



Taiwanese Folk Religion Postage Stamps

Department of Philately

To introduce folk religion in Taiwan, Chunghwa Post has released a set of four stamps on the deities Mazu, Wenchang Dijun, the God of Wealth Zhao Gongming, and Zhusheng Niangniang. Descriptions of the stamps follow:

- 1. Mazu (NT\$8): Mazu protects those who set off to sea on boats. Temples built in her honor teem with worshippers paying their respects. Bearing the honorific title "Holy Mother in Heaven," she has a benevolent visage and is often depicted holding a tablet in her hands.
- 2. Wenchang Dijun (NT\$8): Wenchang Dijun is a deity controlling over worldly fame and success on exams. With the pen he holds in his hand, he points to those who will meet with success on tests, particularly important academic or imperial examinations. Exam takers pray to him for smooth success with their exams.



- 3. The God of Wealth Zhao Gongming (NT\$8): The God of Wealth yields power over money and wealth. An awe-inspiring figure, Zhao Gongming holds gold ingots in his hand, which represents his control over wealth and fortune.
- 4. Zhusheng Niangniang (NT\$8): Zhusheng Niangniang has authority over fertility and childbirth. She has a benevolent expression and holds a baby in her arms, representing the blessing of having children as desired.

The further information about this issue is as follows:

- 1. First day of issue: September 21, 2022
- 2. Sheet composition: 20 (4×5)
- 3. Paper used: Phosphorescent stamp paper
- 4. Drawer: Hung-tu Ko
- 5. Printer: Joh. Enschede Security Print (Netherlands)

By-issues:

- (1) First Day Cover (195mm×120mm): NT\$3 apiece
- (2) Folder (with or without mount): NT\$8 apiece
- (3) Loose-leaf album page: NT\$8 apiece
- (4) Pre-cancelled FDC affixed with one NT\$8-denominated stamp: NT\$11 apiece
- (5) Pre-cancelled FDC affixed with a full set of stamps: NT\$35 apiece

To purchase the relative philatelic products, please go directly to the post office branches, Postal Museum or order on line at https://stamp.post.gov.tw.

- 6. Stamp size: $30 \times 40(mm)$
- 7. Color: Colorful
- 8. Process: Offset
- 9. Perforation: $13\frac{1}{3} \times 14$