



World Productivity Day

Staying productive can be a serious challenge, especially when you're in charge of overseeing the efficiency of an entire company. Staying productive requires you to focus on keeping things efficient, on stripping out waste and finding ways to streamline processes. It's difficult to do this without the aid of products and services that help to keep you on track and moving smoothly. World Productivity Day encourages you to remember those who make it possible. Nip procrastinate in the bud and focus on how you can maximize your productivity & decrease wasted time.

We have introduced a new format that showcases the works of many Jaipur artists and professionals we think should be brought to the attention of our readers. We start with the works of Nihal Mathur and his unique stamp presentations. He tells the Story of Flight by arranging his stamps in historically sequential order to tell the tale. There are in all 38 presentations that takes the reader from the beginning made by the early pioneers and ends with modern aircrafts today.

-Editor



Concept and Design by Nihal Mathur
Computer Graphics by Bharat Kumawat



Nihal Mathur, Filmmaker, Writer

Obviously, a stamp is postage paid to the government for delivering our letter to distant friends and family. But these small bits of perforated printed paper are actually cultural ambassadors of a nation because glued on mail, they go far and wide carrying images of the country. Imagine a kid in Kuwait captivated by the image of a Royal Bengal Tiger or a boy in Barbados seeing his hero Tendulkar on a letter from India. Once upon a time, before the advent of television, stamps were one of the mediums that brought these representative colourful images from around the world. People loved to collect flowers, birds, animals etc. Over the years, the popularity of the Hobby of the King's declined as other mediums captured the children's imagination. Like any school going child in early Sixties, Nihal also began to collect stamps as a hobby. This was a random collection that ended soon after he joined college. But stamps lurked in his subconscious and wherever he could get his hands on them, he collected them and put them away in a big paper box as a compulsive action. Later in his professional life, when he visited different metros for work, he would take time out to visit stamp dealers in the city and spend hours sifting through heaps of cheaply priced stamps to select what he wanted. His selection depended on his interests and he pulled out stamps on all kinds of themes - writers, poets, scientists, national parks, wildlife, space and of course aircrafts. Nihal has written many popular stories on stamps. One of them 'Daughters of the Land' described how Indian postage stamps portrayed the Indian women. The National Philatelic Museum in New Delhi displayed pages of the story for some time. He also produced a brochure "Reminiscences of Steam Era: A Journey Through Stamps" for the Ministry of Railways. Today, he is a member of many online stamp communities.

Early Pioneers 1903-1914



Advancement of Aeronautical Era

With the arrival of Wright Brother's invention there was fervent activity amid the early pioneers to make their own aircrafts. Many different aircraft configurations were experimented with, all over Europe by the early pioneers. The development of the internal combustion engine enabled the designers to successfully produce heavier-than-air machines to take off. During this period, aviation passed from being seen as the preserve of few eccentric rich enthusiasts to being an established technology with its complex aeronautical engineering. Industrial aircraft manufacturing businesses also sprang up and aviation became a subject of enormous popular interest. Popular aircraft magazines appeared along with Aero Clubs in many countries where series of prizes were announced to encourage the pioneers to invent and innovate to address aeronautical problems. In America there were Glenn Curtiss, Octave Chanute, Lawrence & Elmer, Sikorsky, Langley to name a few, who did pioneering work. But it was the French who considered themselves as the true inheritors of the aerial era because it was abuzz with many aviators - Bleriot, Farman, Voisin, Nieuport, Brugué, Potez, Dassault, and not to forget Santos Dumont who was a Brazilian living and working in France. In England Geoffrey Havilland, Handley Page, Short Brothers, Vickers and many others, were all involved in designing and manufacturing aircrafts. The other significant aviators were Hugo Junker and Claudius Dornier from Germany while in Romania there were Aurel Vlaicu and Traian-Vula who were busy building aircrafts. Besides these, there were many other pioneers in Europe who were all competing with one another for prizes and trophies like the Gordon Bennett Cup for Racing and other technical achievements. These attracted huge audiences and successful pilots achieved celebrity status. By 1914, the competition between the aviators was raging and that was reflected in World War I which was not long in coming.