

Commemorative Issue



Stamp Bulletin No. 349



**MUSAEUS COLLEGE
COLOMBO
CENTENARY**

1993.11.15

**Philatelic Bureau, Department of Posts,
General Post Office, Colombo 01
SRI LANKA**

Department of Posts,
Transworks House,
Colombo — 01.

The Philatelic Bureau of the Department of Posts will issue a postage stamp in the denomination of Rs. 1.00 on 15th November, 1993 to commemorate the centenary of Musaeus College, Colombo.

Musaeus college belongs to the era of great cultural and religious revival in Sri Lanka which took place during the last decade of the 19th century, along with several other Buddhist schools which were established at this time especially for boys. Musaeus college was founded in 1893 by the philanthropists Mr. William De Abrew and his son Peter together with Mrs. Marie Musaeus Higgins a German Lady who was co-founder, an author of Books and its first Principal.

The school had a very humble beginning, being nothing more than a 'wattle and daub' hut on a half acre of land in Rosmead Place donated by the De Abrews, but progressed steadily with the support of Buddhist philanthropist and periodic donations of his land by Peter De Abrew.

Mrs. Higgins, embraced Buddhism soon after coming to Sri Lanka and devoted the rest of her life to the education of Buddhist girls. Affectionately called 'Sudu Amma' by her pupils, she passed away on 10th July, 1926, after 33 years of dedicated service.

The Musaeus Training College for women was founded in 1908. A Shrine room was added in 1914 and the nursery started in 1922.

A Trust with Peter De Abrew as Managing Trustee, and the Colonel Olcott, with Mr. William Hack, Dr. William Austine and Mrs. Higgins as Members was formed in 1896. A board of Trustees composed of eminent Buddhist men and women still governs the College, which has expanded considerably in recent years with the addition of separate buildings housing well equipped classrooms for the nursery primary and senior sections. With a student roll of 4,000 and a teaching staff of 165 can boast an enviable student teacher ratio of 25 is to 1. Classes, which range from nursery to Advance Level embraced the art, science, home science, commerce and languages while the computer unit provides all Advance Level students with a basic knowledge of computers.

Sports and extra curricular activities have not been neglected. However, in addition to the normal sports facilities there are two tennis courts and an indoor badminton court, while a tailoring department, bakery and laundry provide facilities for the large number of hostellers.

Musaeus College which has produced many outstanding students since one of its pupils became the first Sinhala woman to enter the Medical College in 1903, steps into its second centenary today has a prestigious and modern educational institution well known for its academic performance, disciplinary standard and characteristic aura of the traditional culture and Buddhist principals.

Technical Details

<i>Date of issue</i>	: 15th November, 1993
<i>Denomination</i>	: Rs. 1.00
<i>Designer</i>	: Sanath Rohana Wickremasinghe
<i>Design</i>	: College Flag - Logo and Building
<i>Format</i>	: Vertical
<i>Stamp size</i>	: 29.85 x 40.80 mm.
<i>Perforation</i>	: 13 1/2
<i>Printing process</i>	: Offset Lithography
<i>Sheet composition</i>	: 100 stamps per sheet
<i>Printers</i>	: Secura Singapore Pte Ltd.
<i>Colours used</i>	: Four Processed colours
<i>Paper</i>	: 102 Gsm stamp Paper
<i>Gum</i>	: Particle Gum
<i>Quantity printed</i>	: 1,000,000

Terms of Sale

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