

BARWANI - A PRINCELY INDIAN STATE



Ranjit Singh



Devi Singh

The Indian state of Barwani had a population of only 141,110 in 1931, many of whom were illiterate. Despite this small size the postage stamps issued are technically interesting from a philatelic point of view. Except for two stamps issued right before the Barwani post office closed (two ¼ anna stamps, Printing 9), the evidence tells us that Barwani stamps were only issued for actual postal service. The exhibit will illustrate the development of Barwani postage stamps from the first issue of 1917 to the close of the State Post on 1 July 1948 when Barwani became part of independent India.

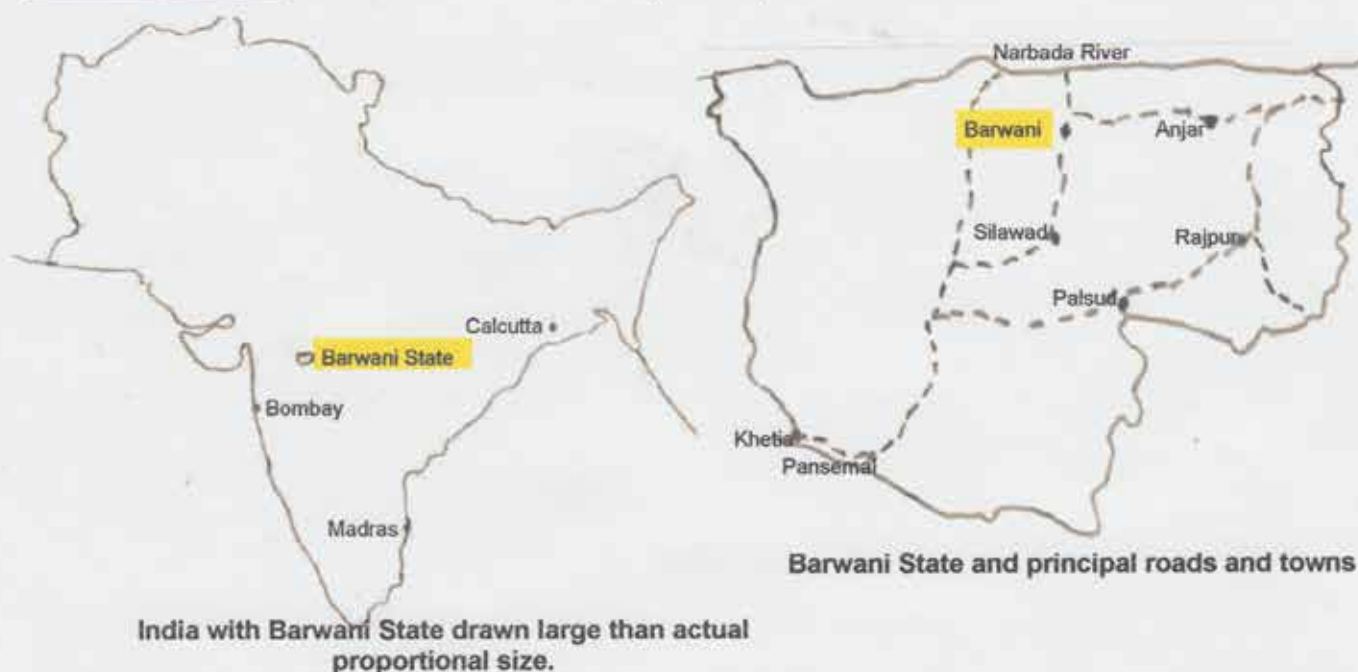
Barwani Stamp Designs - Barwani postage stamps picture two rulers, Rana Ranjit Singh who ruled from 1894 to his death in 1930 and Rana Devi Singh who ruled (originally as a minor) from 1930 until 1948, he was eight when his father died. Devi Singh stamps were first issued in October 1932 and continued to be issued until 1948. Ranjit Singh stamps were reissued in July 1933 and continued to be printed to 1948.

Organization - Up to the first Devi Singh stamp in October 1932 the organization of the exhibit is by the approximate order that stamps were issued. From October 1932 until 1948 the stamps are presented as issued and also organized into nine printings.

Technical Details - Barwani stamps are typographed and four clichés of each stamp were used to print a sheet of stamps or the cliché(s) were used to make a new printing plate. Issues to about 1930 were printed by the Barwani State Printing Press and later issues were printed by the Times of India Press, Bombay. Most, if not all, Barwani stamps were sold to the public in booklets. Usually there are four stamps to a booklet sheet and eight sheets in a booklet.

Stamp Printings - The Gibbons catalog order for Barwani stamp printings has been altered based upon an article in the *Collectors Club Philatelist*, March 1978 to September 1978, by MacGillycuddy and by covers in this exhibit that pre-date the first cataloged stamp and are not recorded by MacGillycuddy. Also, specialists have found in the Barwani State Postal Archives information on the number of stamps printed and issuance date for the first six printings beginning in October 1932 and this information updates the printing order presented by MacGillycuddy.

Highlights - Important items and personal study findings are highlighted by presentation techniques such as underlining, bold type and boxes. **Gibbons lists 52 basic stamps. All are shown in sheets, one a reconstructed sheet.** Gibbons also lists 42 varieties, all except seven are shown.



Barwani's First ¼ Anna Stamp

? May 1917

Earliest Recorded Barwani Postage Stamp Use

Barwani's first postage stamp issue. The most authoritative catalog of Indian Princely State stamps is the Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue. But it lists a substantially different 1/4 anna stamp as Barwani's first issue (SG1) and lists the issue date as "1921 (Mar ?)". This Gibbons' listing of Barwani's first 1/4 anna stamp is based on a June 1921 report in "The Philatelic Journal of India" of the stamp Gibbons lists as SG1.

On the otherhand this exhibit documents two 1/4 anna and two 1/2 anna Barwani postage

Earliest Recorded Barwani Postage Stamp Use



Earliest recorded Barwani postage stamp use. This blurry 1/4 anna light blue, wove paper, rough perforation 7 on two sides stamp paid the 1/4 anna postcard rate for mail within the Princely State of Barwani. The postcard is hand made of thin rough brown wove paper. The manuscript message is mainly on the back of the postcard with the manuscript date of May 1917. The postmark tying the stamp to the postcard is worn; probably it was used on pre-stamp Barwani postal items and the Barwani postmarks before 1926 do not contain a date. In the middle of the postcard is a spindle hole, common on many Indian Princely State items in this period.

Barwani's First ¼ Anna Stamp

31 August 1917

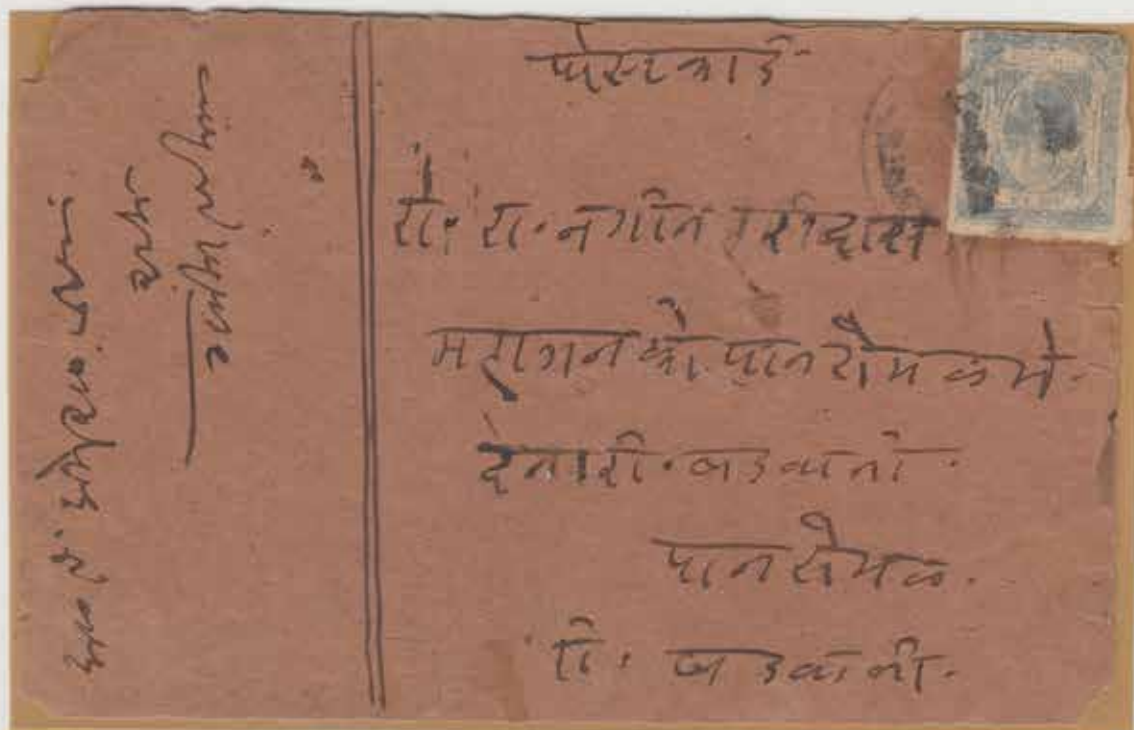
Second Earliest Recorded Postage Stamp Use

Up to 1922 Barwani only required two postage stamp values, a 1/4 anna for postcards and a 1/2 anna value for letters. Both values were printed by typograph with one half tone vignette (a half tone saved money since it could be photographed rather than require a skilled artisan to engrave the ruler's portrait) and one frame used for both values. Only the upper English value slug and the lower Hindi value slug needed to be inserted into the master printing form. On this first 1/4 anna Barwani stamp a major error occurred, on the master die the top English "QUARTER ANNA" value slug is partially **DOUBLE** so all four clichés used to produce the booklet pane have this error—see enlarged illustration below. This doubling of the top English value tablet on all four clichés of the first Barwani 1/4 anna stamp distinguishes this stamp from later Barwani stamps. When the second 1/4 anna Barwani stamp was prepared this error was corrected by knocking out the double upper English value slug and inserting a non-double "QUARTER ANNA" value slug.

Second Earliest Recorded Barwani Postage Stamp Use



Top English value tablet DOUBLE



Second earliest recorded Barwani postage stamp use, 31 August 1917. Another copy of the blurry 1/4 anna, light blue, wove paper, rough perforation on two sides stamp paying the 1/4 anna postcard rate. Like most other Barwani stamps issued until 1948 the evidence indicates that this first 1/4 anna stamp was printed in a booklet pane of four stamps arranged 1,2/3,4. The booklet panes were perforated with one rough vertical line of perforation 7 and one horizontal line of perforation 7 on wove paper that was ungummed. It is also likely that eight booklet panes comprised a booklet and the booklet had a plane cover and back and the front and back covers and eight booklet panes were held together by string.

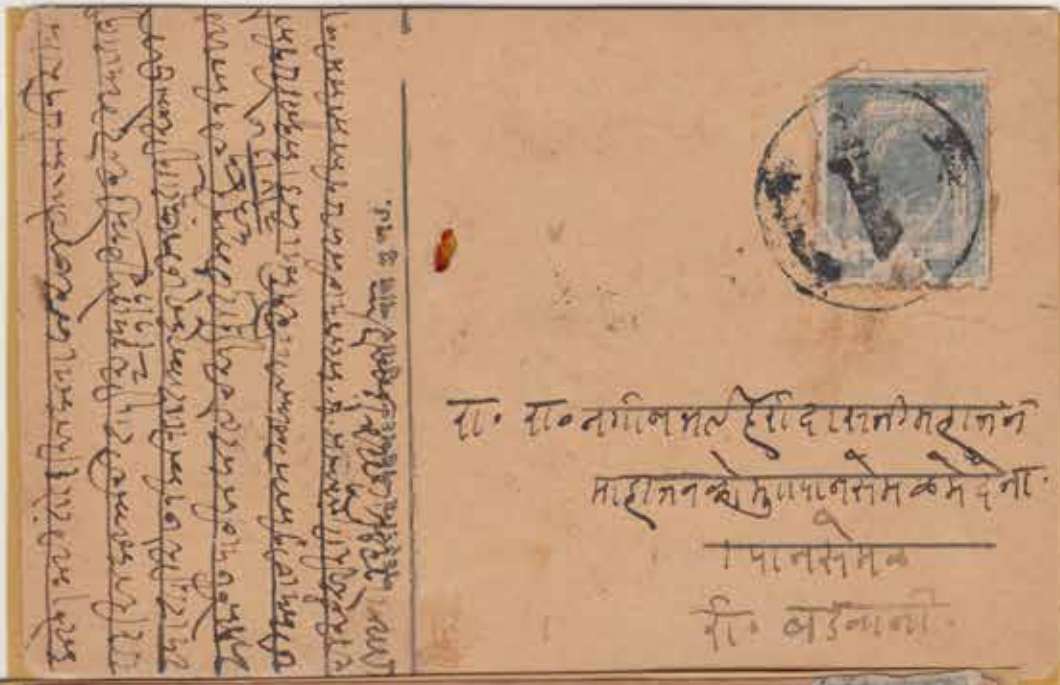
Barwani's First ¼ Anna Stamp

5 December 1917

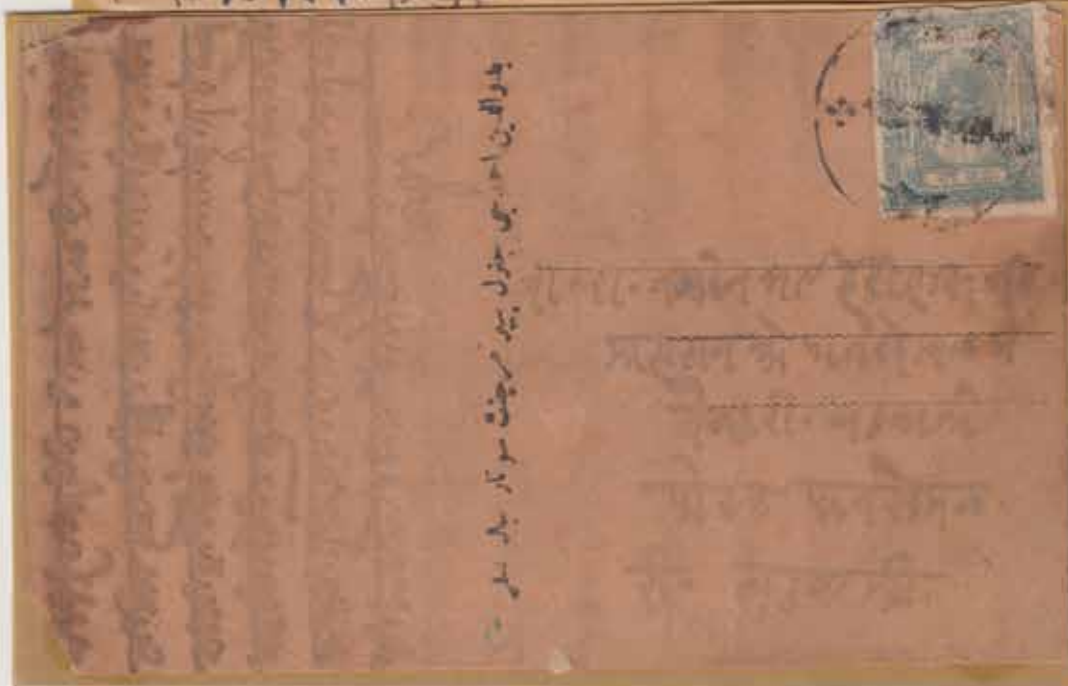
Doubling of the English Value Tablet **QUARTER ANNA**

24 December 1917

The 1/4 anna light blue stamp on the postcard immediately below is cliché 2; the printing is so blurred on this issue that we need to rely on the perforations on the left and bottom to determine the stamps position in the booklet pane. The doubling of the **QUARTER ANNA** tablet is clear and along with the other examples of this doubling shown in this exhibit it can reasonably be assumed that all four top English value tablets have the **QUARTER ANNA** double. The message side bears a manuscript date of 5-12-17*



1	2
3	4



1	2
3	4

The stamp on the bottom postcard above is cliché 3 as the stamp is perforated on the top and right side. Like the top postcard on this page the doubling of the **QUARTER ANNA** tablet is clear and this helps support that all four top English value tablets in the booklet pane have the **QUARTER ANNA** double. The message side also bears a manuscript date of "24-12-17". Another form of generic India style post card with vertical (Persian) native characters separating the message and address sections of the post card.

Barwani's First ½ Anna Stamp

circa pre-1921

½ anna Deep Ultramarine Imperforate Perforation 7

Barwani's first 1/2 anna stamp is deep ultramarine in color, rough perforation 7. But unlike Barwani's first 1/4 anna stamp, the one example known of Barwani's first 1/2 anna stamp is perforated on all four sides. Although Barwani's first 1/2 anna stamp is not well printed it is far better printed than the first 1/4 anna stamp and does NOT have the upper English value table double like the 1/4 anna stamp. Although the only copy known to the exhibitor of this stamp is on the cover below, the exhibitor believes the stamp is issued as a booklet pane of four and like most Barwani stamps was issued in a booklet of eight panes bound on the front and back with plain covers with the two covers and eight booklet panes bound together with string. Like other early Barwani stamps, this stamp is typographed printed using the same half tone vignette and frame as the first Barwani 1/4 anna stamp with only the upper and lower English and Hindi value tablets different from the 1/4 anna value. The stamp is on wove paper and ungummed.



1	2
3	4

The half anna stamp on the above cover pays the half anna ordinary letter rate in effect until 1926. The cover and pencil enclosure note has no indication of date but this stamp is clearly different from any cataloged listed 1/2 anna stamp and due to the perforation can be assumed to be issued about the same time as Barwani's first 1/4 anna stamp. The cover is addressed in both Hindi and English to Khetia in Barwani state.

Barwani's Second ¼ Anna Stamp

circa - pre 1921

¼ anna Light Blue-Imperforate

The exhibitor believes this well printed ¼ anna light blue imperforate stamp is Barwani's second 1/4 anna stamp, issued prior to 1921 as no dated copies are known. As is evident by the enlarged illustration below the top English value tablet no longer is double, it is a reasonably clear print of QUARTER ANNA. Shown is a used single cliché 1, a used pair (damaged) clichés 1 and 2 a used booklet pane of four that has been pasted on to a part cover (windowed out of sight) that does not originate with this used booklet pane and a pair on an ordinary letter, clichés 3 and 4, all cancelled with a single ring undated cancel. Cliché arrangement is 1,2/3,4 as the first cataloged 1/4 anna Barwani stamp. Shown are the only known copies of this second Barwani 1/4 stamp.



1	2
3	4

Only known sheet of what the exhibitor believes to be Barwani's second 1/4 anna stamp

1	2
3	4



The pair of ¼ anna light blue imperforate on an undated cover are clichés 3 and 4. Barwani postmarks do not contain dates until 1926 and the cover does not have a manuscript date, so the date of the stamp is uncertain.

Barwani's Second ½ Anna Stamp
½ anna Dull Blue-Imperforate

circa—pre 1921
14 July 1920?

The exhibitor believes this imperforate ½ anna dull blue imperforate stamp is Barwani's second ½ anna stamp, issued in 1920 or earlier. Like the first ½ anna Barwani stamp this stamp is typographed printed with a common half tone vignette and frame to the ¼ anna stamp, is printed on wove paper and the stamps are ungummed. The cliché arrangement is the same as the first catalog listed ½ Barwani stamp 1,2/3,4. Shown below is a used pair of the stamps, clichés 3,4.



1	2
3	4



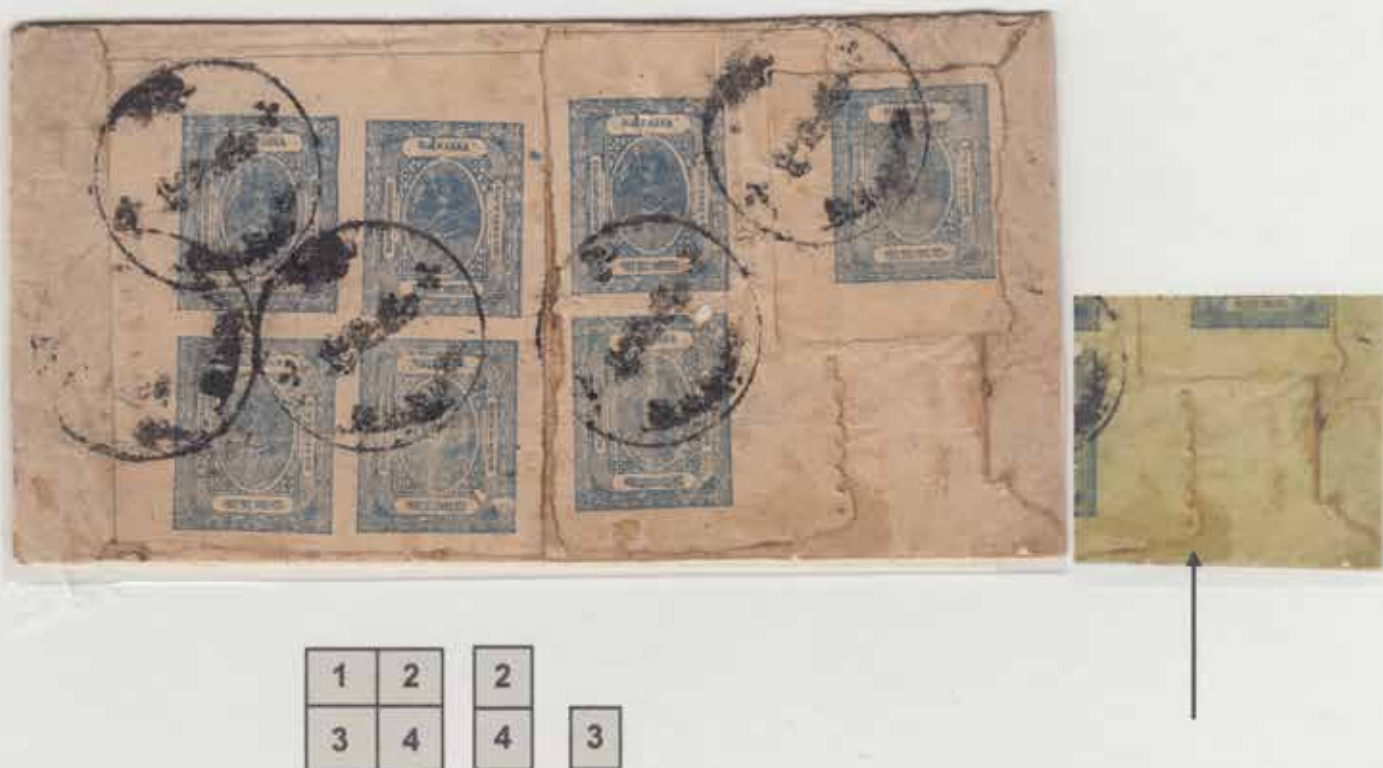
1	2
3	4

Cover franked on the back with a single copy of Barwani's second ½ anna dull blue imperforate stamp to pay the ordinary letter rate within the State. On the front of the cover in pencil is a native manuscript 14/7/20 which implies the cover was posted on 14 July 1920. The cover is addressed in Hindi and the two postmarks on the back of the cover do not contain a date. As is evident from the glue stains around the stamp, the stamp was issued without gum so the gum pot in the Barwani post office had to be used to affix the stamp to the envelope. The stamp is cliché 4 in the booklet pane.

Barwani's Second ½ Anna Stamp
Registered Cover franked 3 ½ Anna

circa—pre 1921

The registered cover below contains a complete booklet pane of the ½ anna dull blue, Barwani's second ½ stamp. As well as a vertical pair and single. The booklet pane is arranged 1,2/3,4, the vertical pair clichés 2/4 and the single stamp with full left and bottom margin is cliché 3. There are two interesting philatelic points to make about the stamps on this cover. First the cliché 2 stamps (see diagram below) both have what appears to be a rivet head in the right margin in line with the top English value tablet. The second interesting aspect of the vertical pair on this cover is that the extreme right side is perforated rough perforation 7! This rough perforation 7 is on an imperforate stamp. Part of this right margin perforation is hidden by the single stamp but a good deal shows below the single stamp.



This is one of two known registered covers known to the exhibitor in the pre-cataloged stamp period. The other registered cover from the pre-cataloged stamp period is in the exhibitor's collection but duplicates the philatelic information shown on the above cover. The cover is franked with seven Barwani ½ anna stamps from the second issue of ½ stamps to pay the half anna ordinary letter rate and the three annas registration fee. This 3 ½ registered letter rate was in effect until 1926 when the ordinary letter rate increased to 1 anna and this upped the registered letter rate to four annas.

An interesting aspect of Barwani philately, throughout the stamp issuing period, 1917 to 1 July 1948 the exhibitor has never seen a non-philatelic cover franked more than the prevailing registration rate, either 3 ½ annas or 4 annas!

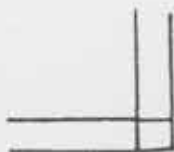
Gibbons #1 and #2

First Cataloged $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ anna stamps

circa 1918-March 1921



1. Uncolored gouge at top of central oval below "ANNA".



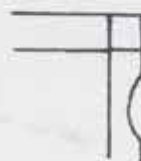
2. Lower frame line shaved at right.



3. Uncolored gouge in vignette at 3:00.



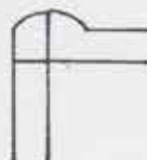
4. Lower frame line is dented right of center.



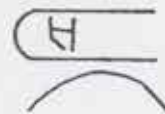
1. Right frame line dented near top corner.



2. Colored dot, bottom of right vertical label, absent on this printing.



3. Top frame line dented near left corner.



4. The "H" of "HALF" has the left foot damaged.

Barwani's first cataloged quarter anna stamp is blue green and the first cataloged half anna stamp is dull blue. Both stamps are printed with clear impressions, perforated 7 on all sides with large holes and printed on wove paper. The stamps were typographed in sheets of four (2 x 2) by the Barwani State Printing Press using four clichés that show distinctive characteristics (the flaw in cliché 2 of the half anna shows up in later printings). Additional distinctive cliché characteristics develop as the clichés become worn. Cataloged as issued in March 1921? by Gibbons; later in this exhibit the quarter anna is shown used on 6 January 1920 and the exhibitors personal study indicates that Barwani's first two stamps could have been issued at least two years earlier than March 1921.

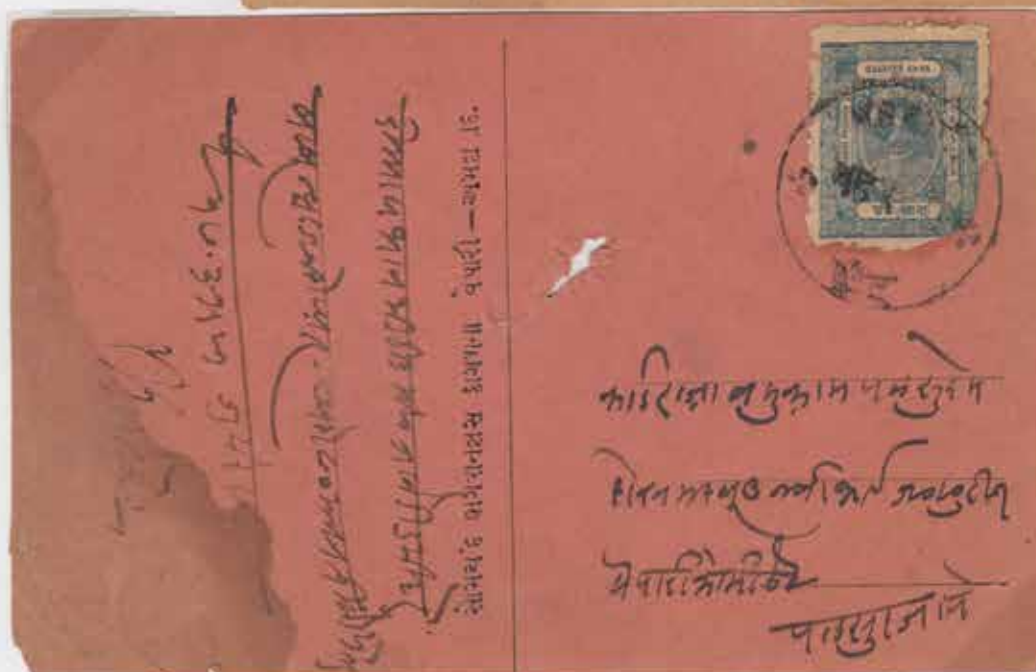
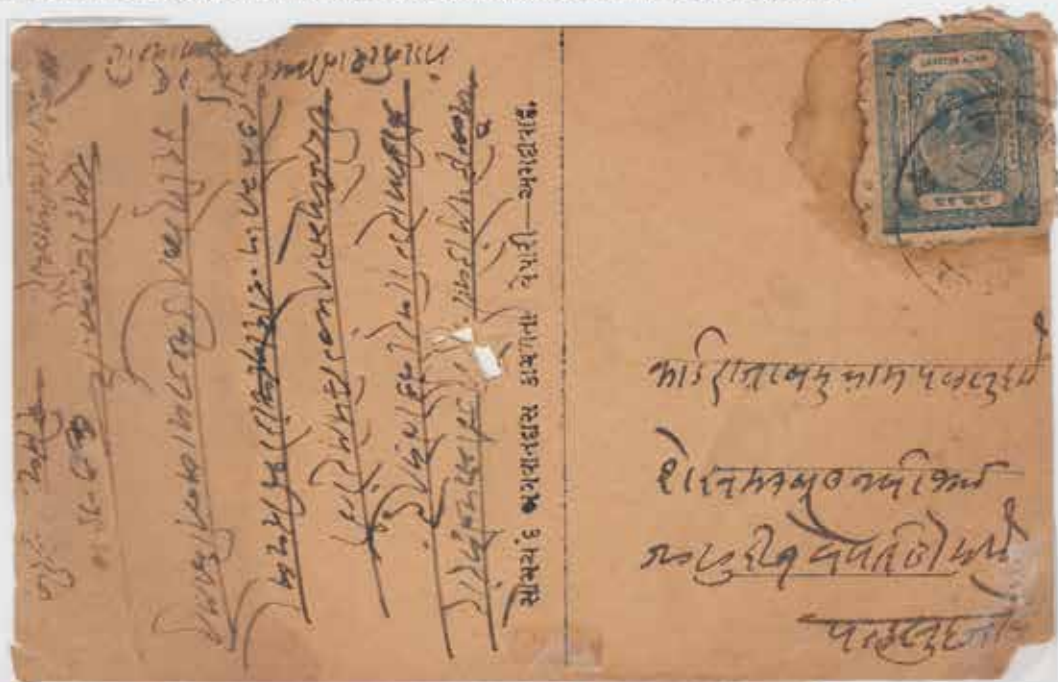
Gibbons #1

¼ anna Blue Green Perforation 7

6 January 1920

17 March 1921

The Gibbons stamp catalog gives the date of issue of Barwani #1 as "Mar? 1921". The top post card has a manuscript date of "6-1-1920" (6 January 1920) and the bottom post card has a manuscript date of "17-3-1921" (17 March 1921). Thus Gibbons #1 was issued at least in January 1920 and most probably up to two years earlier following the 1917 quarter anna light blue perforated and imperforate issues.



Both post cards were posted at Barwani City and sent to Palsud. The Barwani quarter anna post card rate was increased from a quarter anna to a half anna in 1926 at the time Barwani issued its first four annas stamp to pay the registered letter rate.

Second Cataloged ¼ anna Stamp
¼ anna Green, Blurred Impression

May 1921



3 Lines of Perforation

Perforated horizontally across the middle and vertically down the middle and down the right side. Apparently bound into booklets using the right side, note three pin holes in the right margins used for hand binding into booklets.



3 Lines of Perforation

Perforated horizontally across the middle and vertically down the middle and down the right side. Right margin partially cut off about the location where binding holes would be located.



3 Lines of Perforation

Perforated horizontally across the middle and vertically down the middle and down the left side. Apparently bound into booklets using the right side, note three pin holes in the right margins used for hand binding into booklets.



6 Lines of Perforation

Perforated horizontally top, middle and bottom and vertically right, middle and left. Apparently bound into booklets using the right side; note the cut off right edge with 3 binding holes probable.

Although we have seen a number of Barwani quarter anna stamps prior to this issue, this is Barwani's first quarter anna issue in a true shade of green. All previous issues contained some blue. The printing is poor, all three sheets are blurred. The stamps are listed as perforated on two or three sides with big hole perforation 7. Shown are three differently perforated sheets, the first has an imperforate left side, the middle sheet has perforations on all four sides of all four stamps in the sheet and the lower sheet shows an imperforate right side.

Second Cataloged ¼ anna Stamp

27 May 1921

Early Usages ¼ anna Green Blurred Impression

Early 1921

The Gibbons catalog lists the issue date of this stamp as "June ? 1921". We can now change this date to May 1921 as this flimsy homemade post card has that date in manuscript written on the cover. The quarter anna stamp is used to pay the Barwani State post card rate of a quarter anna from Barwani City to Palsud.

1	2
3	4



Early usage of Barwani's second cataloged quarter anna stamp, possibly 18 April 1921 but the manuscript date is unclear on this postcard. Note the contrasting postcards with the lower post card on card stock with a subtle floral design. The center of this postcard as a hole where the card was stored on a spike.

11 September 1921
4 October 1921

[illegible]

Post card is franked with a cliché 2 stamp, manuscript dated "4-10-21". The stamp appears to be perforated on the right and left sides and along the bottom, the top margin is imperforate (although with a very rough edge). This plain post card was sent from Pansemal to Palsud, Barwani.

**Second Cataloged $\frac{1}{4}$ anna Stamp
Variety Imperforate $\frac{1}{4}$ anna Green**

Circa 1921

Undated cover franked with a pair of quarter anna green, second cataloged quarter anna stamps on front, cliché 1 and 2 and another pair of quarter anna green on the back, cliché 3 and 4. Both pairs of stamps are cancelled with undated Barwani cancels, addressed to Barwani City.



Pair of second cataloged quarter anna Barwani stamps, variety IMPERFORATE, cliché 3 and 4.



TCover cut down on the left side; the one anna franking provides the postage for a double weight cover. As standard for this issue the stamps are very blurry on wove paper, uncataloged variety imperforate.

Second Cataloged ½ anna Stamp

May 1921

½ anna Ultramarine, Blurred Impression



Like the second cataloged quarter anna Barwani stamp, the second cataloged half anna Barwani stamp has a blurred impression. Normally each stamp in the sheet is perforated on either two or three sides only but note the last sheet on the page (the sheet with the large left margin); all four sides of each stamp are perforated because the sheet has small hole perforations down the left side and along the bottom of the sheet. These two rows of perforations have the appearance of sewing machine perforations found on the four annas yellow brown of 1927 shown later in this exhibit.

The cliché 2 flaw is found on the Ranjit Singh half anna stamp up to its last printing in 1945, it is sometimes not present on this issue (i.e. the first and last sheets on the page) and present other times (i.e. the middle sheet).

Barwani's First ¼ Blue
Uncertainty Over Printing Order

Mid - 1921



Thickish cream glazed paper, no mesh. Margin for binding into booklets now at the bottom, three minute binding holes are present at in the bottom margin.



Thickish cream glazed paper, no mesh. Barwani stamps were locally perforated by hand, so errors are not uncommon. On this part sheet an extra line of perforation was made across the lower two stamps of the sheet. The bottom margin also shows three minute binding holes.

The printing order of Barwani's quarter anna stamps up to 1922 is still uncertain. The *"Collectors Club Philatelist"*, in a series of articles March 1978 to November 1979 by MacGillycuddy, attempted a classification heavily based on the ink accumulations in the four stamp clichés. This classification has the stamp shown above printed after the imperforate quarter and half anna greens on vertical laid paper. There is now uncertainty on this printing order because of new findings by specialists of dated covers. The stamp on this page probably preceded the imperforate quarter and half anna greens and are illustrated in this new order in this exhibit.

The paper used for this issue is interesting, it is a thickish cream glazed wove paper without a mesh. In 1922 Barwani issued both a one anna and two annas stamp on a thick white-gray glazed wove paper, but there is a clear diagonal mesh to the paper used in 1922. Basically the glazed paper of this issue and the paper used for the 1922 issues are not related.

Two Similar ¼ anna Blues
Clear versus Poor Impressions

September 1921



Clear Impression - Deep Grey
Blue



Poor impression steel blue
perforated on all four sides.



Poor Impression - Steel Blue

To distinguish between the two issues note the clear printing of the deep grey blue stamp versus the poor impression of the steel blue stamp. Although one sheet is cream (the deep grey blue sheet) and the other sheet toned (steel blue), both issues are printed on a soft medium wove paper and perforated about 7 on two or three sides. A single copy of the steel blue shade is shown with all four sides perforated. The sheets are again bound into booklets using the right sheet margin. Three irregularly spaced binding holes are present on each sheet.

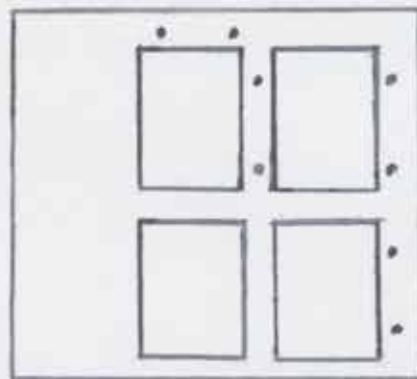
Barwani's First ½ anna Green Stamp
Thick Soft Wove Paper, Perforation 7

September 1921

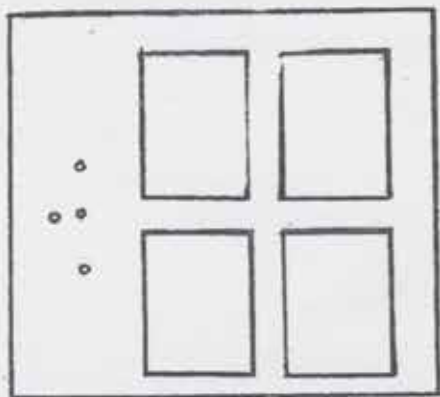
Note the eight rivet marks that hold the clichés in place. The ext two printings of a half anna stamp from the four clichés generally show no signs of rivet marks and then rivet marks reappear in the 1927 printings.



8 Rivets visible holding the clichés place



Cliché 3, Toned Soft Wove Paper, Left and Bottom Margins Imperforate and perforated



4 booklet pane binding holes

Specialists believe the booklet panes of this Barwani stamp were hand bound into booklets with string using the four holes in the left margin of the sheet. The booklets most likely had plain covers.

This is Barwani's first half anna stamp printed in green, the reason for the color switch is not known. The paper is a soft wove paper ranging in color from cream to toned. Like previously perforated Barwani stamps, the perforations are gauge 7, large holes. This stamp was printed in 1921 (specialists believe around 1921), but the Gibbons catalog lists this stamp as a 1923 listing and the second half anna green stamp. The Gibbons catalog will be revised in future printings.

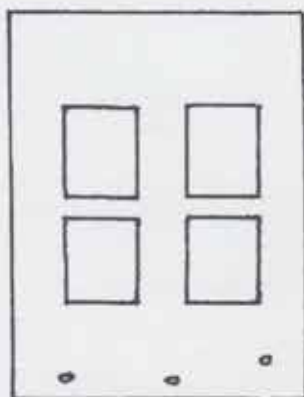
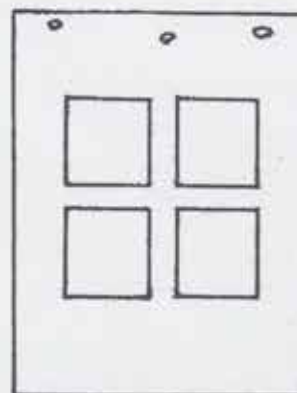
**Barwani's Last ¼ anna Green
Vertical Laid Paper and Sheet Format**

October 1921

Cream Vertical Laid Paper



This is the last quarter anna green Barwani stamp issued, subsequent quarter anna stamps switched (permanently) to blue. The stamp is printed on a vertical laid paper either cream or toned.



The sheet format changes again with this issue. The most recent issues were bound horizontally into booklets. This issue has a vertical sheet format. The binding holes can be found at either the top or bottom of a sheet.



Toned Vertical Laid Paper

Barwani's Last $\frac{1}{4}$ anna Green
Post Card and Letter Usage

16 April 1923
circa October 1921-1923

Late use of Barwani's last quarter anna green stamp on a flimsy home made post card. Posted at Silawad and sent to Barwani City with the message having a manuscript date of "16-4-23".



Registered cover (a pair of quarter anna stamps on the front) franked three and a half anna (most of the margins cut off the stamps to save weight) and most likely posted in the October 1921 to 1923 period when the last Barwani quarter anna green stamp was in use. Barwani's registration rate remained at three annas throughout the period that it issued postage stamps, circa 1917 to 1 July 1948. The rate that changed was the post card and letter rate which were a quarter and half anna respectively up until 1926 when both rates were doubled; a post card in 1926 increased to a half anna and a letter increased to one anna.

Barwani's Second ½ anna Green
Vertical Laid Paper

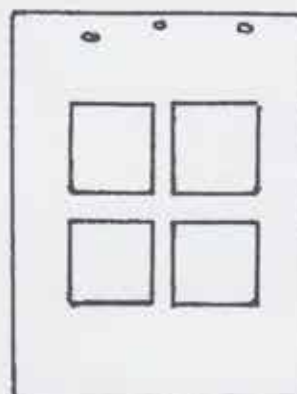
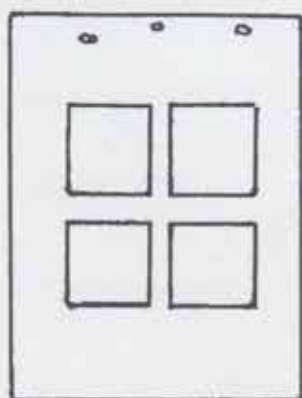
October 1921



White Vertical Laid Paper



Toned Vertical Laid Paper

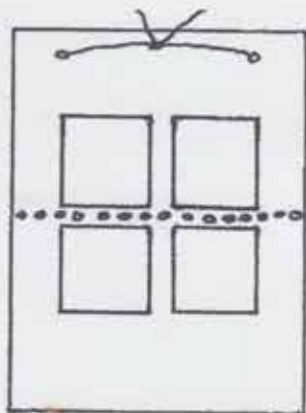


Barwani's second half anna green stamp; this issue is known used in October 1921. Like the last quarter anna green Barwani stamp, Barwani's first half anna green stamp is printed on a cream or toned vertical laid paper. The reason why Barwani switched from issuing its quarter anna stamps in green and its half anna stamps in blue to the reverse, the quarter anna in blue, and the half anna in green, is not known.

The booklet binding holes on the two sheets shown appear at the top sheet. As in the past, there are three binding holes apparently hand punched.

Single Line of Perforations and Booklet Binding

This issue, as well as all previous issues of Barwani, were bound into booklets with twine. Three holes were made in the margin of the sheet and the twine was hand woven through these three holes to hold the sheets of stamps and unprinted booklet covers together to make primitive stamp booklets. The first use of staples to hold the booklets together did not occur until 1922 when Barwani issued one and two annas stamps.



Toned vertically laid bâtonné paper



Toned vertically laid bâtonné paper



Cream vertically laid bâtonné paper

Why this imperforate half anna green sheet had a single line of perforation applied across the center of the sheet is not known. Barwani did not increase its letter rate to one anna until 1926, so the need for a one anna franking was probably not the motivation (although we do not know why Barwani issued one and two annas stamps in 1922). Neither the completely imperforate sheets or the above sheets with one line of perforation are plentiful, so sales to collectors is unlikely to be the reason for the odd format. In fact, the evidence suggests that all Barwani postage stamps were issued for legitimate postal purposes.

First 1 anna Stamp Cliché Classification

Early 1922

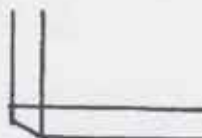
Early use of the 1922 issued 1 anna vermillion together with 2 annas purple, both on thick white wove paper plus a pair of quarter anna rose on horizontally laid bâtonné paper. The postmark is an undated Barwani postmark used up to 1926. The cover pays the three and a half anna registration rate in force up to 1926 when the registration rate was increased to four annas. It is very unusual for Barwani covers to be franked with more than one denomination.



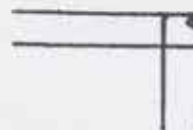
1. Bottom right corner frame line shaved off.



2. Two scratches across the top of the central oval.



3. Both sides of bottom left corner shaved.



4. Nick in right frame line at top.

Barwani's first one anna stamp was printed in early 1922 and is known used as late as 1933. Although one of the most widely available Barwani stamps both on cover and unused, the vermillion color is reasonably consistent. The stamp is printed on thick, glazed white wove paper with the intensity of the color varying from light to dark, perforated 11 on two or three sides. Note that the top two stamps in the sheet above are reasonably well centered copies while the bottom two stamps have two sides very close or cut into.

**First 1 anna Stamp
Booklet Makeup and Varieties**

Early 1922



The one anna vermilion of early 1922 is the first Barwani stamp to have its stamp booklets bound with a staple, all previous Barwani stamp booklets were bound with twine. The booklet covers have no printed text on them, and each booklet held eight sheets of stamps. A new perforating device was used, gauge 11, with two horizontal lines of perforation applied across the top and between the two horizontal pairs of stamps and one vertical line of perforations down the center. The doubly printed variety was added to the Gibbons catalog in 1993.

First 2 annas Stamp **Cliche Classification and Usage**

Early 1922
6 September 1926

Barwani's first two annas stamp was issued in early 1922 on two types of paper, a thick toned unsurfaced wove paper (used single and unused sheet) and a thick glazed white gray wove paper (pair on the cover). It is likely that both type papers were placed in use in 1922.



Undated postmark in use up to 1926



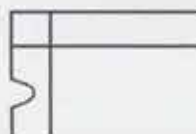
Dated 6 September 1926, the first year dated postmarks were in use in Barwani.



1. Bottom frame line shaved at right.



2. Dent in left frame line near bottom.



3. Nick in left frame line near "E" of "POSTAGE".



4. Both sides of bottom left corner shaved.

**First 2 annas Stamp
Purple and Violet Varieties**

**7 March 1933
30 July 1936**

Two annas of 1922, purple color, and a pair of one anna rose carmine of 1931. The four annas franking pays the three anna registration fee and one anna letter rate. Posted at Pansemal 7 March 1933 and received the next day at Barwani City. A mixed value franking on Barwani covers is unusual.

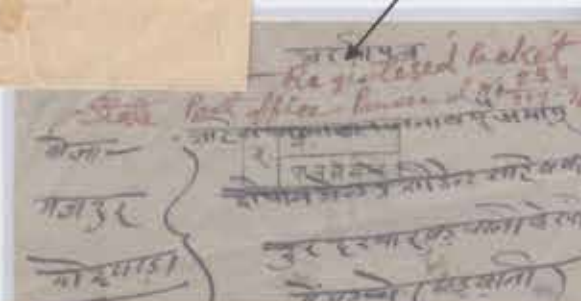


Pair of two annas violet franking. The violet shade is uncommon and not classified as a variety by the Gibbons catalog. Posted at Pansemal 30 July 1936 and received the next day at Barwani City.

First 2 annas Stamp
Registered Mail

12 May 1934
9 August 1936

Registered cover dated 12 May 1934 from Pansemal to Barwani City arriving 13 May 1934. Although four annas Barwani stamps were issued in 1926, many registered covers were franked with a pair of two annas.



Pair of two annas purple franking an 9 August 1936 registered cover from Pansemal to Barwani city arriving 10 August 1936. Unusual manuscript notation on the front of the cover in red "Registered Packet / State Post office Pansemal No 233 / 9-8-36".

**First 2 annas Stamp
Thick Toned Wove Paper**

**Early 1922
24 December 1936**

Barwani's first two annas stamp was issued in early 1922 on two types of paper, a thick toned unsurfaced wove paper (shown on this page) and a thick glazed white gray wove paper (shown on previous pages). Note that the 2 annas thick toned wove paper was in use at least 14 years after the introduction of the two annas stamp; the cover dated 24 December 1936.



Dated 24 December 1936, very late use of the two annas on thick toned wove paper. Registered cover from Pansemal franked at the four annas registration rate in force from approximately 1926. The exhibitor has searched for over three decades to secure a cover franked with the two annas thick toned wove paper. This stamp was not in regular use at Barwani post offices.



Complete sheet of the two annas thick toned wove paper stamp, cliché arrangement 1,2/3,4. Single line perforation with cliché 1 and 2 stamps perforated on three sides and cliché 3 and 4 stamps perforated on two sides. By the time Barwani printed the 1922 issues the top and bottom margins where the booklet binding was located was relatively small. The booklet binding staple holes on this sheet are at the top of the sheet just above the upper line of perforations.

**¼ anna Color Experiment
Gray to Gray Blue**

1922



Cream Paper



Heavily Toned Paper



Light Gray



Medium Gray



Dark Gray



Medium Gray Blue



Dark Gray Blue

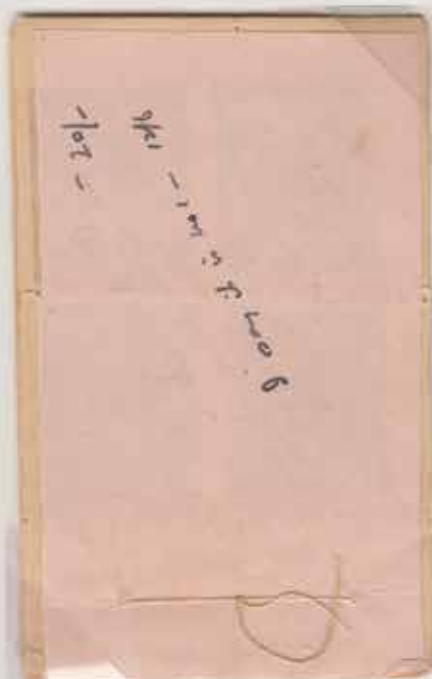
From 1922 to 1925 Barwani's quarter anna stamp changed color frequently. It was a gray to gray blue, followed by black, then red and then back to blue in 1925. We do not know the reason for all these color changes. The paper used for this issue is also quite different than the paper used for previous issues. It is a thin, poor wove paper that varies from cream to heavily toned.

¼ anna Color Experiment
¼ anna Grey Booklet Varieties

1922



Quarter anna grey of 1922 booklet with thin wove pink covers front and back tied with blue thread.



Quarter anna grey of 1922 booklet with thin wove pink covers front and back tied with white thread. Two stamps from the first booklet pane removed

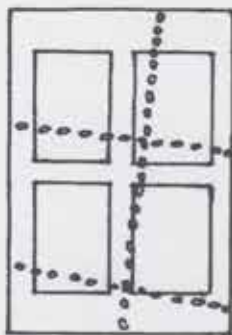


Quarter anna grey of 1922 booklet with thin wove grey covers front and back tied with white thread.

Barwani booklets of 16 sheets of four stamps per sheet bound with thread of various colors. Most Barwani booklets are known with eight sheets rather than the 16 sheets of these booklets. Early Barwani booklets were bound with thread or thin twine and soon thereafter staples were used to bind the booklets. Since the stamps did not have gum, no interleaving was required.

**¼ anna Color Experiment
Perforation Varieties and Usage**

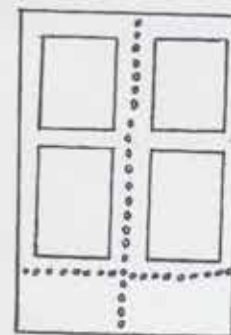
**1922
28 February 1922**



Misaligned Perforations



Imperforate Between Vertical Pairs



This stamp is perforated gauge 8.5, the only stamps printed by the Barwani State Printing Press with this gauge of perforation. The perforation work was not executed well as shown by the imperforate between sheet and sheet with misaligned perforations. The pair of stamps on the 1922 cover from Anjar to Barwani City also point out the inability of this perforation machine to perforate stamps so they could be easily separated.

½ anna Green on Thin Paper
Booklet Format and Shades

1922



Complete Sheets with Varied Top and Bottom Margins



Complete Booklet of Four Sheets Only



Light Green



Medium Green



Darkish Green



Dark Green

Barwani's second half anna green stamp is printed on a thin smooth unglazed wove paper and, like the one and two annas of 1922, perforated gauge 11 on either two or three sides of each stamp. Most early Barwani booklets were issued with eight sheets of stamps, for this issue the booklets contain only four sheets. Note that the two sheets displayed show varied top and bottom margins, one sheet has a small (4 mm) bottom margin and large (22 mm) top margin. The other sheet has a comparatively large (11 mm) bottom margin and comparatively small (14 mm) top margin. The color of this issue varies from light to dark green.

½ anna Green on Thin Paper
Usages with Undated Postmarks

Circa 1922-1925
Circa 1922-1925

Franked at the half anna letter rate that was valid until 1926. The franking is the half anna green of 1922 on thin paper, cliché 2. Prior to 1926 Barwani postmarks were undated so the date of posting is unknown. Sent to an interesting address, "*Pansemal, Camp Khetia*", the city of Khetia is about four miles away from Pansemal and in southwest Barwani. Both Pansemal and Khetia have their own postmarks.



Franked at the half anna letter rate with a half anna green of 1922 on thin paper, cliché 4. Although India increased its ordinary letter rate from a half anna (per tola, about 12 grams) to one anna (for 2.5 tola, about 30 grams or one ounce) on 24 April 1922, Barwani did not increase its letter rate until 1926. Like the top cover, the bottom cover has an undated cancel. It was posted at Barwani City and sent to Pansemal.

½ anna Green on Thin Paper
Varieties and Dated Cancel Usage

1922

6 February 1926



Printed Matter was present on the paper before the stamp was printed.



Barwani booklets are now fastened together with a staple rather than thin twine. Like the previous booklet of this issue, the booklet contains four sheets with only 2 stamps remaining in this booklet.



Imperforate Between Vertical Pair



Barwani City new bilingual dated postmark introduced in 1926.



Very late usage of the half anna letter rate. This cover was posted at Pansemal on 6 February 1926 and sent to Barwani City arriving on 7 February 1926. This cover shows the early use of the bilingual dated postmark introduced in 1926 and the very late use of the half anna letter rate, changed in 1926 to one anna.

Barwani's Least Common Stamp
1 anna Red Brown, Thin Wove Paper

1923



Cliché 1

Cliché 2



Cliché 3

Cliché 4

Reconstructed sheet of the one anna red brown of 1923. On thin smooth unglazed wove paper. All the stamps are perforated 11 on two sides, single line perforation.

Cliché 1, perforated two sides with wide top margin and two apparent staple holes for binding into a booklet. (RPSL 60,365 22 May 2003)

Cliché 2, perforated two sides with wide top margin. Major gash in upper right corner. This gash has only been seen on one copy of the one anna vermillion 1922 issue—see the imperforate between vertical pair—is always present on the one anna 1931 rose and is never present on the March 1939 one anna brown and subsequent printings of the one anna stamp.

Cliché 3, perforated two sides with narrow bottom margin.

Cliché 4, perforated on the left side only, imperforate on top margin. Very wide margin copy like the cliché 2 copy above.

One anna red brown on thin smooth unglazed wove paper, **Barwani's least common stamp**. Shown above is a reconstructed sheet that has taken this exhibitor decades to put together. It is rumored that a complete sheet of this stamp is in a private collector's hands but, if true, that sheet has not been on the open market to the best of this exhibitor's research.

Barwani's Least Common Stamp
1 anna Red Brown, Thin Wove Paper

2 March 1924?

One of Two Recorded Covers Franked With
Barwani's 1 anna Red Brown



Registered cover franked with three copies of Barwani's scarcest stamp. This cover has a pair (clichés 3 and 4) and single (inverted on cover, cliché 1) of the 1 anna (dark) red brown of 1923 on thin soft unglazed wove paper, perforated 11 on two or three sides. Note that two of the three copies of the one anna on this page only have perforations on one side!

The cover has a possible manuscript date of "2-3-24" (2 March 1924) and is posted from Barwani City to Pansemal. Besides the three one anna stamps that pays the registration rate, there is a pair (cliché 1 and 2) of the quarter anna gray to gray blue of 1922 that pays the half anna ordinary letter rate up to 1926.

Barwani's Least Common Stamp
1 anna Red Brown, Thin Wove Paper

Circa 1925

Second of Two Recorded Covers Franked With
Barwani's 1 anna Red Brown



Cover franked with one copy of Barwani's scarcest stamp. This cover has a single copy (cliché 1) of the 1 anna red brown of 1923 on thin soft unglazed wove paper, perforated 11 on two sides. There is also a pair of the quarter anna blue of 1925 on vertically laid bâtonné paper.

The three stamps are cancelled with a Barwani City undated cancel that was in use up to January 1926 when Barwani undated cancels were replaced with dated cancels. The cover is posted to Anjar. At this time the letter rate was a half anna and the registered letter rate three and a half anna. To date only two multi-weight Barwani franked covers are known so the one and a half anna franking on this cover is a mystery.

[RPSL 176579 31 May 2000 The one anna stamp is listed as defective on the expert certificate.]

¼ anna Color Experiment

March? 1923

¼ anna Black

circa 1923 - 1925

This is the only cover recorded by the exhibitor to appear on the market since 1975 having the quarter anna black of 1923. Registered cover franked three and a half annas with a pair of the quarter anna black of 1922 (clichés 1 and 2), a one anna vermilion of 1922 on thick white gray glazed paper and a two annas purple of 1922 on thick toned wove paper.



Imperforate between. There are only two copies of this variety known on the market.



Note the finger print smudges on the sheet



Unused, stamp cut from sheet with scissor



Used, undated cancel with perforated edges very rough

This is the only Barwani stamp that has had a philatelic press report on the number issued. According to the *Philatelic Journal of India* of April 1925 a "knowledgeable source" reported in the Indian philatelic press that only 1,200 of this black quarter anna stamp of were printed. Such a printing run cannot be dismissed as unreasonable as this stamp is difficult to obtain.

¼ anna Color Experiment

¼ anna Rose, Laid Bâtonné Paper

May (?) 1923

The laid bâtonné paper has a sheet watermark of a seated Britannia in a triple oval frame surmounted by a crown. Also the lettering "GUARANTEED" and "BRITISH MADE" in large double lined letters.

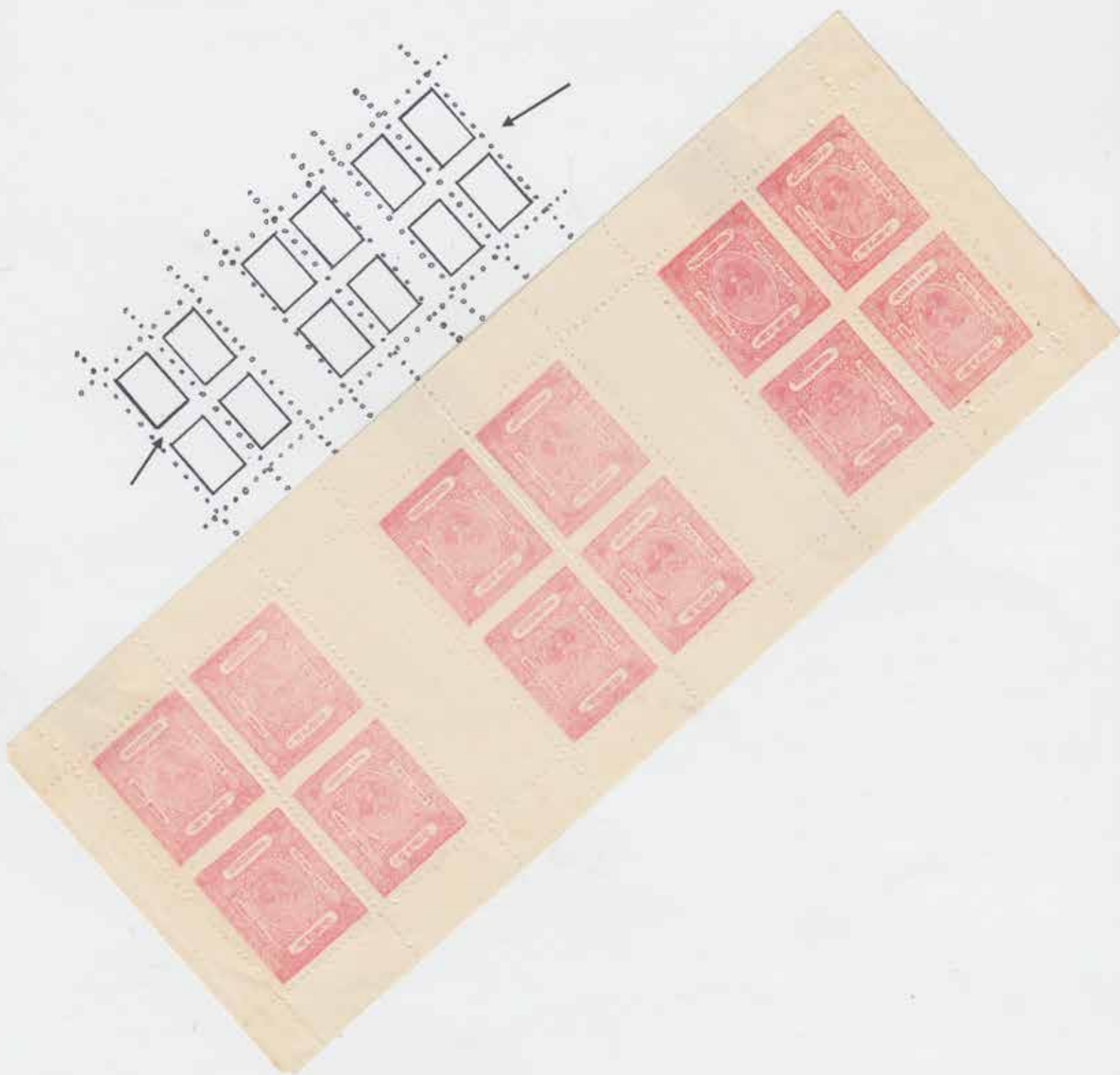


The reason for choosing rose as a color for the new Barwani's quarter anna printing after previously switching the color back and forth between green and blue and then gray to gray blue and black is not known and no logical explanations has been offered in the literature.

This stamp printing differs in a number of other ways from previous issues. This stamp is printed on horizontally laid bâtonné paper, is perforated gauge 12 and is printed in sheets of twelve stamps, all previous Barwani issues were printed in sheets of only four. The sheet of twelve stamps was produced with three impressions of the plate of four clichés, apparently not struck one after the other as often the panes on one sheet have different color intensities.

¼ anna Color Experiment
¼ anna Rose, Imperforate Between

May (?) 1923



Complete sheet of 12 with six vertical pairs, imperforate between. The perforating on this stamp was done by hand with a line perforation machine. On this sheet the operator of the perforating machine omitted the central horizontal line of perforations.

**¼ anna Color Experiment
Perforation Varieties**

May (?) 1923

This sheet of 12 is very unusual for Barwani, the perforations are pin holes gauge 6 on all sides of all stamps, Barwani's only pin perforated gauge 6 stamp.



Pin perforated 6, used.



This block comprises the right side of a sheet of 12 shows why this stamp is listed in the Gibbons catalog with compound perforation 12 and 6; every other perforation hole is missing on the top edge of the upper right stamp.

**¼ anna Rose, Laid Bâtonné Paper
Varieties**

May (?) 1923

Perforation 7, toned laid paper, Issued Only as a Booklet Pane of Four



Imperforate Between,
Vertical Pair, perf. 12



Perforation 7, cream laid paper



Light Rose, perf. 12



Rose, perf. 12



Darkish Rose, perf. 12



Dark Rose, a rare
shade, perf. 12

Not only did the quarter anna rose of May (?) 1923 have many unique features for a Barwani stamp, but there are also a number of perforation varieties, two are shown on this page, others are shown later. The perforation 7 variety was only printed in a sheet of four. The normal stamp is perforation 12 and its two varieties include the imperforate between vertical pair, a perforation 6 and a compound perforation 12 and 6 which are printed in sheets of 12. Also the color of this issue varies a great deal, from pale to deep rose red.

End of ¼ anna Color Experiment

1925

¼ anna Blue, Vertically Laid Bâtonné Paper

1925 quarter anna blue on vertically laid bâtonné paper, perforation 11, horizontal strip of four probably from the upper row of a sheet. **The left pair of stamps (in a darker shade) is inverted producing a tête bêche pair in the center columns.** This Barwani variety has been absent from the market for over 35 years.

Tête bêche pair in the center of the top row of a sheet.



4	3	1	2
2	1	3	4



1	2	1	2
3	4	3	4

With this issue Barwani returned to blue for the color of its quarter anna stamps. This is Barwani's first sheet of eight stamps. Two strikes of the plate of four clichés were made to produce this sheet and it was stapled into booklets with two staples for sale to the public. It was previously thought that this stamp was not sold in stamp booklets but the set of two staple holes in the left margin corrects our knowledge.

End of ¼ anna Color Experiment

1 November 1925

Late use of the ¼ anna postcard rate

Homemade postcard on very thin, flimsy, paper franked at the quarter anna postcard rate. The franking was paid with the 1925(?) quarter anna blue, perforation 11, on vertically laid bâtonné paper, similar to the horizontally laid bâtonné paper of the quarter anna rose of May 1923.



Undated Barwani postmark



Dated Barwani postmark
introduced in 1926

In 1926 the postage rate for an ordinary letter increased from a half anna to one anna and the postage rate for a postcard increased from a quarter anna to a half anna. The postcard shows the late use of the quarter anna postcard rate and the late use of Barwani's undated postmarks. The two single used copies of the quarter anna blue, perforation 11, on vertically laid bâtonné paper shows both the use of the undated and dated Barwani postmark type. The dated Barwani postmark was placed in use in 1926.

End of ¼ anna Color Experiment

Usages

22 October 1926

28 March 1933

Franked four annas with 14 copies of the quarter anna blue of 1925 on laid bâtonné paper (sheet of eight and block of six with margins removed) and a single of the half anna bright yellow green of 1927. Posted at Pansemal 22 October 1928 and sent to Barwani City.



Franked four annas to pay the registration fee within Barwani City and posted 28 March 1933. Unusual three color franking, two singles of the quarter anna blue of 1925 on laid bâtonné paper, pair and single of the half anna turquoise green of 1929-1932, and pair of the one anna rose carmine of 1931.

Printing 1 of the 4 annas Stamp

Yellow Brown, Perforation 7 Large Holes

1926/1927

8 April 1928

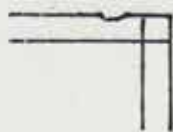
Based on a recent study by the exhibitor (India Post January 2010 pp 8-19) the first of seven printings of a four annas Barwani stamp prior to the Devi Singh printings starting in October 1932 is colored yellow brown, on thick wove paper, perforated 7, with large perforation hole. All seven printings prior to October 1932 Devi Singh printings are without gum. All four clichés begin life with recognizable flaws. Like most previous Barwani issues the sheets consist of four stamps with large margins on all sides particularly at the top and the right margin..



1. Colored bar at top of vignette at 12:30-1:00.



2. Two diagonal lines at 7:00 and 9:00 o'clock in the central oval.



3. Dent top frame line close to the right end



4. Heavier background shading to the right of the Rana's face



Earliest recorded use of a Barwani four annas stamp on a cover. Registered cover posted at Barwani City 18 April 1928 and franked with a four annas Printing 1, cliché 3. The April 1928 date on this cover underscores that the first five printings of the four annas stamp were printed within a relatively short time span of a couple of years, probably 1926 to 1927. In 1926 Barwani increased its letter rate from a half anna to one anna and combined with the three anna registration rate resulted in the need of a four annas stamp.

Yellow Brown, Booklet of five sheets

The first four annas stamps of Barwani were issued in booklets of five sheets of four stamps per sheet. The stamps were not gummed and had no interleaving between the sheets. The sheets are bound into the booklet with thin white twine and three binding holes in the top margin of the sheet. The binding of the five sheets in the booklet is to the top margin about 10 mm below the top margin of the booklet cover. The booklet covers are plain unprinted coarse brown paper front and back.

1	2
3	4

Only recorded complete booklet of the first Barwani four annas stamp



Cliché 2 copy with part of the top margin cut off. For the five sheets in the booklet the size of the top right margin stays relatively constant for the five sheets.



Cliché 3 copy with full bottom margin. For the five sheets in the booklet the size of the bottom left margin is reduced with each successive sheet in the booklet.



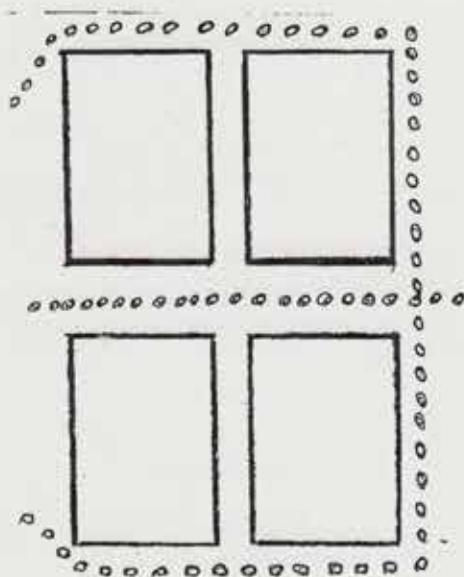
The cliché arrangement for the Barwani four annas stamp printings remains constant through Printing 4. The first change in cliché arrangements occurs in the Printing 5. The last printing, Printing 7 does change back to the original order, 1,2/3,4.

Printing 2 of the 4 annas Stamp
Yellow Brown, Sewing Machine Perforations

1926/1927

This is the second printing of a four annas Barwani stamp and has a major differences from the first printing even though both printings were probably done in a short period of time, probably the 1926/1927 time period. The difference is the perforation; the four annas yellow brown Barwani stamps on this page are sewing machine perforated 6-10. The paper remains a thick white wove paper.

The sheet below shows a major variety, **two horizontal pairs, imperforate between.** One imperforate between pair of this stamp is the second highest priced Ranjit Singh variety in the 2010 Stanley Gibbons Catalog.



**Imperforate Between Sheet of
Two Horizontal Pairs**



1	2
3	4



BARWANI STATE rather than
BARWANI STATE, Cliché 3

The cliché arrangement for Printing 2 of the four annas Barwani stamp remains the same as Printing 1. We do not see a change in the cliché arrangement until Printing 5. Even so Printings 1 to 5 of the four annas Barwani stamp were probably done in a relatively short time period 1926/1927.

Printing 3 and Printing 4 of the 4 annas

3 August 1932

Chestnut, Perforation 11 and Sewing Machine Perforation

1926/1927

Printing 3 is a **New Discovery by the exhibitor**, the color is chestnut and the perforation is 11 with medium holes. The cover below is franked with the only known copy of Printing 3. Based on Printing 4 described below, the cliché arrangement remains 1,2/3,4. The four annas Printing 3 stamp is cliché 2 franking a homemade envelope registered at Khetia on 3 August 1932 and arriving at Pansemal on 5 August 1932. A previous owner has added brown paper to the upper left corner of this cover.

New Discovery:
Chestnut,
perforation 11
medium holes.



1	2
3	4

Printing 4 of the four annas Barwani stamp in 1926/1927, but in the color of chestnut; this stamp is most likely the stamp listed in the Gibbons 2010 catalog as SG 23c, orange-brown. Compared to the previous four annas printing in orange brown, the color is better described as chestnut by the Stanley Gibbons Stamp Colour Key. The stamp is printed on thick wove paper, sewing machine perforated 6 to 10.

¼ and ½ anna of 1927
Very Poor Impressions

1927
9 July 1930



¼ anna Milky Blue, Barwani's worst Printed Stamp, variety, double vertical perforations at center



½ anna Bright Yellow Green, very poor impression, clichés rearranged for the first time to 2,4 / 3,1

2	4
3	1



1	2
3	4

Barwani's early postcards used all four Ranjit Singh ½ anna postage stamp clichés. Barwani City 9 July 1930 to Khetia.

The quarter anna milky blue of 1927 marks the low point of Barwani's stamp printing efforts. Some of the explanation of the poor printing can be blamed on the paper, a thin brittle wove paper. The only other Barwani stamp to use this brittle paper was issued about the same time, a new half anna stamp bright yellow green. This half anna stamp was the first time Barwani rearranged the stamp clichés of the printing plate, from 1,2 / 3,4 to 2,4 / 3,1. This rearrangement was the result of Barwani pulling apart its half anna printing plate to print half anna postcards. Also note the presence of rivet marks, generally not seen on the 1922 issue of the half anna stamp.

½ anna Yellow Green

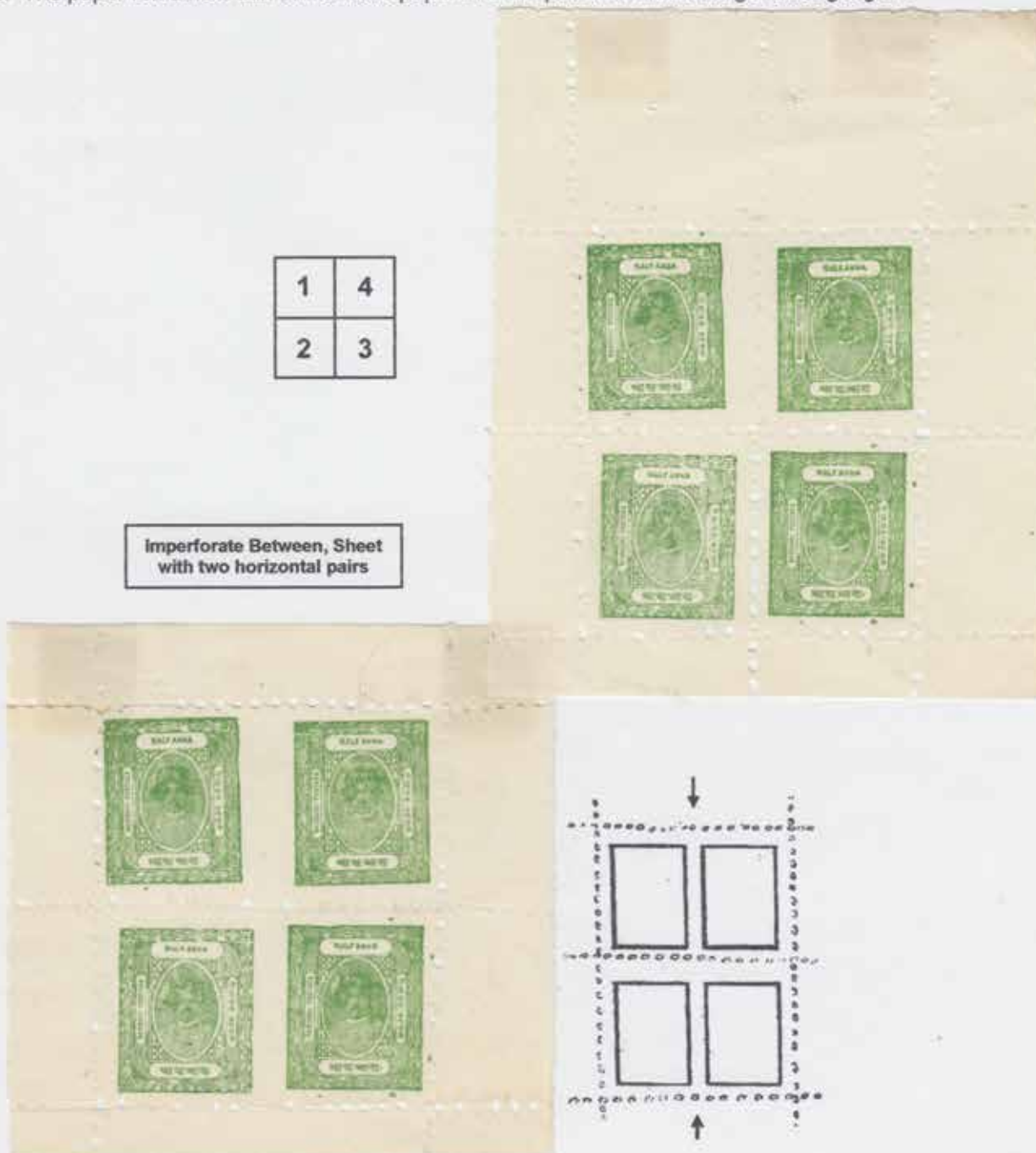
1927

Second Cliché Rearrangement

Second rearrangement of the clichés for a Barwani stamp from 2,4 / 3,1 to 1,4 / 2,3. This rearrangement of the half anna yellow green of 1927 is **not recorded in the literature**. It is likely that this rearrangement of the clichés had to do with the printing of half anna Barwani postcards. Also note the slight color difference from the previous issue, this issue is yellow green and the previous issue bright yellow green. Both the previous issue and this issue have poor impressions although this issue's impression is slightly better than the previous issue. The paper remains a thin brittle wove paper and the perforations are large holes gauge 7.

1	4
2	3

Imperforate Between, Sheet
with two horizontal pairs



Sheet consisting of two horizontal pairs, imperforate between. The top of this sheet has been cut off so the booklet binding holes are absent.

Printing 5 of the 4 annas Stamp

1926/1927

Orange Brown, Perforation 7 Large Holes

Clichés rearranged: Why Barwani needed to dismantle the four annas printing plate of four clichés after Printings 1 to 4 is not known. The first rearrangement of any Barwani printing plate was the half anna plate so that half anna post cards could be printed with the postage stamp clichés. Barwani never issued a four annas postal stationary registered envelope and specialists do not know of any such experiments, so a postal stationary issue is not a likely explanation. The new cliché arrangement is 2,4/3,1 with only cliché 3 in the same position as in Printings 1 to 4.



Cliché 4, Variety Dark
Orange Brown



2	4
3	1



Imperforate Between

Color - The color used on this printing has changed to orange brown, a much lighter color than either the yellow brown of Printings 1 and 2 or the Chestnut of Printings 3 and 4, but this stamp does have darker shades of orange yellow.

Paper - The paper is thin (0.05 mm thick) brittle wove paper. The paper is so thin it could easily be described as pelure paper.

Perforation - Like Printing 1, the perforation is 7 with large perforation holes. Unlike Printing 1, the perforation holes are cleaner cut than Printing 1, not as many perforation holes remain on the sheet.,

Orange Brown, Perforation 7 Large Holes

In 1926 Barwani increased its letter postage rate from a half anna to one anna and kept the registration fee at three annas, thus increasing the total cost of a registered letter from three and a half annas to four annas. To meet this franking, Barwani issued its first four annas stamp in 1926/1927. In fact we believe Barwani printed at least five separate four annas stamps in 1926/1927, the stamp on this cover coming from Printing 5. This stamp, like the quarter anna milky blue and half anna yellow green issues of 1927, was printed on thin, hard, brittle wove paper, large hole perforation 7.



Homemade envelope from a Barwani newspaper of unknown date with a plain toned blank label pasted on the homemade envelope for the address and postal marks. This registered cover is franked with Barwani's Printing 5 four annas stamp, orange brown, cliché 2.

In 1926 Barwani increased its letter postage rate from a half anna to one anna and kept the registration fee at three annas, thus increasing the total cost of a registered letter from three and a half annas to four annas. To meet this franking, Barwani issued its first four annas stamp in 1926/1927. In fact we believe Barwani printed at least five separate four annas stamps in 1926/1927, the stamp on this cover coming from Printing 5. This stamp, like the quarter anna milky blue and half anna yellow green issues of 1927, was printed on thin, hard, brittle wove paper, large hole perforation 7.

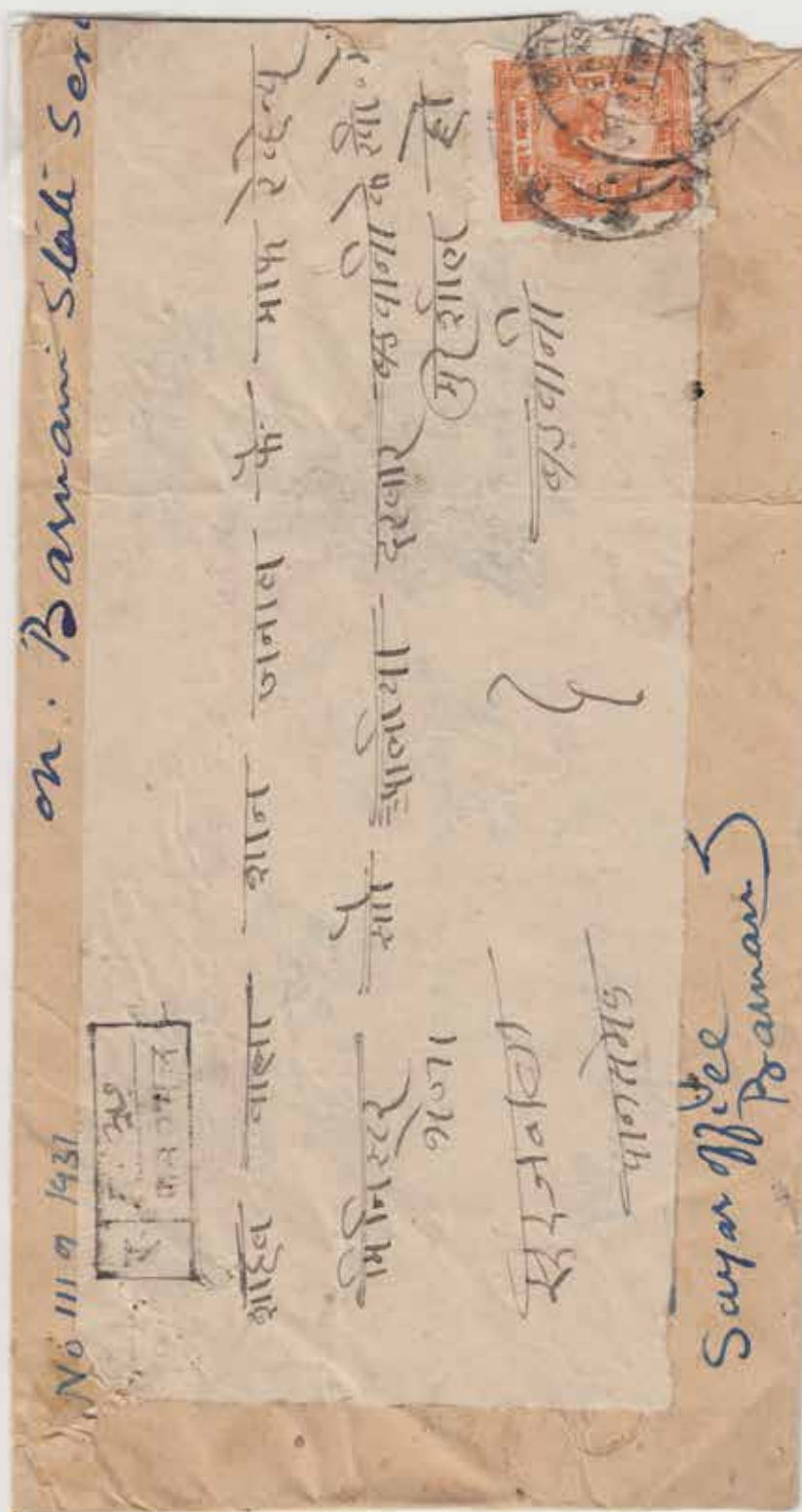


Homemade envelope from a Barwani newspaper of unknown date with a plain toned blank label pasted on the homemade envelope for the address and postal marks. This registered cover is franked with Barwani's Printing 5 four annas stamp, orange brown, cliché 2.

Printing 5 of the 4 annas Stamp

11 January 1931

Orange Brown, Perforation 7 Large Holes



Reused "On Barwani State Service" envelope (shortened) registered from Pansemal 11 January 1931, via Niwali 11 January 1931 to Barwani City 20 January 1931. Franked with Barwani's Printing 5 four annas stamp, dark orange brown, thin wove paper, perforation 7 large holes, cliché 1. In the upper left hand corner of the reused envelope, note the "No 111 of 1931", the envelope was reused almost immediately in 1931.

Last Large Hole Perforation 7 Issues

1928

¼ anna Blue and ½ anna Green

The quarter anna deep bright blue and half anna light yellow green of 1928 are Barwani's last issues to be perforated large hole gauge 7, the same perforation as Barwani's first issue over a decade prior to this issue. Both values are printed on an off white thick glazed wove paper, similar to the paper used for the first one and two annas printings. The quarter anna sheet still has the same cliché arrangement as the first quarter anna printing.

1	2
3	4



½ anna Light Yellow Green



¼ anna Deep Bright Blue

3	1
2	4

The half anna clichés are rearranged for the third time for the half anna value, most likely so that the four clichés could be used to print half anna post cards. A distinctive feature of this half anna printing is that the top two clichés, cliché 3 is in position 1 and cliché 1 is in position 2, show clearly the small rivet heads used to hold the clichés on the printing surface. Previous issues often showed indistinct rivet heads.

Printing 1, Sheets of 8 Tête-bêche
¼ anna Blue and ½ anna Green

November 1928

Starting in November 1928 Barwani made five separate printings of the quarter anna and four separate printings of the half anna (one printing of the half anna has not been seen by specialists yet, but the quarter anna printing exists and the quarter anna and half anna printings were done together) in sheets of eight stamps. The sheets below were printed with two separate impressions of the plates of four clichés. The quarter anna ultramarine cliché arrangement remained 1,2 / 3,4 but one plate impression was tête-bêche to the other. The half anna apple green clichés were rearranged 4,1 / 3,2, but the bottom row of stamps was positioned tête-bêche to the top row of two stamps. The reason for these unusual sheet arrangements is not known.

4	3	1	2
2	1	3	4



2	3	4	1
1	4	3	2

Both sheets are line perforated gauge 10.5, the lines of perforation are irregular and the holes are ragged. On the four subsequent issues of the quarter anna in sheets of eight and the two known (one printing has not been recorded yet) subsequent printings of the half anna in sheets of eight the perforations are gauge 10.9, with straight lines of perforations and clean cut holes.

Printing 1, Sheets of 8 Tête-bêche
 ½ anna Green, Shade Varieties

November 1928

2	3	4	1
1	4	3	2



Apple Green



Yellowish Green

2	3	4	1
1	4	3	2

The first printing of the half anna green in a sheet of eight with two impressions of the plate show two distinct colors, Apple Green and Yellowish Green. The half anna clichés were rearranged 4,1 / 3,2, but the bottom row of stamps was positioned tête-bêche to the top row of two stamps. Both sheets are line perforated gauge 10.5, the lines of perforation are irregular and the holes are ragged. On the two subsequent printings of the half anna in sheets of eight the perforations are gauge 10.9, with straight lines of perforations and clean cut holes.

Printing 2 and 3, Sheets of 8

Early 1929

$\frac{1}{4}$ anna Blue (Print 2) and $\frac{1}{2}$ anna Green (Print 3)

1	2	1	2
3	4	3	4



Imperforate Between



$\frac{1}{2}$ anna myrtle green on thick glazed paper, perf. 10.9, clichés 1 and 2 with cliché 2 showing seven rivet marks

1	2
3	4
1	2
3	4

Printing 2 of the quarter anna ultramarine and printing 3 (a horizontal sheet of eight, printing 2, of the half anna has yet to be seen by specialists) of the half anna myrtle green in sheets of eight took place soon after printing 1, probably in early 1929. For this issue and the subsequent Ranjit Singh issues up to October 1932, the perforation gauge is 10.9 with straight lines of perforation and clean cut holes. We do not know why the tête-bêche formats of printing 1 were abandoned or why there is no horizontal printing 2 setting of the half anna recorded. For the half anna the clichés were also rearranged again, this time to 2,3 / 4,1.

Printing 3, Sheets of 8
 $\frac{1}{4}$ anna Indigo and Dull Blue

1929



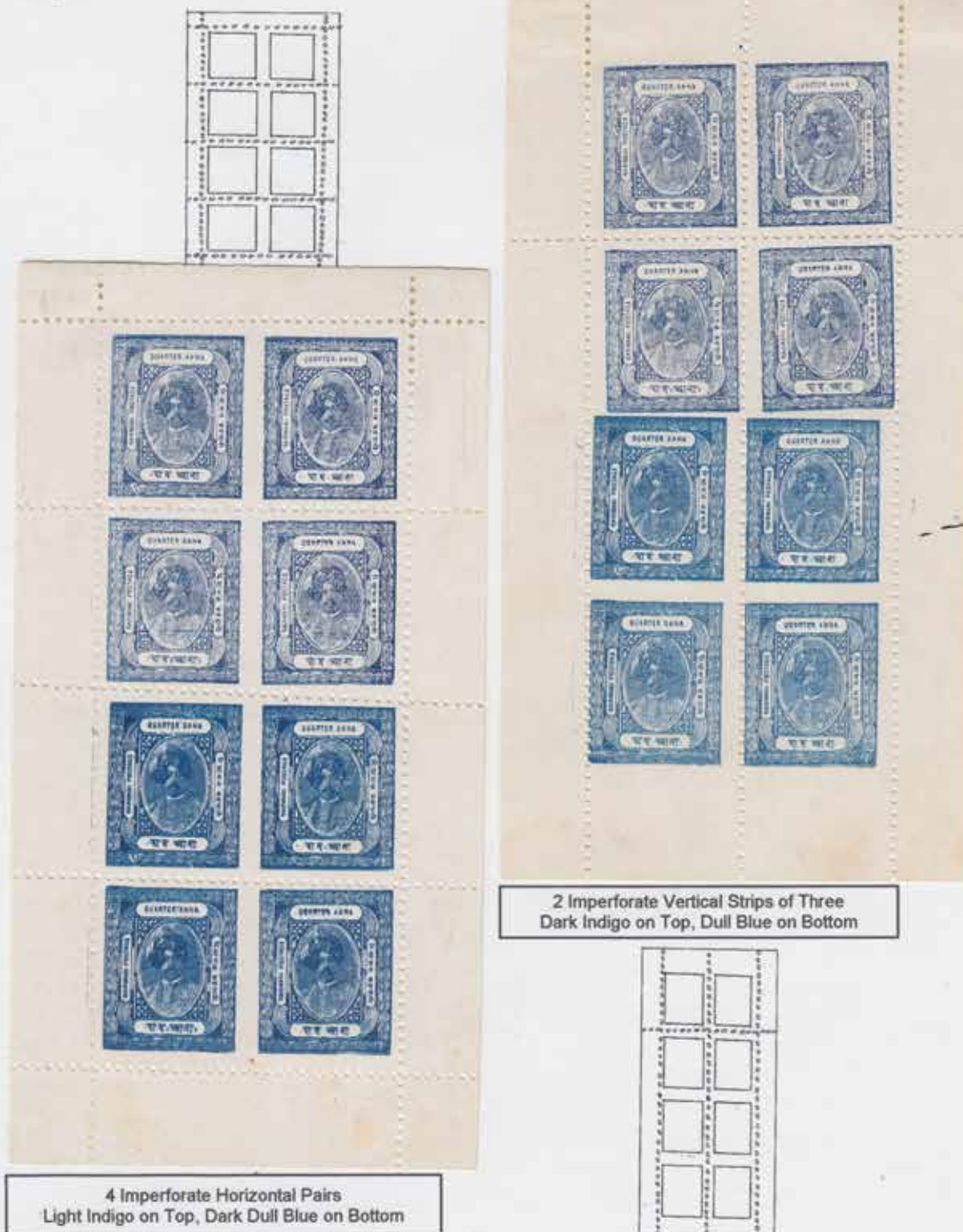
Light Indigo on Top, Dark Dull Blue on Bottom



Dark Indigo on Top, Dull Blue on Bottom

Printing 3 of the quarter anna clearly shows the effect of two impressions of the printing plate being used to make one sheet of stamps. The top impression is indigo and the bottom impression dull blue, two different colors. Often, as on this page, the top plate impression is either dark or light and the bottom plate impression the opposite. As happened for the half anna printing 3, the sheet format has switched to a vertical format. The perforation gauge remains 10.9 with straight lines of perforation and clean cut holes.

$\frac{1}{4}$ anna Indigo and Dull Blue



Printing 3 of the quarter anna clearly shows the effect of two impressions of the printing plate being used to make one sheet of stamps. The top impression is indigo and the bottom impression dull blue, two different colors. Often, as on this page, the top plate impression is either dark or light and the bottom plate impression the opposite. As happened for the half anna printing 3, the sheet format has switched to a vertical format. The perforation gauge remains 10.9 with straight lines of perforation and clean cut holes.

Printing 4, Sheets of 8
 ½ anna Turquoise Green

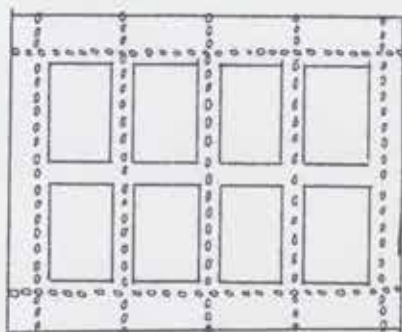
1929 - 1932

Scarce with two colors so prominent



4	2	4	2
3	1	3	1

Imperforate Between, Sheet with Four Vertical Pairs



4 Imperforate
 between vertical
 pairs



Printing 4 of the half anna, a turquoise green in sheets of eight is the last half anna printing in this format, although there are two more quarter anna printings in sheets of eight. In this half anna printing the format changes back to a horizontal format, two impressions of the plate were made to print a sheet. The paper is still an off white thick glazed wove and the perforation gauge remains 10.9.

Printing 4, ½ anna Turquoise Green

Late Usages

16 August 1937

7 December 1938

Posted at Palsud on 16 August 1937 paying the one anna letter rate with a pair of light turquoise green half anna stamps, printing 3. The cover was received at Mandwada the same day.



The Dark Turquoise Green shade is a scarce shade

Bottom cover pays the same rate with a pair of dark turquoise green (a scarce shade) half anna stamps, printing 3. This cover was posted at Pansemal on 7 December 1938 and also received at Mandwada the same day as posted.

Specialists believe printing 3 of the turquoise green half anna occurred in the 1929 to 1932 time period so the 1937 and 1938 usages on this page are relatively late usages.

Final Printing(s) of the ¼ anna in sheets of 8

1930 - 1932

¼ anna Dull Ultramarine

The final printing(s) of the quarter anna in horizontal sheets of eight stamps presents a controversy! Were there two printings or only one printing? Was the printing produced from a new plate of eight unique impressions.

The top sheet is a prime candidate for a fourth printing. MacGillcuddy in a 1978 *Collectors Club Philatelist* article concluded that the top sheet was made from two impressions of the four clichés (1,2/3,4) and the two impressions are always 4 mm apart at the top and 3 mm apart at the bottom, with the left impression 1 mm above the right, i.e. a new plate of eight produced the sheet. Others contend two impressions of the four Barwani clichés were used to print the sheet of eight like previous sheets of eight (or 12).



Top row, third stamp from right, example of flaws that are common



The bottom sheet is a prime candidate for a fifth printing not listed by MacGillcuddy in a 1978 *Collectors Club Philatelist* article. The set of flaws is substantially different from the sheet at the top of the page. As an example, the flaws around the head that appear in the third stamp in the top row can be confirmed by three additional sheets in the exhibitor's collection. Additionally the large flaw just touching the outside vignette at the 4:30 point is confirmed by a sheet and a single stamp.

Printing 3, 1 anna

1931

1 anna Rose Sheet Makeup and Cliché 2 flaw

This is the third printing of the one anna value and the first time this value was printed in a sheet of eight. The sheet is printed by making two impressions of the four cliché plate in two passes of the sheet through the press, thus the contrasting shades between the left and right halves of the sheet. Like the previous quarter and half anna values, the perforation is 10.9 made by a single line perforator with straight lines and clean cut holes.

1	2	1	2
3	4	3	4



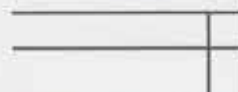
Cliché 2, 1922 Printing



Cliché 2, 1931 Printing



Cliché 2, March 1939 Printing



Cliché 2 of printing 3 of the one anna always shows a large jagged gash by the upper frame line close to the right corner. Only one example of this gash has been seen on cliché 2 of the first one anna vermilion of 1922; this was previously shown as the top stamp of an imperforate between vertical pair. The implication of this evidence is that this flaw developed very late in the printing of the first one anna stamp and is always present on printings 2 (shown in the reconstruction of the sheet) and 3. Unexplained, there is no evidence of this gash or any repair work in the the fourth and subsequent printings of the one anna Ranjit Singh stamp in various shades of brown.

Printing 3, 1 anna
Usages of Half Sheets

26 January 1933
22 July 1933

Left cover is a reused stampless cover, locally registered, and posted at Rajpur 26 January 1933. Franked at the four annas registered letter rate with a half sheet from the left side of the sheet of eight of the 1 anna light rose of 1931.



The cover on the right is also registered and franked with a half sheet of the 1931 one anna, dark rose, a very unusual shade and a double row of perforations, very unusual for Barwani. Posted at Pansemal on 22 July 1933 and received at Barwani City 23 July 1933. (RPSL 115240 29 October 1980 lists the stamp as SG 11, the SG 2004 catalog number is SG 30)