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Members news

We are sorry to hear about the recent death of Major F. Pridmore whose name will be well known to many members for his extensive studies dealing principally with the various British Colonial coin series. Mr. S. Arumugam of , India writes as follows: As a member of the ONS, I would like to meet the ONS members during their visits to South India to discuss

various subjects on South Indian Numismatics. They may have the opportunity to go through my collections which comprise the following dynasties: 1, Chera: 2, Chola: 3, Pandya: 4, Pallava: 5, Vijayanagar: 6, Mysore: 7, Naiks of Madura and Tanjore: 8, East India Companies: 9, Satavahana: 10, Punch-marked etc.' Mr. Robert Wynants of France, writes that he is investigating Far Eastern gift money (ie. Paper money burnt at funerals, 'Hell Bank Notes', 'Heaven Bank Notes' etc.): he would welcome help from members. Mr. K. MacKenzie of New Jersey has sent information on the theft of an Ottoman coin collection in Greece and has details for any member who may be able to assist.

The ONS Accounts for 1979/1980 are available from the Treasurer who will send a copy on receipt of an SAE. The next ONS meeting in London will be held at St. James' Hall, 6 Gloucester Terrace, W.2 on Saturday 8th. November at 2 pm.

Major Fred Pridmore

an appreciation by Ken Wiggins

It is sad to have to report that one of the better known members of the O.N.S, Major Fred Pridmore of Taunton, Somerset, died on the 6th. August last, aged 65 years. He had been in failing health for some time. Major Pridmore was well known for his four major works on the coins of the British Commonwealth¹, two other books on the coins of Cyprus and the Straits Settlements² and for his numerous contributions on many aspects of Colonial and Commonwealth coinage which appeared in numismatic journals over many years. The last of his works has just been published³ and it is fitting that he should have seen the results of his many years of research before he died.

Fred Pridmore was well known to a number of members of the O.N.S. and they will doubtless recall with pleasure their visits to his home, where he was ever ready to discuss coins, to show them his magnificent collection amd with his wife Dora, to dispense generous hospitality. Although not strictly an Oriental Numismatist, Major Pridmore acquired an interest, and much expertise, in the coins of Malaya whilst he was serving there. When posted to Aden he interested himself in the currency of the South Arabian Sultanates and the Yemen and he was able to form a fine collection. His later interests extended to India when he commenced research on the coinage of the East India Company. Had he lived, it is doubtful if he would ever have given up his lifelong interest in numismatics, and it is sad to think that we shall not see any further writings from Major Pridmore, who was noted for accuracy and meticulous attention to detail.

1. The Coins of the British Commonwealth of Nations

Part I. European Territories.

Spink. 1960

Part II. Asian Territories.

Spink. 1965

Part III. West Indies.

Spink. 1966

Part IV. India (Volume I). East India Company: Presidency Series. Spink. 1975

2. Modern Coins and Notes of Cyprus. Spink. 1972

Coins and Coinages of the Straits Settlements and British Malaya. Spink. 1968

3. The Coins of the British Commonwealth of Nations

Part IV. India (Volume II). East India Company, 1835 - 1858; Imperial India, 1858 - 1947. Spink 1980

The Moghul coin series is very large and has not yet been covered in its entirety. Indeed, very few surveys of any particular aspect of the series have been undertaken, with most published work being merely catalogues of collections. An exception is the 'Mint-Towns of the Mughal Emperors of India' by C. R. Singhal. That important work makes no mention of the period of issue of each mint within the reign of each Emperor and does not give references so that readings can be checked. In order that the maximum economic and historical information may be gleaned from the coins it is important that the output of each mint be analysed fully. As a start towards such a task, I have made a list of all the dates of Moghul gold and silver coins of the Kashmir mint known to me.

The listing is based on published catalogues, together with a few unpublished coins in public and private collections. It is certainly not complete and I would welcome any additions. Small square silver coins in the names of Humayun and Akbar struck to the standard used by the earlier Sultans of Kashmir have not been included.

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AD 1556 - 1605: AH 963 - 1014
    AKBAR
                      AH 999 (?): square: mint 'Kashmir'
                                                           (PMC 151)
    AV Mohur
                      Ilahi dates with month cited: round: mint 'Srinagar'
    AR Rupees
         (Month)
(Ilahi)
                            5
                                                    10
                                                        11
                                                             12
         1
              2
                   3
                                 6
                            P
45
         N
46
47
                   Ro P
                                          P
                                     L
                                                             L
         L
                            N
48
49
         G
              L
                  L
                            A
         L
              Ro
                       Li
                            L
50
Key to months:
                       5
                            Amardad
                                                    9
                                                        Azar
1
    Farwardin
2
    Ardibihisht
                       6
                            Shahrewar
                                                   10
                                                        Di
                       7
                                                   11
                                                        Bahman
3
                            Mihr
    Khurdad
                                                   12
                                                        Isfandarmuz
4
                       8
                            Aban
    Tir
                       AD 1605 - 1628: AH 1014 - 1037
    JAHANGIR
                       AH 1034, Yr. 20: zodiacal sign 'Cancer' and couplet with the name of
    AV Mohur
                       Nur Jehan: mint 'Kashmir'
                                                     (R)
     AR Heavy Rupees
                             No Ilahi year or month: mint 'Kashmir': weight c. 13.6 gm
1018
              C
1019
              P
1020
              P
              P
1021
                        With Ilahi year and month:
                                                   weight c. 11.4 gm
     AR Rupees
                                                                      (Hijra: AH)
(Ilahi)
         (Month)
                                          8
                                               9
                                                        11
                                                            12
(Yr.)
              2
                   3
                            5
                                                    10
                                                                      (Yr.)
         1
 7
                                          L
                                               L
                                                                       1021
 8
         L
              L
                   L
                                 P
                                      L
                                          L
                                               N
                                                    L
                                                        N/L
                                                                       1022/3
 9
                                                                       1023/4
         L
              BM L
                       L
                                                        L / A
                            BM
10
         N
                       L
                                               P
                                                       / BM BM
                                                                       1024/5
                            BM
                                               L
                                                                       1025
11
         A
              L
                                 \mathbf{B}
12
         P
                                          L
                                                                       1026
                                          BM P
13
              BM
                                 LS
                                                                       1027
14
                   R
                                                                       1027/8/9
         BM /
                            N
                                 L
                                                    BM/N
15
         BM
                   LS
                                                                       1029
16
         R
                                                                       1030
17
         P
                                                                       1031
                                                                  (IMC 696)
     AR Rupee
                        AH 1029, yr. 15: zodiacal sign 'Gemini'
                             Un-dated: square: mint 'Khitta Kashmir'
     AR 1/8 th. Rupee
                                                                         (White King, lot 3746)
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SHAH JAHAN
                          AD 1628 - 1658: AH 1037 - 1068
     AV Mohur -
                      Square area
     xx/19
             (IMCS)
                          1065
                                   (Date both sides: BM) 1067/29 (Seaby Bull. 1, 1964)
     AR Rupee
                      1: Inscription across field
     xx/4 Tir (L)
                      1041/4 Isfandarmuz
                                           (Ash)
                                                    1041/x Khurdad
                                                                        (BM)
     1042/5 Amardad
                              xx/x Shahrewar (L)
                      (Ash)
                                                    xx/x Aban
                                                                 (IMCS)
                      2: Square area
             (BM)
     xx/6
                                       1052/12 (L) xx/17 (L) 1055/18 (IMCS)
                      xx/12
                               (C)
     1059/21 (L)
                      1065/x
                              (P)
     AR ¼ Rupee -
                      Nisar:
     xx/13
                      (Ash: same die as PMC 1453):
                                                          نثار شاه جهان بادشاه غازى
                                                   Obv
                                                   Rev
                                                                  صرب كشمير
     1050/13
                              Rev. تنار صاحب قران ثانم ، Rev
                      (BM):
                                                           سنه صرب کشمیر
     1061/25
                      (BMC 671)
     xx/25
                      (BMC 672: Berlin)
     AURANGZEB 'ALAMGIR
                                  AD 1658 - 1707: AH 1068 - 1118
     AV Mohur - xx/2
                              (N)
     AR Rupee
    xx/4
             (IMCS)
                          xx/10
                                  (LS)
                                           1089/21 (LS)
                                                                1096/30 (IMCS)
     1099/32 (P)
                          1100/32 (BM)
                                           1103/36 (BM)
                                                                1105/xx (P)
    1106/39 (P)
                          xx/45
                                  (P)
                                           1113/45 (A)
                                                                1115/47 (BM)
     1115/48 (A)
                          1116/49 (P)
                                           1117/50 (P)
    SHAH 'ALAM BAHADUR
                                  AD 1707 - 1712: AH 1119 - 1124
    AR Rupee -
                     xx/2
                              (P)
                                      xx/4
                                             (L)
    JAHANDAR SHAH
                              AD 1712: AH 1124
    AR Rupee - 1124/Ahd
                                 (Ash)
    FARRUKHSIYAR
                              AD 1713 - 1719: AH 1124 - 1131
    AV Mohur –
                     1130/7
                              (PMC 2136)
    AR Rupee
                     1127/x (IMCS)
    MUHAMMAD SHAH
                              AD 1719 - 1748: AH 1131 - 1161
    AV Mohur -
                     xx/7
                              (BM)
                                                                                Ordinary type
                     1151/21 (A)
                                      1154/24 (BMC 973)
                                                                                 Special type
    AR Rupee
                     xx/Ahd (Schulman March 1914, lot 1183)
                                                                xx/4
                                                                        (R)
    1136/x (C)
                     1138/8
                             (BM)
                                      1144/14 (Ash)
                                                       xx/15
                                                                (UM 2380)
    xx/18
            (G)
                     xx/19
                             (P)
                                      1159/29 (R)
                                                       1160/30 (BM)
    AHMAD SHAH BAHADUR
                                  AD 1748 - 1754: AH 1161 - 1167
                     1167/6 (BM: possibly a coin of Ahmad Shah Durrani published in PMC III)
    AV Mohur -
    AR Rupee
                     1162/2
                                      xx/3
                                              (BM)
                                                       1166/6 (BM)
    'ALAMGIR II
                             AD 1754 - 1759: AH 1167 - 1173
    AR Rupee
                     1168/Ahd (BM)
                                    1168/2
                                              (Ash)
                                                       1169/2
                                                               (P)
                                                                        1170/3
                                                                                (R)
    1171/3 (P)
                     1171/4
                            (BM)
                                      1172/5
                                              (BM)
                                                       1173/5
                                                               (BM)
                                                                        1174/5
    AR 1/16 th. Rupee –
                             1169/2
                                     (Ash)
From 1176 onwards rupees were struck in the name of Ahmad Shah Durrani
Abbreviations:
    American Numismatic Society, New York
                                              BM
                                                    British Museum
    Indian Museum Calcutta, vol. III (H.N. Wright) IMCS Indian Museum Calcutta: suppl. (S. Ahmad)
   Lukhnow Museum Catalogue
                                                    Lukhnow Museum: suppl. (C.R. Singhal)
                                              LS
Li J. Lingen
                                              N
                                                    Central Museum Nagpur Catalogue
   Punjab Museum Lahore, vol. III
                                              R
                                                    N. G. Rhodes
    S. Goron
                                              Ash
                                                    Ashmolean Museum, Oxford
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```

A

C L

P

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