TRANSITION from SULTAN ABU BAKAR to SULTAN IBRAHIM
Overprints for mourning issues and coronation of successor sultan.

1895? MOURNING ISSUE: "KETAHKOTAAN" OVERPRINTS

First overprinting following the death of Sultan Abu Bakar. The Issue date in catalogues is March 1896 (together with the coronation overprints) but these were possibly released before Sultan Ibrahim's coronation in November 1895.

Very late usage of six values to Switzerland in 1909.
REIGN OF SULTAN IBRAHIM

1896. CORONATION ISSUE: "KEMAHKOTAAN" OVERPRINTS

Released as commemorative stamp issues ("kemahkotaan means coronation) because stamps with the new sultan's portrait were delayed. Sultan Ibrahim was crowned on November 2, 1895 following the death of Sultan Abu Bakar in June 1895.

Overprinted one dollar used on registered cover to Singapore in April 1896
As it was the early practice in Johore to strike the datestamp on the cover and cancel the stamps with obliterators, dated copies of these stamps are elusive. Most bear Johore Bahru’s and other town’s star and crescent cancels.

One dollar Kemahkotaan overprint on registered letter to Singapore in April 1896
1896. CORONATION ISSUE: “KEMAHKOTAAN” OVERPRINTS
Combination Usage with Straits Settlements Stamps

Registered letter, Johore Bahru July 14, 1896 to Paris, carried by French Line N mailboat No. 3.
Johore stamps paid triple rate to Singapore. Straits Settlements stamps paid registration (5 cents) and triple overseas rate (8c x 3); needed for mail going abroad before Johore joined the UPU.
Rare multiple rate franking.
1895.  ESSAY FOR FIRST PORTRAIT ON STAMPS

Essays were produced shortly after Sultan Abu Bakar's death in June 1895. Stamp production, however, was delayed and the first values were released only eleven months later.

Photographic essay "B" dated July 9, 1895
Rejected frame design

Unique.  Ex De La Rue archives.
REIGN OF SULTAN IBRAHIM
1895. CURRENT COLORS OF STAMP ISSUES

De La Rue prepared Appendix A as companion to Appendix B (color scheme) shown on next page.
REIGN OF SULTAN IBRAHIM

1895. COLOR SCHEME FOR NEW STAMPS

Appendix B was submitted, together with essays, for suggested colors. A companion Appendix A showed the existing colors of the Sultan Abu Bakar issues.

Notations beside trials followed by initial "AR" of Abdul Rahman, minister in attendance to Sultan Ibrahim:

"$1" beside purple with value in green
"1 cent" beside green with value in green
"4 cents" beside green with value in carmine

Printer's note on right margin reading upward: "The ovpt. colours of the 4 and 5 cents to be made as different as possible. A.H."

Top half of Appendix B (bottom half on following page) with trials using the One cent value in different colors, with frame and vignettes in purple (existing color of cent values) and green (existing color of one dollar value).

Unique. Ex De La Rue archives.
REIGN OF SULTAN IBRAHIM

1895.  COLOR SCHEME FOR NEW STAMPS

Appendix B was submitted, together with essays, for suggested colors. A companion Appendix A showed the existing colors of the Sultan Abu Bakar issues.

Bottom half of Appendix B dated July 9, 1895 (top half on preceding page).

Unique. Ex De La Rue archives.

Notations beside the trials in green: "5 cents", "2 cents", "6 cents", and "3 cents" followed by the initials "AR" (for Abdul Rahman, minister in attendance for Sultan Ibrahim).
REIGN OF SULTAN IBRAHIM

1895. FINAL COLOR SCHEME FOR NEW STAMPS

Printer's Appendix Using Dies of One Cent Value.

Reduced (75%) copy of entire Appendix.)
Die of vignette with uncleared surround
"BEFORE HARDENING"
Ex De La Rue archives.

Unified vignette and frame from archive,
indicating order for 240 leads for preparation
of head-plates. "Mar 17.96" in red probably
indicates completion of order.
Unique item ex De La Rue archives.

The stamps were produced in two operations from a common head-plate
in a 12 x 10 format, and appropriate duty (value) plates.
REIGN OF SULTAN IBRAHIM: FIRST PORTRAIT DEFINITIVES
1896. First Issues of Similar Cent Values, on Single Rosette watermarked paper.

Two cents value and one cent (with second portrait of sultan) used on local mail
From Muar (Bandar Maharani) to Singapore, October 1910 (very late usage)
Three cents franking local letter rate within Johore Bahru town in 1900. “JOHORE BAHRU/ PAID” datestamp struck in red.

Three cent values used from Johore Bahru to Strasburg, Germany in 1903. “JOHORE BAHRU/ PAID” struck in red. Late usage.
1896. FIRST PORTRAIT: FIRST CENT ISSUES

Four cents used from Muar to India in 1902.

Cancellations on these first issues were mainly the double-ring, undated, crescent-and-star or crown postmarks from Johore Bahru, Muar, Kota Tinggi and other towns. Singapore postmarks indicate arrival postmarks for uncancelled arrival mail.
REIGN OF SULTAN IBRAHIM

1896. FIRST PORTRAIT: FIRST CENT ISSUES

Marginal block from Rows 9-10, Columns 7-12, showing jubilee line from head plate. Printing from upper portion of Plate 1 confirmed by absence of plane number on Column 11 margin.

Pair of six cents and one cent stamp on local mail from Johore Bahru (double ring and crown cancel) to Muar, addressed in Jawi script.
1896. Usage for External Mail in Combination with Straits Settlements Stamp

3 cents in combination use from Muar to India, October 1896, with Straits Settlements 8 cents paying single-letter UPU rate for mail going abroad.

As Johore joined the UPU in December 1898; these first stamps with Sultan Ibrahim’s first portrait were the last used for combination franking.
REIGN OF SULTAN IBRAHIM: FIRST PORTRAIT DEFINITIVES
1898. New Cent and Dollar Values, on Single Rosette watermarked paper.

1898: FIRST PORTRAIT: THE TEN CENTS VALUE

Die for new duty plate
Ex De La Rue archives.

The new higher cent values are solid against a white background.