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A Century of the Controversial Rupee

By R. Vaidyanadhan



The controversial Indian silver coin set issued in 1911 to mark the beginning of the King George V era on December 12, 1911, set to celebrate a century.

The reverse design was by Percy Brown, Principal of the School of Arts, Calcutta,

The reverse has a conventional representation of rose, thistle and shamrock to represent the United Kingdom. The top centre has a lotus that represents India.

But what made it controversial is the portrait side of the coins. The crowned bust was prepared by Edgar Bertram MacKenna. It caused a furore started by political agitators who claimed that a 'pig' was depicted on the new rupee.

The animal shown on the collar of the 'Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire' was a representation of the noble Indian elephant and not the despised swine.

Public aversion was so persistent and hostile, the Government issued orders on January 23, 1912, to withdraw the coins.

It is reported about 70,00,000 coins were recalled. The Calcutta and Bombay mints together issued 94,43,049 coins. Only over two million coins remained with individuals.



The normal Elephant



The Pig-Elephant



Queen Victoria,
Ten Rupees, 1854 Pattern,
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Type of Submission	No. of items	Category (each Rs.) A, B or C	Rs.
Regular	X	=	
Re-Holder	X	=	
Re-Certificate	X	=	
Tatkal	X	=	
Total Fee Rs.			

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Shipping on Customer's risk

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Total Fee & Shipping Calculation			
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Price Guide to Indian Paper Currency - Part IV

100 Rupees

by Ajay Kumar Gupta

SNO	DETAILS		YEAR	PREFIX	SIZE	PRICE
1	B. Ramarau Only English	BOM	9-1-50	A/0-12	109X172	18000
2	B. Ramarau Only English	CAL	9-1-50	H/0-15	109X172	18000
3	B. Ramarau Only English	MAD	9-1-50	Q/0-12	109X172	18000
4	B. Ramarau Only English	KAN	9-1-50	U/0-3	109X172	20000
5	B. Ramarau Only English	DEL	9-1-50	X/0-3	109X172	20000
6	B. Ramarau 100 Rupya Black No.	BOM	19-7-51	A/0-17	109X172	15000
7	B. Ramarau 100 Rupya Black No.	CAL	19-7-51	H/0-12	109X172	15000
8	B. Ramarau 100 Rupya Black No.	MAD	19-7-51	Q/0-13	109X172	15000
9	B. Ramarau 100 Rupya Black No.	KAN	19-7-51	U/0-0	109X172	17000
10	B. Ramarau 100 Rupya Black No.	DEL	19-7-51	X/0-8	109X172	15000
11	B. Ramarau 100 Rupya Red No.	BOM	28-7-51	A/18-21	109X172	15000
12	B. Ramarau	CAL	28-7-51	H/13-24	109X172	13000
13	B. Ramarau	MAD	28-7-51	Q/4-11	109X172	13000
14	B. Ramarau	KAN	28-7-51	U/1-3	109X172	15000
15	B. Ramarau	DEL	28-7-51	X/8-10	109X172	15000
16	B. Ramarau Ek 100 Rupye	BOM	April 53	A/22-40	109X172	12000
17	B. Ramarau Ek 100 Rupye	CAL	April 53	H/25-36	109X172	12000
18	B. Ramarau Ek 100 Rupye	MAD	April 53	Q/12-18	109X172	12000
19	B. Ramarau Ek 100 Rupye	KAN	April 53	U/4-5	109X172	14000
20	B. Ramarau Ek 100 Rupye	DEL	April 53	X/11-17	109X172	12000
21	HVR Lyengar	HATHI	1957-60	AA AA 0 68	109X172	7000
22	HVR Lyengar	DAM	26.12.60	AA AA 0 90	109X172	7000
23	P.C. Bhattacharya	DAM	1962	AA AA 0 99	109X172	6000
24	Multi Blue	Small	17.4.67	AA AA 0 76	73X158	2000
25	L.K. Jha	Small	DEC. 67	AA AC 78 8	73X158	1500
26	L.K. Jha	Gandhi	2.10.69	AA AA 0 99	73X158	2500
27	B.N. Adarkar	Gandhi	24.8.70	AB AB 0 22	73X158	3000
28	S. Jagannath	Pale Blue / WRONG	70-75	AA – AD	73X158	1500
29	S. Jagannath	RIGHT	70-75	AE-AG	73X158	1500
30	K.R. Puri	Pale Blue	75-77	AG-AJ	73X158	1500
31	M. Narshimham	Pale Blue	1977	AJ-AW	73X158	1500
32	I.G. Patel	A	77-82	AA AE 0 90	73X158	750
33	S. Jagannath	Cobalt Blue	70-75	OAA-OAB	73X158	20000
34	K.R. Puri	Cobalt Blue	75-77	OAD-OBE	73X158	750
35	M. Narshimham	Cobalt Blue	1977	OBF-OBG	73X158	20000
36	I.G. Patel	Cobalt Blue	77-82	BH-CF	73X158	750
37	R.N. Malhotra	Cobalt Blue	85-90	CF-WW	73X158	250
38	I.G. Patel	Multi Colour	77-82	AA-EV	73X158	400
39	Manmohan Singh	Multi Colour	82-85	ET-EV	73X158	1000
40	R.N. Malhotra	Multi Colour	85-90	AA-CF	73X158	400
41	S. Venketraman	Multi Colour	90-92	AA-GW	73X158	400
42	S. Venketraman	A	90-92	AA-CU	73X158	400
43	C. Rangarajan	A	92-97	KU-WW	73X158	300
44	C. Rangarajan	A	92-97	CW-WW	73X158	250
45	C. Rangarajan	B	92-97	AA-ED	73X158	300

S.NO	DETAILS		YEAR	PREFIX	SIZE	PRICE
46	C. Rangarajan	GANDHI	92-97	AA-HB	73X157	300
47	C. Rangarajan	A	92-97	AA-LW	73X157	300
48	C. Rangarajan	E	92-97	AA-LL	73X157	300
49	C. Rangarajan	L	92-97	AA-EH	73X157	300
50	Bimal Jalan	Gandhi	97-03	HC-WW	73X157	250
51	Bimal Jalan	B	97-03	AA-GP	73X157	250
52	Bimal Jalan	E	97-03	LP-WG	73X157	250
53	Bimal Jalan	F	97-03	AA-RE	73X157	250
54	Bimal Jalan	L	97-03	EH-TC	73X157	250
55	Bimal Jalan	R	97-03	AA-RR	73X157	250
56	Y.V. Reddy	Gandhi	03-04	X	73X157	250
57	Y.V. Reddy	F	03-04	X	73X157	250
58	Y.V. Reddy	G	03-04	X	73X157	1000
59	Y.V. Reddy	L	03-04	X	73X157	250
60	Y.V. Reddy	R	03-04	X	73X157	250
61	Y.V. Reddy	2005	2005	X	73X157	200
62	Y.V. Reddy	E	2005	X	73X157	200
63	Y.V. Reddy	L	2005	X	73X157	200
64	Y.V. Reddy	R	2005	X	73X157	200
65	Y.V. Reddy	2006	2006	X	73X157	175
66	Y.V. Reddy	E	2006	X	73X157	175
67	Y.V. Reddy	L	2006	X	73X157	175
68	Y.V. Reddy	R	2006	X	73X157	175
69	Y.V. Reddy	2007	2007	X	73X157	150
70	Y.V. Reddy	E	2007	X	73X157	150
71	Y.V. Reddy	L	2007	X	73X157	150
72	Y.V. Reddy	R	2007	X	73X157	150
73	Y.V. Reddy	2008	2008	X	73X157	150
74	Y.V. Reddy	A	2008	X	73X157	150
75	Y.V. Reddy	E	2008	X	73X157	150
76	Y.V. Reddy	L	2008	X	73X157	150
77	Y.V. Reddy	R	2008	X	73X157	150
78	Y.V. Reddy	S	2008	X	73X157	150
79	D. Subarao	2008	2008	X	73X157	500
80	D. Subarao	2009	2009	X	73X157	125
81	D. Subarao	F	2009	X	73X157	125
82	D. Subarao	R	2009	X	73X157	125
83	D. Subarao	2010	2010	X	73X157	125
84	D. Subarao	F	2010	X	73X157	125
85	D. Subarao	R	2010	X	73X157	125

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S.NO	DETAILS		YEAR	PREFIX	SIZE	PRICE
1	D. Subarao	2009	2009	9AK	73X157	200
2	D. Subarao	F	—	0GM	—	300
3	D. Subarao	R	—	0GQ	—	12000
4	D. Subarao	2010	2010	9ET	—	200
5	D. Subarao	F	—	OCM	—	200
6	D. Subarao	R	—	4HR	—	6000

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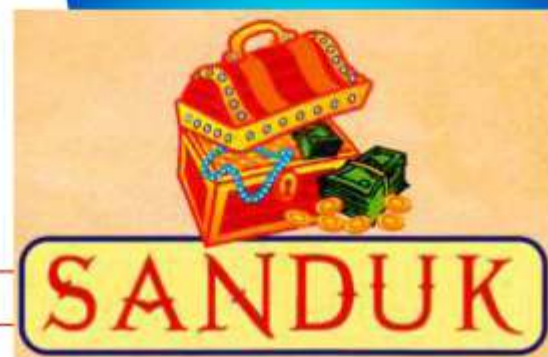
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Silver in History

by Amit Surana

Silver - shining, shimmering, molten, malleable and overall beautiful is a subject of fascination for the viewer. By its very character it lends itself to be shaped by the hands of the craftsman into Objects of Desire. Silver is mostly produced as a by-product of Copper, Gold, Lead and Zinc refining. Michael Backman, a writer on Asia, and a long-time collector of Asian silver art objects tells us that artificial political borders and geographic areas were not responsible but trade and migration routes were responsible for designs and craftsmanship. Motifs used in Kashmir can be traced through to the Indonesian archipelago for example. Michael's wide knowledge about Asia - its history, many cultures, politics and trade - permit a more complete understanding of the socio-cultural and historical context of the history of silver.

The early kingdoms of Peninsular India, including the Satavahanas, Kakatiyas, the Vijayanagar Empire, Golconda and Asaf Jahi rulers have contributed greatly to trade, commerce and enterprise in the region.

Temples in the vast Kakatiya kingdom, afforded patronage to workers from all over India. The silver craftsmanship of Pembarti and Warangal was influenced by the 16th century Kakatiya culture and the leaf and flower motifs are to be seen even today.

Design from the Ramappa temple and the Dwaram (Gate) of Orugallu (Warangal) the Kakatiya capital, is used in several articles of decoration and utility.

The decline of the Kakatiya dynasty brought about a reversal in the fortunes of the artisans which were revived during the rule of the Nizams of Hyderabad as craftsmen converted to making household articles and decorative pieces with sheet metal.

Paandans (betel nut boxes), Ithardaans (perfume containers), Gulabpash (rosewater sprinklers) and other articles were made. Golconda and Hyderabad, though not maritime kingdoms, themselves were the link between the Western and Eastern maritime ports of India. Golconda and Hyderabad contributed greatly to the global markets, both East and West of India.

Golconda and Asaf Jahi rulers maintained business and social connections with the Portuguese at Goa and also the later Europeans Colonial powers. These actions ensured that both dynasties were the most influential in the Deccan.

New European cultures also influenced design and craftsmanship in the Deccan. The Colonial powers eagerly adapted their designs to mould the Indian craftsmanship into developing a new genre - Indian Colonial Silver. Thence started the two way sharing of silver culture both into India and outwards to the world.

Some of the famous silver manufacturers are listed here for information: John Mair - Calcutta, Hippolitus Poignand - Calcutta, John Hunt & Co. 51 Theatre St. - Calcutta, Cropley & Co. Old Court House St. - Calcutta, William Augustus Woolaston (Wollaston) Lall Bazar - Calcutta, Pittar & Co. 9 Old Court House St. - Calcutta, Lattey Brothers & Co. 10 Government Place - Calcutta, Charles, Nephew & Co. 9 Old Court House St. - Calcutta, Cooke & Kelvey (Robert Thomas Cooke & Charles Kelvey) Old Court House St. - Calcutta, James Cox Popham's Broadway, Esplanade - Madras, Gordon & Lovell North Gate St. - Madras, George Gordon & Co. 18 Popham's Broadway - Madras, George Gordon & Co. with Peter & Alexander Orr 18 Popham's Broadway - Madras succeeded by Phillips & Co Peter Nicholas Orr Mount Road - Madras, P. Orr & Sons Mount Road - Madras, Oomsee Mawjee & Sons - Bhuj, Kutch, Warner Brothers - Delhi. Bidriware of the Deccan and Karimnagar Silver Filigree are legendary. Several important private collection and great museums of the world hold extensive objects of both.

It is with great pride that I note The State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg, Russia has a wonderful Indian Toilet set belonging to the Empress Catherine the Great of Russia.

The Hermitage Museum informs that in Europe, in the 17th and 18th centuries the main way of investing capital was to acquire gold and silverware. Silver toilet mirrors in frames and matching toilet sets became the symbol of wealth for people from high society. It was considered essential to own special containers for cosmetics, perfume bottles, gloves boxes, pins and trinkets, with the mirror as highlight. Ladies and gentlemen were dressed before an admiring audience.

East Indian trade made it possible to acquire silver from the Orient. One toilet set with filigree silver framed mirror consisting of 19 objects are in the collection of the Hermitage Museum. Silver filigree has been produced in Karimnagar (Deccan India) for more than 250 years. The Indian Toilet set was completed in the middle of the 18th century. Silver filigree objects in India have always been considered luxury, the privilege of Rulers and Aristocracy. Filigree was made of pure silver, rarely of gold.

continued on page 10



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The mirror and candlesticks have European shapes and correspond to the Rococo style. The Rosewater sprinklers (Gulabpash) with tall necks are traced back to 14th century Persian art, but they became traditional for Indian art. Typical Indian objects are the flasks for perfume (Ithardaan) shaped like a bouquet of flowers in a vase on a stand. The central box with lobed edges rests on a tray. Such boxes were used in India for betel, a kind of chewing stuff. The silver tray is the only object in the set decorated with gilding. Several pairs of boxes of different forms are included in the set. However, in the design of the filigree lines a flower shaped as a multi-petalled rose can be seen on many items. A carnation can be seen at the ends of the curved details on the frame and feet. This design is typical of the metalwork of the Moghul period in India.

Some shapes of the objects show the Chinese influence on Indian filigree. The boxes formed as clouds resemble the heads of Chinese jui sceptres (meaning "what you wish"). Lotus could be used as a motif in many Oriental countries. Other shapes of the items are European. This points to the fact that the future owner could order differently shaped pieces from a craftsman in Asia. These shapes could have been made according to the style popular in Europe or jewellers could work following their own designs in local or Chinese taste. It is possible that such fine filigree technique started to develop in India in the 17th and 18th centuries under the influence of Chinese jewellery, which was brought by ships of East Indian companies to Europe via Indian ports. The Hermitage set is the largest 18th century silver filigree toilet set of Indian make in the world.

Silver has had traditional medicinal value in many cultures. The ancient Egyptians, Greeks and Romans recognized the medical applications of silver. Hippocrates, the 'Father of Medicine', wrote that silver had beneficial healing properties and protected against disease. The ancient Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Egyptians as others stored water, wine, and vinegar in silver bottles to prevent spoiling. Silver is also used in Ayurvedic and Homeopathic medicine.

"Born with a silver spoon in his mouth" is not a reference to wealth, but to health. In the early 18th century, babies who were fed with silver spoons were considered healthier than those fed with spoons made from other metals, and silver pacifiers found wide use in America because of their beneficial health effects.

Silver had and continues to be used in many ways. Varkh is a foil of

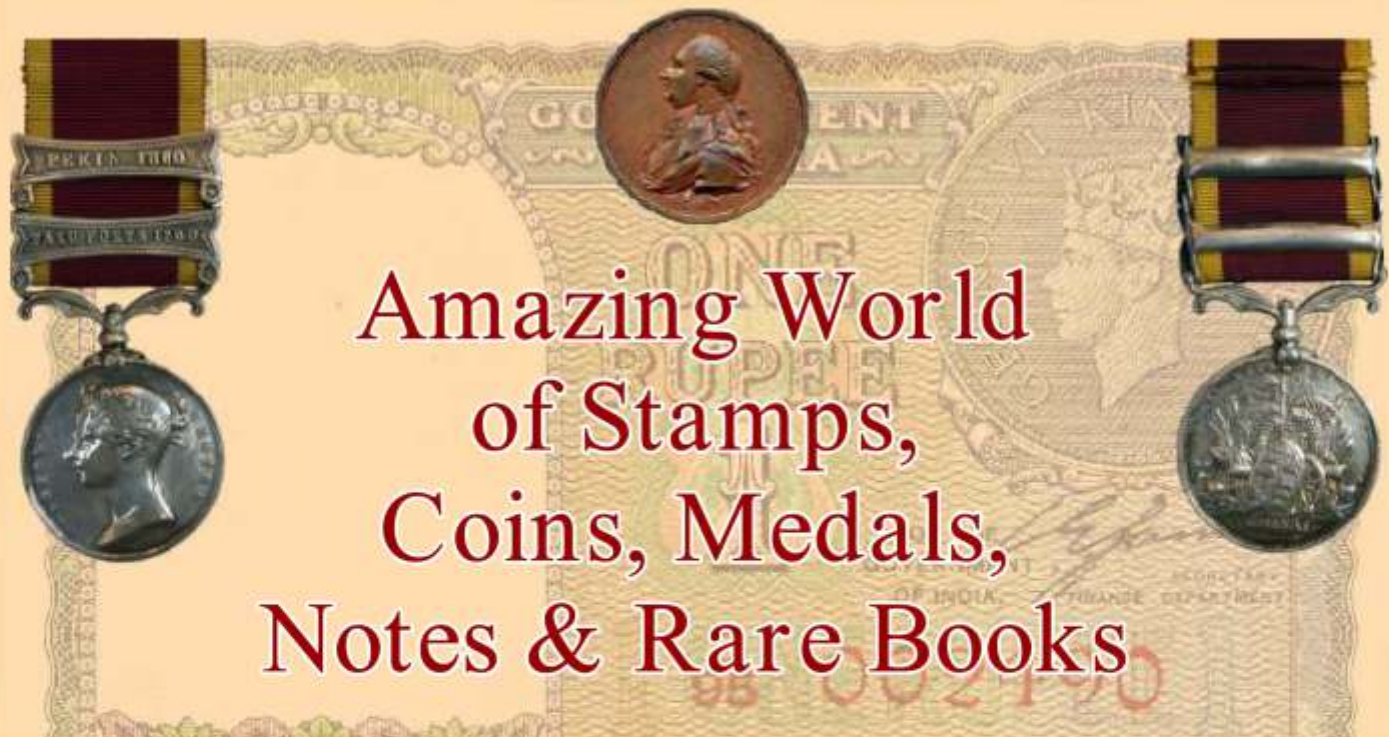
very pure silver made by pounding it into sheets a few micrometres thick. It is backed with paper for support which is peeled away before use. Varkh is used for garnishing sweets and other culinary decorative uses. It is said that India converts 13 tonnes of pure silver into edible silver foil each year. Silver is also used in ceremonial and religious practices. It forms part of architectural elements as also in handicrafts, paintings, furniture, vigrahas (statues) and vahanas (chariots), coinage, cosmetics and antiques. Silver zari (thread) forms part of India's textile heritage. Silverware such as cutlery, table flatware, bowls, candlesticks, armour, weapons and other objects were manufactured for Indian and foreign markets. Some musical instruments are also made from sterling silver, such as the flute etc.

Silver jewellery was used by tribal and other cultures and forms part of modern fashion culture. In the Deccan, the Banjara tribes wore much silver until recent times when their attire changed to more modern dresses, the high price of silver, making it unaffordable.

Hyderabad and Secunderabad have many traditional areas where both silversmiths and dealers carry out their businesses. Silversmiths migrated to Hyderabad from several areas including Pembarti, Pachees Bazar - Siddipet and other areas in the Deccan. Sonar Galli in the Dabirpura area of the Old City of Hyderabad was the centre to where silver workers migrated. The families have all dispersed since to other areas. Gulzaar Hauz - Charminar is famous for its jaali work and antique design pandaans and other items.

General Bazar - Secunderabad has a very old traditional silver market famous for manufacture and sale of silver items of domestic use. Among the many shops existing here are Sherpally Jewelers established in 1885 by S. Buchinaramulu, continued by his son S. Narayana and still in business today is his son S. Srinivas. Aru Narthulu Shankerai was established in 1902 by Balaiah, continued in 1940 by Shankerai and in 1990 it is continued by Ramesh. Vonmala Venkai established his business in 1925 and in 1952 the business was inherited by his son Vonmala Jagadishwariah. The family migrated from Yellareddypet (near Siddipet - Medak district).

Arkepally, Chandur village in Nalgonda district manufactures articles for use in temple ceremonial rituals such as vigrahas (deities), pooja articles, etc. Silver articles of general use are manufactured at Warangal, Mahbubnagar, etc. Rangashaipeta, Warangal district was also a centre for silver craftsmanship. We have a very ancient tradition of silver manufacture in the erstwhile Hyderabad State.



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Calendar of Events 2011

Month	Date	Place	Event	Venue
July	29-31	Hyderabad	Coin Exhibition 2011	Hyderabad Philatelic & Hobbyist Sty (Kesava Rao 9848128991)
August	5-7	Coimbatore	Coimbatore Coin Stampex 2011	Kamalam Duraisamy Hall, Ram Nagar, Gandhipuram Central Bus stand, Coimbatore-9. Palaneswamy (# 09486923558)
August	5-7	Coimbatore	The Ancient Times Auction No.1	Aswini Mahal, Hotel Sri Aswini Deluxe, Near Kamalam Duraisamy Exhibition Hall, 6&7, Kalingarayan Street, Coimbatore - 641 009. (# 09843448548)
August	13-15	Ahmedabad	Ahmedabad Coins & Currency Fair	Hotel President, C G Road (079-26464850)
September	23-25	Mumbai	Mumbai Coin Fair	Mumbai Coin Society, World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai (Reesha 022-2263 4360)
November	3-6	New Delhi	Stamps of India National Exhibition	sine@stampsofindia.com; 098111 60884

Amazing Collectors

Louis XIV

The French king owned a collection of 413 ornate beds. He kept them in different places all over France, so wherever he travelled, he could sleep in his own bed.

Obituary: Syed Fasihuddin Quazi

by Mahendra A. Telang



On 14th June 2011, Tuesday, I received a sad news of Mr. Quazi's demise. It was shocking for all those who knew him. I feel it worth to share few memories of Mr. Quazi with the Gullak readers.

I first met Mr. Syed Fasihuddin Quazi a decade ago, in a hotel. He was tall, well built man in simple attire of white Kurta and pyjama with typical husky sound. His hotel room was full of coins, stamp papers & there was virtually no place left to sit.

Day by day, I understood his knowledge of Islamic coins. He was truly a master in copper coins of Sultanates & Mughals.

He had a very good knowledge of collectors' need. He was always happy in fulfilling those needs. His continuous travel from town to town carrying quintals of coins reflects that. He was truly a messiah for the coin collectors like me.

He very often used to visit Sangli. Every time he used to send a SMS 'Emperor of Basmatnagar' thrice to me. The title he loved to use for himself.

Lastly, I remember an incidence when our common acquaintance expired suddenly. At that time he jokingly spoke to me, how the person skipped W.L. and R.A.C. & got the railway ticket confirmed from ordinary one? What a coincidence?

His untimely death is most sad & we all the numismatic fraternity will miss him a lot.

May his soul rest in peace.



The latest photograph taken at Sangli during a one day local exhibition held on 1st May 2011 where he was felicitated by the Deccan Numismatic Society.

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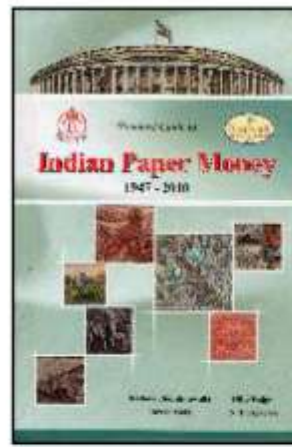
4 New Numismatic Books



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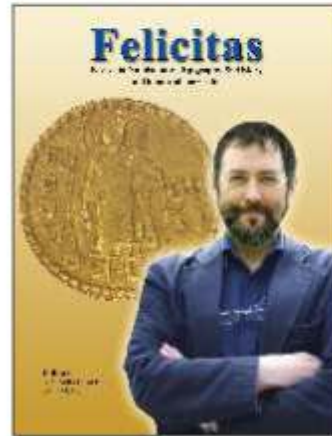


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