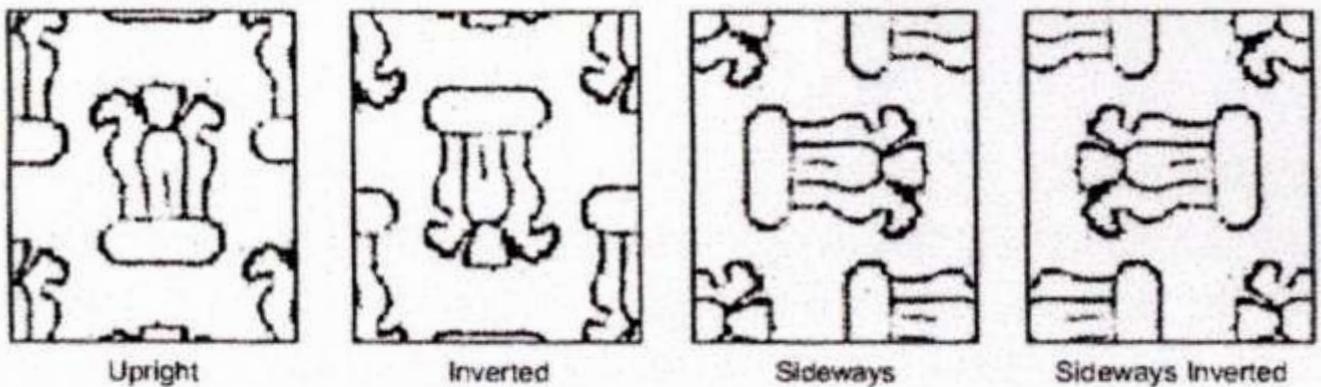


6.2 - Ashokan Capital

A Watermark is an image or pattern "in paper" that appears as various shades of lightness/darkness when held against the light or viewed by transmitted light. The variations in the shades are due to density variations in the paper, intentionally caused during the manufacturing process.

Watermark detection is an important skill for the philatelists; this is the only feature to distinguish a common stamp a rare one, at the times. Through the watermark detection is carried on at the back of the stamp, its correct position is determined with relation of the front of the specimen.

As has been explained in the text above, the watermark orientation on the stamp is determined in relation with the front / printed side of the paper sheet. What we see from the back / unprinted side of the stamp is a mirror / reverse image of the actual watermark. The variations in the position of the watermarks are caused by erroneous feeding of the paper sheets in to the printing machines.



ASHOKAN CAPITAL WATERMARK : DIFFERENT ORIENTATIONS