

In USA, according to a Plymouth Colony record of 1633 few persons were fined for playing cards. In 1656 Pilgrims enacted the Law, which fined adults for playing cards and even subjected children to a public whipping for a second offence. The biggest fine for students in Harvard University was not for fighting or drinking but for playing cards.

(Note: Most of the illustrated cards are Chinese Postal Stationery Cards and stamps are prepared by Zazzle.com under license from US Post).

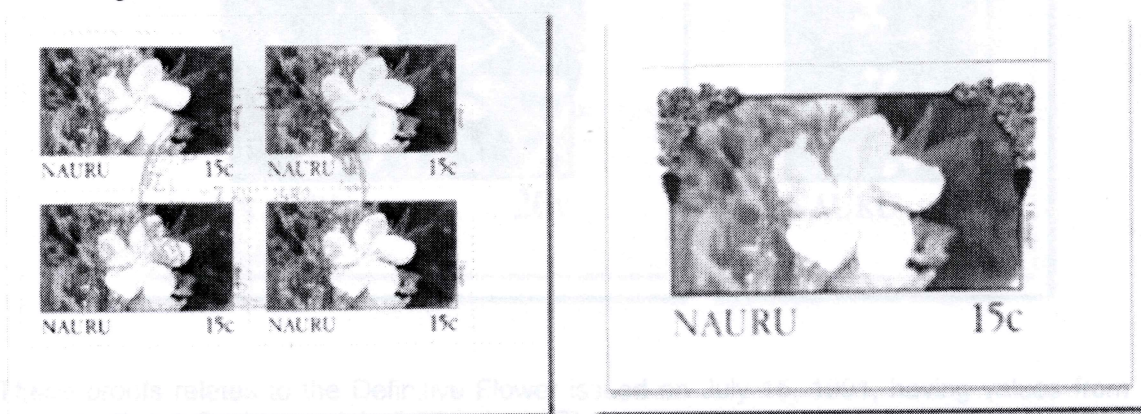
Part IV : Other uses of Playing Cards, Myths and Legends, House making and Card Magic

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UNIQUE WORK OF INDIAN PHILATELIST ABROAD

- Prabir Datta

In the recent time Indian philatelists had been in the lime light in the competitive world of growing philately. Many Indian collections and work had been acknowledged and few had been even designed stamps for different countries.



Recently I have acquired few proofs of Republic of Nauru a Commonwealth country in the Central Pacific formerly known as "Pleasant Island" and world's smallest republic. The island, a German possession, was captured by Australian forces in 1914 and, following World War I, was mandate to the British Empire. It was administered jointly by Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand and on January 31, 1968 Nauru became a republic.

I saw that these proofs on sale by a local auctioneer from Australia I noticed a small label of Mr. Varma which made me feel that the design which had not been approved. I called Mr. Varma if the proofs are genuine and he replied that the printer had provided with the design in black in the first place. This is proved to be the first and only proof submitted to Nauru Authorities for the approval before the final printing was carried on. Had he not noticed the black border on the stamps it would had been a big blunder.