Indochinese Culture
Use of 1/10 and 1 cent

One-tenth cent was the smallest denomination distributed as part of the Indochinese Culture series. Being 1/50 of the internal letter rate, it saw limited use. Here ten of the low value stamps were used in combination with four 1-cent stamps to pay for an internal letter in 1933.
Indochinese Culture
Use of 1/10 and 5 cents violet

The letter rate to France had been 6 cents since 1925. Here postage for a mailing From Vinh, Annam in 1935 was paid with ten 1/10-cent stamps and a 5-cent stamp.
Indochinese Culture
Use of 1/5 cent

Effective 1 April 1938, the letter rate to France was increased to 7 cents. Here the sender elected to use five low value stamps in combination with a commemorative stamp for a surface rate letter in January 1939.

POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 31-1 39
Indochinese Culture
Use of 1/5 cent

A mailing to France in August 1952 included a mixture of Vietnamese and Indochinese stamps. Since Indochina’s stamps had been demonetized in April 1952, the postal clerk who processed the letter took pains to ensure that the postmark only cancelled the Vietnamese stamps. The lone Indochinese stamp was left untouched because it had no postal validity at that point.
Indochinese Culture
Use of 2/5-cent

Based on prevailing postage rates, the fractional cent values were of limited utility. Here a 2/5-cent stamp was favor-canceled on a picture postcard in 1935.

POSTAL MARKINGS
TOURANE ANNAM 23-1 35
Indochinese Culture
Use of 2/5 cent

A single 2/5 cent paid the postage for printed matter from Hanoi to Tunisia in 1937. The *Bulletin Economique de l'Indochine* was an official publication of the government of Indochina.
Indochinese Culture
Use of 1/2 cent

Printed matter, distributed within the local post office ("E.V." = en ville) as a “drop letter,” was granted a much-reduced rate of 1/2 cent per piece.

POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI R. P. TONKIN 3-12 33
Indochinese Culture
Use of 1/2 cent

Money orders were one of the services provided by the postal system. A 1/2 cent stamp contributed to the postage for a money order in the amount of 140 francs sent from Hanoi to Bordeaux.

POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI R. P. TONKIN 29-11 34
airmail label
Saigon-Marseille route handstamp
REVERSE
BORDEAUX GIRONDE 19-12 34
Indochinese Culture
Use of 1/2 cent

A small envelope for calling cards was cited for postage due in the amount of 2 1/2 cents. Due to the lack of postage due stamps of the proper denomination, a 1/2 cent Indochinese Culture definitive stamp was pressed into service as a postage due stamp.

The addressee was evidently unprepared to pay the amount due as the envelope was handstamped “REFUSED” on the reverse.

POSTAL MARKINGS
HAI-PHONG TONKIN 31-12 36
T in triangle with manuscript amount due in blue crayon
REVERSE
framed RÉFUSÉ
Indochinese Culture
Use of 1/2 cent

Five cents postage for an internal letter was paid with ten 1/2 cent stamps.

POSTAL MARKINGS
CAP SAINT-JACQUES COCHINCHINE 22-8 35
REVERSE
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 22-8 35
Indochinese Culture
Use of 1/2 cent and 5 cents violet

The local letter rate had been 6 cents since 1938. During World War II, a sender used two ½-cent stamps with a 5-cent violet Indochinese Culture stamp for a letter from Cantho to Saigon. In 1943, the local letter rate rose to 10 cents.
Indochinese Culture
Use of 4/5-cent

Many postcard collectors preferred cards with canceled stamps. Here a 4/5-cent definitive stamp was favor-canceled in 1935.

POSTAL MARKINGS
TOURANE ANNAM 4-7 35
Indochinese Culture
Use of 1 cent

A letter franked with a pair of 1-cent Indochinese Culture stamps was apparently unchallenged for postage due. The letter rate to France in 1938 was 7 cents.
Indochinese Culture
Use of 1 cent

A pair of 1-cent stamps paid for delivery of a picture postcard to France. The bilingual slogan postmark was a public health message warning of the link between mosquitoes and malaria.

"MOSQUITOES KILL, AVOID MALARIA"

POSTAL MARKINGS
HUE ANNAM 7-3 32
slogan postmark
Indochinese Culture
Use of 1 cent

Besides postage, three 1-cent stamps served to seal closed an official form posted from Cholon to Saigon in 1941. The fold left the address visible for the mailman, but kept the contents (barely) unexposed.
Indochinese Culture
Use of 1 cent

Three 1-cent Indochinese Culture stamps paid the postage for an unsealed letter from Hue, Annam to France. Per the Arrêté of 22 March 1939, postage for printed calling cards was the same as printed matter (3 cents for the first 20 grams). At the time, postage for a normal sealed letter was 6 cents.

POSTAL MARKINGS
HUE ANNAM 19-8 39
REVERSE
EYNESSE GIRONDE 2-9 39
Indochinese Culture
Use of 1 cent

Postal regulations of 1928 fixed the postcard rate to France at 4 cents. Here a small, unsealed letter was posted with a block of four 1-cent Indochinese Culture stamps.
Indochinese Culture
Use of 1 cent

The Arrête of 22 March 1939 fixed Indochina's postcard rate at 4 cents. However, the change was not made effective until 16 June. Mailed between these two dates this return postcard for samples of medicine was franked with four 1–cent Indochinese Culture stamps.
Indochinese Culture
Use of 1 cent

New Year’s wishes were sent to Marseilles on this postcard franked with six copies of the 1-cent stamp.
Indochinese Culture
Use of 1 cent

Although the letter rate to France was 6 cents, it was not common to use low value stamps to make up the required postage.
Indochinese Culture
Use of 1 cent

On 8 June 1938, the letter rate to France was raised to 7 cents. For a letter mailed three weeks after the rate came into force, the sender paid the 7-cent postage rate with a strip of seven 1-cent stamps.

POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON COMMERCE COCHINCHINE  28-8 38
PARIS XVI RUE SINGER  23 JUIL 38
Indochinese Culture
Use of 1 cent

Seven 1-cent stamps were affixed to a 1939 mailing to Paris. The French Community letter rate had risen from 6 cents to 7 cents in 1937.

POSTAL MARKINGS
HAI-PHONG TONKIN 23-2 39
REVERSE
PARIS XX DISTRIBUTION 25 • III 1939
Indochinese Culture
Use of 1 and 2 cents

An unsealed envelope, probably containing a newsletter from missionaries, was sent to the United States using two low-value stamps totaling 3 cents. Printed matter enjoyed reduced rates even when sent to foreign countries.
Indochinese Culture
Use of 2 cents

Containing a business card or calling card, this unsealed envelope only required 2 cents postage for delivery from Song-Cau, Annam to Cherbourg, France.
Indochinese Culture
Use of 2 cents

Postmarks applied by rural post offices did not display the date. Posted from Tien-Mong in Thai-Binh Province, this unsealed envelope was mailed to the provincial capital with a single 2-cent stamp.
Indochinese Culture
Use of 2 cents

With only a single 2-cent Indochinese Culture stamp affixed, this mailing was charged postage due in the amount of 40 centimes.

POSTAL MARKINGS
CHO-LON COCHINCHINE 29-2 36
REVERSE
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 29 FEVR 36
Indochinese Culture
Use of 2 cents

A single copy of the 2-cent stamp was sufficient for postage on an internal postcard in 1935. Delivery within Tonkin was made in 2 days.

POSTAL MARKINGS
HONGAY TONKIN 6-8 35
HANOI R. P. TONKIN 8-8 35
Indochinese Culture
Use of 2 cents

Postage for a postcard with a one-word message “Souvenir,” was paid with a single 2-cent Indochinese Culture stamp.
Indochinese Culture
Use of 2 cents

Extracted from a magazine, this postcard was sent to France to request a sample of a medicine. Although clearly labeled “CARTE POSTALE,” the card was treated differently. The prevailing postcard rate was 5 cents except in cases of picture postcards with messages of five words or less, which made the rate 3 cents. Non-periodical printed matter, which this card could be interpreted as, only required 2 cents postage.
Indochinese Culture
Use of 2 cents

A birth announcement was sent in an unsealed envelope at the reduced rate for printed matter.
Indochinese Culture
Use of 2 cents

A pair of 2-cent Indochinese Culture definitive stamps paid the "calling card" rate for an small unsealed envelope posted to Italy in 1938.
Indochinese Culture
Use of 2 cents

A pair of two-cent Indochinese Culture stamps franked a picture postcard sent from Cholon to Paris in 1936.
Indochinese Culture
Use of 2 cents

A postcard requesting a sample of medicine was franked with a pair of 2-cent Indochinese Culture definitive stamps. This postcard narrowly missed the increased postcard rate of 6 cents that became effective on 1 April 1938.
Indochinese Culture
Use of 2 cents

A corner strip of three 2-cent stamps paid for a commercial mailing from Cantho, Cochinchina to Paris.

POSTAL MARKINGS
CAN-THO COCHINCHINE  8-4 33
REVERSE
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE  8-4 33
PARIS VIII DISTRIBUTION 6 • V 1933
Indochinese Culture
Use of 2 cents

Four 2-cent stamps paid the return fee for a G-9 Return Receipt posted from Sadec, Cochinchina to Paris in January 1939.
Indochinese Culture
Use of 2 and 8 cents

In 1939, fees for the return receipt for a letter sent to France from Nam-Dinh were paid with two Indochinese Culture definitive stamps.