

गुल्लक Gullak



ISSN 0975-8062

Your Complete Monthly Newspaper for Coins, Antiques, Collectibles, Paintings & Visual Arts

Numismatic Trivia 3: 1st Coin of Singapore struck at the Calcutta mint

By Manoranjan Mahapatra



India was the Jewel in the Crown for the British Empire in the 19th and 20th century. Befitting to this preeminent status, India's mints were also supplier of legal tenders to many of the Empire colonies from the Far East to the Middle East to Australia and other places. In 1824, following the formation of Singapore a 1/3 cent piece in copper and 1/30th dollar in silver were designed by the Calcutta Mint (now Kolkata Mint).

This 1/3 Cent coin designed in 1824 by the Calcutta Mint has on its obverse, within a circle the crest of the arms of the East India Company (the portrait of a lion with its front legs raised and holding a crown), surrounded by the inscription "AUSPICIO REGIS ET SENATUS ANGLIAE 1824". The reverse has the denomination inscribed in English, Persian and Chinese. The edge is plain.

This was the first coin (actually a pattern) to have been minted for Singapore. The design was suggested by John Crawford, the Resident of Singapore. The 1/30th dollar coin was never produced since the Die was damaged before a single coin was struck. Silver and Copper pieces were struck from the 1/3 cent dies. However owing to political opposition and difficulties expressed by the Calcutta mint, the coins were never manufactured in a mass scale to be circulate amongst the public.

In 1924, the dies were used to produce restrikes and sell them to collectors. The original patterns did not survive and what one gets in the market place is essentially these restrikes. The restrikes are also rare.

Sir Stamford Raffles was appointed as the Lieutenant Governor of the British colony at Benqulen in 1818 and soon recognized the island as a natural choice for a new port that the British badly needed. It lay at the southern tip of the Malay peninsula, and its proximity to the Malacca Strait was a great advantage for the British. It possessed a natural deep harbor, fresh water supplies, and timber for repairing ships. Raffles found a small Malayese settlement, with a population of a few hundred, at the mouth of the Singapore River. A formal treaty was signed between the Sultan of Johor and the British on 6 February 1819 and modern Singapore was born.

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Ball Room,

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Highlights of Auctions 15 & 16



Lot 177

Estimate: ` 1,50,000-1,75,000
Sold for: ` 1,60,000



Lot 380

Estimate: ` 3,500-5,000
Sold for: ` 16,000



Lot 276

Estimate: ` 70,000-80,000
Sold for: ` 1,22,500



Lot 386

Estimate: ` 1,000-1,500
Sold for: ` 13,000

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The Word Investments in today's world comes with lot of headaches and heartaches, as the Economy & Markets are very Volatile. I have noted and pen down few points with reasons for Investments in Numismatics. This may help minimise inheritance hiccup. I also urge that this few points you also share with your potential heirs. It is also for those of us in the business. Helping to remove obstacles from the financial path of Client. In all it is informative for those who lack the know-how of what to do next in the field of Numismatics. To simplify, I have managed to use the letter "W" for it.

Why, When, Which, Whom, Whose, What, Will, Where, Wise, Wealth, Worth, Wallet, Want, Warn, Waste, Ways, World n WE.

- 1) Why:- The reason Why should One invest in Numismatic Coins
- 2) When:- (Timing) When to invest.
- 3) Which:- Which Era, Period, Metal, Monarchy, Country n Denomination.
- 4) Whom :- From Whom to Buy. Dealers, Road side Vendors, A learned Professional.
- 5) Whose :- Whose Collection to Buy. Collection Collected by a Senior Collector, Auction Houses, Coin Malls....
- 6) What :- What Coinages/Subject one has to Concentrate.
- 7) Will:- Appreciative Prospect. (Will he receive in Returns for the Investments)
- 8) Where:- From where he can acquire the coins.
- 9) Wise:- Is it is Wise to Invest.
- 10) Wealth :- Obtaining Maximum Wealth Creation through Investments.
- 11) Worth :- Is it Worth to Invest in Gold, Copper, Silver or any other form.
- 12) Wallet:- Always invest what your Wallet Justifies.
- 13) Want:- Prepare a Want List and follow the specifics.

- 14) Warning:- Never Go Over board. A BIG WARNING.
- 15) Waste:- Follow a theme, subject and period. don't Waste time and money collecting anything and everything.
- 16) Ways:- Different Ways/Methods through which you can Acquire/Possess.
- 17) World:- The World of Numismatics have a Huge Exposure and Potential. In Developed Nations and Countries Numismatics is seen as one of the Best and insured appreciative investments.
- 18) WE:- Numismatic Investments are always passed or inherited by the family. This investments always go with the word WE as it is a families effort, time, money and patience which gives a Undisclosed Wealth Creation.

While the thrill for the Hunt and a Passion for Collecting motivates and excites Collectors, their are many do's and Dont's to assure and derive. What you have collected benefits your collection, whether that means minimizing your tax burden, ensuring that your collection is Safe.

Maximizing your Collections value for your Heirs.

A attention though little can help you from Massive Head Ache.

Following are few synopsis which can help the Collector.

- 1) A Personal Pleasure.
- 2) Learning, Attributing n Knowledge
- 3) Stress Reduction n Relaxation.
- 4) A Social Interaction with Fellow Collectors.
- 5) Competitive Challenge
- 6) Recognition in Public/Community
- 7) Leaving the Collection to the Museum.
- 8) A Connection to History.
- 9) Desire to Collect n Possess.
- 10) Wealth Diversification.

Farokh S. Todywalla

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To
The Hon. Vice Chancellor
University of Mumbai
Fort, Mumbai 400001



27-01-2014

Honorable Vice chancellor

Subject: University of Mumbai Dinesh Mody Numismatic Museum

I am the President of the Mumbai Coin Society, since its inception in 2003 and a Professional Numismatist since 1967.

I have been closely associated with Mr. Dinesh Mody since 1970, the Founder Chairman of the University of Mumbai Dinesh Mody Numismatic Museum.

I would like to bring to your notice an Auction of 409 lots of Gold and Silver coins, estimated at Rs 2.8 crores, by Classical Numismatic Gallery, The Wardhaman collection of India Coins – Part One on 2nd February 2014 in Mumbai (photo copy of the catalogue attached herewith), which I firmly believe belongs to the University of Mumbai, Dinesh Mody Numismatic Museum.

The University of Mumbai Dinesh Mody Museum, was established in 2002 at a function in the Convocation Hall of The University of Mumbai during the Vice Chancellorship of Mrs. Snehlata Deshmukh.

On 26-01-2005, the Dinesh Mody Numismatic Museum under the aegis of the University of Mumbai was inaugurated and dedicated to the public in a function at the Museum's venue viz. Saroj Sadan, University Kalina Campus, Santacruz(E), Mumbai 400098. At that time, the University of Mumbai Dinesh Mody Institute of Numismatic and Archaeology was not even in existence. I believe that in 2005 during the inauguration the entire collection was moved into the strong room of the Museum.

Persual of the Wardhaman Collection Part I auction catalogue, I have found several coins, previously sold to the University of Mumbai Dinesh Mody Numismatic Museum by Todywalla Auctions to be listed in the said Wardhaman Collection Auction – Part one. After some basic research I have been able to identify 45 coins that were old to the University of Mumbai Dinesh Mody Numismatic Museum by Todywalla Auctions. I am sure if a more detailed research is done many more such coins sold to the University of Mumbai Dinesh Mody Numismatic Museum by us, other Auction Houses and coin dealers will be discovered. I am enclosing herewith

- a) Few of my invoices
- b) Abstract from our records of the monthly return filed with ASI Mumbai and
- c) comparison chart that related to our invoice and the lots in the Wardhaman Collection-Part One auction catalogue (Annexure 1)

As I am quite adept at identifying and in recognising coins, and I can confidently say that The Wardhaman Collection Part I is the Ghost name given to the University of Mumbai Dinesh Mody Numismatic Museum Collection.

In a prospectus of 2011 of University of Mumbai Dinesh Mody Numismatic Museum on page 2 “The Institute and the Museum have been located in the University Kalina Campus from the donation of Mr. Dineshbhai Mody who has also donated his entire collection of more than 25,000 coins in metals like gold, silver, copper, bronze, lead and also bank notes and paper money, each different from the other.”

On the same page “As many as 1,500 coins, bank notes, seals and medals are on display and the rest are stored in the safe Deposit Vault of the Museum. Each object is systematically photographed and catalogued.”

It is advisable that the university of Mumbai do an urgent and full audit of the stock of the University of Mumbai Dinesh Mody Numismatic Museum and till such time as it is not satisfied with the findings to take legal recourse to make sure that no third party rights are created.

I am confident that the Mumbai University, Mumbai University Dinesh Mody Numismatic Museum and the auctioneer Mr. Shatrughan Saravagi, Proprietor of Classical Numismatic Gallery, auctioning these coins as Wardhaman Collection Part I is totally unaware that these coins belong to the university of Mumbai and not to an individual or personal entity, I am therefore addressing a copy of this letter to all of them.

I request you to urgently look into the matter and see that the heritage bestowed and the valuable assets of the Mumbai University which Mr. Dinesh Mody has so graciously donated are not surreptitiously sold in this manner.

I urge you to act expeditiously in this matter as the auction is scheduled for later this week on coming Sunday 2nd February 2014.

I thank in anticipation of your urgent attention in this matter and wait to hear from you. Please feel free to call me for any further information or assistance that you may require.

Yours truly



Farokh Todywalla

Enclosed: Comparative list of coins bought from Todywalla Auction and in The Wardhaman Collection Part I auction

CC: Pro Vice Chancellor, University of Mumbai, Fort.

DINESHBHAI MODY

M.A.LL.B.

SENIOR ADVOCATE SUPREME COURT

NOTARY PUBLIC

Phone: 022 22723617 /18

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924, Stock Exchange Tower,

Dalal Street, Fort

Mumbai – 400 001

January 29, 2014

To

Dr. Nareshchandra,

The Hon'ble Pro - Vice Chancellor,

University of Mumbai,

Fort, Mumbai

**Sub:- Letter dated 27.01.2014 of Farokh Todywalla
addressed to the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor**

Sir,

I deny the allegation of Todywalla that all the coins or any of them in Auction Catalogue No.15 of Classical Numismatic Gallery belong to Dinesh Mody Numismatic Museum. It is his own false imagination.

It is not correct that the Museum was established in 2002 at convocation Hall in 2002.

There was a function on 26.01.2005 at the Museum but it was not an inauguration Function. I deny that at that time or any time the entire collection was moved to strong room. It has been always on display Todywalla has fabricated facts from his own fertile imagination.

As per agreement dated 28.05.1993, between me and University, I agreed to donate the coins of my collection which I possessed till then and not that I collect in future. After my donation of coins to Museum, I have been collecting coins as my personal collection. The coins which are referred to by Todywalla were purchased by me during 2009 to 2013 out of my own funds and paid my own cheques to Todywalla. Museum has nothing to do with them as they are my personal property, which I can deal with and dispose of at any time I assure you that all the coins of the Museum are in tact and none of them are moved. The register in Museum and Director and staff of Museum will vouch safe this fact.

All the coins referred to in the Wardhman collection of Classical Numismatic Gallery, by Todywalla were purchased by me with my own funds after more than 15 years of establishment of Museum and they were never donated to Museum at any time and they belonged to me personally which I can deal and dispose off at any time and in any manner. The donor accepted the bills in the name of the Museum even for the coins purchased for him personally because the said Todywalla did not charge 10 to 15% buyers commission if the bills were prepaid in the name of the Museum. So the donor accepted

the bills in the name of the Museum even for his personal coins. Infact previously, I disposed of my collection in 1977 through the said Todywalla and thereafter I again started collecting which I donated to Museum in 1993. Then I again started building yet another collection which I presently hold personally.

The reference to prospectus is irrelevant as it was prepared by third party without my knowledge and it may contain mistakes. The no. of coins donated by me were clearly mentioned in the agreement dated 28.05.1993 between me and the university. The coins were never shifted to safe deposit vault as alleged. As per Clause (6) of the said agreement that all the coins will be kept on display only and not in vault.

In short, I assure you that none of the coins of the Museum is attempted to be sold by me. They are safe and secure and we maintain proper record of addition or withdrawal of any coin from the Museum. Director and staff keep strict vigil. All coins are under lock and key and they keep keys of cabinets of all coins properly secured in Museum only.

The complaint of Todywalla is false, frivolous, and baseless made out of business rivalry between him and Classical Numismatic Gallery the present Auctioneer.

Yours Truly

Dineshbhai Mody

Anti Forgery Bureau of NGS

The NGS is receiving daily, hundreds of coins and bank notes for grading and certification. This includes not only genuine items but also modern forgeries meant to fool collectors. These are sent to us for authentication. But as you very well know, such forgeries are **Never** Certified and Graded by the NGS. Here are some more of them. (Rajgor)



Tooled Forgery. Dual Inset R & L, dual Serial Number 7CG 832510 & 4EP 448348 but tooled by sticking three different notes on this item.



Calendar of Events 2014

Month	Date	Place	Event	Venue
March	5-6	Ahmedabad	Rajgor's Legacy of Gujarat Exhibition	Hotel Comfort Inn President, C G Road, Navarangpura, Ahmedabad
March	6	Ahmedabad	Rajgor's Legacy of Gujarat Auction 15	7:00 pm, Rajgor's , Hotel Comfort Inn President, C G Road, Navarangpura, Ahmedabad
March	8	Ahmedabad	Rajgor's Auction 16	Coinex 2014, Sardar Patel Seva Samaj, off CG Road, Navarangpura, Ahmedabad (022-23820647)
March	7-9	Ahmedabad	Coinex Ahmedabad 2013	(Gujarat Coin Society) Sardar Patel Sewa Samaj , off. C G Road, Navarangpura, Ahmedabad
March	28-30	Nasik	Rare Fare 2014	Collector's Society of Numismatic & Rare Items, Kusumagraj Smarak, Vidhya Vikas Circle, Gangapur Road, Nashik 422 013 (More-09423174085)
April	18-20	Mumbai	23rd Shukla Day Coin Fair	World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai
April	28	Mumbai	Rajgor's Heritage Art Auction 17	Ball Room, Taj president, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai- 400 005
August	15	Ahmedabad	Rajgor's Auction	Hotel Comfort Inn President, C G Road, Navarangpura, Ahmedabad (with 6th Ahmedabad Coin & Currency Fair)
August	15-17	Ahmedabad	6th Ahmedabad Coin & Currency Fair	Hotel Comfort Inn President, C G Road, Navarangpura, Ahmedabad
November	7-9	Mumbai	Coinex 2014	Sunderbai Hall, Churchgate, Mumbai
November	7-9	Mumbai	12th Annual Coin Fair	Mumbai Coin Society, World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade
November	14-16	Pune	Phila-Coinex-Pune 2014	Sonal Hall, Karve Road, Pune.
November	21-23	Jabalpur	Puratatva Mudra Utsav-2014	Jalsa Banquet Hall, Hotel Grand Samdareeya, Samdareeya Mall, civic Center, Jabalpur 482001(09977333336)

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Auction 8 Highlight

BHARGAVA AUCTIONS

Auction 9
Friday, 7th March 2014
Sardar patel sewa samaj , near Mithakhali six road
Navarangpura Ahmedabad 380006
Time : 3.00 pm.

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