Colonial Exposition

Indochina, like many other French colonies, issued a set of stamps in conjunction with the 1931 Colonial Exposition in Paris. These were Indochina’s first commemorative stamps.
Colonial Exposition
Commemorative Cover

Posted to Saigon, this cover is franked with a French stamp promoting the Colonial Exposition. The stamps were cancelled with the show's date stamp. Also, the cover received a special Air Orient cachet commemorating the exposition.

POSTAL MARKINGS
EXPOSITION COLONIALE PARIS 21-7 31
airmail labels
flight cachet
REVERSE
PARIS-GARE-P.L.M.-AVION 21-7 31
MARSEILLE-GARE BÔCHES DU RHONE 22 VII 1931
Colonial Exposition
Souvenir Postcards
Colonial Exposition
Postmarks

CAP-SAINT-JACQUES
COCHINCHINE

DAP-CAU
TONKIN

HANOI R.P.
TONKIN

HANOI-GARE
TONKIN

GARE-HANOI
TONKIN

HANOI A
TONKIN

HANOI C
TONKIN

HUE
ANNAM

KIEN-AN
CAMBODGE

MYTHO
COCHINCHINE
Colonial Exposition
Postmarks

NAM-DINH
COCHINCHINE

PHU-THO
TONKIN

PHUC-YEN
TONKIN

PLEI-KU
ANNAM

PURSAT
CAMBODGE

SAIGON-CENTRAL
CAMBODGE

TAM-DAO
COCHINCHINE

TONG
TONKIN

YEN-BAY
TONKIN
Colonial Exposition
Postmarks

HAIPHONG
TONKIN

HAIPHONG
TONKIN

HANOI R.P.
TONKIN

HANOI R.P.
TONKIN

HANOI R.P.
TONKIN

SAIGON-CENTRAL
COCHINCHINE

SAIGON-CENTRAL
COCHINCHINE

framed
PAQUEBOT

framed
PAQUEBOT

framed
PAQUEBOT
Colonial Exposition
Cholon Postmarks
Colonial Exposition
Use of 4 cents

A single 4 cent Colonial Exposition commemorative stamp paid for mailing a picture postcard to France. A tourist posted the card from Angkor on the day after Christmas in 1931.
Colonial Exposition
Use of 4 cents

For a picture postcard sent to Italy in 1933, the sender affixed a commemorative and a definitive stamp making 11 cents postage. The commemorative was the low value from the Colonial Exposition series.

POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI R. P. TONKIN 20-6 33
Colonial Exposition
Use of 4 cents

A pair of 4-cent stamps from the Colonial Exposition commemorative series overpaid the delivery charge for a letter to France. The 4-cent value corresponded to the prevailing postcard rate at the time of its issue.

POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 5-9 31
REVERSE
GENCAY VIENNE 5.10 1931
Colonial Exposition
Use of 6 cents

The middle value of the three-stamp series corresponded to the external postal rate for France and colonies.
Colonial Exposition
Use of 6 cents

Because Pondichery was in French India, the postage for simple letters was 6 cents.

POSTAL MARKINGS
HAI-DUONG TONKIN 11-8 31
REVERSE
HAI-PHONG TONKIN 12-8 31
INDE PONDICHÉRY 28 AOUT 1931
Colonial Exposition
Use of 6 cents

The sender had affixed a 6-cent Colonial exposition commemorative stamp to his postcard addressed to France when the letter rate was 6 cents, but the postcard rate was only 4 cents.
Colonial Exposition
Use of 6 cents

Here the 6-cent value was used to pay the foreign postcard rate to Germany in 1931.
Colonial Exposition
Use of 10 cents

Surface letters to foreign destinations required ten cents postage. In this example, the 10-cent commemorative franked a letter to the United States in 1931.

POSTAL MARKINGS
CHOLON-BINHTAY COCHINCHINE 8-8 31
Colonial Exposition
Use of 10 cents

The 10-cent was meant for foreign letters. Here the postage on a postcard to Europe was overpaid with the 10 cent Colonial Exposition stamp.

POSTAL MARKINGS
TOURANE ANNAM 8-10 31
Colonial Exposition
Use of 10 cents

Postal charges for registered internal letters were 5 cents for regular mail and 15 cents for the registration surcharge.

POSTAL MARKINGS
CAP SAINT-JACQUES COCHINCHINE 1-10 31
registration label
REVERSE
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 2-10 31
Colonial Exposition
Usage

All three values of the Colonial Exposition series frank this envelope from Saigon to France in 1931.

POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON CENTRAL COCHINCHINE  7-10 31
REVERSE
LAGARENNE COLOMBES SEINE  7-11 31
Colonial Exposition
Usage

For this 1931 internal mailing, postage was computed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>internal letter rate</td>
<td>5 cents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>expedited service fee</td>
<td>5 cents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>registration fee</td>
<td>15 cents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>total</td>
<td>25 cents</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 25-8 31
registration label
expedited service label
REVERSE
HAIPHONG TONKIN 28-8 31
Colonial Exposition
Usage