under Belgian administrators, an added violet handstamp reads

"Le Directeur General des Douanes et des Postes" i.e. the Director was now in charge of the two departments.

The 1899 issue had run out. Various overprints and surcharges urgently appeared. A provisional issue "the Teheran type set" was issued in Teheran in 1902. Still, the shortage was so bad that in Meched, Khorasan, in north eastern Persia, the postal director, Mr **Castaigne**, a Belgian administrator for both the Customs and the postal services, decided to print his own stamps but without requesting the necessary authorization from the postal authorities in Teheran. As a result Castaigne was sacked as it all look very speculative. (see below)

Two photos of Mr Castaigne with his employees and also the Meched post office at the time of the story I e about 1903



Castaigne produced stamps with five different denominations, in six different colors, that were postally used. In those days there was a great demand for stamps and postal stationery world wide among collectors and many speculated in stamps by hording, dealing & wheeling and if possible even getting the postal authorities to "create" unnecessary surcharges and overprints in many countries. There is much controversy surrounding this issue and of the so called "reprints" or "second printing" or "European printing".

I. 1902 - 06
Pre-WWI period
Pre-1907 Constitution

The Meched unauthorised issue

Belgian administrators in charge
1902-07

5 Chahi violet



From Meched in H 1320 = 1903 to Teheran arriving 14 May

Letter addressed to Victor Castaigne, the creator of the Meched issue

Sent from Tabriz 7 July 1914 to Belgium arriving 16 July. Rate 12ch. Reg fee 12ch.



The type of the Tabriz registration label elusive. Seen used 1914-15

The 1899 issue had run out. Overprints and surcharges urgently appeared. A provisional issue "the Teheran typeset" was printed in Teheran in 1902. Still, the shortage was so bad that in Meched, Khorasan, in north eastern Persia, the postal director, Mr **Castaigne**, a Belgian administrator for both the Customs and the postal services, decided to print own stamps without authorization from the postal authorities in Teheran. Castaigne got sacked for this initiative

Used registered from Ghoutchan. One of a few items recorded used outside of Meched

One of the most significant items related to the so called 1902 Meched issue

The letter is addressed to Poste Toko, a famous Dutch retail merchant situated in the Teheran bazaar



Rates: 15 chahi. 3d weight class

Routes: Ghoutchan, probably in April 1903, Meched (date not legible), Teheran arrival 1st of May and delivered 2nd of May

Markings: Ghoutchan native mark only recorded on a few Meched covers

The combination of a Meched and another issue is **very rare** indeed

The 1899 issue had run out. Various overprints and surcharges urgently appeared. A provisional issue "the Teheran type set" was issued in Teheran in 1902. Still, the shortage was so bad that in Meched, Khorasan, in north eastern Persia, the postal director, Mr **Castaigne**, a Belgian administrator for both the Customs and the postal services, decided to print his own stamps but without requesting the necessary authorization from the postal authorities in Teheran. As a result Castaigne was sacked as it all look very speculative. (see below)

**Combination of a Meched 5-chahi black and 10 chahi issues of 1897
Overprinted "Provisoire 1319" in boxed handstamp**



Rates: Triple rate 15 chahi. **Routes:** Meched sent 15 March 1903 to Teheran

Markings: the date 15/3 up-side-down

Notes: Seal of Dr Dadkhah

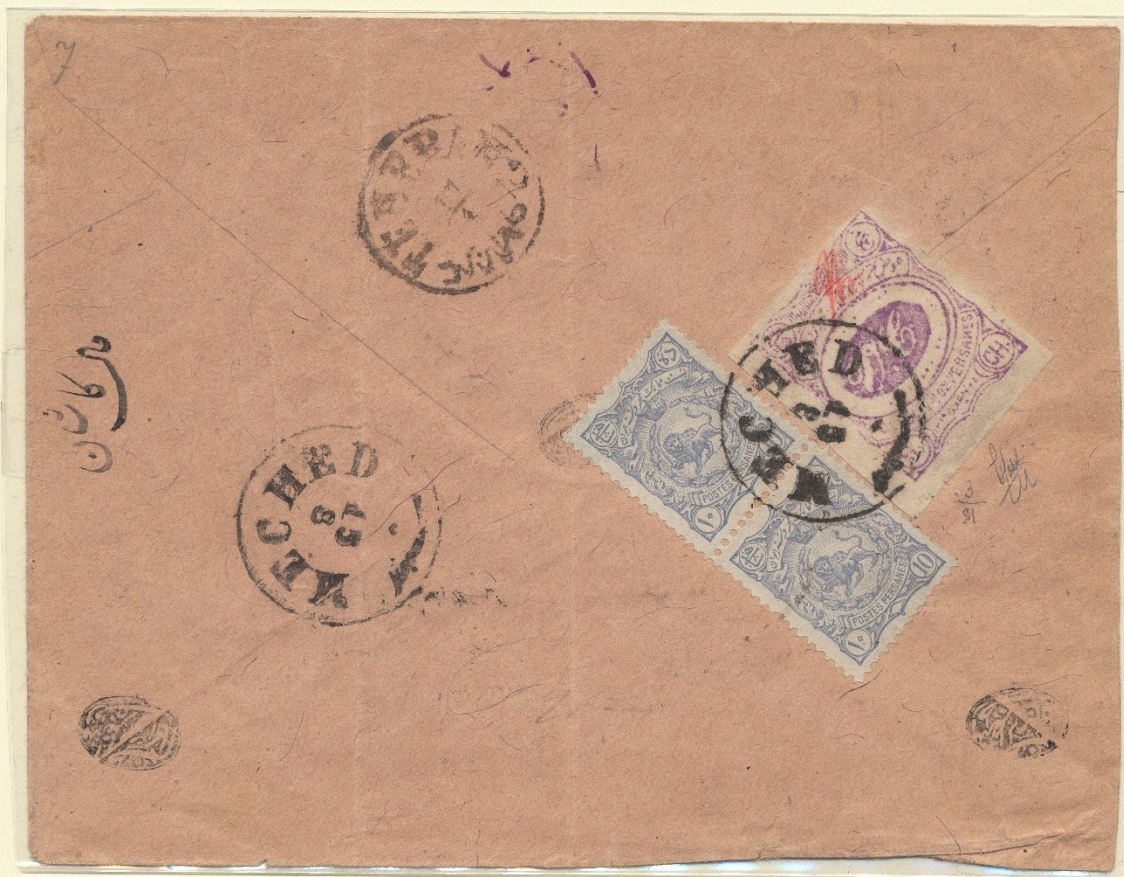
Castaigne produced stamps with five different denominations, in six different colors, that were postally used and two postal stationery envelopes. The latter's status is in doubt as no proper postally used copies have been recorded. In those days there was a great demand for stamps and postal stationery world wide among collectors and many speculated in stamps by hording, dealing & wheeling and if possible even getting the postal authorities to "create" unnecessary surcharges and overprints in many countries. There is much controversy surrounding this issue and of the so called "reprints" or "second printing" or "European printing".

The 5-ch black stamp used single is less uncommon. Any other mail and in particular a combination of a Meched and another issue are **very rare** indeed as well as mail from **Ghoutchan** (two recorded).

The 1899 issue had run out. Various overprints and surcharges urgently appeared. A provisional issue "the Teheran type set" was issued in Teheran in 1902. Still, the shortage was so bad that in Meched, Khorasan, in north eastern Persia, the postal director, Mr **Castaigne**, a Belgian administrator for both the Customs and the postal services, decided to print his own stamps but without requesting the necessary authorization from the postal authorities in Teheran. As a result Castaigne was sacked as it all look very speculative. (see below)

Combination of a Meched 5-chahi violet and issues of 1897

Registered



Rates: Triple rate 15 chahi. **Registration fee** 10 chahi. **Routes:** Meched sent 15 March 1903 to Teheran

Notes: Very few letters registered recorded

Castaigne produced stamps with five different denominations, in six different colors, that were postally used and two postal stationery envelopes. The latter's status is in doubt as no proper postally used copies have been recorded. In those days there was a great demand for stamps and postal stationery world wide among collectors and many speculated in stamps by hording, dealing & wheeling and if possible even getting the postal authorities to "create" unnecessary surcharges and overprints in many countries. There is much controversy surrounding this issue and of the so called "reprints" or "second printing" or "European printing".

The 5-ch black stamp used single is less uncommon. Any other mail and in particular a combination of a Meched and another issue are **very rare** indeed as well as mail from **Ghoutchan** (two recorded).

I. 1902

Meched semi-official

Severe shortage

In Khorasan, north eastern part of Persia, the Belgian custom & post administrator Castaigne, decided on his own initiative to print postage stamps under the pretext of a severe shortage of stamps. The Central postal authorities were never asked or informed in beforehand. It is thus quite possible that it was for speculative purposes. Only a few mint envelopes recorded



5 chahi
black



12 chahi
blue

III.a 1903

Rascals at the Teheran Post Office

Saatchian. Semi-official issue

Registered internal usage. In total 7 Saatchian covers recorded of which five are addressed to Paris



Rates & Registration fee. 16 chahi. This rate does not correspond to any normal rate
Routes: Teheran to Dezashoob, near to the Teheran suburb Tadrache about 1903

The whole issue on Avid de Reception cover to Paris. Via Baku 11 XI 1903 (Julian) backstmped



Rascals at the Teheran Post Office

Saatchian. Semi-official issue

Saatchian, an Armenian curio dealer in Paris arranged with his chronies at the GPO to surcharge 5 and 10 kran of 1894 issue in various values. Examples were sent to UPU!. In total seven covers recorded

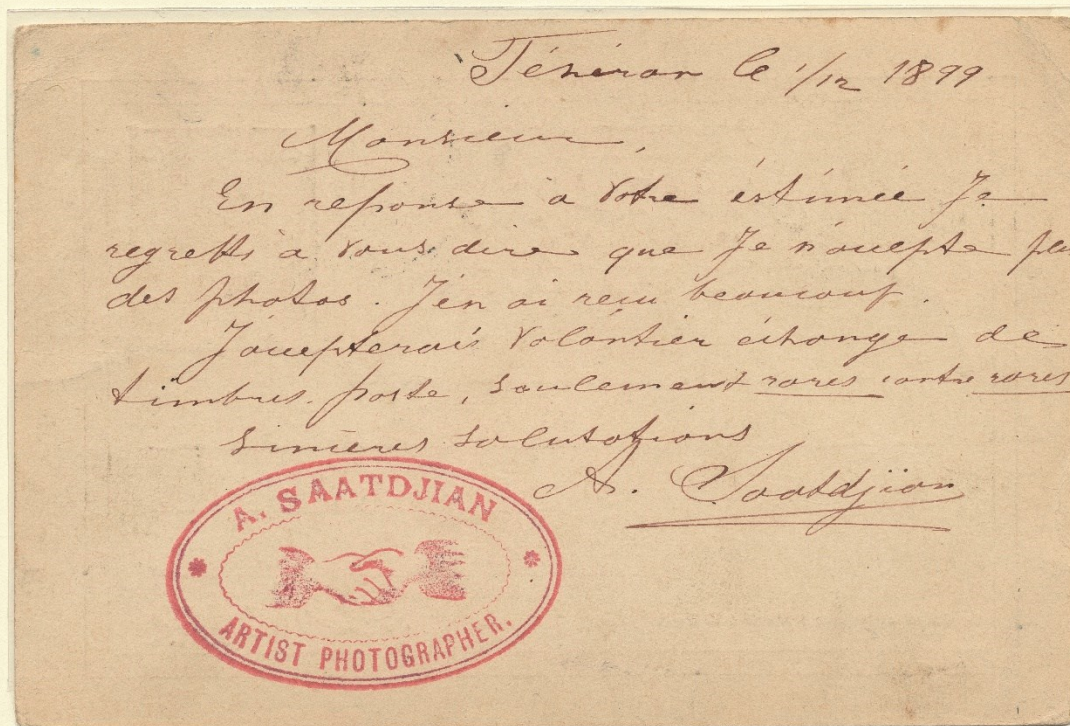


Rates & Registration fee. Does not follow normal rates at all

Routes: Teheran (uncertain date) to Paris 15 XII 1903 via Baku 25 November 1903 (Julian)

Markings: The faint registration mark is Teheran normal type

Saadtdjian was very interested in collecting and selling stamps as can be seen from this 5-ch postal stationery card to Vienna



Rates: 5 chahi

Routes: Teheran in m/s 1 12 1899 to Wien 1 1 1900

3 chahi Imprimé foreign rate for cards

Rare

This card surcharged 3 chahi was in use for a very short time about April-May 1905

The violet mark read: Direction des Postes/Province d'Ispahan

From
Yezd
23 4 05
via
Isfahan
3 May 05
via
Bouchir
And
Bombay
to
Belgium



Pre-printed Service letter from the Ministry of Customs & Post



From
Teheran
8 Nov ?
addressed
to
Enzeli
Stamps
of 1902
issue
overprinted
SERVICE

III.a 1902

Mechedisser and Baku Exchange Post Offices

Exchange of closed mail inaugurated in 1902. Very small amount of mail

Registered letter to Paris 1907



The reverse reduced to 70%

Rates: 3x13 ch = 39 chahi. **Registration fee:** 13 chahi

Routes: Mechedisser (Babolsar) 25 March 1907 to Paris ?? 07

Markings: There are two registration marks from Mechedisser. The "French" type is unrecorded

Notes: The huge red lack seal is the official of "Ministère des Douanes et des Postes, Direction des Mazanderan"