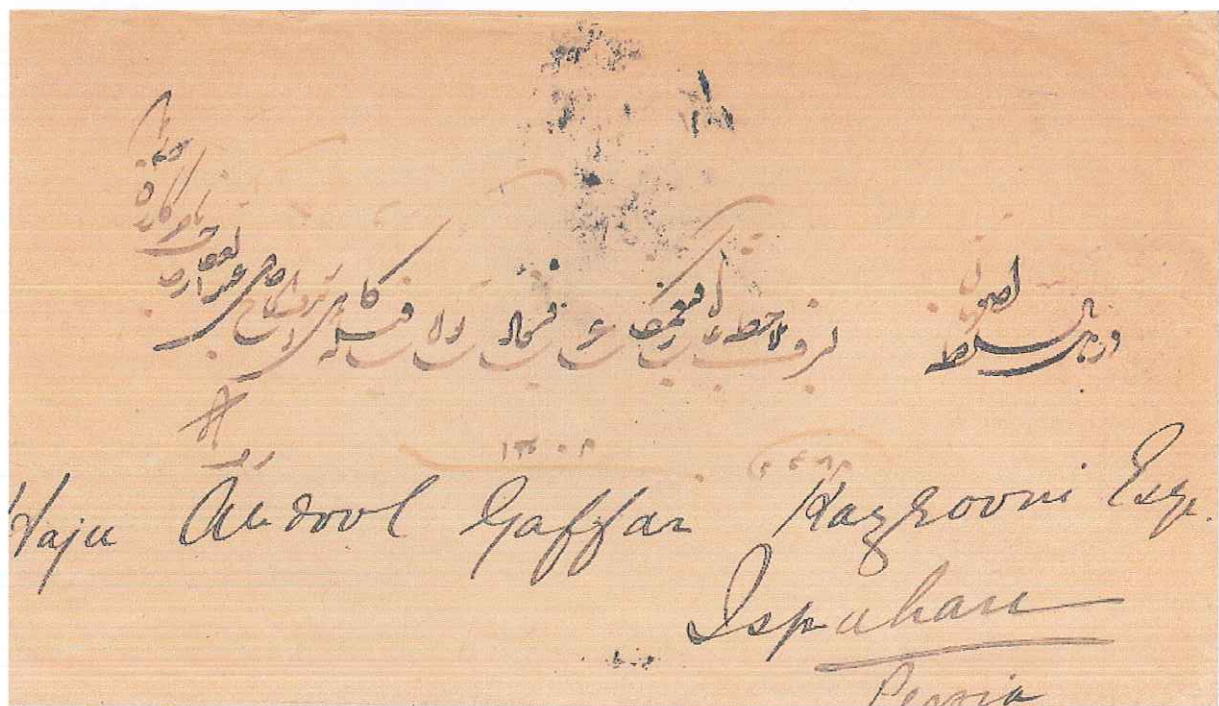




A very fine cover with the early postmark type B1. It is not easy to say how this letter arrived in Persia since, whilst the Suez Canal had been opened (1869) the Sea Post link between Suez and Bombay did not start calling at Aden until 1888. The year 1873 is an important one for the 'Marine Postal Service, Suez and Bombay' since it then comprised six sets of staff (each set with five personnel) rotating over the route. There is a very fine negative personal seal (above) and the letter bears a QV East India Half Anna stamp (1873 SG 76) with a very clear Bombay strike for 29 August 1873.

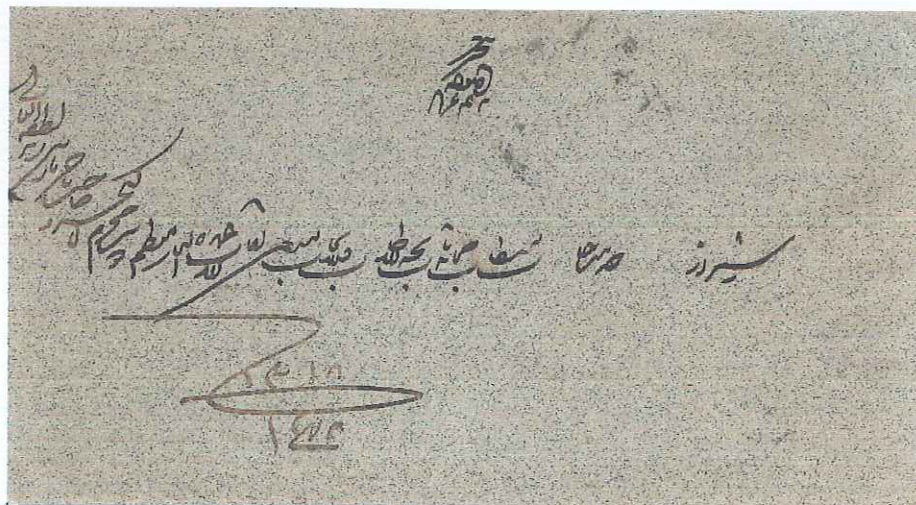


Very nice two strike squared circle Bombay dated 2 October 1890 (Two 2A QV 1882 Pale Blue SG 91). Also, a blurred merchant's stamp of which 'Isphahani' can be made out. It arrived in Boushir on 1 November (Type P1). No sea post cancel, but assuming it did come by sea and left Bombay promptly it would have sailed on the *Assam* which arrived in Aden on 10 October. It would then have travelled slowly up the Gulf probably *via* Muscat with other stops. Thereafter, it would have travelled by postal couriers *via* Shiraz to Isphahan – a journey of around 300 miles. No trace of the addressee around this date, Abdoul Gaffar Hazroumi, but there is a mention of an Abdul Ghaffar who is a merchant in Shiraz in 1905 (Gazetteer of Persia Volume 3 – QDL). The addressee is given the honorific Haji – but that might just be a courtesy.



Cover bears a pair of 20pa Rose-Carmine (SG 53 1881-1902) cancelled 13 May 1896 Ghouria, a district of Cairo. Boushir Type B1 receiving stamp dated 6 June. Smudged departure stamp probably for Cairo (can make out Arabic for Maṣr). The sea-post stamp is interesting, it is a Type 8 at 225 degrees. The letter was carried as outwards on the SS *Shannon* on 19 May 1896 which, the TPO & Sea Post Society tells me, had not been recorded but is now. No trace of the addressee in the QDL for this period.

Cover to Boushir circa 1897



Cover with the P1 Boushir Cancel. Exact date not known but the stamp is from 1897 (5 Chahi yellow).

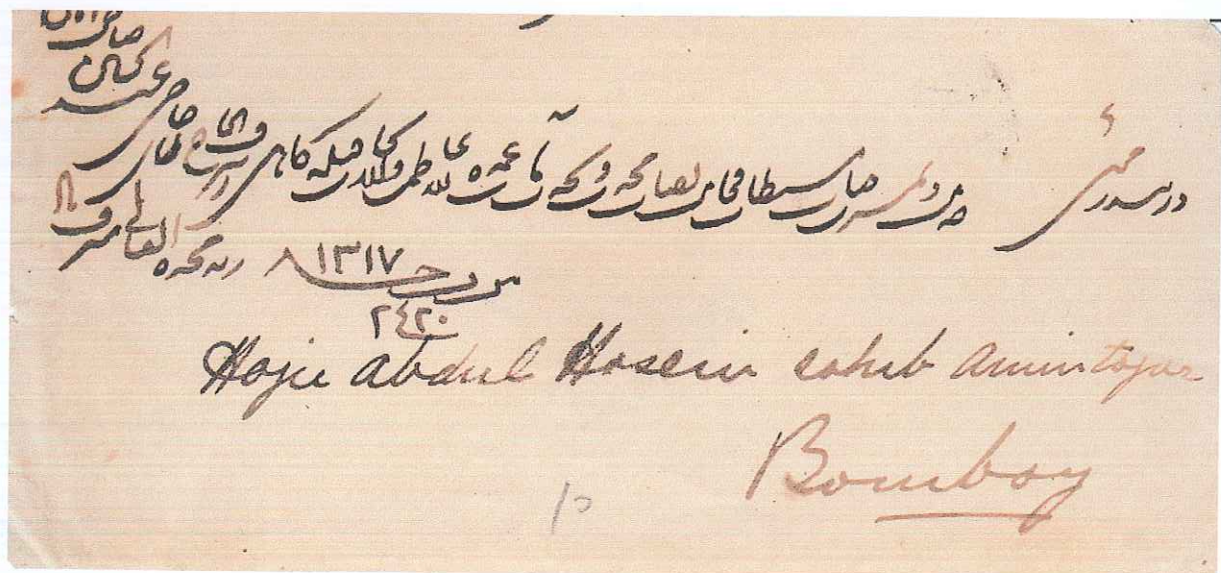
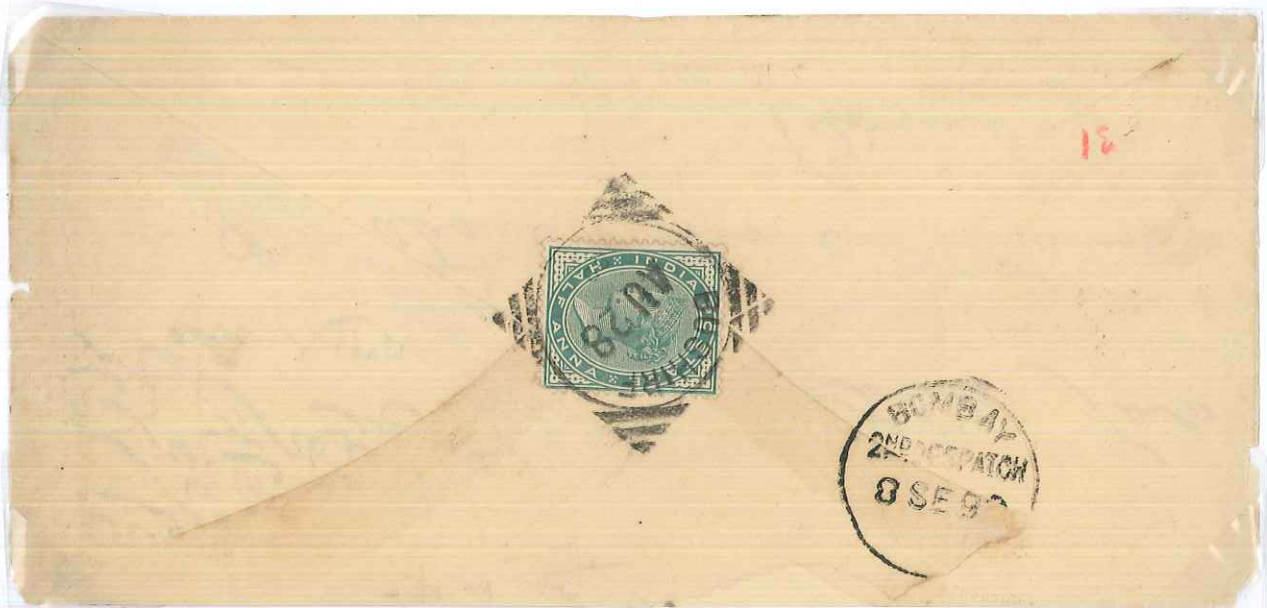
Personal seal has the name Mahmoud Rezeroomi (?) Bushire – letter was sent inland in probability.



Cover with two clear strikes of the P1 Boushir Cancel. Exact date not known but the stamp is from 1897 (10 cahi light blue). Cover also bears a variant of one the several forms of Farsi 'safe passage' numbers – in this case 1317. This is derived from Islamic mystical numerology and is intended to ward off any evil consequences for the letter (or perhaps the recipient as well!). Odd numbers were considered fortunate. Faint negative personal seal to reverse.



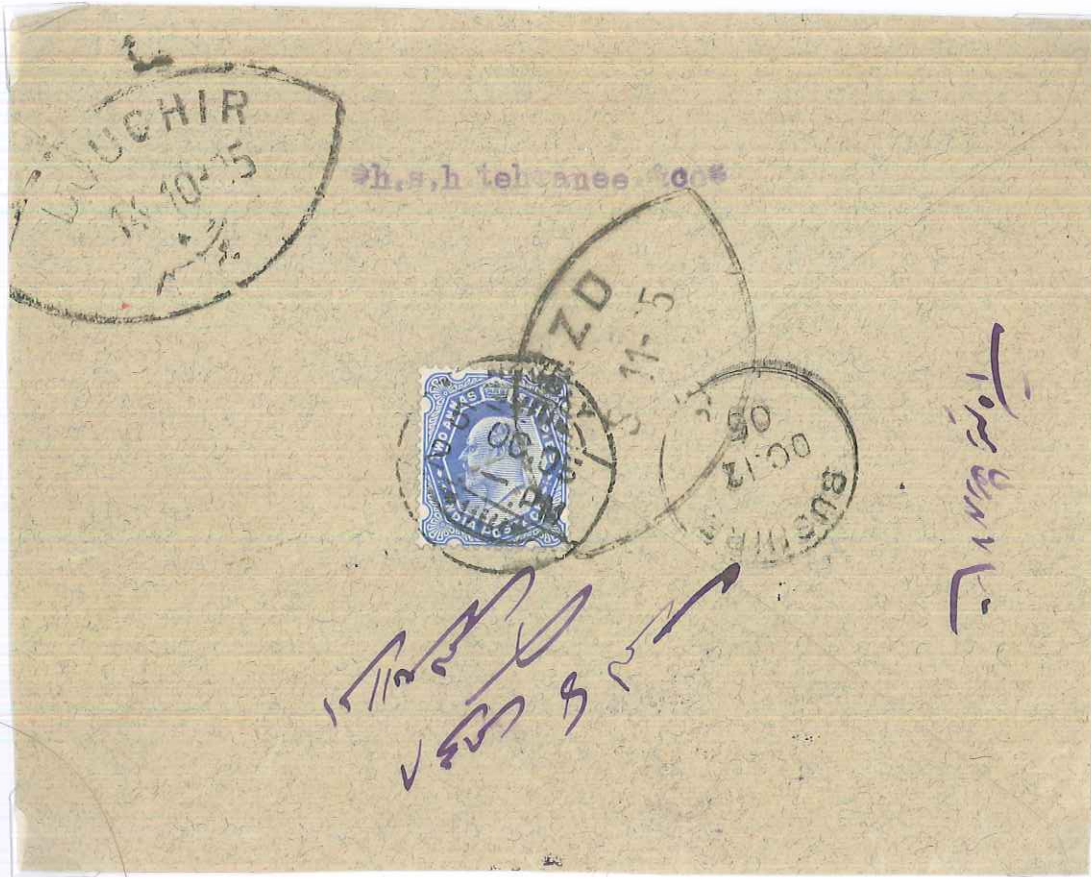
Cover with the P1 Boushir Cancel. Exact date not known but the stamp is a 1898 (issued 6 June) hand stamped with control mark (c) on a 5 chahi yellow. The Boushir stamp has 22nd day, so it might have been later that year. Control marks were used by the Persian authorities to prevent fraud, not with much success! The stamp is scarce on cover.



Cover from Boushir to Bombay. There are two reasons for thinking this cover originated in Boushir. Firstly, there are no Persian departure stamps of any kind and, secondly, it is a QV India stamp cancelled with the British India PO's 'squared circle'. The rule with the British PO was that letters sent from Boushir which made use of British Postal Steamers had to carry British stamps. However, after the Parcel Post Convention in 1905 Persian letters from the interior (but not Boushir) carrying Persian stamps were permitted to be carried by the British Postal Steamers. If the date for this is right, while it has no sea post mark, it could have been carried by the SS *Peninsular*. It has a Bombay 2nd Despatch stamp for 8 September 1899.

Cover from Bombay to Yezd

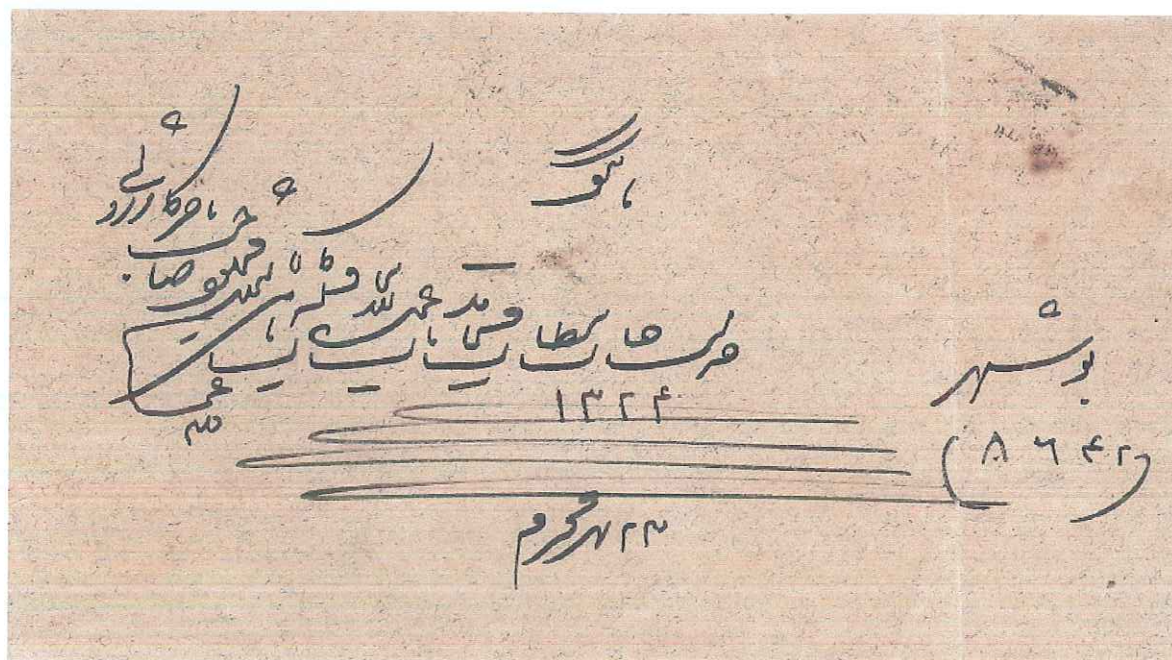
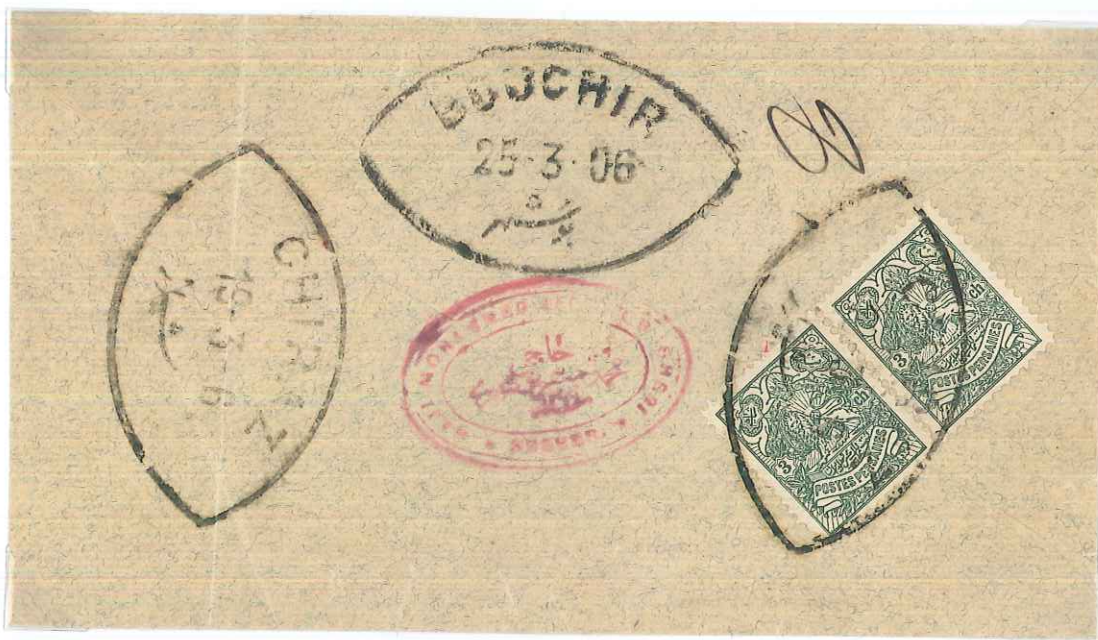
October 1905



Letter sent (according to the hand stamp) from the company of H.S.H. Teherani to Haji Syed Mirza Aheb Yezdi – again a prepared stamp so the correspondence must have been regular enough to warrant the production of hand stamps. Distinguished by bearing a Persian Bouchir Lenticular Stamp 14 October 1905 (Type P3) and the British Indian Post Office (Type B3) for the same day. It was then received by the Yezd Post Office the following day. This is not the first cover I have seen with the cancels of both post offices. The arrangement seems to have been that the Persian Post Office took over letters addressed inland. However, rather unfairly, the British did not accept Persian-stamped letters travelling to Bombay. In 1908, a First Assistant Resident at Boushir writes: 'it has always been the understood thing in the Indian Offices that local letters bearing Persian stamps are not accepted.' Needless to say, there were exceptions made for political reasons.

Cover from Shiraz to Bouchir

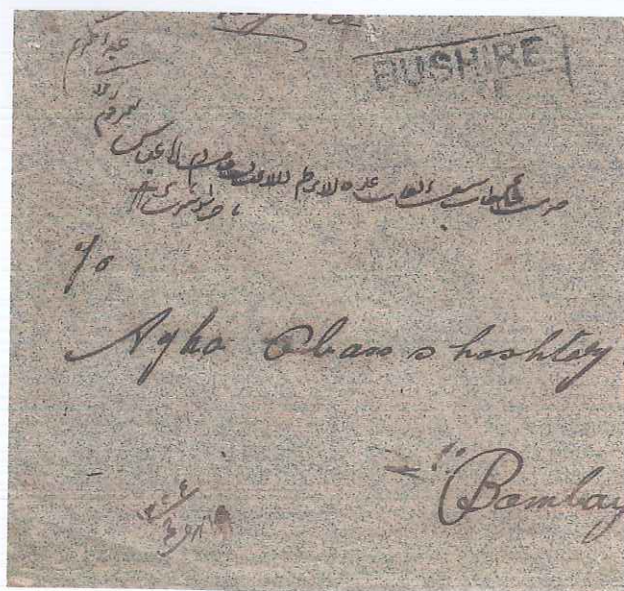
March 1906



Useful cover since it gives us a good measure of postal travel time between Shiraz and Boushir (six days). This was long before the British built a military road in 1916-7, so it would have been hard going in one of the springless post carts, the *fourgon*, drawn night and day by relays of four horses. The company stamp is familiar to this collection, the Dedashti Brothers.

Cover that has been registered sent from Bouchir to India

2 February 1907



This cover is distinguished by having stamps from the reigns of both QV and KEVII. A fine QV 12 Annas (SG 100) and a block of four KEVII Half Annas (SG 121). Total charge for registration would then have been 14 Annas. All stamps have been cancelled with Type B (R) 2 and the front side has a partial Type B (R)4 boxed registration stamp which has not had any number written into the box. Perhaps this was simply to alert the Post Office to the fact that it was a letter which had received registration. There are remains of two wax seals and an arrival cancel dated 9 February 1907. Strangely, I have a second cover addressed to this gentleman dated 1909. The title 'Aga' is originally Ottoman Turkish and refers to a 'master' or a 'lord' – ergo a very important person, at least to the author of the letter.

Covers to Agha Abbas Shastery in Umarkhadi, Bombay

6 September 1909 & 8 November 1909



Hand delivered Cover from Teheran to London

November 1911

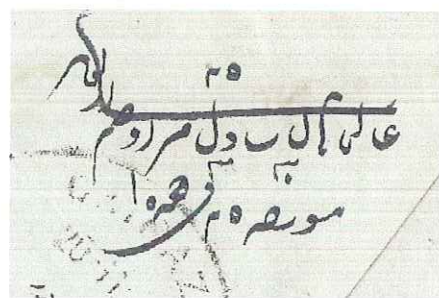
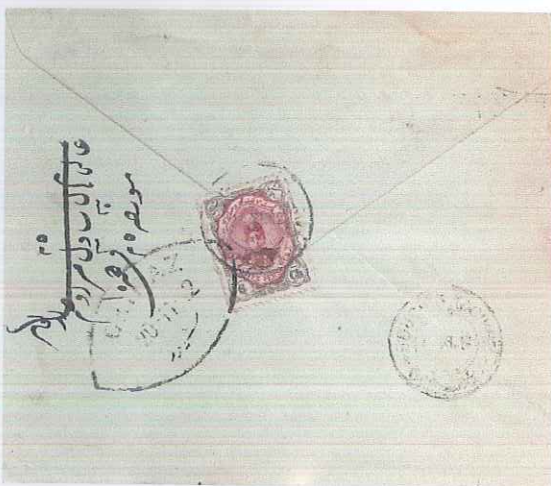
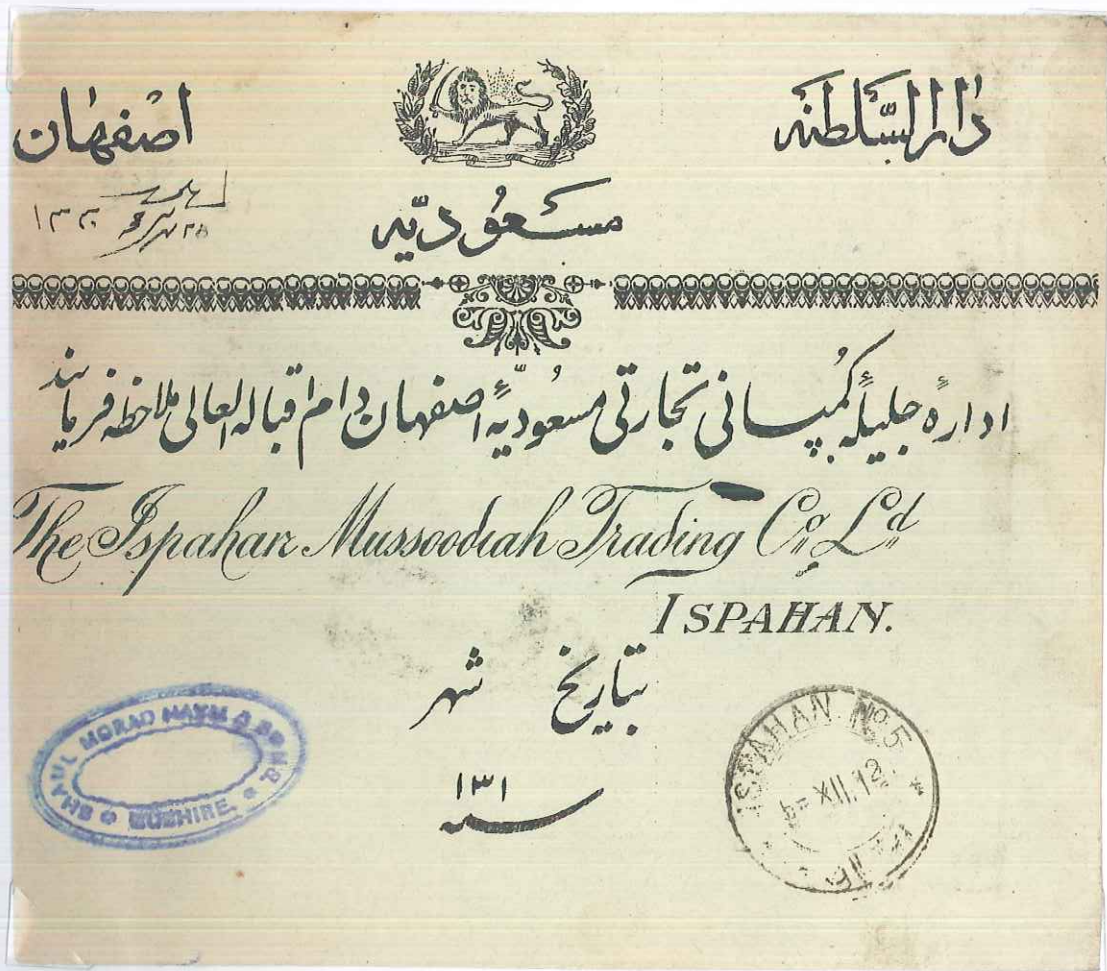


Voie Russe et Berlin.
Please forward.

Mr + Mrs Ridley.
S/o Special Staff.
Central Telegraph Office.
London E.C.

A cover dated 7 December 1911 from the Director's Office of the Persian Division of the Indian Government Telegraphs, at that time engaged on the construction of the Indo-European Telegraph line. This came ashore at Reshire on the Boushir Peninsular. The mauve handstamp 'C' is difficult to interpret – it could be a registration mark. The Persian stamps have received Teheran cancels and there is the written routing 'Voie Russe et Berlin' but no stamps from either place to suggest contact with the Post Offices. It looks like someone has persuaded the Teheran office to cancel them for philatelic reasons, perhaps 'throwing in' a registered hand stamp for good measure. The pencilled '*per manual*' indicates that, perhaps a member of the Telegraph staff, carried the letter in their luggage home – which might explain the rather vague address.

November 1912



Superb commercial cover from Boushir (Départ) to the Ispahan Mussoodiah Trading Co Ltd – evidently a frequent addressee since the sender is provided with stationary. Author is a Jewish merchant, Shaul Moorad Haym & Sons. Ispahan arrival strike and company stamp. While the Farsi on the cover front is printed, there is a beautiful example of Farsi calligraphy on the reverse. Notice also the lenticular Shiraz transit stamp – twelve days from Shiraz to Ispahan.

November 1912

SHAUL MOORAD HAYM & SONS

BUSHIRE

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS

SHAUL

شاول مردادی حיים و آوری

شاول مراد حیم و اولاده

ابوشهر

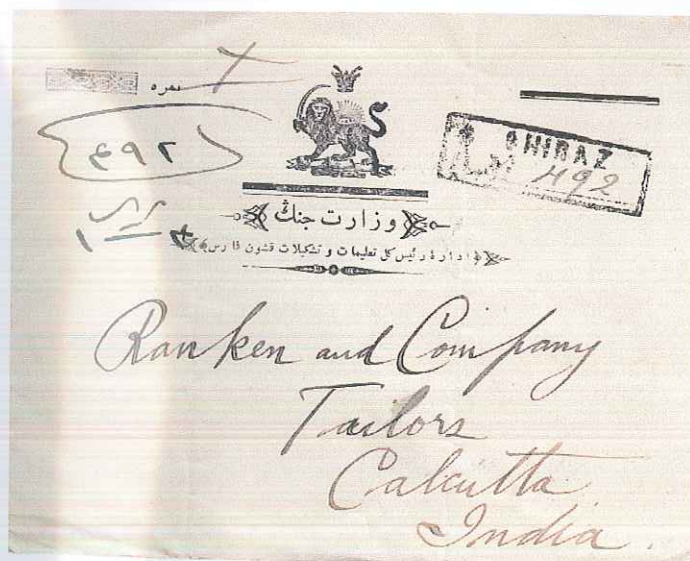
مسعودیه کلمه

کلمه بقیه نقل است
در مطالب در یافت شد

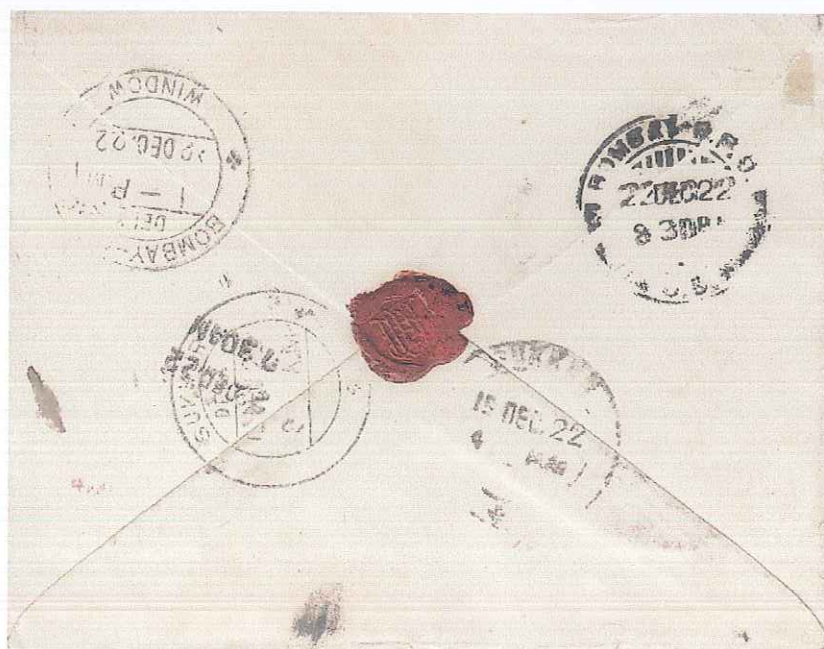
اصول محضیت زبیه در حساب ضمیمه نمودم
مطالع جوائیه دارم سید نماید موزید باغ اتمت موزید
بابه که حساب نقل است باشد لازم نیست
نه به بایون ترشاییم فلم کار سوچید اهلان یه نیست
ت عظم کمانتر مطلب مطلع شوم بابت حل
۴۸ نماید فی لایق

Cover which has been registered from Shiraz to Bombay

April 1914



Stationary Cover of the Vizier of Shiraz sent to the military outfitters Ranken & Company in Bombay. The letter (which has been registered with the Shiraz Box cancel, hand written number 492) left Shiraz on 5 April 1914. It received the Bouchir arrivée and départ cancels (12 April 1914) and reached Bombay GPO on 21st April 1914. Since this was after the 1906 Package Agreement, the letter travelled by British steamer. In all probability it was the SS *Arabia*.



The first of two covers, this one from Teheran, addressed to John Ernest Buttery Hotson (1877-1944), a career-long administrator in the Bombay Presidency. In his earlier role as a Colonel in the Indian Army Reserve he had been an enthusiastic amateur natural scientist, collecting specimens especially of mammals from Baluchistan and Persia – indeed, two kinds of mammals are still named after him. He was also a very keen philatelist, serving as President of the Philatelic Society of India and editor of their Journal, 1923-28. This cover is re-directed from Sukkur *via* the Bombay Bicycle Club to Grinlay & Co, Bombay – a Scottish Banker who was a close friend. The 'Bombay Window' cancel is interesting. Stamps bear the 1922 control overprint to try to prevent fraud.

First Flight Cover Teheran to Boushir

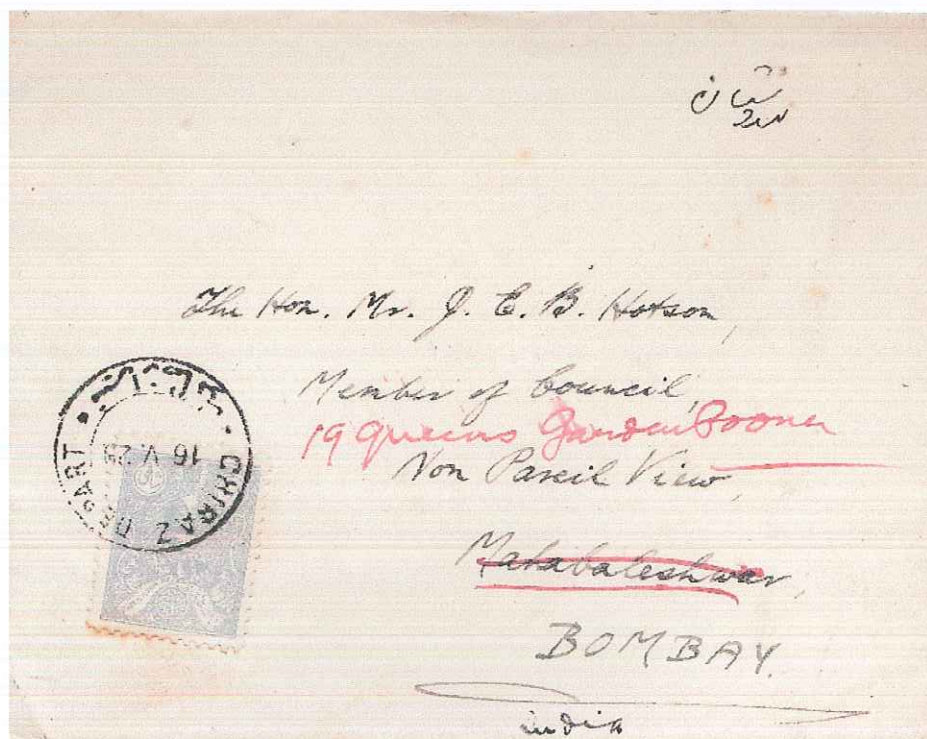
20th April 1923



1928 Photograph of Junkers F13 At Teheran

On 29th January 1927 Junkers Luftverkehr after years of negotiations with the Persians, established an air service monopoly in Persia for five years. The flight from Teheran to Boushir was one of the first, a survey flight by Walter Mittelholzer which took six hours. The pilot took almost 500 photographs which were later used in the compilation of a detailed contour map. He flew with compass and sight and used an old caravan route to orient his trip. Mittelholzer, a Swiss pilot, had already in 1926 made the first North-South flight over the African continent.

Cover from Shiraz Consulate to J E B Hotson, 16 May 1929



The second cover is addressed to, now 'the Honorable', J E B Hotson, Member of Council. This is the Bombay Presidency of which, in 1929, Hotson was an executive member. He eventually rose to be Home Member and Acting Governor in 1931. The cover carries a faint Boushir départ stamp and arrival in Mahabaleshwar 2 June, sent on to Poona 3 June 1929. Shiraz Consulate stationary. Hotson had served as Shiraz Consul during the First World War.

البريد
الخاص
بالقاهرة

دار السلطنة صفهان كلش

حضرت كرامت سلطان زنده احمد والامير شمس الادب والاعمال افندي طاهر خاوي
صلى الله عليه وسلم دام ظلها الى الابد

Monsieur Hagei Mirza
Mohamed Meekki
Tepahane
Persane



دار السلطنة صفهان كلش via Bombay

البريد
الخاص
بالقاهرة

حضرت كرامت سلطان زنده احمد والامير شمس الادب والاعمال افندي طاهر خاوي
صلى الله عليه وسلم دام ظلها الى الابد

Monsieur Hagei Mirza Mohamed
Meekki
Tepahane
Persane





امضا

Via Shuoz

مهر ۱۳۳۶
۵۴۲۶

دست نایب محمد رضا آشتیانی
بسم الله الرحمن الرحیم

Haji Mohamed Husain Cozerani

Isfahan

M. H. DEHDASH
BOMB

شیراز
 حضرت سید محمد تقی واداد عالم دین و صاحب قلم
 مدظلہ العالی صاحب کرامت
 - کائنات



SHIRAZ

PERSIA

VIA INDIA.



1
POSTES
PERSANES
Shahi
1

W. H. Davis Esq.
28, Mander St.,
Wolverhampton,
England.

Booth's



*Monsieur May, M. de la Mairie de
Mecque en Jamaïque, Colman*

Handwritten Arabic script, likely a letter or document, written in purple ink. The text is arranged in several lines, with some words appearing to be in a different script or dialect. The ink is a deep purple, and the handwriting is cursive and fluid.



Via Bushe

مصر

مصر

مستط في رتبه ...

١ ٣ ٢ ٢



Haji Mohamed Hussein



Isfahan
Persia

دار السلطنة صفهان

مصر

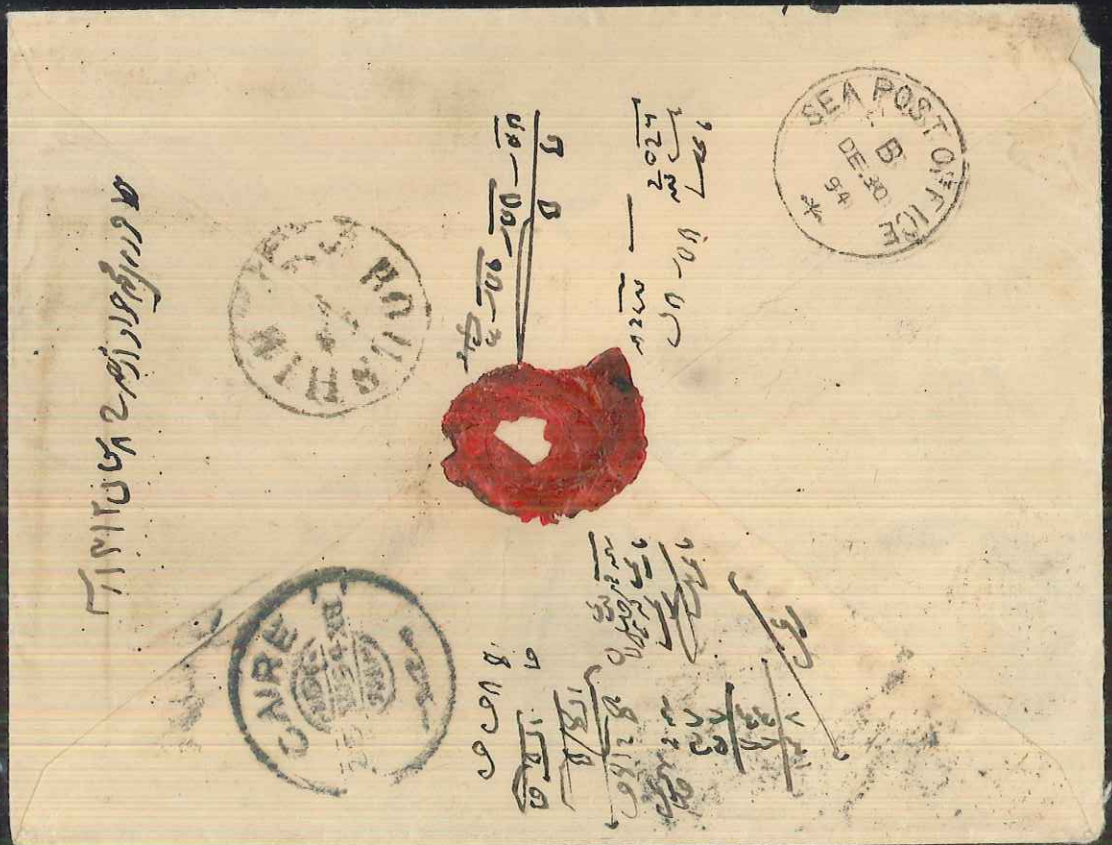
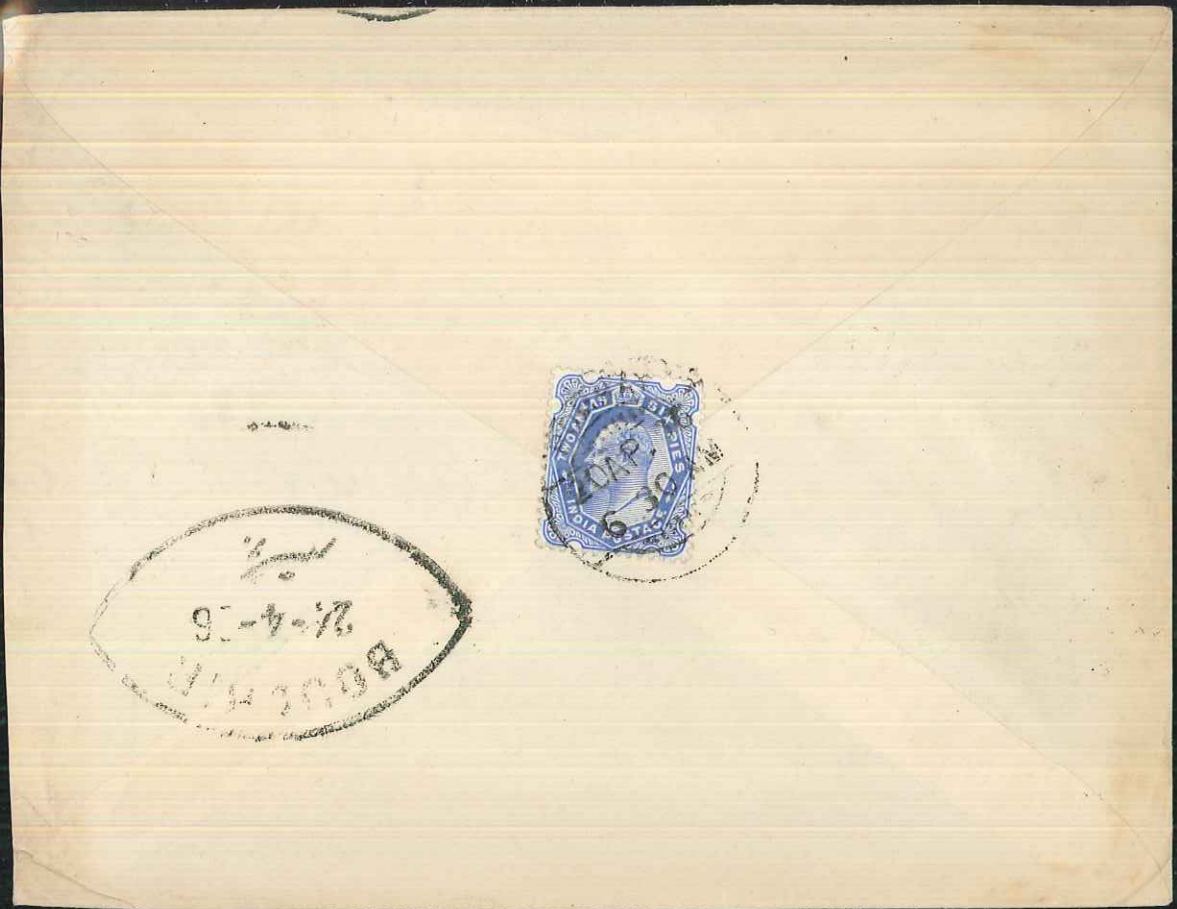
صاحب السيف ...

Monsieur Hage Mirza Mohammed
Meckki



Ypohane

Persiane



Handwritten Arabic text in the top left corner of the envelope, possibly indicating a date or location.



Handwritten Arabic text and a large 'X' mark to the right of the Bombay postmark.



در ۴ اردیبهشت

محمد حسن

مهراب خان قزوینی
مهراب خان قزوینی
مهراب خان قزوینی
مهراب خان قزوینی

در ۴ اردیبهشت

۲۲۱
۱۳۲۹



via Bushire

۳۳۳

PERNIA

که در ۴ اردیبهشت

محمد حسن

مهراب خان قزوینی
مهراب خان قزوینی
مهراب خان قزوینی
مهراب خان قزوینی

topelham

۴ اردیبهشت

إلى بي مرار

إلى بي مرار

محول لعارضة بي مرار

حضرات فضل الله عبد الجواد وأولاده

(صندوق البوستة نمرة ٣٥١)



FADLALLAH ABDEL GAWAD & SONS

POST OFFICE BOX N° 351

نظارتي

١٢٢٢

نومبر ١٩ ١٩٠٢

١٢٢٢

(CAIRO

EGYPT)

لبي مرار

١٢٢٢
١٩٠٢
نومبر ١٩
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2272



میرزا

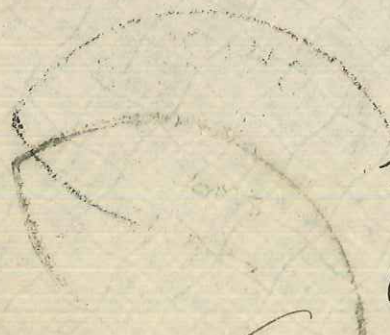
۱۳۲۹
مهر ۲۴ / ۲۵
مهر

میرزا

۱۳۲۹



فدایه صدر خجسته میرزا علی عبدالنصار

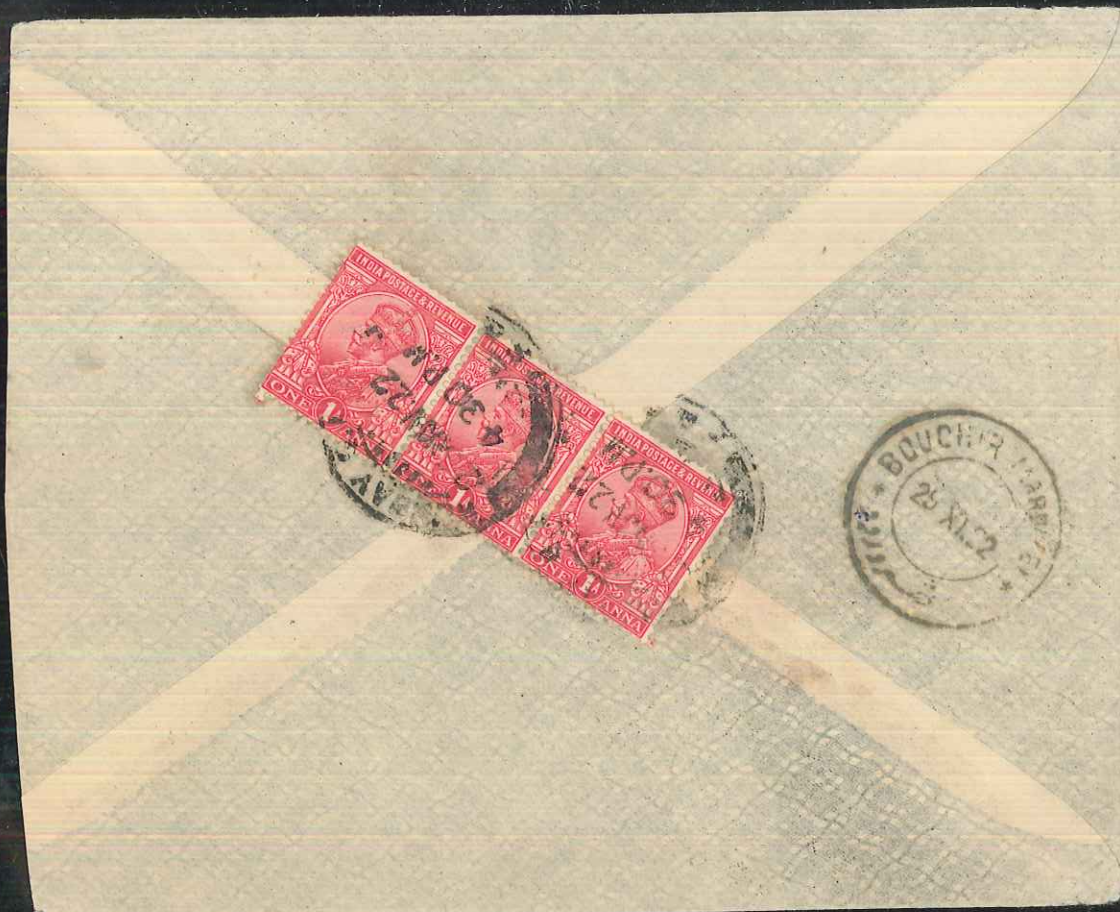


Shiraz

Persia

Via Brindisi





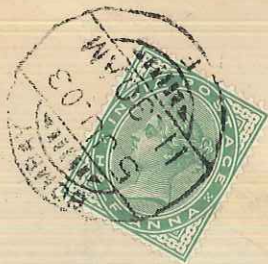
۱۳۲۱
 ۲۸ شهریور
 (روز چهارشنبه)
 در لندن
 Mr. Bushire
 میرزا تقی خان
 ۱۳۲۱
 ۲۸ شهریور
 ۱۳۲۱
 N. Man
 Persia

Via Bushire

کابل
۱۳۴۱
۱۱۸۴
حضرت بابک بن ابی اصف و والدین کافرا کافر
اصحاب
سید سعید



Opaka



حضرت میرزا مسرور الدین صاحب
مکتبہ شریعت اسلامیہ
افغانی صاحبزادہ
میرزا

۱۳۰۹

اصول
سر اسرار

۲۴۶۸

To, Hajee Abdul Ghaffar, Shib. Esa
Isfahan,



9201
Ispahan,
"



طهران

مزار

در مجموع هر روز



در مجموع هر روز
خدمت و غیرت صاحب سفارت لاسر لا مهر علی و علی عزیزی و دیگران

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۱۰

از تهران به مازندران

موزان



Messrs Ranken & Coy
4 Gled Court Street
Calcutta -
India

