

AN ANNOTATED LIST OF BOOKS ON COINS PUBLISHED IN INDIA: 1960-1970.

Note: This list was compiled for the information and use of members of the Oriental Numismatic Society. It is believed to be relatively complete for the decade, as of July 1, 1970, but omissions subsequently discovered and new books subsequently published will be brought to members' attention through the Society's Newsletter. Most of the books are still in print. Orders should be addressed to the publishers. All are paper bound unless otherwise noted.

Occasional Paper 1

Part 1.

D. G. Briggs July 1970

Biddulph C.H. COINS OF THE CHOLAS. Numismatic Notes and Monographs No.13, The Numismatic Society of India, Varanasi, 1968. vi, 65pp., 5pls. Rs.10

The best brief study available of Cholas coinage, and a sequel to the author's earlier monograph on the Pandyan coinage. It covers the history, including a chronological list of Chola rulers from cAD846 to c.1279; religion; and the coins: metrology, emblems, and general observations on the gold, silver and copper issues. A detailed list includes commentary on the 64 coin types illustrated in the excellent plates. The coins illustrated are from the author's collection; the British Museum; the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, and the Government Museum, Madras. A brief appendix lists and comments on nine published Chola coins not included in the plates.

Biddulph C.H. COINS OF THE PANDYAS. Numismatic Notes and Monographs No.11, The Numismatic Society of India, Varanasi, 1966. 71pp., 6pls. Rs.10.

Of the three Dravidian groups important in early Southern India, the Pandyas, Cholas and Cheras, the first were dominant. This monograph gives a concise account of the origin, languages and religion of the Pandyas, and the influence on them of the Aryans and other races with whom they came in contact. It then gives the names and titles of Pandyan kings appearing on their coins, and attempts to link them with the known rulers. The author describes the gold, silver and copper coins, as well as those issued by the Pandyas in Ceylon. The work concludes with an annotated catalogue, including provenance, of the 127 coins illustrated in the fairly clear plates. Three Pandyan copper coins from Ceylon overstruck by the Ganga Banas and Kalinga Gangas, and four possible prototypes for some early Pandyan coins are included. Two appendices give the names and titles of rulers in English and Tamil, and a list of 13 Pandyan coins published elsewhere and not included in the plates.

Chattopadhyay, Bhaskar. THE AGE OF THE KUSHANAS - A NUMISMATIC STUDY. Published by Sri Sankar Bhattacharya, Punthi Pustak, 34, Mohan Bagan Lane, Calcutta-4, 1967. xxxiii, 289 pp., 5pls. Rs. 48. (Hard cover).

The author is Lecturer in History at the University of Burdwan. This work was originally prepared as a Ph.D. thesis, University of Calcutta, 1966. In 10 chapters, it discusses early Kushan history, the development of Kushan coinage, representations of kings and deities on the coins, metrology, legends and symbols provenance, and the Indian heritage of foreign numismatic traditions.

Bibliography, script and symbol charts, key to plates, index, and 2 pages of errata. The plates are reproduced (in reduced size) from Vol. I, Indian Museum Catalogue. Generally a compendium drawn from earlier works, adding little.

Das Gupta, Dr. Kalyan Kumar. THE AUDUMBARAS. Calcutta Sanskrit College Research series No. XLIV, Studies No. 26. Published by the Principal, Sanskrit College, 1, Bankim Chatterjee Street, Calcutta-12, 1965. xvii, 42 pp., 5pls., map, Rs. 4. (Hard cover)

A brief study of one of the ancient independent tribal states of North India drawing on traditional as well as some little used literary sources. It takes up the location, antiquity, and the origin of the name of the tribe; describes the coins in three Classes of 4, 3 and 11 varieties respectively; seeks to establish a general coin chronology; examines 9 symbols found on the coin; and gives brief notes on foreign influence; political, religious and economic conditions; and ethnology. An appendix describes two classes of coins attributed to the Vemakas, a neighbouring tribe. Index. Select bibliography. The plates show 20 coins enlarged to double size, several worn specimens, but clearly printed.

Das Gupta, Dr. Kalyan Kumar. THE MALAVAS. Calcutta Sanskrit College Research Series No. L, Studies No. 29. Published by the Principal, Sanskrit College, 1, Bankim Chatterjee Street, Calcutta-12, 1966. xvii, 36pp., 3 pls., map. Rs.7. (Hard cover).

This essay gives a brief account of the history and location of the North Indian Malava Tribe, and classifies the coins into two groups with 27 varieties in the first and 31 varieties divided into two classes in the second. It discusses devices and symbols, general coin chronology, interpretation of coin legends, metrology, and the economic and political conditions and ethnology of the tribe. Index. Select bibliography. Addenda and Corrigenda. The plates show 36 Indian Museum coins in poor reproduction but normal size.

Gopal, Lallanji. EARLY MEDIEVAL COIN-TYPES OF NORTHERN INDIA. Numismatic Notes and Monographs No. 12. Published by the Numismatic Society of India, Varanasi, 1966. v, 81pp., 12 pls., Rs.15.

This work is divided into two parts, the first analysing the medieval North Indian coin types, their origin, authorship and historical implications; the second arranging the coin types in catalogue form by the issuing dynasties. In Part I, the author notes four major types; king and fire altar (with some sub-types), standing king and seated goddess, bull and horseman, and seated goddess; and three minor types: Hanuman, lion attacking elephant, and cow suckling calf. The dynasties in Part II include those of Kashmir, Indo-Sassanian, Gurjara-Pratiharas, Palas Jajapellas of Narwar, Surasena, Ohind, Kalachuris, Chandellas, Gavadavalas, Rashtrakutas of Badaun, Yadus of Bayana, Chahamanas, and 5 miscellaneous uncertain types. The generally clear plates illustrate 169 coins. A very useful reference for a difficult period.

Gupta, Parmeshwari Lal. THE AMARAVATI HOARD OF SILVER PUNCH-MARKED COINS. Andhra Pradesh Government Museum Series No. 6. Published by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad, 1963, iii, 188 pp., 31 pls. Rs. 25.

This is an analysis of a hoard of 7,668 punch-marked coins found in 1953 at Amaravati, a Satavahana capital in Andhra Pradesh. The author finds 302 varieties of obverse symbols arranged in 235 different types of groupings. Of these 74 groups are previously unpublished, and 48 are known only from this hoard. The hoard contains 15 misstruck "freaks" which appear to show that coins with different sets of symbols were issued from the same mint, 96 restruck coins and one cast "punch-marked" coin. The symbols are illustrated in the first three plates and their groupings are shown in the text. The remaining plates show obverse and reverse of 1,048 coins.

Gupta, Parmeshwari Lal. COINS (No. 29 in the Series "India-The Land and People.") Published by the Secretary, National Book Trust, India, New Delhi-16, 1969. xi, 241 pp., 34 pls. Rs.9.50 (Hard cover).

The best general overview of Indian coinage since C.J. Brown's The Coins of India was published in 1922. Designed for the general reader, it is packed with factual detail - and some dubious assumptions (e.g. "it may reasonably be claimed that the coins originated in India at least a century before Lydia or China thought of them.") Separate chapters deal with the beginning of coins, early Indian coins, coins of foreign invaders, Kushanas and their successors, post-Mauryan pre-Gupta, early south and west India, Guptas, Hunas and other dynasties, post-Gupta north India, later south India, Muslim dynasties of Delhi, Muslim states of north and south India, Mughals, Hindu rulers of the Muslim period, successors of the Mughals, Indo-European, native states, and Indian Republic. A brief bibliography is given for each chapter. The plates illustrate 366 coin types, with a brief description of each in an accompanying catalogue.

Gupta, Parmeshwari Lal. PUNCH-MARKED COINS IN THE ANDHRA PRADESH GOVERNMENT MUSEUM. Andhra Pradesh Government Museum Series No. 1. Published by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad, 1961. viii, 135 pp., 9 pls. Rs. 5.

This monograph catalogues 751 punch-marked coins in the Hyderabad Museum collection, analysing them by find sites (four hoards and two excavations) all in former Hyderabad State. The coins show 91 varieties of obverse symbol groups, of which nine were previously unknown. All but the smallest (8 coins) of the hoards contain pre-Mauryan and Mauryan coins together, and the presence of a large number from Taxila indicates "brisk trade relations" with the northwest. A total of 133 obverse symbols and 10 reverse symbols are described in text and two plates, and the coins are analysed by symbol groups. In four appendices, they are catalogued by find site, varieties, reverse marks, and weights. Two final chapters describe 12 stray coins in the Museum and some terracotta moulds used for casting "punch-marked" coins. The seven photographic plates are poorly reproduced, but show 195 coins and 30 mould fragments.

Gupta, Parmeshwari Lal. ROMAN COINS FROM ANDHRA PRADESH. Andhra Pradesh Government Museum Series No. 10. Published by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad, 1965. iv, 130 pp., 26 pls. Rs. 14.

In a field of numismatic study long neglected by Indian and Western classical scholars alike, this is the first serious attempt to analyse the coins which flooded into India from Rome during the Imperial period. Dr. Gupta first gives a concise history of Indo-Roman trade relations, and then presents a 30-page description of Roman coinage designed primarily as an introduction for Indian students unfamiliar with Roman numismatics (much of it lifted verbatim from Seaby's Roman Coins and their Values). He lists 62 recorded finds of Roman coins from all over the subcontinent, and attempts to assess the generally inadequate record of their content to show how trade fluctuated in time and shifted to various Indian areas. Of the 62 finds, 17 located in Andhra Pradesh, are studied in more detail. The coins described are frequently defaced with cuts and punch-marks or cut into fragments, and many contemporary imitations have been found. Two hoards of 1531 and 39 coins are tabulated by size, weight and countermarks in the appendices, and 531 are illustrated in the plates. The publication is replete with typographical errors, the plates are generally too dim to be read, the coins described are not keyed to Cohen or other standard works, and the coins in the tabulations and plates are not identified by Emperor. Nevertheless, Dr. Gupta's analysis and conclusions make an interesting and useful contribution to the study of early East-West relations.

Hussain, M.K. CATALOGUE OF COINS OF THE MUGHAL EMPERORS. Published by the Directorate of Archives and Archaeology, Maharashtra State, Bombay, 1968. x, 204pp., 10 pls. Rs. 12 (Hardcover).

The author, numismatist of the Maharashtra Archaeology Department, has compiled a catalogue of 1044 coins of 18 Emperors from Akbar to Muhammad Akbar II. The coins are from the accumulations accruing to the department under Indian treasure trove laws. The tabulations show metal, mint, date, weight, size, and inscriptions, but symbols are omitted. References are frequently given to the same coins in other standard catalogues. There is no analysis of the coins, and, as the author says in the Preface, "No attempt has been made to solve the more obscure numismatic problems". Some British East India Company issues are mistakenly attributed to Alangir II and Shah Alam II. Nine gold but no copper coins are included. Excellent plates show 163 coins.

Krishan, Bal. ANCIENT INDIAN COINAGE, A Select Bibliography. Published by Shri Ram Swarup Sharma, Director, The Research Institute of Ancient Scientific Studies, 26/139-140 West Patel Nagar, New Delhi-8, 1968. 53 pp. Rs. 15.

This small volume is a compilation of the bibliographic material which the author provided for COINAGE IN ANCIENT INDIA by Prakash and Singh (q.v.) with a few general references added. In 40 pages, it lists 194 articles, catalogues and books with very brief annotations covering punch-marked and tribal, Indo-Greeks, Sakas, Pahlavas, Kushanas, Nagas, Kshatrapas, Guptas, Huns, Vardhanas, Rajputs, Kashmir, seven Kingdoms of the Deccan (Satavahanas, Ikshvakus, Kalachuries, Vishnukundins, Chalukyas, Yadavas and Kakatiyas), and five kingdoms of South India (Pallavas, Cholas, Pandyas, Kadambas, and Vijayanagar). With the exception of the British and Punjab Museum catalogues, it ignores most material published outside India. Also, it is marred by numerous typographical errors and by the lack of any definition of the abbreviations used in references. An article, "Ancient Coinage in India" by Bal Krishan and G.D. Khullar, giving a 13 page overview, is appended. The author is Librarian, National Museum, New Delhi.

Lahiri, A.N. CORPUS OF INDO-GREEK COINS. Published by Poddar Publications, 34, Raja Santosh Road, Calcutta-27, 1965. xvii, 290 pp., 34 pls. Rs. 105. (Hard cover).

A useful and carefully arranged compilation of most of the previous research in the Indo-Greek field, this scholarly work is divided into three parts: Introduction, Catalogue, and Appendices. The 68-page Introduction provides a critical assessment of earlier studies and of art, metrology, devices, special issues, legends, monograms, modern forgeries, and ancient imitations. It discusses but makes no attempt to solve problems of chronology and monogram interpretation. The Catalogue lists 42 rulers alphabetically, giving the coin types of each with references to known examples. The five appendices (74 pages) include a list of obverse and reverse types showing the kings to which they are attributed, an illustrated list of 441 Greek-type monograms and seven Indian-type symbols with references to the coins on which they appear, a list by kings of the monograms each used and the monogram-links to coins of other rulers, an annotated list of titles and epithets, and a discussion of 10 probable cases of the same name used by more than one king. Select bibliography and detailed index. The plates illustrate 404 coin types. The author is Lecturer in Ancient Indian History and Culture, University of Calcutta.

Mehta Vasishtha, Dev. Mohan. THE INDO-GREEK COINS. Published by the Indological Research Institute, Ludhiana, 1967. xvi, 196 pp., 7 pls. (Price unknown)

Not examined. "This handy volume contains useful material on Indo-Greek coins." (Bal Krishan)

Mohan Das, P.N. COINS OF INDIA THROUGH THE AGES. Published by the Government Museum Madras, 1960. 17 pp., 3 pls. 40 paise.

This booklet traces the history of Indian coinage in 19 brief sections, from punch-marked puranas to issues of the East India Company, and describes in text and plates 32 coin types from bent-bar to the half star pagoda. Written by the Curator of the Numismatic Section of the Museum, it is intended to accompany a boxed set of 32 cast replicas offered for sale (Rs. 78.69) by the Museum to educational institutions as a study guide.

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Mukherjee, Dr. B.N. NANA ON LION, A Study in Kushana Numismatic Art. Published by the General Secretary, The Asiatic Society, 1, Park Street, Calcutta-16, 1969. xiii, 159 pp., 15 pls. Rs. 35. (Hard cover)

This is an iconographic study of the Babylonian (Sumerian) goddess Nana as she appears sitting on a lion on the coins of the Kushanas, designed to contribute to an understanding of the role of Kushan coinage in the evolution of Indian plastic art and religious iconography. The numismatic point of departure is the unique gold stater of Kanishka published by M.F.C. Martin in the Numismatic Supplement (of the Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal) XLIV, 1931-33, p. 8-9, from the Singhi Collection, Calcutta. But the author covers the representations of Nana and related deities on other coins, seals and statues, and gives attention to devices, style and technique, and rulers, artists and environment. He concludes that Nana on Lion "made a distinct contribution to the development of the iconographic concepts of the Devi" (e.g., in one of her forms as Durga on Lion). He amplifies the study in six appendices dealing with a prototype of a Kushan obverse design, the deity of Pushkalavati, the influence of Indo-Roman trade on the Kushan conquest of India, and the representation of deities on three different archeological finds. Catalogues of the plates, select bibliography, and index. The clearly reproduced plates show 33 coins, 17 statues, 6 seals and 2 silver dishes.

Nayar, T. Balakrishnan. THE DOWLAISHWERAM HOARD OF EASTERN CHALUKYAN AND CHOLA COINS. Bulletin of the Madras Government Museum, Madras, 1966. 42, iv pp., 7 pls., map. Rs. 4.80.

This is an analysis of 127 gold coins, the recovered portion of a larger hoard found in 1946 in a village of East Godavari district in Andhra Pradesh, of which 49 are attributed to Rajaraja I (1019-1059 A.D.) of the Eastern Chalukyan dynasty and 78 to Kulottunga I (1071-1120 A.D.) of the Chola dynasty. The importance of the hoard lies in the fact that it is the first discovery of coins of Kulottunga I of similar weight and fabric to those of his father, Rajaraja I. The coins and their inscriptions and devices are fully described in a series of tables. The plates show characteristic coins, enlarged drawings of their central devices and of related seals.

Wali Khan, Muhammad Abdul. BAHMANI COINS IN THE ANDHRA PRADESH GOVERNMENT MUSEUM, HYDERABAD. Andhra Pradesh Government Museum Series No. 7. Published by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad, 1964. 1 pl., xv, 183 pp., 35 pls. Rs.18.

The Hyderabad Museum holds some 5,000 coins issued by 15 of the 18 Bahmani kings of the Deccan, including 10 gold, 270 silver and the rest of copper. This work catalogues all of the gold and silver and 502 copper to illustrate representative types. An introductory note includes references to published types not in the Museum collection. The catalogue is preceded by an historical survey (1345-1527) of the dynasty. The list of coins gives metal, mint, date, weight, size, provenance when known, and the inscription as it appears on the coin and transliterated. The inscriptions are also reproduced by king and coin type at the end. On successive plates, 299 coins are shown first in photographs, which are not always legible, and then in ink rubbings, which are generally clear. An initial plate shows two examples of Bahmani architecture, and a terminal plate shows two copper containers in which hoards of the silver coins were found.

Gupta, Parmeshwari Lal. COIN HOARDS FROM GUJARAT STATE. Numismatic Notes and Monographs No. 15, Published by the Numismatic Society of India, Varanasi, 1969. 3, 24pp. Rs.3.

This booklet lists 126 coin hoards found in Gujarat between 1848 and 1959 and 13 in Sind between 1856 and 1918. Mughal coins predominate (found in 36 of the hoards) followed by the Sultans of Gujarat (20), Gupta (18) Western Kshatrapas (15), and Gadhiya and the Sultans of Delhi (12 each). One hoard included "a few" Armenian silver coins and two included Venetian gold coins. Details of most of the finds are incomplete, and in a preface the author explains the difficulties he faced: no treasure trove law prior to 1878, no records of finds examined by the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society (designated recipient for all hoards found in the Bombay Presidency area until 1922), and only scanty records by the Prince of Wales Museum, Bombay, from 1922 onwards. The author compiled the list from such records and other publications of finds (listed where available) while he was Numismatist at that Museum from 1954 to 1963. The booklet is marred by typographical errors (e.g., Hoard ~~19~~ 19 was found in "1989"), but the Western India provenance evidence it does contain for coins from punchmarks to Victoria and Native States is of value.

**Maity, Sachindra Kumar.** EARLY INDIAN COINS AND CURRENCY SYSTEM. Published by Munshiram Manoharlal, 54 Rani Jhanso Road, New Delhi-55, 1970. xii, 136 pp. Rs.20. (Hard cover).

The author advocates the concept that the chronology of early Indian dynasties can be fixed by the application of Gresham's Law to the declining gold content of their coins. He supports this idea with analytical tables covering the gold issues of the Kushan, Sassanian, Gupta, Tomara, Gahadavala, Kalachuri and Chandella dynasties. This thesis is preceded by general chapters on the role of numismatics in the study of Indian political, administrative, migratory, religious, economic and cultural history; and on the exchange systems and metrology in use in the Indus Valley, Vedic, Mauryan, Indo-Greek, Kushan, Gupta, post-Gupta and early medieval periods. An essay on the culture of the Guptas as deduced from their coins is added as an appendix, followed by an 11 page bibliography and comprehensive index. No plates. The author teaches ancient Indian history at Jadavpur University, Calcutta.

**Mohan, Mehta Vasishtha Dev.** THE INDO-GREEK COINS. Published by the Indological Research Institute, 482-R Model Town, Ludhiana, 1967. xvi, 196pp, 7 pls. Rs. 32. (Hard cover).

This book attempts a re-interpretation of the Indo-Greek period by a new look at the results of earlier numismatic research in the light of recent finds and of a close correlation of "near-contemporary Indian literature". It starts with two (among other) basic assumptions:

(1) that "the attempts of Rapson, Macdonald, Tarn and others" were "coloured with anxiety to glorify the Greek...., putting the Indian in an unfavourable light," and (2) that "all Indo-Greek currency consisted of cast coins," the ignorance of which fact led earlier scholars "to hasty and fantastic conclusions concerning re-strikes. Among Dr. Mohan's interesting conclusions: The Greeks used Kharoshthi in preference to Brahmi for the same reason the British preferred the Persian script over "the descendants of the Brahmi script" -- "in defiance of the popular sentiments." He divides the deities on the coins into City and Family types, providing "clues to locate the mint city" and associating the ruler with "one or the other of the two feuding Indo-Greek ruling families." He claims minting was done by contracting firms whose monograms, like trademarks, were inherited in some cases. In conclusion, he attempts a "fresh reconstruction of Euthydemid genealogy" and the "House of Eukratides." An appendix explains Greek deities to Indian students, and a bibliography lists 81 references. The plates illustrate 46 coins and 143 monograms. The author heads the Department of Sanskrit, Government College, Ludhiana.