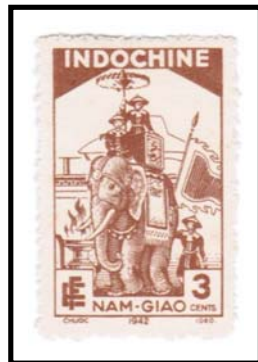


Fairs and Ceremonies

Local festivals were celebrated on contemporary commemorative stamps.

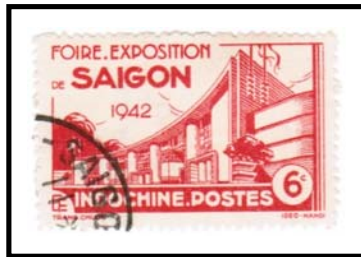


Nam-Giao



Saigon Fair

Fairs and Ceremonies Postmarks



SAIGON
FOIRE-EXPOSITION



TUYHOA
ANNAM



PHAN-RI
ANNAM



HAIPHONG
TONKIN



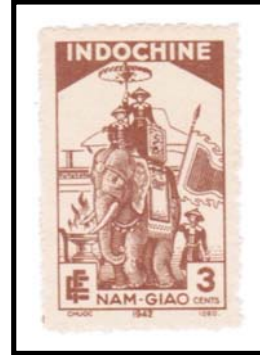
PHU-DIEN
TONKIN



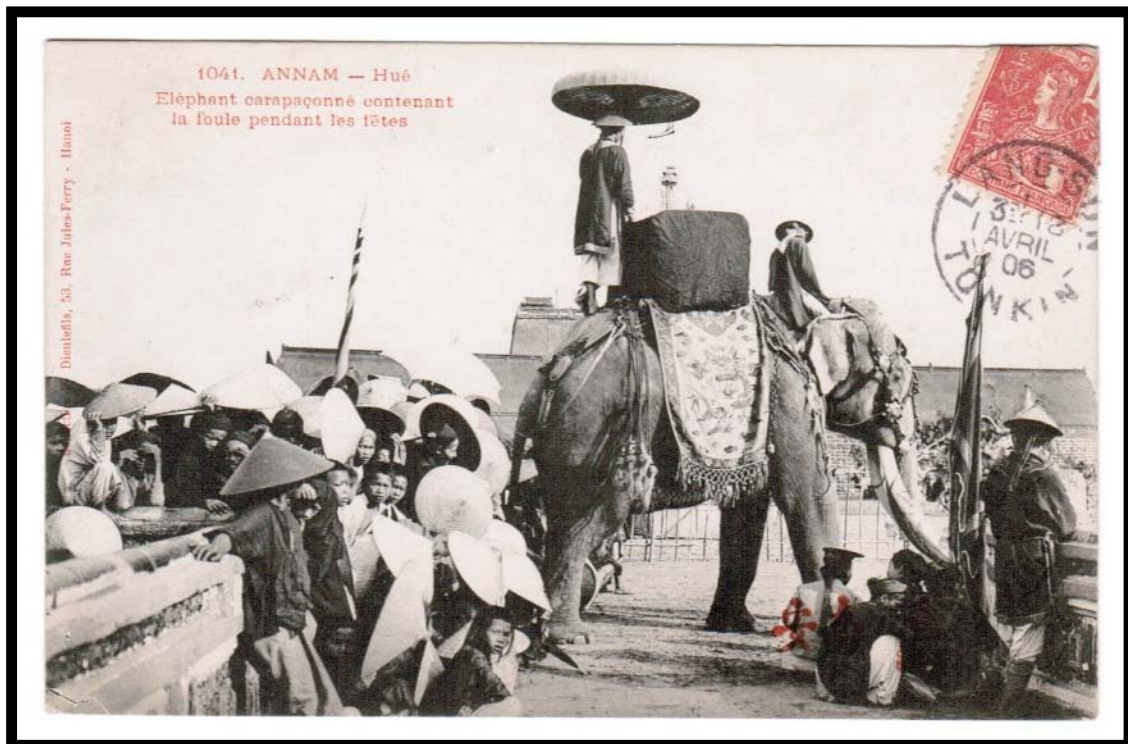
HUE
ANNAM

Nam Giao Design

Nam Giao was a sacrificial ceremony observed by Vietnam's feudal dynasties, beginning during the Ly Dynasty when the King conducted them. The ceremony became a large festival under the Nguyen Dynasty. Initially, the ceremony was conducted in the first ten days of each lunar February. Later, it was held every third year.



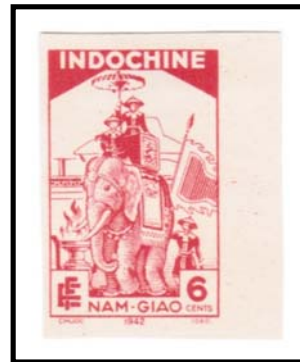
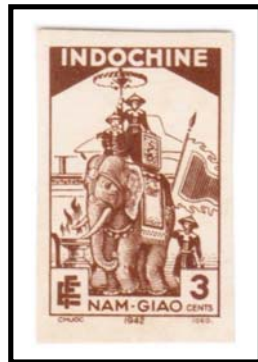
The elephants on the stamps depicted on the stamps precede the procession. The festival starts by picking up the royal personage, Bao Dai, and taking him via a parade to the location for the ceremony. Unbeknownst to the participants, the event in 1942 was to be the last led by an emperor.



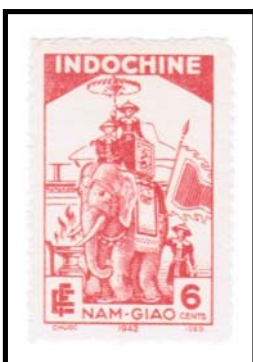
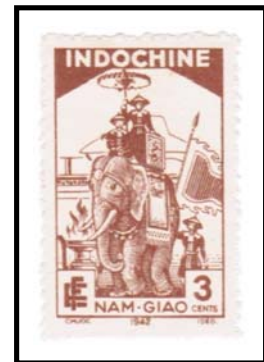
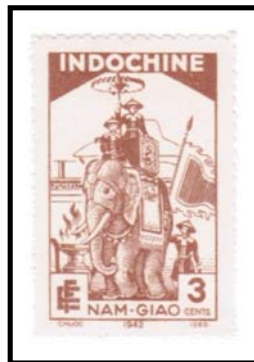
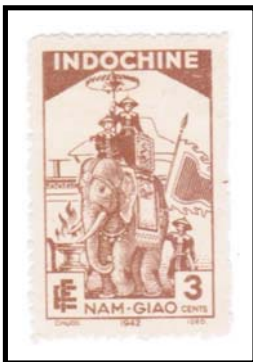
POSTCARD SHOWS AN ELEPHANT, SIMILAR TO THAT DEPICTED ON COMEMORATIVE STAMP, LEADING THE FESTIVAL PROCESSION.

Nam-Giao Varieties

IMPERFORATE

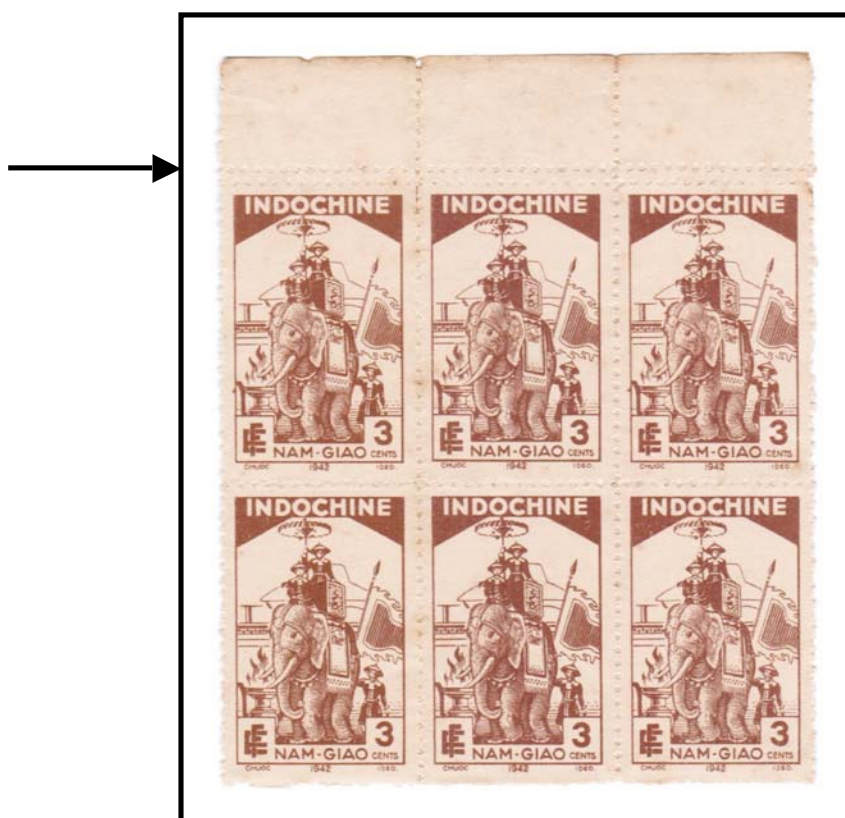


COLOR SHADES



Nam Giao
Perforation Variety

DOUBLY PERFORATED HORIZONTALLY



Nam-Giao Varieties



SPOT ON BLANKET (LEFT)



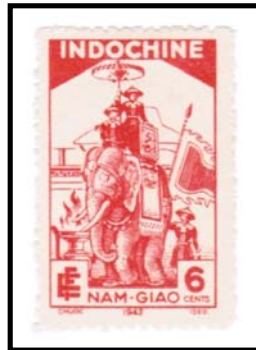
MISSING EYE ELEPHANT (RIGHT)



WIDE BELT ON UMBRELLA HOLDER (LEFT)

Nam Giao Variety

One position per sheet of fifty stamps exhibits a “missing eye” on the elephant.
On the first day cover, the variety is the left stamp.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HUE ANNAM 29-3 42

Nam Giao Variety

One position per sheet of fifty stamps exhibits a "missing eye" on the elephant. On this internal, registered cover, the variety is the bottom, left stamp in the block of four.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 21-6 43
registration label

REVERSE

SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 21-6 43

Saigon Fair Varieties

PAPER VARIETIES

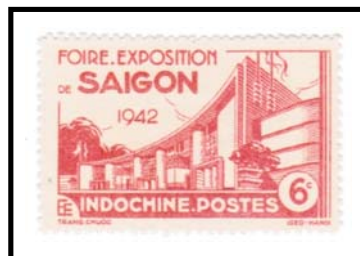


WHITE PAPER



YELLOW PAPER

COLOR SHADES



Nam Giao
First Day of Issue
Use of 3 cents

The 3-cent stamp, which was issued on 29 March 1942, did not fulfill a need for a regular postal rate.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HUE ANNAM 29-3 42

Nam Giao
Use of 3 cents

The 3 cent Nam Giao stamp did not correspond to any common postal rate. Here a pair of 3 cent stamps paid the 6 cent internal letter rate for a mailing from Hue to Hanoi in 1942.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HUE ANNAM 29-3 42
REVERSE
HANOI R.P. TONKIN 30-3 42

Nam Giao
First Day of Issue
Use of 6 cents

The 6-cent stamp, issued on the same day as the lower value, paid the basic internal rate.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HUE ANNAM 29-3 42

Nam Giao First Day of Issue

An example of each denomination of the Nam Giao commemoratives frank a cover postmarked at Hanoi on the first day of issue, 29 March 1942.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HA NOI R.P. TONKIN 29-3 42

Nam Giao
Use of 6 cents

The 6-cent Nam Giao commemorative paid the postage for an internal letter posted from Phu-Phong to a village near Pleiku in April 1942. At the upper left, the sender decorated his mailing with a cut-down pre-war tourism label.



POSTAL MARKINGS

PHUPHONG ANNAM 8-4 42

REVERSE

QUINHON ANNAM 9-4 42

HUE ANNAM 11-4 42

QUINHON ANNAM 11-4 42

PLEI-KU ANNAM 13-4 42

Nam Giao

Use of 3 and 6 cents on Commemorative Postcard

Both commemorative values were used on a period postcard that depicts the procession of the Nam Giao Celebration in 1942.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HUE ANNAM 29-3 42
REVERSE
HUE ANNAM 29-3 42

Nam Giao
Use of 3 and 6 cents

Both Nam Giao stamps frank this wartime letter from Tonkin to Laos. The letter was posted two weeks after the stamps had been put into service.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HON-GAY TONKIN 13-4 42
REVERSE
HANOI R.P. TONKIN 14-4 42

Nam Giao
Use of 3 and 6 cents

Posted a week after the Nam Giao stamps were issued, a combination of commemoratives along with a definitive stamp paid the local registered letter rate within Hanoi. Postage was calculated as follows:

letter rate 2nd step (10-20 grams)	9 cents
<u>registration fee</u>	<u>16 cents</u>
total	25 cents



POSTAL MARKINGS

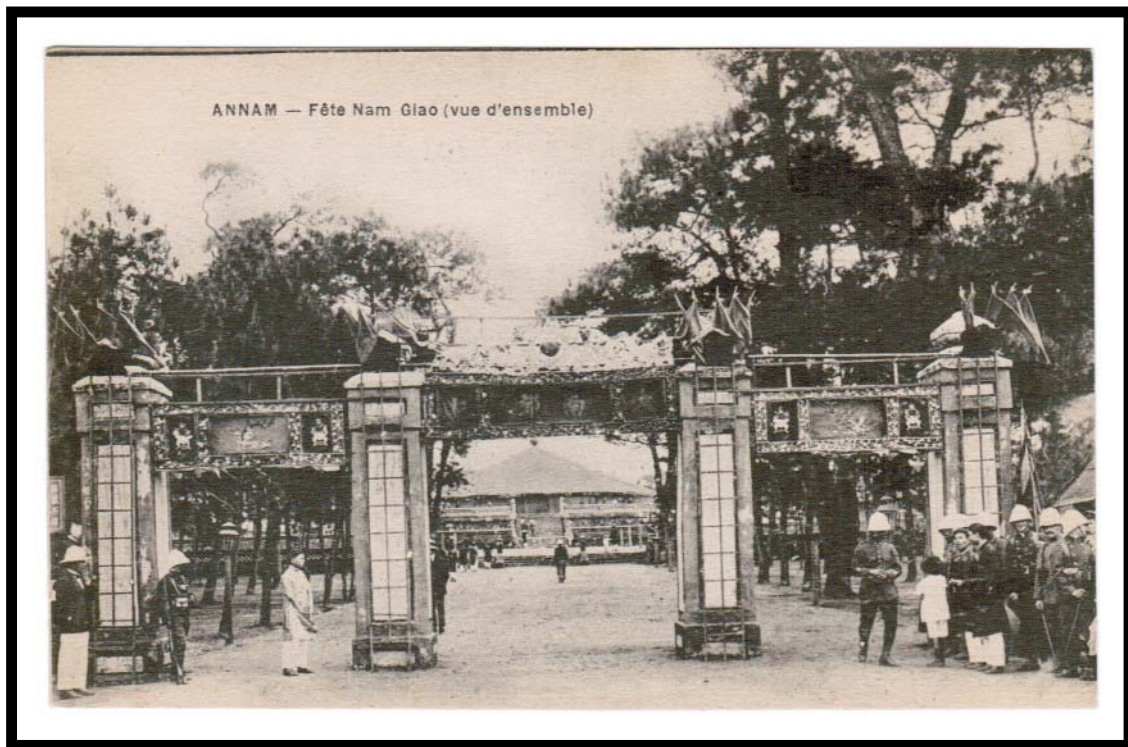
HANOI R.P. TONKIN 7-4 42
registration label

REVERSE

HANOI R.P. BIS TONKIN 7-4 42
HANOI R.P. TONKIN 7-4 42

Nam Giao Picture Postcards

Before 1945, the Nam Giao Festival was the most important and formal national offering festival. Originally, the festival was organized annually in the Spring. In the 20th century, it was held every three years. The offering ritual ceremony was practiced on a high altar stage and the offerings included three sacrificed animals: barbecued cow, goat, and pig. The king and other officiating priests presided over the festival. The ritual preparation and ceremony were performed meticulously.

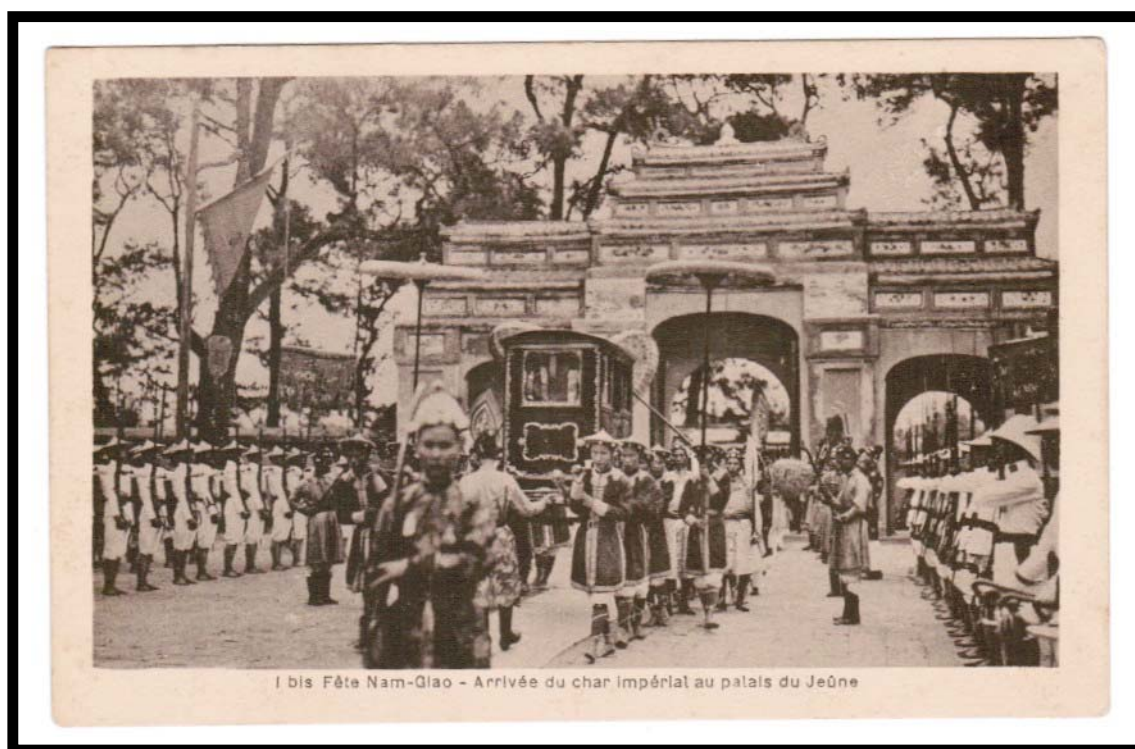


OVERVIEW OF THE NAM GIAO FESTIVAL.

Nam Giao
Picture Postcards

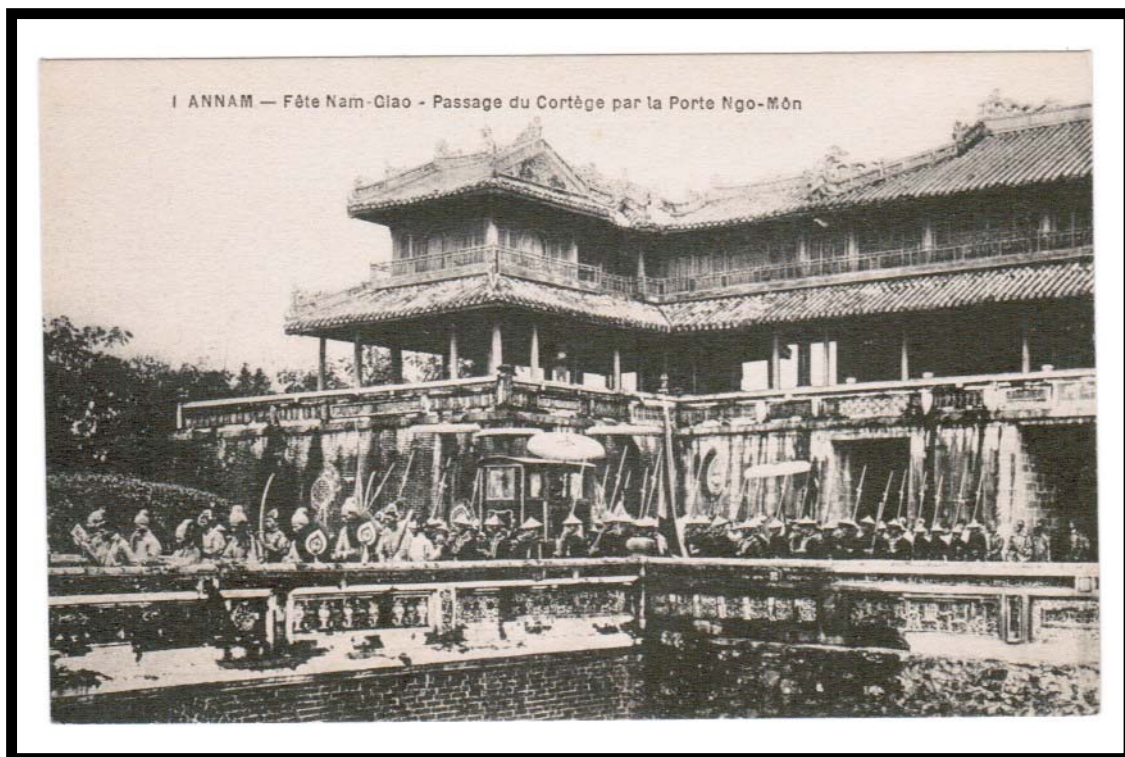


THE IMPERIAL CHAIR WITH BEARERS.



ARRIVAL OF THE IMPERIAL CHAIR.

Nam Giao Picture Postcards



ENTOURAGE PASSING NGO-MON GATE.



TRADITIONAL MUSIC ON THE SECOND LEVEL.

Saigon Fair Commemorative Envelope

A commemorative envelope bears a mirror image of the central design aspect of the 1942 Saigon fair stamp. The cover was postmarked at the exposition on the last day of 1942.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON FOIRE-EXPOSITION 31-12 42

Saigon Fair First Day of Issue

A pair of Saigon Fair stamps was postmarked at a temporary post office on the opening day of the exposition. A slogan handstamp advertises the dates of the month-long fair: 20 December 1942 through 20 January 1943.



VISITEZ LA
FOIRE
EXPOSITION
DE SAIGON
20 DEC. 1942
20 JANV. 1943

POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-FOIRE-EXPOSITION 20-12 42

Saigon Fair First Day of Issue

Here, an example of the Saigon Fair stamp was postmarked from Phnompenh on the issue's first day of use.



POSTAL MARKINGS
PNOMPENH CAMBODGE 20-12-42