



**Help us to save the
Red Cross Emblem!**

*To do so, these are some recommended
symbols that will serve your purpose without
harming the image of the Red Cross:*



Doctors



Ambulance



Pharmacies



Hospitals

THE RED CROSS



Emblem of Service



Indian Red Cross Society



ICRC



The Red Cross Emblem is recognised world-over as a symbol of impartial and non-partisan services to the needy people and in no case can be used for any profit motive.

This Emblem is a ray of hope for the victims and an armour to those who come to their aid and should only be used by those who are rightfully entitled to do it.

This Emblem should only be used by Army Medical corps and by the personnel of International Red Cross & Red Crescent Movement.

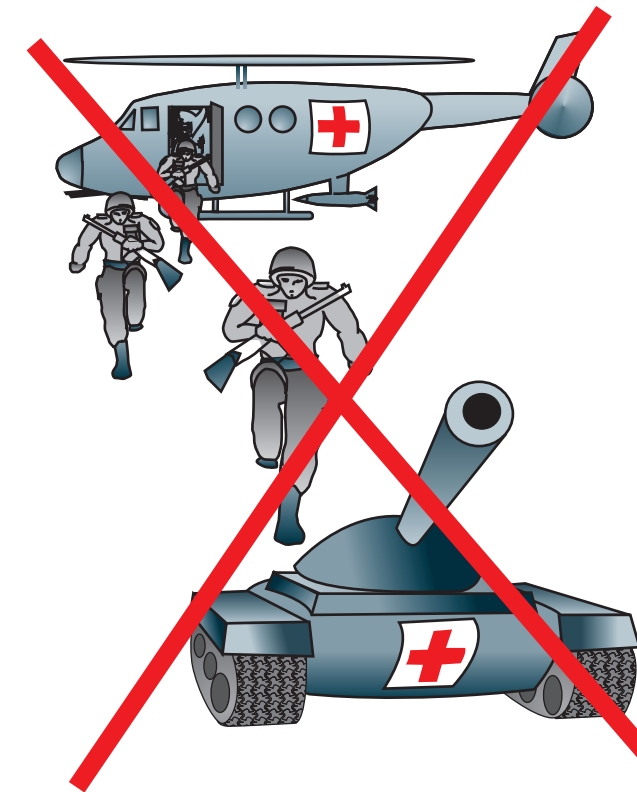
HISTORY OF THE EMBLEM

1863: An International Conference met in Geneva to try and find means of solving the problem of identifying army medical services in the field. As a result the Red Cross on a white ground was adopted as the distinctive sign for medical relief teams on the battlefield.

1864: The first Geneva Convention officially recognised the Red Cross as the distinctive sign of the medical services of the armed forces.



Gross abuse of Emblem



Improper use of Emblem



In times of conflict, respect for the Red Cross and Red Crescent emblems is essential for humanitarian action. It ensures protection for both the victims and those who come to help them.

Each and everyone of us should preserve and strengthen the protective value of the emblem. We are all individually responsible for safeguarding the protection afforded by an emblem which, tomorrow, could save our lives.

MISUSE OF THE EMBLEM

Use of the Red Cross or Red Crescent emblem by unauthorized bodies or persons (commercial firms, non-governmental organizations, individuals, private physicians, pharmacists, and so forth).



Misuse of the emblem is ILLEGAL and punishable under Indian law, as it may diminishes the protective value of the emblem and undermines the significance of humanitarian assistance.

1876: In the Russo-Turkish war the Ottoman Empire decided to use a Red Crescent in place of the Red Cross. Egypt too opted for the Red Crescent while Persia chose a Red Lion on a white ground. These symbols were recognized by the 1929 Conventions.

1949: Article 38 of the First Geneva Convention of 1949

confirmed the emblems of the Red Cross, the Red Crescent and the Red Lion and Sun on a white ground as the protective signs for Army Medical Services.

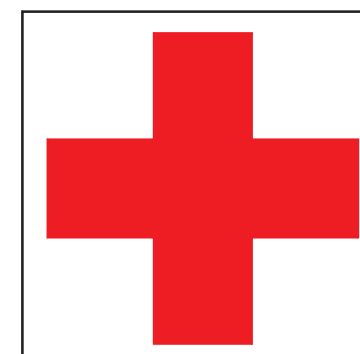
1980: The Islamic Republic of Iran decided to give up the Red Lion and Sun and use the Red Crescent in its place.

1982: The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies adopted the Red Cross and Red Crescent together on a white ground, as its emblem.

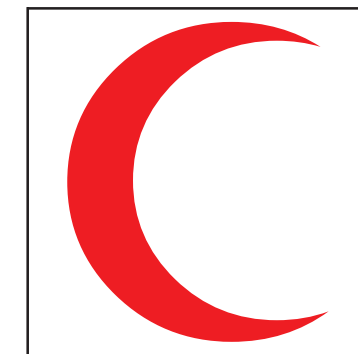
2005: An additional emblem: Red Crystal

The diplomatic conference held in Switzerland in December 2005 ratified Additional Protocol III to the Geneva Conventions, which adopted an additional emblem to the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, known as the Red Crystal. The new emblem will have the same status as the Red Cross and Red Crescent emblems. It will provide a comprehensive and lasting solution to the emblem question raised by some countries – as it is free from any religious, political or other connotations. The Red Crystal appears as a red frame in the shape of a square on edge, on a white background.

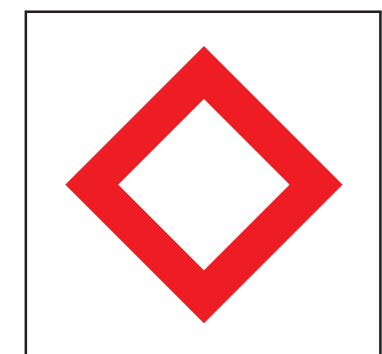
1864



1929



2005



INDIA

1920: The Indian Red Cross Society was founded in the year 1920 by an Act of Indian Legislature. The Red Cross emblem emerged as the symbol of humanitarian service in the Indian sub-continent.

1949: The First Geneva Convention of 1949 confirmed the emblems of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent as the distinctive sign of the medical services of the armed forces. The Indian Government took part in the Conference.



India signed the Geneva Conventions in 1950

1950: On 9 November the Indian Government signed the Geneva Conventions.

1960: To implement certain provisions of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 the Indian Parliament passed the Geneva Conventions Act of 1960.

Chapter IV of the Act is entitled “Abuse of Red Cross and other Emblems”. The Act says that contravention of the rules protecting the use of the emblem is punishable.

USES

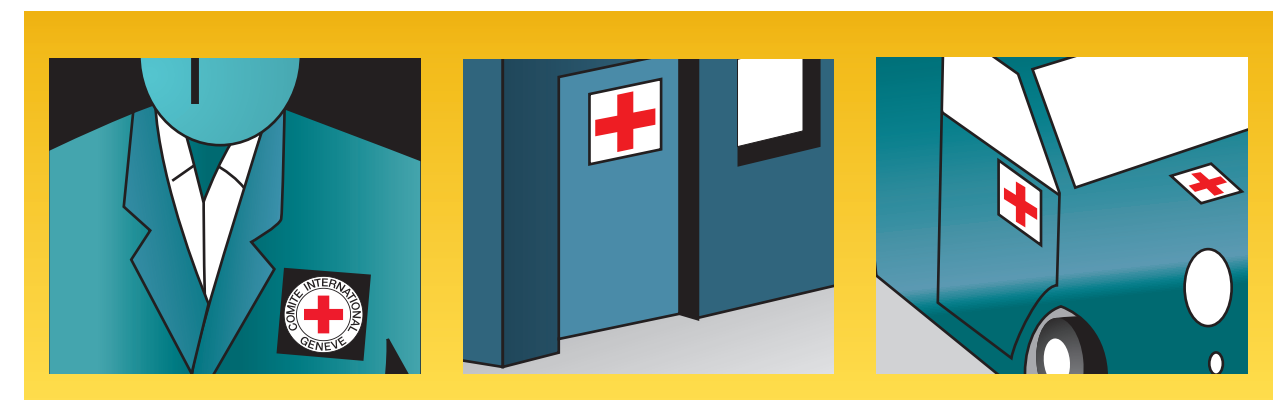
Protective



In times of conflict, the emblem constitutes the visible sign of protection conferred by the Geneva Conventions to medical personnel as well as to their medical units and means of transportation.

When used as a protective device, the emblem must arouse a reflex of restraint and respect among those involved in the fighting. It therefore must be of large dimensions.

Indicative



The emblem is designed to show, mainly in peacetime, that a person or object is linked to the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. It should be of small dimensions.