

ICCG News

Numismatic News

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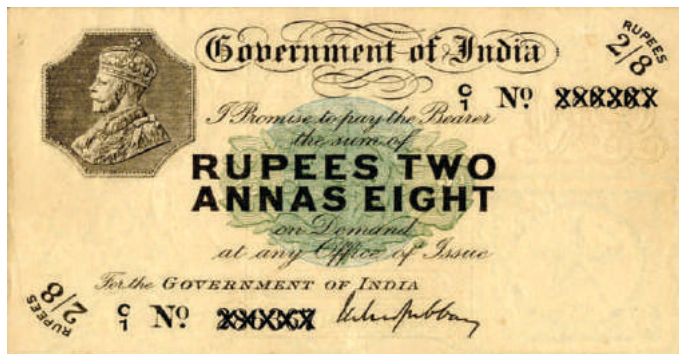
India's Largest Numismatic Community

Monthly Newspaper for Coins, Currencies, Collectibles & Events

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Coin Collectors Doubt Indian Auction Houses of Auction Frauds

The Indian numismatic community has been abuzz with serious alerts on shill bidding. Of late, ICCG News has been registering disappointments from collectors against few online portals and more surprisingly Indian auction houses.



If fake, counterfeit & altered coins were not enough, shill bidding has made it quite difficult to make fair deals. Two coin collectors, who requested anonymity, confirmed that a couple of Indian auction houses were involved in shill bidding to drive up the price of the coins. Shill bids are commonly reported on online selling portals which is a very common form of fraud but such unfair practice entering auction houses adds up to a serious situation.

Consumers might be lured to the auction market for coins and other collectibles by an emotional attachment to an item or purely as a calculated investment, but, as the allegations demonstrate, auctions go through a series of deceptive practices, including so-called 'shill-bidding,' designed to inflate prices paid by bidders and to protect the interests of consignors and sellers at the expense of unwitting bidders, bidders must remain mindful of shill bids. Consumers have a right to be protected from deceptive and dishonest sales practices, and those who fraudulently rig auctions at the expense of bidders deserve to be prosecuted.

Art & Passion of Fishing Mint Errors from Circulation Cont on Page 5

His passion for collecting old currency notes has been for years and his collection is something that speaks a lot about history and also about mint errors – thousands of which he has collected from circulation. Mr. Mayank Agarwal from Varanasi shared his pride collectibles and thoughts with ICCG News recently.



Mr. Mayank Agarwal

Subject to Mumbai jurisdiction

Excerpts from the interview:

As a child were you fascinated towards coins or any other collectibles?

As a child, I did learn about coin collectibles but never thought of taking it as a hobby.

How and when do you start your collection?

I started my coin collection from 2012 with Sultanat coins and coins of the Mughal era. It was then, that I came across error coins from few of my social network friends.

Which is your favorite coin that you own currently & why?

One of my pride collection is the clock of 10 rupees with die axis rotation which I collected from circulation.

Please let us know bit more of your collection?

I started hunting mint errors from lakhs of coins that I used to filter from my money changer friends. I used to spend three to four hours a day and get coins with errors like die axis rotation, laminations, planchet errors, cuds, cracks, die doubling, indents, uniface, blanks and die varieties. Today I have collected thousands of error coins and all of them from circulation. Slowly I collected more than three thousand coins of cu-ni 5 rupees with milled and plain edge errors.

Cont on Page 3

Grading Currency Notes Easy as ICCG Unites with PCGS

Professional Coin Grading Service (PCGS) as we all know is the most respected name in third-party coin certification in the United States. By establishing a universal grading standard, they have paved the way for coin enthusiasts to enjoy buying and selling coins with confidence.

PCGS also participated in the ICCG Expo as they have certified many coins from India. Further PCGS also signed a partnership agreement with ICCG as their official submission center in Mumbai as they wished to offer their expertise and services to collectors and coin dealers of India.



On this occasion ICCG News shared few valuable thoughts from Miss Dominique (Accounts manager PCGS Europe). Excerpts from the interview:

How was your experience during the ICCG Expo?

My experience was very fabulous. I was very surprised and impressed with the number of visitors. Collectors asked me very interesting and smart questions and we are really very happy to certify ICCG as the submission center for PCGS. India is such a wonderful country.

Apart from currency notes here (in India), there is a big asking for coin grading as well? What would you suggest in this regards?

We have PCGS office in Hong Kong and in Europe. But right now, its very complicated as its not allowed to take coins out of the country (India), its illegal. I hope ICCG may share some dialogue for authorization with the Indian Government in this regards as ICCG is an association of the numismatic community. But right now we have to go by the law and unfortunately we can't help much. If collectors are buying coins from Hong Kong or Europe then we could grade them and we would be happy to do that. But for the moment there are no plans to open an office in India, but we can hope and see what may be in store in future.

How it feels to interact with various hobby enthusiastic people of India?

I am very happy to see and meet so many hobby enthusiastic people. Numismatic people are very interesting people. They know the importance of grading. They understand that graded currency notes will put them in international market and it also protects the valued collectible from dust, weather and pollution. And I hope we are going to start developing with ICCG as our submission center not only in Mumbai but in India.

ICCG also had few words with Miss. Lucy, who is assisting Miss. Dominique:

Miss. Lucy, how long have you been in India?

I am in India for past two years and I stay in Mumbai.

Are you too associated with PCGS?

Yes. Actually when I was a student, I used to work part time for PCGS in Paris, which is how I met Miss. Dominique. After that, I travelled a lot like China, now India. So sometimes I do help Miss. Dominique on various shows.

ICCG thanked both, Miss. Dominique and Miss. Lucy and wished them a pleasant stay and all the very best for future exhibitions.

Now, Submit your Bank Notes to ICCG & Get it Graded from PCGS



For Further Information & Submission

Contact : 7208881181

Indian Coins & Currency Group - Mumbai

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That's a huge effort that you have put into fishing out mint errors from circulation.

What makes circulation coins different from coins with dealers?

After a pause Mr. Agarwal continues.... No physical difference in coins but surely a big emotional difference. The biggest word of difference that I feel is 'Satisfaction'. I have known people spending thousands and even lakhs of rupees purchasing entire collection or albums of error coins and becoming error coin collectors overnight. I believe any collection without passion and dedication can never earn satisfaction. They might even be lacking the knowledge of terming their collectibles. But such albums would hardly earn you the satisfaction from within. Today, I feel satisfied with my collection as I have put a lot of effort collecting every bit of my collectibles.

How was the support from your family?

Family support was always there with me. And I often share teach the importance of these coins to my children and hopefully if they may show the interest then I would like my children to continue with this.

Where do you see the numismatic industry going in the future?

Well, there has been a tremendous change in the numismatic industry over the years. It's clearly getting global. More and more collectors are joining the league. And definitely more international interest and investments are expected.

What makes error coin collectible different from other collectible coins?

Unlike any other collectible coins, error coins helps to learn a lot about the minting process – its lot fun and educational. Its believed that minting mistakes are very rare to be found in circulation, but I can assure that if you search them, then you would surely find them.

Any particular problem that you face, while doing your collections?

In my early days, the bitter fact that I experienced was that no one wanted to share his information and knowledge but just everyone wanted to grab new things. Many of my online friends wanted me to gift my coins to them with just nothing in return. Earlier I happily used to gift my coins to many of my friends but slowly I applied breaks in doing so.

Have you ever displayed your collection at any exhibition?

No. I never display my collectibles and don't even see any need in that. Though I have always been open to share my collection to anyone who may like but I don't display my collection at any public exhibitions.

What response do you get from your friends when they see your collectibles?

It gives lots of pleasure sharing collection with friends and family and surely its been one fun-filled journey wherein I have received immense support and positive response from all the people connected with this field.

How do you see the role of social media (Facebook, Whatsapp etc) towards numismatics?

Social media can help in many terms. It can be so helpful in spreading awareness, passing information and above all staying connected with likeminded collectors globally. Rumors and Hoaxes though should be avoided.

Do you feel that numismatics as a subject, should be encouraged among students?

I surely feel, more kids should be encouraged towards this interesting hobby. We must take them to various numismatic exhibitions, which would help them in getting more knowledge and meet other collectors people associated with this hobby.

Today there are many fake coins (collectible commemoratives, errors and scarce) being seen in the local market, in almost every city. So how can we see an end to this, as just reporting the matter hardly helps.

How do you feel the book on error coins from ICCG would help collectors?

There was hardly any study material on error coins when I started and I always wished for a book on Indian error coins as study on the subject of collectibles is always the basic requirement. Thus I feel this book from ICCG would benefit a lot of collectors in learning the coin anatomy, minting process and its defects.

How do you see our news paper contributing to numismatics?

ICCG group is definitely played a very positive role in field of Numismatic & especially it's Newspaper I believe has put in a great effort to spread & save our great Numismatic Heritage.

We thanked Shri. Mayank Agarwal for his valuable time, thoughts and collectibles shared.

We believe his thoughts and collection is sure to inspire the young generation in a very positive way.



Collection of Mayank Agarwal



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SAVE COINS - SAVE HERITAGE

Ahmedabad Numismatic Exhibition - 2017

AHMEDABAD: India is one of the countries in the world with rich tradition of numismatics. Thanks to its interesting mix of coins minted by ancient kingdoms, princely states, sultanates and foreign rulers including English, Portuguese, French and Danish and finally independent India. The visitors at 8th Gujrat Coin Society Fair had a glimpse of the heritage and had lessons in history with fun.

Bhargav Jain, a dentist from Baroda said that there is a growing trend that Gujaratis have woken up to - numismatics as a lucrative investment option. "I started off as an enthusiast and saw the opportunity. It is one field in which you can enter with mere Rs 2,000 and start building your collection. Coins never get depreciated due to metal used and its historic importance", added Mr. Jain. Whether one is a Numismatist or any hobby enthusiastic, such exhibition is perfect for him as the three-day national level annual numismatics exhibition had provided a great opportunity to witness coins, notes and currency as old as 2000 years.



Victoria Memorial Kolkata

The Victoria Memorial is a large marble building in Kolkata (formerly Calcutta), West Bengal, India, which was built between 1906 and 1921. It is dedicated to the memory of Queen Victoria (1819–1901), and is now a museum and tourist destination under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture. The memorial lies on the maidan (grounds) by the bank of the Hooghly River, near Jawaharlal Nehru road.

History: In January 1901, on the death of Queen Victoria, George Curzon, 1st Marquess Curzon of Kedleston and Viceroy of India suggested the creation of a fitting memorial. He proposed the construction of a grand building with a museum and gardens. Curzon said,

"Let us, therefore, have a building, stately, spacious, monumental and grand, to which every newcomer in Calcutta will turn, to which all the resident population, European and Native, will flock, where all classes will learn the lessons of history, and see revived before their eyes the marvels of the past."

The Prince of Wales, later King George V, laid the foundation stone on 4 January 1906, and it was formally opened to the public in 1921.

In 1912, before the construction of the Victoria Memorial was finished, King George V announced the transfer of the capital of India from Calcutta to New Delhi. Thus, the Victoria Memorial was built in what would be a provincial city rather than a capital.

The Victoria Memorial has 25 galleries. These include the royal gallery, the national leaders gallery, the portrait gallery, central hall, the sculpture gallery, the arms and armoury gallery and the newer, Calcutta gallery. The Victoria Memorial has the largest single collection of the works of Thomas Daniell (1749–1840) and his nephew, William Daniell (1769–1837). The Victoria Memorial also has a collection of rare and antiquarian books such as the illustrated works of William Shakespeare, the Arabian Nights and the Rubaiyat by Omar Khayyam as well as books about Kathak dance and thumri music by Wazid Ali Shah. However, the galleries and their exhibitions, the programmatic elements of the memorial do not compete with the purely architectural spaces or voids.

Royal gallery: The Royal Gallery displays a number of portraits of Victoria and Prince Albert, and paintings illustrating their lives, by Jansen and Winterhalter. The oil paintings are copies of those in London. They include: Victoria receiving the sacrament at her coronation in Westminster Abbey (June 1838); Victoria's marriage to Albert in the Chapel Royal at St. James Palace (1840); the christening of the Prince of Wales in St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle (1842); the marriage of the Prince of Wales (Edward VII) to Princess Alexandra (1863); Victoria at the First Jubilee service at Westminster Abbey (1887) and the Second Jubilee service at St. Paul's Cathedral (June 1897). Victoria's childhood rosewood pianoforte and her correspondence desk from Windsor Castle stand in the centre of the room. Edward VII presented these items to the Victoria Memorial. On the south wall hangs the Russian artist Vasily Vereshchagin's oil painting of the state entry of Edward VII, (then Prince of Wales), into Jaipur in 1876.

Calcutta gallery: In the mid 1970s, the matter of a new gallery devoted to the visual history of Calcutta was promoted by Saiyid Nurul Hasan, the minister for education. In 1986, Hasan became the governor of West Bengal and chairman of the board of trustees of the Victoria Memorial. In November, 1988, Hasan hosted an international seminar on the Historical perspectives for the Calcutta tercentenary. The Calcutta gallery concept was agreed and a design was developed leading to the opening of the gallery in 1992. The Calcutta gallery houses a visual display of the history and development of Calcutta from Job Charnock (1630–1692) of the English East India Company East India Company to 1911, when the capital of India was transferred to New Delhi. The gallery also has a life size diorama of Chitpur road in the late 1800s.



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"It's hard to say for sure when someone is 'shill bidding', however there are a few things that do get noticed, like coins that bid up quickly, even above fair market value, days before end of auction. Though it's tough to spot a shill bidding situation, but we often feel it happening within reputed auction houses. We do witness some people leave auctions wondering how they failed to win items they really wanted and also those who leave wondering why they overpaid so drastically." Says Mr. Vishal Raikar (name changed). "It's also possible that auctioneers may help coin dealers to get rid of the coins that are hard to sell in a person-to-person transaction. The inability of the buyer to examine the coin carefully assists them in this practice, as the images posted on catalogues cannot be used to accurately assess the grade of a coin", added Mr. Raikar.



Another perspective of shill bidding could also be the competition between the auction houses, where the seller may get contract with the auction house with higher fees and make shill bidding activity more active.

Fake or altered coins have in past been reported in auction catalogues and later those coins have been withdrawn from auctions. But not always such inferior material gets reported and the result, though occasionally, is not seen on the fair side. Its felt that auction houses should take strict measures to provide fair deals and auctions.

Shill bidding is a crime and ICCG News hope auctioneers to do everything they can to help eliminate it from the auction industry.

SBI ATM dispenses fake notes from 'Children Bank'



NEW DELHI: A call centre executive who had gone to withdraw cash from a State Bank of India ATM in Sangam Vihar was in for a shock when the Rs 500 and Rs 2,000 notes dispensed from the machine read "Children Bank of India" in English and "Bharatiya Manoranjan Bank" in Hindi. When he informed the cops, a policeman from the Sangam Vihar police station withdrew notes from the ATM. He too received the fake notes, after which a case was registered at the police station.

The call centre executive, Rohit Kumar, said in his complaint that he had gone to the ATM on February 6 to withdraw Rs 8,000 for a wedding programme. He said he initially kept the notes in his wallet and stepped out of the ATM and only checked them outside. The notes were the same color as the original currency, and the printed figures in the same font as the original, but were guaranteed by "children government" and promised to pay the "barer five hundred coupens". It also had "Churan Lable" written in place of the watermarks. The notes had PK written instead of the RBI seal.

Senior police officers say that after receiving a PCR call from Rohit, sub inspector Saurabh and constable Mantu Ram went to the ATM, where the sub-inspector used his Axis Bank card to withdraw money and got the same fake bills. Police say that following this, they sealed the ATM and informed the bank authorities about the notes. The notes were sent for forensic analysis.

An FIR was registered under Sections 489B (using forged currency notes), 489E (making use of documents looking like currency notes) and 420 (cheating) of IPC. A team was also formed to verify the source of the notes. SBI, meanwhile, said that all its currency chests have a very robust system to monitor the quality of notes. All notes received and to be dispensed by the bank, either through its ATMs or its branches, are processed through the latest, state-of-the-art "note-sorting machines". These machines are equipped with the templates of all legal tender in the country and any note not conforming to the security features is separated as "suspect note" for further manual scrutiny. No fake note is likely to be dispensed through the bank's ATMs at any time, it said.

The bank said it is examining the notes in all other ATMs handled by the same custodians of the bank and replenished by the same cash replenishment agency. "As the possibility of fake notes from the bank's ATMs is very remote, the bank suspects the involvement of some miscreants with mischievous intent. However, further investigations are underway," a statement by SBI said.

Police say that they suspect the role of some delivery van personnel who might have replaced the original notes with the fakes while loading the ATM.

There have been similar incidents of these fake notes circulating for about a month.



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Chasing history: A look at Hampi's six wonders

Owing to this rich history that the region encloses, the Archaeological Survey of India keeps conducting excavations in Hampi to discover something new every now and then.

Touted as the largest open monument, Hampi forms an integral part of the ruins of Vijayanagara (the once capital of the Vijayanagara Empire). Apart from the historical significance, the place shares a strong connection to the epic Ramayana. According to the mythological epic, the region is believed to be the site of Kishkindha. Owing to this rich history that the region encloses, the Archaeological Survey of India keeps conducting excavations in Hampi to discover something new every now and then.



Here are some of Hampi's wonders:

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM: The Archaeological Museum of Hampi is the centre attraction that brings together collections of sculptures and assorted antiques under one roof. To ease the exploration of these antiques, the museum has been divided into four galleries. But the star attraction of this place is the Central Hall which is a look alike of Hampi temple.

ANEGUNDI: The supposed site of Kishkindha from the Ramayana, Anegundi is dotted with shrines small and big, dedicated to the legendary vanars Bali, Sugriva, and Hanuman. Moving from mythology to a time far before, Anegundi was home to Neolithic men from the Stone Age, whose cave paintings have survived the test of time!

MONKEY TEMPLE: Another place in the region closely linked to the Ramayana is the Monkey Temple, which is located on Anjanadri Hill in Anegundi. Located about 4 km from Hampi, it is believed to be the birth place of Lord Hanuman. The spot offers breathtaking views of Hampi and many of the heritage sites of the region.

VITTALA TEMPLE: Vittala Temple is an ancient monument located on the southern bank of the Tungabhadra River and one of the most famous structures in Hampi. The main mandapa contains 56 musical pillars, also known as SAREGAMA pillars, which emanate musical notes when the pillars are tapped.

VIRUPAKSHA TEMPLE: Dedicated to Lord Shiva, the temple has been functioning uninterruptedly ever since its inception in the 7th century AD and is one of India's oldest functioning temples. It saw its origins as a small humble shrine which was expanded to its present magnificence during the reign of the Vijayanagara kings.

HAMPI BAZAAR: Located in front of the Virupaksha temple, The Hampi Bazaar is a kilometer long street featuring an array of old pavilions, which were once the part of the thriving market. Look towards the eastern end of the street and one can spot a huge Nandi statue, known as Yeduru Basavanna. During the annual Hampi festival, the bazaar becomes the centre of vibrant festivities.

New 1000 Rupee Notes: Not to be Seen Soon

New Delhi, Feb. 22: After reports surfaced of new Rs. 1000 and higher denomination notes coming into circulation, Secretary Economic Affairs Shaktikanta Das has refuted the notion.

Das took to Twitter to issue a clarification on the aforementioned matter. "We have no plans of introducing new Rs. 1,000 notes," stated Das.

"The focus will be on increasing production and supply of Rs. 500 and other notes of lower denomination," Das further clarified.

In a tweet that followed, Das assured that the request to monitor the withdrawal of cash is being assessed. "I request everyone to withdraw only the amount that is required, since excessive withdrawal of cash deprives cash for others," Das urged.

In December 2016, new Rs. 500 notes were released for circulation, aiming to ease the situation post demonetization, the initiative taken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led Government in order to curb circulation of black money in the economy.

After circulation of Rs. 500 and 1000 notes came to a standstill, rumors surfaced regarding a possibility in the introduction of completely new notes to be supplied.

8th National Numismatic Exhibition, Bangalore



Among lots of collectibles from coins dating back to 600 BC to bank notes, stamps and copper artifacts, enthusiasts were in for a numismatic treat at the three-day 8th National Numismatic Exhibition at Bangalore.

The event, which started on 24th February, saw more than hundreds of visitors admiring the tokens of history and picking up coins, notes and stamps of their choice.

Mr. Vishal Prabhu, a roadside food-stall vendor with a daily income of Rs. 200 who sold his collectible coins in the exhibition told ICCG News that I was passionate about currency notes and coins since childhood but I had never thought that what I believed to be my passion would turn into a business one day.

Other than coins and stamps, the wooden charkha used by Mahatma Gandhi was an added attraction for visitors, though it was not for sale. There were several hand-written letters by Gandhi to his son, and the official notification issued before his Dandi March in 1930 was one of the rare exhibits.

The Numismatic fair also saw a Madras Presidency Half Pagoda Silver coin of 1807 creating history by being sold at its highest 5,50,000 INR. Also a Gold Mohur of Shahjahan III got sold for 6,50,000 INR.

No General Announcement Resulted in Heavy Disappointment and Lesser Crowd:

The event also saw few new collectors (mostly students) who felt that the event was not announced well in the city. Mr. Vivek Rai, a student and a coin collector expressed his disappointment to ICCG "I have just started collecting republic India coins for few month now and always look forward to such exhibitions as there are a lot of hobby enthusiastic people from Bangalore, but I was rather surprised to learn about this exhibition only today (third day) and am indeed quite disappointed to miss out on the two important days." The entire event witnessed by comparatively lesser crowd, "it felt as the event was meant only for numismatic interests and not for promoting the hobby. Had I earlier known of this event, I would have called my entire group of friends who have now missed to witness one of better numismatic events..." added Mr. Rai.

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Coin of the month

2nd International Crop Science Congress 1996

In the Year 1996 the Scheduled 2nd International Crop Science Congress Conference was to be held and large quantity of commemorative coins were to be minted, but for some reason the conference got cancelled and never happened. So the mintage of these coins was halted in between. As a result, these coins resulted with very low minted. The commemorative issues of VIP set was released, few coins of circulation commemorative were also released. This is definitely one of the rare coins of republic India.



Denomination: 5 Rupees **USE:** Circulation **Year:** 1996 **Mint:** Kolkata **Metal:** Cupro-nickel
Shape: Circular **Weight:** 9 gms **Diameter:** 23 mm **Edge:** Security

Obverse side: Ashoka Lion Pedestal. Denomination below.

Reverse side: The reverse of this coin shows the globe with crop all over it, flanked by “two sprigs of wheat” on the bottom and a “double helix structure of DNA inside the gene” on the top. The inscription “Dwitiya Antarashtriya Fashal Vigyan Congress” in Hindi is shown at the left half and “2ND INTERNATIONAL CROP SCIENCE CONGRESS” in English is shown at the right half of the periphery. “1996” – the year of issue is shown at the bottom.

Cricketer Virat Kohli and and Vinod Rai, Chairman CoA Releases a Postal Stamp to Commemorate the First Test at MCA in Pune

India played Australia in the first of a four match Test series at the Maharashtra Cricket Association stadium at Gahunje near Pune. Although the stadium has played to host to ODI and T20 matches before and was the home ground for IPL teams like Pune Warriors and Kings XI Punjab and is currently home to Rising Pune Supergiants, it was the first time ever that a Test match was being played at the stadium.

This makes the MCA Stadium India's 25th Test venue. Back in 1933, CK Nayudu had led the Indian team in their first ever Test match at the Bombay Gymkhana against England. This was a part of a three match Test series with the subsequent Tests being played at the Eden Gardens and the third at the Madras Cricket Club ground at Chepauk, now known as the MA Chidambaram ground. This makes Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai India's first, second and third Test venues respectively. The next time India hosted a Test side was when West Indies toured the country in t1948, with the first Test being played at Delhi's Feroz Shah Kotla stadium.

Ahead of the commencement of the match, Head of the BCCI's CoA Vinod Rai, alongwith MCA officials and Indian skipper virat Kohli unveiled a stamp to commemorate the first Test at the stadium.

Since October 2016, India have added four new Test venues to the list. These are the Holkar Stadium at Indore, the SCA Stadium at Rajkot and ACA-VDCA Cricket Stadium at Visakhapatnam. India nwon all the matches played at these grounds. The other three Test matches will be played at Bengaluru, Ranchi and Dharamsala. While Bengaluru has played host to Test matches before, it will be the first time ever that the longest format of international cricket is played at Ranchi and Dharamsala.



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ICCG Expo 2017 *In their views....* Dr. Dilip Rajgor



Dr. Dilip Rajgor has been serving Indian Numismatics since 1987 as a Research Scholar, Professor, Director, Consultant, Publisher, and an Auctioneer. He has the credit of having written more than 21 books and 75+ research articles on coins, history, linguistics, and allied subjects.

Sir you have been the part of Indian Numismatics for years now, and ICCG has come up with its Numismatic Expo for the first time, so how was your experience during the entire event?

Its really been a great experience. This Expo has come up with different varieties and different ideas and that's really welcome. And I hope you continue with this every year.

We have come up with a display of Shri. Hitesh Tahilramani's collection of currency notes for the first time and also a display of Shivrai coins. Did you find these displays informative and do you feel such displays should be further encouraged?

Yes definitely, unless one may have a look at it (Coins), he will never come to know what we are talking about. Shivaji is being thought from 3rd and 4th class and we all know about him. But people hardly know how his coins look like. So when people come and see these coins, they can start relating with these coins which further helps in remembering the subject and that is how they can also start developing interest in this, which is very important.

Its just superb display of currency notes. A beautiful display of very rare specimen notes and so many error and fancy number notes. Its just awesome. So we really need many more exhibitions like these and people will surely come and appreciate this. Thanking you for recognizing this.

As we all know that Rajgor's Auctions are quite popular so are you coming up with any auction in coming months?

Yes, we are coming up with an auction in April and almost every month we are having an auction.

Any suggestions or complaints in regards with ICCG Expo?

One big complaint: Where were you all these years???? (Smiles) You should really have started from the beginning.

It was really good. There are no complaints. As for the suggestion, I would request you to try to put up an exhibition somewhere in suburbs. Maybe at Malad or Goregaon or in central Mumbai like Dadar. As it may get difficult for people to reach this place (WTC Cuffe Parade), specially on Sundays. But otherwise it was a great experience and I wish you to you every year.

ICCG thanks Dr. Dilip Rajgor for sharing his views on ICCG Expo 2017.



INDIAN MINT ERRORS

COINS OF REPUBLIC INDIA

SIDDHARTH N.S

Event's Time 10.00 Am - 7.00 Pm

Month	Date	Events	Venue
March	10, 11, 12	4th Coinex Mumbai	Shree Sunderbhai Hall, Behind Income Tax, Churchgate, Mumbai
April	1 & 2	Ahmedabad Coins & Currency Group	The President Hotel, C. G. Road, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad
April	21, 22, 23	Shukla Day Coin Fair	Expo Center, World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai
May	5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11	Royal Numismatic Expo 2017	All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society, 1 Rafi Marg, New Delhi
September	15, 16, 17	Mumbai Coin Society Fair	Expo Center, World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai
November	3, 4, 5	Indore Mudra Utsav 2017	Sajan Prabha, Vijayanagar Square, A. B. road, Indore
December	8, 9, 10	Jam Coin Mela 2017	Jamshedpur Coin Museum, Red Cross Society, Jamshedpur
January	12, 13, 14	2nd ICCG Numismatic Expo 2018	Expo Center, World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai

Archaeologists discover stash of rare Bronze Age weapons in Scotland

London: A stash of rare weapons including a notched bronze sword and a gold-decorated spearhead, which likely date back to between 1000 BC and 800 BC, have been discovered by archaeologists in Scotland.

Researchers said that the weapons were found in a pit alongside a Bronze Age roundhouse.

Archaeologists discovered the remains of 12 Bronze Age buildings during the dig, as well as a much earlier Stone Age hall that probably dates back to the very beginnings of agriculture in Scotland.

Ronan Toolis, from the GUARD Archaeology Limited, a UK-based firm that conducted the excavation said, "There was no real indication of the wealth of archaeological remains before the dig".

During the excavations undertaken prior to the construction of football fields in Scotland, archaeologists turned up pits and postholes in the soil. These features are signs of ancient construction.

"As we were stripping the topsoil to view more of these pits and postholes, we saw this glint of gold beneath the topsoil," Toolis told Live Science.

Archaeologists cut a 80 kilograms chunk of earth from the ground that encased the artifacts inside. This block was taken to the lab for a small-scale excavation that took a week, Toolis said.

Inside the block was a bronze spearhead, decorated with gold. The spearhead had been bundled with a bronze sword with a lead-and-tin pommel, a bronze scabbard (a sheath for a sword) mount and a chape, the metal fitting at the end of a scabbard. The bundle also included a bronze pin.

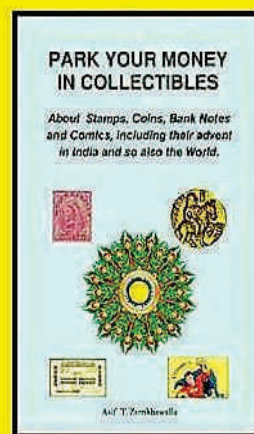
The new discovery is rarer because it contains not just metalworks, but organic materials, he said.

There are remnants of fur-bearing skin around the spearhead and microscopic fragments of textiles around the bronze pin, he said.

There are also pieces of the sword's wooden scabbard preserved in the bundle. All of these organic artifacts can be radiocarbon dated to pinpoint their age, Toolis said. **Source: Zee Media Bureau**



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Up Coming Auctions

Date	Name & Auction No.	Venue	Time	Online / Floor Bidding
11th March	Bombay Auction No. 11	Shree Sunderbhai Hall, Behind Income Tax, Churchgate	1.00 PM Onwards	Online & Floor Bidding
11th March	Oswal Auction No. 66	Shree Sunderbhai Hall, Behind Income Tax, Churchgate	6.00 PM Onwards	Online & Floor Bidding
1st April	Classical Numismatic Gallery Auction No. 27	The President Hotel, C. G. Road, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad	-	Floor Bidding
21st April	Todywalla Auctions No. 108 (Part - I)	Expo Center, World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai	-	Floor Bidding
22nd April	Todywalla Auctions No. 108 (Part - II)	Expo Center, World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai	-	Floor Bidding
23rd April	Todywalla Auctions No. 108 (Part - III)	Expo Center, World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai	-	Floor Bidding

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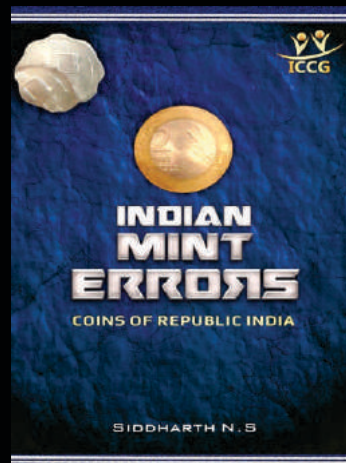
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Educational Exhibition of Travancore Heritage



Educational exhibitions in Government schools to relate students with India's rich heritage and history was very much encouraged by the Government of Kerala and Sarwa Shiksha Abhiyan. It was through their support that Shri. Sibi Mullanikadu have successfully organized 14 exhibitions in 14 different schools and continuing....

'We started with 'TRAVANCORE HERITAGE' (private museum open for public) in Kerala. On June 19th 2016, we displayed Kerala based antiques and many world class antiques, coins, bank notes and collectables. Then we got a chance to work with Government of Kerala Education Department and SSA (Sarwa Siksha Abhiyan). They give us a chance to do exhibitions in Government schools and covered our transportation and setting charges. From 13th February 2017 to 6th March 2017, we have successfully organized 14 exhibitions in 14 different Government schools. Every day we organized exhibitions and displayed many unique antiques coins and bank notes. Every exhibition that we organized included one seminar which could further help the new generation in learning the rich heritage and history of India." Says Mr. Sibi Mullanikadu.

Commemorative Coins of Modern India: Year wise & mint wise journey with ICCG News

आधुनिक भारत के स्मरणीय सिक्के: वर्षवार, टक्साल्वार यात्रा ICCG न्यूज़ के साथ

Commemorative coins of India are usually issued to celebrate some special occasion or to mark a special event. They also have been issued as a mark of respect towards some distinguished individuals or monument. Indian commemorative coins were issued from the 1964 onwards. Such coins have a distinct design with reference to the occasion on which they were issued. Few coins of this category serve as collector's items only, although most commemorative coins are issued for regular circulation. Modern and Commemorative Indian Coins are very interesting to discuss as they cover various topics like Indian Independence Struggle, War, Peace, Wildlife, Vegetation, Great Personalities, Various Events and Organizations. The highest valued coin is INR 1000 that was issued on the occasion of 1000 years of Brihadeeswarar Temple. In 1 set, there may be 2 to 9 coins of different denominations.

MINTS: Commemorative coins are made at various mints across India including the ones at (Bombay) Mumbai, Noida, (Calcutta) Kolkata & Hyderabad.

1983 Fisheries (3rd World Food Day Issue)

Fishes are one of the main food items for the people, in many parts of the world and many people depend on fishing for earning their livelihood. To highlight the role of 'Fisheries' on the lives of people, India issued this coin on 16th October, 1983.

Obverse: The obverse of this coin shows the Ashokan lion at the center and the value '20' just below it. In English "INDIA" and "PAISE" appear on the right side periphery and in Hindi "Bharat" and "Paise" appear on the left side.

Reverse: The reverse of this coin shows two fishermen drawing a net with a catch of fishes in the fore ground and a basket containing some more fishes shown in the back ground. The legend 'Matchya Udyoga' in Hindi, '1983' – the year of issue and ' FISHERIES' in English appears on the top of the central design. The initials 'FAO' is shown at the bottom.



1983 Fisheries



Indian Numismatics is Rising



SAVE COINS - SAVE HERITAGE