

MÁ GANGA JI- A FLOWING RIVER GODDESS



Scope of the Exhibit

The primary purpose of this five-frames exhibit on the river Ma Ganga ji is to stress through philatelic material, the importance and protection of water and the specific purpose is to project the greatness of the river Ma Ganga ji in terms of its contribution to Indian society.

Synopsis of the Exhibit-Introduction

The Ganges (also Ganga), is the river of India, which has held India's heart captive and drawn uncounted millions to her banks since the dawn of history. The story of the Ganges, from her source to the sea, from old times to new, is the story of India's civilization and culture, of the rise and fall of empires, of great and proud cities, of adventures of human beings.

The effort in this Exhibit is to capture its greatness and highlight its plight as the river is declared as highly polluted river. It flows towards east through the Gangetic Plain of northern India into Bangladesh. The Ganges is given status of human entity and declared as National river. The 2,510 km (1,560 miles) long river rises in the western Himalayas in the Uttarakhand State of India, and drains into the Sundarbans delta in the Bay of Bengal. The Ganges Basin drains 1,000,000-square-kilometre (390,000 sq miles) and supports one of the world's highest densities of humans.

Exhibit Development

Other than Introduction and Plan page, the Exhibit is divided into seven parts in terms of the Water resources; Water significance in the religion; Ganges sacredness; Journey of the river; Its ecological and cultural significance to the society and Celebration of Kumbh which is a largest human gathering on the earth. The exhibit contains wide range of material and few difficult-to-get material also. Effort is made to balance the thematic and philatelic content. Extensive study was made to understand the river Ganga and to present it systematically with philatelic details. Difficult to get items are shown with this legend ● for easy identification.

References

1. Wikipedia on River Ganga 2. Bhagawad-Gita 3. Ramayana of Valmiki 4. <https://nmcg.nic.in/>

EXHIBIT PLAN

	TITLE, INTRODUCTION AND PLAN	1
1.	WATER IN INDIAN CONTEXT	2-9
	1.1 Water Sources are limited and dwindling	
	1.2 Wells, Lakes and Dams are primary sources for water	
	1.3 Rivers are lifelines for Livelihood and Economy	
	1.4 Pushkaram is a Festival to Worship Rivers	
	1.5 River banks-Places of Civilization since ages	
	1.6 Protection of Water Resources-Key for Happy Living	
2.	SIGNIFICANCE OF WATER IN THE RELIGION	10-14
	2.1: Buddhism	
	(Importance of Water in Buddhism/References from Jataka stories/Goutham Buddha's references to the Ganges)	
	2.2 Jainism; Christianity	
	(References from Jain literature/ Concept of 'living water' in Christianity)	
	2.3 Islam/Judaism/Shinto	
	(Use of water in rituals in Islam, Judaism and Shinto)	
	2.4 Hinduism	
	(Use of water in worship and death ceremonies/ Bathing in Ganga and praying it/Use of Ganga jal in worships)	
3.	SACRED GANGES	15-19
	(History of birth of river Ganges/ references in Ramayana, Mahabharat (Bhagawad-Gita) and in Rig-Veda/ Ganga in art/About greatness of Ganga)	
4.	GANGES JOURNEY	20-24
	(How Ganges has originated/Continental drift/Ganges journey from Gomukh to Ganga sagar/ Triveni sangam, Kumbh, Various tributaries)	
5.	ECOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF GANGES	25-31
	(Diverse flora and fauna/National parks, Mangroves, Sundarbans/Gharial crocs, Dolphins, Hilsa fish, Bengal Tigers, bird species/Various crops/Pollution of Ganges)	
6.	CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF MOTHER GANGES RIVER	32-34
	(Ganga-Yamuna culture/Temples on the banks of Ganges/Ganga mela, Cattle fairs/ Famous persons lived along River Ganges/Ghats along Ganges)	
7.	SACRED KUMBH MELA-A LARGEST HUMAN GATHERING	35-40
	(Kumbh mela/Confluence of Rivers/Bathing in the rivers/Ganga Harati/Holy waters/ Akharas, Shahi snan, other ceremonies)	

