

# INAUGURATION OF THE AFRIKAANS LANGUAGE MONUMENT

# DISCOVER AFRIKAANS

## INTRODUCTION:

The South African post office issued a set of two stamps on the 10th October 1975 with a value of 4c and 5c, the Stamps depicted the first Newspaper in Afrikaans called "The Afrikaans Patriot" and the "Taal Monument" respectively to commemorate the 100 Years of Afrikaans in South Africa.

## PURPOSE AND COMPOSITION

This open class tells the story of the Afrikaans language that evolved in the Dutch Cape Colony from the Dutch vernacular of Holland proper, used by Dutch, French and German Settlers and people enslaved by them. Afrikaans gradually began to develop distinguishing characteristics during the course of the 18th century, Now spoken in South Africa, Namibia and to a lesser extent Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe, estimates c. 2010 of the total number of Afrikaans speakers range between 15 and 23 Million. About 13.5% of the South African population (7 million people) speak Afrikaans as a first language, making it the third most common natively-spoken language in the country, after Zulu and Xhosa. It has the widest geographic and racial distribution of the 11 official languages and is widely spoken and understood as a second or third language, although Zulu and English are estimated to be understood as a second language by a much larger proportion of the population.

## SCOPE OF THE EXHIBIT

The exhibit is organized across eight A3 double pages, as Follows:

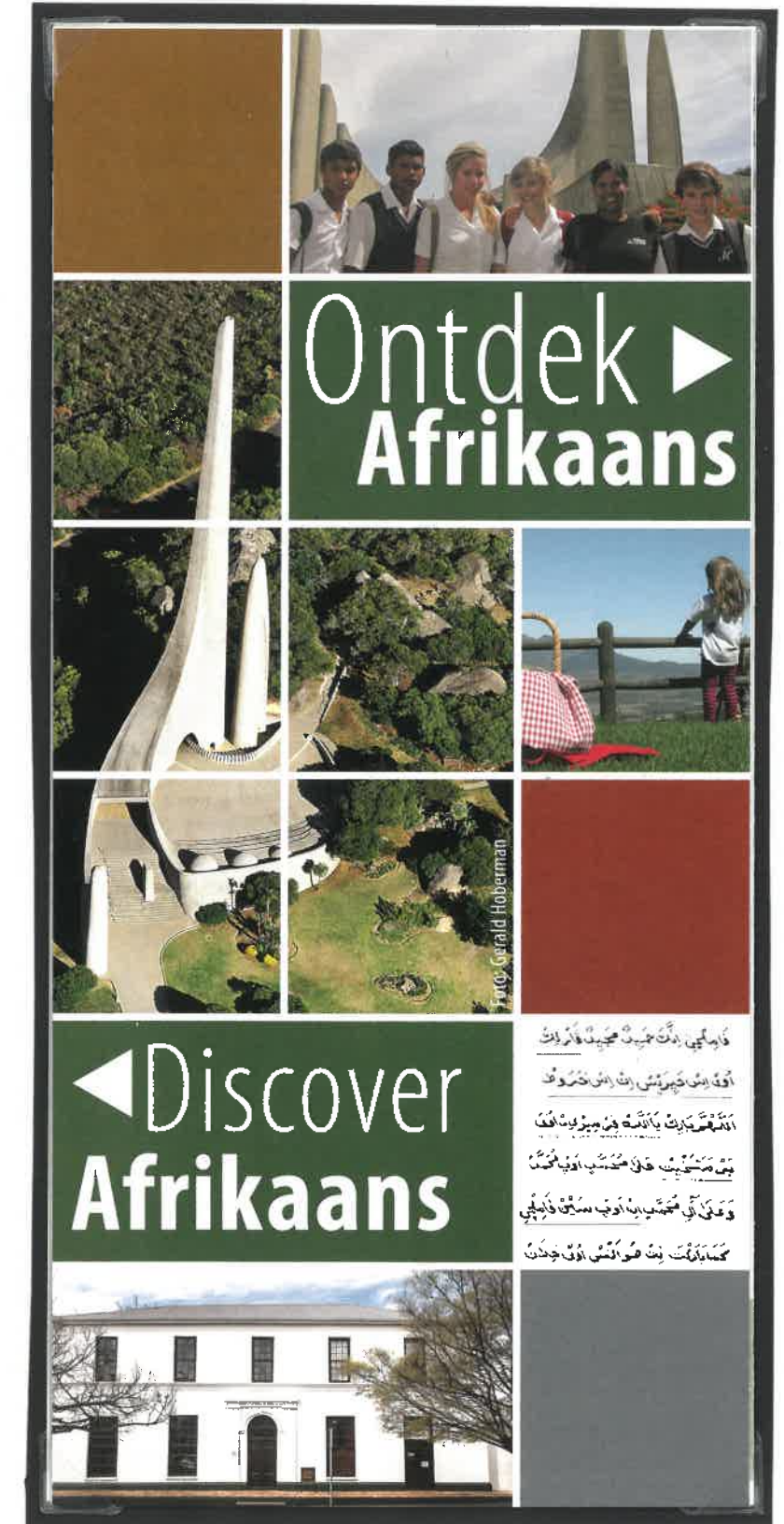
- The introduction and formed philatelic recognition.
- Promoters and origin of Afrikaans Language.
- Pioneers in Promoting the Afrikaans Language.
- Commemorative Covers
- The first Prime Ministers of South Africa that Promoted the Afrikaans Language.
- Taal (Language) Monument built to depict the Afrikaans Language.
- Further Examples of Commemorative Covers and first day of issue stamps.
- Varieties of stamps and control blocks.

## REFERENCES

- 1) Internet
- 2) Taal (Language) Monument
- 3) Fellow Philatelists



Commemorative Cover depicting the Afrikaans Taal Monument in Paarl with Paarl First date canceller.



Afrikaans Taal Monument brochure "Discover Afrikaans)

# 1975 - INAUGURATION OF THE AFRIKAANS LANGUAGE MONUMENT

## AFRIKAANS LANGUAGE MONUMENT (PROMOTERS OF AFRIKAANS LANGUAGE)



J.H.H De Waal  
(1871 - 1937)  
Lawyer, Politician, Author



Dr D.F Malherbe  
(1881 - 1969)  
Novelist, Poet



Dr Willem Postma  
(1874 - 1920)  
Minister (Reformed Church)



Gustav Preller  
(1875 - 1943)  
Author, Editor, Historian



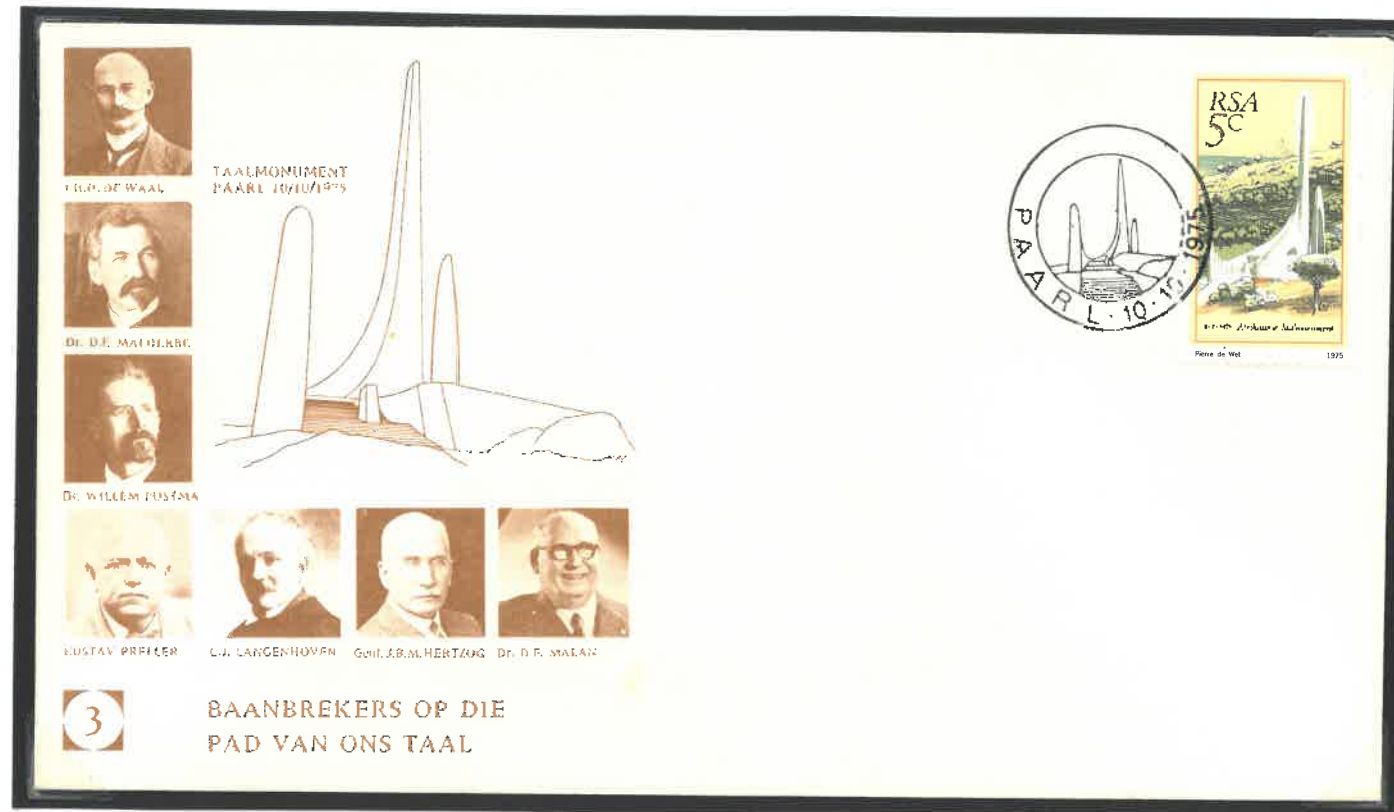
C.J Langenhoven  
(1873 - 1932)  
Poet, Writer  
"Die Stem van Suid-Africa"



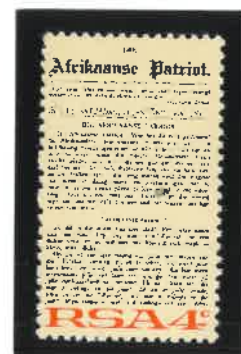
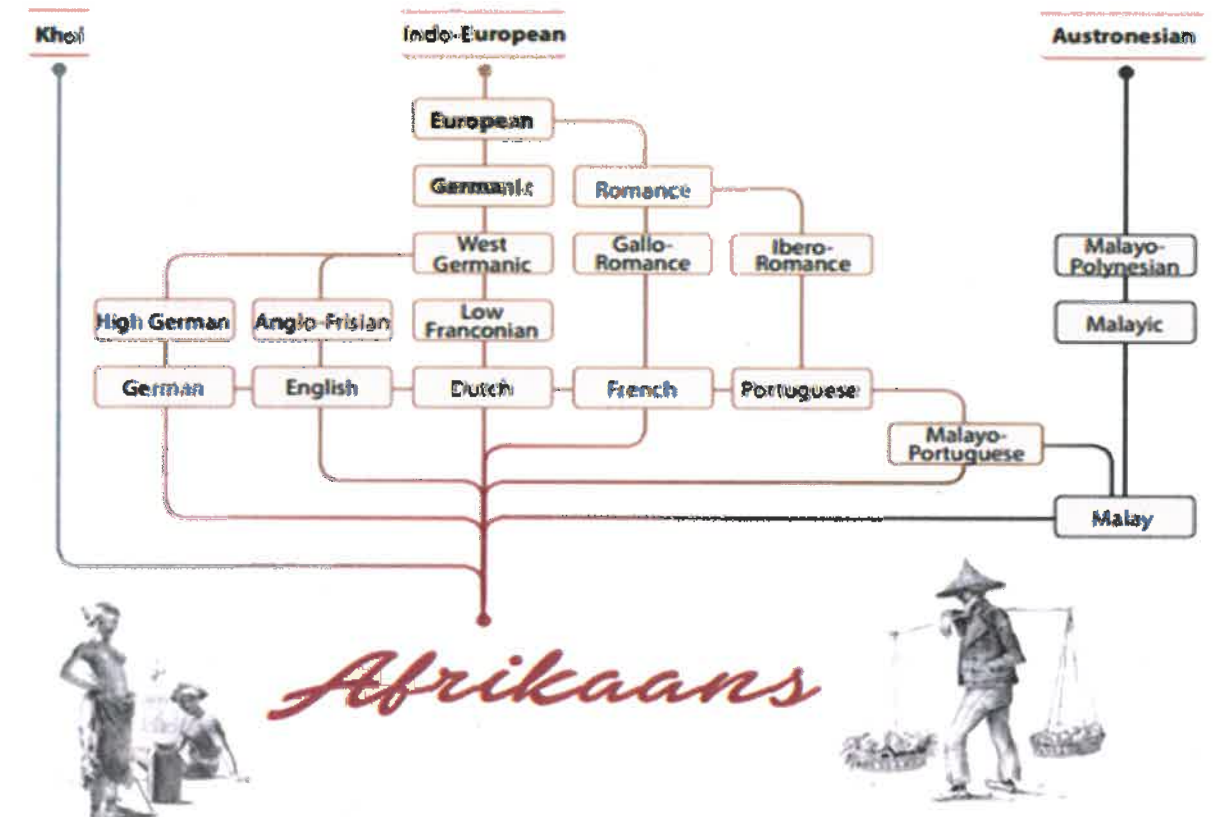
J.B.M. Hertzog  
(1866 - 1942)  
Politician



Dr D F Malan  
(1874 - 1959)  
Clergyman, Politician



1975 (10 Oct 1975) - Cover with First Day Cancellation depicting other promoters of the Afrikaans language



UNMOUNTED MINT (\*\*)



POSTAL USED



Architect Jan van Wijk proposed that the words be inscribed in the paving at the approach to the monument, to attract people's attention as they ascend the steps, and to draw their attention to what the monument stands for.  
(Translated roughly as "It is our Solemnity" or we are serious about this matter")

# 1975 - INAUGURATION OF THE AFRIKAANS LANGUAGE MONUMENT

## FIRST DAY COVER (PIONEERS IN PROMOTING THE AFRIKAANS LANGUAGE)



S.J. Du Toit  
(1847-1911)  
Theologian, Journalist



C. P. Hoogenhout  
(1843 - 1922)  
Afrikaans Writer



Gideon Malherbe  
(1833 -1921)  
Businessman, Vintner.



D.F. Du Toit  
(1846 -1923)  
Journalist, Editor



D.F. Du Toit  
(1853 -1918)  
Printer



August Ahrbeck  
(1851- 1935)  
Pastor (NG)



P.J. Malherbe  
(1853 -1939)  
Wine Farmer



S.G. Du Toit  
(1855 -1898)  
Teacher

### 8 Founding member of the Genootskap van Regte Afrikaners (Society of Real Afrikaners)



8 Founding member of the Genootskap van Regte Afrikaners and was a great campaigner for the recognition of Afrikaans



The men decided to launch an association which could campaign for the acknowledgement of Afrikaans as written language, and thus the "Genootskap van Regte Afrikaners" (Society of True Afrikaners) or GRA came into existence. • One of the first things the GRA did, was to publish an Afrikaans newspaper titled "Die Afrikaanse Patriot"

# 1975 - INAUGURATION OF THE AFRIKAANS LANGUAGE MONUMENT

## AFRIKAANS LANGUAGE MONUMENT (FIRST DAY COVER)



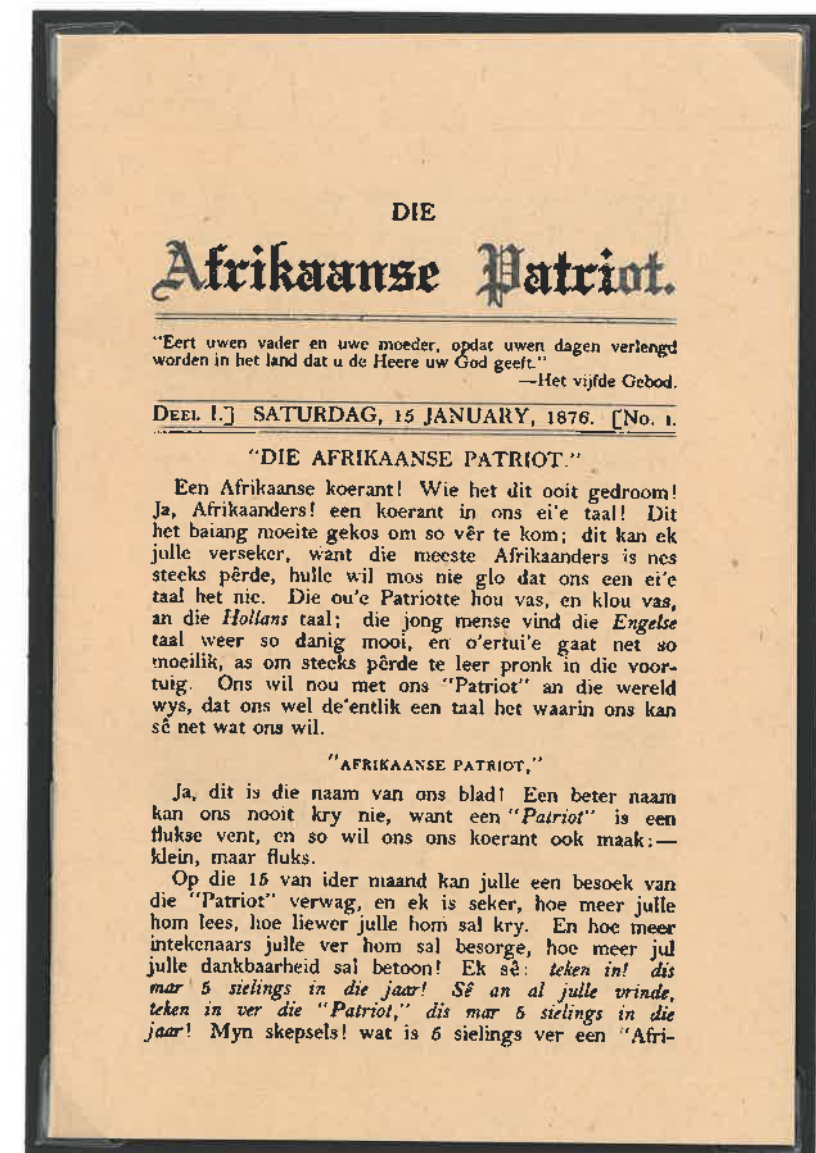
1975 (10 Oct 1975) - Official First Day No 2.6, Cancellor depicting Mr C.R Swart, the First State President of South Africa who made the promotion of the Afrikaans language his life's work.



POSTAL USED



One of the first things the "Genootskap van Regte Afrikaners" (Society of True Afrikaners) (GRA) did, was to publish an Afrikaans newspaper titled Die Afrikaans Patriot, which appeared for the first time on 15 January 1876. • Various other Afrikaans publications were printed on the printing press of the GRA and distributed. • The GRA stopped meeting at the beginning of the 20th century. By that time the Afrikaans Language Movement had built up enough momentum to be unstoppable



Die Afrikaans Patriot  
(First time on 15 January 1876)

# 1975 - INAUGURATION OF THE AFRIKAANS LANGUAGE MONUMENT

## FIRST DAY COVER (PRIME MINISTERS OF SOUTH AFRICA)



Louis Botha



Jan Christiaan Smuts



James Barry Munnik Hertzog



Daniël François Malan



Johannes Gerhardus Strijdom



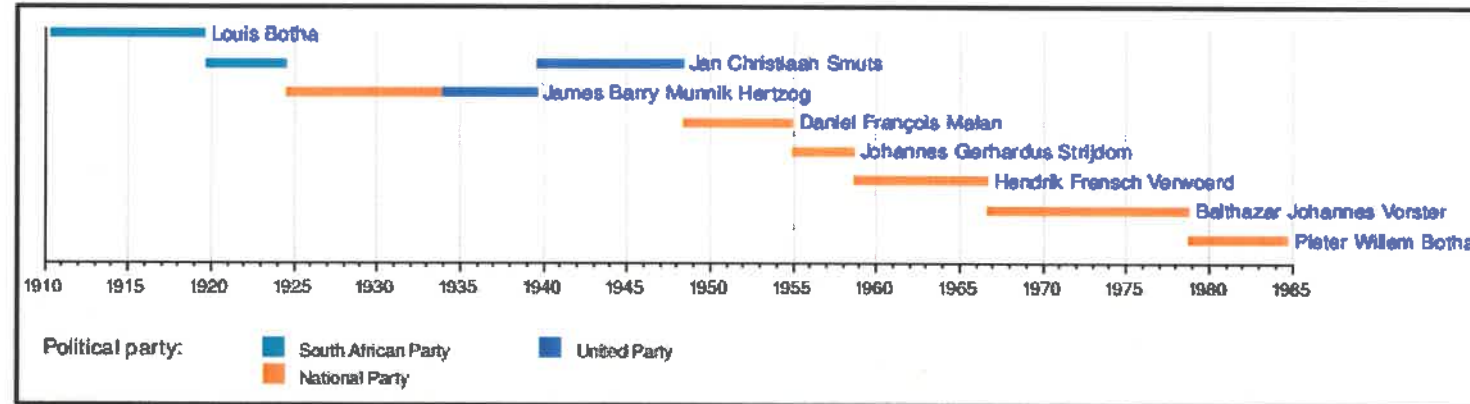
Hendrik Frensch Verwoerd



Balthazar Johannes Vorster



Pieter Willem Botha



1975 (10 Oct 1975) - Cover with First Day Cancellor depicting the Afrikaanse Taalmonument, complete with all Prime Ministers and official canceller "Paarl" dated 10 October 1975

# 1975 - INAUGURATION OF THE AFRIKAANS LANGUAGE MONUMENT

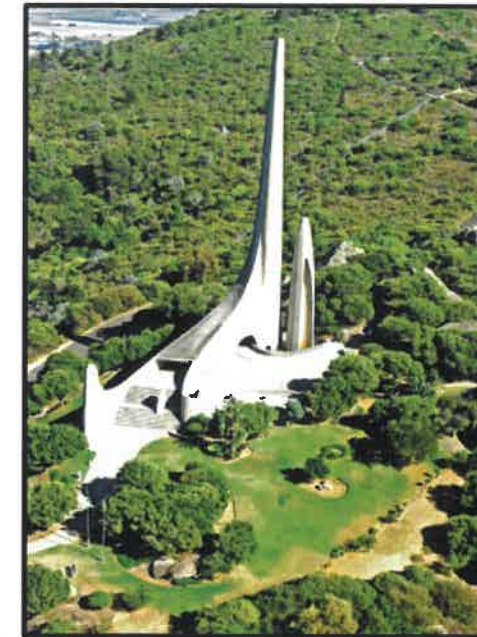
## AFRIKAANS LANGUAGE MONUMENT COVER (COVER DEPICTING THE TAAL MONUMENT)



### Structure

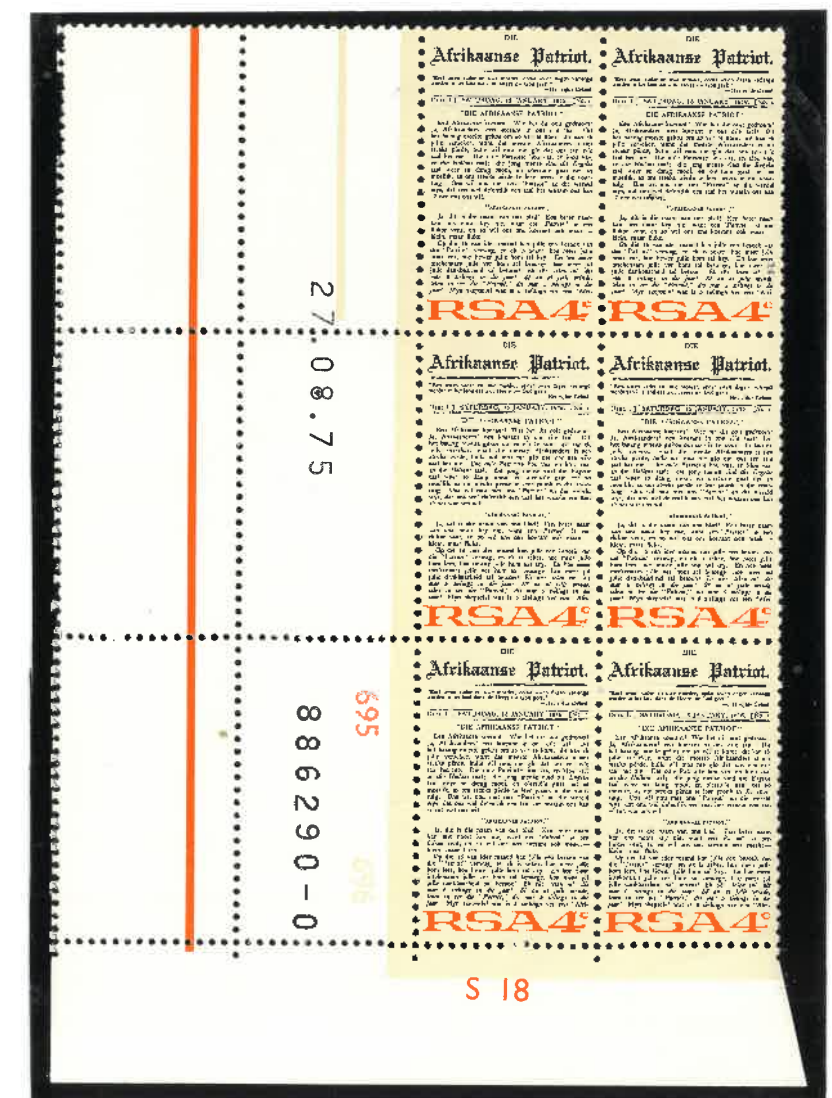
The monument consists of various tapering structures of a **Convex** and **Concave** nature, symbolising the influences of different languages and cultures on Afrikaans itself, as well as political developments in South Africa, as follows:

- Clear West – the European heritage of the language
- Magical Africa – the African influences on the language
- Bridge – between Europe and Africa
- Afrikaans – the language itself
- Republic – declared in 1961
- Malay Language and culture



The Language Monument took two years to build and cost R715 000.00 was completed in March 1975 and was inaugurated on 10 October 1975

1975 (10 Oct 1975) - Cover showing the Afrikaans Language Monument with the stamp of the Flag of South Africa 1978



# 1975 - INAUGURATION OF THE AFRIKAANS LANGUAGE MONUMENT

## AFRIKAANS LANGUAGE MONUMENT COVER (FIRST STATE PRESIDENT OF SOUTH AFRICA AND CONTROL BLOCKS )



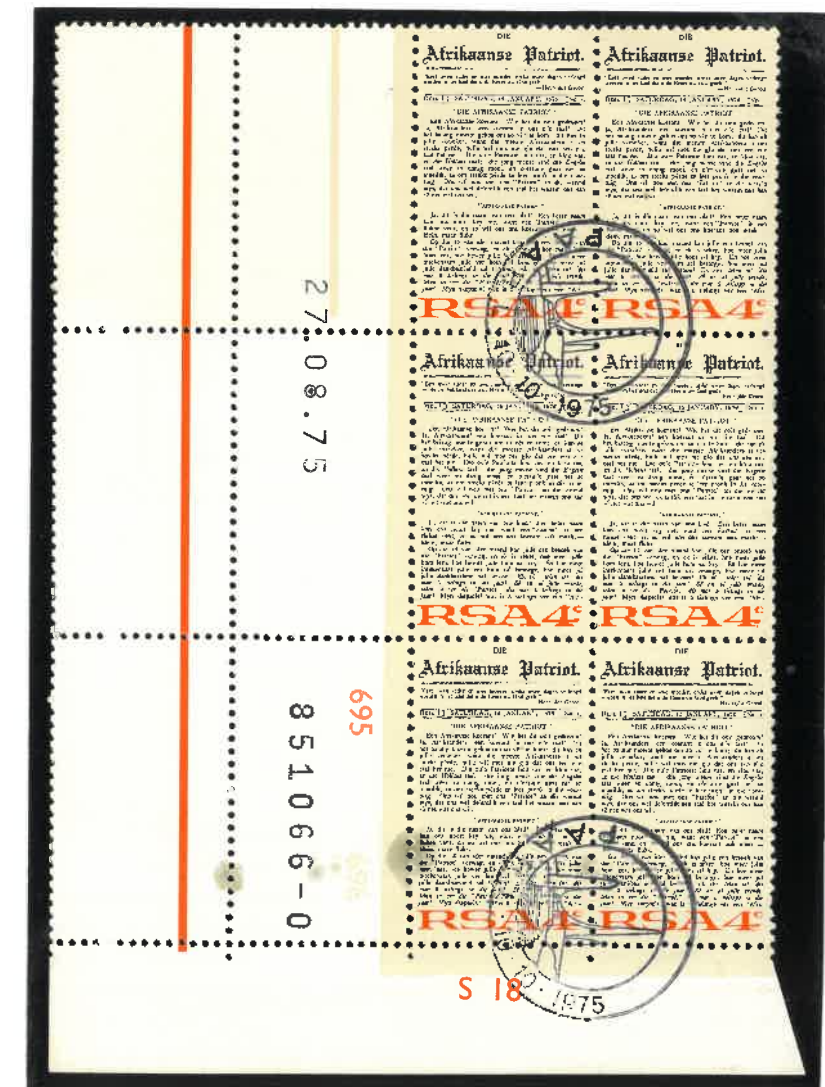
C.R Swart  
(161 -1967)

The Republic of South Africa was proclaimed on 21 May 1961. [Charles Roberts Swart](#), the last Governor-General, was sworn in as the first State President. The title 'State President' was originally used for the head of state of the [Boer Republics](#), and like them, the holder of the office wore a [sash](#) with the Republic's [coat of arms](#).

He was elected to a seven-year term by the [Parliament of South Africa](#), and was not eligible for re-election. As such, the State President performed mostly ceremonial duties, and was bound by convention to act on the advice of the [Prime Minister](#) and the cabinet.



1975 (10 Oct 1975) - Cover with First Day Cancellor depicting Mr C.R Swart, the First State President of South Africa who made the promotion of the Afrikaans language his life's work.



# 1975 - INAUGURATION OF THE AFRIKAANS LANGUAGE MONUMENT

## AFRIKAANS LANGUAGE MONUMENT (VARIETIES - IRREGULARITIES)



Variety - Green Stain on Monument



Variety - Brown Colour Missing "Sand" on base of Monument



Variety - "Doctors Blade" Flaw

