

ZIMBABWE AFRICA'S PARADISE

“A focus on 2010”

Issued 19th January 2010

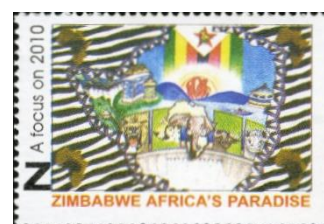
(Extracted from Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 1 of 2010)²

This issue of four stamps is as the result of a national competition incorporating both school children and the public. Prizes were awarded for the best two designers in the Senior and Junior Categories for stamp design category, and one for Senior Category.

Z value: 1st Senior Category Postage Stamp Design

Design by Fredy Tembo, Age 26 Years

The design shows the Zimbabwe bird placed at the top of the nation to show the great power of our ancestors on the influence of peace and togetherness in the country. The stones around the map represent the national monuments and unity that is bound to prevail. Lake Kariba, the major source of power and recreational facilities is seen embracing the big five. In other African countries there are animals, but the biggest and the healthiest of them all are found in Zimbabwe.



A value: 1st Junior Category Postage Stamp Design

Design by Munashe M. Patsanza, Age 15 Years Moleli High School

The torch gives light to Zimbabwe's beauty and pride that all eyes should see and enjoy. In 2010 people will be encouraged to come and see the beauty as it has one of the Seven Wonders of the World, the Victoria Falls and the amazing wildlife. This makes the world cup in South Africa the most amazing for all Africans.



E value : 2nd Senior Category Postage Stamp Design

Design by Methembe Dhlamini Age 16 Years. The stamp features Africa with the South African map reflected as a stadium. This symbolizes the 2010 event they will host. This even will boost tourism in Zimbabwe. Football fans will flock to Zimbabwe to see the wonderful tourist attractions.

These attractions are reflected on soccer balls, which shoot out of the Zimbabwean map. These are, Victoria Falls, Nyanga Mountains, Great Zimbabwe, Matopo Hills, Lake Kariba, Epworth balancing rocks, wild life and Chinhoyi Caves. Because of their beauty, the features will distinguish themselves as the best of all attractions found in Africa.



R Value: Senior Category Postage Stamp Design

Design by Kudzai Chikomo, Age 22 Years. Tourism is Zimbabwe's major asset but it needs 'image building' so that it can be fully exploited for the benefit of our economy. This design successfully does this by presenting Zimbabwe's image to the world as an African paradise.



Bulletin cover: 2nd Junior Category Postage Stamp Design

Design by Tawanda Mutataguta (Age 13 years) The picture is a sign of Zimbabwe's original colours. It is a beautiful country with a mixture of greens, blues and bright colours to encourage foreigners to visit places like Victoria Falls, Kariba and Nyanga which are all interesting. The most important thing is, "I like my country the way it is because it is beautiful in an original way".

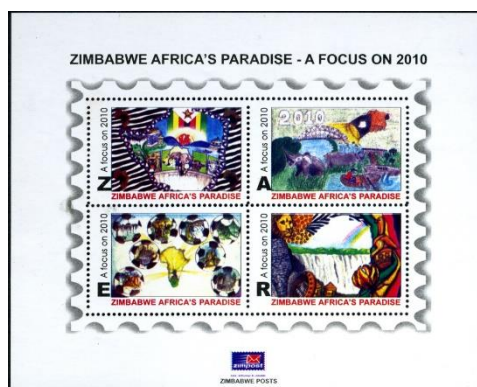


Comment on design

The winning designs are overly fussy making them difficult to reproduce within the framework of a stamp. The printing reflects this with difficulty in the registration of the four printing plates.

Catalogue listings

SG	ZSC ¹	Value	Description
1294	702	Z	Map of Zimbabwe enclosing national flag, animals and Lake Kariba (Fredy Tembo)
1295	703	A	Torch illuminating boatman, elephant and rhino (Munashe M. Patsanza)
1296	704	E	Map of Africa and footballs enclosing Zimbabwe scenes (Methembe Dhlamini)
1297	705	R	Victoria Falls, lion, walls of Great Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe Bird and Flame Lily (Kudzai Chikomo)
MS1298	MS26		Miniature sheet with stamps se-tenant in block



(50% of actual size)

Technical details

Stamp size:	Sheet stamps: 42 x 30 mm Miniature sheet: 125 x 100 mm
Sheet Size:	50 stamps (10 rows of 5 stamps), two panes per printed sheet
Artists:	As listed above
Paper:	ZSC paper type J: paper described by Zimpost as “Chancellor Litho PVA Gummed Postage Stamp Paper”. This paper is produced by Tullis Russell Coaters of Glenrothes, Fife, Scotland. Under UV there is no fluorescence either front or back, the stamp appears to be very dark
Print colours:	Cyan, magenta, yellow & black
Perforations:	Sheet stamps: SG 14½, ZSC 14¼ Top margin: Perforated through Other margins: Imperforate Miniature sheets: Imperforate margins
Printer:	NatPrint, Harare, Zimbabwe
Printer’s Imprint:	Sheet stamps only: Bottom Margin, below Row 10 Column 3. Imprint printed in black
Cylinder numbers:	Sheet stamps only: Top margin above R1/1. Colours from left – cyan, magenta, yellow, black
Colour register:	Sheet stamps only: Type TL 4– round boxed – left margin opposite R1/1. Colours reading down – cyan, magenta, yellow, black
Sheet Value:	Sheet stamps only: Top margin, above R1/5, printed in black.
Sheet Number:	Type SN 7 with printed ‘ZIMPOST’ prefix, right margin opposite R1/5, reading down

Print numbers:

Z	15,000	A	15,000
E	15,000	R	15,000
Miniature sheet			3,000

Issue date: 19th January 2010

Postal Rates

The postal rates applicable at the date of issue were those effective from 18th February 2009, which are quoted in United States dollars, as follows:


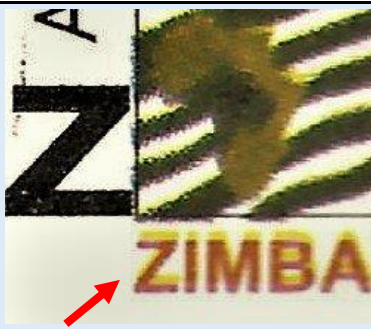
Z US\$0.25 A US\$0.50 E US\$0.75 R US\$1.00





Listed varieties

No listed varieties have been noted.

Unlisted Varieties

There are numerous small dots and specks in the printing of these stamps, as well as minor shifts of the plates..

 <p>Z Value: White scratch through Z value <i>(Courtesy of Narendhra Morar)</i></p>	 <p>Z value: Shift of yellow plate upwards <i>(Courtesy of Narendhra Morar)</i></p>
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 <p>A value: Missing yellow, resulting in a different shade of “Zimbabwe Africa” and blue grass above. Also, faded ‘A’ of ‘A Focus’. Row 10/1. Four copies seen.</p> <p><i>(Courtesy of Malte Luebker)</i></p>	 <p>A value: Shift of yellow plate downwards</p> <p><i>(Courtesy of Narendhra Morar)</i></p>
 <p>E value: Shift of yellow plate downwards</p> <p><i>(Courtesy of Narendhra Morar)</i></p>	 <p>E value: Missing yellow, resulting in a different shade of “Zimbabwe Africa”</p> <p><i>(Courtesy of Narendhra Morar)</i></p>

First Day Cover

No first day covers were made available by the Philatelic Bureau, covers can, however be found with the Harare First Day of Issue canceller on plain covers and Bureau manila stationery.

Bibliography:

1. “The Zimbabwean Concise Postage Stamp Catalogue”, published by Harare Stamp Company, edited by Ken Allanson, Mike Amos and Geoff Brakspear. The catalogue continues to be updated and expanded by Geoff Brakspear, and is now published on the Rhodesian Study Circle website.
2. Zimbabwe Post, Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 1 of 2010