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## India's History in Currency is the Subject of Rezwan Razack's Museum of Indian Paper Money



ailed as the largest collector of Indian currency, Rezwan Razack has opened South India's first currency museum in Bengaluru. "I am so happy that the former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, C. Rangarajan inaugurated the museum," says Razack.

Razack, co-founder and joint MD of Prestige Group, is the Chairman of the International Bank Note Society, India Banknote Collectors' Chapter, and is recognized for his contribution to the advancement of numismatic knowledge. Razack, who built his collection over 50 years with exhaustive research, enjoys sharing his knowledge with students and encourages budding collectors to promote numismatics as a hobby. **Cont on Page 3rd.** 

### Learning from 'Ek Mahanayak'

ce Director Imtiaz Punjabi who has been at the helm as director of successful shows like Choodiyan, Jassi Jaisi Koi Nahin, Maryada, Parvarrish is currently directing a biopic 'Ek Mahanayak - Dr B R Ambedkar which is being aired at 20:30 on & TV from Monday to Friday. The telecast of this television show started on 17 December 2019. For the first time, the story of Babasaheb Ambedkar is being shown on television as a biopic. The show includes inspiring parts of Babasaheb's life. The story of this show begins from Babasaheb's

childhood & the role of Bhimrao Ambedkar is been played by child artist Aayudh Bhanushali. Recently ICCG News correspondents visited the sets of Ek Mahanayak and explored the views of the director himself on the importance of our history, historical characters and heritage during the interview for the behind the lens segment. Excerpts from the interview:

#### What was your first break?

I started as a writer having written a few episodes of Daastan and Chattan. My career in direction started with 'Choodiyan' and 'Jassi Jaissi Koi Nahin' for Sony Entertainment Television, I have directed numerous shows like 'Maryada' for Star Plus, 'Baat Hamari Pakki Hai' & 'Parvarrish' for Sony Entertainment Television, amongst others. Currently, I am directing 'Ek Mahanayak – Dr B R Ambedkar' which is being aired on & TV. For a change, I have also directed a film titled 'Fun2shh'.



Mr.Imtiaz Punjabi

Master. Aayudh Bhanushali

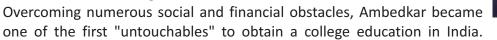
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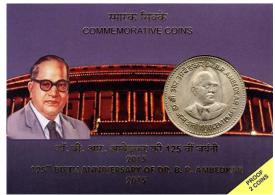
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News

# CCG News Paper of India A Division of :- INDIAN COINS & CURRENCY GROUP Remembering Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar and his contribution to Indian Constitution

pril 14, 1891 – December 6, 1956, also known as Babasaheb, was an Indian nationalist, jurist, Dalit political leader and a Buddhist revivalist. He was also the chief architect of the Indian Constitution. Born into a poor Untouchable family, Ambedkar spent his whole life fighting against social discrimination, the system of Chaturvarna - the Hindu categorization of human society into four varnas and the Indian caste system. He is also credited with having sparked the Dalit Buddhist movement. Ambedkar has been honoured with the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award.





Eventually earning law degrees and multiple doctorates for his study and research in law, economics and political science from Columbia University and the London School of Economics,

Ambedkar returned home a famous scholar and practiced law for a few years before publishing journals advocating political rights and social freedom for India's untouchables.

## Coins Commemorating Dr. B R Ambedkar

In 1990 Indian Government Mint issued a 1 rupee coin commemorating Dr. B R Ambedkar. This coin was minted at Mumbai and Hyderabad mints. In 2015, Prime Minister Narendra Modi released two commemorative coins, as part of the 125th birth anniversary year celebration of Dr B.R. Ambedkar. The coins, which are of '10-rupee' and '125-rupee' denomination, were issued on the Mahaparinirvan Divas of Babasaheb Ambedkar.



In PM Narendra Modi speech, glowing tributes were paid to Babasaheb

Ambedkar. PM Modi said that there were only a few individuals who remain alive in public consciousness, even 60 years after their death. He said the more we recall Dr Ambedkar's thought, in the context of issues currently faced by India, the more we come to respect his vision and his approach to inclusiveness.

The Prime Minister said that while his contributions towards social justice have been recognized, his economic thought and vision is still not fully understood, and it needs to be appreciated. The Prime Minister said Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar and the Constitution of India should always be discussed and talked about in this country, and the observance of Constitution Day on November 26th, was a step in this direction. The PM Modi also appreciated Dr Ambedkar's vision on subjects such as women empowerment, India's federal structure, finance and education.

## Postal Stamps and Special Covers Commemorating Dr. B R Ambedkar

Over the years India Post has also issued number of commemorative postage stamps and special covers on Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.



News



e has co-authored The Revised Standard Reference Guide to Indian Paper Money in 2012, and in 2017 wrote One Rupee One Hundred Years 1917-2017 to mark the centenary of the issuance of the one rupee note. "Rezwan Razack's Museum of Indian Paper Money will not only be the first of its kind in India, but also the world," says Razack.

**The museum at Prestige Falcon Towers on Bruntun Road,** has trained guides to take visitors through the history of currency in India. "The story of money is woven into our very being, uniting us, dividing us, giving us a sense of identity and mapping people or the nation's power, crises and triumphs. I consider it a comprehensive restoration and preservation of an important national heritage. It is also something that numismatists worldwide will benefit from."

The initiative, he says, is to help educate, inform and entertain. "The rupee is one thing that is ever present in our lives but never seen as a source of history, information and national pride. I hope visitors understand, enjoy and value this museum of our collective economic heritage."

The museum displays a diverse collection of Indian paper money and the related material drawn from the Indian subcontinent. "While the concept of money has existed since almost the beginning of civilization, the invention of paper currency is more recent," says Razack. From the early barter systems and the use of coins as currency, the museum introduces the visitor to paper currency, its origins and its use.

Apart from its selection of banknotes dating back to the early 1800s, an auxiliary collection has also been put together to explain the inspirations and techniques of making paper currency. While original hand-painted essays, patterns, proofs, trials, specimen notes, autographed notes and a rare Star of India Medal demonstrate fascinating aspects of money, meticulously sourced cheques, stamp papers relating to Indian paper money, booklets and banknotes help decode the world of money.

"This museum has been planned meticulously over three years to conform to international standards of lighting and climate control," says Razack, adding that people don't often retain paper money "My visits to cut-note dealers in Chickpet and in Fort Bombay gradually increased my collection," he says, acknowledging that his persistence paid off. Razack says his collection includes the oldest surviving note from 1812 of Bank of Bengal right up to the notes of 2017 of all denominations. The rare ones are the early Presidency Banknotes of Bank of Hindostan, Bank of Bengal, Commercial Bank, Calcutta Bank, Bank of Bombay, Bank of Western India, Asiatic Bank and Bank of Madras; British India's Portrait Notes of Queen Victoria, Portrait Notes of King George V and King George VI; and Indian Notes used in Burma and Pakistan; Notes of Indo-Portuguese and Indo-French Territories and Indian Notes since Independence,

also used by Haj Pilgrims and in Persian Gulf States.

There is also a lot of importance behind his book dedicated to the One Rupee note. The first One Rupee Note in India was issued on November 30, 1917. "To celebrate 100 years of the one rupee note in India, my book focuses on the origin and journey of the smallest existing denomination through the century, while examining its genesis. As the general population in India was unacquainted with paper notes until 1917, one of the methods adopted to increase the popularity of the one rupee note was to print a picture of the silver one rupee coin on both sides of the note."

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News



#### The collection

The collection includes banknotes from the early 1800s, early private and presidency banks, including the uniface or one-sided notes attributed to the colonial Government of India. The portrait notes of British monarchs such as Queen Victoria, King George V and VI are also present, while India's colonial history has been documented in the notes from French and Portuguese India. From the princely states of Hyderabad, Jammu and Kashmir and Indian notes issued in the 19th century, to the Saurashtra and prisoners of war cash coupons, the museum maps the shifting kaleidoscope of history in the Indian subcontinent. Indian Notes used in Burma and Pakistan and rare notes used in the Persian Gulf States and by Haj pilgrims are valuable additions.

The beginnings

The journey of collecting paper money for Rizwan Razack began 50 years ago. It all started with the 'cancelled' stamped on some Reserve Bank of India banknotes kept in an iron safe at his ancestral family home in Bengaluru. The children were at times privileged to open the iron safe to keep the day's collection of their grandfather Hajee Abdul Sattar Sait, a trader who ran a lucrative retail business. "The privilege of safely keeping the money packed in a cloth bag was a joy, because, we also discovered other belongings stored in the big iron safe. I remember seeing a few RBI notes with the portrait of King George VI that were cancelled with a rubber stamp which read "Pakistan Note Payment Refused." I wondered how Reserve Bank of India notes could be Pakistan money and my question remained unanswered for many years.

Collecting, observing and studying them became Razack's hobby. And in 1971 during his holidays to Coonoor in Nilgiris he saw his cousin, Sadiq Haroon with more such Indian Banknotes at his oak writing desk. One of them read "Rupees Two Annas Eight" or two and a half rupees that he grabbed from Sadiq, amazed at a banknote of a fractional denomination. "After I returned to Bangalore, I pestered my grandfather to give me all the antique banknotes that he had," says Razack.

Interview

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Agitate'.

#### What was your turning point?

My turning point was 'Daastan'. With this serial I turned from an assistant director to a writer. But I also wanted to be a director and obviously 'Choodiyan' was a landmark as it was my first serial as a writer - director. For a director it becomes very easier to direct one's own written project. Incidentally 'Choodiyan' was a big hit as it was very differently narrated and a very different subject.

#### You have already been a part of many fictional projects but 'Ek Mahanayak' is a biopic. How would you differentiate fiction from a biopic?

While making a biopic you need to do a lot of research. You need to be very near to the character, you cannot fictionalize the character as our serial shows the life of a



Mr. Imtiaz Punjabi with our correspondents Shikha & Siddhi

historical person and the central character's real name is used. Biopic clearly differ from docudrama serial as in that it attempts to comprehensively tell a single person's life story or at least the most historically important years of his life. A lot of detailing is involved while making a biopic like how your main character looks, what dress or glasses he wears,

how he walks and talks etc.... whereas in fiction you can work out with any imaginary thought.

# How important it is for any country to commemorate its national heroes and personalities with historical importance?

It is really very important to commemorate our national heroes because these are the people who have done a lot for our society. Many of our national heroes have given their lives for our nation. So it's very important to not only commemorate them but also to promote their positive thoughts. Now it also depends as to which national hero is one talking about. Like as if we talk about Bhimrao Ambedkar, then he wrote the constitution of India, he fought for women, he fought for equality. During his lifetime his clan and community followed him and made a tremendous development and progress only because of his simple advice 'Educate, Unite and

# You have worked a lot with child actors. How challenging is it while directing child actors?

Yes, it is indeed very challenging. Two biggest challenges for any director is to direct a child and an animal. Perhaps the most important technique for any director is the ability to develop a good sense of rapport with the child. Initially it may take time like about a month or so because many children don't trust anyone other than their parents. Children can always be very mischievous and at times stubborn but its on us to create a feeling of sameness and accord threaded with a sense of basic trust. Its all about learning the art of moulding them in a positive way. I am guite fond of children. All my child actors spend most of the time on the sets and I make sure that they get good time to play outdoor games. Between breaks they also study in vanity vans. Becoming friend to a child makes things lot easier. I talk to them quite often, spend time with them play with them and also scold them on their wrong doings. But it's all due to the good rapport that these children don't run away from me after the scolding rather they come to me asking forgiveness and unite with all smiles. I have worked a lot with child actors and really enjoy working with them as you never know at which moment these kids may give you an expression of a lifetime. Its because inherently they don't know acting neither have done any acting course. So the expression that you get is often quite natural.

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Interview

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#### As a child yourself, what were your hobbies?

There were many hobbies. Running, jogging, hiking are all a part of my hobby. I also used to play cricket. Basically I love sport. And so I encourage children on the sets to play outdoor games. Even today if you see me watching tv then the channel would be news or sports. **Soon we were joined with all the five child actors from the TV Show. It was such a pleasure having them as a part of this interview and our first question to them was obviously their real name and the name of the character they were playing in the serial.** 

**Aayudh:** I am Aayudh Bhanushali. I play the role of young Bhimrao Ambedkar.

**Athar:** My name is Athar Khan. I play the role of Anand Rao brother of Bhimrao in the serial.

**Saud:** My name is Mohammed Saud Mansuri. I play the role of Balaram, elder brother of Bhimrao.

Vanshika: I am Vanshika Yadav and I play Manjula, the elder sister of Bhimrao.

Nysa: My name is Nysa and I play Tulsa, sister of Bhimrao.

#### Which school and class are you in?

Aayudh: I am in class 1 from Sheth Virchand Dhanji Devshi Primary English Medium School.

Athar: I am 8th grade student from St. Joseph School.

Saud: I am in 10th class from Kamladevi Jain High School.

Nysa: I am in class 3 from Kendriya Vidyalaya IIT Powai School.

Vanshika: I am in 4th class from Madhusudan Global School.

#### What are your favourite subjects?

Athar: My favourite subjects are English and Maths.

Nysa: I love English and EVS.

**Saud:** I am preparing for boards. Studies are going really good and I am aiming for at least 90% plus.

ICCG News team wishes all the very best for Master Saud Mansuri for his coming board exams.

And what would they like to be when they grow up, all four (Saud, Athar, Vanshika and Nysa) had a similar reply: Actor. But the youngest of all and the main central character had complete different dream for self. In Aayudh's words:

I would like to be a director (like Imtiaz Uncle).

#### **Reason?**

**Very innocently this six year old replies:** We ourselves don't have to act but just sit on the chair and make others act. "Dhoop mein khada hona padta hai aur kale ho jaate hain, Director banke chhapre ke neeche baith to sakte hain" (Don't need to get tanned in the heat, at least we can sit in shade as a director).





#### Finally we again turned to Imtiaz Sir for any message to the youth in regards of respecting our heritage.

**Imtiaz Punjabi:** Its very important to respect our heritage as our heritage is a legacy from our past. There should always be a mutual effort from the government and individuals that heritage should be preserved and protected. For our youth it is very necessary to learn the right history and not the fabricated version of it. Be the history good or bad it does not matter but it should never be fabricated. Everyone is good or bad in some or other way but we always learn from mistakes. History is something that you should always learn from, never repeat history.

After being permitted to click photographs our news team thanked Imtiaz Punjabi Sir and all the child actors for sharing their time and views which we hope would inspire our youth to give more respect to our heritage, history and historical personalities. ICCG News team wished them lots of success in future.

News

# 'Walking Postbox' Man Becomes Show-Stopper at International Kolkata Book Fair

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he postbox, moving around in front of the India Post stall at the book fair ground in Salt Lake's Karunamoyee, has become a great hit, especially among children, the Chief Postmaster General of Bengal Circle, Goutam Bhattacharya, said on 06th February 2020.

"We have come up with this idea to generate interest among the present generation and show them how postboxes have been connecting people for ages," says Bhattacharya.

People, after purchasing books from the fair, can approach the walking postbox to send the books to their respective destinations by post, Bhattacharya said.

"Children along with their parents are posing for photographs and selfies with the postbox man," one of the officials manning the stall said.

They are also buying postage stamps and silver pendants from him, the official said.

"We are trying to explain to the visitors how the good old postal department has no alternative even in this age of mail and WhatsApp, and why Speed Post and postal savings schemes can still be among the most reliable options," the official said.



The department has also released a special postal cover and a metal seal on the occasion of the 44th International Kolkata Book Fair.

### Nagmoney 2020: Old Coins and Paper Currencies Exhibition Draws Curious Visitors

Agpur: Nagmoney 2020 is the ALI India C o m p e t i t i v e Numismatic Expo, which recently got a huge response in City. It was organized from 24th to 26th January 2020, which seemed to be garnering a good response in the media. The program was organised at Mor Bhavan at the Ramgopal



 $Mahe shwari\,Sanskruti\,Sabhagruha\,Hindi\,seemed\,to\,have\,attracted\,a\,huge\,amount\,of\,people\,within\,and\,outside\,the\,city.$ 

The event was organised by Numismatic Research Institute Nagpur wherein one could explore a wide range of coins, currency notes, and stamps. It was a sale cum exhibition event that has collected the stamps from all across the states and the other countries as well. Dr. Girish Gandhi the Trustee of Vanarai Foundation was the man who kicked off the event. He was joined by the Numismatic expert who remained the guest of honor of the said program.

Bose was seen felicitating with the Nagmoney 2020 Jeevan Gaurav Award during the hands of the said guest. On 25th January the event had a lecture on the topic called Numismatic Heritage of North East India along with the emerging trends presented by the said expert. Bose was seen talking about the importance of Numismatic Heritage and the way the collectors from different nations were seen passing about the heritage.

The collection for coins had the ones from different age and regime including the ones from Shivaji Maharaj and the Nizam of Awadh as well. The notes from nations like UAE, Pak, Middle East and other places were seen at the event.



News

## Republic Day 2020: A Special Cover and Stamp Released by IIT Kanpur

he special cover depicted the iconic PK Kelkar Library building, which is one of the most prominent buildings of the lush green academic campus spreading 1200 acres.

A special cover and stamp were released by IIT Kanpur on the eve of the Republic Day, as part of the ongoing diamond jubilee celebrations. IIT-K turned 60 in November last.

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The special cover depicted the iconic PK Kelkar Library building, which is one of the most prominent buildings of the lush green academic campus spreading 1200 acres. The library building is named after the first director of the institute Prof PK Kelkar.

A special stamp, highlighting the impressive Diamond Jubilee Logo was also released on the occasion with a specially designed cancellation seal to mark the day.



The occasion was graced by the chief post-master general of Uttar Pradesh Circle, KK Sinha, the post-master general of Kanpur region, VK Verma. Speaking on the occasion, Sinha explained the various new initiatives which the Department of Post and Telegraph has taken to popularize philately and outreach in remote areas of the country.

Director of IIT Kanpur, Prof Abhay Karandikar dwelled upon the importance of celebrating the Diamond Jubilee and enumerated several path breaking initiatives which the institute has taken in the last decades.

IIT Kanpur is of the premier research institutes dedicated to developing highest quality of human resources in the country for advancement of science and technology. Prof. Sameer Khandekar conducted the ceremony and acknowledged the critical role of postal services in every citizens life.

The release ceremony was also attended by Dr Onkar Rai, Director General – Software and Technology Parks of India and Dr Biswajit Saha, director skill education and training CBSE.

## Postal dept releases special cover and cancellation on 44th Kolkata International Book Fair

olkata: The West Bengal circle of the Department of Posts released a Special Cover and Cancellation on the 44th Kolkata International Book Fair on Monday. The Special Cover and Cancellation including a Special Envelope Cover and Metal Seal commemorating the decadeslong pride of Kolkata, was released by Gautam Bhattacharya, chief postmaster general, West Bengal. Publishers and Book Sellers Guild (PBSG) general secretary Sudhangshu Sekhar Dey, PBSG president Tridib Chatterjee and eminent philatelists were also present on the occasion.





#### **Coin of the Month**

## **Off Center Double Strike New Ten Rupees**

**rr**or: New ten rupees coin struck off center twice.

**Description:** Here the ten rupee planchet failed to enter the collar and got an off center strike. The same planchet again failed to eject the coining chamber and got a second strike (this time too off center).



USE: Circulation Year: 2019

Metal: Bi - metal

Shape: Circular Weight: 7.74 gms

**Obverse:** The obverse face show the Lion Capitol of Ashoka Pillar with the legend 'Satyamev Jayate' in Hindi inscribed below. On its left flank, the word 'Bharat' in Hindi, and on the right flank, the word 'INDIA' in English.

**Reverse:** The reverse face has its denominational value written in international numerals. The Rupee symbol is placed above this denominational value. The denomination of the coin is written in words, in Hindi on top right and in English on the top right and bottom right peripheries of the reverse face.

## This coin of the month is chosen from the collection of Mr. Vastupal Shah's collection.

Shukla Day Coin, Stamps, Bank Notes Fair "17,18,19 April 2020" Wene: Expo Center Torld Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai India's longest unning, Ungest and most popular BobBy Shove	Rates of Advertisements in ICCG Newspaper			
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News

# Corona Virus Scare Leads to Cancellation of Coin Show in Asia

ne coin show in Asia is cancelled and two others are delayed in the wake of the outbreak of the corona virus disease now named COVID-19.

American coin firms with footprints in the region also report being affected by the outbreak in various ways.

The Hong Kong International Coin & Antique Watch Fair, previously scheduled for March 24 to 26, is cancelled.

Organizers of the Singapore International Coin Fair, originally planned for April

3 to 5, announced that the show was cancelled. However, they are in negotiations to reschedule the show for sometime in June or August, but operators of other events that have also been cancelled are likewise trying to reschedule, clouding an already busy calendar.

Kitty Quan, of Panda America, which coordinates the Singapore show, said, "It is a tough decision to make. We are keeping our fingers crossed and hope we are able to secure a suitable date and will receive an early confirmation from [Marina Bay Sands, the show site]."

In addition, the 8th Hong Kong Coin Show, originally scheduled from March 27 to 29, is rescheduled to May 9 and 10. That show is jointly operated by Stack's Bowers and Ponterio, and Spink. Stack's Bowers and Ponterio announced changes to its auction schedule, moving the sale originally scheduled for March 23 to 25 to a slot May 4 to 6, ahead of the newly rescheduled show. Spink also rescheduled its auction, to follow on May 7 and 8 now.

"Since the Corona virus first emerged in Wuhan China in December 2019, Stack's Bowers and Ponterio has been closely monitoring the situation and considering its effects on our clients, employees and global business," the operators said February 17 in a statement. "We believe this decision is in the best interest of protecting the safety and health of our staff and clients, as well as our bidders and consignors."

# Heritage Auctions' Early-January Numismatic Signature Sales Exceed \$68.8 Million

allas, Texas - Heritage Auctions announced on February 03 2020, that its numismatic Signature Auction sales in the first part of January totalled a combined \$68,811,129 from auctions held during the Florida United Numismatic Convention and the New York International Numismatic Convention conventions.

Sales spanned U.S. Coins, U.S. Currency, World Paper Money, and World & Ancient Coins and were only offered as part of official FUN & NYINC Convention auctions. The sale total does not include January's weekly auctions, month-long auctions, or private numismatic sales.

"We were especially pleased about the house and world records achieved across U.S. and World coins," said Greg Rohan, President of Heritage Auctions. "These two events are among the largest of the year and we're delighted to deliver powerhouse results to our clients."

The world's largest numismatic auctioneer garnered \$41,777,374 in U.S. coins sales, led by a \$2,160,000 bid for a 1927-D Double Eagle, MS65+ PCGS CAC - the rarest regular-issue of a 20th-century American coin. One of likely seven examples publicly available, this sale marks the first time in five years that Heritage has offered a 1927-D double eagle, and set a new public auction record for this Denver mega-rarity.

An exquisite specimen of an 1855 G\$1 PR66 Ultra Cameo NGC, the finest of only seven confirmed examples, realized \$336,000. The coin displays smooth, mirrored looking-glass fields and thick frost on the devices, with superlative black-on-gold contrast.



Additional U.S. Coin highlights offered during the Florida United Numismatic Convention (FUN) include:

A 1927-S Saint-Gaudens \$20 MS66+ PCGS. CAC, an elusive branch mint issue and the second-finest certified at PCGS, ended at \$312,000. The coin's rarity only enhanced its sale price. The large mintage of 3.1 million pieces was almost totally destroyed after the Gold Recall of 1933. Only a small number of examples surfaced in European holdings in the 1950s.

Among the finest known of this one-year type, a 1796 No Stars Quarter Eagle, MS63 NGC, sold for \$300,000. The 1796 No Stars quarter eagle shares a reputation with its later sibling, the 1808 quarter eagle, as among the most significant and rarest gold type coins of any denomination due to low mintages.

A 1794 Flowing Hair Dollar, VF35 PCGS, garnered 45 bids before it sold for \$288,000. The key piece offered as part of The Watermark Collection.



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Event's

# ENTRY FREE परातत्व मुद्रा उत्सव - जबला

JRATATVA

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IRATATVA MUDRA UTSAV





Date: 20th, 21st & 22nd March 2020 | Time: 10AM to 8PM Venue: Hotel Prince Viraj JDA Scheme no. 41, Near Ekta Square, Vijay Nagar, Mr4 Road, Jabalpur, MP.

•FOR STALL BOOKING•

Contact: Mohit Rathore (9977333336) Ashutosh Agrawal (7000686883) E-mail: puratatvamudrajbp@gmail.com

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News

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