

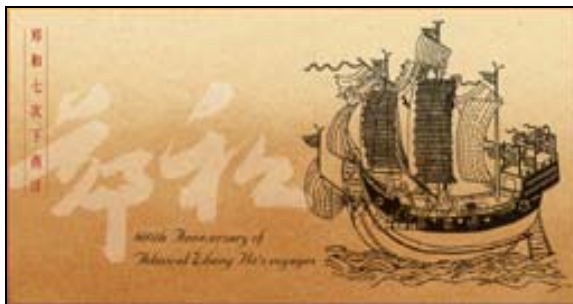
Singapore Post Limited
(Reg. No. 199201623M)
10 Eunos Road 8
Singapore Post Centre
Singapore 408600

For Immediate Release

**SINGPOST CELEBRATES THE 600th ANNIVERSARY
OF ADMIRAL ZHENG HE'S VOYAGES**
Date of Issue: 28 June 2005



Set of 4 stamps (\$2.06)



Presentation Pack – Front Cover (\$3.50)



Pre-cancelled First Day Cover (\$2.60)



Collector's Sheet – S\$2.40

Singapore, 20 June 2005 – More than half a century before Christopher Columbus set sail to explore the world, Admiral Zheng He embarked on seven wondrous voyages of discovery. This year marks the 600th Anniversary of Admiral Zheng He’s great adventure and in celebration of his memorial journey of discovery, SingPost joins China, HongKong, Macau and Malaysia to issue a special set of stamps.

Zheng He’s original name was Ma He. Born around 1371 in China, Kun Yang, a town in southwest Yunan Province, Zheng He’s remarkable journey began when the Emperor of the Ming Dynasty ordered him to sail to “the countries beyond the horizon, all the way to the end of the earth”. Between 1405 – 1433, Admiral Zheng He sailed the Indian and Western oceans, visiting more than 30 countries from Asia to Africa and as far as the central and eastern coasts of the African nations.

The historic achievements through Admiral Zheng He’s voyages played an important role in China’s foreign relations, politically, economically and culturally. His voyages also vastly expanded the then-technological and cultural knowledge of people in the countries his team stopped by. This special stamp issue marks his magnificent expeditions and will be released on 28 June 2005.

Information and enquiries

For more information on these new stamps, please call the Singapore Philatelic Bureau at telephone numbers 1800 741 4111 (toll-free within Singapore) or 68456756 during office hours or visit www.singpost.com or email us at sinstamp@singpost.com. These stamps can also be ordered online at <http://shop.vpost.com.sg>.

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About Singapore Post Limited

Singapore Post (SingPost) is a household name in Singapore with strong brand recognition. It provides highly efficient mail delivery services, utilising a sophisticated distribution infrastructure and advanced mail processing technology. SingPost is the dominant provider of domestic and international mail services in Singapore, and one of the most efficient and profitable postal operators globally. SingPost also has one-stop logistics business solutions. Through its extensive retail distribution network in Singapore, it offers a comprehensive range of postal, agency and financial services.

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**For general information on SingPost, call 1605 toll-free  
or visit us at [www.singpost.com](http://www.singpost.com)**

## FACTSHEET

### Items on Sale

The following items will be on sale at all Post Offices and the Singapore Philatelic Bureau (Singapore Post Centre Branch), unless otherwise stated:

| Items                                                  | Price   | Date Available              |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| Complete set of stamps                                 | \$2.06  | 28 June 2005 onwards        |
| First Day Cover<br>(Without stamps)                    | \$0.25  | 14 June 2005 – 28 June 2005 |
| Pre-cancelled First Day Cover<br>(Affixed with stamps) | \$2.60  | 28 June 2005 only           |
| Presentation Pack<br>(With Complete set of stamps)     | \$3.50  | 28 June 2005 onwards        |
| Collector's Sheet                                      | S\$2.40 | 28 June 2005 onwards        |

*Prices inclusive of 5% GST for purchases within Singapore.*

### Technical details of this stamp issue are as follow:

|                   |   |                                         |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------------------------|
| Date of issue     | : | 28 June 2005                            |
| Denominations     | : | 1 <sup>st</sup> Local x 2, 60¢, and \$1 |
| Stamp Size        | : | 40.8mm x 29.85mm                        |
| Collector's Sheet | : | 240mm x 170mm                           |
| Perforation       | : | 13                                      |
| Paper             | : | Unwatermarked                           |
| Printing Process  | : | Offset Lithography                      |
| Printer           | : | Secura Singapore Pte Ltd                |
| Sheet Content     | : | 10 stamps per sheet                     |
| Designed by       | : | Eng Siak Loy                            |

2005年是郑和下西洋600周年。为纪念郑和下西洋600周年，新加坡邮政局拟定发行“郑和七次下西洋”纪念邮票一套4枚和1枚纪念张。

郑和（1371-1433年），原姓马，字三保，云南昆阳（今昆明市晋宁县）人。明朝内官监太监。

郑和聪明伶俐，才智过人，勤劳谨慎。跟随燕王征战期间，立下不少战功，愈加取得燕王的信任。燕王登极后，是为明成祖。明成祖朱棣赐他姓郑，即郑和。由于郑和字三保，所以人们也叫他“三保太监”或“三宝太监”。

郑和从公元1405年到1433年，先后七次下西洋。郑和下西洋的时间，比世界著名航海家哥伦布远航美洲，还要早半个多世纪。他从30岁开始，前后28年献身于航海事业，最后一次下西洋时，已经62岁了，在回归的途中病逝在印度的古里。

郑和下西洋是一项历史性的壮举，在航海史，造船史，中外交流史等方面都有极为重要的位置。郑和七次下西洋，大大促进了中国和亚洲，非洲国家的政治，经济，文化上的交流。郑和下西洋后，许多国家的国王，酋长或使臣纷纷到中国访问，和中国建立了邦交和贸易关系。中国到南阳的侨民也迅速增加，他们带去了先进的生产技术和文化知识，为南洋的开发做出了贡献。郑和七次下西洋，给所到的国家留下了深刻的印象。

2005年是郑和下西洋600周年纪念，新加坡邮政拟定已发行纪念邮票的方式纪念郑和下西洋600周年。

这纪念邮票，一套4枚和1枚纪念张，将在6月28日2005年发行。

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