Indochinese Culture

Begun in 1931, the Indochinese Culture issues were the last definitive stamps for Indochina. Additional values and color changes were added over the following years to meet new postal requirements. Use of the series continued for two decades until replaced by the stamps of the newly independent countries of Southeast Asia.

JUNK















Indochinese Culture

ANGKOR THOM























Indochinese Culture

RICE FARMER























APSARAS





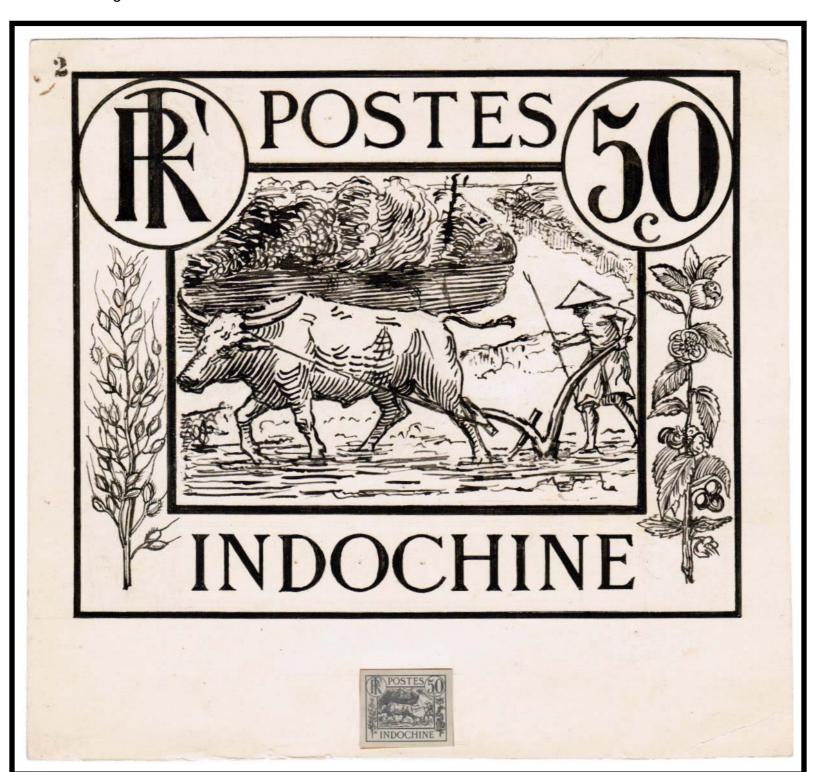






Indochinese Culture Essay

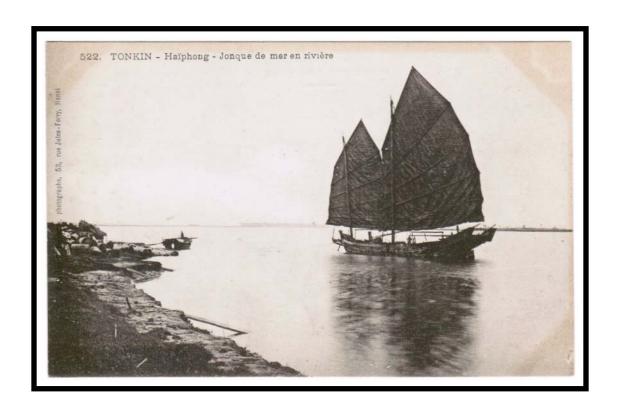
The Indochinese Culture series featured scenes from various aspects of Indochinese life. For one its formats, the previous definitive series used a farmer plowing with an ox. A variation was proposed for this issue but was ultimately rejected. The drawing was photographically reduced at the bottom to convey how the finished stamp might look.



Indochinese Culture Junk Design

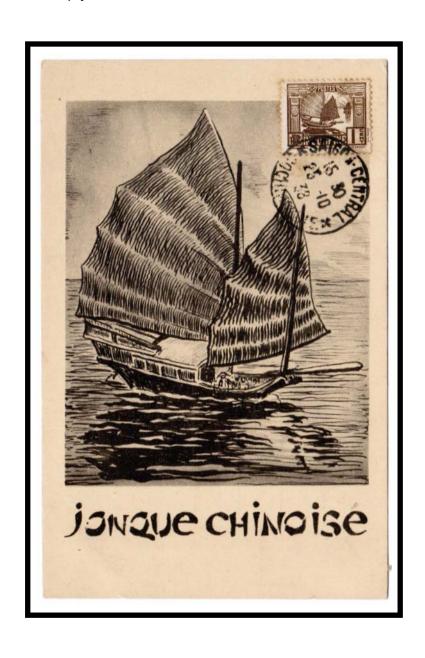
The central aspect of the lowest values of the Indochinese Culture series was a junk. Ships of all types were integral to the lives of Indochinese citizens living near the coastline or along Indochina's many rivers.





Indochinese Culture Junk Maximum Card

A drawing of the central design element of the low value stamps was printed on a postcard with the caption "JONQUE CHINOISE" on this maximum card. On the stamp itself, the caption is simply "LA JONQUE."



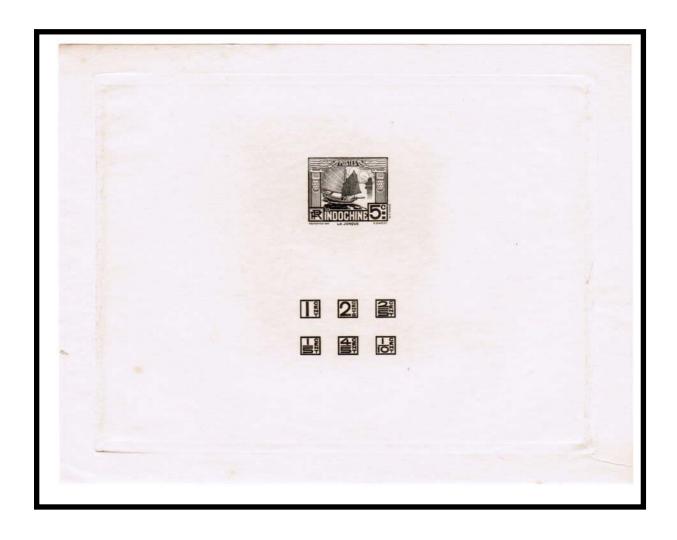
Indochinese Culture Junk Design

This artist's ink sketch contains the same central design features in a similar horizontal format as the accepted design.



Indochinese Culture Junk Proof

Beneath the junk stamp depicted on this proof are six of the seven values that employed this design. The 1/2 cent stamp was also one of the junk denominations. The 5-cent value shown in the stamp image was not one of the junk stamp values.



Indochinese Culture Junk Essay

Printed in sepia, this essay shows the junk design with a 5-cent denomination. As issued, the 5-cent stamp actually employed the Angkor Thom format.



Indochinese Culture Angkor Thom Design

A recurring design feature of the Bayon, the last great temple built at Angkor, was the many four-sided towers with faces looking outward in the four cardinal directions. Each statue had the same enigmatic expression called the "smile of Angkor."

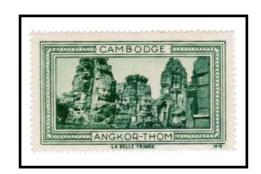


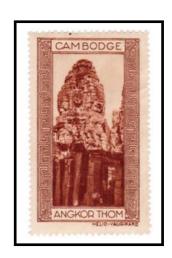


Indochinese Culture Angkor Thom Design

Because of its historical and cultural importance, the Angkor Thom complex was a major tourist attraction.

Tourist Souvenir Labels





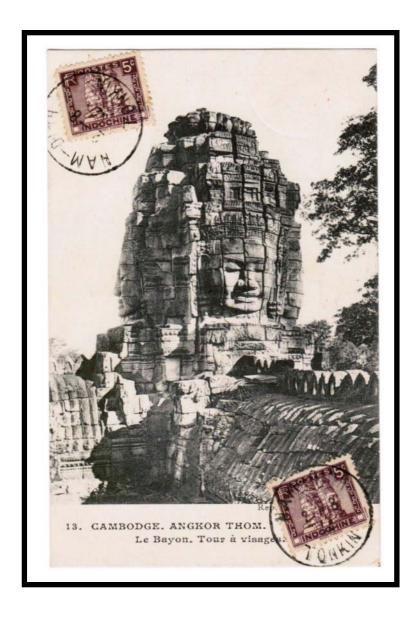
Postcard Depicting "Les Tours a 4 Visages"



POSTAL MARKINGS
PNOMPENH CAMBODGE 27 NOV 06

Indochinese Culture Angkor Thom Maximum Card

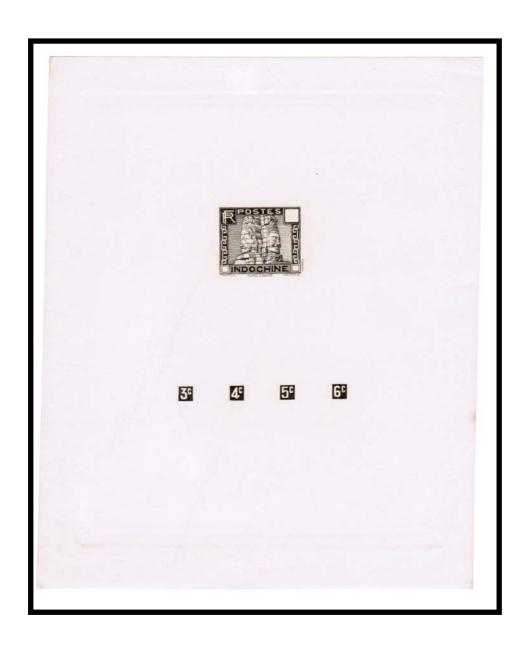
Affixing two 5-cent Angkor Thom stamps on the front of this postcard created a "maximum card" that tied the stamp images to the scene depicted on the card.



POSTAL MARKINGS NAM-DINH TONKIN 2-8 32

Indochinese Culture Angkor Thom Proof

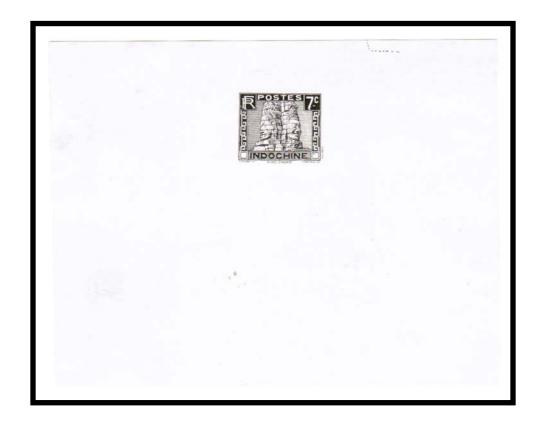
The Angkor Thom design was ultimately used for seven values. The four original values are depicted on this proof printing.



Indochinese Culture 7-cent Angkor Thom Proof

The 7-cent stamp was printed with black ink. Also printed in black, this proof provides an especially crisp depiction of the Angkor Thom design.





Indochinese Culture Rice Planter Design

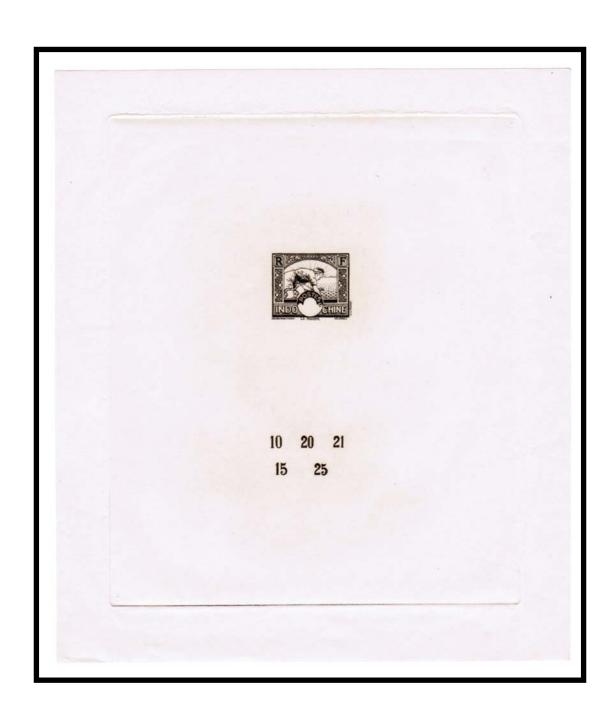
For centuries, rice farming has been a central part of life in Indochina. Relying primarily on their own manual labor, the lives of peasant families revolved around the rice growing cycle. While most of the rice kernels were used for food, the remainder was made into beer, wine and flour. Other uses of the rice plant were for fuel, straw mats, garments and furniture.





Indochinese Culture Rice Planter Proof

Eight denominations were based on the rice farmer design. Several variations from the numerals depicted on this proof appeared with the many printings of the rice planter values from the Indochinese Culture series.



Indochinese Culture Color Rice Planter Proof

To investigate color choices, proofs were prepared employing a range of colors. Of all the stamps in the series, the 30-cent rice farmer was the one that was printed in a shade closest to that used for this color proof.

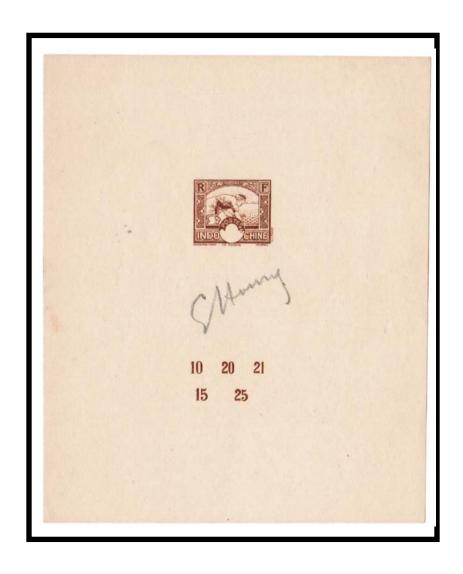




Indochinese Culture Color Rice Planter Proof

Several shades of brown were used for different values of the series. The 3-cent brown Angkor Thom denomination was printed in a brown shade similar to this proof.

This example is signed by the engraver, E. Hourriez

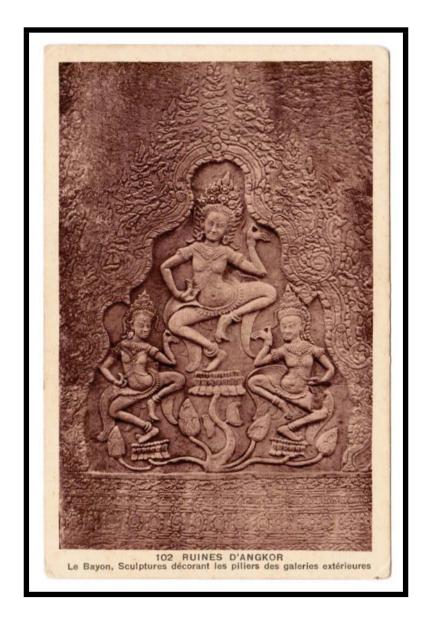




Indochinese Culture Apsaras Design

Heavenly dancers, called "apsaras," promise a joyful existence for Khmer royalty after the last reincarnation. Over 1,700 intricately carved apsaras grace the walls of Angkor Wat with many thousands elsewhere in the Angkor complex.





Indochinese Culture Apsaras Proof

The original issue of high values consisted of the three denominations shown on this proof. Later, two other denominations, 60 and 70 cents, were added to meet evolving postal needs.



Indochinese Culture Imperforate Varieties















Indochinese Culture Imperforate Varieties









Indochinese Culture Imperforate Varieties





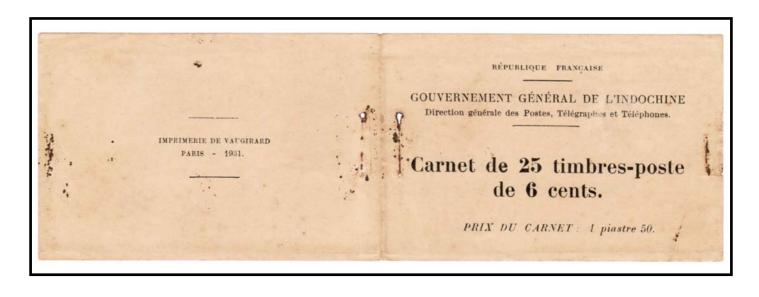


Indochinese Culture 5 cents violet and 6 cents Booklet Panes

Booklets with 5 panes, each containing 5 stamps and a label were sold as part of the original issue of 1931.







Indochinese Culture Use of 5 cents violet from Booklet Pane

A large "X" was located at the upper right location of each booklet pane. Having no value, the labels were usually discarded by the user. In rare instances, the sender affixed the label to his envelope along with the 5-cent postage stamp.



POSTAL MARKINGS
CANTHO COCHINCHINE 24-7 32
REVERSE
CANTHO COCHINCHINE 24-7 32

SAIGON CENTRAL C CHINCHINE 24-7 32

Indochinese Culture Use of 5 cents violet from Booklet Pane

Three stamps from the 5-cent booklet were used to pay the 15 cents postage for a mailing to India in 1933.



POSTAL MARKINGS

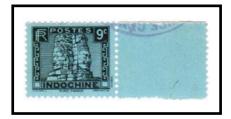
BACLIEU COCHINCHINE 10-6 33

REVERSE

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 11-6 33

ATTANGUDI 22 JUN 33

Indochinese Culture Color Essays



9 cents black on blue background



9 cents black on yellow background



10 cents blue on blue background



10 cents blue on yellow background



18 cents in the color of 22 cents

Indochinese Culture Color Essays



25 cents in color of 15 cents



21 cents in the color of 20 cents on rose paper

Indochinese Culture Printing Varieties



Double Impression 2 and 6 cents



9 cents Normal



9 cents Lacking Yellow Background



3 cents brown Perforations Shifted Vertically



Imperforate Partial Impression

Indochinese Culture 20 cents Rice Farmer

Because of its widespread utility, the 20-cent rice farmer saw many printings. Three basic types exist.

TYPE I



Large Die (21 mm wide)



Figures 3.2 mm

TYPE II



Large Die (21 mm wide)



Figures 3.0 mm

TYPE III Shades





Small Die (20.5 mm wide)



Figures 3.1 mm



Indochinese Culture 25 cents violet Rice Farmer

Multiple printings of the 25-cent violet Indochinese Culture stamp resulted in three types based on the characteristics of the numerals used for the denomination.

TYPE II TYPE III TYPE III



Large Numerals



Small Numerals



Flag Top on "5"





25

Block of Type III



Indochinese Culture Varieties Lacking "RF"

In general, stamps printed under the Vichy regime for Indochina replaced the letters "RF" which stood for "Republique Française" with the letters "EF," which stood for "Etat Française." In the case of the Indochinese Culture definitive stamps, the panels were simply left blank.

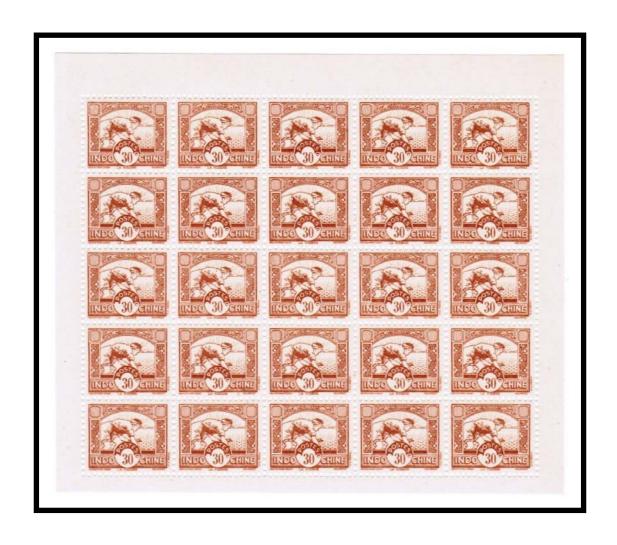








Indochinese Culture 30 cents Lacking "RF" Rice Farmer Pane



Indochinese Culture Imperforate Varieties Lacking "RF"

When the Vichy regime reprinted the Indochinese Culture stamps, they removed the letters "RF" which stood for "Republique Française." Because many of these imperforate stamps were only regularly issued with overprints, many stamp catalogs classify them under Kouang Cho Wan



























Indochinese Culture 1/10 cent Junk Pane



Indochinese Culture 1/5 cent Junk Pane



Indochinese Culture 2/5 cent Junk Pane



Indochinese Culture 4/5 cent Junk Pane



Indochinese Culture 2 cents Junk Pane



Indochinese Culture 3 cents brown Angkor Thom Pane



Indochinese Culture 3 cents green Angkor Thom Pane



Indochinese Culture 4 cents blue Angkor Thom Pane



Indochinese Culture 4 cents green Angkor Thom Pane



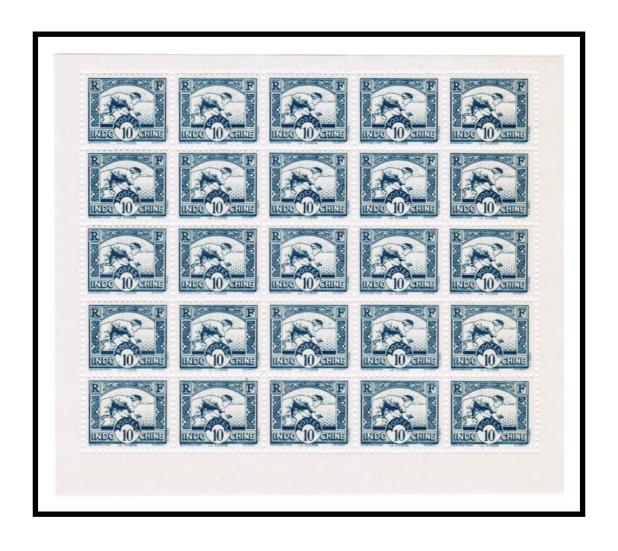
Indochinese Culture 5 cents green Angkor Thom Pane



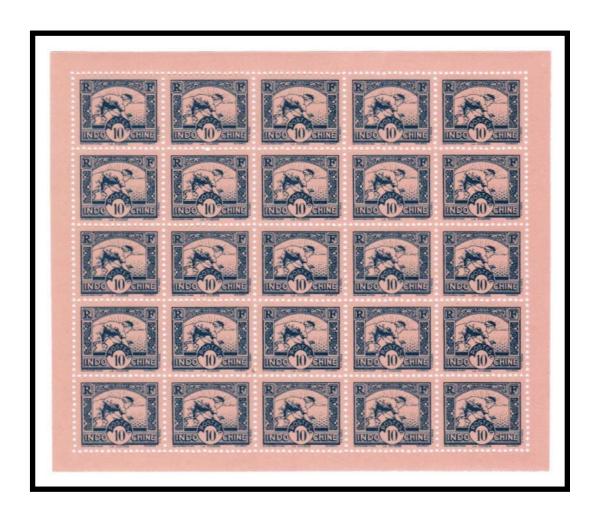
Indochinese Culture 6 cents Angkor Thom Pane



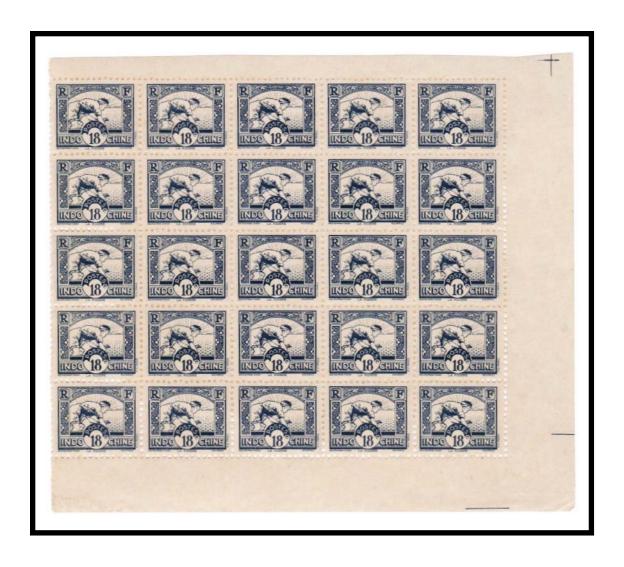
Indochinese Culture 10 cents blue Rice Farmer Pane



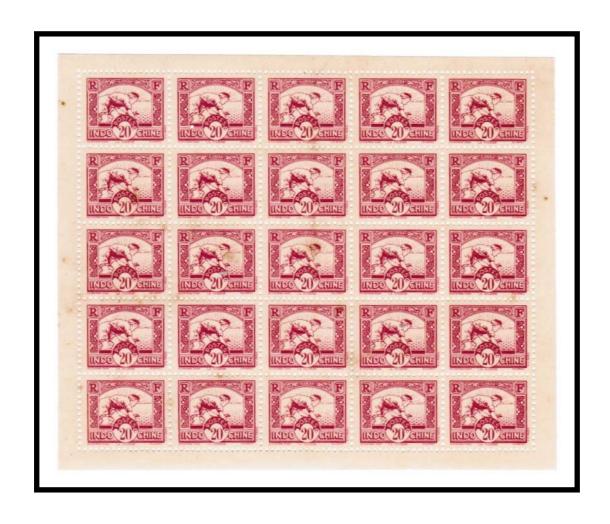
Indochinese Culture 10 cents ultramarine Rice Farmer Pane



Indochinese Culture 18 cents Rice Farmer Pane



Indochinese Culture 20 cents Type III Rice Farmer Pane



Indochinese Culture 22 cents Rice Farmer Pane



Indochinese Culture 30 cents Rice Farmer Pane

