

Hands on Stamps: Amnesty International on Stamps

Ahmadreza Afshar, MD



FIGURE 1: Amnesty International logo and torn hand cuffs. Country: Sweden. Occasion: 25th anniversary of Amnesty International. Day of issue: October 18, 1986. Value: 3.40 kron.

Amnesty International, founded in London in 1961, is a non-governmental organization focused on human rights around the world. The aim of the organization is “to conduct research and generate action to prevent and end grave abuses of human rights and to demand justice for those whose rights have been violated.” Its motto, inspired by a Chinese proverb, reads: “It is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness.”¹

Amnesty International’s logo is a burning candle entwined by barbed wire. Barbed wire denotes oppression, while a burning candle evokes hope.²

From the Department of Orthopedics, Urmia University of Medical Sciences, Urmia, Iran.

Received for publication June 29, 2014; accepted in revised form July 14, 2014.

No benefits in any form have been received or will be received related directly or indirectly to the subject of this article.

Corresponding author: Ahmadreza Afshar, MD, Department of Orthopedics, Urmia University of Medical Sciences, Imam Khomeini Hospital, Modaress Street, Ershad Boulevard, Urmia 57157 81351, Iran; e-mail: afshar_ah@yahoo.com.

0363-5023/16/4103-0023\$36.00/0
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jhsa.2014.07.028>

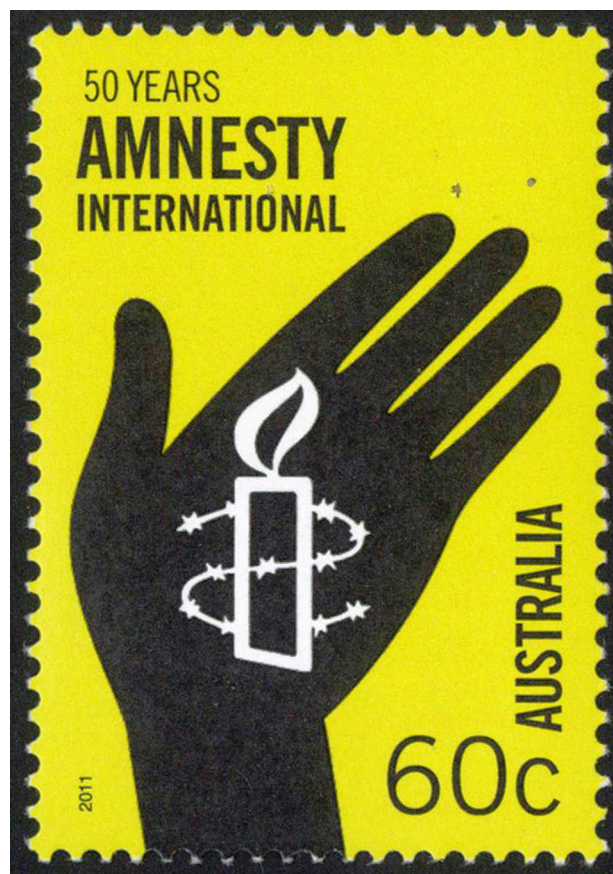


FIGURE 2: Amnesty International logo and a hand depicted like a bird. The background has an attention grabbing yellow color. The bird sketch and burning flame evoke hope. Country: Australia. Occasion: 50th anniversary of Amnesty International. Day of issue: July 7, 2011. Value: 60 cents.

The 25th and 50th anniversaries of Amnesty International were commemorated on stamps by Sweden (Fig. 1) and Australia (Fig. 2), respectively. The hand is featured prominently on both stamps.

REFERENCES

1. Amnesty International. Available at: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amnesty_International. Accessed July 28, 2014.
2. Amnesty International logo design. Available at: <http://www.logodesignlove.com/amnesty-international-logo-design>. Accessed July 28, 2014.