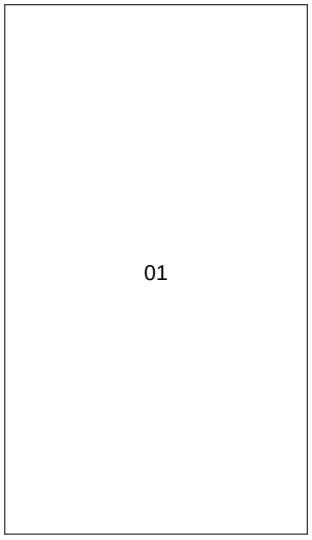
INDIA-2020

Indian Fashion-Designer's Creations: Series 4

Fashion design is a form of art dedicated to the creation of clothing and other lifestyle accessories through the application of design aesthetics. Fashion designers attempt to design clothes that are functional as well as aesthetically appealing for their clientele. Some garments are made specifically for an individual as in case of "haute couture" or bespoke tailoring.
Haute couture is high-end fashion that is constructed by hand from start to finish, made from high-quality, expensive, often unusual fabric and sewn with extreme attention to detail and finished by the most experienced and capable sewers often using time consuming, hand-executed techniques.

Indian fashion designers have made a mark for themselves on account of their sartorial prowess and creative abilities.

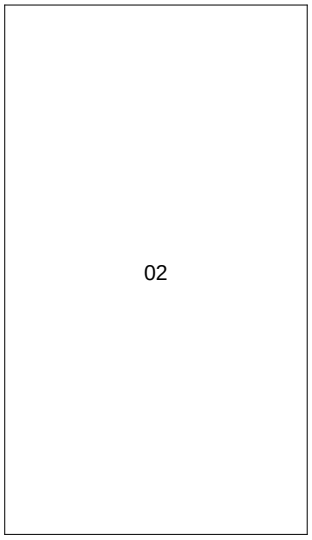
This set of nine stamps issued on 14-Jan 2020, showcases their unique creations.



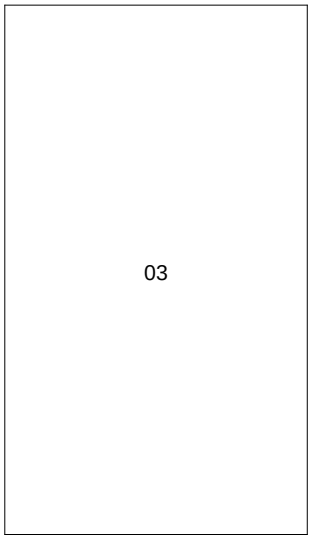
Indica Emporia

lndica Emporia: It is created using hand woven silks to optimum effect. The art of the cotton growers & silk cultivators, dyers and weavers are the real stars of lndica Emporia. Created by Wendell Rodricks, an Indian fashion designer and author based in Goa. In 2014, the Government of India conferred upon him, the Padma Shri

Flared Sherwani: It is a unique meld, using the finest fabrics as a canvas, which comes alive with exquisite embroideries and intricate embellishments. Created by Abu Jani & Sandeep Khosla, the duo is best known for their ability to infuse Indian craftsmanship and textile heritage with European tailored silhouette.



Flared Sherwani

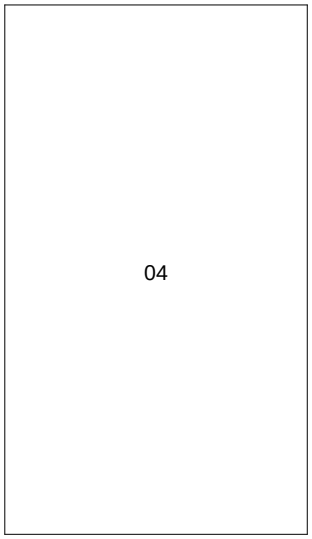


Timeless

Timeless: It is a collection with timeless Chikankari weaving with ivory floral pattern married to the drama of embellishments exhibits a kind interpretation of legacy with vogue gracefulness. Created by Manish Malhotra, a former Indian model turned costume designer and stylist. He was awarded Filmfare awards for best costume designing for various Indian Films.

INDIA-2020

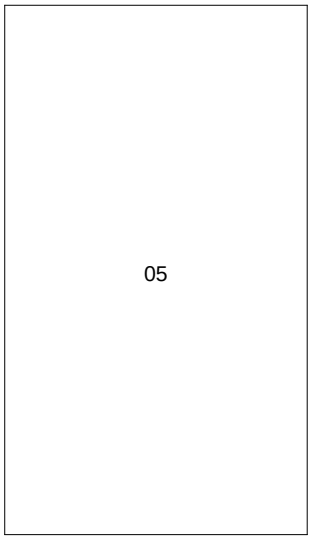
Indian Fashion-Designer's Creations: Series 4



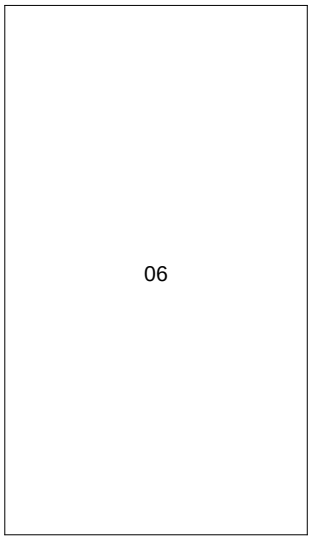
Mystical Indian

Mystical Indian: The Hand-embroidered Peacock Lehenga in the design is inspired by German biologist and artist Erst Hankel's work Kunstformen der Natur (art forms of nature, 1899). Created by Rahul Mishra, an Indian fashion designer who won, the International Woolmark Prize in 2014 at Milan Fashion Week, becoming the first Indian designer to win the award.

Embellishment: This collection is known for sharply refined and deceptively simple sense of aesthetics. Signature lines are characterized by extreme simplicity, flawless Iines, immaculate cuts and a perfect finish. Created by Ashish Soni, a pioneer in Indian fashion. In 1993, he became the first Indian designer to hold a solo showing in Delhi, he was also the first designer to be invited to hold a runway show at Olympus fashion week, new York.



Embellishment

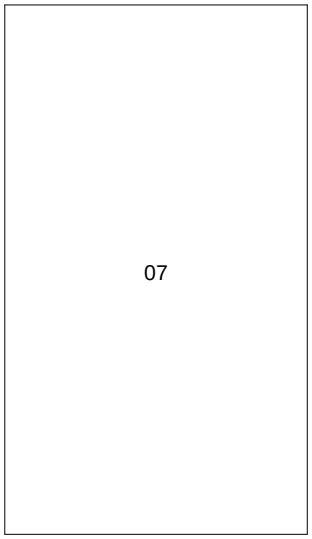


Varanasi Weaves

Varanasi Weaves: The designer showcased beauty of motifs like Badami, Kyari, Shikargah and floral butts, the glittering gold and silver royal textiles. Padma Shri awardee Ritu Kumar took India's rich textiles and handlooms a notch higher in Varanasi weaves. Ritu Kumar's initiative to revive the handloom weaving in Banaras city is appreciated by all.

INDIA-2020

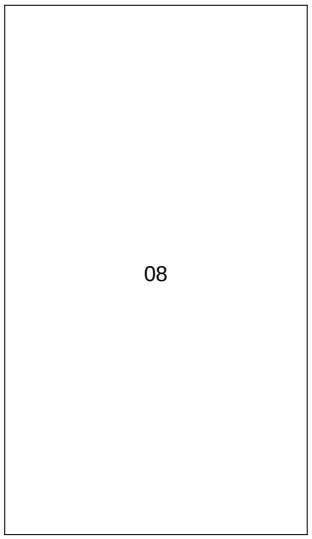
Indian Fashion-Designer's Creations: Series 4



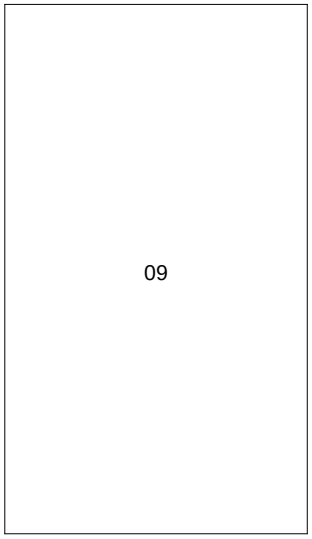
Ambika Jacket

Ambika Jacket: Ambika Jacket is a sustainable and eco-conscious pret label paying tribute to the handcrafted traditions of India. Created by Anita Dongre, an Indian fashion designer and founder of "House of Anita Dongre", an Indian fashion house.

Classic Jalabiya: lt has Persian zardozi and threadwork, depicting images of wildlife, birds and flowers. Created by Rohit Bal, a fashion designer from New Delhi. He was awarded with IFA Designer of the Year in 2001 and 2004.



Classic Jalabiya



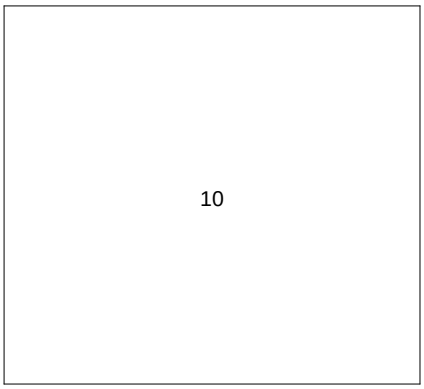
Vastra

Vastra: Vastra is made using "Khadi" a handmade fabric, espoused by Mahatma Gandhi. Created by Ritu Beri, a designer and an advisor to Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) Ritu Beri was awarded the Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres (Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters) by the French government in 2010.

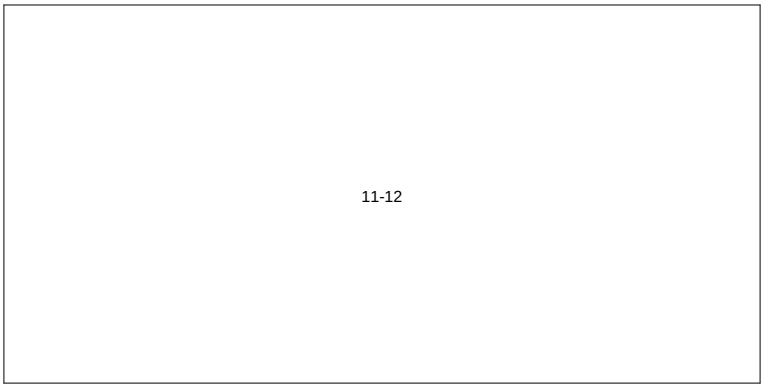
INDIA-2020

22-Jan-2020

ILO Century



The International Labour Organization (ILO) was established in 1919. The main aims of the ILO are to promote rights at work, encourage decent employment opportunities, enhance social protection and strengthen dialogue on work-related issues.
India is a founder member of the ILO and has a rich legacy of upholding the lLO's objectives and spirit.The ILO has completed 100 years of its existence that also marks India's association with the ILO for 100 years.



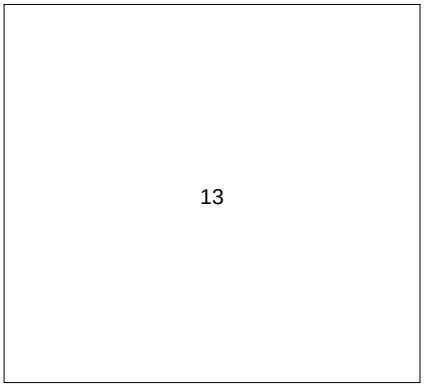
26-Jan-2020

Constitution of India

Constituent Assembly of India adopted the Constitution of India, which came into effect from 26th January, 1950.
The Constitution of India was handwritten and entirely handcrafted by the artists. The pair of se-tenant stamps in the present issue feature the border from the Preamble of the Constitution.
The Constitution of India is the foundational law which lays the basic political structure of our country.

12-Feb-2020

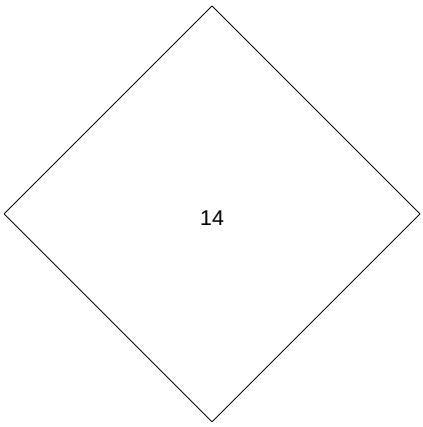
The Rajputana Rifles



The Rajputana Rifles is one of the oldest infantry battalions of the Indian Army. The Battalion was raised on 26 May, 1820 and completes 200 years of its raising, a rare milestone for the reason that ever since its raising, the Battalion has never been disbanded or discontinued.
The enviable award tally of the Battalion includes two Victoria Crosses, the highest gallantry award of the United Kingdom. The Battalion also won 23 Battle/Theatre honours during the pre-independence era.

17-Feb-2020

Industrial City: Jamshedpur

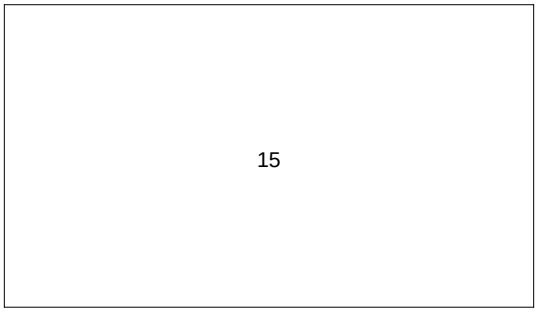


Jamshedpur completes 100 years and it continues to be recognized as the place where India's first steel plant was set up. The founder, Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata, dreamt of an industrialised and prosperous India. Spread over 64 sq km, the city lies on the southern edge of Jharkhand bordered by Odisha and West Bengal.
With an estimated one-third of the city area under green cover, Jamshedpur is a truly Green City.

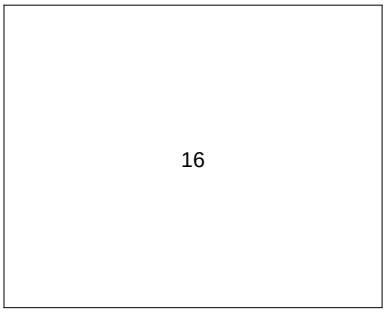
UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India II

UNESCO World Heritage Convention which was established in 1972 to recognize various sites of cultural and natural importance around the world. After the latest addition to the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites, India now has 38 World Heritage Sites and that makes India the country with the 6th largest number of World Heritage Sites in the world.

This set of five stamps issued on 16-March 2020, showcases india's natural heritage sites.

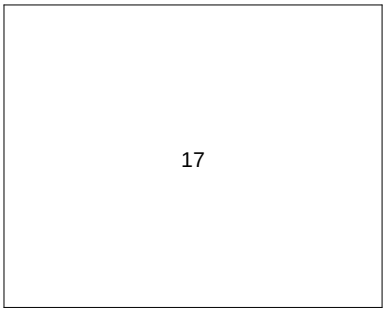


Nanda Devi and Valley of flowers National Park



Nanda Devi and Valley of flowers National Park

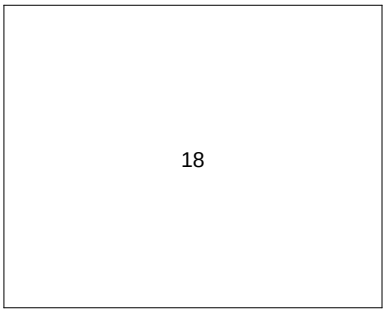
The Nanda Devi National Park, established in 1982 is a national park situated around the peak of Nanda Devi in the state of Uttarakhand in northern India. The gentle landscape of the Valley of Flowers National Park compliments the rugged mountain wilderness of Nanda Devi National Park. Together they encompass a transition zone between the mountain ranges of the Zanskar and Great Himalaya. The National Park was inscribed a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1988.



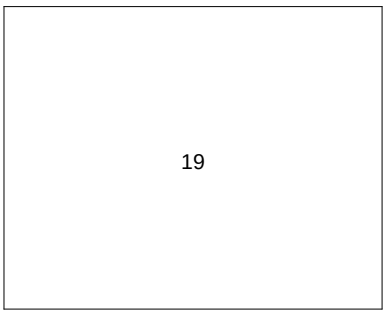
Manas Wildlife Sanctuary

On a gentle slope in the foothills of the Himalayas where wooded hills give way to alluvial grasslands and tropical forests, lies the Manas Wildlife Sanctuary. The sanctuary was designated a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1985. Manas Wildlife Sanctuary is home to rare and endangered wildlife species such as Pygmy Hog, Golden Langur, Hispid Hare and the Assam Roofed Turtle.

Located in the state of Himachal Pradesh, the Great Himalayan National Park is one of India's prominent national parks. The National Park was established in 1984 and is spread over an area of 1,171 sq km at an altitude between 1,500 and 6,000 m. In June 2014, the Great Himalayan National Park was added to the UNESCO World Heritage Sites.The National Park protects over 800 plant species, 31 mammal species and 209 bird species.



Great Himalayan National Park



The Western Ghats

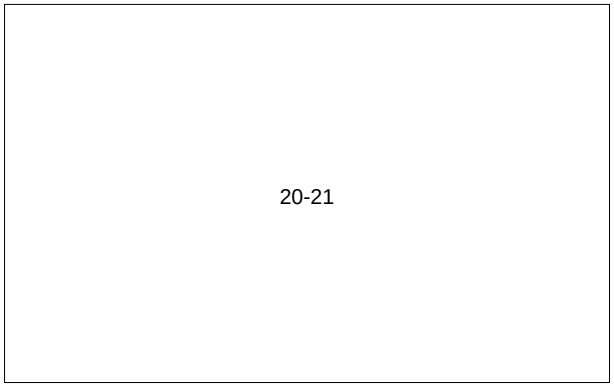
The Western Ghats, also known as Sahyadri (Benevolent Mountains), are a massive mountain range that covers an area of 1,40,000 square kilometers parallel to the western coast of the Indian peninsula, traversing the states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra and Gujarat. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is one of the eight "hottest hot-spots" of biological diversity in the world, According to UNESCO; the Western Ghats are older than the Himalayas.

INDIA-2020

Musical Instruments of Wandering Minstrels

India boasts of an ancient and rich musical tradition. Music combines vocal or instrumental sounds for emotional expression. Musical instruments represent music in a tangible form.Wandering minstrels are performers who travel from place to place performing musical acts. They have been an integral part of musical traditions of India.The charm of wandering minstrels lies in their songs and music.These wandering minstrels singing and playing on roads and streets in villages and towns at festive occasions, private as well as public, have always been a common sight in India. The soothing effect of the songs of wandering minstrels and the music mingled with their emotions and thoughts complement the force of love and goodwill directed towards the people. Beyond their functional utility, musical instruments used by wandering minstrels are aesthetically pleasing and capture the local cultural elements of various regions of India.

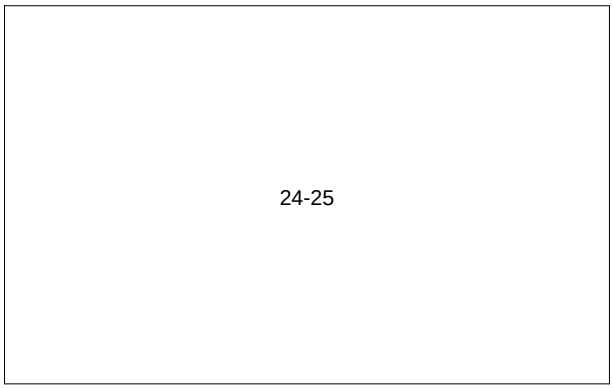
This set of six pairs of cetenant stamps issued on 25-June 2020, showcases these unique musical instruments of wandering minstrels



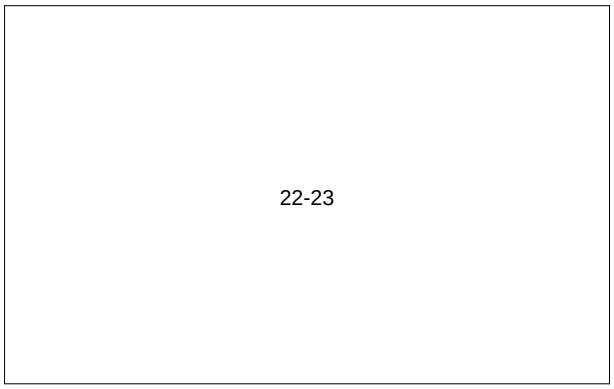
Kamaicha

Kamaicha belonging to the chordophone category is a bowed instrument with a big bowl shaped skin covered resonator, a rectangular finger board and a round peg box. Three main gut strings and eight drone steel strings are attached to a metal hook, passed over the bridge and tied to the pegs. It is played with a bow made of Shisham wood and horse hair. lt is used by the Manganiar community of West Rajasthan as a popular accompaniment to their songs.

Ravanahatha, also of the chordophone category, comprises a resonator made of coconut shell and a long bamboo finger board fixed to it. The main playing string is made of horse hair whereas another playing string and 16 sympathetic strings are made of steel. lt is played with a bow made of curved wooden stick and horse hair. It is used for vocal accompaniment by Bhopas of Rajasthan in a traditional narrative form called Pabuji Ki Phad.

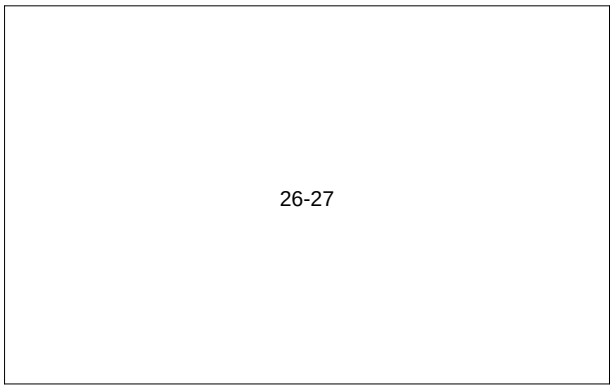


Ravanahatha



Surando

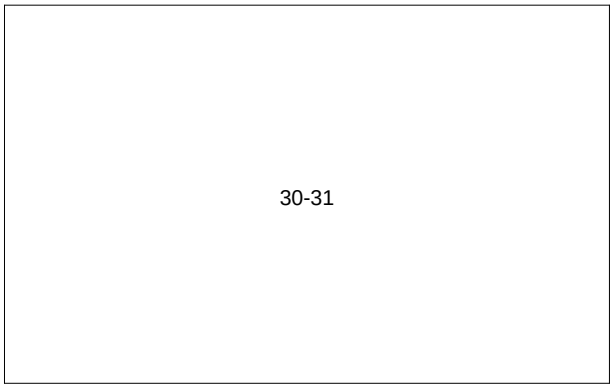
Surando is an ancient folk musical instrument of the chordophone category traditionally used by the Fakirani Jat community of Kutch. It is a stringed musical instrument played with the use of a bow called Gaz or Gazi in the local dialect. The body of the instrument is preferably made of a single piece of lahirro wood to create the most precise shape and perfect melody. The bow comprises strings of horse's hair or gut fastened to each of a flexible stick. The bow is placed on the strings at right angles to it and is moved back and forth across it.



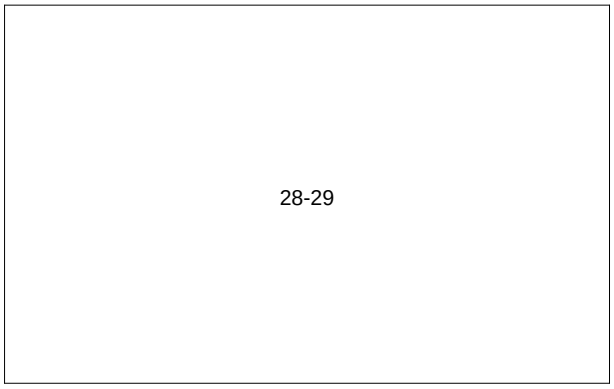
Algoza

Algoza belonging to the aerophone category, comprises a set of two equal sized bamboo, beaked flutes with five finger holes and a fipple hole on each flute. Both the flutes are blown simultaneously by the player. lt is used by the Meo community of Alwar, Rajasthan as an accompaniment to their folk and tribal songs.

Burrakatha is an oral storytelling technique in the Jangam Katha tradition, performed in villages of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Burrakatha Dakki is a pitcher shaped brass vessel with a short neck and a round belly. It belongs to the membranophone category. The wider end is covered with skin with the help of a cotton cord through hoops and an iron ring. It is suspended from the neck and played by palms by Burrakatha balladeers.



Burrakatha Dakki



Ektara

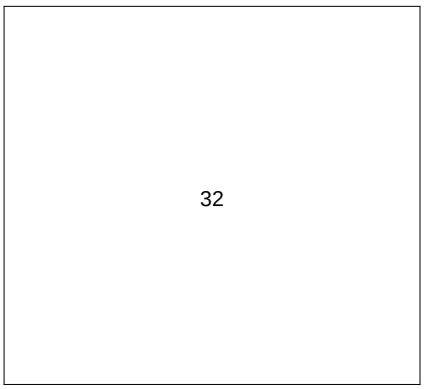
Ektara comprises a cylindrical wooden resonator with base covered with skin, attached to a split bamboo and a single steel string plucked rhythmically by the index finger. It belongs to the chordophone category. The split bamboo is manipulated to produce variations in tone. lt is a common instrument in Baul music from Bengal and used by Bauls and mendicants of Odisha and neighboring regions as a drone instrument.

INDIA-2020

Terracotta Temples of India

Terracotta or baked clay has been in constant use from pre - historic times and is considered among the oldest building materials. The absence of stone or any other building material did not prove to be a deterrent to the architects and artisans of those times. Rather, they baked tales in clay tiles, narrating episodes from mythology and life, breathing life into bricks to give rise to a new form of temple architecture.

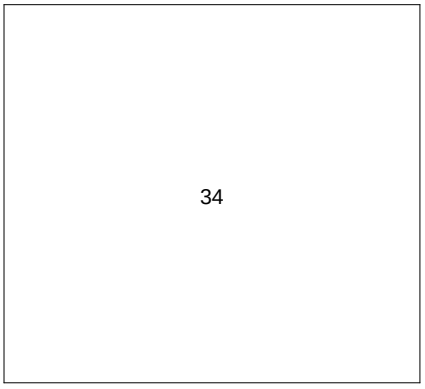
This set of seven stamps issued on 08-Aug 2020, showcases unique Terracotta Temples of India



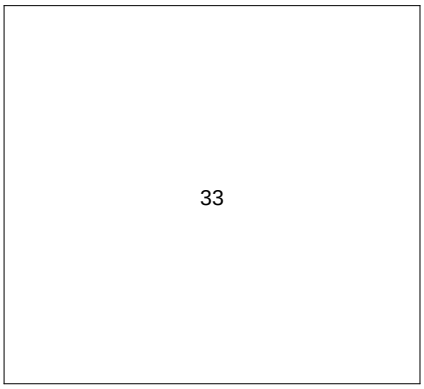
Indralath Temple

Indralath Temple, Ranipur Jharial is one of the tallest ancient brick temples. Height of this temple is 80 feet including the platform that is made of sandstone. The innermost sanctum of this temple houses a recently installed Linga. Besides, it has also the images of Lord Vishnu, Kartikeya and Uma-Maheshwara. This temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva and it is believed that Indra first worshipped Lord Shiva here and erected a temple.

Madan Mohan Temple, Bishnupur was built by Malla king Durjan Singha in 1694 AD. It is a relatively bigger Eka-Ratna temple compared to other similar temples in Bishnupur. The temple has a square base of 12.2 m X 12.2 m and a height of 10.7 m above a moderate platform. The roof of the temple is typical Bengali ‘chala' type surmounted by a single 'sikhara' or tower. The temple is mainly built of earthen bricks on a laterite block platform and the frontal facade of the temple is profusely decorated with rich terracotta plaques depicting epic and Puranic episodes and Krishna Leela.

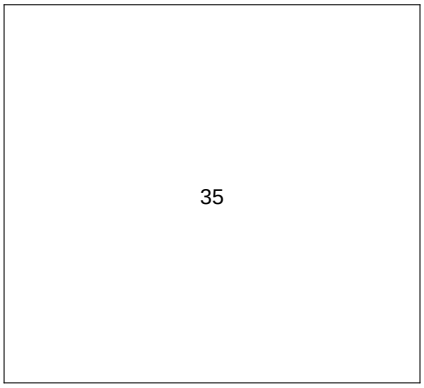


Madan Mohan Temple



Jor Bangla Temple

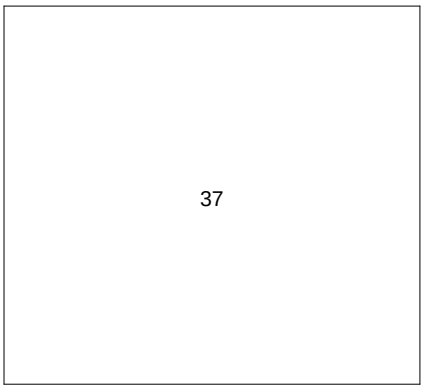
Jor Bangla Temple, Bishnupur, also known as Kesta Rai Temple was built by Malla King Raghunath Singha in 1655 AD. The structure resembles two traditional 'do-chala' village huts put together. The curved roof of this pair of huts is surmounted by a 'char-chalasikhara'. The base of the temple is a square of size 11.8 m X 11.48 m. and the height above the platform is 10.7 m. The walls are decorated mostly with terracotta panels describing scenes from the epics, Krishna Leela, hunting scenes and various other depictions of contemporary social life.



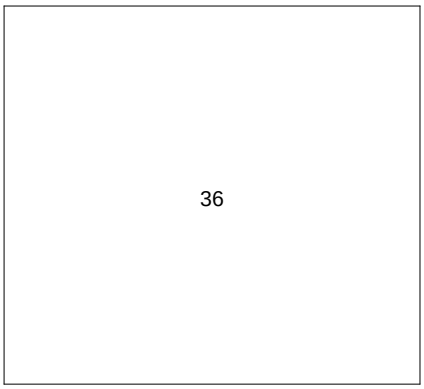
Lalji Temple

Lalji Temple, Kalna is perhaps the oldest amongst the group of terracotta temples at Kalna, West Bengal. It was built in 1739 AD by Braja Kishori Devi, wife of Maharaja Jagat Ram, inside the temple premises, a bright yellow Garuda faces the main idols of Radha and Krishna. Miniature panels which surround the base of the temple, depict scenes from the Puranas. A striking feature of this temple is the 25 peaks on the roof.

Nebiya Khera Temple, Bhadwara (9th-10th century AD) is built in panchayatana style with a central shrine and four subsidiary shrines. The central shrine is a fine example of Latina shikhara of Nagar temple style. A Shivalinga is placed inside the sanctum. There is a panel on the inner west wall of the sanctum. It appears that one image could be of Kartikeya and another might be of Veerbhadra. The four subsidiary shrines are similar in style and construction, all are without roof and the entrance is triangular in shape..



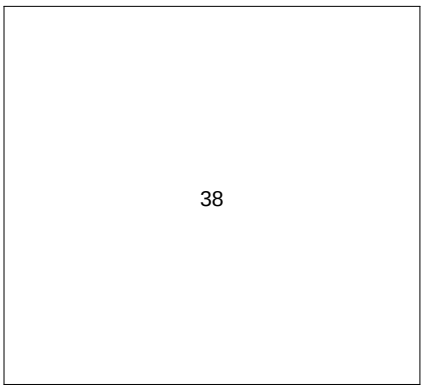
Nebiya Khera Temple



Lakshman Temple

Lakshman Temple, Sirpur, is a 7th century AD brick temple dedicated to Lord Vishnu. The intricate carvings on the exterior of the temple make it special. Above the sanctum door's lintel are carvings showing a reclining Vishnu on Sesha (Anantasayana Vishnu) and a panel on Krishna from Bhagavata Purana.The temple stands on a stone jagati platform (about 40'x80') with wide enough space for circumambulation. The temple itself is built of brick except for the carved frame around the garbha-griha (sanctum) made of stone.

Shyam Rai Temple, Bishnupur was built by King Raghunatha Singha In 1643 AD. The temple stands on a low square plinth with a char chala roof surmounted by ratnas or gems at each comer. While the towers in the corners are square-shaped, the central tower is octagonal in shape and they rest on a sloping roof. Its exterior and interior walls and ceiling are emblazoned with terracotta sculptures portraying Krishna Leela, episodes from the Ramayana and Mahabharata, and the socio-economic and political life of the people of the times.



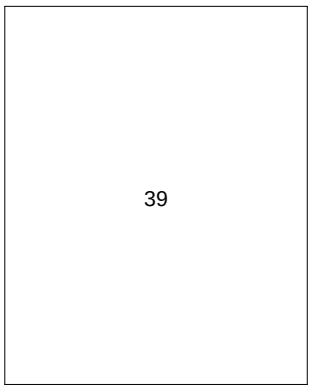
Shyam Rai Temple

INDIA-2020

UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India III

There are 38 World Heritage Sites located in India. These include 30 Cultural sites, 7 Natural sites and 1 Mixed site. Department of posts conducted a nationwide Photography contest for Stamp Design, on the theme UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India (Cultural). The stamps have been designed based on the photographs of the prize-winning entries.

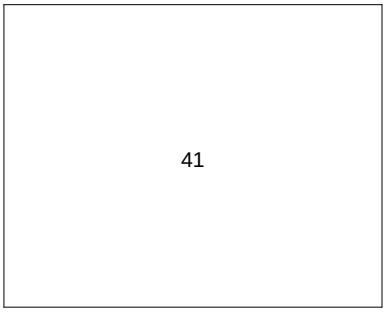
This set of five stamps issued on 15-August 2020, showcases india's cultural heritage sites.



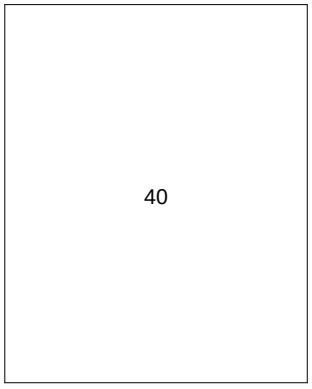
Group of Monuments at Pattadakal

Group of Monuments at Pattadakal is a complex of 7th and 8th century AD Hindu and Jain temples in northern Karnataka. The Hindu temples are generally dedicated to Shiva, but elements of Vaishnavism and Shaktism theology and legends are also featured. The friezes in the Hindu temples display various Vedic and Puranic concepts, depict stories from the Ramayana, the Mahabharata. The Jain temple is only dedicated to a single Jina. A number of inscriptions in the old Kannada language have been found at the complex.

The Church of Bom Jesus is a Roman Catholic basilica located in Goa, and is part of the Churches and Convents of Goa UNESCO World Heritage Site. The basilica holds the mortal remains of St. Francis Xavier. "Bom Jesus" (literally, 'Good (or Holy) Jesus') is the name used for the Ecce Homo in the countries of Portuguese colonization. The church was consecrated in May 1605 by the archbishop, Dom Fr. Aleixo de Menezes. This is one of the oldest churches in Goa and in India.

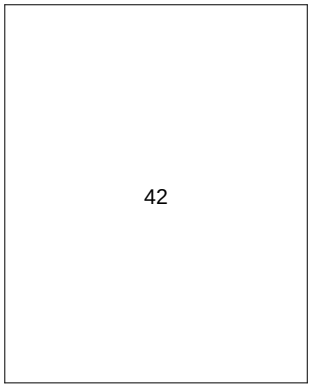


Church of Bom Jesus



Khajuraho Group of Monuments

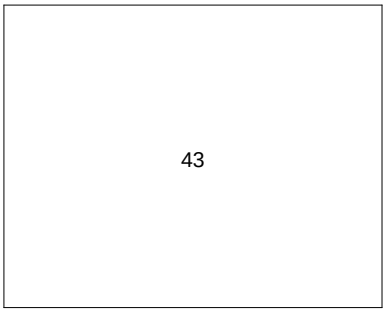
Located in Madhya Pradesh, Khajuraho Group of Monuments is a famous UINESCO World Heritage site renowned for a group of Hindu and Jain temples, well known for their Negara style symbolism. The Javari temple is one of the most prominent of all of these temples in Khajuraho complex. The temple is dedicated to the Hindu deity Vishnu. It has well-proportioned architecture, with a sanctum, vestibule, mandapa and portico. The entrance gate of sanctum has sculptures depicting nava-graha on the top.



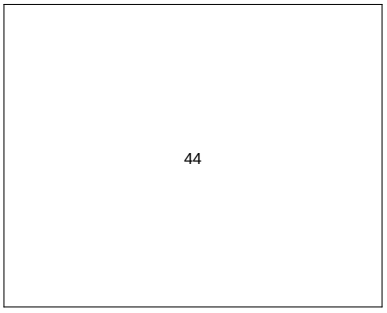
Qutb Minar and its Monuments

The Qutb Minar, is a victory tower that forms part of the Qutb Minar and its Monuments, Delhi, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Qutubuddin Aibak, at that time a deputy of Muhammad of Ghor, but after his death, founder of the Delhi Sultanate, started construction of the Qutb Minar's first storey in 1199. It has a height of 72.5 meters, making it the tallest minaret built of bricks in the world. The surface is elaborately decorated with inscriptions and geometric patterns. The tower has five superposed storeys. The whole tower contains a spiral staircase of 379 steps.

One of the prominent landmarks of the Historic city of Ahmedabad a UNESCO World Heritage site, the Sarkhej Roza is known for its rich history and reverence. The Sarkhej Roza fused both non-Indian and Indian principles of architecture. In its architecture, Sarkhej Roza is an example of the early Islamic architectural culture of the region, which fused Islamic stylistic influence from Persia with Indian Hindu and Jain features to form a composite Indo-Saracenic architectural style.



Historic city of Ahmedabad-Sarkhej Roza



23-Oct-2020

75 years of United Nations

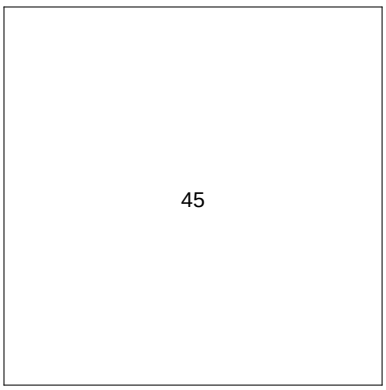
The words Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam, "The whole world is a family", have often reverberated in the hall of the United Nations. As an active member of the United Nations, India has made significant contributions to implementing the goals of the UN Charter in peace building and peacekeeping, sustainable development, poverty eradication, environment, climate change, terrorism, disarmament, human rights, health and pandemics, migration, cybersecurity, space and frontier technologies like Artificial intelligence and reforms of the United Nations.

INDIA-2020

150th Anniversary of the Birth of Mahatma Gandhi

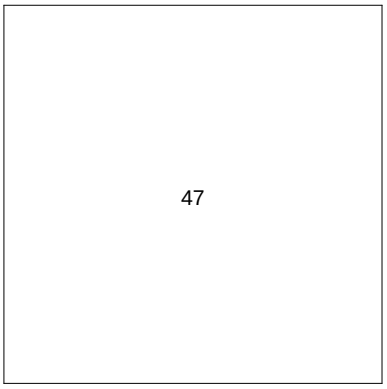
Mahatma Gandhi, popularly known as Bapu, is considered the father of the nation and is a well-known name internationally for his doctrine of nonviolent protest (satyagraha). Bapu's lessons are relevant in every policy of the country such as Swachh Bharat, rights of women and children and of civil liberties of small and disadvantaged groups, health and well- being of the Indian farmer and the Indian villages.

To commemorate 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, a set of four stamps was issued on 02-Oct-2020.



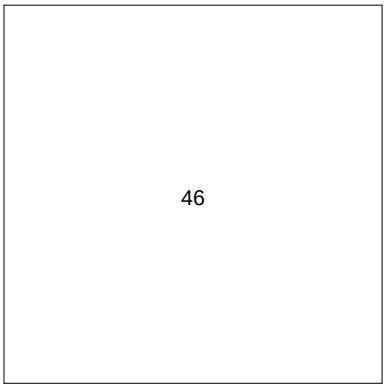
Health and Nature Cure

Bapu's contribution to the system of nature cure in India is immense. He was a fervent practitioner of naturopathy all through his life. Bapu founded the All India Nature Cure Foundation Trust in 1945. He believed that nature cure means a change for the better in one's outlook on life itself and regulation of one's life in accordance with the laws of health.



Ecology and Environment

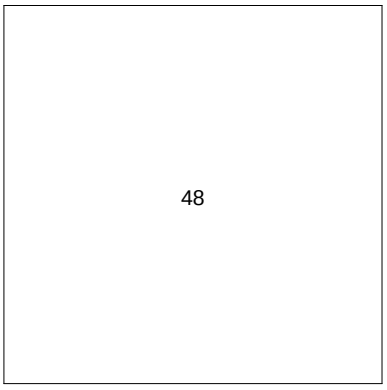
"The Earth has enough resources for our need but not for our greed." Bapu's concern for maintaining ecological balance and environment is perhaps best captured in the preceding quote. His concern about the environment and ecological impact of urbanization was evident in his speeches and writings.



Self Reliance

The idea of Atma-nirbharta or self-reliance has its origins in Bapu's concept of a self-reliant India, the foundation of his Swadeshi philosophy. Bapu emphasized the idea of self-sufficient village economy. He opined that all goods and services necessary for residents of a village should be available within the village. Bapu stressed on nurturing rural industries including handlooms and handicrafts.

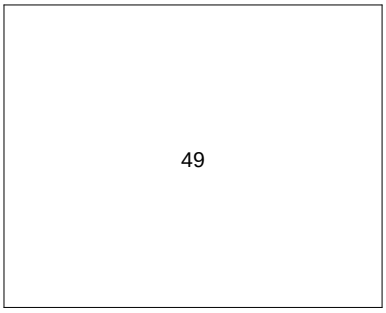
Bapu was convinced that education can play an effective role in developing a wholesome human personality and build a social order wherein man can live in peace and harmony with others. He concentrated on an education that could draw out the best in the child-body, mind and spirit-for developing a peace loving human personality. Bapu believed that education is closely associated with the socio-economic development of the society. He advocated a scheme for basic education in which vocational training or work experience is of utmost importance.



Experiments in Education

04-Dec-2020

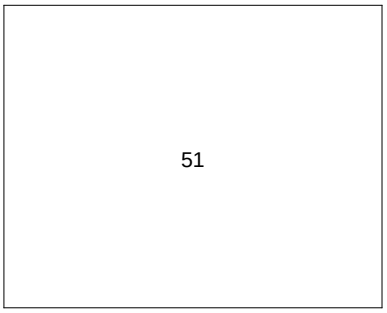
I K Gujaral



Inder Kumar Gujral was the 12th Prime Minister of India, before that he served as a Minister in various Ministries viz. Communications, Parliamentary Affairs, Information & Broadcasting, Works & Housing and Planning during the period 1967-1976. From 1976 to 1980 he was the Ambassador of India to U.S.S.R. He has been a writer and authored the book 'Matters of Discretion: An Autobiography' which was published in the year 2011.

17-Dec-2020

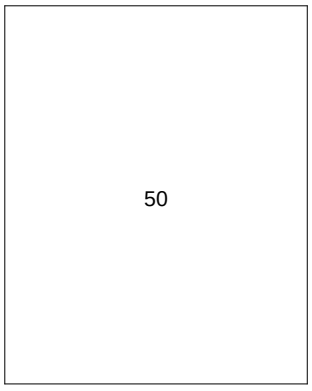
Sheikh Mujibur Rahman



Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's life and legacy are synonymous with the history of Bangladesh's Liberation. Born in Tungipara in Gopalganj district of Bangladesh, he became one of the most towering political figures of the 20th century. A student of lslamia College (now Maulana Azad College) in Kolkata, as the leader of independent Bangladesh, Bangabandhu went on to promote close and friendly relations between India and Bangladesh. He called the people of India the best friends of the people of Bangladesh.

27-Dec-2020

Manikchandra Vajpayee



Manikchandra Vajpayee (Mamaji) was born on October 7, 1919 in Bateshwar, district Agra (Uttar Pradesh). He completed his education from Morar, Gwalior.He was a pioneer in establishment of a college in Adokhar (Bhind) and convener for Central India of Swadeshi Jag ran Manch. He was an eloquent writer. His articles and editorials are still relevant. He covered historical events in great detail in books such as 'Aapatkalin Sangharsh Gatha', 'Pratham Agni Pariksha', 'Bharatiya Nari Swami Vivekanand Kee Drishti Men', Kashmir Ka Kadva Sach', 'Jyotijala Nij Pran Ki' and 'Madhya Bharat Kee Sangh Gatha'.

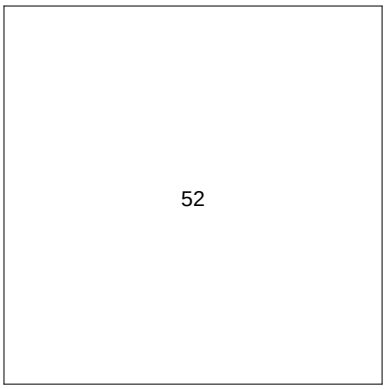
INDIA-2020

Salute to COVID-19 WARRIORS

The World Health Organization (WHO) declared a 'Public Health Emergency of International Concern' on 30 January 2020. It announced "COVID- 19" as the name of this new disease and subsequently declared it as a pandemic (a pandemic is the worldwide spread of a new disease) on 11 March 2020.

COVID- 19 warriors, viz. doctors, nurses and health professionals, Police, sanitation workers, Post office and Bank employees and other Government officials involved in providing essential services are leading from the front in serving the people during these trying times.

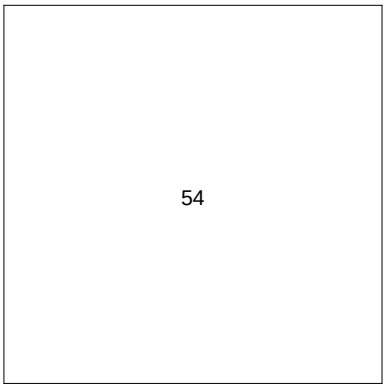
To pay tribute to these COVID-19 Warriors, a set of four stamps was issued on 24-Dec-2020.



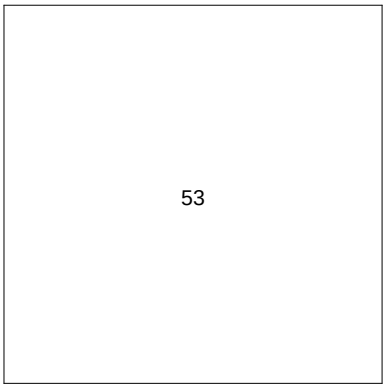
Doctors and Nurses

Health professionals including doctors and nurses are at the front line of the COVID-19 outbreak response and engaged in a gamut of activities ranging from prevention and diagnosis to treatment and supportive care. They are exposed to hazards that put them at the risk of infection.However, battling all odds, health professionals across India have been rendering stellar service in the battle against COVID-19.

An estimated five million sanitation workers in the country put their lives at risk every day and play a critical role in preventing the spread of COVID- I9 by ensuring our streets,communities and public spaces are kept clean and hygienic. Police and law enforcement officials play a crucial role in contributing to the effort to control the spread of COVID- 19 disease by enforcing social distancing and the strict implementation of the lockdown



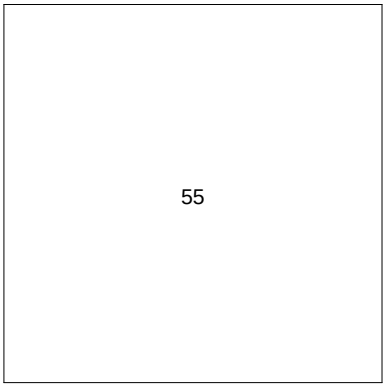
Police and Sanitation workers



Mission Transportation

The Vande Bharat Mission, Operation Samudra Setu and Indian Railway's several "Shramik Special" trains,ensured that Indians located any where in the world or any part of India could safely return to their home town during pandemic.

Department of Posts operates the world's largest postal service and relying upon its robust and extensive network, has been delivering everything from life saving drugs to Covid- l9 test kits, to N95 masks, ventilators and other medical equipment. It facilitated more than 13 crore transactions worth Rs. 2.59 Lakh crore in Postal Savings Bank accounts and 1.63 crore Aadhar Enabled Payments System (AEPS) transactions worth RS. 3,249 crore.



India Post and Banks