

THE FIRST FLIGHT COVER

INTRODUCTION

A First Flight cover, also known by the acronym FFC, is mail that has been carried on an inaugural flight of an airline, route, or aircraft, normally postmarked with the date of the flight often of the arrival destination proving it was actually carried on the aircraft and may have a special flight cachet and/or an arrival postmark.

HISTORY

The first flight cover was used on the world's first official aerial post flight, which took place on February 18, 1911 in India. French pilot Henri Pequet flew a Humber biplane from Allahabad to Naini, carrying about 6,000 letters and cards. The flight took about 13 minutes. The carried covers were provided with the large circular bright magenta postmark "First Aerial Post, U.P. Exhibition Allahabad 1911" a few cards were autographed by the pilot.

CHOICE OF THE MATERIAL

The First Flight Cover has chosen to the best possible examples to illustrate the story. Effort has been made to display covers with clear cancellations.

AIM OF THE EXHIBIT

This exhibit makes an attempt to display the first flight cover flown from India to different countries and different countries to India.

PLAN OF THE EXHIBIT

Sl No.	DESCRIPTION	No. of Sheets
		Exhibited
01.	TITLE, INTRODUCTION AND PLAN	01
02.	ASIA	05
03.	EUROPE	02
04.	AFRICA	05
05.	NORTH AMERICA	01
06.	OCEANIA	02
TOTAL NO. OF SHEETS EXHIBITED		16

02. ASIA

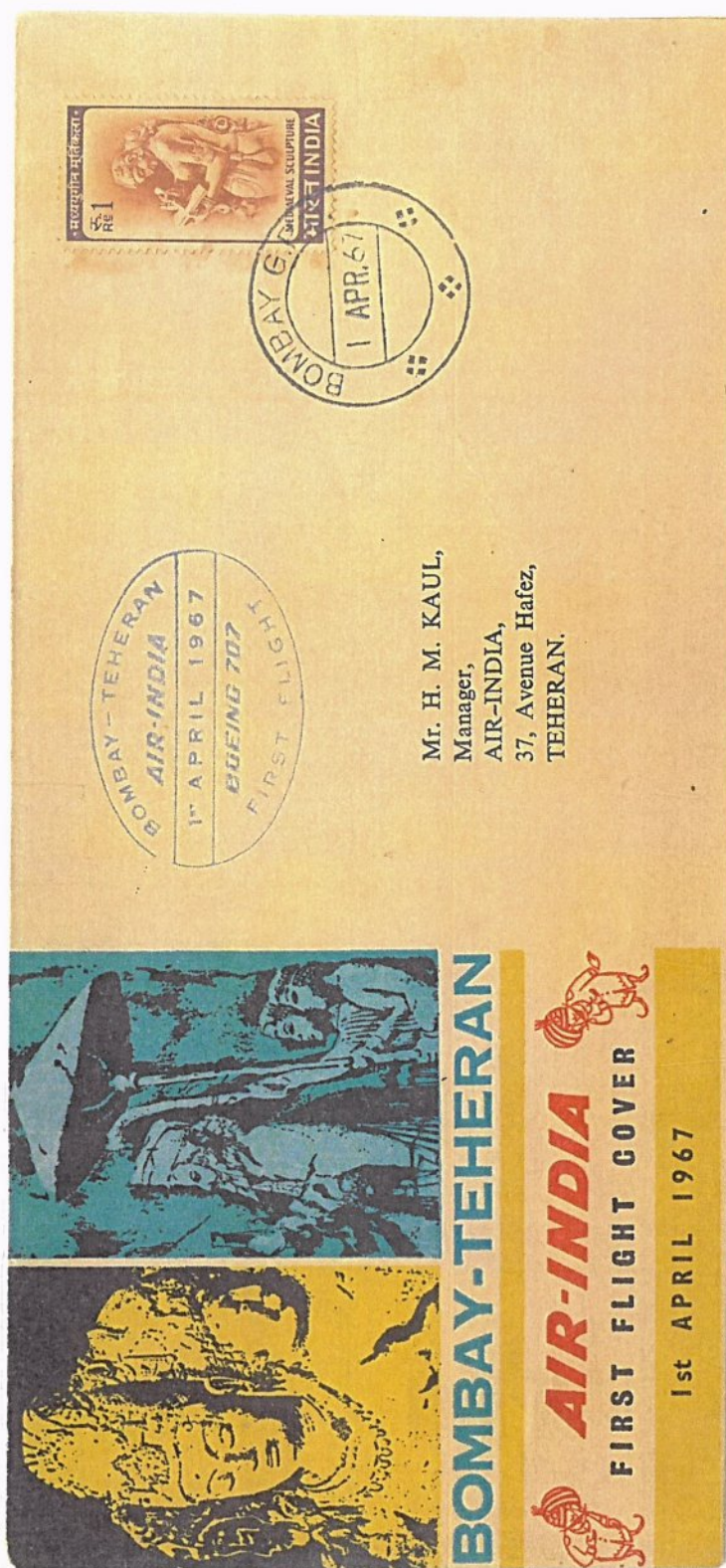
Bahrain, officially the Kingdom of Bahrain, is an island country in West Asia. It is situated on the Persian Gulf, and comprises a small archipelago made up of 50 natural islands and an additional 33 artificial islands, centred on Bahrain Island.



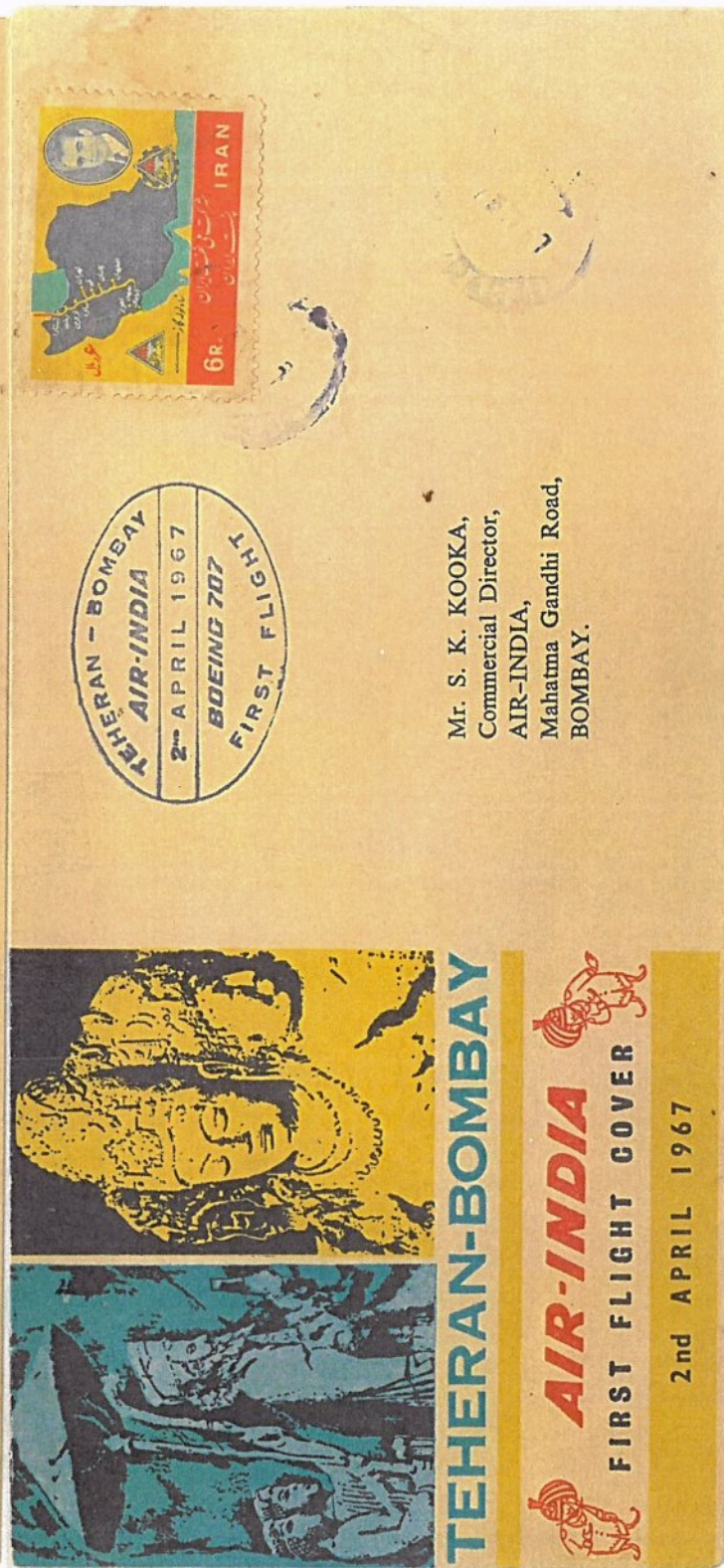
Bombay to Bahrain, AIR – INDIA BOEING 707, Inaugural service 2nd May 1962

Bahrain to Bombay, AIR – INDIA BOEING 707, Inaugural service 4th May 1962

The Tehran is the capital and largest city of Iran. In addition to serving as the capital of Tehran province, the city is the administrative centre for Tehran County and its Central District. With a population of around 9.4 million in the city as of 2018.



Mr. H. M. KAUL,
Manager,
AIR-INDIA,
37, Avenue Hafez,
TEHERAN.



Mr. S. K. KOOKA,
Commercial Director,
AIR-INDIA,
Mahatma Gandhi Road,
BOMBAY.

Bombay - Teheran, AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover - 1st April 1967

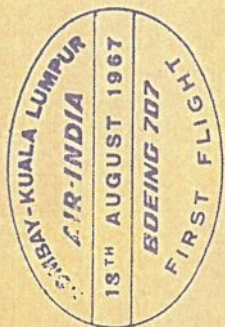
Teheran - Bombay, AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover - 2nd April 1967

Kuala Lumpur, officially the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur, and colloquially referred to as KL, is the capital city and a federal territory of Malaysia. It is the largest city in the country, covering an area of 94 sq miles.



BOMBAY-KUALA LUMPUR
18TH AUGUST 1967

AIR-INDIA FIRST FLIGHT COVER



The Manager,
AIR-INDIA,
Magnet House
2/4 Jalan Campbell
KUALA LUMPUR,
Malaysia.



KUALA LUMPUR-BOMBAY
20TH AUGUST 1967

AIR-INDIA FIRST FLIGHT COVER



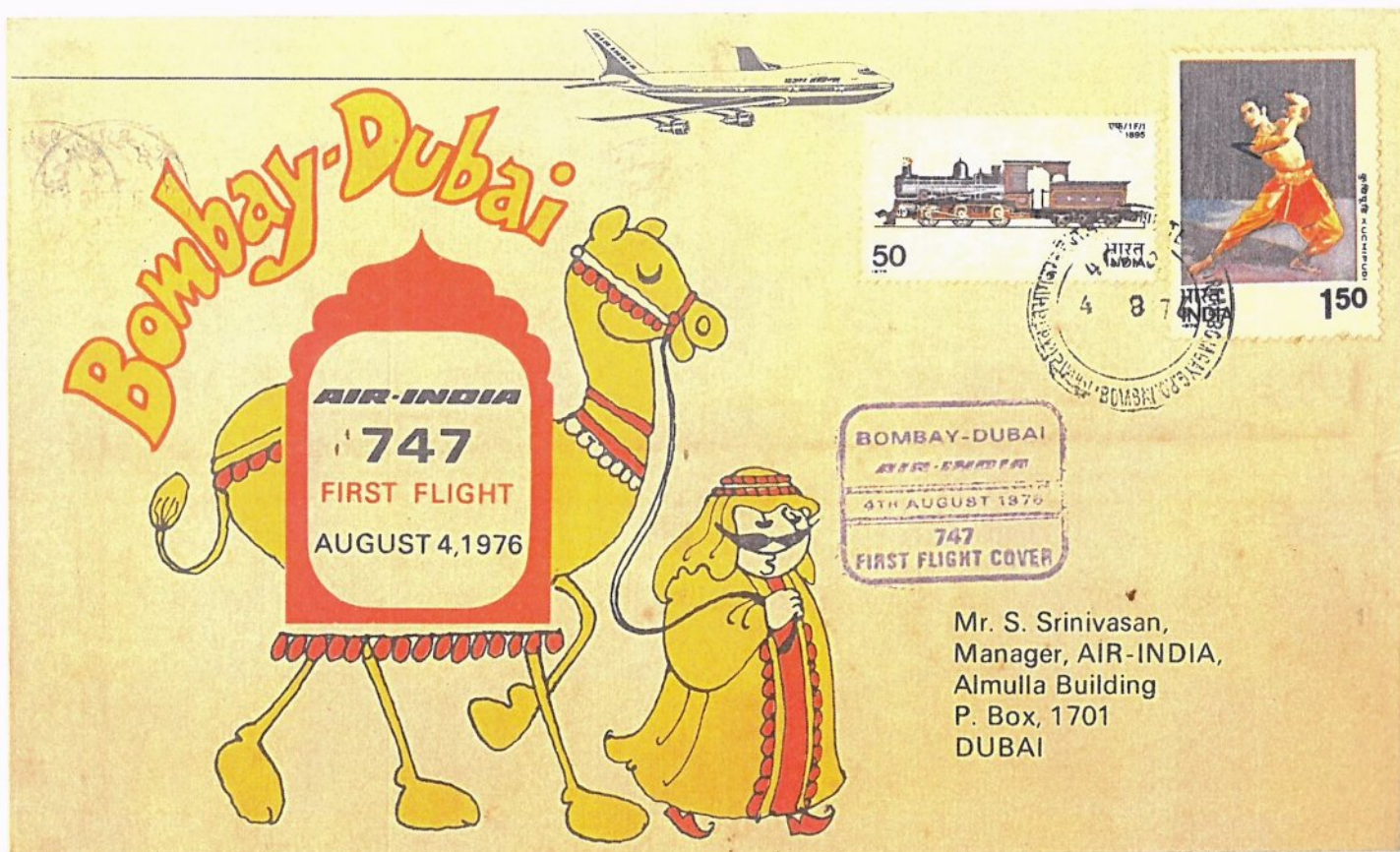
Mr. S. K. Kooka,
Commercial Director,
AIR-INDIA,
Mahatma Gandhi Road,
BOMBAY 1



Bombay – Kuala Lumpur, AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover – 18th August 1967

Kuala Lumpur – Bombay, AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover – 20th August 1967

Dubai is the most populous city in the United Arab Emirates and the capital of the Emirate of Dubai, the most populated of the country's seven emirates. The city has a population of around 3.79 million more than 90% of which are expatriates.

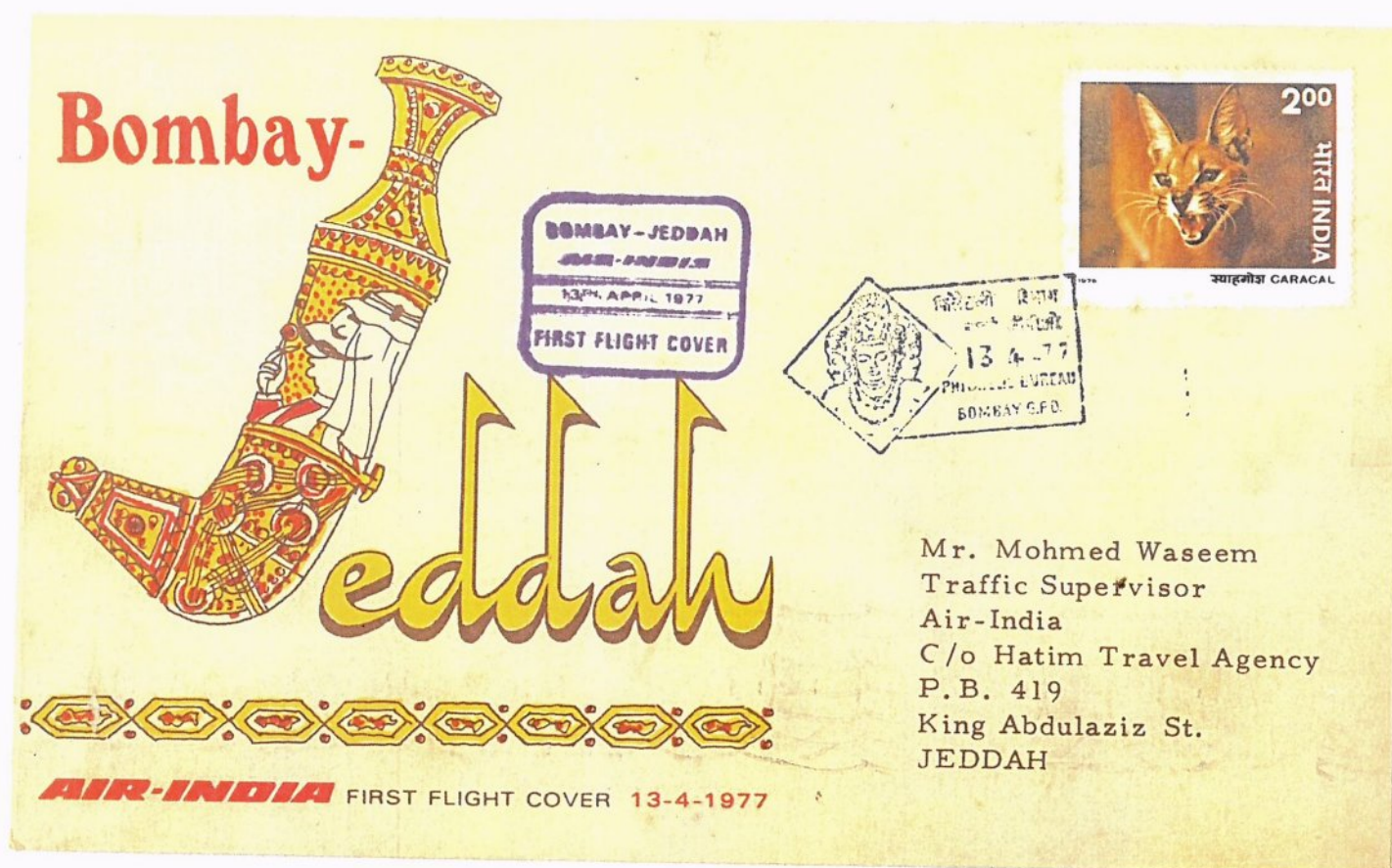


Bombay – Dubai, AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover – 4th August 1976

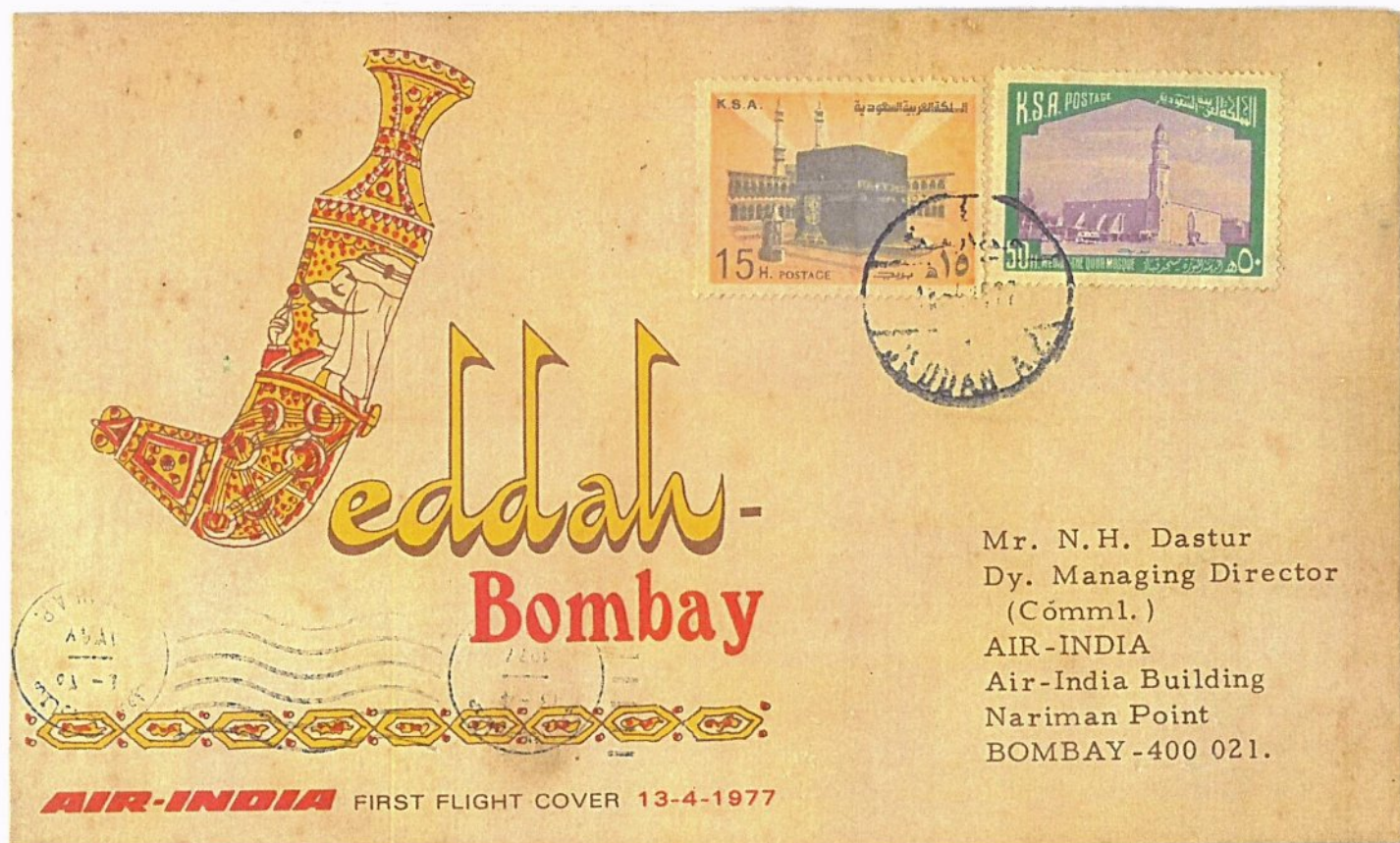


Dubai - Bombay, AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover – 4th August 1976

Jedda is the largest city in Makkah Province, Saudi Arabia, and the country's second largest city after Riyadh, located along the Red Sea coast in the Hejaz region. Jeddah is the commercial centre of the country.

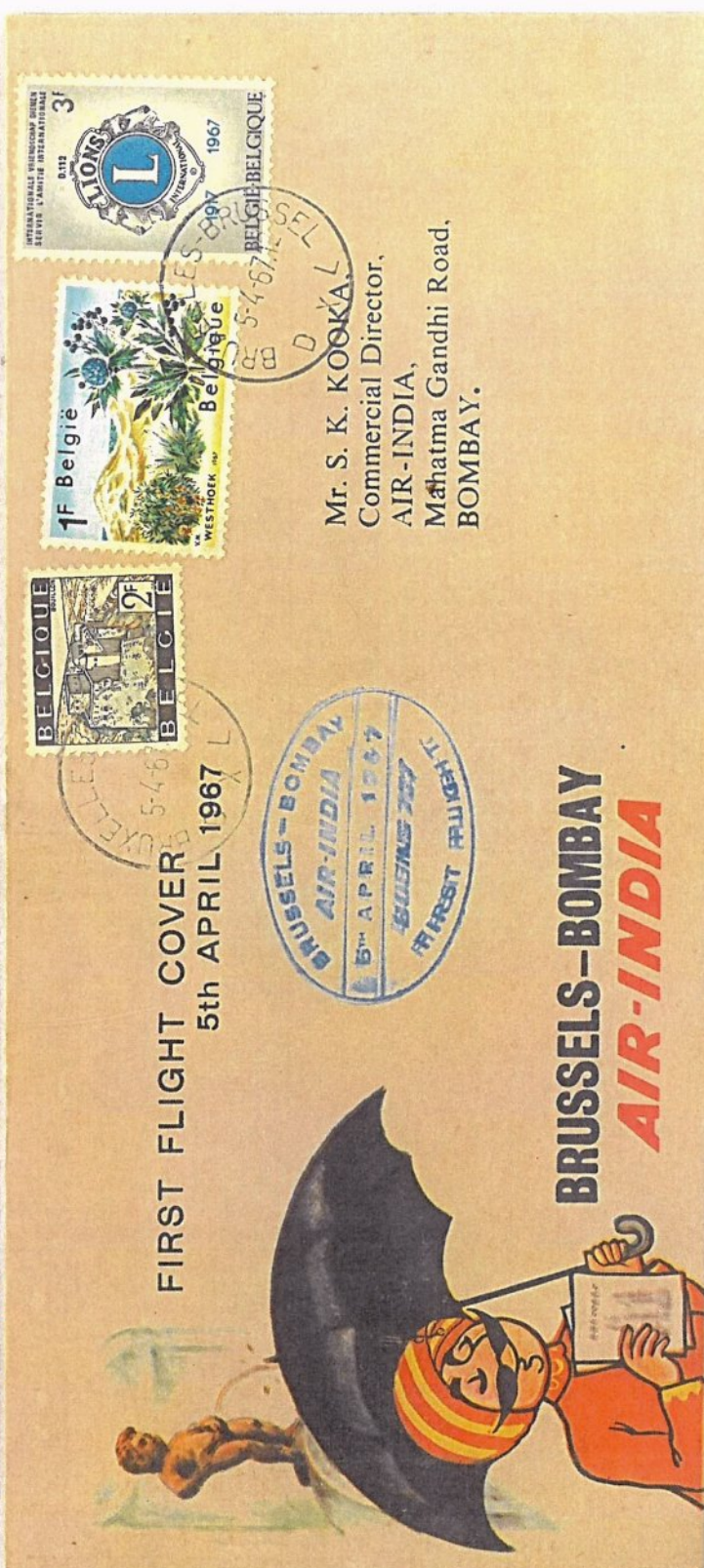


Bombay – Jeddah, AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover – 13th April 1977



Jeddah - Bombay, AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover – 13th April 1977

Brussels is the capital of Belgium. The Brussels-Capital Region is located in the central portion of the country and is a part of both the French Community of Belgium and the Flemish Community.



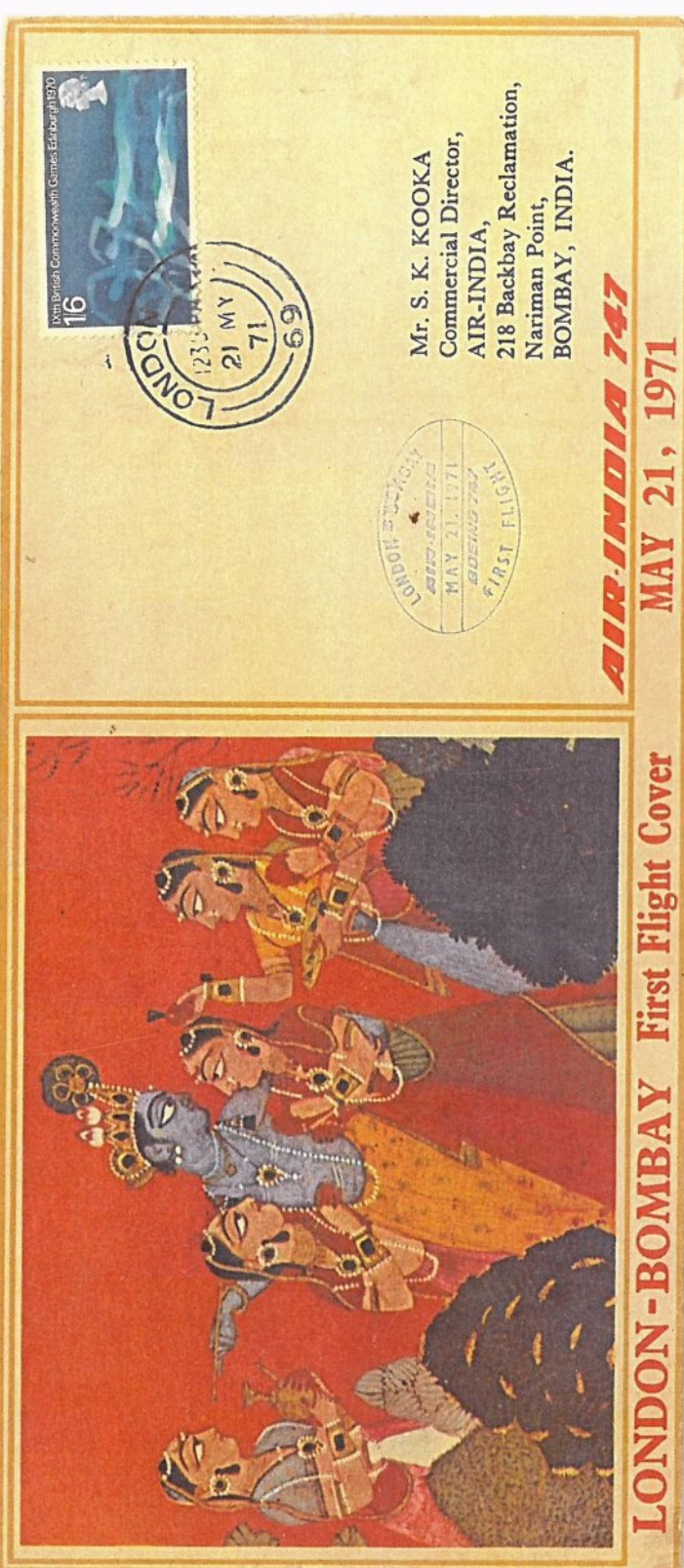
Brussels - Bombay, AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover – 5th April 1967

London is the capital and largest city of both England and the United Kingdom, with a population of 8,866,180 in 2022. Its wider metropolitan area is the largest in Western Europe, with a population of 14.9 million.



Bombay – London, AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover –21st May 1971

London - Bombay, AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover –21st May 1971



04. ARIFCA

Nairobi is the capital and largest city of Kenya. The name is derived from the Maasai phrase Enkare Nairobi, which translates to 'place of cool waters', a reference to the Nairobi River which flows through the city.



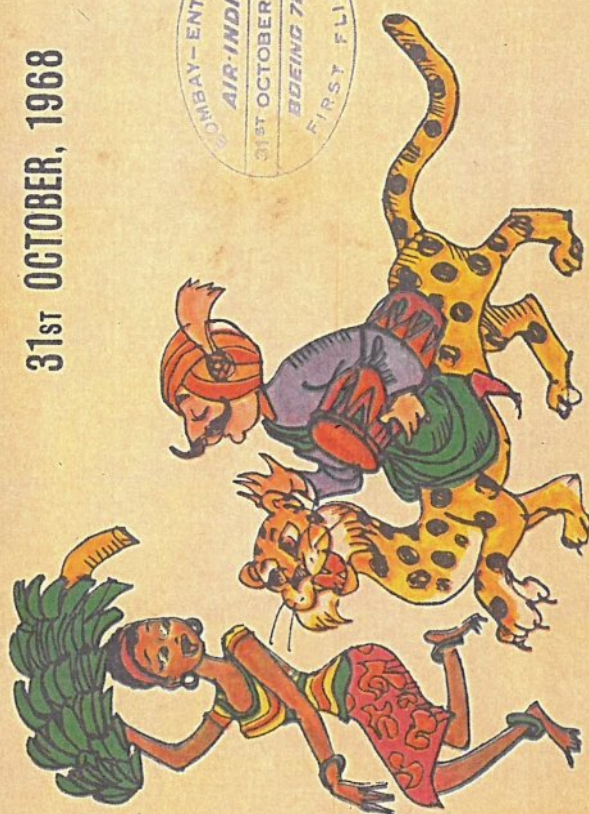
Bombay to Nairobi, AIR – INDIA BOEING 707, Inaugural Flight 4th May 1961

Nairobi to Bombay, AIR – INDIA BOEING 707, Inaugural Flight 5th May 1961

Entebbe is a city in Central Uganda which is located on Lake Victoria peninsula, approximately 36 kilometres (22 mi) southwest of the Ugandan capital city, Kampala. Entebbe was once the seat of government for the Protectorate of Uganda.

Bombay - Entebbe

31st OCTOBER, 1968

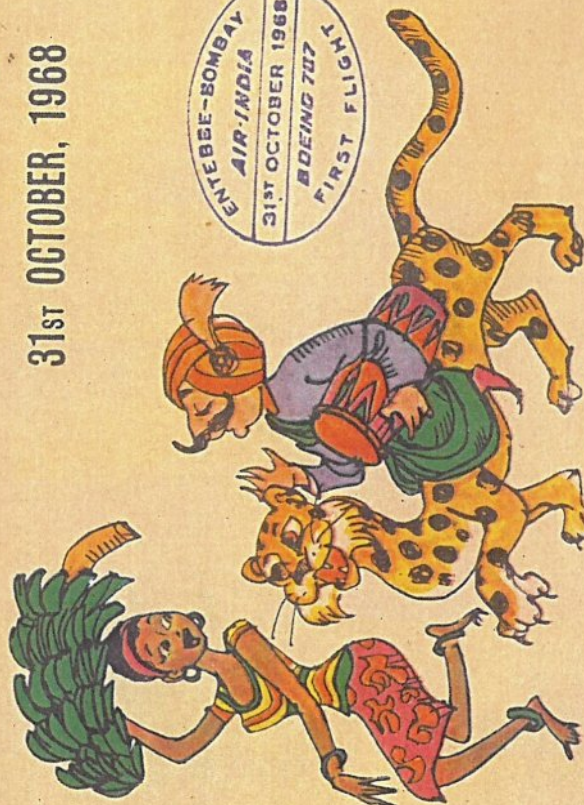


Mr. D. De Souza
District Sales Manager
AIR - INDIA,
P. O. Box 2940,
KAMPALA
Uganda

FIRST FLIGHT COVER
AIR-INDIA

Entebbe - Bombay

31st OCTOBER, 1968



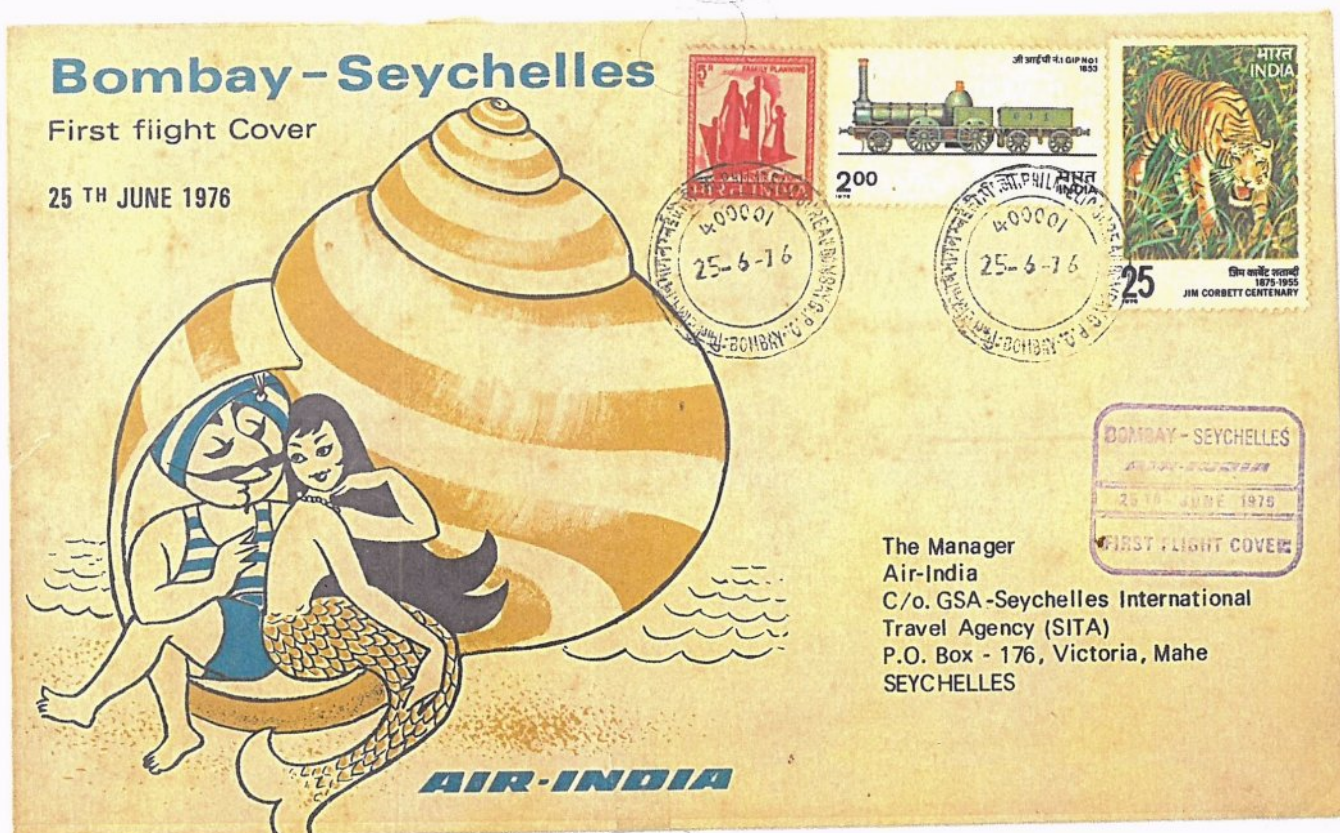
Mr. S. K. Kooka,
Commercial Director,
AIR - INDIA,
Mahatma Gandhi Road,
BOMBAY - 1

FIRST FLIGHT COVER
AIR-INDIA

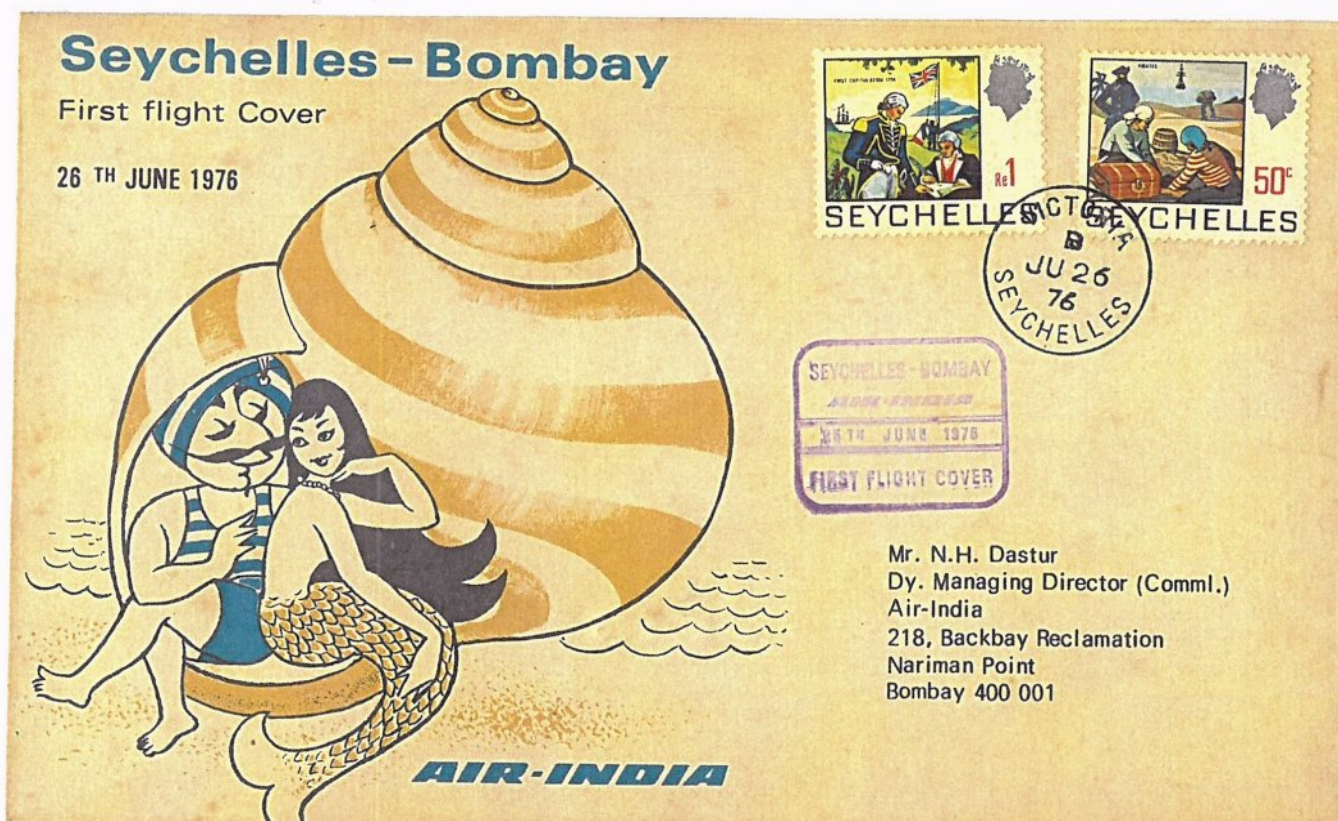
Bombay - Entebbe, AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover - 31st October 1968

Entebbe - Bombay, AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover - 31st October 1968

Seychelles is an island country and archipelagic state consisting of 155 islands (as per the Constitution) in the Indian Ocean. Its capital and largest city, Victoria, is 1,500 kilometres (800 nautical miles) east of mainland Africa.



Bombay - Seychelles, AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover - 25th June 1976



Seychelles - Bombay, AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover - 26th June 1976

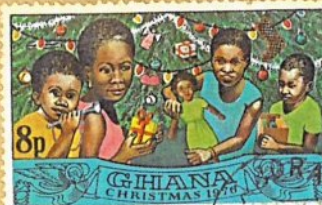
Accra is the capital and largest city of Ghana, located on the southern coast at the Gulf of Guinea, which is part of the Atlantic Ocean. As of 2021 census, the Accra Metropolitan District, 20.4 km², had a population of 284,124 inhabitants.



District Sales Manager,
AIR-INDIA
Room 201, Roraima lodge,
Republic House,
Liberty Avenue, P. Box 9071
ACCRA, Ghana.

BOMBAY – ACCRA

Bombay – Accra, AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover – 19th December 1976



Mr. N. H. Dastur
Dy. Managing Director (Comml.)
AIR-INDIA
Air-India Bldg;
Nariman Point
Bombay 400 001.

ACCRA – BOMBAY

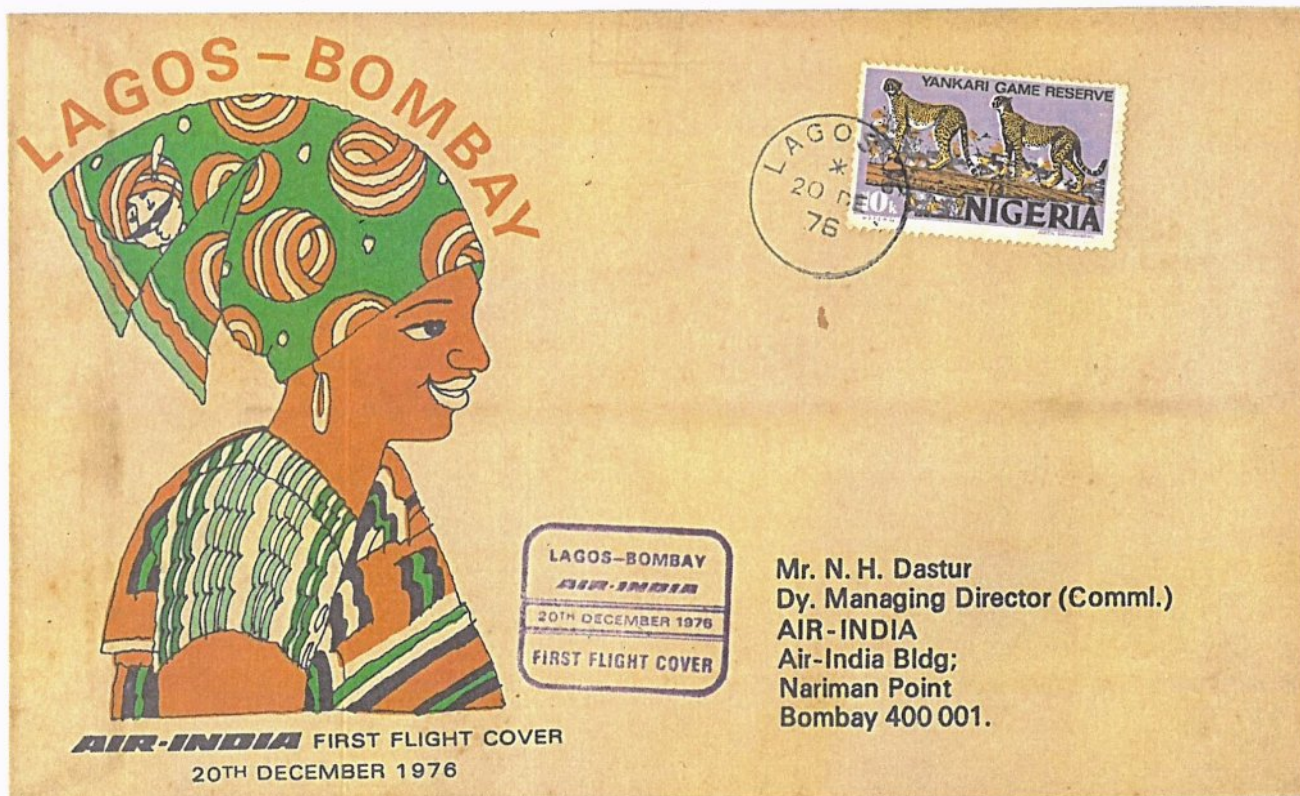
Accra - Bombay, AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover – 20th December 1976

Lagos or Lagos City, is a large metropolitan city in south western Nigeria. With an upper population estimate of 21 million, it is the largest city in Nigeria, and the most populous urban area on the African continent.



District Sales Manager
AIR-INDIA,
19, Martin Street,
LAGOS, Nigeria.

Bombay – Lagos , AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover – 19th December 1976



Mr. N. H. Dastur
Dy. Managing Director (Comml.)
AIR-INDIA
Air-India Bldg;
Nariman Point
Bombay 400 001.

Lagos – Bombay , , AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover – 20th December 1976

05. NORTH AMERICA

Montreal is the largest city in the province of Quebec, the second-largest in Canada, and the ninth-largest in North America. Founded in 1642 as *Ville-Marie*, or "City of Mary", it is now named after Mount Royal, the triple-peaked mountain around which the early settlement was built. The city is centred on the Island of Montreal..



Bombay – Montreal, AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover – 02nd October 1982



Montreal - Bombay, AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover – 02nd October 1982

06. OCEANIA

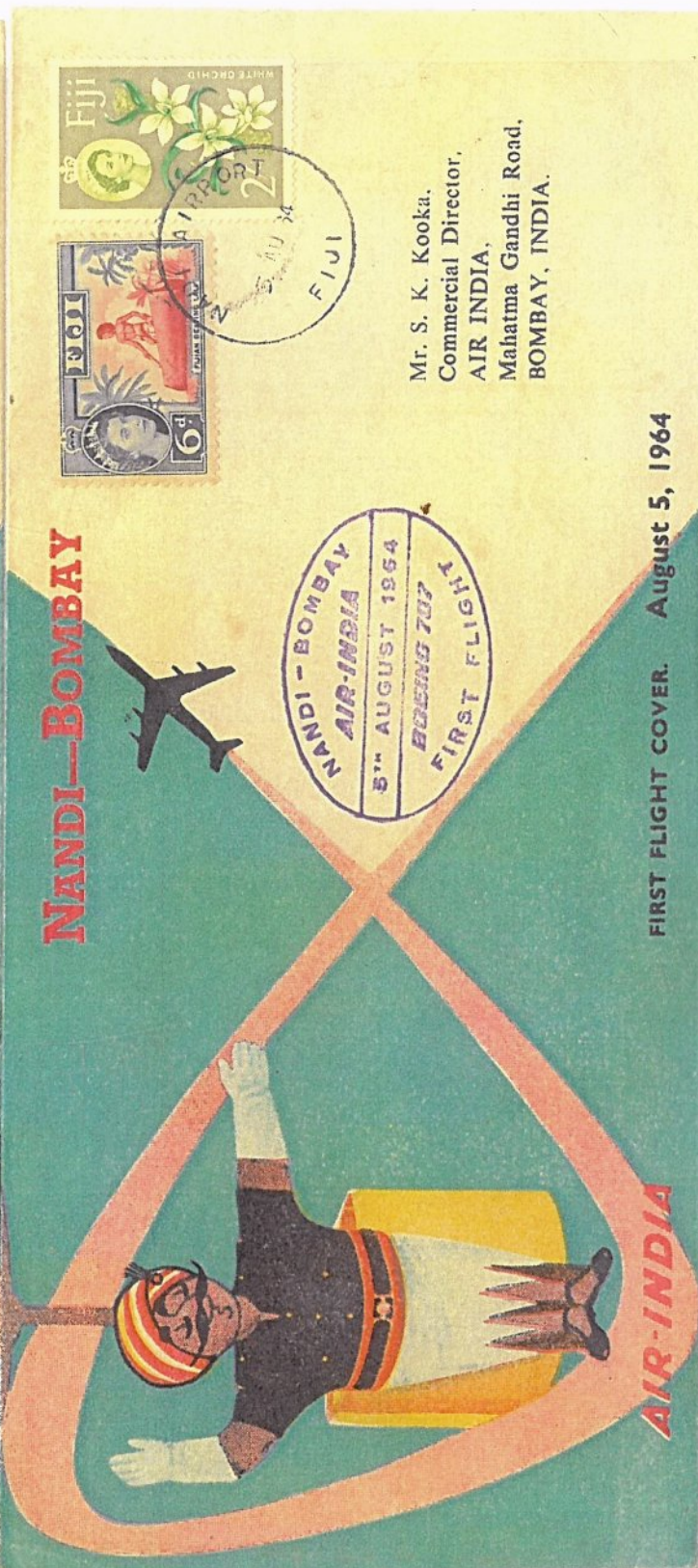
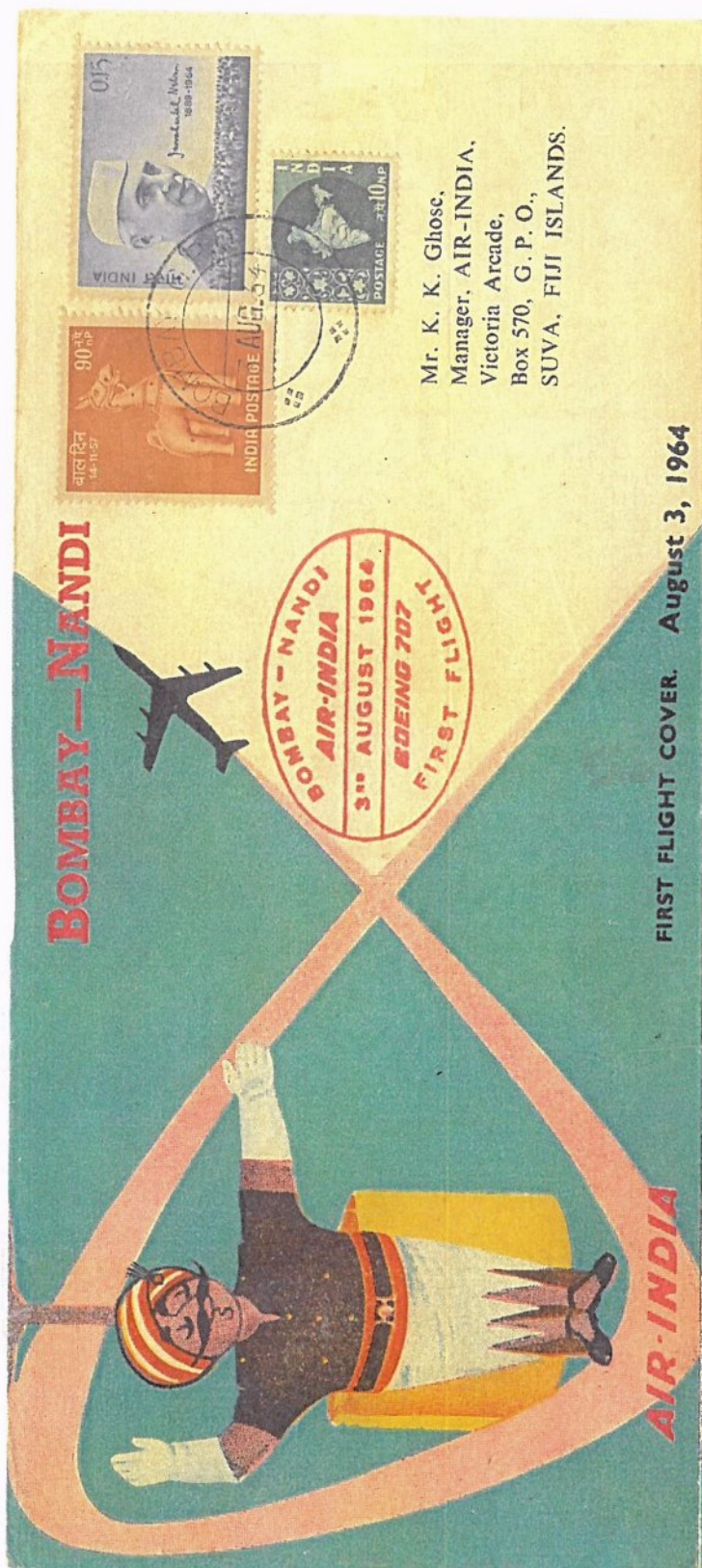
Perth is the capital city of Western Australia. It is the fourth most populous city in Australia, with a population of over 2.3 million within Greater Perth as of 2023. It is part of the South West Land Division of Western Australia.



Bombay – Perth, AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover – 1st October 1962

Perth - Bombay, AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover – 3rd October 1962

Suva is the capital and the most populous city of Fiji. It is the home of the country's largest metropolitan area and serves as its major port. The city is located on the southeast coast of the island of Viti Levu, in Rewa Province, Central Division..



Bombay - Nandi, AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover - 3rd August 1964

Nandi - Bombay, AIR INDIA, First Flight Cover - 5th August 1964