

# Withdrawn Stamps of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

by

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A Presentation for the Rochester Philatelic Association



From time to time postal administrations uncover a reason to withdraw a stamp due to a design error or controversy of what is depicted. Most interesting to collectors are those that have already been printed and, in many cases, put on sale to the public in the normal course of business or by mistake.

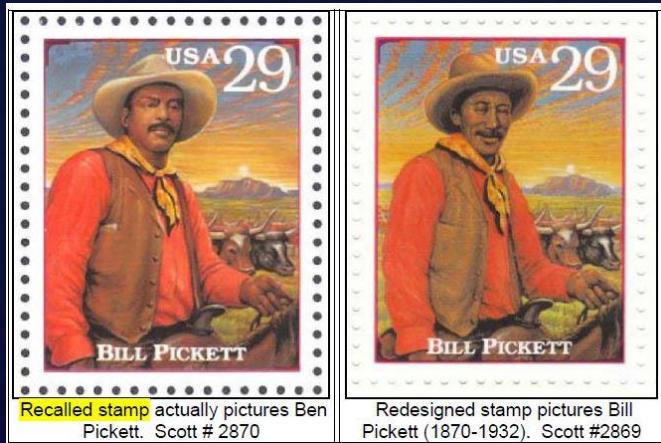
Once identified, the issuing administration has several options:

- Recall all remaining stamps and destroy or modify them, possibly creating philatelic rarities of those already sold
- Leave them on sale, with or without opting to print and release a corrected version days, weeks or years later

Two such recalls and their reissues made big news in the 1990s.

## 1993 USA- Legends of the West

## 1996 New Zealand- Health Semi-Postals



Wrong “Bill Pickett” image printed, error discovered before release and recalled, but 183 sheets were sold before the issue date. USPS held a lottery with 150,000 error sheets sold. The sheet of 20 was reissued in 1994 with the corrected image.

Child and teddy positioned wrong, as NZ law required seat to be facing to the rear of the car, not forward. Water activated and self-stick stamps recalled and supposedly destroyed before release, with non-teddy revisions printed. But two post offices inadvertently retained the older versions, selling a few hundred of them. The self-sticks are the rarer of the two formats.

It was hoped that the twenty-first century would usher in an era of far fewer such withdrawn (or recalled) stamps, but just the opposite is happening. This presentation shows just a small sampling of those issued from 2000 through 2023!

Supply and demand dictate the value of a withdrawn issue. Prices here are from offerings on ebay, Delcampe and HipStamp. The numbers released is a factor, as is the subject matter. Those from lesser popular collecting countries may not demand the premium of a more popular one. Nations notorious for poor quality control of their stamp issues are also less desirable.

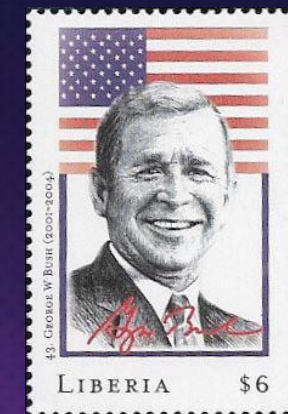
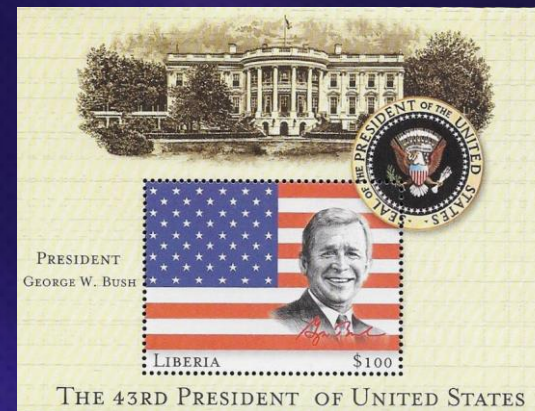
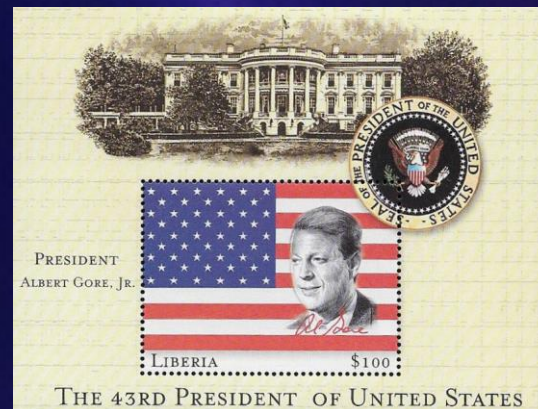
November 17, 2000

Liberia

redundancy

Liberia issued a set of stamps and souvenir sheets Oct. 2 for every US president ahead of the US November election.

Prepared in advance were similar items for both candidates with only the winner's items to be released, wanting to be the first to honor him. In the election result confusion, they released everything, withdrawing Gore items knowing the final outcome.



November 17, 2000

Liberia

redundancy


New



Liberia 2000 Al Gore, 43rs president of USA (what he...

 ± \$6.71

Fees according to conditions



Liberia 2000 - 43rd President Of The US - Albert Gore - S/S MNH Error...

**\$45.00**  
or Best Offer

Free shipping

Jul-5 14:40



Liberia 2000 - 43rd President Of The US - Albert Gore - S/S MNH Error...

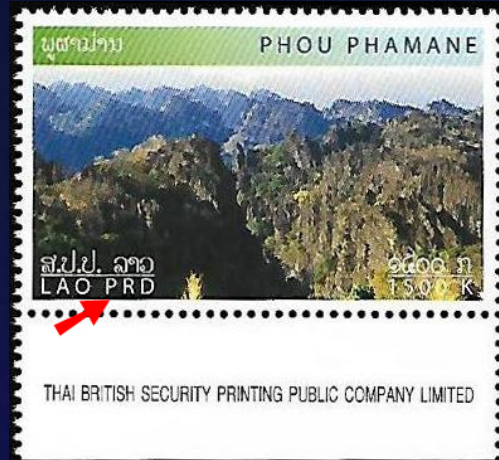
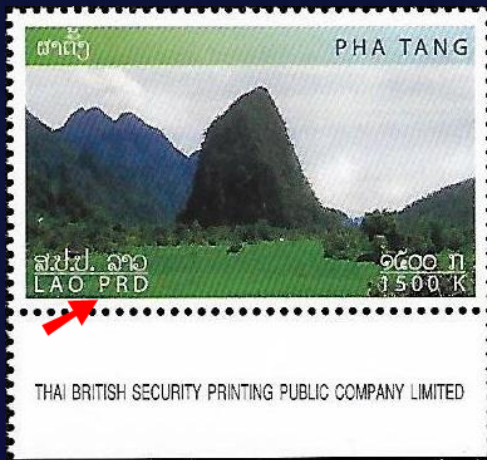
**\$40.50** ~~\$45.00~~  
Or Best Offer

 Free Shipping

March 30, 2002

Laos

text error



original



corrected, issue date unknown

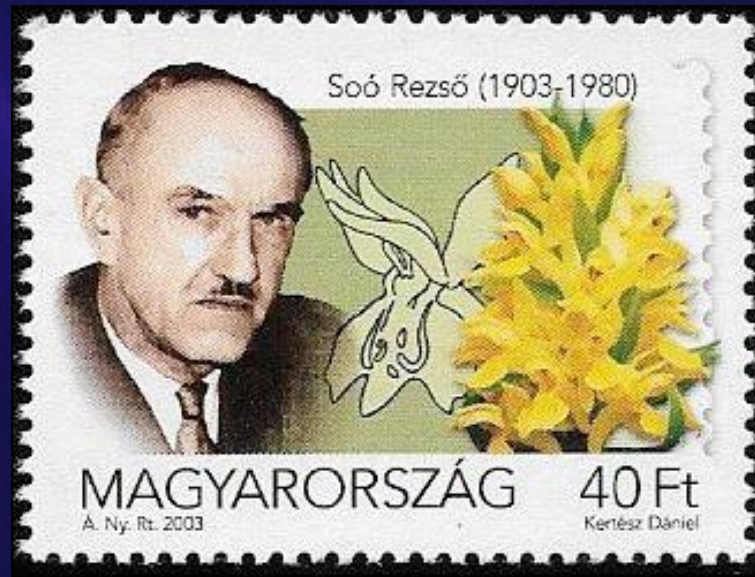
The Laos “People’s Democratic Republic” (Laos PDR) had the letters D and R mixed up (Laos PRD) on the original release on this “Year of the Mountain” set that were withdrawn. A corrected version was later released.

February 12, 2003

Hungary

image error

Withdrawn on March 31, 47 days after being issued, this stamp was one of a set of three honoring famous Hungarians meant to depict botanist Rezső Soó. However the stamp shows another Hungarian botanist, Ujvárosi Miklós.





February 12, 2003

Hungary

image error



Specimen, Hungary Sc3825  
Scientist Rezsó Soo

 ± \$5.26

Fees according to conditions

Status

Private individual

August 17, 2004

Greece

doping scandal

Greek 2004 Olympic medalists were honored on a stamp the next day, including 62 kilo weight class bronze winner weightlifter Leonidas Sampanis. He failed two drug tests days later and was stripped of his medal on August 22 by the IOC. ELTA, the Greek Post, ordered all post offices to stop selling his stamps and return all those remaining.



August 17, 2004

Greece

doping scandal



Greece 2004 Olympic Games  
of Athens - Olympic Medal...

± \$7.51

Fees according to conditions

Status

Private individual



2004 Greece Olympic Games Block of  
4 Leonidas Sampanis Withdrawn Stam...

**\$24.64**

Buy It Now

Mar-25 05:40

+\$4.94 shipping  
from United Kingdom

February 12, 2005

Korea (South)

fraud



Officially released under the title "Successful Establishment of Human Cloned Embryonic Stem Cells," this stamp honored the scientific breakthrough by scientist Hwang Woo-suk. By January 2006 enough evidence was collected to prove the data was falsified and the stamp was withdrawn later that month.

February 12, 2005

Korea (South)

fraud



SOUTH KOREA 2005 Cloning  
of Human Embryonic Stem...

 ± \$1.34

Fees according to conditions

Status

Professional



Korea South 2005 "Successful  
Establishment of Human Cloned...

**\$18.49**

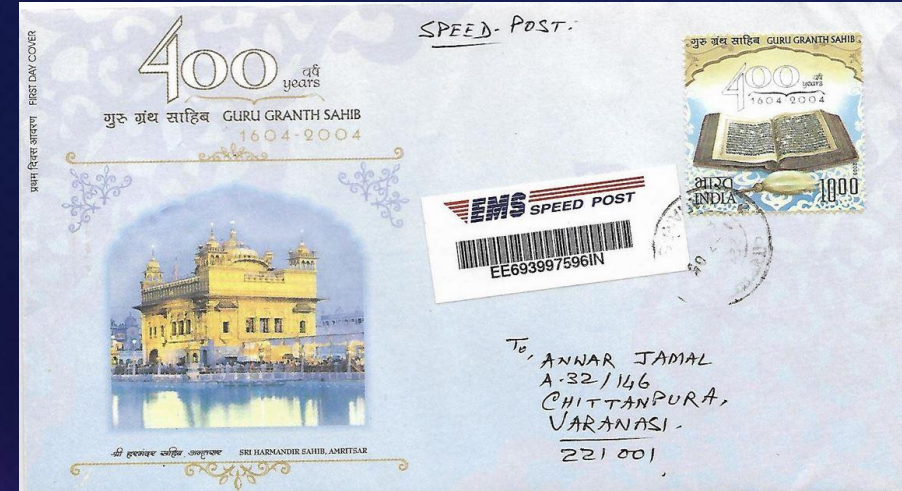
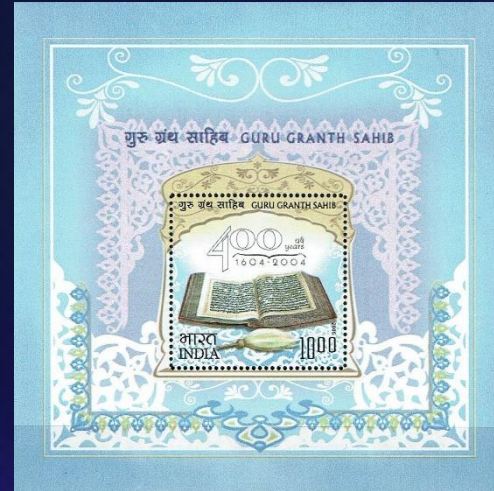
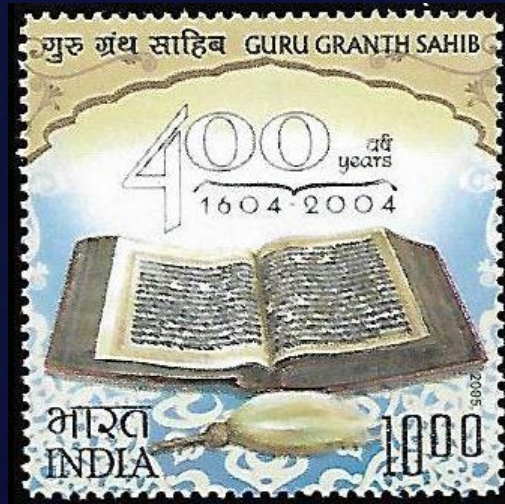
Buy It Now

+\$5.49 shipping  
from South Korea

June 16, 2005

India

image error



The Sikh sacred text, the Guru Granth Sahib, celebrated its 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2004, commemorated here. The religion forbids imagery of the book, which is also lacking its “rumala” cloth covering on the stamp. These were distributed to post offices and recalled before issuing, however some leaked out.

June 16, 2005

India

image error



ME816— 2004 withdrawn Isseu  
Guru Granth sheet of 12.

**\$500.00**

Buy It Now  
+\$35.00 shipping  
from Japan

Apr-16 22:00



ME817— 2004 withdrawn Isseu  
Guru Granth S/S 10RS;

**\$100.00**

Buy It Now  
+\$35.00 shipping  
from Japan

Apr-16 22:00



ME818— 2004 withdrawn Isseu  
Guru Granth 10RS;

**\$50.00**

Buy It Now  
+\$35.00 shipping  
from Japan

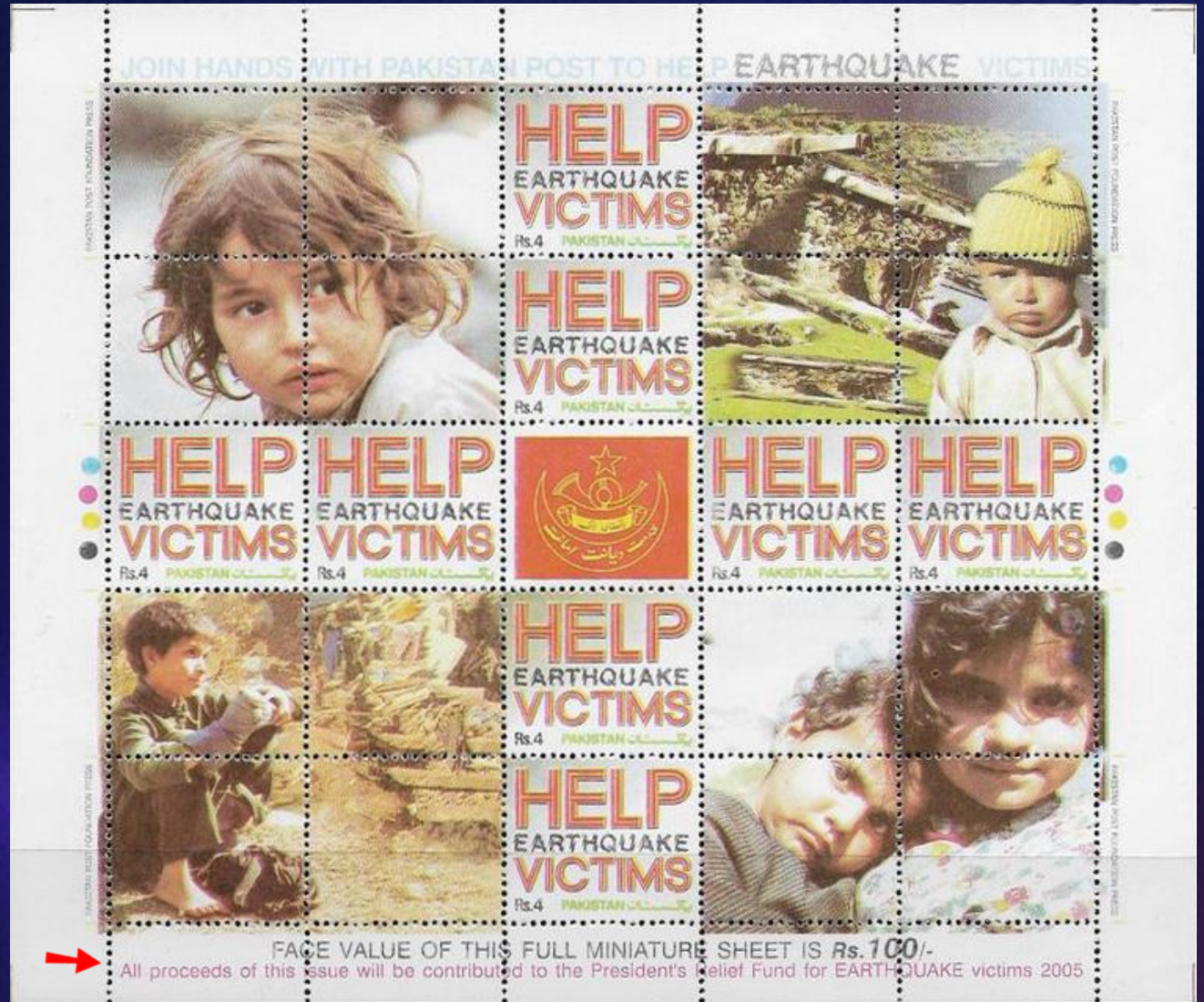
Apr-16 22:00

October 27, 2005

An earthquake hit the Kashmir region of Pakistan on October 8 and this sheet was released as a fund raiser. Intended that all Rs 100 go to the fund, the law required the face value of Rs 32 go to the Post. It was withdrawn over the controversy.

Pakistan

legal issues



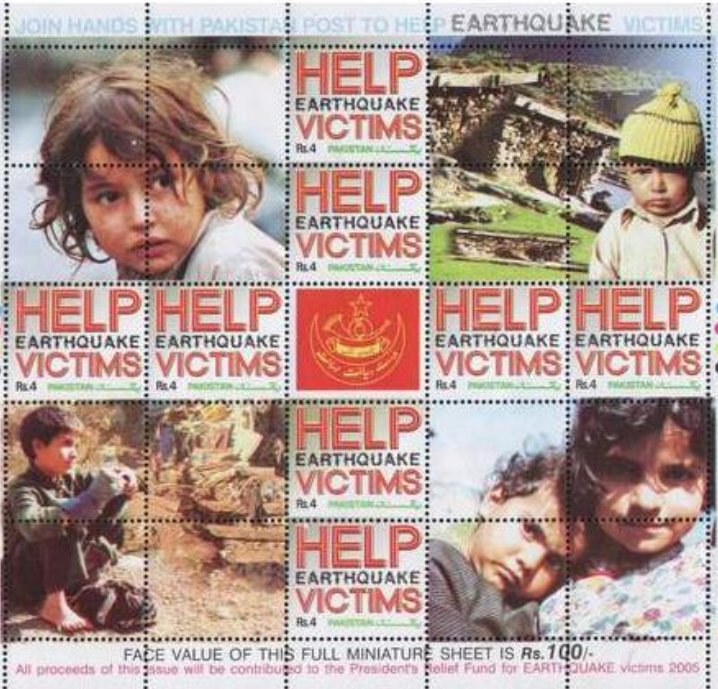


October 27, 2005

Pakistan

legal issues

zc Pakistan Stamps Treasure



FACE VALUE OF THIS FULL MINIATURE SHEET IS Rs. 100/-  
All proceeds of this issue will be contributed to the President's Relief Fund for EARTHQUAKE victims 2005

Pakistan Stamps 2005 Help Earthquake Victims -  
£3.75GBP : Pakistan Stamps Treasure

Rs1,323 PKR\* · In stock

\* Check website for latest pricing and availability. Images may be subject to copyright. [Learn More](#)

Visit

June 7, 2006

New Zealand

image controversy



A set of 5 depicting native Maori “Kapa Haka” performing arts was to be issued in New Zealand but were deemed too cartoonish by the public. NZ Post decided to recall all the stamps June 2, five days before the release date, back from post offices. Eight advance orders had already been mailed out and paid for by customers, creating rarities.

June 7, 2006

New Zealand

image controversy

Known to be in circulation:

2006 Maori Performing Arts gummed products  
4 x \$2 single stamp mint  
9 x first day covers  
6 x sets plate imprint blocks  
3 x complete single stamp sets mint  
1 x complete single stamp set used

2006 Maori Performing Arts self adhesive products  
1 x 45 cent dispenser box mint  
2 x 45 cent single stamp mint  
1 x 45 cent single stamp used  
11 x stamp booklets

3 x presentation packs mint

48 x blank first day cover envelopes carrying Maori Performing Arts illustrative imagery

[\\$A1,500](#) a single 45¢ self-adhesive (or coil stamp) neatly cut from the pane (*Stock 583AB*)  
or [\\$A2,750](#) a horizontal pair (or coil pair), which looks terrific as you can see (*Stock 583AC*)  
or [\\$A5,000](#) a block of 4 - if a block is still intact of course when you order! (*Stock 583AH*)

(**A block of 4 is a booklet pane** - each booklet has 2 panes of 4, and a pair.)

Or a complete booklet of 10 for [\\$A11,000](#) (*Stock 583AE*)

Coil pair of 45¢ (only 1 box 100 sold) - [\\$A3,950](#) (*Stock 583AEC*)

Coil joined strip of 4 - [\\$A5,000](#) (*Stock 583AH*)

prices from [https://www.glenstephens.com/kapa\\_haka.html](https://www.glenstephens.com/kapa_haka.html)

September 15, 2006

Kazakhstan

text error

The meeting place of the 3rd ECO (Economic Cooperation Organisation) postal authorities took place in Ankara (Анкара), Turkey, not Istanbul (Ыстамбұл) as seen on the original issue.



original



corrected, issued Sept. 22

September 15, 2006

Kazakhstan

text error



2006 Kazakhstan 3rd Meeting of  
the ECO Postal Authorities...

**\$1.99**

Buy It Now

+\$5.99 shipping

from Kazakhstan

August 29, 2007

Bangladesh

text and image error

Dr. Yunus was honored for winning the Nobel Peace Prize for pioneering the concepts of microcredit and microfinance. The original stamp was withdrawn Sept. 2, as the wrong Nobel medal is shown, his first name was wrongly abbreviated and “Peace” was omitted.



original



corrected, issued Sept. 9

August 29, 2007

Bangladesh

text and image error



2006 Nobel Peace Prize winner  
Dr. Md. Yunus 1v Banglades...

**\$30.00**

Shipping from \$3.50

Status

Private individual



Bangladesh Nobel Prize YUNUS Normal  
+ ERROR Withdrawn used on Register...

**\$65.00**

or Best Offer

+\$1.20 shipping

Jun-12 15:55



2007 BANGLADESH Dr.  
Muhammad Yunus Nobel...

**\$65.99**

Shipping from \$3.50

Status

Private individual

December 4, 2007



original



corrected, issued Dec. 27

## Mauritius image and text errors

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Ministerial System was commemorated here, but had several errors. The lower right image is not that of A.M. Osman but his brother, A. H. Osman. Incorrect captions include "Dr. G. Millien" instead of "Dr. E. Millien", and "R. Vaghjee" instead of "H.R. Vaghjee". The stamp was withdrawn and reissued, but without the two text names being corrected.



September 17, 2008

Russia

text error



Caught before its scheduled release, this Russian stamp depicts scenes from St. Petersburg, including the famous Samson Fountain in Peterhof Palace. However the stamp bore the city's former name by mistake, Leningrad. While none reached post offices, some were sold through the state philatelic agency.

September 17, 2008

Russia

image error



Russia 2008 Leningrad region  
Constantine Palace Pulkov...

 ± \$1.02

Fees according to conditions

Status

Private individual



RUSSIA RUSSIA 2008 SHEET 1504  
Peterhof Castle Leningrad region MNH R

**\$53.29**

Buy It Now

+\$7.68 shipping  
from Germany

January 30, 2009

Poland

text error

Poland released a set of stamps honoring concentration camp survivors. One of those was Józef Władysław Wolski, a distinguished Polish historian. His first name was missing on the first issue that was recalled, but added on the second version.



original



corrected, issued April 3

January 30, 2009

Poland

text error



Poland 2009 They Survived The Extermination. Mi 4408-11. M...

 ± \$65.23

Fees according to conditions

Status

Private individual



Poland 2009 error withdrawn by POST OFFICE KLEINBOGE...

 ± \$106.94

Fees according to conditions

Status

Private individual

January 21, 2009

Malaysia

missing text



original



corrected, issued April 10

Malaysia's "Unique Birds of Malaysia" set of stamps included a souvenir sheet. While on the selvage, the country's name was missing from the stamp itself. Withdrawn after a few days, it was reissued with the name and the logo of a Chinese stamp show.

January 21, 2009

Malaysia

missing text



\*FREE SHIP Unique Birds Of  
Malaysia 2009 without "Malaysia...

**\$15.00**

Buy It Now

Free shipping  
from Malaysia



Malaysia MNH perf overprint /  
surcharged & without printin...

**\$15.00**

Fees according to conditions

Status

Private individual

April 16, 2010

Philippines

text error

Issued as part of a set featuring “Philippine Biodiversity” the 5 peso stamp accurately depicts a “*Cyerce nigricans*,” but was incorrectly labeled as a sea hare and quickly withdrawn. A replacement was issued six months later.



original



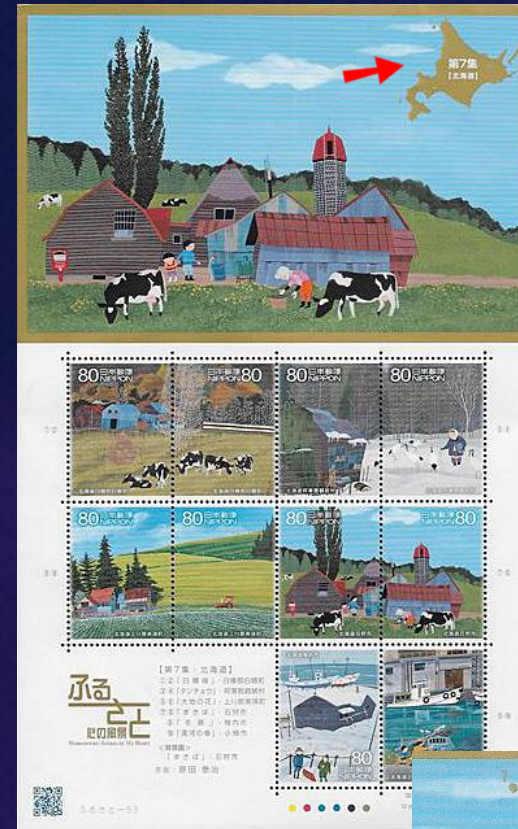
corrected, issued October 22

June 1, 2010

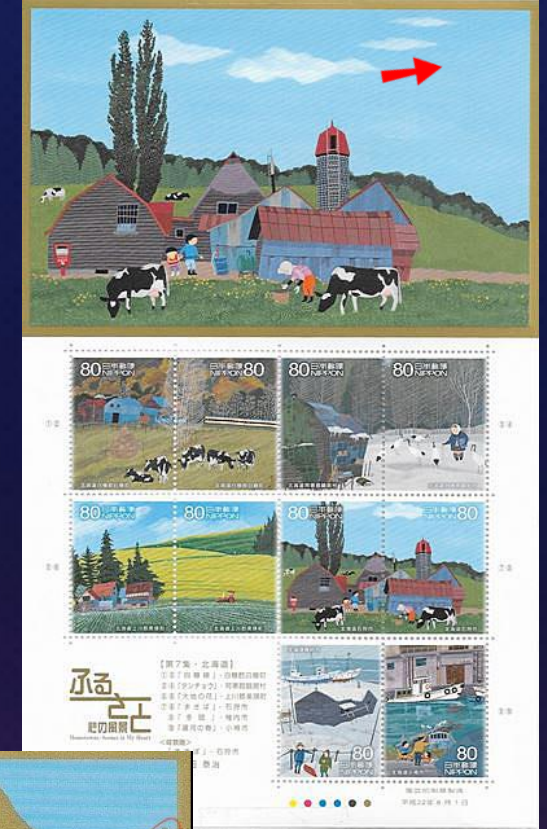
Japan

map controversy

The seventh edition of Japan's Hometown Scenes sheet series had a map of Hokkaido in the upper right corner showing the controversial South Kurils Islands as well, disputed land with Russia. The sheet was withdrawn the next day to avoid a political clash with its neighbor.



original



corrected,  
issued Sept. 10





June 1, 2010

Japan

map controversy



JAPAN , 2010 HOMETOWN  
SCENES IN MY HEART,...

**\$90.00**  
0 bids · 9d 2h  
or Best Offer  
+\$5.00 shipping

May 9, 2011

Greenland

poor quality



original



replacements, issued Dec. 22, 2012

Two definitives featuring Queen Margarethe II did not meet quality standards after being made and were withdrawn on May 26. It was found that the printing plate used suffered from inconsistent steel engravings. Replacements of a new design were released 19 months later in differing colors.

May 9, 2011

Greenland

poor quality



Greenland 2011 Queen Margrethe II, Set of 2, Withdrawn early, UNM / MNH

**\$4.32**  
0 bids May-4 06:55

**\$6.16**  
Buy It Now  
+\$3.09 shipping  
from United Kingdom  
**Benefits charity**

May 14, 2011

Sri Lanka

image controversy

Celebrating the Buddhist Vesak festival, four holy sites are shown within a map of India. However one of them shows the Maya Devi Temple in Buddha's birthplace, Lumbini, Nepal. Nepalese political and religious groups protested and the stamp and souvenir sheet were withdrawn.



May 14, 2011

Sri Lanka

image controversy



Sri Lanka Stamps 2011, Vesak,  
Buddha, Buddhism, WITHDRAW...

**\$3.29**

Buy It Now  
+\$1.95 shipping  
from Sri Lanka



Sri Lanka mint stamp (withdrawn)

**\$18.00**

0 bids · 6d 6h  
Free shipping  
from Sri Lanka

November, 23, 2011

Croatia

missing logo



A miniature sheet of 9 stamps with a vignette at the top left honoring Ivica Kostelić was withdrawn two days later under protest of the Croatian Ski Federation, as the label was missing the sponsor's logo, Raiffeisen Grupa. (200,000 sheets printed)

November, 23, 2011

Croatia

missing logo



CROATIA - HRVATSKA -  
ERROR - Withdrawn by th...

👁 ± \$29.52

Fees according to conditions

Status

Private individual



Croatia 2011 Kostelic Ivica  
sheet WITHDRAWN Reiffeis...

👁 ± \$60.05

Fees according to conditions

Status

Private individual



Croatia 2011 2012 Kostelic R  
letter cover WITHDRAWN la...

👁 ± \$83.66

Fees according to conditions

Status

Private individual

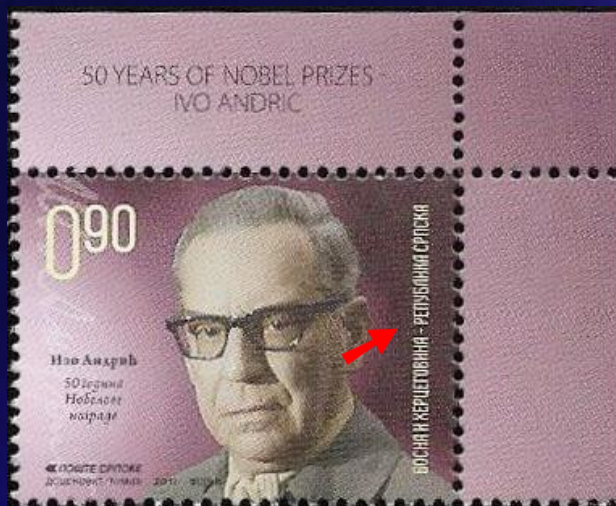
December 10, 2011

Srpske (Serbian Bosnia)

missing text



original



corrected, issued Feb. 27

Withdrawn on the day of issue, this stamp honors poet Ivo Andrić on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of winning the Nobel Prize for Literature. Despite bearing “Поште Српске” (Serbian Post), it was missing the actual name of the country. Supposedly between 400-2,951 were sold out of the print run of 15,000. A new version was issued ten weeks later, with “Босна и Херцеговина - Република Српска” (Bosnia Herzegovina – Republic Srpska).



December 10, 2011 Srpske (Serbian Bosnia)

missing text



Bosnia Serbia 2011 Ivo Andric  
Writer Nobel Prize Famous...

 ± \$16.03

Fees according to conditions

Status

Private individual



Bosnia Serbia 2011 Ivo Andric  
Writer Nobel Prize Famous...

 ± \$42.77

Fees according to conditions

Status

Private individual



BOSNA & H. - Nobel Prize IVO  
ANDRIC - ERROR WITHOU...

 ± \$144.37

Fees according to conditions

Status

Private individual

April 9, 2012

Macedonia

text error

On its acceptance into the European Union Macedonia released a set of two stamps featuring capitols of two nations, Cyprus and Denmark. However, the country's name was spelled incorrectly as МАКДОНИЈА (missing an "E") instead of МАКЕДОНИЈА. The set was withdrawn and reissued on the same day a year later.



original



corrected, issued April 9, 2013

April 9, 2012

Macedonia

text error



MACEDONIA - MAKEDONIA -  
EU CIPAR DANMARK ERR...

 ± \$18.78

Fees according to conditions

Status

Private individual



Macedonia 2012 Macedonia and  
the European Union, Mi 625 I - 6...

\$19.75

Buy It Now  
+\$6.00 shipping  
from Serbia  
Free returns



Macedonia/2012/M/S/  
REVOKED ISSUE / Error in t...

 ± \$139.53

Fees according to conditions

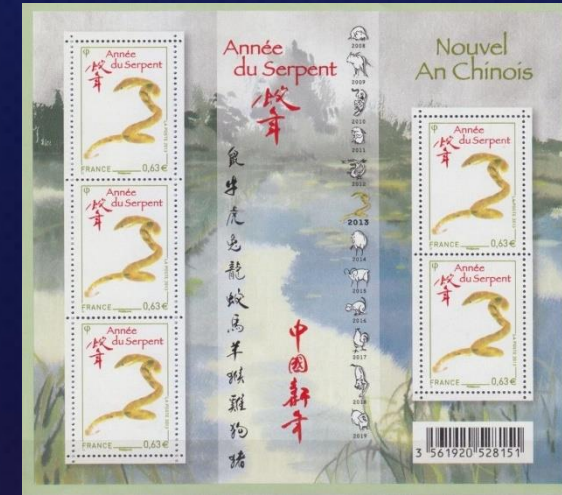
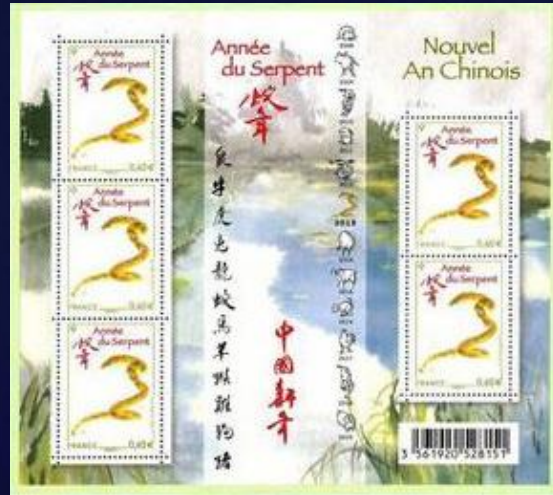
Status

Private individual

January 4, 2013

France

denomination change



This French 0.60€ “Chinese Year of the Snake” stamp was printed before a last minute 20 gm domestic rate change to 0.63€ was announced. All copies were to be destroyed without being released, but a few post offices received them in error.

June 12, 2014

Turkey

image error



original



revisions, issued Aug. 8

Turkey's 2014 World Cup set was withdrawn after being on sale for two weeks after 15,000 were sold as the cup logo and lettering did not meet FIFA copyright size standards. Two totally different stamps came out two months later.

June 12, 2014

Turkey

image error



TURKEY 2014, FIFA 2014 WORLD CUP (BRASIL , FOOTBALL) (VER...

**\$80.00**

Buy It Now  
+\$6.00 shipping  
from Turkey



TURKEY, 2014 FIFA WORLD CUP, BRASIL, FOOTBALL, MICHEL...

**\$120.00**

Buy It Now  
Free shipping  
from Turkey

**Last one**



TURKEY 2014, FIFA 2014 WORLD CUP (BRASIL FOOTBALL Block ...

**\$599.99**

Buy It Now  
+\$6.00 shipping  
from Turkey

August 5, 2014

Egypt

image error

Egypt's original intent to depict scenes from the recently widened Suez Canal project, costing £2.4 billion, mistakenly showed views of the Panama Canal instead. According to the online edition of Cairo Post, Egypt's postal authority ordered sales of the error stamps ended on Saturday, September 13. The revised version added "The New Suez Canal" in English.



original with photo the middle stamp's design was based



corrected, issued Sept. 16

August 5, 2014

Egypt

image error



stamps EGYPT 2014 SUEZ CANAL  
WITHDRAWN PANAMA &...

**\$59.99**

Buy It Now  
+\$29.99 shipping

from Egypt  
**5 watchers**

Jun-29 08:51



Egypt Suez Canal Error, One normal and  
one with error withdrawn issue (Panama)

**\$75.00**

or Best Offer  
Free shipping

May-14 10:09



Egypt Suez Canal 2 fdc. One normal and  
one with error withdrawn issue (Panama)

**\$74.99**

Buy It Now  
+\$15.00 shipping  
from Saudi Arabia

May-14 16:44

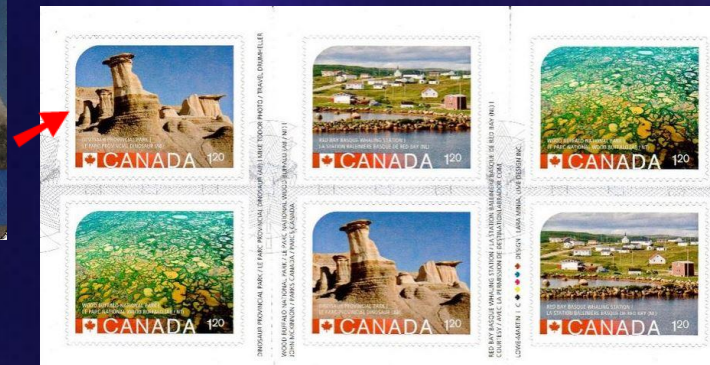
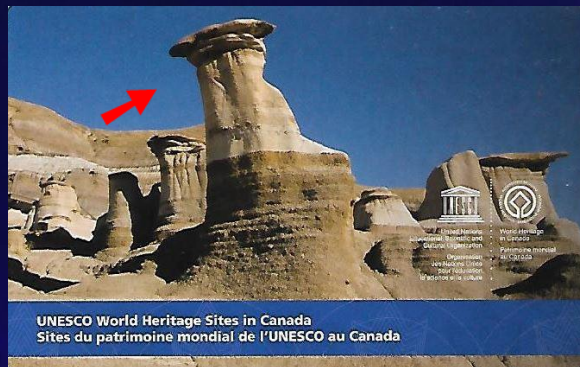


July 6, 2015

Canada

image error

Alberta's Dinosaur Park was one of several UNESCO World Heritage sites to be shown on a set of booklet stamps and souvenir sheet. Three days after release they were withdrawn, as a site 200 km away was used in error, including on the cover. A corrected version in both formats was released 45 days later.





booklet cover, self-stick stamps and souvenir sheet

corrected image, issued Aug. 21, 2015

July 6, 2015

Canada

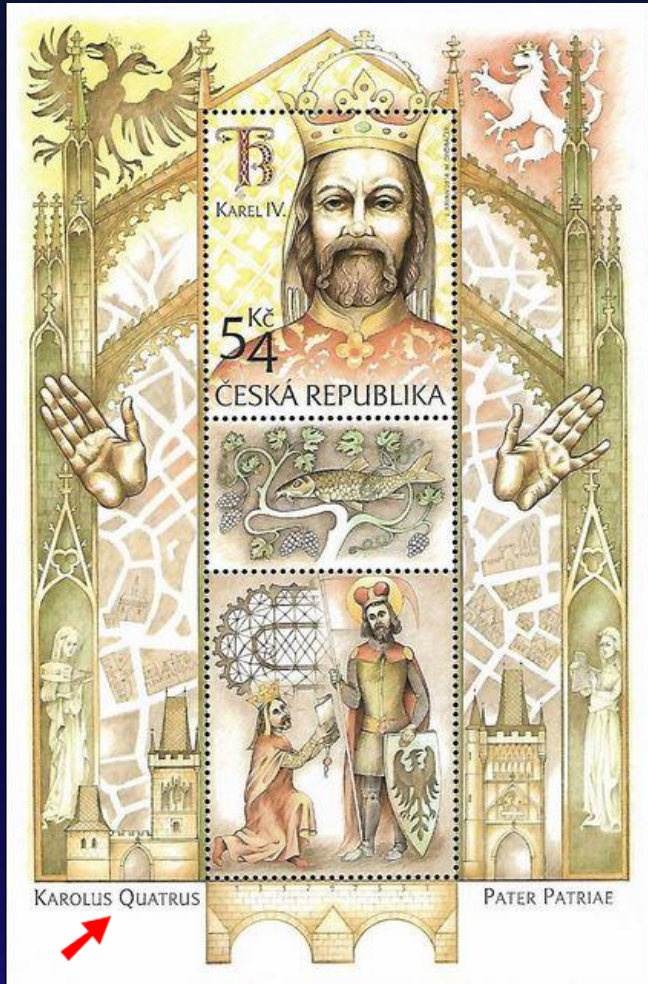
image error

 <p>A sheet of six Canadian postage stamps featuring UNESCO World Heritage sites. The stamps are arranged in two rows of three. The top row shows the Acropolis of Toronto, a forest landscape, and a coastal town. The bottom row shows a lake with swans, a mountain landscape, and a snowy mountain range. Each stamp has 'CANADA' printed at the bottom.</p>	 <p>A booklet of six Canadian postage stamps, identical to the sheet shown in the first item. The stamps are arranged in two columns of three. Each stamp has 'CANADA' printed at the bottom.</p>
<p>CANADA STAMPS # 2844 UNESCO RECALLED ERROR WORLD HERITAGE...</p>	<p>RARE CANADA STAMP BOOKLET # 2847a (BK623) UNESCO RECALLED...</p>
<p><b>\$209.67</b> Buy It Now +\$2.57 shipping from Canada</p>	<p><b>\$55.18</b> Buy It Now +\$1.47 shipping from Canada</p>
<p>May-11 14:45</p>	<p>May-10 03:34</p>

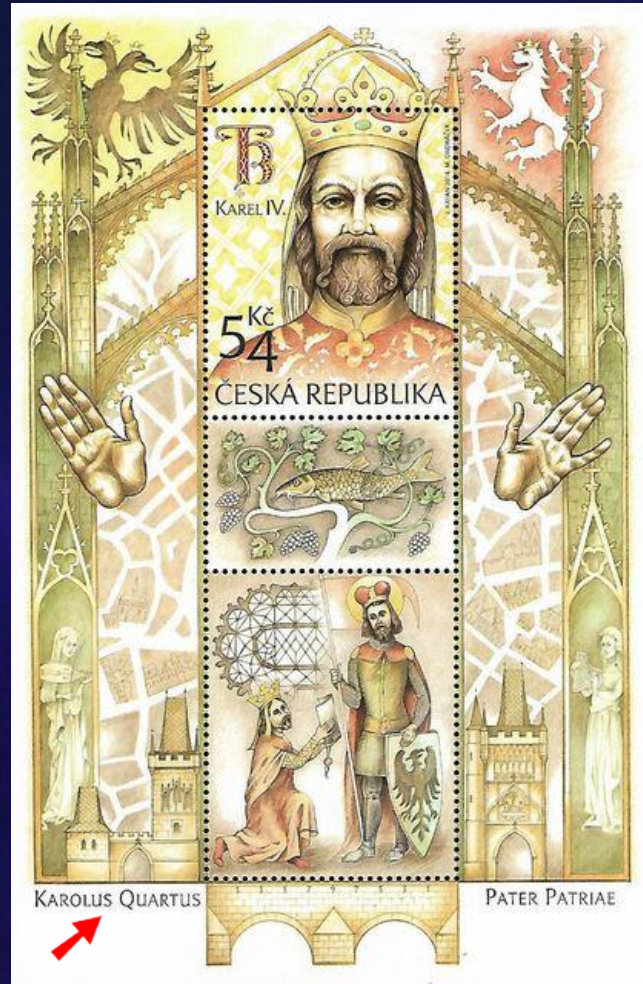
May 4, 2016

Czech Republic

text error



original



corrected, issued May 14 (?)

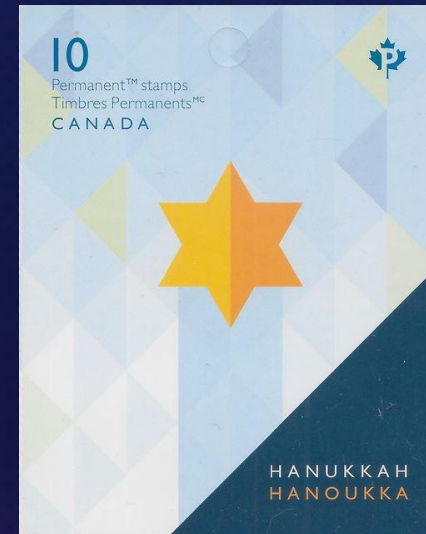
This souvenir sheet honoring the 700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Charles IV (1316-1378) was recalled after a few days and re-issued for a Latin spelling error, “KAROLUS QUATRUS” (Charles the 4 sided) instead of “KAROLUS QUARTUS” (Charles IV).

November 14, 2017

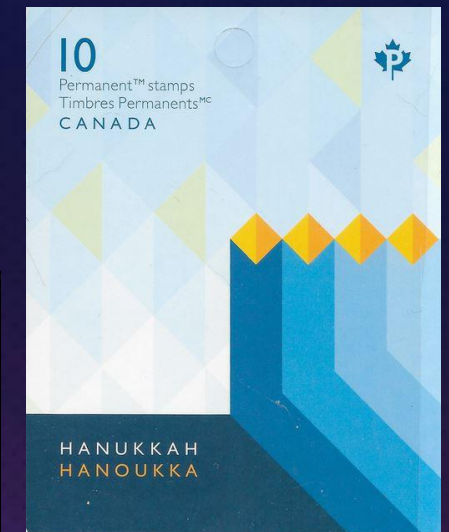
Canada

design change

Shortly before being issued Canada Post changed this self-stick booklet's Star of David cover design for one showing a Menorah with four candlesticks, more representative of the Jewish holiday. A few dealers who had standing orders were sent the original design booklets in advance and refused to return them back at Canada Post's request.



original cover design



revised design as issued Nov. 22

November 14, 2017

Canada

design change



CANADA BOOKLET UNITRADE 686  
RECALLED BOOKLET THE SHAMASH...

**\$35.31**

or Best Offer

+\$1.29 shipping  
from Canada

Mar-10 07:01



2017 Rare/Recalled Error Hanukkah  
stamp booklet, 10 Permanent Stamps -...

**\$36.05**

Buy It Now

+\$7.32 shipping  
from Canada

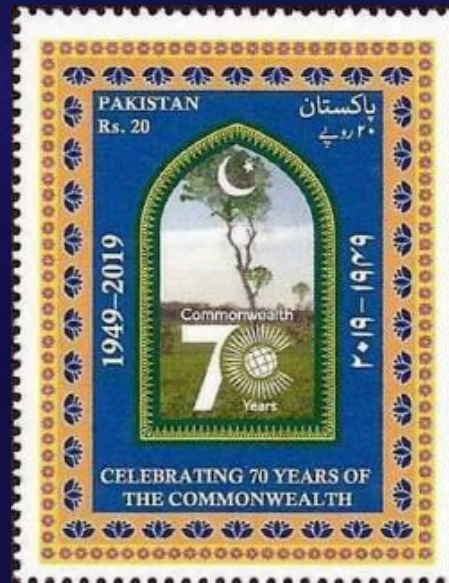
Mar-31 19:10

August 14, 2019

Pakistan

image error

Issued to honor the 70th Anniversary of the Commonwealth of Nations, Pakistan depicted a newly planted tree. However the tree did not match the original picture, which had less foliage, and it was withdrawn. It was replaced shortly after.



original



corrected, date unknown

August 14, 2019

Pakistan

image error



2

PAKISTAN 2019 MNH RARE  
ERROR FIRST PRINT FD...

± \$4.97

Fees according to conditions

Status

Private individual



PAKISTAN 2019 - 70th  
Anniversary of CommonWea...

± \$19.25

Fees according to conditions

Status

Professional



MNH STAMPS PAKISTAN- The  
70th Anniversary of the...

± \$38.49

Fees according to conditions

Status

Private individual

September 26, 2019

Bosnia-Herzegovina

image error



original



corrected, issued Oct. 2019

The Travnik fortress was built around the turn of the 15<sup>th</sup> century, but its minaret was added later under the Ottomans after 1463. The original release omits the minaret, which still stands today.



September 26, 2019

Bosnia-Herzegovina

image error



Bosnia Sarajevo 2019 Travnik Fortress  
WITHDRAWN FROM SALE + new issue...

**\$149.99**

Buy It Now  
+\$6.00 shipping  
from Serbia

Apr-12 12:13



Bosnia Sarajevo 2019 Travnik Fortress  
WITHDRAWN FROM SALE + new issue...

**\$59.99**

Buy It Now  
+\$6.00 shipping  
from Serbia

Apr-12 12:13

May 8, 2020



original



## North Macedonia map error

A set of two stamps were issued by Macedonia to mark its presidency of the European Union, each in a sheetlet of 8 stamps and central label. The Zagreb stamp was withdrawn the next day due to protests by its neighbors Bosnia, Serbia and Montenegro as it showed a map of what was “Greater Croatia” during World War II instead of its border of today. The set had a print run of 6,000 stamps.

May 8, 2020

North Macedonia

map error



MACEDONIA NORTH  
2020,MACEDONIA IN...

 ± \$134.15

Fees according to conditions

Status

Private individual



North Macedonia 2020  
European Union Europa...

 ± \$482.97

Fees according to conditions

Status

Private individual

January 24, 2021

Moldova

missing text



original



corrected, issued June 6

Valeriu Gafencu (1921-1952), died at the age of 31 after spending 11 years in a Romanian communist prison for his Christian beliefs. This stamp notes his 100<sup>th</sup> birth year, but was lacking the country's name and recalled on April 21. A new version was issued later on June 6.

January 24, 2021

Moldova

missing text



MOLDOVA 2021-01 Famous People: Gafencu, Priest. Sai...

± \$0.29

Fees according to conditions

Status

Private individual



2021. Moldova, Birth Centenary of V. Gafencu, ERROR, type...

± \$2.14

Fees according to conditions

Status

Private individual

May 25, 2021

Spain

image controversy



Good intentions went awry with this “Racial Equality” set issued on the one year anniversary of the George Floyd murder. The four stamps vary in face value based on skin tone, with darkest skin having the least value: pale 1.60€, slightly darker 1.50€, brown 0.80€, and black 0.70€. Their release was to 'reflect an unfair and painful reality that shouldn't be allowed'. They were withdrawn on May 28 after worldwide condemnation.

May 25, 2021

Spain


image controversy



A photograph of the 'EQUALITY STAMPS' set packaging. The box is divided into four vertical panels of different colors: light brown, orange, red, and black. Each panel has a small stamp on it. The text 'EQUALITY STAMPS' is printed in large white letters across the middle of the box. A small crown logo is visible at the bottom center of the box. The background is a plain, light-colored surface.

Correos Spain Equality Stamp set withdrawn 2021 racial discrimination sk...

**\$495.76**  
or Best Offer  
+\$24.79 shipping  
from United Kingdom



A product image of the 'EQUALITY STAMPS' collection. The image shows a black background with the text 'Una colección de sellos para luchar contra el racismo.' at the top. Below this, the words 'EQUALITY STAMPS' are written in large, bold, white letters. A yellow crown logo is centered below the text. At the bottom, there are small icons and text, including a hand icon and a QR code.

Sale 1 EQUALITY STAMPS complete series collection of stamps against racism unique ...

**\$6,709.91**  
[Etsy](#)  
Free delivery

July 28, 2021

Bangladesh

misleading text



original



corrected, issued Dec. 2021



original on cover

Issued for the 50<sup>th</sup> birthday of Sajeeb Ahmed Wazed Joy, the son of the Prime Minister. Withdrawn in a week, as the years looked as though they refer to a birth/death memoriam (1971-2021).



July 28, 2021

Bangladesh

misleading text



2021 BANGLADESH Sajib  
Ahmed Wazed Joy 50th Birt...

 **\$9.99**

Shipping from \$3.50

Status

Private individual



Bangladesh 2021  
WITHDRAWN Joy 1v MNH...

 **± \$48.29**

Fees according to conditions

Status

Private individual



Bangladesh 2021  
WITHDRAWN Joy 1v FDC S...

 **± \$42.92**

Fees according to conditions

Status

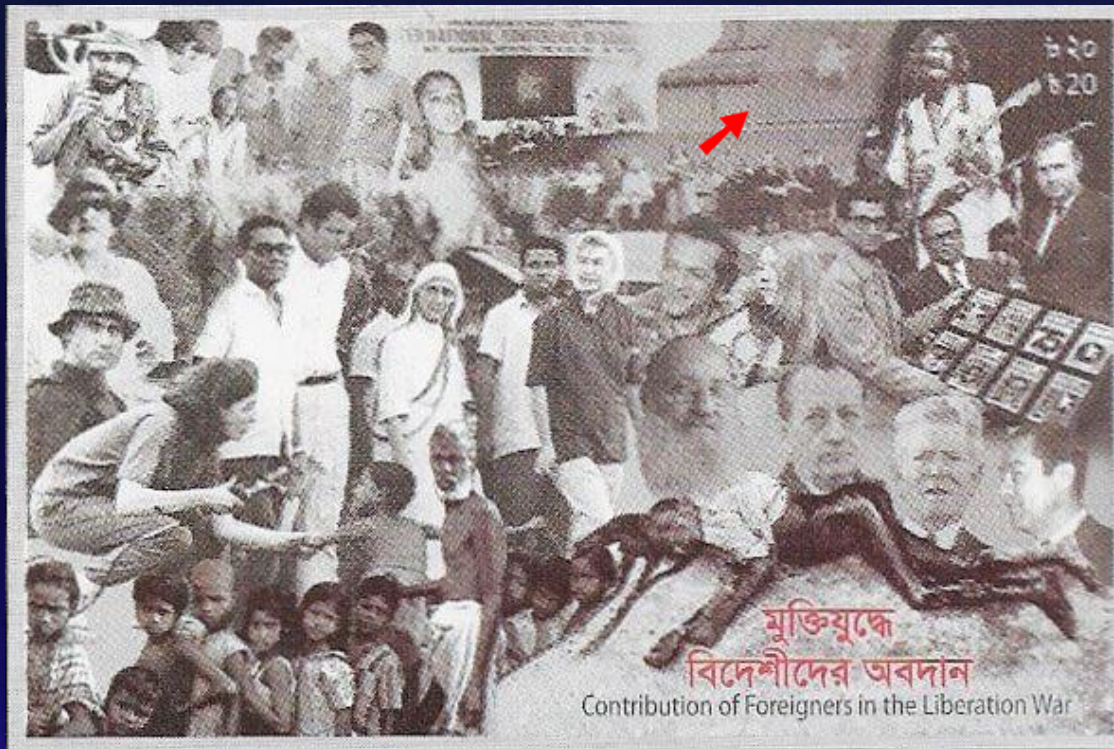
Private individual

November 16, 2021

Bangladesh

missing text

Souvenir sheet for “Contribution of Foreigners in the Liberation War.” Withdrawn shortly after release, missing country name.



original




corrected, issued February 13, 2022

November 16, 2021

Bangladesh

missing text



Bangladesh 2021 WITHDRAWN MS MNH  
Beatles Harrison Teresa Stamp-on-...


**\$39.99**  
Buy It Now Jan-25 11:22  
Free shipping  
from Bangladesh



2021 Bangladesh Contribution  
of Foreigners in War...

**\$33.33**  
Shipping from \$3.50

Status Private individual



Bangladesh 2021 WITHDRAWN MS FDC  
Beatles Harrison Teresa Stamp-on-...

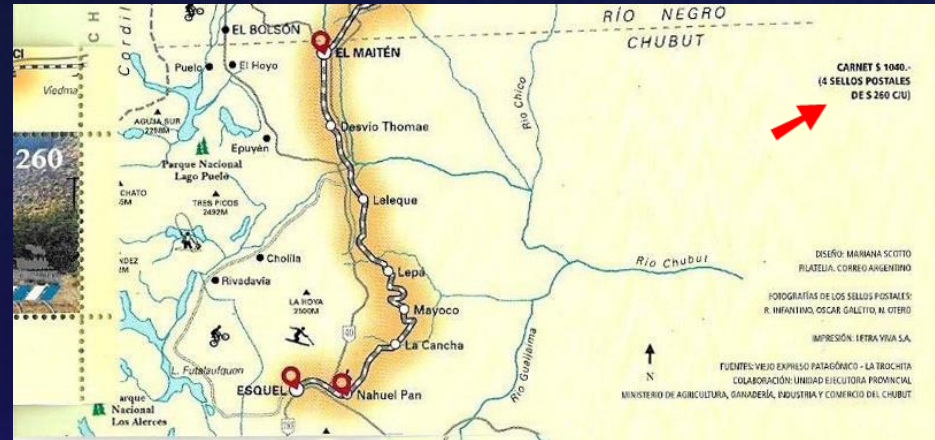
**\$49.99**  
Buy It Now Aug-18 04:21  
Free shipping  
from Bangladesh

November 22, 2022

Argentina

text error

Available 1 day with wrong price, reissued with a label over area.



was to be sold at \$1200, not \$1040 face value as printed



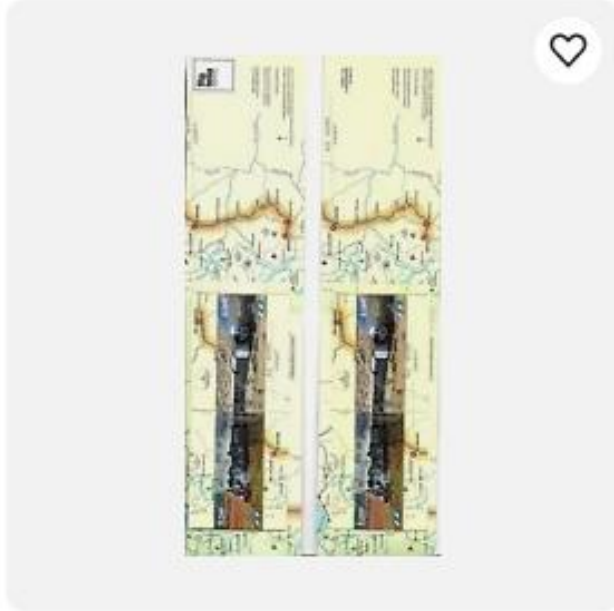
corrected



November 22, 2022

Argentina

text error



#75192C ARGENTINA 2022  
PATAGONIAN TRAINS BOOKLET...

**\$29.50**  
Buy It Now Mar-9 03:19  
+\$7.00 shipping  
from Argentina

May 16, 2023

Vatican City

image controversy

World Youth Day was celebrated with this Vatican stamp for only three days before it was withdrawn. The Pope is shown leading children around Lisbon, Portugal's famous Henry the Navigator statue. Opposition came from those who believe it was pro-colonialism and others who thought it gave tacit approval to the country's dictator at the time it was built, Antonio Salazar.



May 16, 2023

Vatican City

image controversy



2023 Vatican - World Youth Day in Portugal - Ri stamp  
Brand New

**\$619.94**  
Buy It Now  
Free shipping  
from Italy  
Free returns



2023 Vatican - Giornata Mondiale Of Youth IN Portugal - Stamp re...

**\$642.07**  
Buy It Now  
Free shipping  
from Italy  
Free returns



VATICAN\_WG 2023\_retired -  
Quartin (slight defect)  
New (Other)

**\$1,244.14**  
7 bids · 3d 10h  
+\$9.59 shipping  
from Italy

Whether you call it withdrawn, recalled or use other words to describe the phenomenon, the pace of stamps being taken off sale due to a design flaw or “hullabaloo” of some kind is not slowing. Be prepared for many more coming our way!

By the way, when searching for these on the Internet and auction sites “withdrawn” brings many more hits than “recalled,” which mostly is associated with the U.S. Legends of the West issue.

*Much of the material here came from an excellent web site that deals with withdrawn, controversial and exceptional stamps with 318+ examples at <https://withdrawn-english.jimdofree.com>.*



Far from...

**THE END**