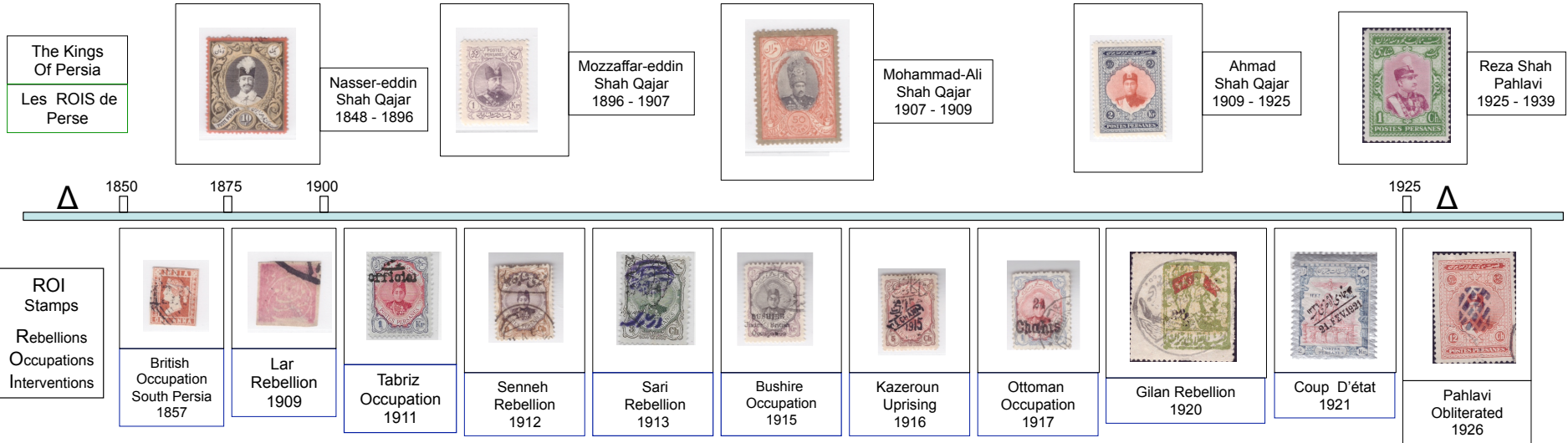


History of Persia - Rebellions, Occupations & Interventions



Purpose of this exhibit is to chronicle the **history of modern Persia** from 1812 (earliest interest by Europeans) to 1927 (transition from Qajar Dynasty to the Pahlavi Dynasty) through a philatelic record of changes resulting from **Internal Rebellions**, combined with **Occupations and Interventions by World Powers**.

Importance of **Persian history** is remarkable:

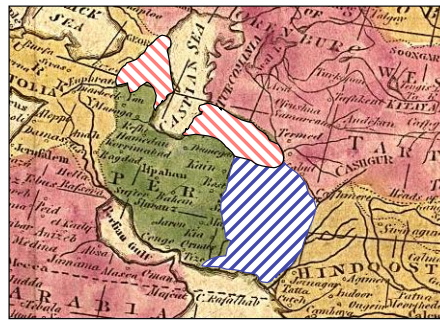
- Origins of modern man (Indo-Europeans) on West bank of Caspian Sea (about 6000 BCE)
- Elamite civilization first to develop cuneiform writing (3rd millennium BCE)
- World shaping rule by the First (550-330 BC) and Second (247 BC – 224 AD) Persian Empires
- Original recognition of human rights by King Cyrus (First Persian Empire)
- **Oldest organized postal system** using military couriers during First Persian Empire

Background - Despite its rich history and culture, the beginning of the 19th century found a weakened Persia at the confluence of aggressions from the British Empire from the South & East, the Russian Empire from the North, and Ottoman Empire from the West.

Introduction There was a large interest in Persia by World Powers during the 19th Century, led by Russia and Great Britain, who **carved out significant pieces of the Persian Empire** (see map). The Ottomans, Germans, United States, France, and later Sweden also established footholds of influence through various enterprises in Persia.

Russia's goal was to gain control of the Northern regions, and its oil resources, thereafter expanding their Empire to the South to gain access to the Indian Ocean. Britain's goal was to expand Eastward from India, and link its Empire between India and Mesopotamia. Establishment and protection of the telegraph link in South Persia became paramount. Germany used their Ottoman allies to deter the advances of the Russians and the British. The other World Powers were in a more defensive and information collecting posture. Later discovery of oil in South Persia raised the stakes in the conflicts even higher.

Contemporary 1804 Persia Map, marked to show **LOSSES To GREAT BRITAIN**: Presently Afghanistan and Pakistan & **To RUSSIA**: Presently Armenia, Azarbaijan, and Turkmenistan



Special Items

New Reporting

Index to RARITY

Rare - Less than 30 Recorded
 Very Rare - Less than 20 Recorded
 Extra Rare - Less than 10 Recorded
 X Known - Less than 5 Recorded

Persian

1 Kran = 20 Shahis

Indian

1 Rupee = 16 Annas
 1 Anna = 12 Pies

Structure: The Early Era Section covers the first 70 years chronologically, with adaptation to grouping by World Powers. The second Section (Indian Postal Agencies), representing the British Occupation of South Persia is organized by individual post offices (geographically) to prevent fragmentation of the topics. The Pre-WWI and WWI Sections are presented chronologically, with grouping into Theaters of World Powers. Section V (BUBO) covers a ten weeks period, expanded to reflect the Global Significance of this event within World War I. Section VI presents the post WWI events which led to the coup that overthrew the Qajar Dynasty. Section VII covers the first 2 years of transition into the Pahlavi Dynasty and is presented chronologically.

PLAN

I. Early Era

1. British building influence p (3-4)
2. British military presence p (5-6)
3. American mission influence p (7-8)
4. Russian expedition in North Persia p (9-10)
5. French activities in the Northwest p (11)
6. South Persia linked with India p (12)
7. Britain invades South Persia p (13-16)

II. Indian Postal Agencies

III. Pre-World War I

IV. World War I

V. Bushire Under British Occupation (BUBO)

VI. Final Chapter of the Qajar Dynasty

VII. Transition to the Pahlavi Dynasty