



Journal of the Oriental Numismatic Society

ISSN 1818-1252

No. 247
Spring 2022



Editor

Karan Singh

CONTENTS OF JOURNAL 247

	Page
<i>Silver Coins of Jajapella King Gopala Deva ~ Karan Singh</i>	3
<i>Some Aq Qoyunlu and Safavid Copper Coins of Jahrom ~ Seyed Omid Mohammadi and Reza Ghanaatpishe</i>	6
<i>Pucka Pice in Fatehpur District 1839: The Wide and Long-lasting Circulation of Awadh's Coppers ~ Jan Lingen and Jan Lucassen</i>	9
<i>Catalogue of the Coins of the Bengal Presidency – Part III ~ Paul Stevens and Robert Johnston</i>	16
Book Review: <i>Erach Rediscovered: Coins, Inscriptions, Seals and Sealings (Om Prakash Lal Srivastava) ~ Karan Singh</i>	45
ONS News	46

From the Editor

This bumper issue is my 16th volume as Editor. It has been an incredible journey these past four years, bringing you the best and latest research in Oriental numismatics. The Journal is now in colour, it is peer-reviewed to ensure the quality of the research that we publish, and it is issued four times a year. In our members' survey conducted last November, 96% of you rated the Journal as the most valuable benefit of being an ONS member. My thanks go to all our members who have supported this publication with their articles and reviews.

I am now stepping down as Editor and am proud to leave the Journal in this strong position. I look forward to my successor taking it to even greater heights, and to many more years of ground-breaking numismatic research.

Karan Singh

SILVER COINS OF JAJAPELLA KING GOPALA DEVA

Karan Singh

Narwar, or Nalagiri as it was known in the medieval period (Garde 1918: 242), is a fort in the Shivpuri district of Madhya Pradesh, located about 80 km from Gwalior. It was the centre of a Hindu kingdom during the 13th century that flowered briefly when the Delhi Sultanate was distracted with its own power struggles and internal rebellions. For about 60 years – from the ascension of Raziyya Sultan in 1236 CE till the rule of Alauddin Khalji in 1296 – when the reach of the Delhi Sultans faltered, a local dynasty, the Jajapellas (*Yajvapala*) (idem), was able to carve out a kingdom with its capital at Nalagiri.

There were five (or six) kings in this dynasty, whom we know from inscriptions and their copper coins (Table A). The first Jajapella king to rule from Nalagiri was Chahada Deva, who captured the fort from Malaya Varma Deva (1223-1233), a Pratihara ruler (idem) who issued scarce copper *jitals* (Tye 56; Deyell 362). Chahada's son Naravarman is mentioned in inscriptions (Sircar 1957-1958: 343-345; Sircar 1959-1960: 34-36), but no coins of his have been found yet. John Deyell and Robert Tye included a second king with the name Chahada (Chahada Deva II), on the basis of one specimen with the date VS 1355 (1298 CE). However, this could well be a VS 1322 date written retrograde. Till more specimens with supporting dates turn up, I am inclined to see only one king with the name Chahada Deva.

Table A. Copper coinage of Jajapella kings

Name	Known dates (CE)	Rarity	Ref.
Chahada Deva I	1242-1259	Common	Tye 57; Deyell 363
Naravarman (<i>Nrivarman</i>)		No coins known	
Asala Deva	1255-1308	Common	Tye 58; Deyell 364
Gopala Deva	1280-1289	No coins verified	
Ganapati Deva	1291-1298	Very rare	Tye 60
Chahada Deva II?	1298	Very rare	Tye 59; Deyell 365

Jajapella copper coins have been well-documented, though no silver coins were recorded by Deyell or Tye. I will present three silver coins of this dynasty here. These are of Gopala Deva (1280-1289 CE), who is known from inscriptions during his reign and that of his son Ganapati (Cunningham 1894: 90; Garde 1918: 242). No copper coins of Gopala Deva have been confirmed so far. R.C. Banerjee wrote that 147 coins of Gopala Deva were found in the Gwalior Hoard of 1915 (Banerjee 1920: 80), but a few pages later, he noted that these are actually coins of Ganapati Deva (Banerjee 1920: 84). P.C. Roy refers to 8 coins of Gopala Deva in Patna Museum (Roy 1980: 140), but these are not illustrated anywhere and so cannot be verified. These coins may have been a part of the Gwalior Hoard and therefore misattributed.

Silver coins of Gopala Deva

I will present two silver coin types of this king: the Lakshmi Type and Horseman Type.

Type A: Lakshmi Type

This has Goddess Lakshmi seated on obverse, and was first published by Sharma and Verma (2000: 5). The depiction of Lakshmi, the Hindu goddess of wealth, in this seated form was popular in northern and central India in the medieval period – she is seen on gold coins from Kalachuri king Gangeyadeva (1015-1041 CE) onwards, across several dynasties and kings till the 13th century. Yet this is the first time we see her on a coin issued by a Jajapella ruler. Till Gopala Deva, all the coins issued by this dynasty were horseman type copper *jitals* with the king's name on the reverse. We will discuss the possible reason for Gopala's numismatic innovation later.



Fig. 1. Gopala Deva silver coin (Type A)
1.47 g, dated VS (13)45 (Karan Singh collection)

Obverse: 4-armed Goddess Lakshmi seated facing, holding lotus blossoms in both top hands

Reverse: Devanagari legend in three lines

sri go(pa)
la deva
sam 45



Fig. 2. Gopala Deva silver coin (Type A)
1.46 g, dated VS (13)46 (Kohinoor Auction 4, Lot 79)

Obverse: 4-armed Goddess Lakshmi seated facing, holding lotus blossoms in both top hands

Reverse: Devanagari legend in three lines

sri gopa
la deva
sam 46

The dates on these two coins are VS (Vikram Samvat) 1345 = 1288 CE (Fig. 1), and VS 1346 = 1289 CE (Fig. 2).

Type B: Horseman Type

This is a new type that is being published here for the first time. This is known from just one specimen (Fig. 3).



Fig. 3. Gopala Deva silver coin (Type B)
1.38 g, dated VS (13)46 (Karan Singh collection)

Obverse: Horseman advancing right
 Reverse: Devanagari legend in three lines
sri gopa
la devam
(sa)m 46

Attribution

Let us now examine the attribution of these silver coins to Jajapella king Gopala Deva. Firstly, the horseman on the obverse in Fig. 3 provides a clear link with the copper coins of the Jajapellas. Compare this horseman with that seen on the *jitals* issued by Gopaladeva's father, Asala Deva (Fig. 4).



Fig. 4. Asala Deva copper jital, dated VS (13)23 (Karan Singh collection)

The similarity between the two horseman depictions (Fig. 5) shows these two rulers are closely connected and confirms that the Gopala Deva of the three silver coins is the Gopala Deva of the Jajapella dynasty.



Fig. 5. Comparison of horseman on the coins of Asala Deva (left) and his son Gopala Deva (right)

Furthermore, the depiction of Lakshmi in Figs. 1 and 2 resembles that on the silver issues of Hammira Deva (1281-1301 CE) of neighbouring Ranthambhor (Fig. 6). Note especially the rounded style of Lakshmi's knees as she sits with crossed legs, and the fact that the goddess is shown holding two lotus blossoms, one each in her two top hands, unlike other depictions of this period where such blossoms are missing.



Fig. 6. Hammira Deva silver 1/2 tanka, 5.42 g, dated VS (13)45 (Stephen Album Auction 15, Lot 867) (Devell 367a)

Hammira Deva issued coins with the same date, VS (13)45 or 1289 CE. This, and the similarity in Lakshmi's depiction, indicates that whoever issued the silver coins of Gopala Deva was a contemporary of Hammira Deva (see Fig. 7). We know that Gopala Deva of Nalagiri was, from inscriptions (Sharma and Verma 2000: 6). So, it is safe to attribute our silver coins to him.



Fig. 7. Comparison of Lakshmi on the coins of Gopala Deva (left) and Hammira Deva (right)

Metrology

The average weight of our three silver coins is 1.44 g, which is around 1/4 of the Hammira Deva silver coin, i.e. 1/8 *tanka*. So, it appears that the smaller Narwar kingdom may have been following the lead of its contemporary, by issuing silver coins in the same denomination structure as a quarter unit.

Overlap in dates

There is an overlap of dates between Asala Deva and Gopala Deva (and Ganapati Deva) that needs to be explained. From the coins and inscriptions of Asala, we have these dates: VS 1312, 1315, 1318, 1319, 1320, 1322, 1327, 1328-1330, 1332, 1336, 1344, 1346 (see Fig. 8), 1348, 1349, 1353, 1354 and 1363-1365 (Tye 1995: 98). Similarly, Gopala has dates of VS 1336 (Sircar 1959-1960: 31-36), 1337 (Cunningham 1894: 90), 1339 (Garde 1918: 242) and 1345-1346 (Figs. 1-3). His son Ganapati has dates of VS 134x, 1348 (Cunningham 1894: 90, 93), 1350 and 1355 (Sircar 1958-1959: 339-342).



Fig. 8. Asala Deva copper jital, 3.52 g, dated VS 1346 (Karan Singh collection)

Assuming that Asala Deva's dates are not all misread, we have to explain how he overlaps the reigns of his son and grandson. There can only be three possible explanations:

1. There may have been three kings called Asala. Asala I ruled before Gopala; Gopala ruled for a few years; and then Asala II came to the throne in VS 1346; there was a short interlude for Ganapati; and then Asala III came to the throne after him; or
2. There was only one king called Asala and he had three reigns. He abdicated for his son Gopala, but when Gopala died shortly afterwards, Asala was forced to return to the throne in VS 1346. He then abdicated once again when his grandson Ganapati was of age, but after Ganapati's short rule, Asala came back to rule in his old age; or
3. Asala divided his kingdom into two parts to counter the threat from a rejuvenated Delhi Sultanate, and appointed his son Gopala to rule over the second part while Asala continued to rule over the first or main part. This bifurcation continued when Gopala died and Asala's grandson Ganapati issued coins from the second part, while Asala himself continued to rule over the main part. Both parts of the Jajapella kingdom would eventually be lost to the Delhi Sultanate.

I prefer the last explanation, as having two colinear parts of the kingdom best explains the wide range in dates on Asala's coins and allows for their overlap with the dates of Gopala and Ganapati.



Map 1. Northern India, showing the locations of Narwar, Ranthambhor and Delhi
((based on Google Maps, showing modern boundaries and place names))

Conclusion

It is interesting that Gopala Deva chose to issue coins in silver, when his predecessors Chahada and Asala issued only copper *jitals*. Perhaps the three specimens we have recorded were commemorative issues, issued to mark a specific event, such as Gopala's coronation, a victory in battle, or a wedding perhaps. This is supported by the metal used for these two coins – silver – which was not used by any other Jajapella ruler. The Narwar inscription of VS 1339 (1282 CE) mentions Gopala's victory over Chandella king Viravarman (Sircar 1959-1960; 36-37), so it may have been a similar victory that inspired the issuing of the silver coins six years later.

Gopala Deva's rule probably represented the peak of Jajapella power. In 1288-89 CE, when they were minted, Delhi was ruled by the weak successors of Balban. But within just a few years, the Khaljis came to power and the power balance shifted. This is reflected in the fact that Gopala's son and successor Ganapati reverted to issuing copper coins. The expansionary Delhi Sultanate under Alauddin Khalji soon put an end to this short-lived independent Jajapella dynasty at Nalagiri.

Acknowledgements

This paper is based on a talk I gave in New Delhi on February 20, 2016. I wish to thank John Deyell for our discussions on Gopala Deva.

Bibliography

- Banerjee, R.C., 1920, 'Coins of the Jajapella Dynasty', *Journal and Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*, Vol. XVI, Calcutta, pp. 79-84.
- Cunningham, A., 1894, *Coins of Mediaeval India*, 1967 reprint, Varanasi.
- Deyell, J., 1990, *Living Without Silver*, New Delhi.
- Garde, M.B., 1918, 'A Note on the Yajvapalas or Jajapellas of Narwar', *Indian Antiquary*, Vol. XLVII, pp. 241-244.
- Roy, P.C., 1980, *The Coinage of Northern India*, New Delhi.

Sharma, S., and Verma, B.P., 2000, 'An Unpublished Silver Coin of Gopaladeva', *IIRNS Newslines*, Issue 28, Nashik, pp. 5-6.

Sircar, D.C., 1957-1958, 'Two Inscriptions of the Time of Ganapati', *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. 32, pp. 339-346.

Sircar, D.C., 1959-1960, 'Two Inscriptions of the Time of Gopala', *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. 33, pp. 31-40.

Tye, R., and Tye, M., 1995, *Jitals*, Isle of South Uist.

SOME AQ QOYUNLU AND SAFAVID COPPER COINS OF JAHROM

Seyed Omid Mohammadi and Reza Ghanaatpishe

The city of Jahrom in Iran has a long history of minting coins that goes back to the Sasanian era. However, after the Arab conquest of Iran, it took the city a long time to start minting coins again. Although some Aq Qoyunlu and Safavid silver coins of Jahrom are known to numismatists and collectors, no copper coins have been reported until now. Thus, to address this knowledge gap, this article introduces several copper coins locally minted in the city of Jahrom in these periods.

Historical background

Jahrom is located 190 km southeast of Shiraz in Fars province, Iran. Until AH 8th century, many historical sources briefly described Jahrom using the same information from sources before them, and some talked about its famous handicrafts, including carpets, rugs, and perfumes (Qazwini AH740 (1340): 135). After that, there was a long gap with no mention of the city, and it took some time till Jahrom reappeared in written sources. This time, its palm trees and high-quality dates were mentioned (Majdi AH1004 (1595): 795), which have remained the key features of the city to this day. Sedaghat Kish used the average age of palm trees to estimate that this critical turning point for the city started sometime around AH 800 (Sedaghat Kish 2010: 59).

This date approximately coincides with the rise of Aq Qoyunlu sultans. So, maybe it is not surprising to see that many coins struck in Jahrom were from this period, as something important was probably happening there. Almost all silver coins of this period assigned to Jahrom are countermarked issues with the city's name on them. Examples of these coins from the reign of Aq Qoyunlu rulers Hasan (AH 857-882), Rustam (AH 897-902), and Murad (Album 2555.2, anonymous issues dated AH 906-908) have been reported till now (Mohammadi 2021: 11-12; Album 2011: 273).

After that, in the Safavid era, Jahrom-minted coins reappeared. For example, one silver *shahi* dated AH 914 (Baldwin's Islamic Coin Auction 14, Lot 474) and a $\frac{1}{2}$ *pul* (Fig. 1) were both struck by Shah Isma'il I in Jahrom. In the Safavid era, many traders and travelers visited Iran, and one main travel route was from the port of Bandar Abbas to Lar, Jahrom, Shiraz and then Isfahan. This was called the spice trade route, and as Jahrom was situated near it, many foreign travelers visited the city and mentioned it in their books. For instance, travelers reported a stone-paved route in Alborz-Kuh, which was the only way to cross the mountain (Silva Y Figueroa 1614: 106-7; Chardin). In fact, small parts of this road are still intact.

Unfortunately, written sources do not report any facts about the monetary system and coins used in Jahrom. Even after all these years, no copper coins have been assigned to Jahrom, which is odd regarding the importance of trade in this city. Additionally, none of the recent numismatic references reported Jahrom as a Safavid mint either (Diler 2009; Tabataba'i 1976; Ghaeni 2009). Hopefully, this article will change that by introducing numerous copper coins.



Fig. 1. Safavid, Isma'il I, AR $\frac{1}{2}$ *pul*, Jahrom, 2.70 g, 17 mm (Zeno #226624)

Copper coins

This article presents coins in multiple series that do not necessarily follow a correct temporal order, because most of the specimens have no date or are heavily damaged to the point that no definite reading of the date can be offered. Furthermore, all of them are anonymous, locally-minted coins with no names. Each coin's weight, diameter, and thickness are reported respectively, whenever possible.

The first series bears a legend that reads as *عدل سلطان عادل* / *Adl Sultan Adil*, meaning 'the justice of the just king'. On the other side *ضرب جهرم* / *Zarb Jahrom* can be seen (Figs. 2 and 3).



Fig. 2. Aq Qoyunlu, anonymous, AE fals, Jahrom, 2.5 g, 20 mm, 1.4 mm



Fig. 3. Aq Qoyunlu, anonymous, AE fals, Jahrom, 2.83 g, 24 mm, 1.2 mm

Although these coins bear no date, other specimens with precise dates exist (Figs. 4 and 5). This legend was used on copper coins in cities of Fars province, including Shiraz, Sheikh Murshed (Kazerun), Jahrom, and possibly others, and some known dates are AH 874, 875, 888, and 902. Even though these coins show an exact date, like other civic copper coins of Iran, it is better not to assign them to a specific ruler, because a change in the ruler had practically little to no effect on the design of these local coins. It would suffice to say that these go back to the time of the Aq Qoyunlu rulers.



Fig. 4. Aq Qoyunlu, anonymous, AE fals, Shiraz, AH 888, 1.50 g



Fig. 5. Aq Qoyunlu, anonymous, AE fals, Shiraz, AH 902, 1.42 g

The coins of the next series are somewhat similar, though this time, the legend is only *عدل سلطان* / *Adl Sultan*, meaning 'the king's justice'. The other side again reads as *ضرب جهرم* / *Zarb Jahrom*, and bears no date. Two specimens are illustrated in

Figs. 6 and 7 – their design is unique as the legends are written in circles on both sides of the coins. This design, consisting of circles, surrounded by curly lines on one side and straight pointy lines on the other, bears a fascinating resemblance to a shining sun, as shown in Fig. 8. Another fact is that the same sun-like design was used on a similar coin of Shiraz (Fig. 9), which is interesting regarding the great variety that these local copper coins typically have. Similar to the Jahrom specimens, this Shiraz coin bears no name or date either.



Fig. 6. Aq Qoyunlu, anonymous, AE fals, Jahrom, 2 g, 17 mm, 1.7 mm



Fig. 7. Aq Qoyunlu, anonymous, AE fals, Jahrom, 2.30 g, 23 mm, 1.5 mm

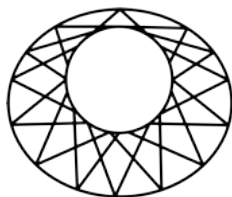


Fig. 8. Sun-like design used on copper coins



Fig. 9. Aq Qoyunlu, anonymous, AE fals, Shiraz

There also exist some tiny coins that only bear the writing **عدل** / *Adl Jahrom*, sometimes in a very crude style. On the reverse, an unclear spiral design can be seen (Figs. 10 and 11).



Fig. 10. Anonymous, AE fals, Jahrom, 0.43 g, 5.9 mm, 1 mm



Fig. 11. Anonymous, AE fals, Jahrom, 0.36 g, 8 mm, 1.4 mm

Another design to talk about is made up of two intertwined triangles, similar to the Star of David. With a different style, such a hexagram can also be seen on copper coins of Aq Qoyunlu, Uthman, minted in Tabriz. Actually, this design does not often reoccur on Iranian coins. However, like former examples, there is a slight possibility that it can be interpreted as a shining sun here.

Fig. 12. shows **ضرب جهرم** / *Zarb Jahrom* written in a hexagram. Also, there is another triangle on the coin's obverse, which, unfortunately, is not readable. The only sure thing about it is a **ش** letter which could be ... **شاه** / *Shah* ..., followed by the name of a king, or **عدل شاه** / *Adl Shah*, which is a known legend on Safavid coins and countermarks. Additionally, parts of a marginal legend are visible.

The coin in Fig. 13 is also stylistically similar, though this time, only **جهرم** / *Jahrom* is written on it, maybe because it is smaller and has almost 1/3rd of the former specimen's weight. Whether these two are connected or not remains to be seen in the future when better specimens come to light.



Fig. 12. Anonymous, AE fals, Jahrom, 1.52 g, 20 mm, 1 mm

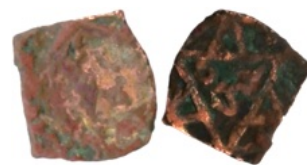


Fig. 13. Anonymous, AE fals, Jahrom, 0.57 g, 11.5 mm, 0.8mm

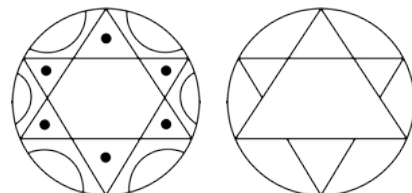


Fig. 14. Hexagrams used on Jahrom copper coins

The next category is dedicated to pictorial coins. Fig. 15 illustrates a coin with a strange-looking lion standing right on the obverse and **جهرم** / *Jahrom* on reverse. Furthermore, there seems to be something on top of the lion, but unfortunately it is hard to define whether it is a word, a part of the design, or even a sun maybe. Fig. 16 is similar, but the nature of the obverse design is not clear.



Fig. 15. Anonymous, AE fals, Jahrom, 4.14 g, 16.5 mm, 2.8 mm



Fig. 16. Anonymous, AE falus, Jahrom, 4.70 g, 17 mm, 3 mm

Finally, some Jahrom-minted copper coins show the famous lion and sun motif seen on various civic copper coins of Iran, with Safavid and Qajar being the most common. The style of the lion suggests that the following coins are from the Safavid era. The coin in Fig. 17 shows a right-facing lion and sun on the obverse, and *جهرم* / *Jahrom* accompanied by a date 1110? on the reverse, while the one in Fig. 18 has a left-facing lion and sun, with a legend that reads as *فلوس عدل جهرم* / *falus Adl Jahrom*. Also, it is noteworthy to mention that the full face on the sun is illustrated on the latter coin.



Fig. 17. Safavid AE falus, Jahrom, AH 1110?, 4 g, 17 mm, 2.5 mm



Fig. 18. Safavid AE falus, Jahrom, 4.39 g, 20 mm, 2 mm

To see such a wide variety in the copper coinage of Jahrom is quite remarkable. However, it can be seen that the style in which the mint-name is written differs from one coin to another, and the legend is very crude on some specimens. All these different styles are presented in Table A.

Table A. Different styles of the word 'Jahrom' on civic copper coins

#N	Ref.	Style	#N	Ref.	Style
1	Fig. 2		2	Fig. 3	
3	Fig. 6		4	Fig. 7	
5	Fig. 10		6	Fig. 11	
7	Fig. 12		8	Fig. 13	

9	Fig. 15		10	Fig. 16	
11	Fig. 17		12	Fig. 18	

Conclusion

Although no post-Mongol Islamic AE coins were officially assigned to Jahrom before, this article has introduced 12 copper coins minted in this city in the Aq Qoyunlu and Safavid periods. Furthermore, we have analysed and compared the coins stylistically. Hopefully, this will help more specimens come to light in the future. Due to the inferior quality of these coins' minting, their crude styles, and the vulnerability of the copper, most of them are in bad condition, which makes them sometimes easy to miss.

Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank Saeed Soleimani, who never says no to a scientific discussion about coins, and Ismail Soltani for their assistance. Also, it should be mentioned that most of the coins depicted here are from the private collection of Reza Ghanaatpisheh, which is now on display at the museum of Jahrom.

Bibliography

- Album, S., 2011, *Checklist of Islamic Coins*, 3rd edition, Santa Rosa.
- Chardin, J., *Safarnamaye Sharden Dar Iran* [Chardin's *Voyages in Iran*], trans. S. Mohammad, Central library and documents centre of University of Tehran, n.d. manuscript written by the translator, no. 4535, Tehran.
- Diler, Ö., 2009, *Islamic mints*, 3 volumes, Istanbul.
- Ghaeni, F., HS 1388 (2009), *Sekkeh-ha-ye Dore-ye Safavi* [Coins of Safavid Era], Pazineh, Tehran.
- Majdi, M. al-Din M. al-Husayni, 1983, *Zinat al-majalis*, Sana'i, Tehran.
- Mohammadi, S.O., and Soleimani, S., 2021, 'Countermarked Arab-Sasanian Copper Coins of Jahrom', *Journal of the Oriental Numismatic Society (JONS)* 243, pp. 8-14.
- Qazwini, H.A.M., AH 1004 (1595), *Nuzhat-Al-Qulub: Composed by Hamd-Allah Mustawfi of Qazwin in AH740 (1340)*, trans. G. Le Strange, AH 1362 (1983), Donyaye Ketab.
- Sedaghat Kish, J., AH 1389 (2010), *Jahrom Dar Pooye Tarikh* [Jahrom Through History], Farhang Pars, Bonyad Fars Shenasi, Shiraz.
- Silva Y Figueroa, D.G., AH 1030 (1614), *Safarnamah-ye Dun Garsiya Disilva Figurua: Safir-i Ispanya Dar Darbar-e Shah Abbas-e Avval* [The commentaries of D. García de Silva y Figueroa on his embassy to Shah Abbās I of Persia on behalf of King of Spain], trans. G. Samiee, Nashr-e No, AH 1363 (1984), Tehran.
- Tabataba'i, S.J.T., HS 1355 (1976), *Sekkeha-ye Aq Qoyunlu va Mabna-ye Vahdat-e Hokumat-e Safaviyeh Dar Iran* [Coins of Aq Qoyunlu and the Basis of the Safavids' Unity in Iran], Shafaq, Tabriz.

PUCKA PICE IN FATEHPUR DISTRICT 1839: THE WIDE AND LONG-LASTING CIRCULATION OF AWADH'S COPPERS

Jan Lingen and Jan Lucassen

The transition from Indian to British colonial currency in India is a messy history. In theory, there is no problem: the all-powerful colonisers modernised and uniformed what they saw as an erratic and primitive currency circulation by hundreds of states and potentates in several steps, the last one being the introduction of the East India Company rupee and its fractions in 1835. In reality, the existing “native” coinage served very well regionally and it took half a century before it could be said that the Imperial currency was the sole circulating medium of exchange.¹

This long-stretched period of replacement of “native” by British currencies and of their co-habitation is a major impediment to reconstruct levels of monetisation and, in particular, of deep monetisation. There is a great lack of knowledge about the circulation intensity of small change, because so far production and circulation figures of the “native” mints in this period have hardly been studied.²

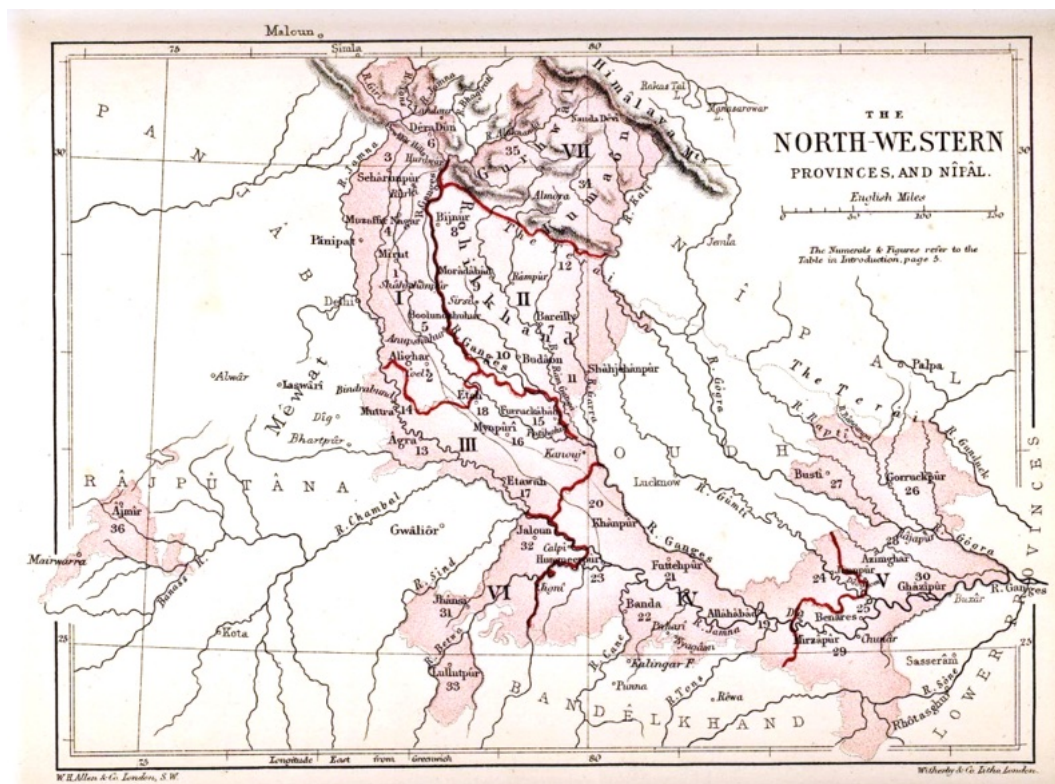
In fact, we are confronted with three different problems. First is the identification of the Indian mint houses and their production figures outside Calcutta, Bombay and Madras, the capitals of the three Presidencies.³ Second, to what extent coins were circulating in the very same polity where they were

produced. Those entities were not automatically synonymous, which may sound a bit odd for a modern reader until he or she realises how many US dollars are actually circulating outside the United States. Third, the question at what pace particular “British” denominations (especially of copper coins) replaced “native” ones.

It is difficult to come to grips with these problems unless we have more case studies on the basis of which we can make extrapolations for wider geographic entities. A number of examples of such studies on particular copper denominations from particular mints circulating in particular regions in this transitional period, between say 1800 and 1850, is now available, and this article is meant to add to this.⁴ Our starting point here is Fatehpur district, a part of northern India which already since 1801 had been under direct British rule, belonging administratively to the Allahabad Division of the North-Western Province since 1836 (see Map 1).

Working on the Grand Trunk Road: Fatehpur 1839

In the summer of 1839, Lieutenant Fraser, officiating superintendent of the Allahabad-Gursahajanj Division of the Grand Trunk Road (GTR), had to solve the problem of how to recruit a sufficiently large labour force for the improvement of the stretch between Allahabad and Kanpur.⁵ This road – the main artery of the Mughal state inherited by the British – was particularly crucial when the alternative of river transport was halted during the dry season. The GTR section between Kanpur in the west and Allahabad in the east is about 100 km long in Fatehpur district.



Map 1. The "North-Western Provinces" (from G.U. Pope, *Text-book of Indian History: Geographical Notes, Genealogical Tables, Examination Questions*, London: W. H. Allen & Co., 1880, scanned from personal copy and uploaded by Fowler&Fowler, 11:40, 7 March 2009 (UTC))

¹ Lucassen 2007, p. 366; Garg 2013; Garg 2019.

² Lucassen 2007, p. 366-367; Lucassen 2018.

³ Stevens 2011; Stevens 2019; for the Madras Presidency, such an overview is still lacking. The Madras Mint itself closed down in 1869. JONS Vol. 247, Spring 2022

⁴ Lucassen 2007; Lingen and Lucassen 2007, 2010/1, 2014.

⁵ National Archives of India, New Delhi, Military, Military Board Proceedings 31-01-1840, pp. 8915-8925.

According to the estimates, approved by the Military Board in Calcutta, Fraser was supposed to replace the convicts used previously for this purpose, by free labourers. For “ramming and tamping konkur” (modulated limestone – *kankar* – for road metal) he wished to form 13 gangs of 250 to 300 *bildars* each, for which he needed an advance of no less than 30,000 rupees. The problem was that the Military Board had expected that 3 rupees a month would be an acceptable wage, but on the spot, Fraser found out that this was unacceptably low. After all, in the British cantonments in that part of India, for similar tasks, 3 rupees, 4 annas and 6 pice were paid per month of 30 days. As the task had to be completed in time and “on principle of urgent measures requiring urgent treatment”, he decided on his own to instruct his conductor Mr. Taaffe to pay per 1st July 1839 3 rupees 8 annas each to a gang of 100 *bildars* under the leadership of Faqueer Mahomed.

In a letter to the Military Board, Fraser defended himself for this deviation from the otherwise holy estimates, not only by referring to the prevailing cantonment rates, but also because this way he wanted to “prevent the desertions which have been daily taking place”. Besides, he wrote, “*Mr. [Conductor] Taaffe has sent out into the district to ascertain the price of labour of this description between Cawnpore and Futteh Ghur and I myself [am] making enquiries between the former place and Futtehpore but thought not yet in possession of the information [...] that it is and even must be in vain to expect that labourers (unless under the pressure of want or as a temporary convenience) will accept employment on the roads at the District or Cantonment rates [because of] exposure [to] distance from their homes and families, the difficulty in procuring and the dearness of the provisions, the expense in the erection of huts, the strict superintendence and its consequent increased labour.*”⁶ We will not follow here this highly interesting case from the perspective of labour history, but come to its monetary implications.

One of the answers to the enquiries of Taaffe and Fraser into the prevailing wage levels in Fatehpur District contains the following information: “*in the Futtehpore District bildars receive from 3 to 5 pukka pice per day (the pice at 40 per Rupee) but generally 4 pice for good able men employed on heavy work.*”⁷ Here we suddenly receive a glimpse of actual coins circulating for the payment of wages of unskilled labourers. Apparently it concerns a common coin, acceptable also at shops and in market places. The question to be answered now is which good (“pukka”) copper coin, equal to 1/40th rupee, is meant in this context of Fatehpur District in the summer of 1839?

There is no straightforward answer to this, at first sight, simple question regarding a region already occupied for more than one generation by the British, as this article will show. We are therefore obliged to take the following steps. To begin with, we will have to study the copper coins made by the British East India Company in their territories at the time and in particular in Benares (Varanasi). Situated immediately east of Fatehpur District, Benares had been under Company rule since 1775 and from there the British extended their influence in a north-western direction in the beginning of the 19th century. As we will demonstrate, the answer is not to be found there and we will have to look beyond the Company’s territories. So, next we will turn to the copper coins circulating in the “native states” south of Fatehpur in the 19th century, at the time nominally independent and at best only indirectly controlled by the British. Third, we will turn our eyes to the north for evidence of the existence of *pukka*, i.e. ‘good, well-made’ copper coins equal to 1/40th part of a rupee, as mentioned explicitly by Lieutenant Frazer in Fatehpur District in 1839. Finally, we will draw a conclusion and sum up our arguments.

The introduction of copper coins by the East India Company in the North-Western Provinces

In the late 18th century, Benares district was the most western part of Bengal Presidency. Beyond this, Indians ruled themselves. During the first thirty years of their reign in Benares, the British did not or hardly interfere with the production of coins in the very active local mint house.⁸ Only in 1805 did they start to regulate mint production, including copper pice. Initially, until 1808, old coppers circulated at various rates. In December 1809, a regulation was published, authorising copper pice for Benares. The copper coin struck at Calcutta, for circulation in the province of Benares, would be of pure copper and confined to the pice of one size only and with an exchange rate of 64 to the Benares *sicca* rupee. By 1810, the 1809 regulation meant that the old dump pice would no longer be acceptable as currency. However, as no new pice had got into circulation yet, and as after a period of six months ‘dump’ pice would no longer be accepted, great scarcity was created.

Requests for ample supply of the new pice did not meet the approval of the Calcutta mint committee, who were not convinced that the coins were necessary. The Calcutta Council agreed that the minting of copper coins for Benares should cease for the time being, and copper coins produced at Calcutta never got into circulation in Benares. This was the reason that the mint-master at Benares asked for permission to mint copper pice at his own mint. A lengthy exchange of arguments followed, in which the mint committee bluntly argued that the introduction of the new pice (minted at Calcutta) in Bihar had been successful.

The Collector of Benares, who was in favour of pice being produced at the Benares mint, added the following argument on 30th November 1811: “*It is universally acknowledged throughout the province of Benares that the copper currency of a fixed weight, standard and value is particularly wanted, and that at present all classes of the community are subject to great imposition and extortions from the shroffs and money changers in the exchange of silver for pice. Just at the present time the rates of exchange of pice in the bazar are from 23 to 23½ takas per rupee (nearly 9 takas less in value than the double pice of Government coinage which would be sold at 32 per rupee).*”⁹

Finally, in 1815, machine-made copper pice were produced at the mint of Benares, and this continued till the mint was closed in 1830. Apart from the Calcutta mint, three mints in what was later called the North-Western Provinces, still produced copper coins in the 1820s and 1830s, and so in principle, also for Fatehpur district: those of Benares, Farrukhabad and Saugor. When the British acquired the territories to which Fatehpur belonged in 1801, they at the same time became the masters of a number of working mint houses, of which those of Allahabad to its east and Farrukhabad to its west must have been the most important for Fatehpur. Together with most other mint houses, of what was to become known as the “Ceded and Conquered Provinces”, Allahabad was closed, but Farrukhabad (200 km from Fatehpur) was continued until 1824. Its copper coin production from 1820 to 1824 must have been substantive, although no production figures are known. Subsequently to its closure in 1824, the Saugor Mint, 300 km southwest of Fatehpur, turned out copper pice between 1827 and 1833 at the value of Rs. 283,388. The production of both mints was meant to be supplementary to that of the mint house of Benares, the capital of Benares district, part of the Benares Division of the same North-Western Provinces as Fatehpur. In total, easily 2 million pieces may have been minted in the three mint houses (Table A).

⁶ Idem, p. 8919 (our interpolations between [/]). For the history of wage labour, see Lucassen 2021; for wage labour in India, see Lucassen and Seshan 2022.

⁷ Idem, p. 8921.

⁸ Stevens 2012, pp. 304-411.

⁹ Stevens 2012, p. 359.

Table A. British-Indian mints producing copper coins for the North-Western Provinces, 1815-1833

Mint house	Production (in Rs)	Official weight (g copper)	Actual weight (g copper)	Exchange rate in silver rupees
Farrukhabad 1820-1824	?	6.48	5.80-6.47	1/64
Saugor 1827-1833*	283,388	6.48	6.11-6.50	1/64
Benares 1815-1829	1,388,140	6.23	3.03**-6.76	1/64

Source: Stevens 2012, 333, 379, 404-405, 455, 469, 488, 498.

*Saugor opened in 1825 (Stevens 287) and production of coppers commenced in 1826 (Stevens 288). The mint at Saugor closed in 1835, but mintage figures are only known from 1827-1833.

**Many contemporary forgeries of these coins exist, most, if not all, light-weight coins (Stevens 404).

It may be clear by now that the British started to introduce their own copper coins rather late and hesitantly in this part of India, but most of all, that the copper coin of 1/40th rupee that Lieutenant Fraser was alluding to as the standard coin for wage payments in Fatehpur district in 1839, cannot be a pice officially coined by the British, because both before and after the introduction of the uniform coinage in 1835, they used coppers of 1/32nd rupee (the half anna pieces) and of 1/64th rupee (the quarter anna pieces). Consequently, we have to look for other mints.

Contemporary copper coinage in neighbouring Native States, especially in Bundhelkhand

A quick look at the map shows that Fatehpur district at the time was situated in a rather narrow corridor of British territory. North of it was the kingdom of Awadh and south the various principalities of Bundelkhand. For the first half of the 19th century, there is only scant information regarding the circulation of native copper coins and their exchange rate against rupees, so

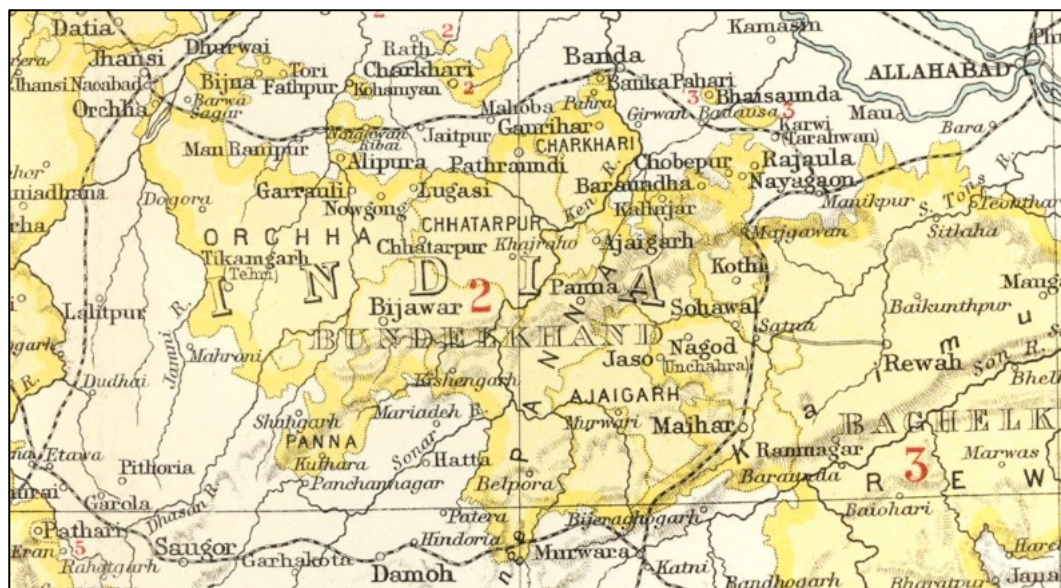
we will start our investigation with a much later, but rather complete overview.

The Financial Department Proceedings, February, 1872 provide some inside information regarding the “Manufacture of Copper Coins in Native States” in the North-Western Provinces around Mau Ranipur in the Jhansi District. Immediately striking is the mixture of official mint houses and production centres that imitate actual and antiquated coppers on a large scale. In a letter, dated 6 October 1870, the commissioner G.H.M Ricketts of Jhansi Division (some 200 km west of Fatehpur; see Map 2) wrote to the Secretary of Government, North-Western Provinces:¹⁰

“2. The Central Provinces have lately been inundated with a quantity of copper coin, made chiefly in imitation of an old Lucknow coin. Bearing a rude impression of the Lucknow fish; but several other native coins have also been imitated and their counterfeits circulated.

3. Police enquiry has shown that these coins are made in immense quantities in the Native States and Jagheers all around Mow Ranepore (Mau Ranipur). That town is a great mart for their purchase, and in and around Mow itself the manufacture of these coins has been constantly carried on. Every blacksmith and goldsmith in that neighbourhood is a proficient in the trade, and coins of any required kind can be purchased by the ton at any time in the Mow bazars.”

As far as British territory is concerned, the commissioner regards this practice as illegal and therefore it should be stopped. The major offender, according to him, is Tehree (Orchha, near Jhansi). The Tehree Chief is permitted to coin, but not to transfer the right. The Commissioner complains further: “It has been his practise to give (or probably to sell) licences to coin to numerous dealers in, and makers of coin in his territory, and our existing law cannot stop the practise. At present the coin is current for very nearly its value as common copper for manufacturing purposes. It has no standard value and rises or falls with the market rate of the metal.”



Map 2. Orchha princely state (1909 Imperial Gazetteer of India, Central India map section)

¹⁰ India Office Library & Records, London, Financial Department Proceedings, February, 1872, Mint and Currency, 19, letter no. 408. JONS Vol. 247, Spring 2022

According to another letter by J.V. Sturt, Officiating Assistant Commissioner, dated 16 February 1871,¹¹ the localities where coins were manufactured were said to be: Tori Futtehpore (or dependency of Orcha), Buncoree Orcha, Sursae Allypore, and Kurrara Gurowlee, but, prior to British rule, they were all manufactured at Mow in the Jhansi District. Orcha or Tehree and Duttia are the only Native States west of the Dussan river having the authority to coin money. The pice of four descriptions, viz., Pootlee Shaie (Table B, #7) and Nawabee of Lucknow (Table B, #8), Tirsoolee of Nagpore (Table B, #6) and Bala Shaie of Jalaun (Table B, #5) had been extensively manufactured at the aforementioned places for at least 20 years or more, but in former times, prior to British rule, every kind given in the list is supposed to have been made at Mow itself.

According to Mr. Stratton, Political Agent, Bundelkhand, these coins have the impression of the Delhi coin on one side and they are evidently made after that pattern; the other side bears the mark adopted by the District or Government where, or by permission of which, they were manufactured.¹² Finally, Sturt, in his letter dated 9 January 1871, provides an interesting observation that in the Bandah District, the manufacturers avoid the difficulty arising from stamping the pice with any particular mark by making it plain. These are called “chikna pysa”.



We have tried to identify the original examples for the imitations made around 1870 in the various mints active in Bundhelkhand, as described by Sturt (Table B and Fig. 1).

Table B. Copper coins current in the district of Jhansi 1870

No.	Name of the coin	District	Remarks
1	<i>Tope Shaie</i> or <i>Mogaolee</i>	Scindia	Supposed to bear the impression of a gun or cannon.
2	<i>Maharaj Shaie</i>	Gwalior	Bearing the impression of a sword.
3	<i>Lushkuree</i> or <i>Tirsolee</i> or <i>Guwaja Shaie</i>	Ditto	With a trident.
4	<i>Lushkuree</i>	Ditto	Serpent's head (specimen not found).
5	<i>Bala Shaie</i>	Jaloun	The mark of a trident.
6	<i>Tirsoolee</i>	Nagpooree	As above, only of lighter weight.
7	<i>Pootledar</i>	Lucknow	Bearing the image of a man.
8	<i>Nawabee</i> or <i>Muchlee Shaie</i>	Ditto	Bearing the image of a fish.
9	<i>Bhopal Shaie</i>	Bhopal	Impressed with the word Bhopal, showing year and value.
10	<i>Katar Shaie</i>	Boondie Kota	Bearing the impression of a dagger.
11	<i>Soobehdar Shaie</i>	Jhansi	Bearing the impression of a horse.



Source: J. V. Sturt, Officiating Assistant Commissioner stationed at Mow. Financial Department Proceedings, February, 1872, Mint and Currency, 22.

Fig. 1. Possible attributions to actual coins of the ones mentioned in Table B

	1) <i>Tope Shaie</i> or <i>Mogaolee</i> Gwalior, Daulat Rao Sindhia, 1794-1827, AE paisa (13.22 g), i.n.o. Muhammad Akbar II, struck by Jean Baptiste Filose (1809-1817) at Isagarh.
	2) <i>Maharaj Shaie</i> Gwalior, Baija Bai, 1827-1833, regent for Jankoji Rao Sindhia, AE paisa (8.23 g), i.n.o. Muhammad Akbar II, dated AH 1243 (1827/8).
	3) <i>Lushkuree</i> or <i>Tirsolee</i> or <i>Guwaja Shaie</i> Gwalior, Jankoji Rao Sindhia, 1833-1843, AE paisa (13.44 g), with frozen RY 23.
	4) <i>Lushkuree</i> with serpent's head AE paisa (6.29 g). This issue was first struck in VS 1926 (1869) and therefore probably not found when the report was written in 1870.
	5) <i>Bala Shaie</i> Jalaun, AE paisa (16.88 g), i.n.o. Shah Alam II, dated RY31 (1788/9).
	6) <i>Tirsoolee</i> Nagpur, AE paisa (9.34 g), i.n.o. Ahmad Shah Bahadur. Reduced weight standard of 9 mashes, struck by Dr. Gordon during 1823-24.
	7) <i>Pootledar</i> Awadh, Muhammad 'Ali Shah, 1837-1842, AE falus (11.95 g).
	8) <i>Nawabee</i> or <i>Muchlee Shaie</i> Awadh, Amjad 'Ali Shah, 1842-1847, AE falus (11.76g).
	9) <i>Bhopal Shaie</i> Bhopal, anonymous coinage of Sikandar Begum, 1844-1865, AE 1 Anna, AH 1276 (1859/60).

¹¹ India Office Library & Records, London, Financial Department Proceedings, February, 1872, Mint and Currency, 20, letter no. 74A.

¹² The “impression of the Delhi coin” is referring to coins with the impression of the Mughal Emperor in Delhi or to those in Persian script in general.

	10) Katar Shaie Bundi/Kotah, AE takka (18.86 g), i.n.o. Shah Alam II, RY 32 (1790).
	11) Soobehdar Shaie Jhansi, AE paisa (16.1 g), ND, similar coins with a horse symbol were struck at Sironj, dated AH 1226 (1811).

How to choose between this bewildering variety of coppers made by official and unofficial native mints? By 1839, most mints in the adjoining Bundelkhand district, which were formerly under Maratha administration, had become inactive. However, popular demand remained, which explains the large-scale imitating, or as the British would say: counterfeiting. These coins, also known as *kachcha* coins, will therefore not qualify for the coins that Fraser used. The demand in 1839 for *pucka* pice indicates that these coins must have been produced at a legal mint house, controlled by a well-established administration. We therefore now have to turn our gaze to the north.

The so-called *pucka* – pice equal to 1/40th rupee found in Awadh

The third leg of our research trip leads to Awadh, opposite Fatehpur on the left or northern banks of the river Ganga. In order to prepare ourselves properly, let us first try to specify precisely what kind we are looking for when we speak of a copper *pucka*: pice equal to 1/40th rupee in 1839 in this part of the country. Two clues will point most probably in the right direction: one from Bhopal and one from Bihar.

Traditionally, and as a rule, Indian coins did not bear an indication of their value (more specifically in relation to the silver rupee, the standard coin). Luckily in our period and region there is one exception. That is to be found in the Princely state of Bhopal, southwest of Bundelkhand. Beginning with the reign of Sikandar Begum (AH 1261-1285/ 1844-1865 CE), its mint-house struck copper coins with a value impressed on it: 1 anna (*ek anna*) with a weight of ca. 30.08 g, as well as fractions of one half and one quarter anna, weighing respectively 15-15.5 g and 7-8 g. The earliest dates on these coins with an explicit value indication were made in AH 1266 or 1849/1850, i.e. 10 years after the year we are investigating. We therefore conclude that the copper *pucka* pice (= good coin, contra *kachcha* or bad coin), equal of 40 to a rupee, we are looking for, would accordingly be ca. 12.25 g in weight. Which contemporary copper issue would meet this weight and may be the coin referred to?

For a slightly earlier period in this part of India, we know that copper coins, exchanged for 1/40th to 1/50th rupee, have been circulating. That was in Bihar and more specifically in Patna, as testified by a paper, published by the Batavian Society of Art and Science (with its site at Batavia, now Djakarta in Indonesia) in its transactions of 1786.

Illustration 1. Exchange rates of cowries, copper pice and silver rupees in Bihar, late 18th century
(Dutch original with English translation)

VI VERHANDELING DER MUNTEN, MAATEN EN GEWICHTEN VAN NEERLANDSCH INDIA	VI PAPER ON THE COINS, MEASUREMENTS AND WEIGHTS OF DUTCH INDIA
<p><i>Cauris</i>, zeker soort van Kinkhoorns, zynde in Bengalen gangbaar, na de quantiteit die 'er is; 4 Cauris doen een Gonda, 20 Gonda een Ponny, 16 Ponnys een Kaon; gemeenlyk doen 60 Ponnys of 4800 Cauris een Sicca Ropy, doch dit ryst somtyds tot 64, en daald ook weder tot 50 Ponnys.</p> <p>In Patna en Behaar doen 4 Cauris een Gonda, 3 Gonda een Damerie, 2 Damerie een Tjadauw, en 4 Tjadauws een Peza, waar van 40 à 50 op een Ropy gaan.</p>	<p>Cowries, a kind of shell, are current in Bengal, according to the quantity: 4 are equal to a Gonda, 20 Gonda is a Ponny, 16 Ponnys a Kaon; usually 60 Ponnys or 4800 Cowries are equal to a Sicca Rupee, but this fluctuates sometimes from 50 to 64.</p> <p>In Patna and Bihar 4 Cowries are equal to a Gonda, 3 Gonda a Damerie, 2 Damerie a Tjadauw, and 4 Tjadauws a Peza, of which 40 to 50 are equal to a rupee.</p>

Source: *Verhandelingen van het Bataviaasch Genootschap der Kunsten en Wetenschappen, Verhandeling der Muntten, Maaten en Gewichten van Neerlandsch India, MDCCLXXXVI, VI, p. 451.*

Combining these two pieces of information, we obtain the key for solving our question. In the neighbouring kingdom of Awadh, a prolific production of copper coins had been going on since the late 18th century. Under its ruler Wajid 'Ali Shah (AH 1263-1272/ 1847-1856 CE), an interesting innovation took place. In AH 1269 (1852/53), he introduced a series of copper coins of 1/8, 1/4 and 1/2 paisa, bearing his coat of arms with the so-far enigmatic numerals 3, 6 and 12 added to it. From the transactions of the Batavian Society, it becomes obvious that these numerals must refer to a cowrie-related denomination system (see Table C).

Table C. Ratios of damri, tjadauw, paisa and rupee in Awadh, c. 1780-1860

gonda	damerie / damri	tjadauw	paisa or falus	rupee
3	1		1/8	
6	2	1	1/4	
12	4	2	1/2	
		4	1	1/40-1/50

The cowrie-related exchange rates are also mentioned by Pridmore, who reports that the wages paid by the Company in 1757 ranged from 2 to 5 rupees per month for labourers and craftsmen. For daily or even weekly shopping, enormous amounts of very small value coin would have been required. In these circumstances, the cowrie shell served as an ideal medium for petty transactions and were widely used, well into the 19th century.¹³ We suppose that because of referring to these ratios on copper coins, they must have been rather stable during the last decades of the kingdom of Awadh, abolished in the Indian rebellion against British rule in India in 1857-1859 (called the Mutiny by the British).

¹³ Pridmore 1975, p. 197.



A.
AE 3 gonda (1 damri or 1/8 falus), AH 1270/ RY 8 (1.52 g)



B.
AE 6 gonda (2 damri or 1/4 falus), AH 1272/ RY 9 (3.04 g.)



C.
AE 12 gonda (4 damri or 1/2 falus), AH 1270/ RY 7 (6.04 g)



D.
AE falus, AH 1270/ RY 8 (12.09 g)

Fig. 2. Copper 1/8, 1/4, 1/2 and 1 falus, struck by Wajid 'Ali Shah, king of of Awadh

Verification of the weight of the copper paisa struck by the later rulers of Awadh shows that the weight of the paisa varies from 11.00 to 12.11 g (Table D).

Table D. Weights of Awadh pice, 1827-1856

Rulers	Weights of pice or falus (g)
Nasir al-Din Haidar Shah, 1827-1837	11.80-12.11
Muhammad Ali Shah, 1837-1842	11.53-11.93
Amjad Ali Shah, 1842-1847	11.20-11.70
Wajid Ali Shah, 1847-1856	11.00-12.00

Source: Kapoor and Master 2018

Based on the calculations of contemporary Bhopal coinage, the weight for a copper coin of 1/40th rupee should be about 12.25 g. Therefore, we cannot but conclude that the *pucka* pice referred to by Lieutenant Fraser in 1839 were the contemporary copper coins of Awadh State, more specifically those bearing the names of Muhammad Ali Shah (Table B, #7) and his immediate predecessor, Nasir al-Din Haidar Shah (Fig. 3). Besides, Wajid Ali Shah introduced a copper currency which shows the denomination on it, based on a prevailing accounting system, and that the Fatehpur District was situated right across the river Ganga as seen from the kingdom of Awadh, and had belonged to that state before the British occupation, all point in that direction.



Fig. 3. Nasir al-Din Haidar Shah (1827-1837) AE falus, AH1245/ RY3 (11.83 g)

We do not know their production figures, but the frequency of issues, and their wear and tear due to heavy circulation, shows that these coins were widely used and accepted. Even today, they are still relatively common in the collectors' market. We therefore may deduce that the Awadh pice (commonly called 'falus') may have been struck in large numbers.

Summary and conclusion

In Fatehpur district, wages for common workers were paid out in "pucka" pice, valued at 1/40th rupee. Searching for a concrete coin that qualifies for that description, we had to conclude, first, that this could not have been the official copper pice introduced two decades earlier by the E.I.C., to which this district had belonged since 1801. They went for 1/64th of a rupee and were therefore simply too light. Neither do the pice made in the various mints in Bundelkhand, south of Fatehpur, because at the time their circulation consisted mostly of irregularly made imitations, which were more heavy than the ones we were looking for.

The pice, produced in Awadh, north of Fatehpur, do, however. This means that the British still, in around 1840, were not able to cater to the demand of copper coins in the parts of India that they ruled directly. It also confirms the result of an earlier study on more westerly parts of the North-Western Provinces.¹⁴ The British-controlled mints of Calcutta, Benares, Farrukhabad and Saugor had not been sufficient to meet the demands of the labour market. Instead, pice, made at official and unofficial "native" mints circulated widely. Witness the use of these pieces in parts lost by that kingdom in 1801, like Fatehpur district (Figs. 2-3). Besides, this went on for the decades to come, as seen by the proliferation of imitations of Awadh pice long after the abolishment of that kingdom (Fig. 4).¹⁵

¹⁴ Lucassen 2007.

¹⁵ Cf. Wiggins 1978.



A.

Typical imitation of Awadh falus (11.65 g)



B.

Imitation of AE falus of Wajid Ali Shah (11.20 g)

Fig. 4. Imitations of copper coins of Awadh, dating from the decades after its demise in 1857

Bibliography

- National Archives of India, New Delhi, Military, Military Board Proceedings 31-01-1840.
- India Office Library & Records, London, Financial Department Proceedings, February, 1872.
- Garg, S., 2013, *The Sikka and the Raj. A History of Currency Legislations of the East India Company, 1772-1835*, New Delhi.
- Garg, S. (ed.), 2019, *Monetary Foundations of the Raj*, New Delhi.
- Kapoor, M., and Master, D., 2018, *The Nawabs and Kings of Awadh and their Coinage*, Mumbai.
- Lingen, J., and Lucassen, J., 2007, 'The "mansuri" or "munsoori paisa" and its use: combining numismatic and social history of India, ca. 1830-1900', *Numismatic Digest* Vol. 31, pp.187-220.
- Lingen, J., and Lucassen, J., 2010-2011, "Copper circulation in Northern India in 1830", *Numismatic Digest* Vol. 34-35, pp.148-183.
- Lingen, J., and Lucassen, J., 2012-2013, 'Two lacs of Bharatpur and Bindrabund rupees and 15 bags of copper pyce, captured at Dig on Christmas' eve 1804', *Numismatic Digest* Vol. 36-37, pp. 157-181; *JONS* 218 (Winter 2014), pp. 24-32.
- Lucassen, J., 2007, 'The Logistics of Wage Payments: Changing Patterns in Northern India in the 1840s', in J. Lucassen (ed.), *Wages and Currency. Global Comparisons from Antiquity to the Twentieth Century*, Bern, pp. 349-390.
- Lucassen, J., 2018, 'Deep monetization in Eurasia in the long run', in R.J. van der Spek and Bas van Leeuwen (eds.), *Money, Currency and Crisis. In Search of Trust, 2000 BC to AD 2000*, London/ New York.
- Lucassen, J., 2021, *The Story of Work. A New History of Humankind*, London.
- Lucassen, J., and Seshan, R., (eds.), 2022, *Wage earners in India 1500-1900. Regional Approaches in an International Context*, New Delhi.
- Pridmore, F., 1975, *The Coins of the British Commonwealth of Nations, Part 4, India, Volume 1, East India Company, Presidency Series c. 1642-1835*, London.

Stevens, P., 2011, *The Coins of the Bengal Presidency*, London.

Stevens, P., 2019, *The Coinage of the Bombay Presidency. A Study of the records of the EIC*, London.

Verhandelingen van het Bataviaasch Genootschap der Konsten en Weetenschappen, 1786, *Verhandeling der Munten, Maaten en Gewichten van Neerlandsch India*, MDCCLXXXVI, VI, pp. 398-454.

Wiggins, K.W., 1978, 'Tokens imitating coins of Awadh and other states', *Journal of the Numismatic Society of India*, XL, Parts I & II, pp. 53-79.

CATALOGUE OF THE COINS OF THE BENGAL PRESIDENCY – PART III

Paul Stevens and Robert Johnston

Banāras

Special thanks are due to Robert Johnston and Alan DeShazo for help with this part of the catalogue.

Banāras Mint – Hammered Coinage – Gold, Mohur – INO Shāh Ālam – 1776 to 1812



*sikka zad bar haft kishwar
sāya faḍl Ilāh hāmī al-dīn
muḥammad shāh 'ālam
bādshāh [AH]* (= Defender of
the religion of Muḥammad,
Shāh 'Ālam Emperor Shadow
of the divine favour, put his
stamp on the seven climes,
[AH])



*zarb muḥammadābād banāras
sanah [RY] julūs maimanat
mānūs* (= Struck at
Muḥammadābād Banāras in
the [RY] year of his reign of
tranquil prosperity)

	Mohur	½ Mohur	¼ Mohur	1/8 Mohur
Official Wt (g)	10.88	5.44	2.72	1.36
Wt (g)	10.78-10.89	5.42		1.6 but includes mount
Diam (mm)	20.9-23.2	14.5-15.0	~12.5	~11
Metal	Gold			
Edge	Plain			

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Deno m	AH	R Y	Differ . Mark s	Comments	Rar .
7.1	-	Mohur	[xxxx]	17	?	None known but see www.psIndianCoins.com	N/A
7.2	-	"	1192	18	B		RRR
7.3	-	"	[xxxx]	19	?	None known but see www.psIndianCoins.com	N/A
7.4	-	"	[xxxx]	20	?	None known but see www.psIndianCoins.com	N/A
7.5	-	"	1193	21	A		RRR
7.6	-	"	[xxxx]	22	?	None known but see www.psIndianCoins.com	N/A
7.7	-	"	[xxxx]	23	?	None known but see www.psIndianCoins.com	N/A
7.8	-	"	[xxxx]	24	None	Ref: Senior 1993. Simplified obverse legend differs from other dates.	RRR
7.9	-	"	[xxxx]	25	?	None known but see www.psIndianCoins.com	N/A
7.10	-	"	1199	26	D	Baldwin (2008), Sale 54	RR

						(Diana), Lot 52.	
7.11	-	"	1199	27	D	Normal engraving. No barbels on fish.	RR
7.12	-	"	1199	27	None	Fish with Barbels. No differentiating marks.	RR
7.13	-	"	[xxxx]	28		None known but see www.psIndianCoins.com	N/A
7.14	-	"	1201	29	A	Ref: DNW (2002), Sale 55, Lot 1572.	RR
7.15	-	"	1202	29	A		RR
7.16	-	"	1202	30	D	Ref: Baldwin (2003), Sale 35, Lot 1704.	RR
7.17	-	"	1202	31	D	Ref: Baldwin (2004), Sale 37, Lot 1531 for coin with complete AH date. Also see photos.	RR
7.18	-	"	1203	31	D	Ref: Baldwin (2005), Sale 40, Lot 985.	RR
7.19	-	"	1203	32	D	Ref: Baldwin (2004), Sale 37, Lot 1532.	RR
7.20	-	"	1204	32	D	Ref: Baldwin (2003), Sale 35, Lot 1706.	RR
7.21	-	"	1209	36	D	Ref: Johnston	RR
7.22	217	"	1209	37	D		RR
7.23	218	"	1213	41	D	Ref: Johnston	RR
7.24	-	Half Mohur	1xx x	32	D	Only one known. Edge looks normal.	RRR
7.24B	-	Quarter Mohur	xxx x	26	D	Ref: Zubair Khan. Authenticity has been questioned.	RRR
7.24A	-	Eighth Mohur	xxx x	25		Ref: Berlin Museum. Ex Guthrie collection. These are the same type as the RY 24 mohur above.	RRR



Normal style



RY 24 style. shāh
'ālam bādshāh
ghāzī sikka
mubārak



Fish with barbels
(RY 27)

Banāras Differentiating Marks



Mark A



Mark B



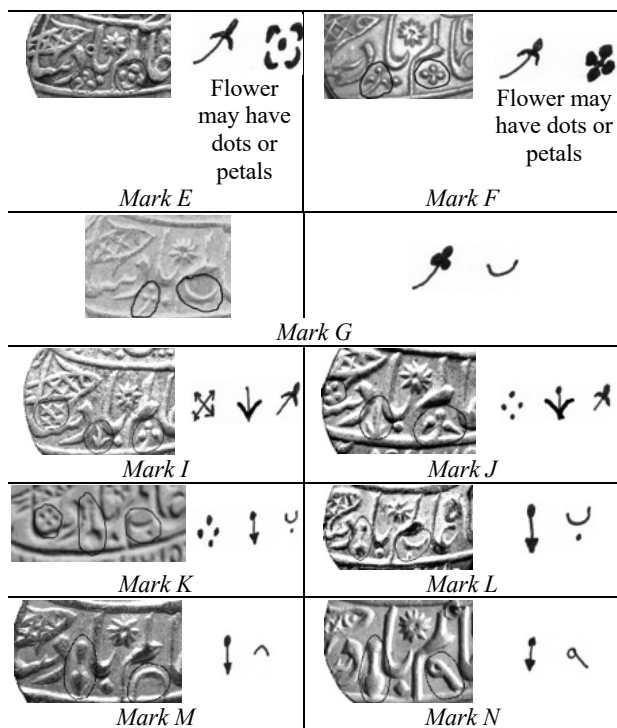
Mark C



Mark C1 with triad of dots
under fish



Mark D



Initial marks of mint masters on reverse
(noted by Alan DeShazo)



Transitory differentiating mark on rupees
(from Alan DeShazo)

There is a transitory differentiating mark that has not been recognised, partly because of its being mistaken for being merely a diacritical mark. The operation of the Banāras mint under the EIC was placed under the management of the English Resident during the course of RY 24. The last issue before the transfer displayed differentiating mark A. When control passed to the current Resident, this new mark showed a triad of dots below the fish. A new Resident acceded to mint control and the mark was changed to D (with cross crosslet).



Mark A



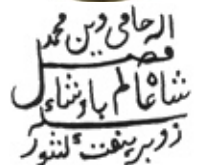
Triad of dots under fish



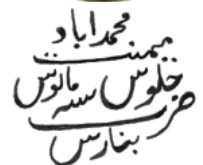
Cross-crosslet under fish

Banāras Mint – Hammered Coinage – Silver, Rupree *et infra* – 1776 to 1812

The set of marks identified by Pridmore as ‘darogah’s’ marks are named ‘differentiating’ marks here. See above for initial marks of mint masters.



sikka zad bar haft kishwar sāya
fazl ilāh hāmī dīn muḥammad
shāh ‘ālam bādshāh [AH]
(= Defender of the religion of
Muḥammad, Shāh ‘Ālam
Emperor, Shadow of the divine
favour, put his stamp on the seven
climes, [AH])



zārb muḥammadābād
banāras sanah [RY] julūs
māmanat mānūs (= Struck
at Muḥammadābād
Banāras in the 17/[RY]
year of his reign of
tranquil prosperity)

	Rupree	Half Rupree	Quarter Rupree	Eighth Rupree	Sixteenth Rupree
Official Wt (g)	11.33	5.66	2.83	1.42	0.71
Wt (g)	10.85- 11.37	5.40- 5.65	2.63- 2.82	1.30- 1.42	0.65- 0.71
Diam (mm)	21.3- 24.9	18.1- 21.5	14.8- 17.8	12.6- 14.8	9.7-12.4
Metal	Silver				

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Denom	AH	RY	Differ. Mark	Comments	Rar
7.25	219	Rupree	1190	17	A		R
7.26	220	"	1191	17	A		R
7.27	-	"	1191	17	B		R
7.28	221	"	1192	17	A		R
7.29	-	"	1192	17	B		R
7.32	-	"	1192	20	A	This and all later coins have dual RY, e.g. 17/20. See differ. mark above for a transitory mark (from DeShazo).	R
7.33	222	"	1193	20	A		S
7.34	223	"	1193	21	A		S
7.35	-	"	1194	21	A	Mitchiner no. 1933	S
7.36	224	"	1194	22	A		S
7.37		"	1195	22	A	Baldwin (2002), Sale 31, Lot 720.	S
7.38	225	"	1195	23	C		S
7.39	-	"	1195	23	A	Ref: Johnston, also	R

					Tandon 2008: 37.	
7.40	226	"	1196	24	A	S
7.40A		"	1196	24	C1	Ref: Alan DeShazo R
7.40C	-	"	1197	24	D	R
7.41	227	"	1197	25	D	S
7.42	-	"	1198	25	D	S
7.43	228	"	1198	26	D	S
7.44	229	"	1199	26	D	S
7.45	230	"	1199	27	D	S
7.46	-	"	1199	27	E	Ref: Johnston R
7.46c	-	"	1199	27	F	R
7.47	231	"	1200	27	E	S
7.48		"	120x	27	F	R
7.49	-	"	1201	28	A	S
7.50	-	"	1201	28	G	Ref: Johnston R
7.51	233	"	1201	29	A	Full die impression RRR
7.52	232	"	1202	28	A	S
7.53	234	"	1202	29	A	S
7.54	235	"	1202	30	D	S
(7.55)	-	"	1202	31	D	Ref: HK/Singapore (2003), Sale 36, Lot 450, but no photo. May be 1203?. S
7.56	236	"	1203	30	D	S
7.57	237	"	1203	31	D	S
7.58A	-	"	1204	31		LMC 4724 (thanks to Alan DeShazo). R
7.59	238	"	1204	32	D	S
7.60	-	"	1205	32	D	R
7.61	239	"	1205	33	D	S
7.62	240	"	1206	33	D	LMC 4727 S
7.63	242	"	1206	34	D	S
7.64	243	"	1207	34	D	S
7.65	244	"	1207	35	D	S
7.66	245	"	1207	35	D	Full die impression RRR
7.67	246	"	1208	35	D	S
7.68	247	"	1208	36	D	S
7.69	248	"	1209	36	D	S
7.70	249	"	1209	37	D	S
7.71	250	"	1210	37	D	S
7.72	251	"	1210	38	D	S
7.73	252	"	1211	38	D	S
7.74	253	"	1211	39	D	S
7.74C	-	"	1211	40	D	Mule R
7.76	254	"	1212	39	D	S
7.77	255	"	1212	40	D	S
7.78	241	"	1213	33	D	Mule RR
7.79	256	"	1213	40	D	S
7.80	257	"	1213	41	D	S
7.81	258	"	1214	41	D	S
7.82	259	"	1214	42	D	S
7.83	260	"	1215	42	D	S
7.84	261	"	1215	43	I	S
7.85	262	"	1216	43	I	S
7.86	263	"	1216	44	I	S
7.87	264	"	1217	44	J	S
7.88	265	"	1217	45	J	S
7.89	266	"	1217	45	J	Full die impression. Diam 29.5 mm. RRR
7.90	267	"	1218	45	J	S
7.91	268	"	1218	46	J	S
7.92	-	"	1218	46	J	Full die impression. Ref: Fitzwilliam Museum. Diam 34.0mm. RRR
7.93	269	"	1219	46	J	S
7.94	-	"	1219	47	J	S

7.94C	-	"	1219	47	K	S
7.95	270	"	1219	47	K	Full die impression. Diam 33.3 mm. RRR
7.96	271	"	1219	47	L	S
7.97	272	"	1220	47	L	S
7.98	-	"	1220	48	L	S
7.99	273	"	1220	48	M	S
7.100	274	"	1221	48	M	S
7.101	275	"	1221	49	N	N
7.102	276	"	1222	49	N	N
7.103	277	"	1223	49	N	N
7.103C	-	"	1224	49	N	No barbels on fish. Ref: Johnston. N
7.104	278	"	1224	49	N	Fish with barbels. They have barbels from this date forwards. N
7.105	279	"	1225	49	N	N
7.106	280	"	1226	49	N	N
7.107	-	"	1227	49	N	Copper forgeries exist. N
7.108	281	Half Rupee	1196	24	A	Ref: Johnston RRR
7.109		"	xxxx	31		Ref: Ashmolean Museum RRR
7.110		"	1214	41	D	Ref: HK/Singapore (2003), Sale 36, Lot 452. RRR
7.111		"	12xx	47	L	Ref: Album (2006), List 218, Lot 50809. RRR
7.112		"	12xx	48	L	Ref: Baldwin (2001), Sale 25 (Wiggins), Lot 598. Occurs with different marks. See photos. RRR
7.113		"	1224	49	N	Ref: HK/Singapore (2003), Sale 36, Lot 452. No barbels on fish. RRR
7.114		"	1226	49	N	Barbels on fish (after 1224). RRR
7.115	282	Quarter Rupee	1191	17	A	Baldwin (2003), Sale 33, Lot 1011. RR
7.116		"	119x	22	A	Baldwin (2001), Sale 25, Lot 599. RR
7.117		"	1199	26	D	Baldwin (2001), Sale 25, Lot 600. Johnston. RR
7.118		"	1212	40	D	Ref: HK/Sing (2003), Sale 36, Lot 454. RR
7.119		"	121x	42	D	Baldwin (2001), Sale 25, Lot 601. RR
7.120		"	xxxx	43	I	Baldwin (2001), Sale 25, Lot 602. RR
7.121		"	xxxx	46	J	Baldwin (2006), Sale 47 (Stiller), Lot 841. RR
7.121C		"	1219	47	K or L	Ref: Johnston RR
7.121E		"	xxxx	48	L	Ref: Oswal Auctions RR
7.122		"	xxxx	49	N	Fish without barbels (before 1225). Baldwin (2006), Sale 47, Lot 841. RR
7.123		"	xxxx	49	N	Fish with barbels (1225 or later). Ref: Baldwin (2001), Sale 25 (Wiggins), Lot 603. RR
7.123E	283	Eighth Rupee	xxxx	21	A?	Only RY 21 and earlier have reverse flower to right of RY. Ref: Oswal Auctions. RR
7.124		"	xxxx	24	A	Ref: Baldwin (2001), Sale 25 (Wiggins), Lot 604. RR
7.125		"	11xx	27	E	Ref: Thompson. Also HK/Sing (2003), Sale 36, Lot 455. RR

7.126		”	xxxx	28	G	Ref: Weir. Also HK/Sing (2009), Sale 46, Lot 1122.	RR
7.127		”	1203	30	D	Baldwin (2013), Sale 84 (Fore), Lot 1770.	RR
7.128		”	xxxx	41	D	Baldwin (2010), Sale 65, Lot 1699.	RR
7.129		”	xxxx	43	?	Ref: Weir	RR
7.130		”	xxxx	46	?	Ref: Weir	RR
7.131		”	xxxx	47	L	Ref: Johnston	RR
7.132		”	xxxx	48	L	Baldwin (2006), Sale 47 (Stiller), Lot 844.	RR
7.132B		”	xxxx	48	M	From DNW, Sale 171, Lot 175.	RR
7.133		”	xxxx	49	N	Baldwin (2001), Sale 25, Lot 605. No barbels on photographed specimens.	RR
7.134	284	Sixteenth Rupee	xxxx	21	A	Baldwin (2000), Sale 22, Lot 182.	RRR
7.134B		”	xxxx	24	?	Ref: Todywalla Auction 118, Lot 421.	RRR
7.134C		”	xxxx	27	E		RRR
7.134E		”	xxxx	x8	?	Ref: Ashmolean	RRR
7.134G		”	xxxx	47	L	Ref: BM 1929.0808.4 (0.7 g, 11.4-12.5 mm)	RRR
7.135		”	xxxx	49	N	HK/Sing (2003), Sale 36, Lot 455. No barbels on photographed specimens.	RRR

Banāras Mint – Hammered Coinage – Silver, Rupee – Transitional Type – 1812

This type may have been produced during the period 1810-1812, when the mint was being investigated by the Board of Commissions of the Ceded and Conquered territories.



الرحماني دين محمد
شاه عالم باوشايل
دور بر يفت كشور

*sikka zad bar haft kishwar
sāya faẓl ilāh hāmī dīn
muḥammad shāh ‘ālam
bādshāh 1229 (= Defender of
the religion of Muḥammad,
Shāh ‘Ālam Emperor, Shadow
of the divine favour, put his
stamp on the seven climes,
1229)*



میں محمد آباد
خلوس سہ ماہ
ضر بنارس

*zarb muḥammadābād banāras
sanah 17/[RY] julūs maimanat
mānūs (= Struck at
Muḥammadābād Banāras in
the 17/[RY] year of his reign
of tranquil prosperity)*

Official Wt (g)	11.33
Wt (g)	10.82
Diam (mm)	26.1-26.6
Metal	Silver
Edge	Plain

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
7.136	-	1230	49	Ref: Baldwin (2001), Sale 25 (Wiggins), Lot 608. Probably issued in 1812. This coin may be counterfeit.	RRR

Banāras Mint – Hammered Coinage – Silver, Rupee et infra – 1812 to 1815



الرحماني دين محمد
شاه عالم باوشايل
دور بر يفت كشور

*sikka zad bar haft kishwar
sāya faẓl ilāh hāmī dīn
muḥammad shāh ‘ālam
bādshāh [AH] (= Defender of
the religion of Muḥammad,
Shāh ‘Ālam Emperor, Shadow
of the divine favour, put his
stamp on the seven climes,
[AH])*



میں محمد آباد
خلوس سہ ماہ
ضر بنارس

*zarb muḥammadābād
banāras sanah 17/[RY]
julūs maimanat mānūs (= Struck at Muḥammadābād
Banāras in the 17/[RY]
year of his reign of
tranquil prosperity)*

	Rupee	Half Rupee	Quarter Rupee
Official Wt (g)	11.33	5.66	2.83
Wt (g)	11.26-11.32	5.67	2.79-2.81
Diam (mm)	21.9-24.0	21.8-22.7	15.0-17.7
Metal	Silver		

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Denomination	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
7.137	-	Rupee	1227	49	Ref: Baldwin (2001), Sale 25 (Wiggins), Lot 607.	R
7.138	285	”	1228	49	Also comes on larger flan (R. Weir).	R
7.139	286	”	1229	49	Also comes on a larger flan (Indian coin hoard).	S
7.140	287	Half Rupee	1229	49		RR
7.141	288	Quarter Rupee	1229	49		R

Calcutta Mint – Milled Coinage – Silver, Rupee and Half Rupee Patterns – 1815



الرحامی دین محمد
فصل عالم باو شاهی
دوبریفت کشتور

sikka zad bar haft kishwar
sāya fazl ilāh hāmī dīn
muḥammad shāh 'ālam
bādshāh 1229 (= Defender
of the religion of
Muhammad, Shāh 'Ālam
Emperor, Shadow of the
divine favour, put his stamp
on the seven climes, 1229)



بیمحمد آباد
خلوس سنانوس
ضرب بنارس

ẓarb muḥammadābād
banāras sanah 17/[RY]
julūs maimanat mātūs
(= Struck at
Muḥammadābād Banāras in
the 17th/49th year of his
reign of tranquil prosperity)

	Rupee	Half Rupee
Wt (g)	11.33	5.68
Diam (mm)	27.3-27.5	18.4-19.0
Metal	Silver	
Edge	Grained Left	

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Denom	AH	RY	Comments	Rar.
7.142	291	Rupee	1229	17/49		RR
7.143	292	Half Rupee	"	"	Unfinished pattern	RRR



7.143. Unfinished half rupee pattern

Calcutta Mint – Milled Coinage – Silver, Quarter Rupee Pattern – 1815



عالم علی
مادشاهی

1229 sikka shāh 'ālam
bādshāh ghāzī (= 1229, coin
of Shāh 'Ālam the victorious
Emperor)



ẓarb banāras sanah 17/49
(= Struck at Banāras in year
17/49)

Wt (g)	2.84-2.85
Diam (mm)	16.6-19.2
Metal	Silver

Edge	Grained Left
------	--------------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Denomination	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
7.144	293	Quarter Rupee	1229	17/49	Unfinished pattern	RR

Banāras Mint – Milled Coinage – Silver, Rupee and Half Rupee – 1815



الرحامی دین محمد
فصل عالم باو شاهی
دوبریفت کشتور

sikka zad bar haft kishwar
sāya fazl ilāh hāmī dīn
muḥammad shāh 'ālam
bādshāh [AH]
(= Defender of the religion of
Muhammad, Shāh 'Ālam
Emperor, Shadow of the
divine favour, put his stamp
on the seven climes, [AH])



بیمحمد آباد
خلوس سنانوس
ضرب بنارس
ẓarb muḥammadābād
banāras sanah 17/49 julūs
māimanat mātūs (= Struck at Muḥammadābād
Banāras in the 17/49 year
of his reign of tranquil
prosperity)

	Rupee	Half Rupee
Official Wt (g)	11.33	5.66
Wt (g)	11.41	5.68
Diam (mm)	26.1-26.4	18.4-19.0
Metal	Silver	
Edge	Grained Right	

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Denom	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
7.145	289	Rupee	1229	17/49		S
7.146	-	"	1230	17/49	Some doubt about the existence of this coin.	N/A
7.147	290	Half Rupee	1229	17/49		RR

Banāras Mint – Milled Coinages– Silver, Quarter Rupee – 1815



عالم علی
مادشاهی

1229 sikka shāh 'ālam
bādshāh ghāzī (= 1229, coin
of Shāh 'Ālam the victorious
Emperor)



ẓarb banāras sanah 17/49
(= Struck at Banāras in
year 17/49)

of Shāh 'Ālam the victorious
Emperor)

Official Wt (g)	2.83
Wt (g)	2.83-2.85
Diam (mm)	16.6-19.2
Metal	Silver
Edge	Grained Right

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
7.148	-	1229	17/49		RR

Banāras Mint – Milled Coinage – Silver, Farrukhābād Rupee and Half Rupee – 1820 to 1831

Also issued from the mints of Calcutta, Farrukhābād and Saugor.



الرحمى دين محمد
سائر شانه عالم باد
زور برينفيلد

sikka zad bar haft kishwar sāya
fazl ilāh hāmī dīn muḥammad
shāh 'ālam bādshāh [AH]
(= Defender of the religion of
Muḥammad, Shāh 'Ālam
Emperor, Shadow of the divine
favour, put his stamp on the seven
climes, [AH])



مانوس
سینجلوس
هر مرغ ابابو

zarb farruckābād sanah 45
julūs maimanat mātūs
(= Struck at Farrukhābād
in the 45th year of his reign
of tranquil prosperity)

	Rupee	Half Rupee
Official Wt (g)	11.68	5.84
Wt (g)	11.59-11.73	?
Diam (mm)	25.4-26.7	?
Metal	Silver	
Edge	Straight Grained	

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Denomination	Comments	Rarity
7.149	323	Rupee		N
7.150	324	Half Rupee		RR

Privy Marks



Rupee and half rupee. Inverted V on obverse. Bead in centre
of circle of dots on reverse.

Banāras Mint – Milled Coinage – Silver, Farrukhābād Quarter Rupee – 1820 to 1831

Also issued from the mints of Calcutta, Farrukhābād and Saugor.



عالم باد
مادشاه

1204 sikka shāh 'ālam
bādshāh ghāzī (= 1204, coin
of Shāh 'Ālam the victorious
Emperor)



ضرب بنارس
سنه

zarb banāras sanah 45
(= Struck at Banāras in year
45)

Official Wt (g)	2.92
Wt (g)	2.91
Diam (mm)	15.6-16.9
Metal	Silver
Edge	Straight Grained

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Comments	Rarity
7.151	324A		R

Privy Marks



Quarter rupee. Inverted V on obverse. Bead in centre of
circle of dots on reverse.

Banāras Mint – Milled Coinage – Silver, Trial for Grained Edge on Farrukhābād Rupee – 1822



New
Milling
1822

Legend within a plain raised
rim



ضرب بنارس
نمونه

namūnah zarb banāras
(= Pattern struck at
Banāras). Within a plain,
raised rim

Wt (g)	11.66
Diam (mm)	25.4
Metal	Silver
Edge	Straight Grained

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Comments	Rarity
7.152	362	Recorded from Pridmore.	RRR

**Banāras Mint – Hammered Coinage – Copper,
Pice – 1776 to 1806**

My thanks to Robert Johnston who provided much of the information for this listing, including the photos for the obverse and reverse varieties. Differentiating marks appear on many of the known specimens and, where visible, appear to match the marks recorded on the silver coins. Because the coins are very crude and only parts of the design on obverse and reverse are visible, fewer of the marks are usually visible, so these have been recorded differently from those on the silver coins. They occur at the top of the obverse, in the middle of the word 'Ālam. Coins with AH dates visible are rare.



عالم شاه
فلوس

falūs shāh 'ālam (= Money of Shāh 'Ālam)



محمدا باد
سنه ١٢٠٥
ضرب بنارس

zarb banāras 48 (= Struck at Banāras [year] 48). This may vary somewhat. See reverse varieties in table.

Official Wt (g)	11.96/10.64
Wt (g)	11.29-12.05
Diam (mm)	15.7-22.5
Composition	Copper
Edge	Plain

Cat No.	Pr. No.	O	R	AH	RY	Diff. Marks	Comments	Rar
7.153	-	A	I		17	A	Official weight of this and the following pice: 11.96 g.	RR
7.153C	-	A	II		17	A		R
7.154	294	A	II		17	B		S
7.155	-	A	II		18	B		R
7.156	295	A	II		19	B		S
7.156C	295	A	II		19	B1		R
7.156E	295	A	II		19	B2		S
7.157	-	A	II?		20	?	None known but see EIC records.	N/A
7.158	-	A	II?		21	?	None known but see EIC records.	N/A
7.159	-	A	II?		22	?	Wt. reduced to 10.64 g until 1786. No lighter pice are known but see EIC records.	N/A
7.160	-	A	II?		23	?	None known but see EIC records.	N/A
7.161	-	A	II?		24	?	None known but see EIC records.	N/A
7.162	-	A	II?		25	?	None known but see EIC records.	N/A
7.163	-	A	II?		26	?	None known but see EIC records.	N/A
7.164	-	A	III		27	C	Wt. restored to 11.96 g in 1786. AH may be under <i>falūs</i> rather than to the left as on later coins.	S

7.165	-	A	III		28	C		S
7.165B	296	A	III		120x	D	Different marks below RY – flower, three dots or no symbol. Also, AH may be under <i>falūs</i> rather than to the left as on later coins.	S
7.165A	-	B	III		1201	xx	No fish on obverse.	R
7.165E	-	B	III		1202	30		S
7.166	-	B	III		1203	30	Ref: Noble (1995), Sale 48, Lot 2147.	S
7.166A	-	B	III		1203	31		R
7.167	297	B	III		1208	35		S
7.168	-	B	III		36	E	Ref: Baldwin (2001), Sale 25 (Wiggins), Lot 650.	R
7.169	-	B	III		1210	38		S
7.170	-	B	III		39		Pr. Sale, Lot 650.	R
7.171	-	B	III		1213	41	Ref: Baldwin (2001), Sale 25 (Wiggins), Lot 650.	S
7.171c	-	B	III		1214	42		S
7.172	-	B	III		1218	45	Ref: Baldwin (2001), Sale 25 (Wiggins), Lot 650.	S
7.173	-	B	III		1219	46		S
7.173C	-	B	III		1222	49	Star in <i>sin</i> of <i>julūs</i> on reverse.	S
7.174	298	B	III		122x	49	Arrow-like symbol in <i>sin</i> of <i>julūs</i> on reverse.	S
7.174C	-	B	III		1222	4P	Retrograde 9 in RY.	S

Banāras Copper Obverse Varieties

Trident There may or may not be a trident

	A	B
Trident	Absent	Present



Obverse A. No trident



Obverse B. Trident present

Banāras Copper Reverse Varieties

Muḥammadābād	The word <i>muḥammadābād</i> may appear in the top line, or may be replaced by an ornament
RY	The RY date may be to the right of <i>julūs</i> , in the <i>sin</i> of <i>banāras</i> or above the <i>sin</i> of <i>banāras</i>
Trident	A trident may be present or absent
Symbol	There may be a star or arrow-like symbol in the <i>sin</i> of <i>banāras</i>

	I	II	III
Muḥammadābād	Top Line	Top Line	Replaced by ornament

RY	Right of <i>julūs</i>	In <i>sīn</i> of <i>banāras</i>	Above <i>sīn</i> of <i>banāras</i>
Trident	Absent	Absent	Present
Symbol	None	None	In <i>sīn</i> of Banāras



Reverse I.



Reverse II

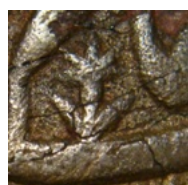


Reverse III.

Banāras Differentiating Marks for Copper Coins



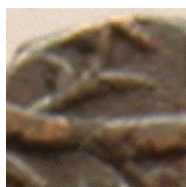
A



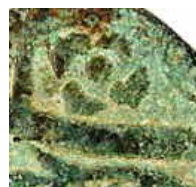
B



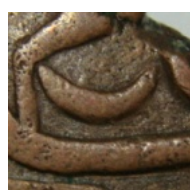
B1



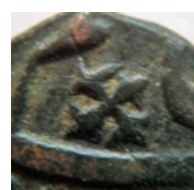
B2



C



D



E



F



G

Banāras Mint – Milled Coinage – Copper, Pattern Double Pice *et infra* – 1806

Prepared by Yeld in the Banāras Mint
(see www.psIndianCoins.com).



عالم شاه
فلوس

falūs shāh 'ālam (= Money of Shāh 'Ālam)



بنارس
فرس

zarb banāras 48 (= Struck at Banāras [year] 48)

	Double Pice	Pice	Half Pice	Quarter Pice
Wt (g)	15.35-15.61	?	?	1.97
Diam (mm)	29.8-30.5	?	?	16.1-16.2
Metal	Copper			
Edge	Plain			

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Denomination	Comments	Rarity
7.175	299	Double Pice	Ref: Johnston and BM.	RRR
7.176	300	Pice	None traced.	N/A
7.177	301	Half Pice	None traced.	N/A
7.178	302	Quarter Pice	Specimen in BM.	RRR

Banāras Mint – Milled Coinage – Copper, Double Pice *et infra* – 1809

Struck at Calcutta for use in Banāras. None of the coins got into circulation at Banāras, although the pice were exported by shroffs from Banāras for circulation in Bihār.



عالم شاه
فلوس

sanah julūs 37 shāh 'ālam bādshāh (= In the 37th year of the Emperor Shāh 'Ālam)



دو پای
سیکا
۴۱۴
۱۸۱۱

Persian: *do pai sikka*
Hindi: *do pai sikka*
(Translation = two pai sikka)

	Double Pice	Pice	Half Pice
Official Wt (g)	12.46	6.23	3.11
Wt (g)	13.12-14.46	6.54-7.29	3.02-3.09
Diam (mm)	29.5	24.7	17.5
Metal	Copper		
Edge	Plain		

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Denomination	Status	Comments	Rarity
7.179	303	Double Pice	Currency		RR
7.180	304	"	Proof	Struck from rusty dies. Wt = 14.21?	RR
7.181	305	Pice	Currency		R

7.182	306	”	Proof	RRR
7.183	307	Half Pice	Currency	R
7.184	308	”	Proof	RRR

**Banāras Mint – Milled Coinage – Copper,
Pattern Pice – 1813**



falūs shāh 'ālam (= Money of Shāh 'Ālam)



zarb banāras sanah 49
(= Struck at Banāras in [year] 49)

	Double Pice	Pice
Wt (g)	12.95	6.49
Diam (mm)	27.0	~20
Metal	Copper	
Edge	Plain	

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Denomination	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
7.185	308A	Double Pice	49	1228		RRR
7.185A	-	Pice	49	1228		RRR

**Banāras Mint – Milled Coinage – Copper,
Currency Pice – 1815 to 1829**



sanah julūs 37 shāh 'ālam
bādshāh (= in the 37th year of the Emperor Shāh 'Ālam).
Trisūl.



Persian: *yek pai sikka*.
Hindi: *yek pai sikka*.
(Translation = One pai sikka).
Trisūl.

Official Wt (g)	6.23
Wt (g)	4.85-6.76
Diam (mm)	Varies. See table below
Metal	Copper
Edge	Plain

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Status	Diam (mm)	Comments	Rarity
7.186	309	Currency	23.2-25.1	Many different styles.	C
7.187	309	”	”	Type with raised rim.	S
7.188	310	”	20.5-23.2	Neater engraving with plain circle around design. The circle is only clear on those struck off-centre.	C

7.189	311	”	26.5	As previous but larger flan.	R
7.190	312	”	21.5-24.8	Cross-bar on reverse trisūl. Exists with small flan and small letters.	C
7.191	313	Proof	23.0-24.0	Proof version of the previous coin.	RR
7.192	-	Token?	20.7-26.3	Countermarked with letter <i>E</i> . Shailen Bhandare notes: “The ‘E’ countermarked copper pice were first published as a group by Dilip Shah several years ago in <i>ONSNL</i> . The entire group had originated somewhere in South Mālwa. Undertypes vary.”	RR

Āgra Mint

Āgra (Akbarābād) Mint – Shāh 'Ālam II – Silver, Rupee

Āgra was captured by the British on 18th October 1803 (AH 1218 RY 46), during the 2nd Maratha War. Thus, coins struck there after this date must have been issued under the authority of the British.



Legend that probably reads: *sikka zad sāhib-i qirān (a)z ta'yid ilāh hāmī dīn muḥammad shāh 'ālam bādshāh* [AH date] (= Struck coin like the second Lord of conjunctions, by the help of God, Defender of the faith of Muḥammad, the Emperor Shāh 'Ālam [AH date])



zarb mustaqir al-khilāfa akbarābād sanah [RY] *maimanat mānūs* (= struck at the seat of the Caliphate, Akbarābād, in the [RY] of tranquil prosperity)

Wt (g)	10.99-11.05	Diam (mm)	19.5-20.8	Metal	Silver
--------	-------------	-----------	-----------	-------	--------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.1	-	1219	47	Ref: Jan Ling	R
8.2	-	1220	47	Ref: Jan Ling	R

Earlier dates were struck under Maratha authority.

Āgra (Akbarābād) Mint – Copper, Shah Alam II – Pice



Shāh 'Ālam legend with AH date



Persian legend, possibly as on Muḥammad Akbar's copper, with flintlock pistol pointing left

Wt (g)	7.11	Diam (mm)	18.5-19.9	Metal	Copper
--------	------	-----------	-----------	-------	--------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.2D	-	1219	49	Ref: BM. AH and RY do not correspond.	R
8.2E	-	122x	47	Ref: Oswal Auctions	R

Pice dated AH 1217, previously listed as 8.2C, are a Maratha issue.



AH 122x/R44? Dates do not correspond. Not clear if this is a British or Maratha issue (from Robert Johnston).

Āgra (Akbarābād) Mint – Copper, Muhammad Akbar II – Pice



محمد اکبر
شاہ و شاہ غا
سلہ مبارک

sikka mubārak bādshāh
ghāzī muḥammad akbar
(= The auspicious coin of the
victorious Emperor
Muḥammad Akbar)



الکراہ
سلہ مبارک

zarb akbarābād sanah [RY]
julūs (= Struck at
Akbarābād in the [RY]
year). A flintlock pistol
clearly visible.

Wt (g)	5.70-6.39	Diam (mm)	16.5-20.9	Metal	Copper
--------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-------	--------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.2G	-	1221	1	Ref: BM 1903.1009.103 (info from Robert Johnston).	RR
8.3	-	1222	1	Ref: Zubair Khan. AH 1216 also published by Albun (Sale 18, Lot 1803), but photo shows only one side of coin; 1216 too early for EIC.	RR

Allahābād Mint

Allahābād Mint – Silver, Rupee – INO Shāh ‘Ālam II – Shumshari Type



حاجی و من محمد شاہ
فضل عالم با و شاہ
زو بر بخت و شہزاد



میمنہ و من
سہرہ حلو و من
الکراہ

sikka zad bar haft kishwar sāya
fazl ilāh hāmī dīn muḥammad
shāh ‘ālam bādshāh [AH]
(= Defender of the religion of
Muḥammad, Shāh ‘Ālam
Emperor, Shadow of the divine
favour, put his stamp on the seven
climes, [AH]).
NB Ball and sword.

zarb allahābād sanah 26
julūs maimanat mānūs
(= struck at Allahābād in
the 26th year of his reign of
tranquil prosperity)

Wt (g)	10.76-11.20	Diam (mm)	20.8-22.0	Metal	Silver
--------	-------------	-----------	-----------	-------	--------

Catalogue

Cat No.	KM	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.7	586	1216	26	Shumshari rupee. Ball and sword on obverse. This was the transitional year. Some would belong to Awadh and some to the EIC. No known difference has been identified.	R
8.8		1217	26	Letter A on reverse. Two examples known.	RRR

Allahābād Mint – Silver, Rupee – INO Shāh ‘Ālam II – Lucknow Type

Allahābād was transferred to the British from the Nawāb Vizier of Awadh in 1801 (AH 1216). In September 1803, the mint committee sent an account of the coins produced since the mint had been occupied by the British. This showed two types of rupee to have been produced: the ‘Lucknow’ rupee and the ‘Shumshari’ rupee. The design of the Allahābād ‘Lucknow’ rupee is not known. It is possible that they are direct copies of the rupee struck at Lucknow itself, although this seems unlikely. Those rupees (shown below) have the mint-name Muḥammadābād Banāras.



Rupee of Muḥammadabad Banāras with no AH date



Usual rupee of Muḥammadabad Banāras with AH 1218

Wt (g)	~11.2	Diam (mm)	~22	Metal	Silver
--------	-------	-----------	-----	-------	--------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Lucknow Museum	Denomination	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.4	4853	Rupee	1217	26	Some RY 26 must be British?	N/A
8.5	4853	"	1218	26	Possible date combinations with RY26 are 1217, 1218 and 1219.	
8.6	4853	"	1219	26		
-	4855	Eighth Rupee	None	26	Could be Awadh or EIC.	N/A

Allahābād rupees were also issued by the state of Awadh.

Bareli Mint

Bareli Mint – Shāh ‘Ālam II – Silver, Rupee –
1802 to 1805



محمد شاه عالم شاه
سکه صاحب امرایان
روز نایب

sikka zad sāhib-i qirān (a)z
ta'yid ilāh hāmī dīn muḥammad
shāh 'ālam bādshāh [AH date]
(= Struck coin like the Lord of
the second conjunction, by the
help of God, Defender of the
faith of Muḥammad, the
Emperor Shāh 'Ālam [AH date])

Wt (g)	10.94- 11.13	Diam (mm)	20.4- 23.4	Metal	Silver
-----------	-----------------	--------------	---------------	-------	--------



فریدیل مطع
مهمند مانیوس
حلوس

zarb qita barelī sanah 37
julūs maimanat mānūs
(= struck at the district of
Bareli in the 37th year of
tranquil prosperity)

Catalogue

Cat No.	AH	RY	Rev	Comments	Rarity
8.9	1216	37	I	KM 52.2. Probably the first in the British series.	S
8.10	1216	37	II	KM 52.2	N
8.11	1216	37	III	KM 52.3	N
8.12	1217	37	III	KM 52.3	N
8.13	1218	37	III	Ref: Noble (1995), Sale 48, Lot 2173.	N
8.14	1219	37	III		N
8.15	1220	37	III	Ref: Noble (1995), Sale 48, Lot 2174.	N

Bareli Reverse varieties

Letter	There are different Persian letters in the <i>sīn</i> of <i>julūs</i>		
	I	II	III
Letter	alif	he	wa



Rev. I – alif



Rev II – he



Rev III – wa

Dehli Mint

Delhi (Shāhjahānābād) Mint, INO Shāh ‘Ālam II –
Gold – Type 1, Floral Border



شاه عالم شاه
سکه صاحب امرایان
روز نایب

sikka zad sāhib-i qirān (a)z
ta'yid ilāh hāmī dīn
muḥammad shāh 'ālam
bādshāh [AH date] (= Struck
coin like the second Lord of
conjunctions by the help of
God, Defender of the faith of
Muḥammad, the Emperor Shāh
'Ālam [AH date]).
Surrounded by a floral border

Wt (g)	10.55	Diam (mm)	27.4- 28.2
-----------	-------	--------------	---------------

فریدیل مطع
مهمند مانیوس
حلوس

zarb dār al-khilāfa
shāhjahānābād [RY] julūs
maimanat mānūs (= Struck at
the seat of the Caliphate,
Shāhjahānābād, in the [RY]
year of his reign of tranquil
prosperity).
Surrounded by a floral border

Metal	Gold	Edge	Plain
-------	------	------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	K M	Denom	AH	R Y	Obv	Rev	Comments	Rarity
8.16	722	Nazarana Mohur	1219	47	A (ACW)	I (ACW)		RRR
8.17		"	1220	48	A (ACW)	I (ACW)		
8.17 C		"	1220	48	B (CW)	I (ACW)		
8.18		"	1221	48	?	?		
8.19		"	1221	49	?	?		

See rupees of this type for obverse & reverse varieties.

Delhi (Shāhjahānābād) Mint, INO Shāh ‘Ālam II –
Gold – Type 2, Beaded Border



شاه عالم شاه
سکه صاحب امرایان
روز نایب

sikka zad sāhib-i qirān (a)z
ta'yid ilāh hāmī dīn
muḥammad shāh 'ālam
bādshāh [AH date] (= Struck
coin like the second Lord of
conjunctions by the help of
God, Defender of the faith of
Muḥammad, the Emperor Shāh
'Ālam [AH date]). Surrounded
by a beaded border.

Wt (g)	10.7	Diam (mm)	~35
-----------	------	--------------	-----



فریدیل مطع
مهمند مانیوس
حلوس

zarb dār al-khilāfa
shāhjahānābād [RY] julūs
maimanat mānūs (= Struck at
the seat of the Caliphate,
Shāhjahānābād, in the [RY]
year of his reign of tranquil
prosperity).
Surrounded by a beaded
border.

Metal	Gold	Edge	Plain
-------	------	------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	KM	Denomination	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.20	721	Nazarana Mohur	1218	46		RRR

Delhi (Shāhjahānābād) Mint – Silver, INO Shāh ‘Ālam II – Rupee – Type 1, Nazarana with Umbrella and Jhar



شاه عالم شاه
سکه صاحب مرا جا
روز نایب

sikka zad sāhib-i qirān (a)z ta'yid ilāh hāmī dīn muḥammad shāh ‘ālam bādshāh [AH date] (= Struck coin like the second Lord of conjunctions by the help of God, Defender of the faith of Muḥammad, the Emperor Shāh ‘Ālam [AH date])
Surrounded by a beaded border



جان آباد
دار الحلاوة شاه
ضرر ممانت مانوس
حلو متن

zarb dār al-khilāfa shāhjahānābād [RY] julūs maimanat mānūs (= Struck at the seat of the Caliphate, Shāhjahānābād, in the [RY] year of his reign of tranquil prosperity)
Surrounded by a beaded border

Wt (g)	~11	Diam (mm)	~27	Metal	Silver	Edge	Plain
--------	-----	-----------	-----	-------	--------	------	-------

Catalogue

Cat. No.	KM	Denomination	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.21	718	Nazarana Rupee	1218	46		RR

Delhi (Shāhjahānābād) Mint – Silver, INO Shāh ‘Ālam II – Rupee – Type 2, Nazarana with Umbrella and Cinquefoil



شاه عالم شاه
سکه صاحب مرا جا
روز نایب

sikka zad sāhib-i qirān (a)z ta'yid ilāh hāmī dīn muḥammad shāh ‘ālam bādshāh [AH date] (= Struck coin like the second Lord of conjunctions by the help of God, Defender of the faith of Muḥammad, the Emperor Shāh ‘Ālam [AH date])
Surrounded by a beaded border



جان آباد
دار الحلاوة شاه
ضرر ممانت مانوس
حلو متن

zarb dār al-khilāfa shāhjahānābād [RY] julūs maimanat mānūs (= Struck at the seat of the Caliphate, Shāhjahānābād, in the [RY] year of his reign of tranquil prosperity)
Surrounded by a beaded border

Wt (g)	10.92	Diam (mm)	~27	Metal	Silver	Edge	Plain
--------	-------	-----------	-----	-------	--------	------	-------

Catalogue

Cat. No.	KM	Denomination	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.21C	B719	Nazarana Rupee	1218	46		RR
8.22		"	1221	49	Wrongly assigned to Muḥammad	

					Akbar by KM.
--	--	--	--	--	--------------

Delhi (Shāhjahānābād) Mint – Silver, INO Shāh ‘Ālam II – Rupee – Type 3, Umbrella and Lion



شاه عالم شاه
سکه صاحب مرا جا
روز نایب

sikka zad sāhib-i qirān (a)z ta'yid ilāh hāmī dīn muḥammad shāh ‘ālam bādshāh [AH date] (= Struck coin like the second Lord of conjunctions by the help of God, Defender of the faith of Muḥammad, the Emperor Shāh ‘Ālam [AH date])



جان آباد
دار الحلاوة شاه
ضرر ممانت مانوس
حلو متن

zarb dār al-khilāfa shāhjahānābād [RY] julūs maimanat mānūs (= Struck at the seat of the Caliphate, Shāhjahānābād, in the [RY] year of his reign of tranquil prosperity)

Wt (g)	11.17	Diam (mm)	26.0-26.7	Metal	Silver	Edge	Plain
--------	-------	-----------	-----------	-------	--------	------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	KM	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.23	712	1218	46	Baldwin (2001), Sale 25 (Wiggins), Lot 501.	RR

Delhi (Shāhjahānābād) Mint – Silver, INO Shāh ‘Ālam II – Rupee – Type 4, Umbrella and Cinquefoil



شاه عالم شاه
سکه صاحب مرا جا
روز نایب

sikka zad sāhib-i qirān (a)z ta'yid ilāh hāmī dīn muḥammad shāh ‘ālam bādshāh [AH date] (= Struck coin like the second Lord of conjunctions by the help of God, Defender of the faith of Muḥammad, the Emperor Shāh ‘Ālam [AH date])



جان آباد
دار الحلاوة شاه
ضرر ممانت مانوس
حلو متن

zarb dār al-khilāfa shāhjahānābād [RY] julūs maimanat mānūs (= Struck at the seat of the Caliphate, Shāhjahānābād, in the [RY] year of his reign of tranquil prosperity)

	Rupee	Half Rupee	Quarter Rupee
Wt (g)	11.02-11.44	5.72	2.86
Diam (mm)	21.7-25.5	~20	~17
Metal	Silver		
Edge	Plain		

Catalogue

Cat No.	KM	Denomination	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
---------	----	--------------	----	----	----------	--------

8.24	713	Rupee	1218	46	Baldwin (2001), Sale 25 (Wiggins), Lot 501.	R
8.25		"	1219	46		
8.25A		"	122x	48	Ashmolean Museum	
8.26		"	1221	49	Baldwin (2001), Sale 25 (Wiggins), Lot 502.	
8.27	707	Half Rupee	1221	49	Ref: KM	RR
8.27C	704	Quarter Rupee	122x	48	Ref: KM photo	RR
8.28		"	1221	49	Ref: KM	

**Delhi (Shāhjahānābād) Mint – Silver,
INO Shāh ‘Ālam II – Rupee – Type 5 – Floral Border**



سکه صادر شد از دارالخلافه
شاه عالم شاه

sikka zad sāhib-i qirān (a)z ta'yid ilāh hāmī dīn muḥammad shāh 'ālam bādshāh [AH date] (= Struck coin like the second Lord of conjunctions by the help of God, Defender of the faith of Muḥammad, the Emperor Shāh 'Ālam [AH date]). Inside a wreath of roses, thistles and shamrocks.



ضرب دارالخلافه
شاه عالم شاه

ẓarb dār al-khilāfa shāhjahānābād [RY] julūs maimanat mānūs (= Struck at the seat of the Caliphate, Shāhjahānābād, in the [RY] year of his reign of tranquil prosperity). Surrounded by a wreath of roses, thistles and shamrocks.

	Rupee	Half Rupee
Wt (g)	10.93-11.16	~5.5
Diam (mm)	23.6-28.6	~20
Metal	Silver	
Edge	Plain	

Cat No.	KM	Denom	AH	RY	Obv	Rev	Comments	Rarity
8.29	714	Rupee	1219	47	A (ACW)	I (ACW)	Baldwin (2001), Sale 25 (Wiggins), Lot 503, 504.	S
8.30		"	1219	47	B (CW)	I (ACW)	Variety B/II has been reported but is probably a counterfeit.	
8.30B		"	1220	47	A (ACW)	I (ACW)		
8.30C		"	1220	47	A (ACW)	II (CW)	Ref: Jan Lingen	
8.31		"	1220	47	B (CW)	I (ACW)	See Baldwin (2007), Sale 53, Lot 2078.	
8.32		"	1220	48	A (ACW)	I (ACW)	See Baldwin (2008), Argentum Sale 8 th Nov, Lot 685.	
8.33		"	1220	48	A (ACW)	II (CW)		
8.33C		"	1220	48	B (CW)	I (ACW)		

8.34		"	1220	48	B (CW)	II (CW)		
8.34A		"	1220	48	C	II (CW)	Half the flowers on the obverse go one way, and the other half go the other. Some doubt the authenticity of this one.	
8.34C		"	1221	48	A (ACW)	I (ACW)		
8.35		"	1221	48	A (ACW)	II (CW)	Baldwin (2001), Sale 25 (Wiggins), Lot 504.	
8.35A		"	1221	48	A (ACW)	III		
8.35C		"	1221	48	B (CW)	III	Some of the flowers on the reverse go one way, and others go the other.	
8.36		Half Rupee	1219	47	A (ACW)	I (ACW)	Baldwin (2007), Sale 50, Lot 1061.	RR
8.36D		"	1221	xx	?	II (CW)		

Obverse Varieties

Direction of Wreath	The wreath may go clockwise or anti-clockwise
---------------------	---

	A	B	C
Direction of Wreath	Anti-clockwise (ACW)	Clockwise (CW)	Half one way and half the other



A – Wreath anticlockwise



B – Wreath clockwise



C – Half one way and half the other



Reverse Varieties

Direction of Wreath	The wreath may go clockwise or anti-clockwise		
	I	II	III
Direction of Wreath	Anti-clockwise (ACW)	Clockwise (CW)	Mostly anti-clockwise, but from about 9-11 o'clock

			the leaves go clockwise
--	--	--	-------------------------



Wreath anti-clockwise

Wreath clockwise



Mostly anti-clockwise, but from about 9-11 o'clock the leaves go clockwise

Delhi (Shāhjahānābād) Mint – Copper, INO Shāh ‘Ālam II



falūs shāh ālam shāhī
(= *falūs* of Shāh ‘Ālam the king) with a sun face in the seen of *falūs*



ẓarb shāhjahānābād
(= struck at Shāhjahānābād)

Wt (g)	11.64	Diam (mm)	~22?	Metal	Copper	Edge	Plain
---------------	-------	------------------	------	--------------	--------	-------------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	KM	Denom	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.36C	700var	Pice	1221	48	Whether or not this is truly a <i>nazarana</i> is debatable.	S

Delhi (Shāhjahānābād) Mint – Copper, INO Shāh ‘Ālam II



falūs shāh ālam shāhī
(= *falūs* of Shāh ‘Ālam the king)



ẓarb shāhjahānābād
(= struck at Shāhjahānābād)

Wt (g)	12.05-12.43	Diam (mm)	19.3-20.9	Metal	Copper	Edge	Plain
---------------	-------------	------------------	-----------	--------------	--------	-------------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	KM	Denom	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.36E	700	Pice	1219	47		S
8.36G		"	1220	48		
8.36i			1221	49		

Delhi (Shāhjahānābād) Mint, INO Muḥammad Akbar II – Gold – Type 1



muḥammad akbar shāh bādshāh ghāzī sāhib-i qirān thani sikka mubārak [AH date]
(= Auspicious coin of Emperor Muḥammad Akbar the warrior, the second Lord of conjunctions [AH date])



(Colour added)

ẓarb dār al-khilāfa shāhjahānābād [RY] *julūs maimanat mānūs* (= Struck at the seat of the Caliphate, Shāhjahānābād, in the [RY] year of his reign of tranquil prosperity)

Wt (g)	?	Diam (mm)	~28	Metal	Gold	Edge	Plain
---------------	---	------------------	-----	--------------	------	-------------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	KM	Denomination	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.37	783	Nazarana Mohur	1221	1		RRR
8.38		"	1234	12		

Delhi (Shāhjahānābād) Mint, INO Muḥammad Akbar II
– Gold – Type 2



محمد اکبر شاه
صاحب مران تاز
سلم مبارک

*muḥammad akbar shāh
bādshāh ghāzī sāhib-i qirān
thani sikka mubārak [AH
date]*
(= Auspicious coin of Emperor
Muḥammad Akbar the
warrior, the second Lord of
conjunctions [AH date])



حمان اباو
دار الحلام شاه
ضر ميممنت
حلوش

*zarb dār al-khilāfa
shāhjahānābād [RY] julūs
māimanat mānūs (= Struck at
the seat of the Caliphate,
Shāhjahānābād, in the [RY]
year of his reign of tranquil
prosperity)*

Wt (g)	10.66- 10.73	Diam (mm)	19.6- 20.2	Metal	Gold	Edge	Plain
------------------	-----------------	---------------------	---------------	--------------	------	-------------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	KM	Denomination	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.39C	781	Mohur	12xx	1 (ahd)		RR
8.40		"	122x	2		
8.41		"	1223	3		
8.41C		"	1225	4		
8.41D		"	1225	5		
8.42		"	1227	7		
8.42C		"	1237	17		

Delhi (Shāhjahānābād) Mint, INO Muḥammad Akbar II
– Silver – Type 1



محمد اکبر شاه
صاحب مران تاز
سلم مبارک

*muḥammad akbar shāh
bādshāh ghāzī sāhib-i qirān
thani sikka mubārak [AH
date]* (= Auspicious coin of
Emperor Muḥammad Akbar
the warrior, the second Lord
of conjunctions [AH date])



حمان اباو
دار الحلام شاه
ضر ميممنت
حلوش

*zarb dār al-khilāfa
shāhjahānābād [RY] julūs
māimanat mānūs (= Struck
at the seat of the Caliphate,
Shāhjahānābād, in the [RY]
year of his reign of tranquil
prosperity)*

Wt (g)	10.92- 11.44	Diam (mm)	28.5- 28.7	Metal	Silver	Edge	Plain
------------------	-----------------	---------------------	---------------	--------------	--------	-------------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	KM	Denom	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.43C	779.1	Nazarana Rupree	1221	1		RR
8.43		"	1223	3		
8.44		"	1224	3		
8.45		"	1225	4	One specimen has an oblique milled edge.	
8.46		"	1226	5		
8.47		"	1227	6		
8.48		"	1227	7		
8.48D		"	1231	11	Berlin Museum. Ex Guthrie.	
8.48F		"	1232	12		
8.49		"	1235	15		
8.50		"	1236	16		
8.51		"	1237	17		
8.51C		"	1238	18		
8.52		"	1239	19		
8.53		"	1240	20		
8.54		"	1241	21		
8.55		"	1242	22		
8.55B		"	1244	24		
8.55C		"	1245	25	Berlin Museum. Ex Guthrie (via Bhandare).	
8.55E		"	1246	26	Berlin Museum. Ex Guthrie (via Bhandare).	
8.55G		"	1247	27	Berlin Museum. Ex Guthrie (via Bhandare).	
8.56		"	1248	28		
8.57		"	1249	29		
8.58		"	125x	30		
8.59	779.2	"	1251	31	Not sure why KM gives these last two a different number.	RR
8.60		"	1252	32		

Delhi (Shāhjahānābād) Mint, INO Muḥammad Akbar II
– Silver – Type 2

These coins exist in three styles: a normal 22-24 mm type with part of the design off the flan; a larger broad-flan rupee with almost full flan, scarcer than the smaller flan type; and rare *nazarana* strikes with a diameter of approximately 28-29 mm (see above). The first and second styles are combined in the listings below.



محمد اکبر شاه
صاحب مران تاز
سلم مبارک

*muḥammad akbar shāh
bādshāh ghāzī sāhib-i qirān
thani sikka mubārak [AH
date]* (= Auspicious coin of
Emperor Muḥammad Akbar
the warrior, the second Lord
of conjunctions [AH date])



حمان اباو
دار الحلام شاه
ضر ميممنت
حلوش

*zarb dār al-khilāfa
shāhjahānābād [RY] julūs
māimanat mānūs (= Struck
at the seat of the Caliphate,
Shāhjahānābād, in the [RY]
year of his reign of tranquil
prosperity)*

	Rupee	Half Rupee	Quarter Rupee	Eighth Rupee
Wt (g)	11.03-11.22	5.58	2.6-2.75	1.4
Diam (mm)	21.7-27.7	~19	~17	
Metal	Silver			
Edge	Plain			

Catalogue

Cat No.	KM	Denom	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.61	777	Rupee	1221	1	Coins may have slightly different symbols.	S
8.62		"	1222	1		
8.63		"	1222	2		
8.64		"	1223	2		
8.65		"	1223	3		
8.66		"	1224	3		
8.66A		"	1224	4		
8.67		"	1225	4		
8.67A		"	1225	5	Ref: Baldwin (2013), Sale 84 (Fore), Lot 1093.	
8.68		"	1226	5		
8.68A		"	1226	6	Ref: Baldwin (2001), Sale 26, Lot 1494.	
8.69		"	1227	6		
8.70		"	1227	7		
8.71		"	1228	7		
8.72		"	1228	8		
8.73		"	1229	9		
8.74		"	12xx	11		
8.75	775	Half Rupee	1221	1		RR
8.76		"	1225	4		
8.76C		"	1229	9		
8.77	773	Quarter Rupee	xxxx	1		RR
8.77C		"	xxxx	6		
8.78		"	122x	7		
8.78D	-	Eighth Rupee	xxxx	6		RR
8.78E	-	"	xxxx	7		

Some of the rupees of the early years are struck on broad flans without being *nazaranas*.

Delhi (Shāhjahānābād) Mint, INO Muḥammad Akbar II – Copper



faḷūs shāh akbar shāh
(= Copper coin of Shāh Akbar Shāh)



zarb shāhjahānābād
(= struck at Shāhjahānābād).
S by RY.

	Pice	Half Pice
Wt (g)	11.00-11.55	5.15

Diam (mm)	18.4-22.0	27.0-27.4
Metal	Copper	
Edge	Plain	

Catalogue

Cat No.	KM	Denomination	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.78G	770	Pice	1222	1	No S by RY.	S
8.78H		"	1222	2	No S by RY.	
8.79	771	"	1225	4		S
8.80		"	1225	5		
8.81		"	1226	5		
8.82		"	1226	6		
8.83		"	1230	9		
8.84		"	1231	10		
8.84C		"	1232	11		
8.85		"	1232	12		
8.86		"	1233	12		
8.87	-	Half Pice?	1225	5	Broad thin flan.	RRR

Delhi (Shāhjahānābād) Mint, INO Bahādur Shāh II – Gold



muḥammad bahādur shāh
bādshāh ghāzī
(= Father of the victorious, of the religion, Emperor Muḥammad Bahādur Shāh, the warrior)



zarb dār al-khilāfa
shāhjahānābād [RY] julūs
maimanat mānūs (= Struck at the seat of the Caliphate, Shāhjahānābād, in the [RY] year of his reign of tranquil prosperity)

Wt (g)	10.9	Diam (mm)	?	Metal	Gold	Edge	Plain
--------	------	-----------	---	-------	------	------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	KM	Denomination	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.87C		Nazarana Mohur	1255	3		RRR

Delhi (Shāhjahānābād) Mint, INO Bahādur Shāh II – Silver



muḥammad bahādur shāh
bādshāh ghāzī
(= Father of the victorious, of the religion, Emperor Muḥammad Bahādur Shāh, the warrior)



zarb dār al-khilāfa
shāhjahānābād [RY] julūs
maimanat mānūs (= Struck at the seat of the Caliphate, Shāhjahānābād, in the [RY] year of his reign of tranquil prosperity)

abū al-muẓaffar siraj al-dīn
muḥammad bahādur shāh
bādshāh ghāzī (= Father of
the victorious, of the
religion, Emperor
Muḥammad Bahādur Shāh,
the warrior)

ẓarb dār al-khilāfa
shāhjahānābād [RY] julūs
māimanat mānūs (= Struck at
the seat of the Caliphate,
Shāhjahānābād, in the [RY] year
of his reign of tranquil
prosperity)

Wt (g)	11.02-11.44	Diam (mm)	27.0	Metal	Silver	Edge	Plain
--------	-------------	-----------	------	-------	--------	------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	KM	Denomination	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.88	790	Nazarana Rupee	1253	1		RRR
8.89		"	1254	2		
8.90		"	1255	3		
8.91		"	1256	4		
8.92		"	1257	5		
8.93		"	1258	6		

Farrukhābād Mint

Farrukhābād Mint – Silver, Nazarana Double Rupee –
Shāh ‘Ālam II – 1803/4



سید محمد شاه عالم بابا
روزنایید جامی بنا
سکه صافران

sikka zad bar haft kishwar
sāya fazl ilāh hāmī dīn
muḥammad shāh ‘ālam
bādshāh [AH date]
(= Defender of the religion of
Muḥammad, Shāh ‘Ālam
Emperor, Shadow of the divine
favour, put his stamp on the
seven climes, [AH date])



میمنند
ضرسه خلوس
احمد نگر فرخ آباد

ẓarb aḥmadnagar
farruckābād sanah [RY] julūs
māimanat mānūs (= Struck at
Aḥmadnagar Farrukhābād in
the [RY] year of his reign of
tranquil prosperity).

Wt (g)	22.15	Diam (mm)	37	Metal	Silver	Edge	Plain
--------	-------	-----------	----	-------	--------	------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Denom	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.95	-	Double Rupee	1218	39	Nazarana. Ref: Baldwin et al (2006), New York Sale XI, Lot 619. Believed only two known.	RRR

Farrukhābād Mint – Silver, Rupee – Shāh ‘Ālam II –
1802 to 1806

Local style continued after the British took over. In the style of
the Bangash Nawābs of Farrukhābād.



سید محمد شاه عالم بابا
روزنایید جامی بنا
سکه صافران

sikka zad bar haft kishwar
sāya fazl ilāh hāmī dīn
muḥammad shāh ‘ālam
bādshāh [AH date]
(= Defender of the religion
of Muḥammad, Shāh ‘Ālam
Emperor, Shadow of the
divine favour, put his stamp
on the seven climes, [AH
date])

میمنند
ضرسه خلوس
احمد نگر فرخ آباد

ẓarb aḥmadnagar
farruckābād sanah [RY]
julūs māimanat mānūs
(= Struck at Aḥmadnagar
Farrukhābād in the [RY]
year of his reign of tranquil
prosperity)

Wt (g)	10.75-11.14g	Diam (mm)	23.5-26.3	Metal	Silver	Edge	Plain
--------	--------------	-----------	-----------	-------	--------	------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Denomination	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.94	-	Rupee	1217	39	Handover occurred in this year.	S
8.96	-	"	1218	39	One described as nazarana.	
8.97	-	"	1219	39		
8.98	-	"	1220	39		
8.98C	-	"	1222	39	Ref: Ashmolean Museum	N/A
8.99	-	"	1224	39	Dates not seen but reported in KM. Assume	
8.100	-	"	1225	39	RY 39, but all	
8.101	-	"	1227	39	dates after 1220	
8.102	-	"	1228	39	seem peculiar.	

Farrukhābād Mint – Silver, Rupee and Half Rupee –
Shāh ‘Ālam II – 1806 to 1819

Also struck at Calcutta and Banāras.



سید محمد شاه عالم بابا
روزنایید جامی بنا
سکه صافران

sikka zad bar haft kishwar
sāya fazl ilāh hāmī dīn
muḥammad shāh ‘ālam
bādshāh (= Defender of the
religion of Muḥammad,
Shāh ‘Ālam Emperor,
Shadow of the divine favour,
put his stamp on the seven
climes)



میمنند
ضرسه خلوس
احمد نگر فرخ آباد

ẓarb farruckābād sanah 45
julūs māimanat mānūs
(= Struck at Farrukhābād in
the 45th year of his reign of
tranquil prosperity)

	Rupee	Half Rupee
Official Wt (g)	11.21	5.60
Wt (g)	11.20-11.24	?
Diam (mm)	26.4-27.5	~20
Metal	Silver	
Edge	Grained Right	

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Denom	Status	Comments	Rarity
8.103	340	Rupee	Pattern	No dot mark. Edge GL. May have been struck at Calcutta before being sent to Farrukhābād.	RRR
8.104	341	"	Pattern	Smaller flan (25.9 mm). Edge GR.	RRR
8.105	314	"	Currency	Forgeries occur, often in copper or brass.	C
8.106	315	Half Rupee	Currency		RR

See also Calcutta Mint.

Secret Marks for Farrukhābād



Rupee and half rupee: extra dot on obverse. No dot on reverse.

Farrukhābād Mint – Silver, Quarter Rupee – Shāh ‘Ālam II – 1806 to 1819



1204 sikka shāh ‘ālam
bādshāh ghāzī (= 1204, coin
of Shāh ‘Ālam the victorious
Emperor)



zarb farrukhābād sanah 45
(= Struck at Farrukhābād in
year 45)

Wt (g)	2.78-2.79	Diam (mm)	16.5-17.8	Metal	Silver	Edge	Grained Right
--------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-------	--------	------	---------------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Status	Comments	Rarity
8.107	316	Currency		R

See also Calcutta Mint.

Secret Marks for Farrukhābād



Quarter rupee: dot in centre of circle on reverse. No inverted V on obverse.

Farrukhābād Mint – Weight for Farrukhābād Rupee – 1806 to 1819 – Type 1



‘Minimum legal Wt of oblique – milled old Fur. Rupee 171.198 grs’



Legend and Wt in a hexagon formed with double lines

Blank

Official Wt (g)	11.09 (171.198 grains)	Wt (g)	11.05
Diam (mm)	30.2	Metal	Copper
Edge	Plain		

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Comments	Rarity
8.108	-	Note the star on the obverse.	S

Farrukhābād Mint – Weight for Farrukhābād Rupee – 1806 to 1819 – Type 2



‘Minimum legal Wt of oblique – milled old Fur Rupee’



Legend within a square formed with double lines.

Legend in Persian within a square formed with double lines

Above is the Wt, below the units:
172.35
grs

Official Wt (g)	11.16 (172.35 grains)
Wt (g)	11.11
Diam (mm)	26.4
Metal	Copper
Edge	Plain

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Comments	Rarity
8.109	-		S
8.110	-	Star below square on the reverse.	

Farrukhābād Mint – Silver, Rupee et infra – Shāh ‘Ālam II – 1820 to 1824

Also struck at Calcutta, Banāras and Saugor.



الرحمنی دین شاه
فصل شناه عالم باد
زوبهر بنفرد لشنور

sikka zad bar haft kishwar sāya
fazl ilāh hāmī dīn muḥammad
shāh ‘ālam bādshāh (= Defender
of the religion of Muḥammad,
Shāh ‘Ālam Emperor, Shadow
of the divine favour, put his
stamp on the seven climes)



ممانوس
سینر جلوس
زارب فرخ ابابو

zarb farruckābād sanah 45
julūs maimanat mātūs
(= Struck at Farrukhābād in
the 45th year of his reign of
tranquil prosperity.)

	Rupee	Qtr. Rupee
Official Wt (g)	11.68	2.92
Wt (g)	11.61-11.64	2.90
Diam (mm)	25.2-26.0	16.7-17.1
Metal	Silver	
Edge	Straight Grained	

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Denomination	Comments	Rarity
8.111	318	Rupee		C
8.112	319	Quarter Rupee		RR



Quarter rupee, Cat No 8.112

Privy Marks



Rupee – dot at bottom of obverse



Quarter Rupee – dot in centre of group at bottom of reverse

Farrukhābād Mint – Weight for Farrukhābād Rupee – 1820 to 1824



‘Min. wt. of new Stand. Furukh^d. Rupee [straight-milled, and plain edged] 178.12 grs.’

The legend and weight within a plain raised rim



Blank

Official Wt (g)	11.54 (178.12 grains)
Wt (g)	11.44-11.53
Diam (mm)	26.5
Metal	Copper
Edge	Plain

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Rev	Comments	Rarity
8.113	-	I	Reverse blank	S
8.114	-	II	Reverse countermark	

Farrukhābād Rupee Weight Varieties



I – Blank



II – Countermark, MC *, on reverse

Farrukhābād Mint – Shāh ‘Ālam II – Copper, Falūs – 1802 to 1806

The records contain no specific mention of copper coins being struck immediately after the Farrukhābād mint was acquired by the EIC, but rare examples of falūs (or pice) exist, with dates that correspond to the early years of British occupation.



سالم محمد شاه عالم بادشاه
زوز نایب دین
سکه صادره

sikka zad bar haft kishwar
sāya faẓl ilāh hāmī dīn
muḥammad shāh ‘ālam
bādshāh [AH date]
(= Defender of the religion
of Muḥammad, Shāh ‘Ālam
Emperor, Shadow of the
divine favour, put his stamp
on the seven climes, [AH
date])



میمند نوس
ضرب سکه خلوس
احمد نادر خاں آباد

ẓarb aḥmadnagar
farruckābād sanah [RY]
julūs maimanat māmūs
(= Struck at Aḥmadnagar
Farrukhābād in the [RY]
year of his reign of tranquil
prosperity)

	Falūs	Half Anna
Wt (g)	7.41	?
Diam (mm)	23.6-24.2	?
Metal	Copper	
Edge	Plain	

Catalogue

Cat No.	KM	Denom	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.115	20	Falūs	1219	39	Valentine 1914: 102	RRR
8.116		Falūs	1220	39		



Half Anna 1233/12 (from Valentine, p. 102, no. 91). May be EIC but more likely struck by a local ruler.

Farrukhābād Mint – Copper, Pattern Pice 1806



এক পাই
মিরকা
ইক পাই
২৪ ৪১৬
২১৪১

The value in three
languages:
Bengali: *ek pai sikka*.
Persian: *Yek pai sikka*.
Hindi: *ek pai sikka*.
(Translation of all languages
= One pai sikka).



میمند نوس
میرکا
میرکا
۲۴ ۴۱۶
۲۱۴۱

ẓarb farruckābād sanah 45
julūs maimanat māmūs
(= Struck at Farrukhābād in
the 45th year of his reign of
tranquil prosperity).

Wt (g)	6.22-6.73	Diam (mm)	26.2-26.5	Metal	Copper	Edge	Plain
--------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-------	--------	------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Comments	Rarity
8.117	342		RRR

Farrukhābād Mint – Copper, Currency Pice – 1806

Not certain that this coin was ever struck. A possible example is illustrated below.



*sikka zad bar haft kishwar
sāya faẓl ilāh hāmī dīn
muḥammad shāh ‘ālam
bādshāh [AH date]*
(= Defender of the religion
of Muḥammad, Shāh ‘Ālam
Emperor, Shadow of the
divine favour, put his stamp
on the seven climes, [AH
date])



*ẓarb farrukhābād sanah 45
julūs maimanat mānūs*
(= Struck at Farrukhābād in
the 45th year of his reign of
tranquil prosperity)

Wt (g)	18.3-18.8 (290 grains)
Diam (mm)	~26.5
Metal	Copper
Edge	Plain or GR?

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Denomination	Comments	Rarity
8.118	-	Pice	Not certain if this really represents this coinage. See www.psIndianCoins.com .	N/A

Farrukhābād Mint – Copper, Double Pice *et infra* 1816



*sanah julūs 45 shāh ‘ālam
bādshāh* (= In the 45th year
of the Emperor Shāh ‘Ālam)



Value in three languages:
Bengali, Persian, Hindi: *ek
pai sikka* (= one pai sikka)
OR *do pai sikka* (= two pai
sikka)

	Double Pice	Pice
Wt (g)	12.66	6.41-6.84
Diam (mm)	28.1-28.5	22.5-24.9
Metal	Copper	

Edge	Plain
------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Denomination	Comments	Rarity
8.119	335	Double Pice		RR
8.120	335A	Pice		RR

Farrukhābād Mint – Copper, Pice – 1820 to 1824

Numerous different sizes and shapes of trident exist – also contemporary forgeries. It is not certain when these coins were struck, since the records indicate that no copper coins were struck between 1820 and 1824.



*sanah julūs 45 shāh ‘ālam
bādshāh*
(= in the 45th year of the
Emperor Shāh ‘Ālam)



Value in Persian and Hindi:
ek pai sikka (= one pai
sikka)

Wt (g)	5.80-6.47	Diam (mm)	21.6-24.0	Metal	Copper	Edge	Plain
--------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-------	--------	------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Axis	Comments	Rarity
8.121	336	↑↑		C
8.122	336	↑↓		R
8.122A	336	↑→		S



Cat No 8.122. Axes ↑↓ (NB notch in edge of coin to determine axis from photo)

Gwālīār Mint

Gwālīār Mint – Shāh ‘Ālam II – Silver, Rupee – 1802 to 1806



*sikka zad bar haft kishwar
sāya faẓl ilāh hāmī dīn*



*ẓarb gwālīār sanah 46 julūs
maimanat mānūs* (= struck at

muḥammad shāh ‘ālam
bādshāh [AH date] (= Defender of the religion of Muhammad, Shāh ‘Ālam Emperor, Shadow of the divine favour, put his stamp on the seven climes, [AH date])

Gwālār in the 46th year of tranquil prosperity)

Wt (g)	10.92-11.10	Diam (mm)	20.2-21.4	Metal	Silver
--------	-------------	-----------	-----------	-------	--------

Catalogue

Cat No.	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.123	1218	46	The straight sword is said to represent a British officer's sword.	S
8.123C	1220	47	Ref: Oswal Antiques (2017), Auction 69, Lot 427.	R

Gwālār Mint – Shāh ‘Ālam II – Copper, Pice – 1802 to 1806



Wt (g)	9.49	Diam (mm)	?	Metal	Copper
--------	------	-----------	---	-------	--------

Catalogue

Cat No.	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
-	xxxx	46?	Ref: Bombay Auctions. More specimens are needed to confirm this catalogue entry. It could be a copper core for a rupee forgery?	R

Hāthras Mint

No EIC coins known

Najībābād Mint

No EIC coins known

Sahāranpūr Mint

Sahāranpūr Mint – Shāh ‘Ālam II – Silver, Rupee – 1803 to 1806



سید محمد شاه عالم بادا
سایف فضل حامی دین
زاد بر هفت کشور

sikka zad bar haft kishwar
sāya faẓl ilāh hāmī dīn
muḥammad shāh ‘ālam
bādshāh [AH date]
(= Defender of the religion of Muhammad, Shāh ‘Ālam Emperor, Shadow of the



دار السور سارنپور
ضرب مانوس
جلوس

ẓarb dār al-saṭūr sahāranpūr
sanah [RY] julūs maimanat
mānūs (= Struck at dār al-Sarūr Sahāranpūr in the [RY] year of his reign of tranquil prosperity)

divine favour, put his stamp on the seven climes, [AH date])

Wt (g)	10.94-11.10	Diam (mm)	21.8-27.0	Metal	Silver	Edge	Plain
--------	-------------	-----------	-----------	-------	--------	------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	KM	AH	RY	Rev	Comments	Rarity
8.124	-	1218	45	I	Nominally under control of EIC from 1803/1218-9. Ref: KM 692 (p. 58)	S
8.125	-	1218	45	II		S
8.126	692	1218	45	III	St. Stephen's cross on reverse.	R
8.127	693	1218	45	IV		S
8.128	-	1219	46	-	See Baldwin (2001), Sale 25 (Wiggins), Lot 345.	S
8.129	694	1220	47	-	Ref: KM 694 (p. 58). Also photo published on eBay.	S
-	-	1220	49	-	Ref: KM 694 (p. 58). The mint was definitely closed before this. This coin may not have been struck at Sahāranpūr or the mint was briefly reopened? Perhaps a mistake for 47?	N/A

Sahāranpūr Reverse varieties

Symbol next to RY	The symbol to the left of the RY varies
-------------------	---

	I	II	III	IV
Symbol next to RY	✚	↓	✚	✚



Rev I



Rev II



Rev III also has the St. Stephen's cross prominently displayed



Rev IV

Sahāranpūr Mint – Shāh ‘Ālam II, Copper – Type 1, Double Pice – 1803



عالم شاہر
فلوس

falūs 'ālam shāhī 1218
(= Copper coin of Shāh 'Ālam 1218)

↓ in centre line

زر سارنپور
سد

zārb saharānpūr sanah 45
(= Struck at Sahāranpūr in the 45th year)

07 + in centre line

Wt (g)	See below	Diam (mm)	21	Metal	Copper	Edge	Plain
--------	-----------	-----------	----	-------	--------	------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	MW	KM	AH	RY	Wt	Comments	Rarity
8.131	T3p		1218	45	16.65		R
8.132	-	690	1218	45	12.9-13.8	Ref: KM 690 (p. 58). KM call this a pice. Their coin has a St Stephens cross to left of RY.	RR

Sahāranpūr Mint – Shāh 'Ālam II, Copper – Type 2, Pice – 1803



falūs 'ālam shāhī 1218 (= Copper coin of Shāh 'Ālam 1218)

↓ in centre line



zārb saharānpūr sanah 45 (= Struck at Sahāranpūr in the 45th year)

* ↓ in centre line

Wt (g)	7.7	Diam (mm)	18	Metal	Copper	Edge	Plain
--------	-----	-----------	----	-------	--------	------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	MW	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.133	T3t	1218	45		RR

Saugor Mint

Saugor Mint – Hammered – Shāh 'Ālam II – Silver, Rupee *et infra* – 1818 to 1819 – Type 1

The RY 55 coins were copied at Gurrah Kotah. These copies might be distinguished by their crude nature, although this is stated to be difficult to do so. The RY 55 coins struck by the Marathas at Saugor cannot be distinguished from those struck by the British.



shāh muḥammad 'ālam ābād



sāyif faẓl hāmī dīn

sikka zad bar haft kishwar sāya fazl ilāh hāmī dīn muḥammad shāh 'ālam bādshāh [AH date] (= Defender of the religion of Muḥammad, Shāh 'Ālam Emperor, Shadow of the divine favour, put his stamp on the seven climes, [AH date])

zārb ravishnagar sāgar sanah 55 julūs maimanat mānūs (= Struck at Ravishnagar Saugor in the 55th year of his reign of tranquil prosperity)

	Rupee	½ Rupee	¼ Rupee
Wt (g)	10.92-11.08	~5.5	~2.7
Diam (mm)	20.0-20.4	~16	~12
Metal	Silver		
Edge	Plain		

Catalogue

Cat No.	MW No.	Denomination	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
8.134	T3	Rupee	?	55	Slight differences in reverse ornaments between these two, particularly the presence of a cross on 8.135.	C/S
8.135	T3a	"	?	55		
8.135C	T3a	Half Rupee	?	55		RR
8.136	T3	Quarter Rupee	?	55		RR

See also Garhakota mint of the Scindias and coins of the Marathas at www.psIndianCoins.com.

Saugor Mint – Shāh 'Ālam II – Hammered – Silver, Rupee – 1819 – Type 2

Issued to try to prevent the copying of the Saugor rupee at Gurrah Kotah. The coins have Saugor on the obverse and 1819 on the reverse. This coin was first reported by Prashant Kulkarni (1988-1989: 119-122).



sikka zad bar haft kishwar sāya fazl ilāh hāmī dīn muḥammad shāh 'ālam bādshāh Saugor (= Defender of the religion of Muḥammad, Shāh 'Ālam Emperor, Shadow of the divine favour, put his stamp on the seven climes, "Saugor" in crude English letters)



zārb ravishnagar sāgar sanah 55 julūs maimanat mānūs (= Struck at Ravishnagar Saugor in the 55th year of his reign of tranquil prosperity). "1819" in English, above the word *julūs*.

Wt (g)	10.9
Diam (mm)	19-20
Metal	Silver
Edge	Plain

Catalogue

Cat No.	MW No.	AH	RY	Comments	Rarity
---------	--------	----	----	----------	--------

8.137	T4	?	55	Ref: HK/Singapore (1997), Sale 25, Lot 676.	RRR
-------	----	---	----	---	-----

Saugor Mint – Shāh ‘Ālam II – Hammered – Copper, Pice – 1818 to 1819 – Type 1

If copper coins were issued from the old Saugor mint during the time that the British kept it operating, then these would have been dated RY 55. However, the exact style is not known. They could be identified by their Hijri dates (1234 or later). Of the two coins shown below, the Hijri date on the top coin is not clear and that on the bottom coin appears to be 1230 (and therefore not EIC).



	Takka	Pice
Wt (g)	~15	~12
Diam (mm)	~20	?
Metal	Copper	
Edge	Plain	

Catalogue

Cat No.	MW. No.	Denomination	AH	RY	Obv	Comments	Rarity
8.138	T5d	Takka	?	55	A		S
8.139	T5e	"	?	55	B		
8.140	T5f	"	?	55	C		
8.141	T5j	Pice	?	55			S

Saugor Obverse Varieties for Takkas

Symbols on Obverse	The symbols on the three lines of the obverse vary, particularly those in the middle line
--------------------	---

	A	B	C
Symbols on Obverse			

Saugor Mint – Hammered – Copper, Pice – 1826 – Type 2

Kulkarni first reported this coin, which is distinguished particularly by the reverse legend.



سنة
عالم بادشاه
حلوس

sanah julūs 45 shāh ‘ālam
bādshāh (= in the 45th year
of the Emperor Shāh ‘Ālam)



یک پائی
سا
سا

ek pai sa (or sata) masa
(= This coin weighs seven
mashas)

Official Wt (g)	6.80?
Wt (g)	6.23-6.52
Diam (mm)	19.9-22.3
Metal	Copper
Edge	Plain

Catalogue

Cat No.	Comments	Rarity
8.142	See Kulkarni P., SNC March 1985, p. 40.	RRR

Saugor Mint – Milled – Silver, Rupee – 1820 to 1831

See Pridmore, p. 257-258.



الرحامی دین محمد
سایه شانه عالم باد
زور برینف. لشنور

sikka zad bar haft kishwar
sāya faẓl ilāh hāmī dīn
muḥammad shāh ‘ālam
bādshāh [AH date]
(= Defender of the religion
of Muḥammad, Shāh ‘Ālam
Emperor, Shadow of the
divine favour, put his stamp
on the seven climes, [AH
date])



مانوس
سین خلوس
زر فرخ اباو

zarb farrukhābād sanah 45
julūs maimanat mānūs
(= Struck at Farrukhābād in
his 45th year of tranquil
prosperity)

	Rupee	Half Rupee	Quarter Rupee
Official Wt (g)	11.66	5.83	2.91
Wt (g)	11.67	?	?
Diam (mm)	24.7-25.1	~23	~17
Metal	Silver		
Edge	Straight Grained		

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Denomination	Comments	Rarity
8.143	325	Rupee	Distinguished from rupees struck at other mints by the absence of privy marks.	N
8.144	-	Half Rupee	None found but referred to in India Office records (IOR).	N/A
8.145	-	Quarter Rupee	None found but referred to in IOR.	N/A

Saugor Mint – Milled – Copper, Pice – 1826 to 1835

See Pridmore, pp. 259-260.



شاہ عالم بادشاہ
حکومت

sanah julūs 45 shāh ‘ālam
bādshāh (= In the 45th year
of the Emperor Shāh ‘Ālam)



یک پائی
سیکا

The value in two languages:
Bengali: *ek pai sikka*.
Persian: *yek pai sikka*.
(Translates as one pai
sikka). N.B. trisūl in Persian
inscription.

Official Weight (g)	6.48
Actual Weight (g)	6.11-6.50
Actual Diameter (mm)	21.5-24.1
Metal	Copper
Edge	Plain

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Obverse	Comments	Rarity
8.146	337	A	Trident in <i>sin</i> of <i>julūs</i> .	S
8.147	338	B	Rosette in <i>sin</i> of <i>julūs</i> . See www.psIndianCoins.com for further comments.	
8.148	339	C	Spiky rosette in <i>sin</i> of <i>julūs</i> .	

Obverse Varieties



A



B



C

Sohagpur Mint

Sohagpur Mint – Shāh ‘Ālam II – Silver, Rupee



شاہ عالم بادشاہ
حکومت

sikka mubārak bādshāh
ghāzī shāh ‘ālam (= The
auspicious coin of the
victorious Emperor Shāh
‘Ālam)



میدان
سکندر

...*sanah [RY] julūs*
maimanat mānūs (= [zarb
Sohagpur?] in the [RY] year
of tranquil prosperity)

Wt (g) ?	Diam (mm) ~25	Metal Silver	Edge Plain
----------	---------------	--------------	------------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	RY	Comments	Rarity
---------	---------	----	----------	--------

8.149	-	2x	Only known coins (2) are in BM. Whether these were struck during the brief time that the mint was open under the British, is not clear.	RRR
-------	---	----	---	-----

Calcutta Mint Introduction of Steam

Calcutta Mint – Milled Coinage – Gold, Pattern Mohur – Shah Alam II – 1830



شاہ عالم بادشاہ
حکومت

sikka zad bar haft kishwar
sāya fazl ilāh hāmī dīn
muhammad shāh ‘ālam
bādshāh 1202 (= Defender
of the religion of
Muhammad, Shāh ‘Ālam
Emperor, Shadow of the
divine favour, put his stamp
on the seven climes, 1202)



میدان
سکندر

zarb murshīdābād sanah 19
julūs maimanat mānūs
(= Struck at Murshīdābād in
the 19th year of his reign of
tranquil prosperity)

Wt (g)	13.27-13.30	Diam (mm)	29.2-29.3	Metal	Gold
--------	-------------	-----------	-----------	-------	------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Edge	Comments	Rarity
9.1	85	SG		RRR
9.2	86	GL	Later striking.	RR

Calcutta Mint – Milled Coinage – Gold, Mohur – Shah Alam II – 1831 to 1835

Tiny crescent at top left of reverse.



شاہ عالم بادشاہ
حکومت

sikka zad bar haft kishwar
sāya fazl ilāh hāmī dīn
muhammad shāh ‘ālam
bādshāh 1202 (= Defender
of the religion of
Muhammad, Shāh ‘Ālam
Emperor, Shadow of the
divine favour, put his stamp
on the seven climes, 1202)



میدان
سکندر

zarb murshīdābād sanah 19
julūs maimanat mānūs
(= Struck at Murshīdābād in
the 19th year of his reign of
tranquil prosperity)

Wt (g)	12.35-12.37	Diam (mm)	26.2-27.4	Metal	Gold	Edge	Grained Left
--------	-------------	-----------	-----------	-------	------	------	--------------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Obv.	Status	Date Issued	Comments	Rarity
9.3	84	A	Currency	1830	Dot privy mark in top line.	S
-	-	A	Silver Pattern? Forgery?	?	Ref: Wiggins 1999: 19. Forgery?	N/A
9.4	-	B	Currency	1830	Ref: Baldwin/Taisei (2000), Sale 30, Lot 559. Ref: Thompson, also Hemanth Chopra. No dot privy mark in top line.	R

Obverse Varieties

Dot Privy Mark	On some coins, there is a tiny dot above the two dots in the upper left area of the design
----------------	--

	A	B
Dot Privy Mark	Dot	No Dot



Dot present



No dot present

Calcutta Mint – Milled Coinage – Silver, Rupee and Half Rupee – 1831 to 1833 – Mint-Name: Murshidabad



السككيات
الفاصل بين
الملك والملك
الملك والملك
الملك والملك
الملك والملك
الملك والملك
الملك والملك

sikka zad bar haft kishwar sāya fazl ilāh hāmī dīn muḥammad shāh 'ālam bādshāh (= Defender of the religion of Muḥammad, Shāh 'Ālam Emperor, Shadow of the divine favour, put his stamp on the seven climes)



میرزا علی
سنه خلیف
مرشد آباد

zarb murshīdābād sanah 19 julūs maimanat mānūs (= Struck at Murshīdābād in the 19th year of his reign of tranquil prosperity)

	Rupee	Half Rupee
Official Wt (g)	12.43	6.21
Wt (g)	12.36-12.47	5.78-6.21
Diam (mm)	26.3-26.5	23.0-23.5
Edge	Varies. See table below	

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Denomination	Obv.	Rev.	Status	Edge	Comments	Rarity
9.5	177	Rupee	A	I	Currency	P		C
9.6	178	"	A	II	Proof	P		RRR
9.7	-	"	A	II	Pewter Die-trial		Weight: 9.60 g.	NR
9.8	179	"	B	II	Proof	SG	No star on obv. No crescent on rev.	RRR
9.9	180	Half Rupee	-	-	Currency	P		C
9.10	181	"	-	-	Proof	P		RRR
9.11	182	"	-	-	Proof	SG		RRR

Obverse Varieties for Rupee

Star	A star may or may not appear in the design on the obverse below bād of bādshāh.
------	---

	A	B
Star	Present	Absent



Star present



Star absent

Reverse Varieties for Rupee

Crescent	There may or may not be a tiny crescent.
----------	--

	I	II
Crescent	Present	Absent



Crescent present



Crescent absent

Calcutta Mint – Milled Coinage – Silver, Quarter Rupee – 1831 to 1833 – Mint-Name: Murshidabad



1204 sikka shāh 'ālam bādshāh ghāzī (= 1204, coin of Shāh 'Ālam the victorious Emperor)



zarb murshīdābād sanah 19 (= Struck at Murshīdābād in year 19)

Wt (g)	3.10-3.11	Diam (mm)	16.3-17.0	Metal	Silver
--------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-------	--------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Status	Edge	Comments	Rarity
9.12	183	Currency	P		C
9.13	184	Proof	P		RRR
9.14	185	Proof	SG		RR

Calcutta Mint – Milled Coinage – Silver, Rupee and Half Rupee – 1831 to 1833 – Mint-Name: Farrukhabad

Tiny crescent mark at top left of the reverse.



sikka zad bar haft kishwar sāya fazl ilāh hāmī dīn muḥammad shāh 'ālam



zarb murshīdābād sanah 19 julūs maimanat mānūs

bādshāh (= Defender of the religion of Muḥammad, Shāh ‘Ālam Emperor, Shadow of the divine favour, put his stamp on the seven climes)

(= Struck at Murshidābād in the 19th year of his reign of tranquil prosperity)

	Rupee	Half Rupee
Official Wt (g)	11.68	5.84
Wt (g)	11.65-11.66	5.60-5.81
Diam (mm)	26.5-26.5	22.9
Metal	Silver	

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Denomination	Status	Edge	Comments	Rarity
9.15	326	Rupee	Currency	P		C
9.16	327	"	Proof	P	Diam = 27.2-27.3.	RR
9.17	328	"	Proof	SG	Diam=27.6.	RR
9.18	329	Half Rupee	Currency	P		C
9.19	330	"	Proof	P	Diam = 23.1-23.2.	RR

Calcutta Mint – Milled Coinage – Silver, Quarter Rupee – 1831 to 1833 – Mint-Name: Farrukhabad

Tiny crescent mark in the middle left of the obverse.



1204 sikka shāh ‘ālam
bādshāh ghāzī (= 1204, coin of Shāh ‘Ālam the victorious Emperor)



zarb farrukhābād sanah 45
(= Struck at Farrukhābād in year 45)

Official Wt (g)	2.92	Wt (g)	2.89-2.93	Diam (mm)	16.4	Metal	Silver	Edge	Plain
-----------------	------	--------	-----------	-----------	------	-------	--------	------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Status	Comments	Rarity
9.20	331	Currency		C
9.21	332	Proof	Diam = 17.0.	RR

Calcutta Mint – Milled Coinage – Silver, Rupee et infra – 1833 to 1835 – Mint-Name: Farrukhabad

No tiny crescent mark at top left of the reverse.



sikka zad bar haft kishwar sāya
fazl ilāh hāmī dīn muḥammad
shāh ‘ālam bādshāh



zarb farrukhābād sanah 45
julūs maimanat mānūs

(= Defender of the religion of Muḥammad, Shāh ‘Ālam Emperor, Shadow of the divine favour, put his stamp on the seven climes)

(= Struck at Farrukhābād in the 45th year of his reign of tranquil prosperity)

Wt (g)	Varies. See below	Diam (mm)	26.5-27.7	Metal	Silver	Edge	Plain
--------	-------------------	-----------	-----------	-------	--------	------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Status	Wt (g)	Comments	Rarity
9.22	333	Currency	11.65	Copper forgeries exist. See www.psIndianCoins.com.	C
-	-	Copper Pattern?	14.01	Possibly a contemporary forgery or a pattern for the proposed pice coinage? Stevens 2006: 18-23. See below.	N/A
9.24	334	Proof			RR
9.25	334	Proof		Milled edge. Ref: R. Weir.	RRR

In 1805, the mint-master at Calcutta was informed that:

“...I am further directed to acquaint you that the Governor General in Council has determined on the introduction of a new copper coinage in the Conquered and Ceded Provinces, to be also struck in the mint at Farrukhābād, consisting of pure copper, and corresponding in form, size and impression with those prescribed for the new silver coinage intended to be immediately established in the said provinces. The pie is to be of the same size as the rupee and the half pie of the same size as the half rupee, increasing in thickness in proportion to the difference in weight between silver and copper coin. It is not intended that smaller copper coin shall be struck than a half pie. In preparing specimens of the new copper coin you will regulate the weight of each pie at 290 grains troy weight. It is necessary to add that the edges of the new copper coin are not to be milled, or to have any mark or impression thereon...”



Copper pattern? Wt = 14.01 g, diam = 27.2 mm
(however, 290 grains would equal 18.8 g)

Calcutta Mint – Milled Coinage – Copper, Pice – 1831



sanah julūs 37 shāh ‘ālam
bādshāh (= in the 37th year of the Emperor Shāh ‘Ālam)



The value in three languages:
Bengali: *ek pai sikka*. Persian: *yek pai sikka*. Hindi: *ek pai sikka*. (Translation of all

languages = one pai sikka).
Within a plain, raised rim.

Wt (g)	5.87-6.64	Diam (mm)	22.8-23.0	Metal	Copper	Edge	Plain
--------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-------	--------	------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Date Issued	Status	Comments	Rarity
9.26	209	1831	Currency		C
9.27	210		Proof		RRR

Calcutta Mint – Milled Coinage – Copper, Half Anna – 1831 to 1835



The value in English:
HALF ANNA
and Bengali:

অর্ধ আনা

(Bengali = *adhā āna* = Half Anna). Within a raised, toothed rim.



The value in two languages:
Persian: *nīm āna*

نیم آنه

Nagari: *ādha ānā*

आधा आना

(= Half anna). Within a raised, toothed rim.

Wt (g)	12.85-13.01	Diam (mm)	27.5-28.2	Metal	Copper	Edge	Plain
--------	-------------	-----------	-----------	-------	--------	------	-------

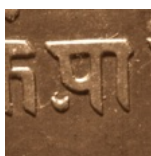
Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Denomination	Status	Axis	Comments	Rarity
9.28	213	Half Anna	Currency	↑↑	Ref: Weir	C
9.29	213	"	Currency	↑↓	Ref: Weir	C
9.30	214	"	Proof			RR

Varieties may exist with 1 or 2 dots on reverse (Weir).



Crescent privy mark on rev. of Half Anna



Crescent privy mark on rev. of Pie

Calcutta Mint – Milled Coinage – Copper Pie – 1831 to 1835



The value in English
ONE PIE

and Bengali: এক পাই
(Bengali = *ek pai* = one pie).

Within a raised, toothed rim.



The value in two languages:

Persian: *ek pai*. اک پای

Nagari: *ek pai*. एक पाई

(Translation = one pie).

Wt (g)	2.06-2.24	Diam (mm)	16.4-16.6	Metal	Copper	Edge	Plain
--------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-------	--------	------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Denomination	Axis	Status	Comments	Rarity
9.31	215	Pie	↑↓	Currency	As with the half anna, pies with axis ↑↑ may exist.	C
9.32	216	"		Proof		RR

Soho Mint

Soho Mint – Copper, Hexagonal Patterns

Ref: Vice 1998: 2-5



Balemark with date 1792 below. Surrounded by three hexagonal lines, the centre line twisted.



Scales with Persian inscription between the pans (= '*adil* = just or fair).

عدل

All surrounded by three hexagonal lines, the centre one twisted.

	Large Size	Small Size
Official Wt (g)	1.45	0.36
Wt (g)	1.40-1.42	?
Diam (mm)	15.1-17.7	~9.5
Metal	Copper	
Edge	Plain	

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Denomination	Comments	Rarity
10.1	365	Large Size		RR
10.2	366	"	Obverse only. Reverse blank.	RRR
10.3	367	"	Reverse only. Obverse blank.	RRR
10.4	368	Small Size		RRR

Soho Mint – Copper, Pattern Pie – 1795



شاه عالم سلاطین
حکومت ۳۷ سنه

sanah julūs 37 shāh 'ālam bādshāh
(= in the 37th year of the Emperor Shāh 'Ālam)



এক পাই
মিরকা
یک پای سکه
۲۸ ۵۱۴
۲۸ ۵۱

The value in three languages:
Bengali: *ek pai sikka*.
Persian: *yek pai sikka*.
Hindi: *ek pai sikka*.
(= one pai sikka)

Wt (g)	Varies. See below	Diam (mm)	30.2	Metal	Copper	Edge	Varies. See below
--------	-------------------	-----------	------	-------	--------	------	-------------------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Metal	Edge	Wt (g)	Comments	Rarity
10.5	380	Copper	P	14.19-14.32	Example in BM: 14.22 g, 30.2 mm	RR
10.6	381	Copper	SG			RRR
10.7	382	Copper Gilt	P			RRR
10.8	383	Pewter	P	13.20	Taken from Pridmore. Diam = 34 mm.	RRR

Soho Mint – Copper, Pattern Pie – 1809, No Value on Obverse



The arms of the Company with the date 1809 below.
The motto on the ribbon reads:
AUSP:REGIS & SENAT:ANGLIAE
Surrounded by a raised, toothed rim.



The Persian inscription:
yek pai sikka
Surrounded by the value in Bengali and Hindi (*ek pai sikka*):
Bengali: এক পাই সিক্কা
Hindi: एक पड़े शका
(Translation of all languages = one pai sikka). Within a toothed, raised rim.

Wt (g)	7.85-7.92	Diam (mm)	27.4-27.5	Metal	Copper	Edge	Plain
--------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-------	--------	------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Comments	Rarity
10.9	384	BM specimen die axis: ↑→	RR

Soho Mint – Copper, Pattern Pie – 1809, Blank Reverse



The arms of the Company with the date 1809 below.
The motto on the ribbon reads:
AUSP:REGIS & SENAT:ANGLIAE
Surrounded by a raised, toothed rim.



Blank

Wt (g)	7.59	Diam (mm)	27.4	Metal	Copper	Edge	Plain
--------	------	-----------	------	-------	--------	------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Comments	Rarity
10.10	385		RR

Soho Mint – Copper, Pattern Pie – 1809, Value on Obverse



The arms of the Company with the date 1809 below and the value ONE PIE above.
The motto on the ribbon reads:
AUSP:REGIS & SENAT:ANGLIAE
Surrounded by a raised, toothed rim.



The Persian inscription:
yek pai sikka
Surrounded by the value in Bengali and Hindi (*ek pai sikka*):
Bengali: এক পাই সিক্কা
Hindi: एक पड़े शका
(Translation of all languages = one pai sikka). Within a toothed, raised rim.

Wt (g)	Varies. See below	Diam (mm)	27.4-27.5	Metal	Varies. See below	Edge	Plain
--------	-------------------	-----------	-----------	-------	-------------------	------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Metal	Wt (g)	Comments	Rarity
10.11	386	Gold		Value presumably indicated on obv, but not seen.	RRR
10.12	387	Silver	8.57	Specimen in BM (1935.0401.12264). 8.57 g, 27.5 mm. Die axis: ↑→	RRR
10.13	388	Copper Gilt	7.02-7.53	BM specimen die axis: ↑→	RR
10.14	389	Copper or Bronze		Recorded with die axis ↑↑, ↑→ & ↑↓. Wts of 6.32-10.88 g.	RR
10.15	390	Pewter		Assume that value is shown on obv, but not seen.	RRR

Soho Mint – Copper, Pattern Pie – 1809



The arms of the Company with the date 1809 below and the value ONE PIE above. Surrounded by a raised, toothed rim.
Die the size of a half pie on flan the size of a pie.



Blank

Wt (g)	1.91	Diam (mm)	27.6	Metal	Pewter	Edge	Plain
--------	------	-----------	------	-------	--------	------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Comments	Rarity
10.16	-	Ref: SNC April 1980. Also Pr. Sale, Lot 694.	RRR

Soho Mint – Copper, Mule Pie – 1809



The arms of the Company with the date 1809 below and the value ONE PIE above. The motto on the ribbon reads:
AUSP: REGIS & SENAT: ANGLIAE
Surrounded by a raised, toothed rim.



The three legs of the Isle of Man triskeles, surrounded by the legend
QVOCVNQUE IECERIS STABIT
on a broad, raised rim.

Wt (g)	10.96	Diam (mm)	27.5	Metal	Copper	Edge	Plain
---------------	-------	------------------	------	--------------	--------	-------------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Comments	Rarity
10.17	391		RRR

Soho Mint – Copper, Pattern Half Pie – 1809



The arms of the Company with the date 1809 below and the value above:
HALF PIE.
Surrounded by a raised, toothed rim.



The Persian inscription:
nim pai sikka
surrounded by the value in Bengali and Hindi:
Bengali (*ad pai sikka*):
আদ পাঈ শকা
Hindi (*adha pai sikka*):
आध पाइ सिक्का
(Translation of all languages = half pai sikka). Within a toothed, raised rim.

Wt (g)	Varies. See below	Diam (mm)	21.6	Metal	Varies. See below	Edge	Plain
---------------	-------------------	------------------	------	--------------	-------------------	-------------	-------

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Metal	Wt (g)	Comments	Rarity
10.18	392	Gold	?		RRR
10.19	393	Silver	4.72	BM specimen die axis: ↑→	RRR
10.20	394	Copper Gilt	4.27	BM specimen die axis: ↑→	RR
10.21	395	Copper or Bronze	4.00-4.31	BM specimen die axis: ↑→	RR
10.22	-	White metal	4.07	Ref: Pr. Sale, Lot 696.	RRR

Soho Mint – Copper, Pattern Half Pie – 1809



A lion standing to left and holding a crown. The date 1809 below and the value HALF PIE above.
Surrounded by a raised, toothed rim. (The standing lion is the crest of the EIC).



Blank

Wt (g)	4.78	Diam (mm)	21.5	Metal	Varies. See below	Edge	CGL
---------------	------	------------------	------	--------------	-------------------	-------------	-----

Catalogue

Cat No.	Pr. No.	Metal	Comments	Rarity
10.23	396	Copper		RRR
10.24	-	Pewter	Ref: SNC June 1984, p.161, Lot 3847	RRR

Abbreviations

BM	British Museum
DNW	Dix Noonan Webb
KM	Standard Catalog of World Coins
LMC	Brown, <i>Catalogue of Coins in the Provincial Museum Lucknow</i>
Pr	Pridmore, <i>The Coins of the British Commonwealth of Nations Part 4 India Vol. I</i>
SNC	Spinks Numismatic Circular

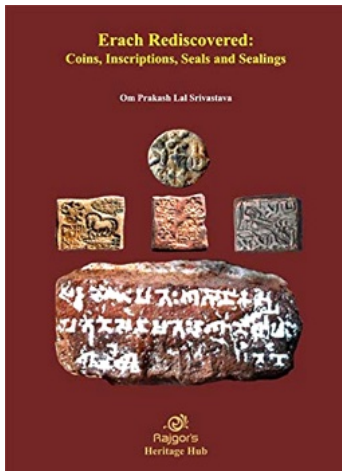
Bibliography

- Brown, C.J., 1920, *Catalogue of Coins in the Provincial Museum Lucknow*, Oxford University Press, Oxford.
- KM Standard Catalog of World Coins, various catalogues, Krause Publications, Iola.
- Kulkarni, P., 1988-1989, 'Saugor Mint and the E.I.C. Coins', *Numismatic Digest*, Vol. 12-13, pp. 119-122.
- Mitchiner, M., 1979, *Non-Islamic States & Western Colonies*, B.A. Seaby, London.
- Pridmore, F., 1975, *The Coins of the British Commonwealth of Nations Part 4 India Volume I East India Company Presidency Series*, Spink & Son, London.
- Pridmore, F., 1978, *Spinks Numismatic Circular*, LXXXVI, p. 68.
- Pridmore Sale, 18-19 October 1982, Glendining & Co., London.
- Rhodes, N.G., 1999, 'The First E.I.C. Copper Coins for Bengal', *ONS NL* 159, pp. 15-16.
- Seaby's *Coins & Medal Bulletin*, London.
- Senior, R.C., 1993, 'A New Benares Mohur', *ONS NL* 137, p. 16.
- Spinks Numismatic Circular, London.
- Stevens, P., 2006, 'Coins of the Ceded and Conquered Provinces', *ONS NL* 188, pp. 18-22.
- Stevens, P., 2012, *The Coinage of the Hon. East India Company: Part I The Coins of the Bengal Presidency*, Baldwin's & Sons, London.
- Stevens, P., 2017, *The Coins of the English East India Company. Presidency Series – A Catalogue and Pricelist*, Spink & Son, London.
- Stevens, P., www.psIndianCoins.com.
- Tandon, P., 2008, 'Bengal Presidency: Some Unlisted Coins', *ONS NL* 194, pp. 37-38.
- Valentine, W.H., 1914, *The Copper Coins of India, Part I: Bengal and the United Provinces*, Spink & Son, London.
- Vice, D., 1998, 'A Pattern Cowrie Coinage for Bengal Presidency', *Format* Vol. 58, pp. 2-5.
- Weir, R., www.randyweirnumismatics.com.
- Wiggins, K., 1999, 'Two Unusual Coins', *ONS NL* 161, pp. 19-20.
- Zeno.ru Oriental Coins Database, www.zeno.ru.

BOOK REVIEW

Erach Rediscovered: Coins, Inscriptions, Seals and Sealings
by Om Prakash Lal Srivastava

Rajgor's Heritage Hub, Mumbai, 2020
Hardcover, 151 pages, including 15 colour plates



Erach (Erich) was an important city in northern India during the Early Historical Period, lying as it did on an important trade route due to its location on the river Betwa, 70 km from Jhansi. It was connected by river to the ancient sites of Eran, Vidisha and Kausambi.

The ancient urban settlement of *Erakachha* stands out for its long and varied series of coins. It is perhaps the only authority that issued coins using all three minting processes: punch-marked, cast and die-struck. We find silver, copper and lead coins; these were issued by the city state, then by kings and even one minister, Amatyā Ashadhamitra. This last type is significant in ancient Indian numismatics, as we know no other instance of a minister (*Amatyā*) striking coins in his own name (Bhandare 2003: 16).

This book brings together all the latest research on the coins and sealings of Erich, providing a detailed catalogue of its archaeology and historical material from the 6th century BCE to 5th century CE.

Om Prakash Lal Srivastava has been at the forefront of understanding Erich coinage – as an archaeologist in Jhansi, he published a few coins, a seal and two brick inscriptions from this ancient site in 1991. In the three decades since, we have had two key publications on Erich: Mohanlal Gupta's bilingual monograph in 2000 and Shailendra Bhandare's article in *JONS* in 2003.

This book is therefore a welcome addition, and an opportunity for Srivastava to come full circle, completing the overview of Erich's numismatic material that he began in 1991.

The book is richly detailed: it provides chapters on punch-marked coins – both silver and the later copper – inscribed coins of the *Erakachha* city state (22 types have been listed), and coins of local kings of the Mitra and Sena dynasties. It also includes the lead coins of Ajina, Kasera and Mugamukha, which are unlike any seen in other city states.

Erach Rediscovered includes a chapter on the several inscriptions we see on bricks, and another on seals and sealings, which together play an important role in understanding Erich's transition from city state to kingdom.

Other chapters deal with terracottas, sculptures, architecture, pottery and tools. These will be important for archaeologists; for numismatists, there is much to cheer about with the large database included and all the coins photographed. Unfortunately, the coin photos accompanying the text are in black and white, which is disappointing, given that copper and lead coins do not photograph well in monotone. This situation is redeemed by the 15 plates in colour, which illustrate the main pieces discussed in the book.

The coin database would have benefited from rarity indicators, so that collectors could understand which types are common, scarce or rare. Also, the coin numbering system used here is not continuous. If it had been, we would be able to refer to any coin by a single number; instead, we now have to refer to a page number and the coin's relative position on that page, which is an inefficient system.

Nevertheless, this book is a must-have for collectors of ancient Indian coins, since Erich occupies such a significant position in ancient Indian numismatics. Srivastava has once again set the benchmark for our knowledge of Erich, including as this book does all the latest research on this series.

Karan Singh

Bibliography

- Bhandare, S., 2003, 'Kings, Commanders and a Minister at Erich', *Journal of the Oriental Numismatic Society* 175, pp. 11-17.
Gupta, M.L., 2000, *Erich An Ancient City on River Betwa*, Varanasi.
Srivastava, O.P.L., 1991, *Archaeology of Erich*, Varanasi.

Obituary

U Than Htun (1949-2022)

On the 25th of January, one of the greatest connoisseurs of Burmese art, U Than Htun (Dedaye), passed away in Yangon after a long illness.

He left behind his wife Mimi and two sons, but also, as a sort of memorial, two important books: one on coins and the other on lacquerware.

Htun was born in 1949 in Dedaye, a small town in the delta region west of Yangon. As a young man, Htun's parents trained him during school breaks as an apprentice in their gold-and silversmith shop. He saw how many beautiful and ancient coins were melted down and decided to save some. That's how his collection and interest in numismatics started in the early 1960s. Htun finished high school in 1966 and joined the local university in Yangon. In 1968, during the SEAP (Southeast Asian Peninsular Games), he took part in the student protest against the military government and was jailed for 20 months in Insein prison.

Htun obtained in 1972 a BSc in Geology, and started a small broker shop on Sule Pagoda road in Yangon, concentrating on jewellery, bullion and, of course, coins. In 1988, during the political crisis, Htun joined Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy (NLD). He was elected as the MP of his hometown Dedaye in the 1990 elections, but instead of going to parliament, he was often detained.

After that, Htun took a break from politics and opened a small art gallery, Heritage Gallery, in Bogyoke (former Scott) Market in Yangon. From the 1970s onwards, he travelled far and wide in Myanmar in search of art, collecting material also for the two books he planned to publish.

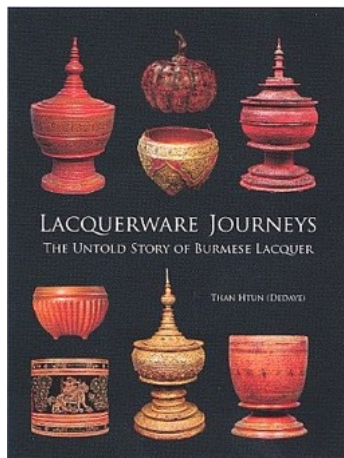
The first book, *Auspicious Symbols and Ancient Coins of Myanmar*, was published in 2008. The novelty about this book was, amongst other things, that Htun explained the various symbols on the old coins and attributed them in detail to specific locations. He had always written down during his trips where certain coins came from (or enquired from the locals about the findspot or excavation place). Htun's book is still used as a reference for ancient Burmese coins.



same method as in the coin book: he attributed lacquerware according to its origin. When he could not travel to a certain area – a no-go area – he contacted the specialist there from Yangon.

With Htun's passing, we have lost not only a great specialist and connoisseur, but also a warm-hearted, socially-very engaged person. He was a devout Buddhist in the truest sense. After cyclone Nargis, he supported social projects in his home town. Every time I accompanied him on some of his journeys, he visited the main pagodas, met the abbots, and made donations. And yes, he was a wonderful humorous personality. We cherish his memory and miss him. But we have his two beautiful books. And his two sons are continuing the Art Gallery in Yangon.

Hans Mondorf



The second book is nowadays a rarity (and a beauty as well). It was published in 2012 and is called *Lacquerware Journeys - The Untold Story of Burmese Lacquer*. In this book, Htun applied the

REGULAR OFFERINGS OF INDIAN & ISLAMIC COINS

SPINK
WHERE HISTORY IS VALUED

Follow the Auction Calendar at WWW.SPINK.COM

ACCEPTING CONSIGNMENTS

Consistently achieving best prices at
auctions for Indian and Islamic Coins



Sold £4,200



Sold £4,600



Sold £3,600



Sold £4,100



Sold \$19,800

Contact us for further information:

Georgie Potter

Tel: +44 (0)20 7563 4025

Email: gpotter@spink.com

SPINK London

69 Southampton Row | Bloomsbury | WC1B 4ET | United Kingdom

Officers of the Oriental Numismatic Society

Secretary General: Pankaj Tandon, ptandon@bu.edu

Deputy Secretary General: Joe Cribb, joecribb@btinternet.com

Editor: Karan Singh, editor.jons@gmail.com

Treasurer: Ashok Jain, ashokjainlondon@gmail.com

E-Communications Secretary: Ed Snible, esnible@acm.org

Regional Secretaries:

General: J. Mark Ritchie, gensect@orientalnumismaticsociety.org

Europe: Patrick Pasmans, parthianstudies@hotmail.com

U.K. & Eire: Helen Wang, hwang@britishmuseum.org

North America: Michael J. Connor, ons.america@gmail.com

South Asia: Mohit Kapoor, reg.sec@ons-sa.org

Pakistan: Haroon Tareen, haroon.t@gmail.com

China: Dai Jianbing, hebeinu@126.com

The Journal of the Oriental Numismatic Society is an international peer-reviewed journal that is published quarterly.

Editorial Committee: Joe Cribb, Pankaj Tandon, and Shailendra Bhandare

Annual Subscription: UK £25; rest of Europe €30; American continent \$35
for other areas please consult the appropriate Regional Secretary

Website: www.orientalnumismaticsociety.org

Printed by Pardy & Son (Printers), Ringwood, U.K.