



ONS NEWS

Meetings – See notice of the 2015 AGM on page 6

London

A meeting of the Oriental Numismatic Society was held at the Coins & Medals department of the British Museum on 27 July 2015. Three talks were given. We were very pleased to welcome Jonathan Skaff, from the Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania who began the proceedings with a talk on the subject of silver Sasanian and Arab-Sasanian coins circulating at Turfan in the 6th and 7th centuries.



Jonathan Skaff introducing his subject and during the course of his talk

After lunch Stan Goron gave a talk on the coinage of Herat from the Timurids to the Barakzais, indicating, in particular, how the city had changed hands on various occasions during the period of the Safavids and Shaybanids. Particular attention was also given to the issues of the Durrani and their successors. The last talk of the day was by Joe Cribb on the coinage of Cambodia. He began by discussing the recent discovery of what may be the earliest coinage of Cambodia, a gold issue of the king Ishanavarman (AD 616-637), which was recently discovered. See also the article below, starting page 41.



The gold coin of Ishanavarman

Members who missed the Autumn meeting in Oxford can still have the opportunity to listen to Terry Hardaker speak on *Recent finds of Punchmarked Coins from India* which is the latest podcast available on the Money and Medals website:

<http://www.moneyandmedals.org.uk/audio-and-podcasts/>

ONS Archives in Mumbai

ONS-SA has acquired the entire set of ONS Newsletters and Journals published since 1970, courtesy Jan Lingen (our Regional Secretary for Continental Europe) who donated the set, and one of the ONS-SA members has kindly donated space in his Central Mumbai office to house the entire set in safe conditions for future reference and records.

Members interested in getting copies of old articles in the ONS archives can consult the Cumulative Index of JONS on the ONS website (or obtain the latest version from the Regional Secretary, Mahesh Kalra), select the articles of their choice and inform Mahesh on drkalra1@gmail.com

The articles will be scanned and print copies of the same will be posted to the member. The service would be charged at 25 INR per page plus postage payable to the ONS-SA account prior to the posting of the package. As far as possible, the aim will be to fulfil such requests within one month of receipt, depending on the number of such requests. So members are asked to be patient in that respect.

Krisadaolarn, R., and Mihailovs, V., 2012, *Siamese Coins – from Funan to the Fifth Reign*, Bangkok.

Mahlo, D., 2012, *The Early Coins of Myanmar/Burma, Messengers from the Past*, Bangkok.

Malleret, L., 1959–63, *L'archéologie du delta du Mékong*, Paris.

Mitchiner, M., 1998, *The History and Coinage of South East Asia until the Fifteenth Century*, London.

Rhodes, N.G., Gabrisch, K., and Valdetaro, C., 1989, *The Coinage of Nepal*, London.

Wicks, R.S., 1992, *Money, Markets and Trade in Early South East Asia – The Development of Indigenous Monetary Systems to AD 1400*, Ithaca.

Wolters, O.W., 1979, 'Khmer "Hinduism" in the seventh century', in *Early South East Asia, Essays in Archaeology, History and Historical Geography*, edited by R.B. Smith and W. Watson, Oxford, pp. 427–442.

Xuan Zang, 1996, *The Great Tang Dynasty Record of the Western Regions*, translated by Li Rongxi, Berkeley.

A PRELIMINARY REPORT ON A PUNJAB HOARD OF COINS OF SULTAN NASIR AL-DIN MUHAMMAD QARLUGH OF SIND

By Naushaba Anjum
(Keeper of Coins, Lahore Museum, Lahore)

Abstract

A hoard of copper coins of Nasir al-Din Muhammad, a contemporary of Sultan Nasir al-Din Mahmud, Sultan of Dehli (AD 1246–1266), was found in the Punjab. He was the son of Saif al-Din Hasan Qarlugh, the ruler of Ghazna and the surrounding area from AD 1224 and of Sind for the last decade of his reign. Nasir al-Din Muhammad Qarlugh continued his father's rule of Sind until AD 1259. The hoard consists of 465 coins of two types: bilingual and unilingual.

Introduction



The coin hoard under discussion was brought to Lahore Museum on 18 March 2004 by Saeed Ahmed, a resident of Pur Village, P.O. Bara Dilawar Cheema, Tehsil Wazirabad, District Gujranwala. He had found it near his home. The hoard contained 465 copper coins of Nasir al-Din Muhammad Qarlugh, ruler of Sind (AD 1249–1259). The owner reluctantly presented the hoard to the Museum and was duly rewarded. The hoard is a useful record of the obscure period of Nasir al-Din Muhammad bin Hasan Qarlugh's reign. The coins have been catalogued according to Tye (1995) and Goron & Goenka (2001). In the light of these sources the hoard is presented here as a tool for further research on the history of the Qarlughs.

Historical Traces of Nasir al-Din Muhammad Qarlugh

Saif al-Din al-Hasan Qarlugh (AD 1224–49, AH 621–47) is one of seven alien intruders into Indian territories to have issued coins in or near the dominions of Shams-al-din Iltutmish (AD 1210–35, AH 607–33). He was one of the leading generals of Jalal al-Din Mangubarni, and was left in charge of the dependencies of Ghor and Ghazni in AH 620 when his overlord departed for Iraq. He is noticed casually by Minhaj al-Siraj about the year AH 624, as having secured his domain from the plundering Mongols of Ögedei Khan. He came to terms with the invaders, and held his territory until AH 636, when the Mongols advanced in force and drove him down towards Sind and Multan. His coins suggest he may already have held Sind and Multan from about AH 633. This occurred during the reign of the Delhi sultana, Raziya (AD 1236–40, AH 634–7), and his eldest son, Nasir al-Din Muhammad Qarlugh, seems to have been deputed to attend the court of that queen, where he was received with distinction, and rewarded with the fief of the Baran district (now Bulandshahr). Shortly afterwards he disappeared unobtrusively, and rejoined his father. Saif al-Din Qarlugh was eventually killed, during the same year, AH 647, at the siege of Multan, by the elite troops of 'Izz al-Din Balban Kishlu Khan, the governor of Uchh and Multan, on behalf of Raziya.

Nasir al-Din Muhammad Qarlugh seems to have succeeded his father's dominions in Sind. He remained a significant ruler in the region, still reigning on the arrival of emissaries of the Mongol ruler, Hulagu Khan, in AH 658.

Coins of Nasir al-Din Muhammad Qarlugh, Contemporary of Sultan Nasir al-Din Mahmud, Sultan of Dehli (AD 1246–1266)



The hoard consists of coins of Muhammad Qarlugh. He is not known to have issued any silver coins, but four types of copper coins were issued in his name (Goron & Goenka 2001, p. 490, types SS14–17; Tye 1995, pp. 143–4, types 347–350). In the hoard two of his copper types were present, both of the jital denomination (types SS 14 and 15). These coins of jital type appear to be of copper rather than billon, but their precise metal content is not yet certain. The most common type in the hoard (SS14, Tye 347) is unusual in its appearance. It is represented by 460 examples. It has the outline of a horse on the obverse with the ruler's laqab (title) in cursive Arabic around it and, on the reverse, is the rest of the ruler's title in three lines of Sanskrit Sarada script. The only variations to this type are dots placed in and around the horse outline. The other type (SS15, Tye 349), only represented in the hoard by five pieces, has the same inscriptions, but just in Arabic.

TYPE- 1 (SS14 Tye 347)

HORSE-TYPE BILINGUAL COINS



OBVERSE	REVERSE
Horse right	Inscription (Sarada script):
Inscription (Arabic): <i>nāṣir al-dunyā wa'l-dīn</i>	<i>Śrī Maha / Mada ka / Rahuka.</i>
Type: Copper	
Average weight: 3.569g	
Average diameter: 15.4mm	









Weight	Size	Obverse					Reverse				
3.45	14.9										
no. of coins	1	2	9	21	79	170	136	39	6	2	
Wt. g	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.9	

TYPE- 2 (SS15, Tye 349)

ARABIC-ONLY COINS



OBVERSE					REVERSE						
<i>nāṣir al-dunyā wa'l dīn</i>					<i>muḥammad bin ḥasan qarluḡh</i>						
Type: Copper											
Average Weight: 3.32 g											
Average Dimension: 14.8											
no. of coins		2			3						
grams	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.9	

3.16	14.6		
3.41	15.1		
3.43	14.8		
3.15	14.3		

Acknowledgment: I am grateful to Ms. Sumaira Samad, Director, Lahore Museum, Ms. Iffat Azeem, Research Officer, Mr Muhammad Badshah, Photographer and Mr Waqas Ahmad, Junior Clerk, for their guidance and cooperation in completing this research report.

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Tye, Robert and Monica Tye. (1995) *Jitals*. Published by Robert Tye, Isle of South Uist, U. K.

Thomas, Edward. (1871). *The Chronicles of the Pathan Kings of Delhi* London

SOME ADDITIONAL VARIETIES OF KHARAHOSTES AND MUJATRIA COINS

By Dr. Heinz Gawlik

As part of the reappraisal of the coins of the Indo-Scythian satraps, Kharahostes and Mujatria, undertaken by Joe Cribb (JONS 223, 2015) I took the opportunity to examine the coins in my collection. Images of all coins were sent to Joe for him to check my findings and, as a result, some additional varieties were confirmed by him. Since the coins were obtained from diverse sources mainly from coin fairs and auctions during the last 10 years, their exact provenance is not known. Nevertheless, since they furnish some new varieties they are presented in this note.

There are, in all, 29 coins of Kharahostes and Mujatria in my collection. All the coins, together with their weight and dimension, are listed in the tables below and referenced to Cribb's classification and die links. Please see Cribb's article for the characteristics of the different types and variants of coins of Kharahostes and Muhatria.

Table 1: Kharahostes square copper coins

No.	Weight (g)	Size (mm)	Classification acc. to Cribb (2015)	Die-links acc. to Cribb (2015)	Illustration
1.1	7.81	22 x 20	1a	new OD, RD as 2	
1.2	8.01	22 x 20	1a	OD as 1 & 2	
1.3	5.33	21 x 21	4a	OD as 34	
1.4	8.02	20 x 20	6a	OD as 55	
1.5	7.70	23 x 19	6? Does not fit any of the listed varieties	OD as 55	as 1.5