

Sedang Paris Printing

A charming French adventurer, Charles David, successfully planted himself at the top of the political pyramid in a remote part of Indochina. In 1888, he declared himself Marie I, King of the Sedangs. As part of his agenda, he promoted a local postal service complete with its own stamps depicting a coat-of-arms as their central design element. In 1889, the king and his entourage visited Paris. There, they lived large running up huge bills. To pay for his lifestyle, King Marie worked with Dorsan Astruc, a philatelic entrepreneur, to create copies of the Sedang stamps and sell them in Paris. Many say that the king then skipped town, leaving most of the bills unpaid. The blot from this episode followed the stamps down through a century of philatelic history.



Seven denominations were prepared using a complex currency system.



Sedang Local Printing

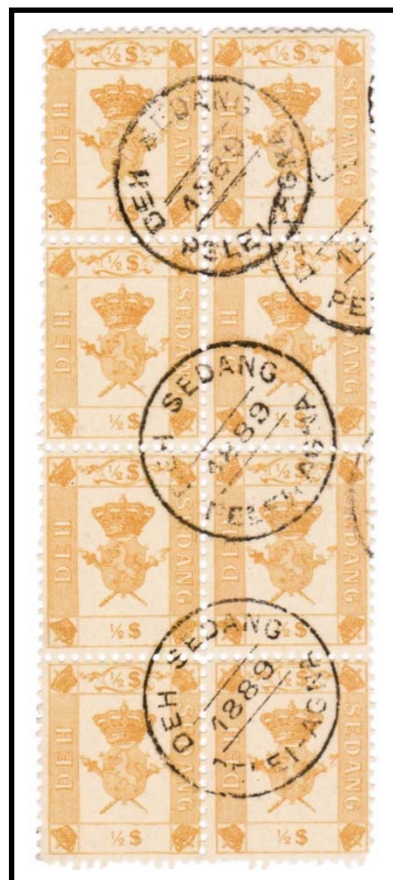
The stamps printed locally in Indochina did provide for delivery service. A careful examination of the stamps will reveal where they were printed.



Characteristic	Locally-Printed Stamps	Paris-Printed Stamps
Denomination	Four values (MOI-MATH, BER-MATH, POUEN-MATH and MOI-MOUK) have hyphens.	No hyphens in same four denominations.
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>		
Hand at the right side	Does not "touch" frame.	Hand "touches" frame.
letter "A" in "SEDANG"	Has small triangle with three balanced sides.	Has large triangle with very slender crossbar in the "A".

Sedang Pelia Agna Postmark

Paris-printed stamps are known with favor postmarks from Pelei-Agna dated "1889" with no day or month.

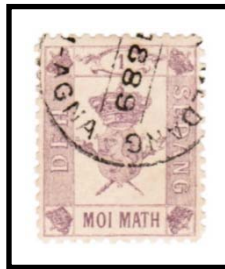


Sedang Paris Printing with Pelei Aгна Postmark

It is uncertain whether Pelei-Agna was a real place. Since the postmark was only applied to Paris-printed stamps, collectors were the only ones who heard of the location.



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Sedang Paris Printing Multiples



Sedang
Paris Printing Multiples



Sedang Locally-Printed Stamp Varieties

Shifted Perforations

The vertical perforations on a locally-printed 1 math stamp were shifted approximately one-quarter the width of the stamp resulting in a freak.



Postmark

Favor postmarks are known only on the Paris-printed stamps. This locally-printed 1/2 math stamp bears a postmark that, in part, appears to read "1891."

