

ICCG News

Numismatic News

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Monthly Newspaper for Coins, Currencies, Collectibles & Events

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Nagmoney 2018

Coins, Weapons Exhibited at Patiala

Nagaland Sport Icon Honored with Postal Stamp

Alert against tooled serial numbers

Journey of a Numismatic Legend: Minting History

From a young coin collector and dealer to a pioneer in the field, and very much a prominent part of the Indian numismatic scenario, Shri. Rajender Maru specializes in Ancient Indian coins and created a successful business and auction company 'Marudhar Arts'.

'Coins are the best proofs of History', believes Mr. Maru, who is an inspiration for many young collectors today, shared his thoughts and experiences with the ICCG News recently. Excerpts from the interview:



Shri. Rajender Maru

How did you develop interest in numismatics? Was there someone or something of significance that played a role?

The interest in numismatics got developed with the inclination of philately, as I have always lived and seen my father Sh. Prem Ratanji Maru since my childhood days collecting and dealing in this field. Yes, it was my father who played this significant role.

And what are the areas of your interest?

I basically like everything but specifically beautiful coins from ancient and Mughal India. All ancient coins have a story to tell, only if we care to listen.

What does your collection mean to you?

Collection to any collector means a lot because it tells the story of each coin, from where it came, how it was procured and tells us the story of our own created memoirs. Coins are one of the best proofs of History. **Cont on Page 3rd ...**

Till date world's only Known Note signed by Gandhi Ji



Recent BNP Arrest Signals Alert for Corruption in Indian Notaphily New Misprint, Specimen Notes to Stand under Vigilance

Indian Notaphilists have found themselves in some state of worry with regards of their prized collectibles. Paper money collectors with a passion of collecting error or misprinted currency notes were shocked over the news of a recent arrest of a senior official possessing Rs. 90 lakh worth misprint currency notes at BNP (Bank Note Press) Dewas in Madhya Pradesh which rose severe security concerns. The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) had arrested Mr. Manohar Verma early last month, who was employed as deputy control officer in the note verification department at the Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Limited (SPMCIL)-run BNP in MP. The officer had kept the currency notes, with minor and major defects, at his home and personal bank lockers. If the reports are to be believed, investigating officials are keeping a closer look on the quantities of the misprint notes in the new series and also on the specimen notes which are being displayed and/or offered on various online portals & 'facebook'. **Cont on Page 6th**



Medals, Badges from World War I and II, Coins and Notes Attract Visitors at Nagpur

Nagmoney 2018', the most awaited numismatic exhibition of Nagpur, displayed many unique coins and notes which attracted coin lovers and visitors. This three-day event jointly organized by Numismatic Research Institute, Nagpur and Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage concluded from 26th to 28th January, 2018 at Ramgopal Maheshwari Sanskrutik Sabhagruha, Mor Bhavan, Sitabuldi.

The exhibition presented enthusiasts to the glorious art and cultural history of various eras. Items on display like medals and badges from World War I and II, coins and notes caught the fancy of visitors and gave a chance to peek into history.

Every exhibit has information attached to its importance like its size, weight, metal type, dynasty and the ruler during that period. Stamps, currencies, books, envelopes, postcards, rare objects and many more have been kept for sale.

Various awards were presented on the occasion. Numismatist and scholar Prashant Kulkarni was bestowed with 'Nagmoney 2018 Jeevan Gaurav Puraskar' for his contribution to the field. Dr Dilip Balsekar, Executive Editor and Secretary, State Gazetteers Department, was the chief guest of the programme. Dr Balsekar is also a numismatist from Mumbai and attached with many numismatic exhibition held previously.

"Wakatak era coins should be conserved by collectors and they should provide the details of such coins and the Maharashtra Government will publish information in the Gazetteer of the State," said Dr Balsekar during the concluding programme. Dr Balsekar, Mukund Prasad, a Mughal painting artist from Varanasi, Praveen Kaveri, heritage painting artist from Chandrapur and DB Singh, numismatist from Varanasi were felicitated with 'Virasat Mitra Award' for protecting art and culture during the event.

Collectors from Varanasi, Delhi, Ahmedabad, Baroda, Hyderabad, Bhopal, Mysore, Kolkata, and Nagpur were participated in the exhibition. Silver and copper coins of Alexander who entered in India way back in 326 BC was also displayed in the expo. Other Greek coins, early Indian coins, first plastic coins and many others were appreciated by visitors. Currencies of different countries of the world, coins of Vidarbha and gold coins are the major attractions of the event.

Mariamamma Thomas, Postmaster General, Nagpur Region released a Special Cover during this three-day event. Avinash Ramteke, Bharat Sariya, G C Nagdeo, Piyush Agrawal, Farokh Todywala and Pravin Nikhare also shared the dais during the concluding event. Major General (Retd) L K Gupta was also present prominently during the programme.



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Cont of Page 1st ..

How can collector grow in life?

Growing a collection and implying the new research with new findings in history through numismatics is very fascinating and that is the best growth in the collector's life: the growth of knowledge for own and others as well. The world of coins is very exciting but largely unexplored.

How did you come up with 'Marudhar Arts'?

Marudhar Arts was the brainchild idea of me in during younger days of my life where I wanted to create a platform where all the collectibles under numismatics and philately can be sold ONLINE to the collectors of this community. After moving to Bangalore I was thinking of the name and Marudhar Arts was finalized because I belong from Bikaner, Rajasthan the land of sand (Dhara of Maru) and always wanted to be connected with it thus I decided to start the venture "Marudhar Arts".

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

Yes, the incomplete knowledge people (who are not collectors) have increased a lot now a days.

Marudhar Arts has grown as one of the India's largest collectibles auctions and has auctioned some of the rarest and unique items in existence. Out of all of the auctions facilitated by Marudhar Arts, which would you say was your favorite auctions?

My best auction was auction no 2 and no 20.

What has been your most momentous experience in your numismatic career?

Organizing the National Numismatic Exhibition in Bangalore, Integration of the most advanced technology in this trade & the best is to edit the South Asian Coins and Paper Money Indian edition with US publishers.

Any unique collectible that you would like to share ?

Yes, I have a two rupee British India note which happens to be the only currency note to have to have **Mathma Gandhi's Autograph** on it.

Your auctions permit you to view and/or handle some of the rarest coins in existence. Is it possible to choose your favorite piece?

It is extremely tough to choose any favorite piece during the auction....

Do you feel any change to the numismatic industry in the past 10 years?

The industry has changed completely during the past 10 years with pros and cons of the internet and its integrity in the field. The best part is the information and knowledge of numismatics has become open for everyone.

How do you see Indian Numismatics evolving over the next 10 years? More international interest?

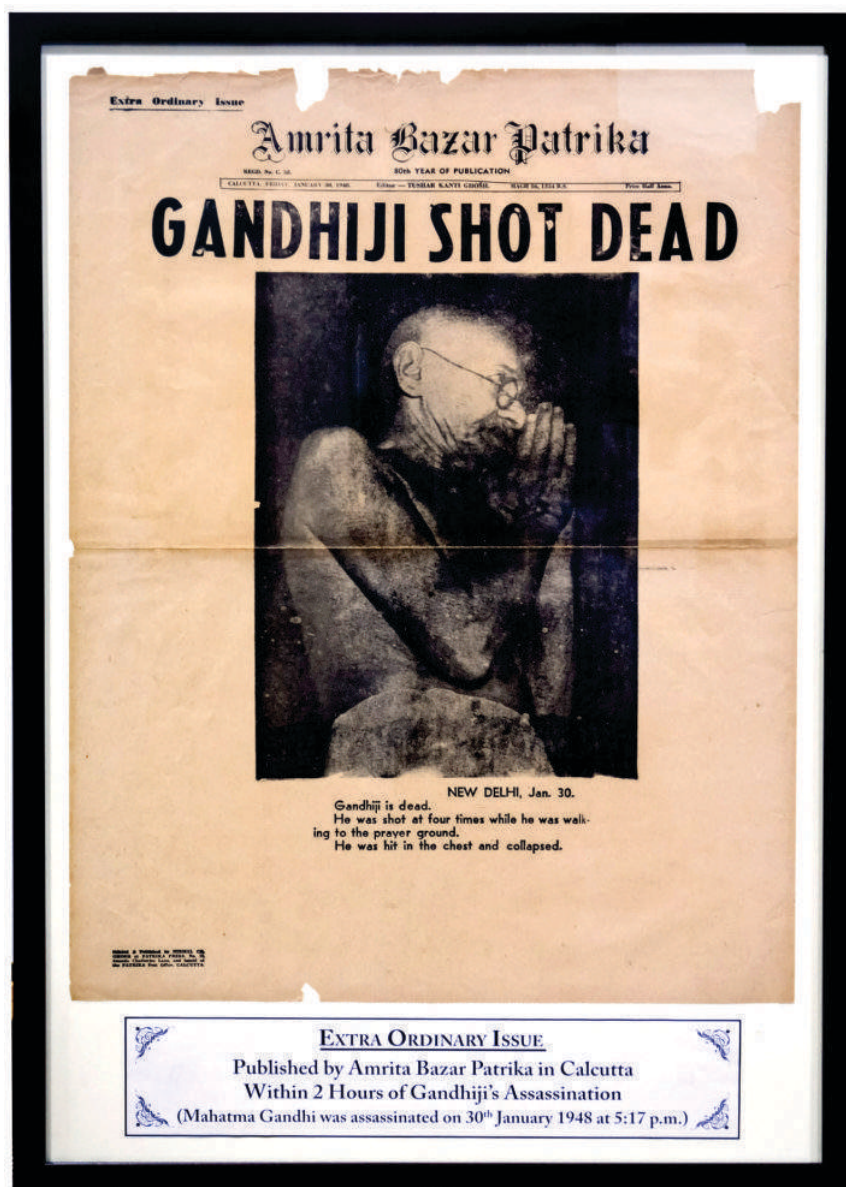
The next 10 years for Indian numismatics is very bright as we will see more no of collectors in upcoming years, the interest of collectors has been developing at an exponential level in the varsities of Indian numismatics.

Cont on Page 4th ...

From The Collection of Rajender Maru



Rare Plate Note of Krause Publication World Bank Note and cover Page of South Asia Coin and paper money



"Gandhi Paper" From The Collection of Rajender Maru

Cont of Page 3rd....



From The Collection of Rajender Maru



This coin is treated as world's 86th Rare Coin....
This is in my collection



Plate coin of Krause Publication World Coin catalogue



Do you feel that numismatics as a subject, should be encouraged among students? Maybe through few numismatic exhibitions and similar activities like vacation camps?

The idea here is that numismatics as a subject should be made interesting and engaging where students can enjoy and get attracted towards it without any prejudiced thoughts or interests towards the collection of coins or paper money. The mere teachings in the regular and generic forms wouldn't make it as interesting as it could be for the collectors.

The programs like design my stamps, design my note and coins should be brought in the picture to start this as a subject.

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.

It can be done away only with the possibilities of exposing the racket and its people from the grass root level and by organizing or deputing the body with structured measures and rules who works against it.

Do you have any advice for young collectors looking to prosper in the industry?

My advice is to all young collectors and enthusiasts that do not think in making of quick money with this industry, refrain yourself from practicing such habits. Focus in dwelling into the collection with proper knowledge and learning with all best ethics for fellow collectors and the fraternity as well.

How do you see our newspaper contributing to numismatics?

ICCG News has set the great example by providing the multi level information in the trends and practices of numismatics business to one and all and has connected almost everyone via same media.

As Mr. Maru believes, "All ancient coins have a story to tell, only if we care to listen.."

ICCG News wishes Mr. Rajender Maru all the very best for his upcoming auctions and thanked him for all his inspirational thoughts and time shared.

Alert: Collectors requested to stay very alert against Notes with 'tooled' serial numbers!! "Fake Errors"

This is an awareness post which requires high attention of all paper money error collectors.

Nowadays some similar serial number errors are being offered in new issues of various denominations (specifically new Gandhi series-2005). At the first look any paper money error collector would be attracted towards these tooled errors and would definitely place the best offer to obtain it.

Serial numbers printed on the reverse side are not printed by a serial number printing device in the official printing press, but are tooled to cheat the collectors.

It seems to be very unfortunate that some frauds and cheaters have obtained a powder which glows in UV light similar to a serial number on note.

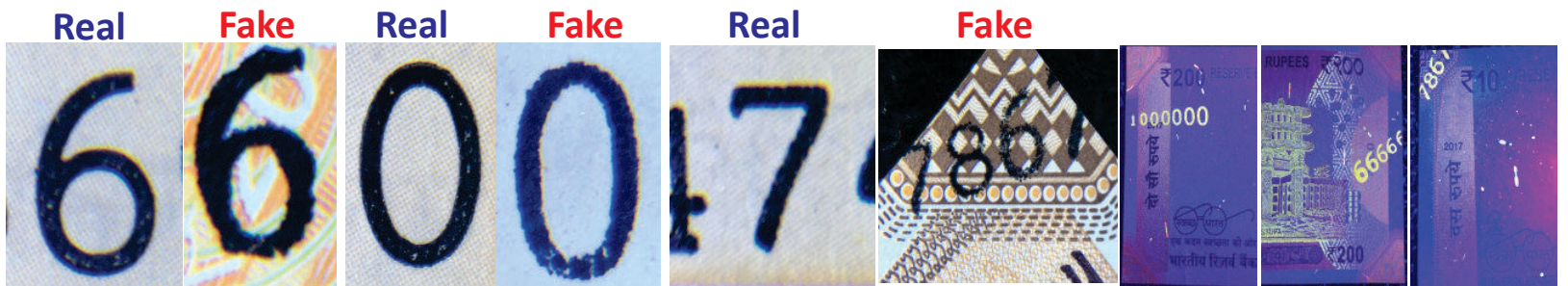
It can be observed in the zoom images of the serial numbers on reverse side of all tooled notes that these numbers differ in every way from the regular serial numbers on the reverse side. The font type is different. The font size is inaccurate. It can be clearly observed and understood when we zoom into the image that the serial numbers on reverse side are not at all in accordance to what is required.

Please beware of such errors. Apparently these might be very tempting but these are totally fake and forged with a malafide intention to dupe genuine collectors.

In lack of appropriate knowledge some reputed dealers are also unknowingly being a part of to promote these fake errors. Anyone of us or many of us might be offered these type of errors. But please beware as these are not genuine errors.



Article: Shri. Hitesh Tahilramani



This article has also proved quite helpful on social media 'Facebook' forum 'Errors in Indian Paper Money'.

Rs. 2,000 'Genuine' Notes Without Mahatma Gandhi's Image Circulating in Madhya Pradesh

Two elderly farmers from Madhya Pradesh's Sheopur district were shocked after they were handed over Rs 2,000 notes at State Bank of India (SBI) without the image of Mahatma Gandhi recently. The farmers, who thought the notes were fake, approached the SBI branch where they were told that the notes were "genuine" but there was a printing error.

Krishna Meena, from village Bichhugawdi, as per the reports with ICCG News, didn't notice anything wrong with the Rs 2,000 notes which he received from the SBI branch. It was only when another farmer who had similar notes told him about the error that both of them decided to approach the bank.

"The incident took place at Shivpuri Road branch of SBI. The notes were not counterfeit, but probably there was some printing error. They were taken back as soon as it (the error) was detected," quoted Sheopur district manager of SBI, Akash Shrivastav.

According to the report, this series of 'faulty' notes were printed at Bank Note Press in Dewas, Madhya Pradesh. Many such notes with "printing error" are in circulation in the region.



Cont of Page 1st ..

For last ten years, error notes and error coins have grabbed serious attention of both – numismatists and notaphilists equally in India. Almost everyday massive new error coins and misprinted notes are seen displayed by collectors and offered by dealers on 'facebook' forums and online shopping portals like ebay, Quikr and else. Collecting currency errors is one of the most interesting areas of paper money collecting. Auction houses and dealers are clearly the ultimate source for these items. And as most collectors get major part of their collectibles from auction houses and dealers rather than from circulation, they have a valid reason to think over the alarming bells.



Collecting misprinted money is a subset of traditional currency collecting. A misprint refers to any error on a currency note that occurs during the printing process at the press. The press official tries to catch all misprints that occur, and when they miss something that enters circulation, it certainly commands a heavy premium over face value. The value of the misprint currency note is based on the severity and the rarity of the error occurred. But one thing that also needs to be noted is that, as notes are printed in huge quantity and enter circulation every day, misprinted currency notes aren't necessarily very rare, but it certainly is popular. Typically when one misprint occurs, many of the same misprints also happen, and thus no misprinted note is unique in itself. It is not uncommon for bank officials to find some of the same error occurrence which is consecutively numbered. And so it would be highly unfair to tag all misprint collectibles as a result of corruption.

Still, it cannot be denied that many misprint notes and Specimen notes are also flooding in the market with the help of senior officials like Manohar Verma and/or with the knowledge of other officials working in BNPs of India. Numismatics and Notaphily are two of the most strong and respectable pillars of India which are committed to preserve our rich heritage and be equally educational. And so, in the time when the Nation is facing currency crises, any member from such community should think twice before getting involved or encouraging corruption in any manner which may beget a negative look to these communities. Hopefully we shall see an end to such corruption, loud our voices to stop malfunction of RBI chests and offering Bribes to bank officials for any benefits whatsoever.

Ahmedabad Coinex 2018

Ahmedabad coins and currency fair easily proved one stop for collectors of coins, notes and stamps. It was a three day fair inviting all coins and currency notes collectors and enthusiasts. It provided great opportunities for auctioneers to meet collectors. Trading or adding to ones collection, coins, medals, tokens and paper money was all made so possible during this numismatic fair.

Coin enthusiastic collectors attended the fair to purchase and sell rare currencies in case of immediate sale of items. There are several other attractions apart from the usual purchase and sell.

Ahmedabad coins and currency fair is one of the most prestigious fairs in Ahmedabad and it has been organized since 2008 annually. This year, it was held between 09th to 11th February at Shree Sardar Patel Seva Samaj, near Mithakhali six road, Ahmedabad.



2018 Canada 'The Justice League' 3D Coin

The Justice League springs into action on this coin, where a 3D lenticular effect adds movement to original art by DC Comics artist Jason Fabok! As the coin is tilted from side to side, one can see how these Super Heroes rush towards the viewer and unleash their powers. Colorist Brad Anderson adds comic book-worthy hues to both the coin's reverse and the two trading cards included in the set, which is sure to be a fan favorite.

The coin features a dual-image design that alternates between two original art concepts by Canadian comic book artist Jason Fabok. The first image is of the members of the Justice League: Batman, Cyborg, Aquaman, Superman, Flash, and Wonder Woman; viewed from a distance, all are in an action pose that suggests they are rushing towards the viewer in unison. When the coin is tipped, the second image reveals itself: this time, the group is much closer to the viewer as they spring into action.



Fabok's richly detailed art is dramatically brought to life in rich color by Canadian colorist Brad Anderson, whose deep hues add extra dimension to each Super Hero's show of force—whether it's Superman's heat vision, Wonder Woman's Lasso of Truth, Aquaman's Trident, Cyborg's cannon arm, Flash's speed-generated lightning, or Batman's intensity as he lunges forward and into battle. The coin is framed by a band in which engraved lines add to the sense of motion towards the viewer. Also engraved upon it is the face value “25 CENTS”, the year “2018” and the word “CANADA”. The obverse features the effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II by Susanna Blunt.

Year: 2018 **Country:** Canada **Series:** The Justice League **Shape:** Round **Diameter:** 35 mm

Coin of the Month

British India 1 Rupee Off-Center Double Struck Error Coin

Denomination: 1 Rupee **Year:** 1917 **Metal:** Silver
(.917) **Weight:** 11.60g **Shape:** Round
Diameter: 30.5 mm

Type of error: Off-center double-strikes are the most dramatic type of double-strikes. Here the planchet was first struck as a normal 1 rupee coin, but it failed to eject properly by the feeder finger and fell again on the collar in an off-center position and got a second strike. Thus resulting as a coin with a normal first strike and an off-centered second strike.

Like many off-center double-strikes, this coin also has an indented obverse. It is indented due to another planchet which was already in the collar about to be struck, when this coin returned in an off-centered position. Due to the second indented strike the lettering of the obverse effected area has got enlarged. The underlying planchet kept the obverse from being struck, although the reverse side of this coin was struck normally during the second strike, since it was not obstructed by the planchet.

This hundred year old coin which is an extremely rare example of erratum in British India series is chosen from the collection of senior numismatist Mr. Ashish Parui.



JK Government Showcases Ancient Coinage Era through Heritage

Jammu: Depicting Jammu and Kashmirs numismatic culture through the coinages which were prevalent in the state during the ancient period, the state government recently unveiled the First Heritage Calendar.

Minister for Finance, Labour and Employment Haseeb A. Drabu unveiled the Heritage Calendar-2018 of the department of culture depicting the JKs Numismatic Heritage through the coinages which were prevalent in the state during the ancient period.

Minister of State for Culture Priya Sethi, Commissioner Secretary, Culture Dilshad Khan, Director, Archives Archaeology and Museums Mohammad Shafi Zahid were present on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion, Drabu said, the Heritage Calendar of the Directorate of Archives, Archaeology and Museums depicted the unique and rich numismatic coinage of the state dating back to 350-150 BC till Dogra Coinage. These copper, silver and gold coins have also been displayed in the state museum of the department, he added.

While going through the coinage details on various leaves of the calendar, the minister said one can get complete knowledge of chronological history of its coinage in different periods of the state.

"The theme on coinage for the Heritage Calendar is aimed at inculcating a sense of the coinage of the state from the early past to the recent era for the citizens, especially students," he said, adding that the calendar is a platform which not only makes our citizens acquainted of our rich heritage but also ingrains in them a sense of preservation of their legacy.

The salient features of the calendar depicts the Punch- Marka coins (350-150 BC), Indo-Greek coinage (92-93BC), Indo-Scythians coinage (57-35 BC), Kushan coinage (100-120AD), Huns coins (400-500 AD), Hindu coinage (700-800 AD), Sultan Coinage (1420-1470), Mughal coinage (1606-27), Durani Coinage (1747-72), Sikh Coinage (1799-1839 AD) and the Dogra Coinage (1842-1850).



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Special Postal Cover Released to Commemorate 150th Anniversary of Hakim Ajmal Khan

New Delhi: The two day International Conference on Unani Medicine concluded in Delhi on 11th February with showers of tribute to Hakim Ajmal Khan on his 150th birth anniversary.

On Hakim Ajmal Khan, whose 150th Birth Anniversary on 11th February is being celebrated as Unani Day; Minister of State (IC), Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, MoS PMO and D/o Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitender Singh said that contribution made by him to the traditional medicine and to the nation was remarkable.

“Hakim Ajmal Khan was a multidimensional personality and his contributions to the freedom movement, education, literature, social reform, and systemization of Unani Medicine had been immense”, said Prof. Talat Ahmad, Vice Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia addressing the Function. He said that it is a matter of pleasure that the Ministry of AYUSH through the Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine is celebrating 150th birth anniversary of Hakim Ajmal Khan as Unani Day.

The CCRUM also released a Special Postal Cover with Special Cancellation through Department of Post to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Hakim Ajmal Khan and pay tribute to the saviour of indigenous systems of medicine and pioneer of scientific research in Unani Medicine.



Old Coins, Rare Weapons Draw Crowd at Patiala

An exhibition of old and rare weapons, manuscripts and coins was organized by Narinderpal Singh at the art gallery of the North Zone Cultural Centre, here today. Narinderpal is the collector of the old items. The World Punjabi Development Conference was also held on the occasion.

The exhibition included copper and silver coins of Nabha, Kaithal, Patiala and Jind states, besides those released by the 12 Sikh misls, which were dedicated to Guru Nanak Dev and Guru Gobind Singh. What fascinated people the most were the weapons which were used during the Mughal-Sikh wars. Swords, katar and daggers from the old Sikh era caught everybody's attention. “One person has done so much to preserve the rich heritage of Sikh religion,” said a visitor to the exhibition. Narinderpal, who is the general secretary of the National Numismatic Society, said, “The government must preserve the rich heritage of Punjab so that future generations could experience the history of the region through these relics.” A mechanical engineer by profession, Narinderpal has many a rare collection that includes a two-and-a-half rupee currency note released by the Republic of Indonesia, a 25 rupee note released by Nepal Rashtira Bank and a collection of currency notes released by Saddam Hussain.

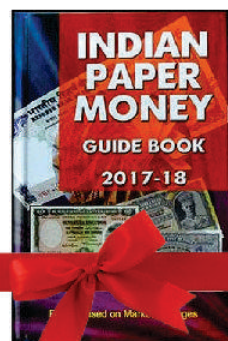
Narinderpal told The Tribune that the motive behind collecting these articles associated with the Sikh history was to make the younger generation aware of their rich cultural background. He has also formed a museum under the name of Akal Sahai Museum in Ludhiana. “It all started as a hobby as I was keen on collecting old and rare coins. After some time, it turned into a passion. Now, I try to procure everything that is rare and associated with the Sikh history. I have sold my land and assets to collect these coins, manuscripts, and weapons. I do not mind paying the price for these valuables which are invaluable for Sikh history and culture,” said Narinderpal. Narinder has organised 196 exhibitions in various schools across the state, to date.

Source: Tribune News Service

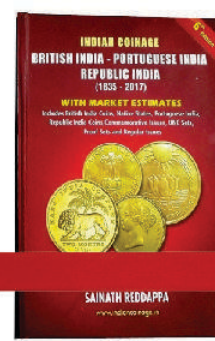


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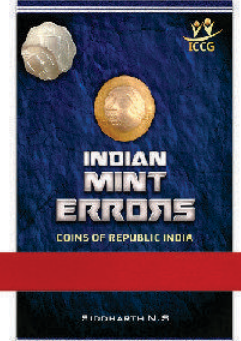
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Kolkata Mint Surprises with Jet Speed Delivery of Coin Sets

Recently, Indian numismatist Mr. Atul Gala was pleasantly surprised and was in full smiles as he received the delivery of the two coin sets that he booked from the Kolkata mint. Mr. Gala had booked two proof sets 'Tatya Tope – 200th Birth Centenary' & 'Biju Patnaik Birth Centenary' from the Kolkata mint recently. The booking of the said sets ended only in February and the sets got delivered the same month, was enough reason for Mr. Gala to celebrate.

The Kolkata mint is more known for delayed deliveries of coin sets. Moreover collectors even fail to get any reply from the mint officials in regards of their bookings. But this time the mint had their jet machines 'on' for a change.

"I never expected to get my coin sets as early as such. Kolkata mint is the slowest when it comes to delivering coin sets. Six months to one year and at times the delivery of coin sets has got delayed even by two years." says Mr. Gala.



Matchbox Label Exhibition in Trichy Throws Light on Bygone Era

TRICHY: It is unlikely that many have heard about philumeny, the hobby of collecting matchbox labels and matchboxes. Philumenists in Trichy said the labels were equally important to study the vernacular culture. "Till the 1980s matchbox was a significant product in every household. Throwing light on the history of matchboxes and their association with people, an exhibition -- touted to be the first of its kind in Tamil Nadu -- was held at the Government Museum in Trichy on Sunday.

Unlike the familiar hobbies such as philately and numismatics involving the collections of postal stamps and currencies, philumeny remains a least known hobby. To attract the attention of users, match producers carried vibrant matchbox covers displaying the portraits of political leaders like former chief minister M G Ramachandran (MGR)," said P Vijayakumar, a Trichy-based philumenist who hosted the exhibition.

Some old matchbox labels would help people learn about the old coins like annas. Matchbox labels had spread patriotism among people during pre-independence era by displaying the portrait of freedom fighters like Subash Chandra Bose, philumenists said. As many as 3,000 matchbox labels were on display.



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1.	वीरभद्र उपाध्याय की 150वीं जयंती (1867-1901)	2 सिक्का सेट (₹150 एवं ₹10)	₹2,735/-	₹2,374/-	
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उपरोक्त स्मारक सिक्कों की बुकिंग के लिए आम जनता से दिनांक 16/02/2018 से 31/03/2018 तक आवेदन आमंत्रित है। बुकिंग के लिए कृपया हमारी वेबसाइट <http://igmkolkata.spmcil.com> -> Customer Corner -> Place Order पर ऑन लाइन आवेदन करें अथवा वेबसाइट पर उपलब्ध निर्धारित आवेदन फॉर्म भर कर भेजें। फॉर्म के साथ India Government Mint, Kolkata-A Unit of SPMCIL के पक्ष में कोलकाता में देय डिमांड ड्राफ्ट / बैंकर्स चेक भेजें।
लेन-देन तथा बुकिंग की सुविधा के लिए, ग्राहक ऑन लाइन बुकिंग करें तो बेहतर होगा।

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Event's Time 10.00 Am - 7.00 Pm

Month	Dates	Events Name	Venue
February	9, 10 & 11	Ahmedabad CoinEx	Shree Sardar Patel Seva Samaj, Nr Mithakhali Six Road, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
February	16, 17 & 18	Vellore Coin Fair	Town Hall, Old Bus Stand, Vellore, Tamil Nadu
February	23, 24 & 25	9th NNE - National Numismatic Exhibition Bangalore	Shikshak Sadan, Opp. Kaveri Bhavan, K. G. Road, Bangalore, Karnataka
March	2, 3 & 4	Hyderabad Expo	Federation House, 11-6-841 Near Lakdi Ka Pul, Red Hills Hyderabad, T.S
April	20, 21 & 22	Shukla Day Coin & Philately Fair	Expo Center, World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai, Maharashtra
May	14 to 20	Royal Numismatic Society 2nd Coin Exhibition Delhi	All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society, 1 Rafi Marg, New Delhi
July	6, 7, & 8	Nuphilex (Pondicherry)	Pondicherry
July	13, 14, & 15	Global Currency Expo (Trichy)	Sreenivasa Hall, Near Central Bus Stand, Trichy, Tamil Nadu

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Philatelic Exhibition Mahapex Returns to Pune after Six Years

Mahapex-2018, the state level philatelic exhibition for the state of Maharashtra and Goa, for the first time demonstrated the use of new technology for transportation.

This year the exhibition was held at Ganesh Kala Krida Manch from January 20 to January 22. "It is of great pride for the department of posts for this state level philatelic exhibition which was held after a gap of six years," post master general Ganesh Sawaleshwarkar said.

He also added that the purpose of holding such exhibitions is to create awareness about philately, which is rightly known as 'the hobby of kings and the king of hobbies'.

"Stamp collecting is one of the most popular hobbies in the world. Postage stamps are used by different countries to portray their heritage, habitat, history, arts, literature and culture. These stamps are also providing valuable historical documentation for the future. It has emerged as a vehicle to accord symbolic recognition to the past and present achievements and to honor individuals, institutions and organizations. In fact, postage stamps and covers are cultural ambassadors," said Sawaleshwarkar. Mahapex-2018 was showcased through 400 frames which reflected the tradition, leisure, culture and modernity.

"Holding of stamps exhibitions at the national/circle/district level is one of the most effective ways to build up interest in philately as they provide a forum for collectors to display their collections, for being judged and attract the young to this fascinating hobby," said the post master general. Philately is increasingly being used as an effective educational tool to add to their knowledge and arouse the creativity of children and the youth as well.

The mega event included various activities such as quiz competition, stamp design competition, letter writing competition and elocution competition for school-going children spread over three days.

During the exhibition, eight special covers were released on various subjects.



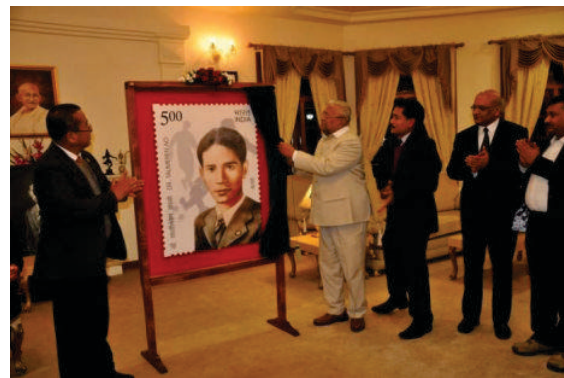
Postal Stamp Released to Commemorate Nagaland's Sport Icon Dr. T Ao

A year-long celebration of the 100th birth anniversary of Nagaland's sports icon Dr. Talimeren Ao, popularly known as Dr. T. Ao kicked started at Raj Bhavan with Nagaland Governor PB Acharya as the chief guest.

Dr. T Ao captained the Indian football team in the 1948 Summer Olympics London and was the flag-bearer of the Indian contingent. Acharya felt that the birth centenary of Dr. T. Ao should be celebrated across the country with functions at Delhi, Kolkata and Guwahati besides Nagaland. In an inaugural function, Acharya unveiled a portrait of the sporting icon and also released a commemorative postage stamp at Raj Bhavan.

As part of the celebration, the State Level Committee for the commemoration has announced junior football tournament to be held in all districts. The Department of Health & Family Welfare and Youth Resources & Sports will visit institutions to highlight the importance and benefits of sports.

Thanking everyone for honoring and remembering his father, Er Indianoba Tally, youngest son of Dr. T Ao said: "We wish he were alive today to personally receive this honor but unfortunately it cannot be." Tally hoped that his father's stupendous achievements in the field of sports would ignite the minds of young upcoming sportspersons.



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

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.

1990 – 15 Years of I.C.D.S

The Integrated Child Development Services (I.C.D.S.) was inaugurated in 1975. It is the largest and most important Government scheme, which aims at the overall development of children in the economically weaker section of the society. This scheme includes supply of supplementary food to children, provision of immunization facility to expectant mothers and children against various infectious diseases and regular health check up. To highlight the commendable work being done by I.C.D.S., a 1 rupee commemorative coin was issued on 17th January, 1991 on the 15th anniversary of the organization.

Obverse: The obverse of this coin shows the Ashokan lion and the value '1' in International numerals on the center. In English "INDIA" and "RUPEE" appear on the right periphery and in Hindi "Bharat" and "Rupaya" appear on the left. "Satyameva Jayate" in Hindi is shown just below the Ashokan Lion.

Reverse: The reverse of this coin shows a child in its mother's lap, set within radiating sun – symbolizing general well being. The legend '15 YEARS OF I.C.D.S.' in English appears around the right half and 'Samekita Bal Vikash Seva Yojana' in Hindi around the left half of the periphery. The text 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' in Sanskrit (meaning – 'People of the World are our kins') is set on the top of the central design, with the date '1975 – 1990' noted below.



Specifications: Year of issue: 1990 Weight: 6 grams

Metal composition: Cupro – Nickel alloy (75% Copper + 25% Nickel)

Shape: Circular **Diameter:** 26 mm **Edge:** milled **Mints:** Mumbai & Hyderabad

1990 – 15 Years of I.C.D.S

Jahangir's Coin Sells for a Record Rs 2.4 Crore at New York Auction

A new record was set recently at New York's Grand Hyatt Hotel. A Jahangir gold mohur was sold for an incredible \$325,000. Add Buyer's premium to this, and the lucky buyer will be shelling out \$390,000 – i.e. almost **Rs 2.5 crore** for a one tola (10 grams) coin. The New York International Numismatic Convention is the United States' largest and most prestigious numismatic event targeting the needs of the world and ancient numismatic communities. This marvelous coin was auctioned by the prestigious firm Classical Numismatic Group, Inc (CNG).



The world of Indian Islamic Numismatics is mesmerizing.

Numismatics is more than just a hobby. It tells historians so much about the past. The right to mint coins was one of two things that were fiercely guarded by all Muslim Monarchs – the second being the inclusion of a prayer for the monarch during Friday sermon. Islamic coins provide even more information than coins of other cultures, as they also contain the mint name (geographical location), and the year of minting, thus providing numismatics and historians with critical information. For those unfamiliar with the Arabic language, Richard Plant's "Arabic Coins and how to read them" will make reading Islamic coins a breeze.

Islamic coinage began after the newly established Muslim state conquered the Sassanian empire. Umar bin Khattab, the second Khalifa asked a word or two of Islamic terminology (Bismillah) be added to the existing Sassanian coin design; thus, you see the initial Islamic coins having human portraits contained in earlier Sassanian coins. This was followed by Arabic language replacing the Pahlavi script, and the Hijri calendar replacing the Yezdigrd age. Similarly, after defeating the Byzantines, the Muslims initially started marking the existing coins Sahih or Tayyib indicating that the coins were acceptable for usage. This was followed by the removal of the horizontal bar from the cross and addition of Islamic Terminology. Khalifa Abd al-Malik Bin Marwan was responsible for the complete redesign of the Islamic coins. During the approximately thousand years that followed, changes were made to the coin design by various dynasties spread across three continents.

The Indian Islamic coinage quickly switched to the Indian monetary weight system of heavier mohurs, instead of the standard dinars used in other parts of the Islamic world. The dinar had followed the Roman monetary system of denarius. Some of the initial Indian Islamic coins were bilingual. Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni's following silver dirham has the obverse in Arabic and the reverse in Sanskrit.

The value of a coin depends on several factors. It's condition – fine, very fine, extremely fine, choice, etc.; its mint – where it was minted; its Rarity or lack thereof. Above all it's demand. For example, a very ancient, rare coin, from a desirable mint may not have much demand and hence may not fetch much. Whereas, coins that have high demand, even in relatively poor condition may fetch a decent amount. That being said, rare, precious coins are handled with extreme care, as the slightest blemish could dramatically reduce the price of an extremely valuable coin. While inexpensive, common coins are available by the bucket load, valuable coins are difficult to come by, and when they do appear on the market, collectors try to outbid each other for it. Trolling the local coin shows is a good way to get started. There are numerous large, reputable auction houses that maintain extensive databases of research coins of all cultures. There are Islamic email groups that can be of help too. Museums are good places to view rare, valuable coins.

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