

AZAD HIND

FREE INDIA

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The Stamps

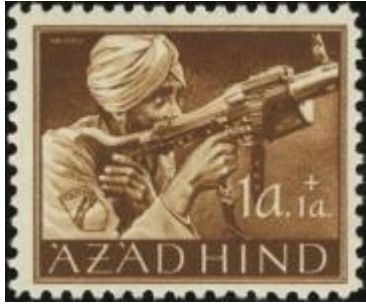
- Six designs produced in 1943 in Nazi Germany
- Total of 21 stamps, perforate & imperforate
- Stamps were conceptualized by Chandra Bose and designed by Werner and Maria von Axster-Heudtlass
- Were intended for use by the Indian National Army and the provisional government of Azad Hind.

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The Stamps

- Printed in photogravure in sheets of 100 by the Government Printing Bureau in Berlin
- One million of the lower values were printed
- Half a million of the higher values were printed
- Only 13,500 of the 1 + 2 Rupee value multicolor stamps were printed.

The Stamps



Mi I A



Mi II A



Mi III A



Mi IV A



Mi V A



Mi VI A



Mi VIII A



Mi IX A



Mi X A

AZAD HIND The Stamps



Mi VII a

Mi VII

Mi VII b

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History

- Provisional Government of Free India.
- Declared 21 October, 1943 in Singapore
- Supported by Japan and Germany
- Purpose was to free India from British rule
- It was the inspiration of Subhas Chandra Bose
- Considered itself a government in exile
- Was given 2 islands off east coast of Indochina

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History

- Declared war on the Allies
- The Indian National Army (INA) had 30,000 troops and were armed and supplied by Japan.
- Most of the troops were recruited from Indians living in Southeast Asia and British Indian Army troops that had been captured.
- INA forces fought the British army and the British Indian Army under command of the Japanese fifteenth army.
- Initially successful but was defeated due to superior Allied air power.

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History

- The Indian National Army surrendered when British forces captured Rangoon Singapore on 18 August 1945.
- 300 INA officers were returned to India to face treason charges.
- Unrest in the British Indian Army and populace created a rift between British and Indian forces.
- Sentences were commuted and troops were cashiered without pay.

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Subhas Chandras Bose

- Born in Bengal province on 23 January 1897
- Died in plane crash on 18 August 1945
- 1920's and 1930's leader of the radical wing of the Indian National Congress
- Became Congress President in 1938 and 1939
- Ousted in 1939 due to disagreement with Gandhi
- Placed under house arrest by the British

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Subhas Chandras Bose

- Escaped in 1940. Arrived in Germany in 1941.
- Set up a Free India Centre and Free India Radio in Berlin with German help.
- 3000 Indian troops captured by Rommel in North Africa were formed into the Free India Legion.
- Left Germany by submarine in Feb 1943, transferred to Japanese submarine at Madagascar and landed in Sumatra in May 1943

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Subhas Chandras Bose

- Worked with the Japanese to create the INA and the provisional government.
- Choosing not to surrender at the end of the war, he attempted to flee to Manchuria and work with the Soviet Union to free India.
- He died when his plane crashed in Taiwan
- Today he is considered to be a hero in India

AZAD HIND Commemorative Issues



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