

ANCHAL CARDS OF TRAVANCORE

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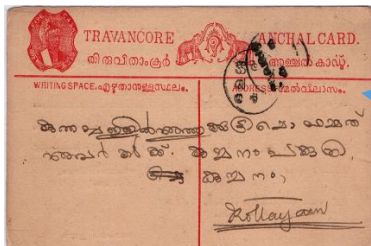
Travancore State, the southern part of the present Kerala state, occupies the southwest part of the Indian Peninsula. Bounded on the north by Cochin and British India, on the east by western Ghats and British India, on the south by Indian Ocean and on the west by Arabian Sea. The state had a progressive administration, it had its own postal system known as the "Anchal". Travancore had treaty with neighbouring princely state of Cochin whereby interstate mails could be exchanged and delivered. For posts, outside Travancore and Cochin, imperial post offices were used.



A mint 8 cash Anchal card of Travancore state of 1889



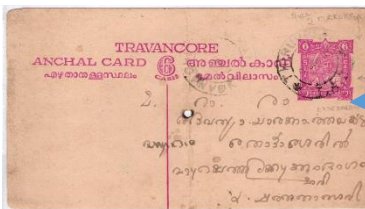
A postally used 8 cash card with a Malayalam cancellation of 1890 from Thiruvanthapuram to Nedumangadu.



A 5 cash postally used Anchal card from Olassa Malayalam cancellation (rare place cancellation) to Kottayam



A different type of 6 cash Anchal Postcard with Conch Shell and also Experimental cancellation in English



A postally used 6 cash Anchal Postcard with King to Changannaserry



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Rate of Anchal Postcards

For different periods

Year	Rate
1889	8 cash
1899	5 cash
1902	4 cash
1921	5 cash
1932	6 cash
1948	8 cash

The Anchal Department of Travancore maintained a railway mail Service on the railway from line running Trivandrum, which was the state capital of the state, to Shencottah on the Madras border. There are various types of Travancore Railway Post marks, and these could be broadly divided into two different major heads; namely, those that were in use on the outgoing trains and that were in use on the incoming trains. A Travancore 6 cash post card from Trivandrum posted in Train on 24 February, 1938 with train cancel Travancore Railway Anchal Service (TRAS) OUT dated 24 February, 1938 addressed to Cheruthurthy in Cochin State routed through Alwaye dated 25 February 1938 and delivered to the Addresse on 26 February, 1938.

A very rare Sircar Service (on S.S.) Travancore Anchal card with a 6 cash Overprint on a five cash Post card.



There used to be Boat (Canoe) Mail service in Travancore. Trivandrum-Quilon-Alleppy-Vaikom-Parur. There used to be daily boat service (ferry) from Trivandrum to Vaikom. A private post card with 4 cash stamp with a "Thi 1" cancellation of the Trivandrum Anchal Office (1908). This is a good example of Boat (Canoe) cancellation with the so many cancellations of like Attingal, Quilon, Kayamkulam, Alleppy, Vycome, Edapally (All Travancore State Anchal Offices) and Cochin (Cochin State) all in Malayalam and single lined round cancellations and addressed to Volkart Brothers, Cochin (Cochin State).



A Travancore Service Anchal card of 6 cash with an uprated 2 cash service stamp too addressed to Kottayam.



A delivery mark (AM) on the 6 cash Anchal card of Travancore state

An interstate 8 cash Anchal card from Pathanamthita (Travancore State) to Trichur (Cochin state) with a overprinted 4 pies cancellation and also Alwaye a transit point cancellation too.



Last Day of the Eight Cash Anchal card dated 30 June, 1949 (16 Mithunam 1124 Malayalam Era).

