

Press Clippings

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Afternoon	Mumbai	03/09/2016	04	Mintage World (Ganesh Chaturthi)

BRAND ACROSS BORDERS: GANESHA

In India, his appeal is unquestionable. Interestingly, Lord Vigneshwara – the remover of obstacles – has bagged affection across the globe too. A recent docudrama captures all of this, highlighting the history of the various stamps, coins and notes related to the elephant-headed God



An Indonesian postal stamp with the picture of Lord Ganesha



An Indonesian currency note hosting the picture of Lord Ganesha



A Sri Lankan postal stamp having the picture of Lord Ganesha



A postal stamp of Laos having the picture of Lord Ganesha



A postal stamp of Nepal with the picture of Lord Ganesha



A coin carrying the image of Lord Ganesha during the Maratha regime

By Raju Vernekar

His captivating charm cuts across all borders, delighting devotees and influencing hearts, the world over. While the Ganesha festival is celebrated with gusto and jubilation in many states in India and by the Hindu diaspora in the United States, Canada, and Mauritius, the presence of the elephant-headed God is dominant even in an Islamic country like Indonesia and in a South East Asian country such as Laos, known largely for its French colonial architecture and Buddhist monasteries.

A docudrama on the history of the various stamps, coins & notes related to Lord Ganesha, launched by www.mintageworld.com, world's first online museum for Vintage Coins, Stamps & Currency Notes, reveals interesting information about the festival.

'Ganesh Chaturthi' also known as 'Vinayaka Chaturthi' is celebrated as the birthday of Lord Ganesha, worldwide. Occurring in the month of Bhadrapad, this festival roughly corresponds to the month of August-September.

This year it will occur on Monday, September 5. The Ganesh festival

draws a mass number of fervent devotees every year, making Lord Ganesha clearly the most popular God. The 11-day long festival from 'Ganesh Chaturthi' to 'Anant Chaturdashi', is celebrated with a series of rites and rituals. Ganesha's devotion is not limited to India, but spans across various countries, across the globe.

Speaking to The Afternoon D & C, Vivek Kotian of the 'Mintage world' said, "The 'Mintage world' is a part of the Ultra Group Channel on YouTube and has been releasing a series of docudramas under the titled 'Rusted Postbox', on a variety

of topics. It has a base of over 15 lakh subscribers. We have released docudramas on the 74th Anniversary of 'Quit India Movement', 2nd Anniversary of the 'International Yoga Day', the 178th Anniversary of the 'Coronation of Queen Victoria' and the 240th Anniversary of the 'American Independence Day'. Till date, we have uploaded 16

episodes with an average of 10 episodes per month and in the near future we will launch many docudramas based on global historical dates, events and personalities." Some of the coins, stamps and currency notes launched worldwide to celebrate Lord Ganesha, his birth and the festival are (mentioned above in box).

HERE & EVERY WHERE

STAMPS

- In 1839, the first stamp of Duttia - belonging to the state of Madhya Pradesh was issued portraying an image of Ganesha with a blue circular hand stamp impressed on it.
- On February 5, 1971, Laos issued a stamp depicting the picture of the elephant headed God.
- On July 7, 1990, Sri Lanka issued a stamp depicting the pot-bellied God.
- In 1994, Indonesia's First Day Cover bearing a Ganesha stamp with other Hindu deities depicting a beautiful mark of Ganpati.
- On December 23, 2003, a five Rupees stamp was issued by Nepal.
- On February 21, 2007, a stamp depicting an artistic image of Shiva, Parvati and Ganesha was issued by the Czech Republic.
- On December 1, 2010, a two Rupees stamp was issued by the Nepal Government.
- On October 12, 2013, Thailand commemorated Lord Ganesha by issuing two stamps and a First Day Cover carrying the 'Om' mark.

COINS

- In 1202, Govind Hari Patwardhan was gifted the Fort of Miraj by Madhavrao Peshwa as a reward for fighting in the Maratha wars and for providing troops. Coins were struck to show their support and loyalty towards the Peshwas bearing the word 'Pantapradhan' on the reverse. Patwardhans, being loyal Ganesha devotees have 'Shri Ganapati' inscribed in Devanagari on the obverse.
- During the early 17th century and 18th century, the Setupati Rajas of Ramanath and Sivaganga, the Gingee Marathas and the Mysore kingdom of Tipu Sultan's respectively, issued coins portraying an image of Lord Ganesha.
- In 2012, a bi-metallic 10 Baht coin was issued by Thailand.

CURRENCY NOTES

- In 2012, 20,000 Indonesian 'rupiah' banknotes showing Lord Ganesha's picture was issued providing enough confirmation of this God's widespread belief.

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