



## Kingdom of Laos

### 25<sup>th</sup> Death Anniversary of Franklin D. Roosevelt - 12/Apr/1970

Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1882-1945) was the thirty-second president of the United States that served four terms in office - from 1933 to 1945. He served during a time of worldwide economic crisis and World War II.

During the great depression of the 1930s, Roosevelt created the New Deal to provide relief for the unemployed and recovery and reform of the economy and banking systems.

After 1938, Roosevelt championed re-armament and led the nation away from isolationism as the world headed into World War II. He provided support to the British war effort before the attack by Japan pulled the US into the war. During the war, Roosevelt decisive leadership against Nazi Germany and made the US the principal arms supplier and financier of the allies who later defeated Germany, Italy and Japan.

After the Allies victory, Roosevelt, together with Churchill and Stalin, was involved in the post-war future of Europe. He also espoused the foundation of the United Nations Organization. On April 12, 1945, President Roosevelt died at age of 63. The Kingdom of Laos issued this stamp to commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death.



Franklin D. Roosevelt

### Birth Centenary of Vladimir I. Lenin - 22/Apr/1970



Lenin explaining electrification plan - L. Shmatko

Vladimir Ilyich Lenin (1870-1924) was a Russian revolutionary, a communist politician, the main leader of the October Revolution, the first head of the Russian Soviet Socialist Republic and the first leader of the Soviet Union.

Lenin was born in 1870. He was influenced by the revolutionary political views and the ideas of Karl Marx. He started his political actions as a socialist and developed his Marxist-Leninist Theory while a young student. He left Russia in 1900 and became the head of the Russian Social-Democratic party. In 1917, he returned to Russia and led the revolution in Petrograd against the Russian Government. The revolution gave the power to the Soviets and led to the creation of the Soviet Union which headed by Lenin until his resignation in 1922. This set of stamps was issued to commemorate the centenary of Lenin birth. The stamps depict "Lenin explaining electrification plan" painted by L. Shmatko.



## Kingdom of Laos

### Semi Postal: Support for War Victims - 1/May/1970



From the 1960s to 1975 the Kingdom of Laos was a battlefield. The main conflict was between the communist movement Pathet Lao, supported by North-Vietnam and Soviet Union, from one side and The Royal Laotian Government, supported by USA, from the other.

In 1950, the Viet-Minh-supported guerilla movement Pathet Lao was founded in North-Eastern Laos to fight the French. This movement was the armed force of the political movement Lao People's Party. The Pathet Lao and the Viet-Minh took control of several areas at the North Laos, mainly provinces of Fongsally and Huaphan.

In 1954, a conference on Indochina convened in Geneva. It was agreed that Laos remains neutral and constitutional monarchy. A ceasefire was to be declared, followed by withdrawal of foreign forces and assembles of the Pathet Lao forces into Royal army. A coalition government made up of all parties including the Pathet Lao was established. Soon, despite this agreement, the coalition government collapsed, as well as others established later, and a state of civil war between the Royal government and the Pathet Lao continued for more twenty years.

To prevent Soviets and communists take over of Laos, USA sent military aid to the Royal government and later sent troops. From 1964 to 1973 Laos became deeply involved in Vietnam War. USA air-force bombs Pathet Lao forces and Ho-Chi-Minh trail in eastern Laos, the main supply route from North-Vietnam to Vietcong forces. Although the US military aid and activities, the North-Vietnamese and the Pathet Lao continued to occupy more Provinces of Laos and by the late 1973 they controlled 11 provinces of Laos. Laos was divided into Pathet Lao and non-Pathet Lao zones.

In 1973, a ceasefire agreement was reached in Laos\* and USA started to drawing back its troops. Again, the agreement collapsed and, in late 1975, the unexpectedly rapid fall of South Vietnam following USA final withdrawal led the Pathet Lao to attack and occupy the rest of Laos. The King was abdicated and Lao PDR was declared. A six hundreds years of Laotian Monarchy fell down.

During the war in Laos, an estimated 200,000 people were killed, more wounded and lost their properties and others left their homes and became refugees. Most of them were innocent uninvolved civilians that became victims of Soviet communism spreading doctrine and the war between the super-powers.

To raise revenue to the war victims, the Kingdom of Laos re-issued the "Ramayana Ballet" set of stamps overprinted in French "Support for war victims" ("Soutien aux Victimes de la Guerre") and surcharged 5K as shown in the box,

Soutien aux Victimes  
de la Guerre  
+ 5 K

\*To read about this agreement, please refer to the page shows the set of stamps "1<sup>st</sup> anniversary of Laotian peace treaty implement" issued on February 21, 1975.



# Kingdom of Laos

## Expo '70 World Fair, Osaka, Japan - 7/Jul/1970

The World's fair Expo '70 was held in Osaka, Japan between 15/Mar/1970 – 13/Sep/1970. The theme of the fair was "Progress and Harmony for Mankind" and aimed to exhibiting the progress of technology and providing the opportunity for cultural exchange between different regions. The fair served mainly as a symbol of the extremely rapid development of Japan after World War II. Seventy seven countries attended the fair. Laos participated in the Expo '70 fair and had an individual pavilion. To commemorate this event, Laos issued this set of stamps. It depicts traditional Laotian weaving of textiles, the main product that Laos exhibited in the fair. The Expo '70 emblem appears on each stamp. It consists of five petals of Cherry blossom symbolizing the five inhabited continents and red circle in the centre of the blossom symbolizing Japan.



## Endangered Wild Animals – 7/Sep/1970 (2<sup>nd</sup> series)

Laos is one of few places on earth where forest area covers 80% of the country. It is popular for its forests, mountains, rivers and scenic beauty. It is a land of beautiful dense green hills, tropical monsoon climate, glittering rivers and vast unexplored wild life. Some of the animal populations are endangered; some have been hunted by the hunters and by the poachers, who steal uncommon animals for sale live in Vietnam or, as "medicinal" body parts or food, in China, Thailand and Vietnam.

These stamps depict three wild mammals living in Laos: Wild Boar, Leopard and Gaur. All of them are endangered species. The Gaur (*Bisos gaurus*) depicted on the 500 K stamp is the wild species and considered as different species from the domesticated Gaur (*Bisos frontalis*).



Wild Boar  
*Sus vittadus*



Leopard  
*Panthera pardus*



Wild Gaur  
*Bisos gaurus*



# Kingdom of Laos

## 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of United Nations Organization – 24/Oct/1970



The United Nations Organization was established on June 25, 1945. To read about the UN, please refer to the page shows the "Admission to UN" set of stamps issued on December 14, 1956.

To commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UN organization, the Kingdom of Laos issued this set of stamps depicts Buddhist characters in front of UN headquarter, New York, USA.

The 30K and 70K stamps depict walking Buddha statue from Wat Phra Keo, Vientiane in a Mudra that represents calming wars between peoples.

The 125K stamp depicts Nang Thorani, mother of earth. According to a legend, Buddha sat down under a Bodhi tree and vowed not to get up until attaining enlightenment, but he was tempted by the Mara's (devil) army. Nang Thorani appeared, squeezed water from her hair braid and drowned Mara's army. The water symbolizes the pure power eliminating the evil.

Both designs symbolize the United Nations Organization main goal – to prevent wars and bring peace to the world.

## Laotian Mythology (1<sup>st</sup> series) – 5/Feb /1971



Nakhhanet is a symbol of arts and culture.



Rahu is an immortal dragon head that swallows the sun or the moon causing eclipse. To read the legend, please refer to the page shows the "Space Retrospect" set of stamps issued on Mars 30, 1973.

Hanuman, the monkey god, is one of the Phra Lam Phra Lak (Ramayana) Epos. Hanuman and the monkeys had to build bridge across the sea to move to Lanka in order to rescue Nang Sida. Thotsakan, the demon, asked his mermaid daughter Nang Matsa to disturb building the bridge. Thus, the fishes removed the stones and prevented the construction. Hanuman realized that they were doing so under Nang Matsa orders. During the duel between them, she fall in love with him and ordered to stop destroy the bridge. Later, she gave birth to a chimera of a monkey and a fish.





## Kingdom of Laos

### Traditional Laotian Handicrafts – 12/Apr/1971

Laos is famous for its delicate handicrafts. Weaving, woodcarving, silver and gold crafting and pottery are traditional handicrafts in Laos. Many daily life instruments are homemade such as fishing nets and equipments, kitchen tools, cloths and shoes, music instruments, baskets, furniture, jewelry etc. Whole Laotian villages may specialize in a particular handicraft and depend economically on selling their handicraft products.



Silversmiths



Potters



Wood Pirogues Builder

### International Year against Racism – 1/May/1971

The United Nations General Assembly has designated 1971 as international year for actions to combat racism and racial discrimination. Actions against racism, racial discrimination, apartheid, Nazism and racial intolerance were taken by the United Nations Organization since it established. On November 20, 1963, the General Assembly adopted the United Nations Declaration on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination, by which it "solemnly affirmed the necessity of speedily eliminating racial discriminating throughout the world, in all forms of manifestation and of securing understanding of and respect for the dignity of human person". On November 19, 1968, the United Nation General Assembly adopted resolution 2446 as measure to achieve the rapid and total elimination of all forms of racial discrimination in general and the policy of apartheid in particular. Chapter 6 of the resolution appeals to all states and organizations dedicated to ideals of freedom, independence and peace to continue to give political, normal and material assistance to people struggling against all forms of racial discrimination and colonialism.

To commemorate the international year against racism and resolution number 2446, the Kingdom of Laos issued these stamps depict Laotians and people of different races. The UN emblem also depicted on the stamps.



Laotians and Peoples of Different Races



## Kingdom of Laos

### 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Rotary Club of Vientiane - 28/Jun/1971

Rotary International is a service clubs organization located all over the world with thousands of clubs and members, known as Rotarians. The organization was founded in 1905 in Chicago, USA by Paul P. Harris. The Rotary International objectives are to encourage:

1. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
2. High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
3. The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
4. The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

In order to carry out its service programs, Rotary is structured in club, district and international levels. The clubs located all over the world. One of the Rotary International club was founded in 1921 in Vientiane. To commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Vientiane club, Laos issued this set of stamps. Each stamp depicts the Rotary International logo.



Monk in That Luang  
stupa, Vientiane



Laotian in Wat Ho  
Phra Keo, Vientiane

### Keng-Kok and Saint-Astier Twin Cities - 6/Aug/1971

This set of stamps commemorates the twin cities of Saint-Astier in Dordogne département, France and Keng-Kok in Savanakhét province, southern Laos. The cities signed their friendship in 1969 and the colleges of Saint-Astier and Keng-Kok have relationship since 1971. Ceremonies in both cities marked this friendship.

The stamps depict Laotian and French women on the background of That Luang, Vientiane. The coat-of arms of both Savanakhét for Keng-Kok and of Saint-Astier are depicted on the stamps.





# Kingdom of Laos

Orchids - 7/Jul/1971 & 5/May/1972

The Orchids family, Orchidaceae, is the largest family of the flowering plants (angiospermae). Botanists list 880 genera and nearly 22,000 species of them, but the exact number is unknown. The number also encompasses about 10% of all seed plants. The largest genera are *Bulbophyllum* (2,000 species), *Epidendrum* (1,500 species), *Dendrobium* (1,400 species) and *Pleurothallis* (1,000 species).

Orchidaceae are cosmopolitan, occurring in almost every habitat apart from deserts and glaciers. The great majority are to be found in the tropics, mostly Asia, South America and Central America. A majority of species are found in tropical moist broadleaf forests or mountains and subtropics. These are anchored on other plants, mostly trees and shrubs. A few are growing naturally on rocks or on very rocky soil and others are terrestrial.

Orchidaceae are well known for their beautiful flowers. A large variations in structural and colors of the flowers is a famous character of this family. Pollinators visually attracted by the shape and color of the flowers. Some Orchids species produce attractive odors and nectar.

Orchides are found in all the forest types of Laos. About 400 species are knowing to occur in Laos. Considering the orchid richness of the neighbouring countries it seems safe to estimate that more than 800 species may eventually be recorded from Laos. Phou (mountain) Khong in the Phou Xieng Thong national reserve area is well known for its variety of wild orchids.

In these two sets of stamps issued by Kingdom of Laos, a native Laotian orchids are depicted except the hybrid *Cattleyas* on two of the stamps, the 125K of 1971 and 80K of 1972, that are not native of Laos.

The latin names of the flowers in the 30K, 50K (1971) and 40K (1972) stamps are misspelled. The correct spelling are written beneath each stamp.



*Dendrobium aggregatum*



*Ascocentrum miniatum*



*Trichoglottis fasciata*



*Cattleya du Bresil*



*Rhynchosstylis gigantea*



*Paphiopedilum exul*



*Cattleya Hybr.*



*Vanda teres*



## Kingdom of Laos

### Endangered Wild Animals – 16/Sep/1971 (3<sup>rd</sup> series)

Laos is one of few places on earth where forest area covers 80% of the country. It is popular for its forests, mountains, rivers and scenic beauty. It is a land of beautiful dense green hills, tropical monsoon climate, glittering rivers and vast unexplored wild life. Some of the animal populations are endangered; some have been hunted by the hunters and by the poachers, who steal uncommon animals for sale live in Vietnam or, as "medicinal" body parts or food, in China, Thailand and Vietnam.

These stamps depict four endangered wild mammals living in Laos: Palm civet, Lesser Malay chevrotain, Sika deer and Javan rhinoceros. All these wild mammals became rare in Laos and under threat of extinction, especially the Javan rhinoceros, primarily for their horns which are highly valued in traditional Chinese medicine. Loss of habitat, especially as the results of wars, has also contributed to the species' decline and hindered recovery.



Palm Civet  
*Paradoxurus hermaphroditus*



Lesser Malay Chevrotain  
*Tragulus kanchil*



Sika Deer  
*Cervus unicolor*



Javan Rhinoceros  
*Rhinoceros sondaicus*





# Kingdom of Laos

20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Laotian Philately - 31/Oct/1971

N<sup>o</sup> 020338

250K-620K



ROYAUME DU LAOS  
ລາວ  
1971



## VINGTIEME ANNIVERSAIRE DE LA PHILATELIE LAO

IMPRIMERIE DES TIMBRES-POSTE-FRANCE



The first Laotian set of stamps was issued on November 13, 1951. The set contains 12 definitive stamps show the Mekong River, Xieng-Thong and That-Luang temples and King Sisavang Vong. Months later, on April 13, 1952, the first airmail and postage-due stamps sets were released. Most of the Laotian stamps were designed and engraved by French artists and printed, mostly, in "Imprimerie des Timbres-Poste - Paris".

These stamps and SS, issued to commemorate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Laotian philately, depict former Laos's stamps, all were designed by the painter Marc Leguay and engraved by Jean Pheulpin.





## Kingdom of Laos

### Paintings by Chamnane Prisayane – 20/Dec/1971



*Sunset over the Mekong River*



*Quiet Morning at Ban Tane Piao*

The painter and designer Chamnane Prisayane designed many stamps of the Kingdom of Laos during the years 1958-1975. Prisayane's designs depict the beauty of the landscapes, nature and the people of the Kingdom of Laos. Many of his designed stamps were chosen by philatelists as the year's most beautiful stamps of Laos. Among them are stamps from famous Laotian sets of stamps as "Asian Elephant" (1958), "Tourism Promotion" (1960) and "Freedom from Hunger Campaign" (1962).

Two of Chamnane Prisayane's remarkable paintings, show Laotian landscapes, were issued on stamps to commemorate the painter and his great contribution to Laotian philately.

### International Book Year 1972 – 30/Jan/1972

Recognizing the primordial importance of the book, the general conference of UNESCO proclaimed year 1972 as International Book Year. The general theme is books for all, and the goal is to focus attention on the role of books and related materials in the lives and affairs of the individual and society. The overall objectives are the encouragement of authorship and translation; improved circulation and production of books; promotion of the reading habit; and strengthening the usefulness of books in education, international understanding and peaceful cooperation.

To commemorate the International Book Year and the importance of the book, the Kingdom of Laos issued this set of stamps. They depict Laotian traditional class with student learning to read. The 70K stamp depicts scribe writing religious Buddhist text on palm leaves, a method used by Buddhists in Laos and in the rest of the area for hundreds of years. Each of the stamps also depicts the International Book Year emblem designed by Michel Olyff showing two figures linking arms over the pages of an open book. The year slogan "Books for All" ("Des Livres Pour Tous") appears under the year emblem.



*Children learning to read*



*Scribe writing on Palm Leaves*



*Parents teaching their Child to read Palm Leaves Book*



## Kingdom of Laos

### 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) – 15/Mar/1972

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) is the regional arm of the United Nations Secretariat for the Asia and Pacific region. It was established in 1947 to encourage economic cooperation among its member states. ECAFE's regional focus is managing globalization through programs in environmentally sustainable development, trade and human rights. In 1974 the name was changed to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). Laos was admitted to ECAFE in 1953.

To commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ECAFE, the Kingdom of Laos issued this set of stamps depicts the Nam Ngum hydroelectric dam. The construction of the dam was financed by ten countries under the auspices of the ECAFE and was completed in 1971. It is the major source for electricity in Laos and part of Thailand. The ECAFE logo is also depicted on the stamps.



Nam Ngum Hydroelectric Dam

### 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) – 20/Jul/1972



The United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) was established in 1946 by the UN General Assembly to provide emergency food and healthcare to children in devastated countries by World War II. In 1953, UNICEF became a permanent part of the United Nations that provides long-term humanitarian and developmental assistance to children and families in developing countries. UNICEF is focused on five priorities: Child survival and development, Basic education and gender equality, Child protection from violence and exploitation, Child health including immunization and Child rights all over the world.

An agreement between UNICEF and the Kingdom of Laos was signed in Vientiane on August 15, 1952. It concerns the UNICEF activities in the Kingdom especially providing free supplies and service for the benefits of the children of Laos. The Kingdom of Laos was represented by Prince Souvanna Phouma.

UNICEF was established on December 11, 1946. To commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the organization, the Kingdom of Laos issued this set of stamps depicts scenes from Laos rural life drawings made by Laotian children. The UNICEF emblem, mother and child, appears on each of the stamps.



## Kingdom of Laos

*Laotian Mythology (2<sup>nd</sup> series) – 15/Sep/1972*

*This set of stamps depicts three characters from Laotian Mythology. They are part human being and part animal.*



*Nakharath – Daughter of the Dragon King. She is a chimera of upper part as female human beings and the lower part as a Dragon tail.*



*Nang Kinnali – A symbol of feminine, beauty, grace and accomplishment renowned for her dance, song and poetry. She lives in the forest of Himaphan, a place of never-ending rice. She is a chimera of lower part as a bird and the upper part as winged female human being enables her to fly between the human and the celestial worlds.*



*Norasingh – Regarded as one of Vishnu avatars (Incarnation of a divine being onto earth) that serves protective functions, often seen in temples and shrines entrances. He lives in the forest of Himaphan, a place of never-ending rice. He is a chimera of upper part as human being and the lower part as a lion body.*

**Boun That Luang – 18/Nov/1972**

*The That Luang (Large Stupa) Festival takes place at Pha That Luang, Vientiane, held during the full moon of the twelfth lunar month. It is one of the important Theravada Buddhist Lao's festivals commemorates Buddha and Pha That Luang. The festival starts with procession of people holding Phassad Pheng, wax stupas models covered with offerings. It begins at Wat Si Muang as respect to Nang Si Muang, the protector of the city. More events last during the following days including candlelit circumambulations (Vien Thien), alms giving to thousands of monks from entire Laos (Takbat), prayers, fireworks, music and dancing and a tikhee game between government workers and citizens.*



*Laotians praying in front of Pha That Luang.*



*King Savang Vatthana, his wife, Queen Tiao Kamphoui and other members of the Royal family in Boun That Luang procession. The King regarded as a protector of Buddhist laws.*



## Kingdom of Laos

### Paintings by Marc Leguay - 22/Dec/1972 (4<sup>th</sup> set)

The painter Marc Leguay arrived to Laos in 1936. He stayed at Khong Islands in the south for a decade. In this period he painted mainly Laos landscapes and villages daily-life and designed Indo-China banknotes, showing native Vietnamese, Cambodian and Laotian women.

After World War II, Leguay moved to Vientiane and worked at art school. In 1951, the secretary of Laotian post, Prince Souvanna Phouma, asked Leguay to design stamps for the new independent country. The first known series of Leguay's stamps was issued on April 13, 1952. It representing "Femme Lao" (Laotian Woman) and depicts his second wife Nang Sang Vane. This series of stamps was engraved by Jean Pheulpin, French artist and engraver that cooperated with Leguay and engraved most of its designs until 1962.

For more than two decades, Leguay designed Laotian stamps depicting the beauty of Laos in different aspects: native peoples, culture, art, religion, village's daily-life and Laos's landscapes. His children, wives and girlfriends were sitters in some of his designs. Leguay's beautiful work of art, make the Laotian kingdom stamps very attractive and outstanding among French colonies stamps.

In years 1969-1972, Laotian post released four series of airmail stamps showing Leguay paintings, all picturing typical scenes show the beautiful of Laos and its people.



Village Daily Life



Village Daily Life



Mother and Child



## Kingdom of Laos

### Laotian Women Costumes – 16/Feb/1973

Laos is known for its ethnic groups diversity. Each group has its own tradition costumes and each Laotian region may have particular clothing style. The clothing has classical Laotian figures and geometric designs.

Laotian women wear the phaa nung, sarong skirt, over a tight fitting blouse or shirt and phaa biang, a wide sash worn across the chest and shoulders. Women from some different ethnics dress traditional hats. In special ceremonies and events, Lao women wear traditional silk skirts, blouses and scarves. This set of stamps depicts traditional women costumes from different regions of the Kingdom of Laos.



Attapu Region  
Costume



Phongsally Region  
Costume



Luang Prabang  
Region Costume



Vientiane Region  
Costume

### Lions International Club of Vientiane - 30/Mar/1973

Lions Clubs International (LCI) is organization with clubs and members around the world. The LCI purposes are to create a foster spirit of understanding among the people of the world, to promote a good citizenship, to take an active interest in the civic, cultural, social and moral welfare of the community, to unite the clubs in the bond of friendship and mutual understanding.

This set of stamps commemorates the Lions Club International of Vientiane.



Lion of That Luang



King Setthathirath statue in front of Pha That Luang, Vientiane – Setthathirath (1534-1572), King of Lane Xang Kingdom, was one of the great leaders in Laotian history. He defended the Kingdom from the Burmese army headed by Bayinnaung. He built several famous Buddhists monuments as Wat Xieng Thong in Luang Prabang and Pha That Luang in Vientiane. He was murdered at age 38 years old and was succeeded by King Saensurin.



## Kingdom of Laos

### Space in Retrospect – 11/May/1973

These stamps depict modern and ancient space elements.



Modern Sputnik satellite passing Rahu - Rahu legend - During the churning of the milk ocean, the gods received the immortalization nectar from Monini. Svarbhānu the demon sneaked between Sūrya the sun and Chandra the moon, and received nectar. Both, when realized this fraud, convinced Vishnu to cut Svarbhānu into two pieces. The upper part of Svarbhānu became Rahu, an immortal dragon head that swallows occasionally the sun or the moon as revenge causing eclipse.

The Sputnik satellites were launched by Soviet Union. It orbited the earth and explored the upper atmosphere as well as made geophysical research.



Modern Apollo "spider" space shuttle and Laotian rocket festival - Boun Bang Fai – In the beginning of rice planting season, in the sixth Lunar month, people request from rain god Phaya Thaen to bring rain. They launch large Bamboo rockets to symbolically fertilize the clouds. On the rocket, a Naga dragon, that consider as a protector. Coincide with the rocket launching, Buddhist ceremonies such as water blessing are performed by the monks.

The Apollo "spider" landing space shuttle was launched by USA using Saturn V rocket. It carried astronauts landed on the moon.

### Centenary of Leprosy Bacillus Discovery by G. A. Hansen – 28/Jun/1973



Leprosy is a chronic infectious disease that causes skin lesions and damages nerves and other body systems. Leprosy is caused by *Mycobacterium leprae*. This bacterium was discovered in 1873 by the Norwegian physician Gerhard Armauer Hansen (1841 – 1912) how searched for it in the skin nodules of leprosy's patients. It was the first bacterium to be identified as causing disease in man. The bacterium also known as Hansen's bacillus.



The stamps depict Hansen and map of Laos and were issued to commemorate century of the discovery. The map indicates five Laotian leprosy cure centers each represented by special design: Houei Sei is represented by Wat Chomkhaomanira, Luang Prabang is represented by That Chom Si on Phou Si hill, Vang Vieng is represented by Meo woman, Vientiane is represented by Pha That Luang and Pakxe is represented by Wat Phu Champassak.



## Kingdom of Laos

### 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Laotian Scouts Movement – 1/Sep/1973

The scouts movement is a world wide youth movement, aimed of supporting young people in their physical, mental and spiritual development, in order to train them to do constructive roles in their communities. The Scouts movement was established in 1907 by British army General Baden-Powell based on his principles written in "Scouting for boys". The movement employs the Scout method, a program of education with outdoor activities including camping, woodcraft, aquatics, hiking, backpacking and sports. The scouts have special uniform and an emblem depicts the fleur-de-lil.

The Laotian Scouts movement was established in 1948 in Luang Prabang. To commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the movement, the Kingdom of Laos issued this set of stamps. They depict the Laotian scout emblem with the Laotian letter "L", probably abbreviation of Laos or Scout in Laotian language (Luuk-Sua). The 125K stamp shows Laotian scouts rescue team helped people in the Mekong River flood that struck Vientiane in 1966.



Benediction of Girls Scouts in Front of Wat Vixoun, Luang Prabang.



Scouts dancing Sarovane, Laotian Traditional Dance, around Campfire.



Scouts Rescue Team helping Victims in 1966 Mekong Flood, Vientiane.

### Centenary of International Meteorological Organization – 24/Oct/1973

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) is an intergovernmental organization. It originated from the International Meteorological Organization (IMO). WMO became the specialized agency for the UN for meteorology, operational hydrology and related geophysical sciences.

The IMO was established in 1873. To commemorate the century of the organization, the Kingdom of Laos issued two stamps depict Laotian mythological characters symbolize meteorological aspects.

Nang Mekhala – goddess of the sea. She flies over the stormy sea and save sailors from sunken ships with her magic emerald ring. According to Laotian legend, Ramasoun, the sea storm demon, is Nang Mekhala eternal enemy. He combats her for ever, try to steal her magic ring.

The meteorological service center of Vientiane is shown on the bottom of the stamp.



Chariot of the Sun – God of the Sun fights against god Asoun in the space. The chariot is driven by Phoenix, aviation symbol, guided by Prince Matouli.

This design is taken from mural painting of Wattay airport, Vientiane.





## Kingdom of Laos

### 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) – 22/Dec/1973

The International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) is an organization aimed to facilitate international police cooperation. The Interpol focuses on public safety, war crimes, organized crimes, terrorism, weapons smuggling, corruption, pornography and drug trafficking.

The Interpol was established in 1923 in Austria. Laos was admitted to the Interpol on June 17, 1956. To commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the organization, the Kingdom of Laos issued this set of stamps. The 150K depicts Laotian in Puppy field in Tran Ninh, Golden Triangle, North Laos. The Puppy plants are used to produce opium drugs, one of the major criminal problems in Laos and in the neighboring countries that the Interpol tries to fight and prevent. Each stamp depicts the Interpol emblem – Globe with sword and scale of justice.



Interpol Headquarters, Saint-Cloud, France



Puppy Field, Northern Laos

### Laotian Mythology (3<sup>rd</sup> series) – 23/Mar/1974

This set of stamps depicts sculptures of characters from Laotian Mythology. The sculptures are represented in Theudea Park near Vientiane.



Phra Savatsdy – The goddess of great wisdom. She regarded as Phra Phrom's wife.

She has four arms symbolizing mind, intellect, alertness and ego. With her four hands she is holding musical instrument, palms leaves manuscript, Rose flower symbolizing spiritualism and pot of sacred water.



Phra Indra – god of storm and wars. One of the powerful gods of the Mythological gods pantheon. He carries weapons, which he uses to slay his enemies and revive those how killed in battle. He usually rides on Erawan, the three-headed elephant (Tricephale) which became the emblem of the Kingdom of Laos.



Phra Phrom god – Regarded as one of world creators and god of mercy and sacrifice. He has four faces to help people from any direction. He holds symbolic instruments: disc as weapon against evil, scepter as protection of laws, water pot for creation of life, spoon as sacrificial tool, book as getting wisdom and arc as weapon against demons. He rides on Phoenix,



# Kingdom of Laos

Centenary of the Universal Postal Union - 30/Apr/1974 & 9/Oct/1974



Established in 1874, the Universal Postal Union (UPU) with its Headquarters in Berne, Switzerland is the primary forum for cooperation between postal-sector players and helps to ensure a truly universal network of up-to-date products and services.

With 191 member countries, this specialized agency of the United Nations fulfils an advisory, mediating and liaison role, and renders technical assistance where needed. It sets the rules for international mail exchanges and makes recommendations to stimulate growth in mail volumes and to improve the quality of service for customers.

In year 1974, the Universal Postal Union celebrated centenary of its establishment. These stamps and souvenir sheet, shows Laotians sending and receiving letters and the UPU monument in Berne, were issued to commemorate this anniversary.



## Kingdom of Laos

### Laotian Flowers – 17/May/1974

About 80% of Laos are covered by natural unmanaged vegetation include natural forests or savanna. Many flowering species found in all the vegetation areas of Laos. Flowering plants are also found in urban areas especially, in monasteries and temples gardens where they are grown by monks. In some Laotian festivals, such as New Year (Pee Mai), people are decorating their homes and Buddha images inside temples with flowers. Four of these flowers are represented in this set of stamps.

The flower on the 30K stamp is described by mistake as *Eranthemum nervosum* although the *Clitoria ternatea* is depicted.



Blue pea vine  
*Clitoria ternatea*



Water Lily  
*Nymphaea lotus*



Cotton Tree  
*Bombax ceiba*



Common Swamp Pitcher  
*Nepenthes phyllamphora*

### Laotian Means of Transportation – 31/Jul/1974

The Kingdom of Laos had lack of a good transportation and underdeveloped road systems. The French built only one significant road, Rte Coloniale 13, along the lower Mekong River. Rivers are the major's avenues of communication. The Mekong River is the major north-west transportation artery, but international traffic is impeded by a series of falls. The transportation in the rivers carried out by large barges that carry a lot of people and goods and by smaller crafts.

This set of stamps depicts several modern and traditional Laotian roads and rivers means of transportation.



Mekong Ferry Carrying Bus



Bicycle Rickshaw



Mekong House Boat



## Kingdom of Laos

### Birth Centenary of Guglielmo Marconi - 28/Aug/1974

Guglielmo Marconi was born in 1874 in Bologna, Italy. During his early life he had an interest in science and electricity. He acquired his physics education in Bologna University where one of his teachers, Augusto Righi, did several experiments with radio waves. Marconi used and assembled the knowledge about radio waves, demonstrated earlier by Heinrich Hertz, and the known wireless telegraph technologies to develop practical and useful system of wireless radiotelegraphy. Marconi improved the signal range of the system by adding a grounding wire and antenna both to the transmitter and the receiver. In 1909, he shared the Noble prize in physics with Karl Braun in "recognition of their contributions to the development of wireless telegraphy". Marconi continued to develop and improve his wireless means of communications until his death in 1937.

These stamps were issued to commemorate the centenary of Marconi birthday. The 60K and 90K stamps depict Marconi and Laotians listening to radio broadcast using transistor. The 200K stamp depicts modern and traditional means of wireless transmission. The inscription "ROYAUME DU LAOS" both in French and Laotian on the 200K stamp is written as electric dots transmission.

In 1960, The Kingdom of Laos, with Great Britain aid, inaugurated the Royal Lao Radio Station studios in Vientiane.



### Laotian Beetles – 23/Oct/1974

Beetles are a group of insects which have the largest number of species. They belong to the order Coleoptera which means "sheathed wing" that contains more described species than in any other order of animals. Forty percents of all described insects are beetles. Beetles can be found in almost all habitats, except in the sea or in the polars regions. They feed on plants, fungi and other invertebrates. Some beetles are prey of various birds and mammals.

Laos is a habitat of several South-Eastern Asian endemic beetles. Beetles, like other insects, are food resources in Laos especially in rural areas close to the forests.



*Diastocera Longhorn Beetle*

*Longhorn Beetle*

*Purpuricenus Longhorn Beetle*

*Jewel Beetle*

*Diastocera wallichi tonkinensis kriesche*

*Macrochenus isabellunus*

*Purpuricenus malaccensis*

*Sternocera multipunctata*



# Kingdom of Laos

## Mineral Riches – 31/Dec/1974

Laos is rich in varieties of natural resources as Iron, Zinc, Silver, Gold and Sapphire. This set of stamps depicts the minerals richness of the Kingdom of Laos.

The area of Bokeo, North Laos, is rich in Sapphire stone. Sapphire refers to gem varieties of the mineral Corundum. Trace elements of other minerals such as Iron or Titanium, together with Corundum make the blue color of the Sapphire. Because of its remarkable hardness and beauty, Sapphire is used in jewelry production.

The Southern area of Laos, especially the Attapu province, is rich in open Gold mining. Laotians used to wash the Gold from the river sand by using large wood sieve as shown in the 110K stamp.

Sapphire and Wat Chomkhaomanira, Houei Sei, Bokeo Province



Gold Mining, Attapu Province

## Year of the Rabbit – 14/Apr/1975

The Chinese Zodiac is a twelve years cycle. Each year is named after one of the original twelve animals. Each animal has a different personality and characteristics. The animals are believed to be the main factor in each person's life that gives them their traits, success and happiness in their life time.

According to one legend about the origin of Chinese Zodiac, the Jade emperor invited all the animals to a race. Twelve animals received the invitation: Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Lamb, Monkey, Rooster, Dog and Pig. According to their places in the race, the Jade emperor had given them each a number, starting with a Rat, the winner. Laotians celebrate the Boun Pi Mai (or Boun Songkhane), New Year festival, for three days start at 13<sup>th</sup> April. According to Lao astrological calculations, the Sun makes a complete cycle around the Earth on 13<sup>th</sup> of April, considered the last day of the year (Mur Sangkhane Pai), the 14<sup>th</sup> as the day between the years (Mur Sangkhane Nao) and 15<sup>th</sup> as the New Year first day (Mur Sangkhane Khun).



According to Laotian faith, the year of which a man was born and the day which the New Year first day fall, has a special importance on a man life and destiny. This destiny can be predicted by fortune teller that use astrological map as shown in the stamps.



A procession that honors the guardian divinities of the New Year is held in Boun Pi Mai. As part of it, girls are riding on animals symbolizing the years. The stamp depicts a girls riding on a Tiger and a Rabbit, former and New Year's animals. The girl holds flag with a caption "Pi Thor 1975" ("Year of the Rabbit 1975").



## Kingdom of Laos

### 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary of Vientiane Peace Treaty Implement - 21/Feb/1975 & Jun/1975

From the early 50's to 1975, the Kingdom of Laos was involved in the second Indochina war, experienced political instability and civil war state between the Laotian Royal government and the communist movement Pathet Lao. To read about the Laotian civil war, please refer to the page shows the set of stamps "Support for war victims" issued May 1, 1970.

On February 21, 1973, a peace treaty between the Royal government and the Pathet Lao signed in Vientiane. The Vientiane peace treaty was corollary to the Paris Peace Accords which had ended USA involvement in the Vietnam War. A new coalition government was to be created. Indeed, the Provisional Government of National Unity was formed on April 5, 1974.

However, as in South Vietnam, the agreement collapsed and cease fire was not observed. The Pathet Lao and North Vietnamese refused, again, to stop military activities and to assemble the Pathet Lao control zones into Kingdom of Laos. In late 1975, the unexpectedly rapid fall of South Vietnam following USA final withdrawal, led the Pathet Lao to attack and occupy the rest of Laos including Vientiane. On December 2, 1975, the King was abdicated and Lao People Democratic Republic was declared. A six hundreds years of Laotian Monarchy had ended and replaced by communists rule under North Vietnam influence.

To commemorate the first anniversary of Vientiane peace treaty implement, the Kingdom of Laos issued these set of stamps and Souvenir Sheet depict King Savang Vatthana, Prince Souvanna Phouma, the neutralist Royal Prime minister and Prince Souphanouvong, the head of the Pathet Lao – All three persons established the short lived Provisional Government of National Unity. A map of Laos also depicted with indications of three cities: Luang Prabang, Vientiane and Champasak, the three former Laotian Kingdoms. The map represents the hope for reunification of Kingdom of Laos by Vientiane peace treaty – Hope that crashed in the face of the reality!





# Kingdom of Laos

International Women's Year - 19/June/1975



The United Nations has designated 1975 as International Woman's Year. Aware that the declaration of human rights states that everyone is entitled to all rights and freedoms without distinction of any kind; and "Considering that discrimination against women is incompatible with human dignity and with the welfare of the family and society". The International Humanist and Ethical Union approves and supports the objectives of the International Woman's Year as set by the General Assembly:

"To promote equality between men and women"

"To ensure full integration of woman in the total development effort"

"To increase the importance of women's contribution to the strengthening of world peace".

The International Humanist and Ethical Union urges its member organizations in their respective countries to initiate, develop and support programs of education, and to promote legal, political and social actions toward achieving these goals of equality, development and peace.



Kingdom of Laos

Centenary of the Universal Postal Union – 7/Jul/1975



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In year 1974, the Universal Postal Union celebrated centenary of its establishment. These stamps and the following souvenir sheets, shows ancient and modern means of communication and transportation, were issued to commemorate this anniversary.





Kingdom of Laos

Centenary of the Universal Postal Union - 7/Jul/1975

ພຣະຮາຊອານາຈັກລາວ



U.P.U. 1874 - 1974



cent ans de progrès



ROYAUME DU LAOS

ພຣະຮາຊອານາຈັກລາວ

U.P.U. 1874 - 1974



cent ans de progrès

ROYAUME DU LAOS



Kingdom of Laos

Centenary of the Universal Postal Union - 7/Jul/1975

ພຣະຣາຊອານາຈັກລາວ

U.P.U. 1874 - 1974

cent ans de progrès

POSTES

ມັດ 30K

U.P.U. 1874 - 1974

ROYAUME DU LAOS

ວາງສະເລງຂວາງສະໜອງ

cent ans de progrès

ROYAUME DU LAOS

ພຣະຣາຊອານາຈັກລາວ

U.P.U. 1874 - 1974

ROYAUME DU LAOS cent ans de progrès

POSTES

ມັດ 40K

U.P.U. 1874 - 1974

ພຣະຣາຊອານາຈັກລາວ

cent ans de progrès

ROYAUME DU LAOS



Kingdom of Laos

Centenary of the Universal Postal Union - 7/Jul/1975

ພຣະຣາຊອານາຈັກລາວ



U.P.U. 1874 - 1974



cent ans de progrès



ROYAUME DU LAOS

ພຣະຣາຊອານາຈັກລາວ

U.P.U. 1874 - 1974



cent ans de progrès

ROYAUME DU LAOS



*Kingdom of Laos*

Centenary of the Universal Postal Union - 7/Jul/1975





*Kingdom of Laos*

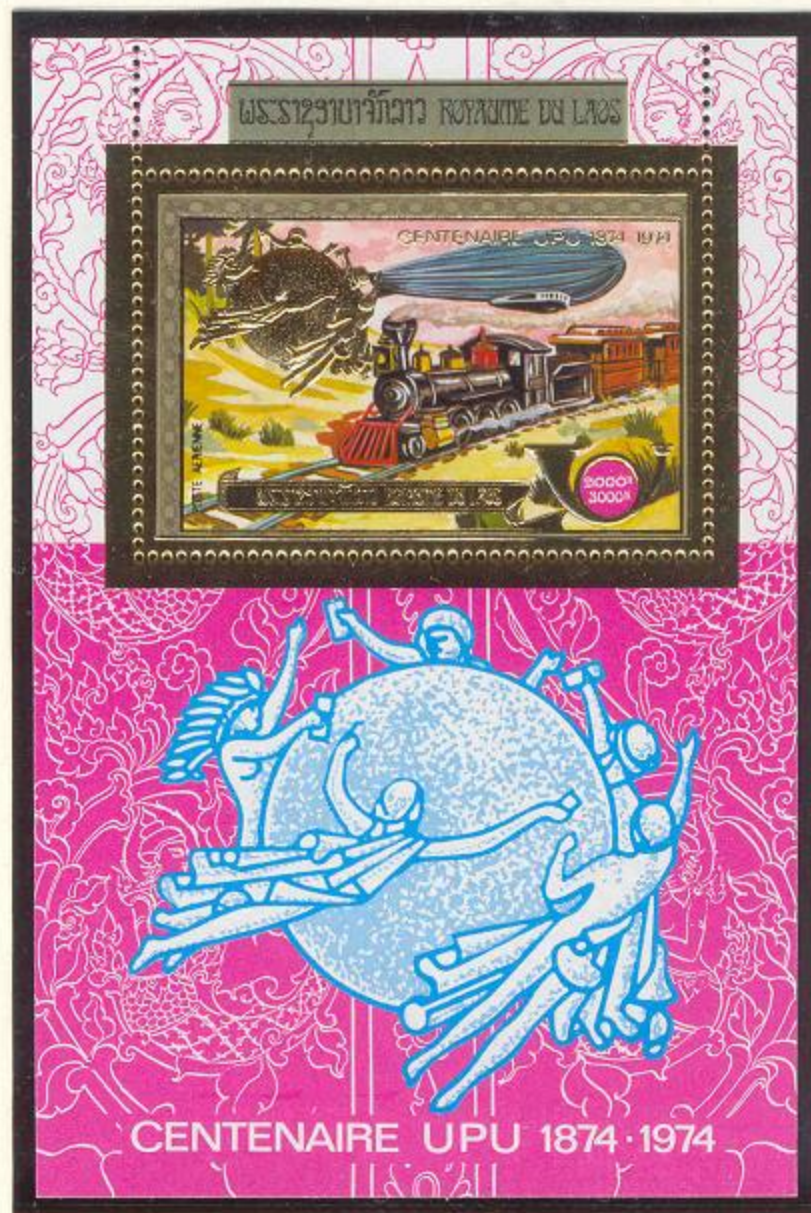
*Centenary of the Universal Postal Union (II) - 7/Jul/1975*





*Kingdom of Laos*

*Centenary of the Universal Postal Union (II) - 7/Jul/1975*





## Kingdom of Laos

*Apollo – Soyuz Space Test Project – 7/Jul/1975*



*Stafford, Brand & Slayton*



*Leonov & Koubasov*



*Handshake in space*



*Apollo-Soyuz link-up*



*Preparation for re-entry*



*Apollo splashdown*

*The Apollo-Soyuz Test Project was the first joint flight of the USA and Soviet Union space programs. For the United States of America, it was the last Apollo flight, as well as the last manned space launch until the flight of the first Space Shuttle in April 1981.*

*The Apollo-Soyuz Test Project (ASTP) took place in the second half of July 1975 and entailed the docking of an American Apollo spacecraft with the Soviet Soyuz 19 space craft. The Test Project included several scientific missions such as an engineered eclipse of the Sun by Apollo for Soyuz to take photographs of the solar corona and provided useful engineering information on the synchronization of American and Soviet space technology that would prove useful in the future Shuttle-Mir Program. The primary purpose of the mission was symbolic. Apollo-Soyuz Test Project was seen as a symbol of the policy of détente (relaxing or easing) that the two superpowers were beginning to adopt at the time, and as a fitting end to the tension of the Space race.*

*The Apollo flew with the following crew on board: Tom Stafford, Vance Brand and Deke Slayton. The Soyuz flew with Alexei Leonov and Valery Kubasov.*



Kingdom of Laos

Apollo – Soyuz Space Test Project – 7/Jul/1975

ພຣະຣາຊອານາຈັກລາວ

RENCONTRE SPATIALE



U. R. S. S. / U. S. A.

ROYAUME DU LAOS

ພຣະຣາຊອານາຈັກລາວ

RENCONTRE SPATIALE



U. R. S. S. / U. S. A.

ROYAUME DU LAOS





Kingdom of Laos

Apollo – Soyuz Space Test Project – 7/Jul/1975

ພຣະຣາຊອານາຈັກລາວ

RENCONTRE SPATIALE



U. R. S. S. / U. S. A.

ROYAUME DU LAOS

ພຣະຣາຊອານາຈັກລາວ

RENCONTRE SPATIALE



U. R. S. S. / U. S. A.

ROYAUME DU LAOS



Kingdom of Laos

Apollo - Soyuz Space Test Project - 7/Jul/1975

ພຣະຣາຊອານາຈັກລາວ

RENCONTRE SPATIALE



U. R. S. S. / U. S. A.

ROYAUME DU LAOS

ພຣະຣາຊອານາຈັກລາວ

RENCONTRE SPATIALE



U. R. S. S. / U. S. A.

ROYAUME DU LAOS



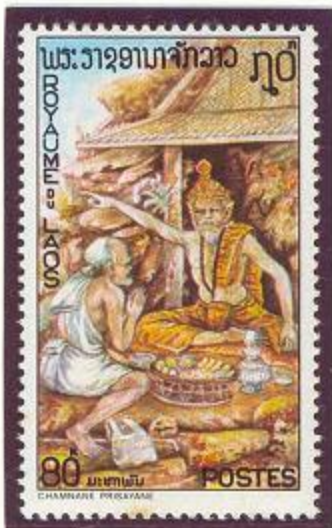
## Kingdom of Laos

### Phra Wetsandon Buddhist Legend (II) - 22/Jul/1975

The Phra Wetsandon legend tells about the Prince Phra Wetsandon, son of King Sanxai. To read the legend, please refer to the page shows the "Phra Wetsandon Buddhist legend (I)" set of stamps issued on November 17, 1964.

The Boun Phawet commemorates the early life of Buddha before his incarnation as Prince Phra Wetsandon, This festival is a religious festival which held in the fourth lunar month. The festival includes several events. There is a sermon on the battle with army of Mara, god of evil, followed by a recitation from palm leaf manuscripts of the Phra Wetsandon legend. The recitation takes place inside the temple in front of the audience. Then the worshippers throw rice at Buddha sculpture and donate money to the temple. A procession with white elephant and Prince Wetsandon effigies is held from the city center to the temple.

The Boun Phawet takes place during the dry season. The symbolism of the rain giving power of the Prince Phra Wetsandon's white elephant has a special potency at this time of year, when farmers wait for the rain to plant rice in rain-soaked fields.



Prediction of Prince Phra Wetsandon Birth.

When the Prince Phra Wetsandon gave the lucky white elephant to nearby country that suffered dryness, rain stop to come to Sanxai's Kingdom and people could not begin their planting, The King sent Prince Phra Wetsandon, his wife Matxee and their children to exile as shown in the stamp.



god Indra heard about the Prince Phra Wetsandon merits and decided to test him. He came to earth as a Brahman and asked from the Prince his wife. The Prince, without hesitation, gave his wife Matxee to god Indra as shown in the stamp.

When Xuxouk the Brahman and the Prince Phra Wetsandon's two children arrived accidentally at King Sanxai's Kingdom, the King recognized them and understood that it is one of his son merits. He ordered to arrest Xuxouk and sent a grand procession to bring back Prince Wetsandon and Nang Matxee from exile to rule the Kingdom as shown in the stamp.





*Kingdom of Laos*

*Bicentenary of the United States of America – 30/Jul/1975*  
*American Presidents*

*George Washington (1789 – 1797)*  
*John Adams (1797 – 1801)*  
*Thomas Jefferson (1801 – 1809)*  
*James Madison (1809 – 1817)*



*James Monroe (1817 – 1825)*  
*John Q. Adams (1825 – 1829)*  
*Andrew Jackson (1829 – 1837)*  
*Martin van Buren (1837 – 1841)*



*William H. Harrison (1841)*  
*John Tyler (1841 – 1845)*  
*James K. Polk (1845 – 1849)*  
*Zachary Taylor (1849 – 1850)*



*Millard Fillmore (1850 – 1853)*  
*Franklin Pierce (1853 – 1857)*  
*James Buchanan (1857 -1861)*  
*Abraham Lincoln (1861 – 1865)*



*Andrew Johnson (1865 - 1869)*  
*Ulysses S. Grant (1869 – 1877)*  
*Rutherford B. Hayes (1877 – 1881)*  
*James Garfield (1881)*





*Kingdom of Laos*

*Bicentenary of the United States of America – 30/Jul/1975*

*American Presidents*



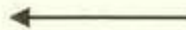
*Chester A. Arthur (1881 – 1885)*  
*Grover Cleveland (1885 – 1889,*  
*1893 - 1897)*  
*Benjamin Harrison (1889 – 1893)*



*William McKinley (1897 – 1901)*  
*Theodore Roosevelt (1901 – 1909)*  
*William H. Taft (1909 -1913)*  
*Woodrow Wilson (1913 – 1921)*



*Warren G. Harding (1921 – 1923)*  
*Calvin Coolidge (1923 -1929)*  
*Herbert Hoover (1929 – 1933)*  
*Franklin D. Roosevelt (1933 – 1945)*



*Harry S. Truman (1945 – 1953)*  
*Dwight D. Eisenhower (1953 – 1961)*  
*John F. Kennedy (1961 – 1963)*



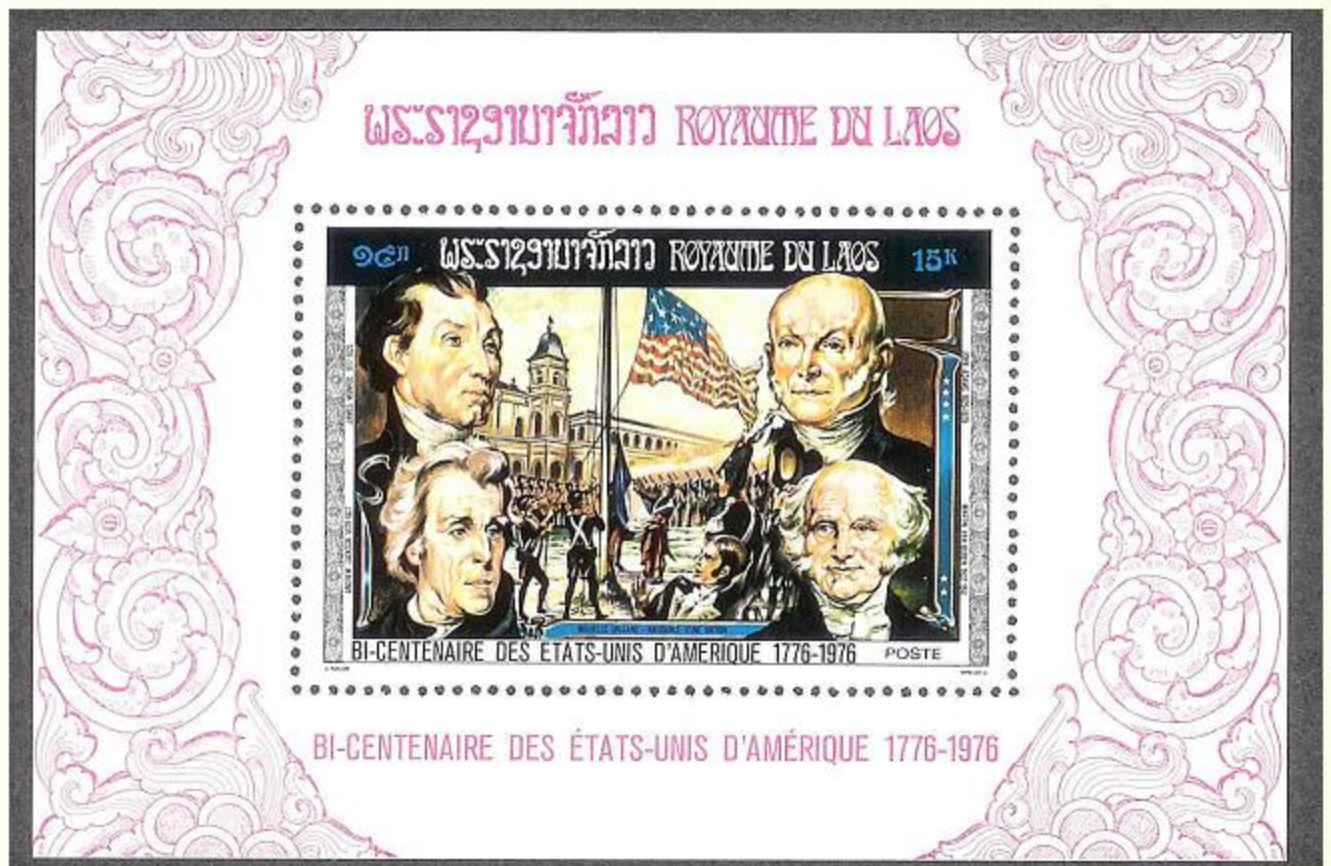
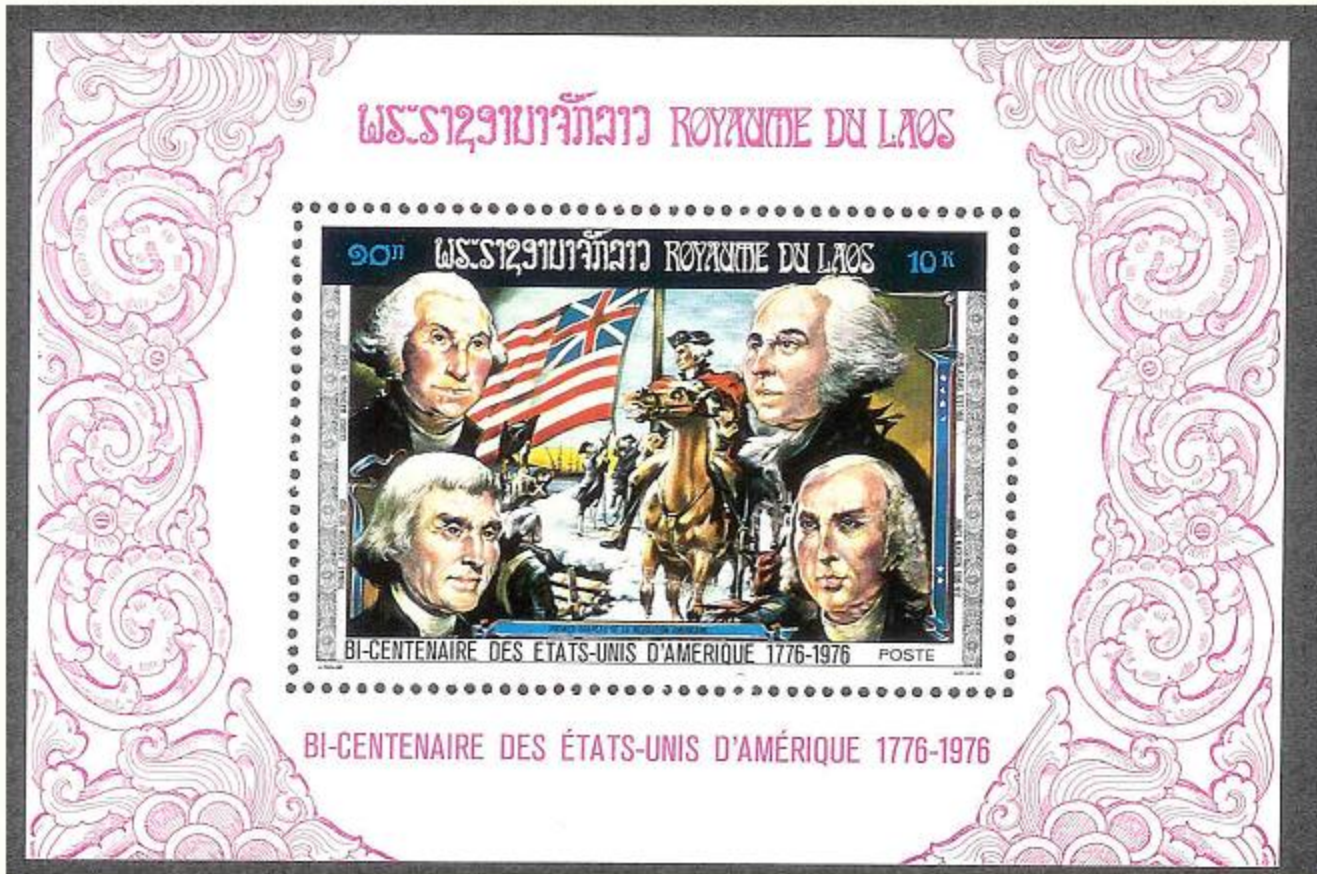
*Lyndon B. Johnson (1963 – 1969)*  
*Richard Nixon (1969 – 1974)*  
*Gerald Ford (1974 – 1977)*





Kingdom of Laos

Bicentenary of the United States of America – 30/Jul/1975  
American Presidents





*Kingdom of Laos*

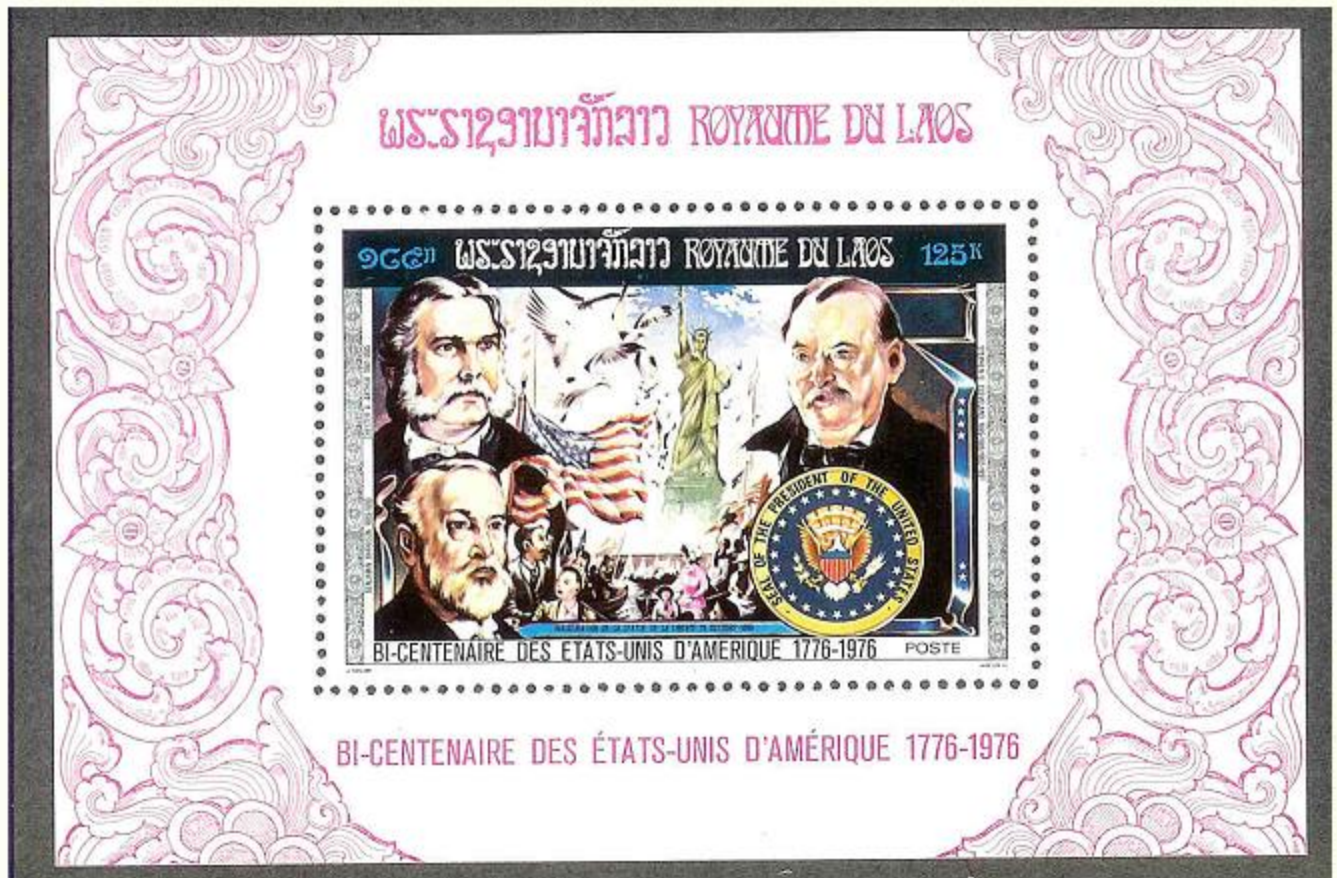
*Bicentenary of the United States of America – 30/Jul/1975*  
*American Presidents*





*Kingdom of Laos*

*Bicentenary of the United States of America – 30/Jul/1975*  
*American Presidents*

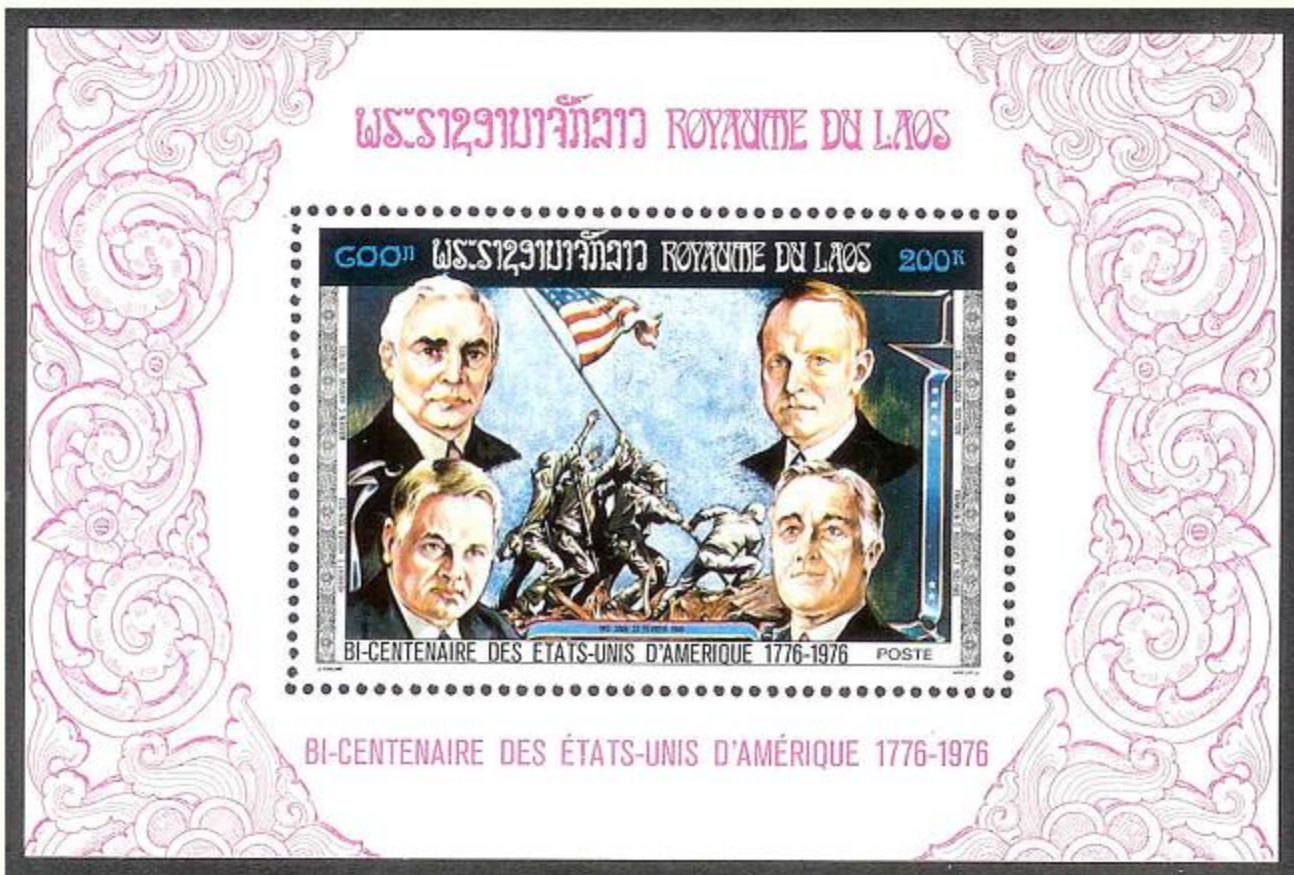
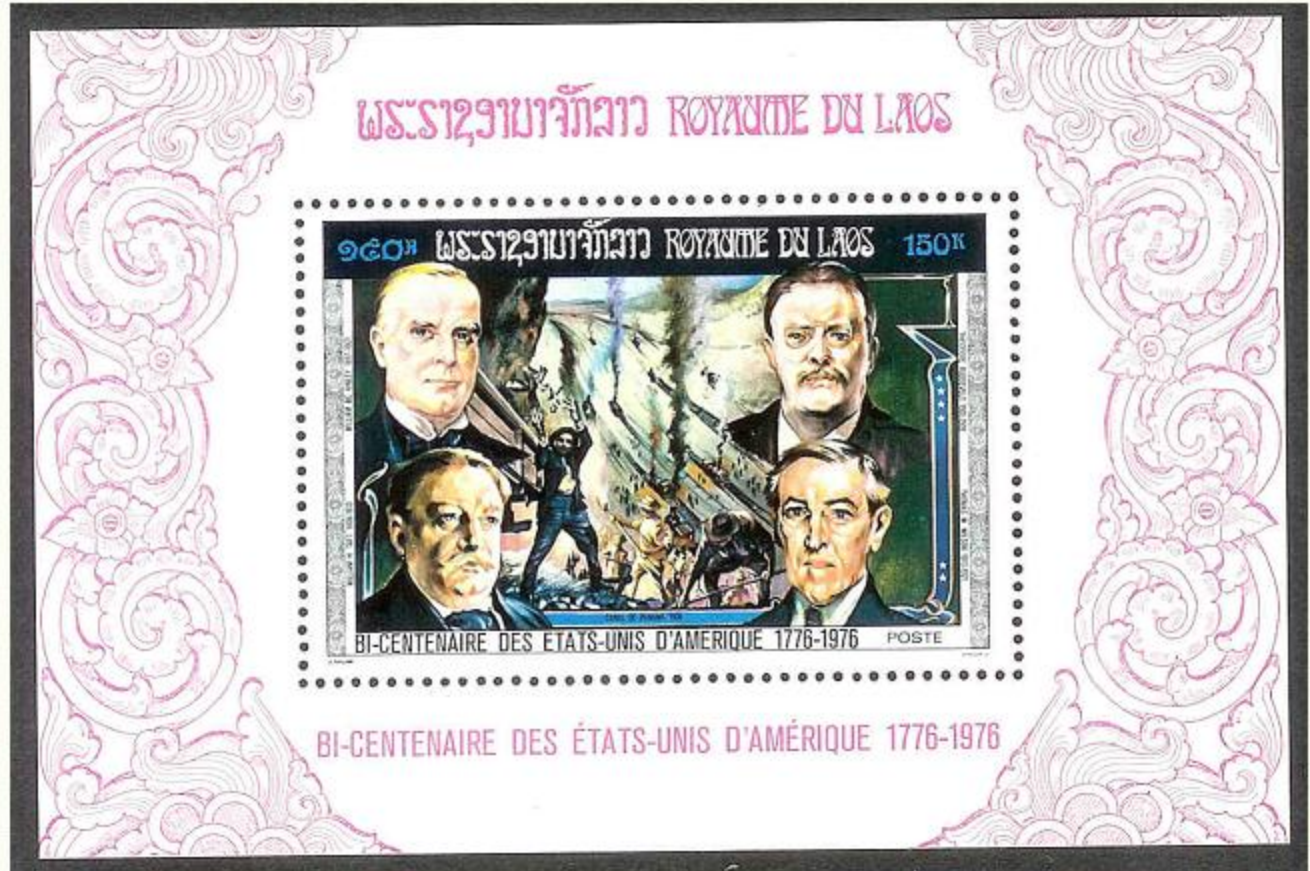






*Kingdom of Laos*

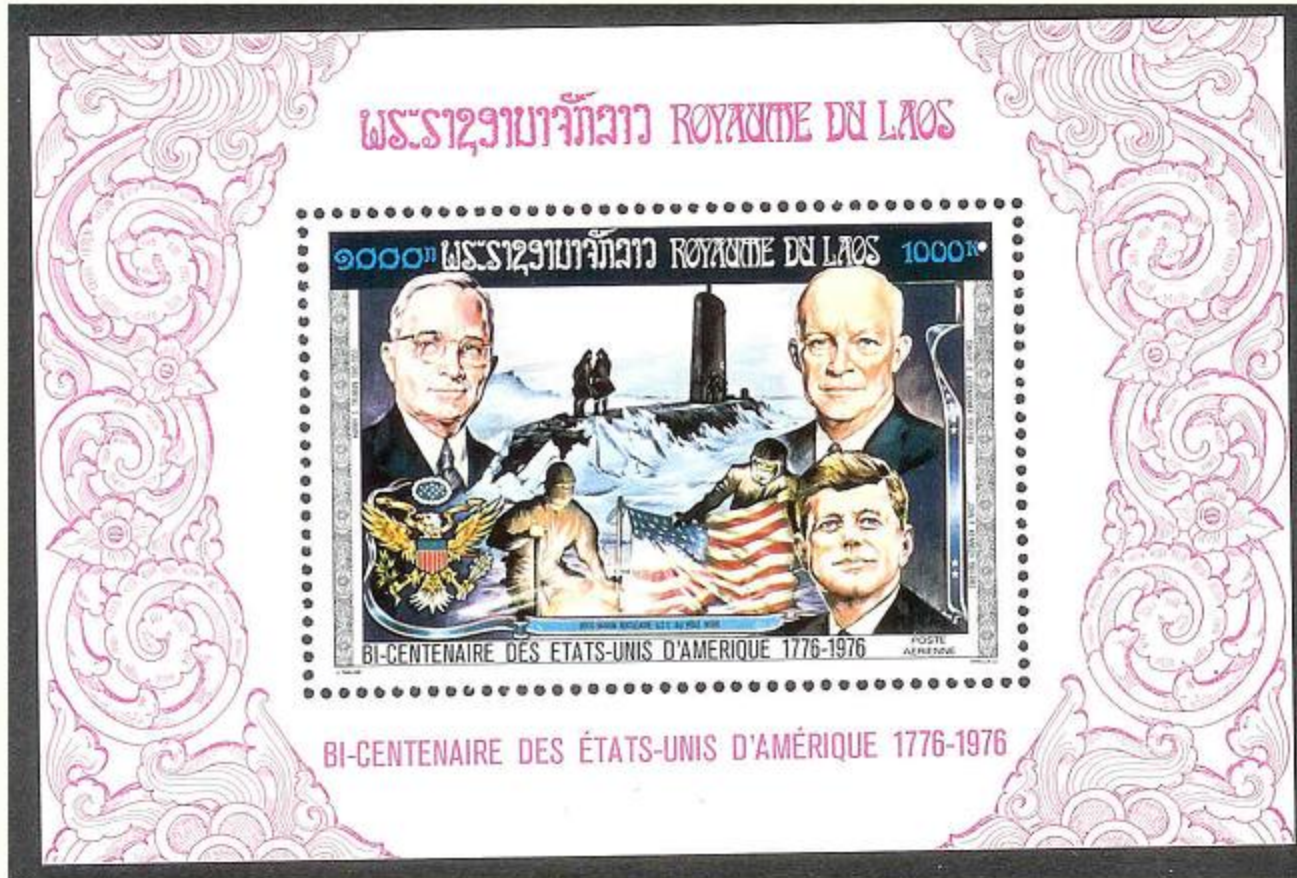
*Bicentenary of the United States of America – 30/Jul/1975*  
*American Presidents*





*Kingdom of Laos*

*Bicentenary of the United States of America – 30/Jul/1975*  
*American Presidents*





## Kingdom of Laos

UNESCO Campaign for Borobudur Monument Preservation - 20/Aug/1975



Borobudur is a ninth century Mahayana Buddhist monument in central Java, Indonesia. The monument comprises six square platforms topped by three circular platforms, and is decorated with 2,672 relief panels and 504 Buddha statues. A main dome is located at the center of the top platform, and is surrounded by seventy-two Buddha statues seated inside perforated stupa.

The monument is both a shrine to the Lord Buddha and a place for Buddhist pilgrimage. The journey for pilgrims begins at the base of the monument and follows a path circumambulating the monument while ascending to the top through the three levels of Buddhist cosmology, namely, Kamadhatu (the world of desire); Rupadhatu (the world of forms); and Arupadhatu (the world of formless). During the journey, the monument guides the pilgrims through a system of stairways and corridors with 1,460 narrative relief panels on the wall and the balustrades.

Evidence suggests Borobudur was abandoned following the fourteenth century decline of Buddhist and Hindu kingdoms in Java, and the Javanese conversion to Islam. It was rediscovered in 1814 by Sir Thomas Raffles, the British ruler of Java. Borobudur has since been preserved through several restorations. The largest restoration project was undertaken between 1975 and 1982 by the Indonesian government and UNESCO, following which the monument was listed as a UNESCO world heritage site.



## Kingdom of Laos

*Postage Due: Wat Si Saket Library – 13/Apr/1952*



*The Wat Si Saket located in Vientiane. It was built in 1818 by King Anouvong in Siamese style and restored by the French in 1924 and again in 1930. The temple contains museum and the former library where the palm leaf manuscripts documenting Buddhist philosophy were once held. The stamps depict the square building of the library. It is painted with black lacquer with delicate golden designs.*

*Postage Due: Mekong River – 14/Jul/1953*



*The Mekong River is one of the longest rivers in the world, has a length of 4880 km. It runs from the Tibetan plateau through China's Yunnan province, Burma, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam. It is known in Laos as "Ménam Khong" meaning "mother of all rivers".*

*Postage Due: Nāga Serpent- 31/Oct/1973*



*In Buddhist belief, the Nāgas are often regarded as water deities or class of entity with a form of large serpent. Traditions about Nāga are very common in all Buddhist countries of South-East Asia. In these countries, the Nāga concept has been merged with local traditions of large and intelligent serpents or dragons. At least some of the Nāgas are capable of using magic powers to transform themselves into a human semblance. In Buddhist painting, the Nāga is sometimes portrayed as a human being with a snake or dragon extending over his head.*

*In many traditions, the Nāga regards as a protector such as Mucilinda, protector of Buddha. In Laotian tradition, the Nāga considered as Mekong River ruler. Nāga statues guarding the entrances and staircases are located in many temples throughout Laos.*



## *Pathet Lao*

The Pathet Lao (Land of Lao) was the military arm of the communist Lao People's Party and later of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party that battled against the Lao Royal Government.

In 1953, Pathet Lao fighters accompanied an invasion of Laos from Vietnam led by Viet Minh forces. They established a government at Viengxay in Houaphan province in Northeast Laos. The Pathet Lao made incursions into central Laos and civil war was erupted. They occupied most of the Kingdom of Laos area and by the late 1973, they controlled eleven provinces. In late 1975, the unexpectedly rapid fall of South Vietnam following USA final withdrawal led the Pathet Lao to attack and occupy the rest of the Kingdom of Laos. The King was abdicated and Lao PDR was declared. To read more about the Pathet Lao please refer to pages from the Kingdom of Laos album shown the sets "Support for War Victims" issued on May 1, 1970 and "1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of Vientiane Peace Treaty" issued on 1 February 21, 1975. The Pathet Lao issued three sets of stamps for use in their controlled areas.

### *1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of Laotian Revolution – 18/Jul/1961*

In 1960, the neutralist General Kong Le led a coup d'etat against the Royal Government and established a new neutralist government headed by Prince Souvana Phouma. Few months later, The neutralist government fell by anti-coup led by Rightist General Phoumi Nosavan and Prince Boun Oum supported by USA. General Kong Le and the neutralist members of government escaped to the Pathet Lao controlled zone in northeast Laos. They established, together with the Pathet Lao, a provisional neutralist government supported by Soviet Union. The neutralist government issued these two sets of stamps known also as "Xiang Khouang Issue" to commemorate the first anniversary of Kong Le coup d'etat. These stamps were valid on the Pathet Lao controlled zones.



*Laotian Ethnic Women in Front of Pha That Luang*



*Soldiers in Plain of Jars, Xieng Khouang*



# Pathet Lao

*Definitive – 2/Feb/1974*

*This set of stamps is the second issue of the Pathet Lao known also as "Vieng Xai Issue". The face values of the stamps are in Pathet Lao Kip.*



*Laotian Ethnic Women with Pathet Lao Flag*



*Vieng Xai Hospital*



*Textile Weaving*



*Pathet Lao Fighters shooting US F4 Phantom*



*Pathet Lao Fighters in Battle of Xieng Khouang*



*Women digging Irrigation Canals*



*Pathet Lao Fighters in Plain of Jars, Xieng Khouang*

*Definitive: Not Issued Stamps - 1975*



*Laotian Folklore*



*Pathet Lao Women Fighters stand on US Aircraft*



*Kingdom of Laos*

*First Anniversary Laotian Philately – 13/Apr/1952*

ພະຮາຊະອານາຈັກລາວ



ROYAUME DU LAOS

ພະຮາຊະອານາຈັກລາວ



ROYAUME DU LAOS



*Kingdom of Laos*

*First Anniversary Laotian Philately – 13/Apr/1952*

ພະຮາຊະອານາຈັກລາວ



ROYAUME DU LAOS

ພະຮາຊະອານາຈັກລາວ



ROYAUME DU LAOS





*Kingdom of Laos*

*First Anniversary Laotian Philately – 13/Apr/1952*





*Kingdom of Laos*

*First Anniversary Laotian Philately – 13/Apr/1952*

ພະຮາຊະອານາຈັກລາວ



ROYAUME DU LAOS

ພະຮາຊະອານາຈັກລາວ



ROYAUME DU LAOS



*Kingdom of Laos*

*First Anniversary Laotian Philately – 13/Apr/1952*





*Kingdom of Laos*

*First Anniversary Laotian Philately – 13/Apr/1952*

ພະຮາຊະອານາຈັກລາວ



ROYAUME DU LAOS

ພະຮາຊະອານາຈັກລາວ



ROYAUME DU LAOS



*Kingdom of Laos*

*First Anniversary Laotian Philately – 13/Apr/1952*





*Kingdom of Laos*

*First Anniversary Laotian Philately – 13/Apr/1952*

ພະຮາງຸອານາຈັກລາວ



ROYAUME DU LAOS

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*Kingdom of Laos*

*Post Offices in the Kingdom of Laos - 1951 - 1970*



*Savanakheth*



*Namtha*



*Kong Sedone*



*Luang Prabang*



*Saravane*



*Muong Sing*



*Pak Song*



*Vientiane*



*Attapeu*



*Sayaboury*



*Paksane*



*Champassak*