

The Philatelic Face of the 10th Anniversary of the Republic *in memory of the late Salih Kuyaş**

by Mehmet Akan

We held and recorded a series of interviews with Mr. Timur Kuran at his philately store in Atlas Passage in İstanbul, about Salih Kuyaş (1923–2005), who made a significant contribution to the improvement of Turkish philately through his collections of great variety in 2002.

During this question and answer sessions he said; “Look, what I will show you!” and took out an album. In the album there were the stamps of the 10th Anniversary of the Republic and their use. Salih Bey cued up in the line before the Beyoğlu Post Office and purchased these stamps, when he was 10 years old in 1933. He recalled how he was surprised by the outstanding celebrations and the way they were carried through, where İstanbul was sparkling despite Türkiye’s very limited financial resources.

Within the 10th Anniversary collection of Salih Bey, there were samples of the use of those stamps in Anatolia. All the more amazing is that most of those samples were stamped on paper as commemorative issues that we call philatelic material. I was amazed with such a collection organized by an advanced philatelist like Kuyaş. Kuyaş told me that he had been depositing offers on the 10th Anniversary materials in almost every auction and he did not find it in his heart for the cheap sale of these stamps. I believe he felt my amazement and said “Mehmet, you reserach on this emission, it is very interesting”. In the course of time I have developed a passion on the 10th Anniversary stamp and their postal implementations, which I had not considered before. It became inevitable for me to write about this emission at the 100th Anniversary of the Republic

STAMPS



Picture 1



Picture 2



Picture 4

Ali Nusret Pulhan in his catalogue informs us that the stamps are a 7-value series consisting of 1½, 2, 3, 6, 12½, 25 and 50 kuruş, issued on 29.10.1923. 300.000 copies were issued on paper sheets where fiscal stamps used to be issued in İstanbul Stamp Printhouse. There are critics about the designs, prints, paper and sizes in different philatelic studies. (picture 1) Before they were issued different drafts were designed. (picture 2). Unrecognized specimen are known. The graphics of issued stamps were ordered.

by People's Party and assigned to Münir Bey, an artist in Ankara. Factory chimneys, machine wheels, wheatear are displayed in the works, emphasizing the progress and modernisation in agriculture and industry. There are recognized proof stamps. (picture 3) The one with 3 kuruş value has different proofs of colour, while the one with 6 kuruş value has different proofs of design. (Furthermore, there are large-size drawings. Pulhan states that stamps with numbers of 1110, 1111, 1112 have been (picture 4) recognized as)

RENK DENEMELERİ

3 kuruş , 6 kuruş



3 kuruş



3 kuruş



3 kuruş



6 kuruş



6 kuruş

picture 3

As you dive deeper into the issue novelty appears: The serie was in the circulation only on 29–30 and 31 October 1933. Since these days were official holidays expenditure was very little and only 26.000 series were sold in three days..

As the serie was out of circulation as of 31 October, the postal administration was left with 274.000 series in stock. 5.000 series were distributed among PTT workers and the remaining stocks were exterminated before an official board supervision.

DOMESTIC POSTAL RATES

Novelty keeps going: During the 3-day long circulation domestic postal fees were dropped by 50%. On that date the fees for local post cards, local letter, domestic post card and domestic letter were 3 kuruş, 4 kuruş, 4 kuruş and 6 kuruş respectively. (picture 5,6,7,8)



Picture 5: The Implementation of the 10th Year Discount on Postcard – A postcard sent from Ankara to İstanbul on 30 October 1933 was charged off-price with 1 ½ kuruş-value stamp like a local tariff, rather than 2 kuruş-value stamp for regular tariff. The script on the card is written by a student who came to Ankara for the celebrations. The school mentioned in the text as out of the city is Çankaya Primary School between Foreign Minister's Resident and Primeminister İnönü House.



Picture 6: The Implementation of the 10th Year Discount on Postcard – The postcard sent from Ankara to Milas on 29 October 1933, was charged off-price with 2 kuruş-value stamp instead of 4 kuruş-value stamp for domestic tariff.



Picture 7: The Implementation of the 10th Year Discount on Letter – A letter, posted within Ankara on 30 October 1933, was charged off-price with 2 kuruş-value stamp instead of 4 kuruş-value stamp for local tariff. Kızılay aid stamp with a 1 kuruş value was also imprinted since the day was an official holiday.



Picture 8: The Implementation of the 10th Year Discount on letter – The letter sent from Eskişehir to Ankara on 30 October 1933 was charged off-price with 3 kuruş-value stamp instead of 6 kuruş-value stamp for domestic tariff. Kızılay aid stamp with a 1 kuruş value was also imprinted since the day was an official holiday



Picture 8-a: Fantasy application of the Xth year discount to the Letter.
6 krş stamp was cut and made into 3 krş.

The issue becomes more complicated. There was no change in service fees while domestic tariffs were reduced by 50%. This enables collectioners of tariffs to observe extraordinary materials. (picture 9,10)



picture 9: The Implementation of the 10th Year Discount on Registered Letter – The registered letter sent from Ankara to İstanbul on 30 October 1933 was charged off-price with 3 kuruş-value stamp instead of 6 kuruş-value stamp for domestic tariff. No discount was made from certified registered fee of 6 kuruş. Total sum of the postal fee was 9 kuruş. Toplam 9 kuruş. Kızılay aid stamp with a 1 kuruş value was also imprinted since the day was an official holiday



picture 10: The Implementation of 6 Kuruş General Delivery (Poste Restant) Fee – The letter arrived in Atina on 10 October 1933 from İstanbul was charged with 6 kuruş general delivery fee. There was no discount because the general delivery fee is a service fee

INTERNATIONAL RATES

There has been no change in the international postal rates for postcards and letters.
(pictures 11,12,13)



Picture 11: The Implementation of the 10th Year Foreign Fee on Postcard. The postcard sent from Ankara to Montreux/Switzerland on 30 October 1933 was charged with 7 ½ kuruş–value stamp. This is the regular foreign postcard delivery, no discount was implemented.



Picture 12: The Implementation of the 10th Year Foreign Fee on Postal Formule – The postal form was sent to Le Havre/France from Ankara on 30 October 1933, was charged with 7 ½ kuruş–value stamp. This is the regular imprinted stamp tariff without any discount.



Picture 13: The Implementation of the 10th Year Foreign Fee on Letter: The letter sent from Beşiktaş/İstanbul to Baghdad/Iraq on 30 October 1933 was charged with 12 ½ kuruş–value stamp. This is the regular foreign letter tariff without any discount.

PICTURE POST CARDS

I would like to briefly refer to a very interesting postcard emission issued for the 10th Anniversary as FIP defined postcards as philatelic materials and qualified them within the Postcard Class for official exhibitions. It is the 4-card Revolutions serie, which is jointly issued in commemoration of the 10th Anniversary of the Republic by four charity organizations based in Ankara; Türk Tayyare Cemiyeti, Türk Maarif Cemiyeti, Hilali Ahmer Cemiyeti ve Evladı Şuheda Cemiyeti. (visuals 15,16,17) They were designed by Master İhap Hulusi.

Sales revenue was equally shared. It is recognized that they were sold at Ankara Post Office. (visual 14). In other cities, most probably, they were sold at the branches of each charity organization. In my opinion, they are key components of both postcard and open class collections.



Picture



picture





Picture 16



In this work, I shared all recognized postal rates samples. This topic might be a very good fit for "Narrow Theme Exhibits" However, it is all but impossible to bring together such specific materials. Apart from the samples I shared from my own collection, there are samples from the collections of Selçuk Akar, Emre Utku, Murat Hazinedaroğlu and Serdar Yazgan, . It shows that such a collection of "Narrow Theme Exhibits" is only probable when four of us come together

Reference:

Referans Pulhan, Ali Nusret. *Pulhan Türk Pulları Kataloğu*, 1974. İstanbul: Pulhan Yayınları, 1973.
Akan Mehmet, Kuran Timur. *Türkiye’de Postanın Mikro Tarihi*.2019 İstanbul: Türkiye İş Bankası Kültür Yayınları. Akan Mehmet, Akar Selçuk, Utku Emre & Turgut Turhan, .1920–1950 *Türkiye Posta Tarifeleri*: Türk Filareli Akademisi Yayınları



*December 17, 2002, Istanbul Beyoğlu Atlas Passage, the day of the interview.
From left to right Mehmet Akan, Salih Kuyaş, Timur Kuran.*

*Salih Kuyaş

“ (1923–2005) who made enormous contributions to the advancement of Turkish philately through various collections that he formed, at his philatelic store in Istanbul’s Atlas Arcade in 2002. Beginning in the 1970s he was considered among the world’s leading experts of Ottoman and Turkish stamps as well as stationery. He was a member of the European Academy of Philately and the Royal Philatelic Society of London. He served as president of the Istanbul Philatelic Society and the Federation of Turkish Philatelic Associations. Through a store located first at Meşrutiyet Avenue and then at Beyoğlu’s Atlas Arcade, he combined a professional career in the stamp trade with amateur philately. He holds a unique place among the Turkish stamp dealers of his era through the priority he gave to training new collectors, to the efforts he spent toward this end, and his sharing of his deep philatelic knowledge with collectors.”¹

¹ Akan, M., & Kuran, T. (2019). *Türkiye’de postanın mikrotarihi (1920–2015) Cilt I: 1920–1950*. Türkiye İş Bankası Kültür Yayınları. <https://www.iskulttur.com.tr/turkiyede-postanin-mikrotarihi-1920-2015-cilt-i-1920-1950.aspx>