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Editor: **Dr. Dilip Rajgor**

## Coinage of Queen Victoria under the East India Company (1840-1861)



By *Gev F. Kias*

**CONTINUOUS LEGEND DATED 1840.** The Legend on the Obverse, **VICTORIA QUEEN**, carries on over the Queen's head.

After the death of her uncle King William Henry IV on **20<sup>th</sup> June 1837**, Queen Victoria came to the throne. Coins were struck during her long reign of about 64 years. Silver Rupee coins with the effigy of Queen Victoria (Continuous Legend) were announced by PROCLAMATION dated **18<sup>th</sup> November 1840**. The obverse was from a matrix engraved under the supervision of Mr Boulton, Soho Mint, Birmingham. England.

In the First Series of the Queen's coinage (with **Continuous Legend**), the only initials came across is **'S'** incuse, on the truncation of the Queen's neck. This initial are of Mint Master, **Major J. T. Smith**. Of **Madras Mint** from **February 1840** to **September 1855**. Yet another mark attributed to the **Madras Mint** is a small **'v'** in relief. This is located on the reverse, on the fold of the right bow of the ribbon. Another mark **'M'** in relief or incuse on the end tip of the left ribbon bow is also found in reverse of some specimens of silver rupee coins. **'M'** in relief attributed to **Madras Mint** & **'M'** incuse attributed to **Calcutta Mint**.

The crescent (**U**) is found, in relief, on the top left portion of the ribbon bow on the reverse. Being in relief, this mint-mark is only visible on coins in either **EF** or **UNC** condition. The crescent mark can be compared to a similar mint-mark which occurs on some of the **Calcutta-minted Presidency series**. It was the private mark of the **Calcutta Mint**.

Silver Rupee Coins of Queen Victoria (Continuous Legend) were struck at three mints, **Calcutta, Bombay & Madras**. The quantities of silver rupee coins struck at three mints were **Calcutta 179,934,670 coins**, **Bombay 109,838,073 coins** & **Madras 21,898,181 coins**.

Silver rupee coins without visible crescent mark or any Mint-Mark in obverse & reverse can be attributed by their diameter 31.1mm to 31.6mm to **Calcutta Mint**, & diameter 31.7mm & above to **Bombay Mint**.

There are four differences in the number of berries in the wreath on the reverse of silver rupee coins in **Continuous Legend**. The number in the left & right segments being, **1<sup>st</sup>. left 10 berries & right 9 berries = 19 Berries**, **2<sup>nd</sup>. left 10 berries & right 10 berries = 20 Berries**, **3<sup>rd</sup>. left 20 berries & right 15 berries = 35 berries** & finally **4<sup>th</sup>. left 20 berries & right 14 berries = 34 berries**.

*Continued on page 10*

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### Upcoming Rajgor's Auctions

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| Auction 5 | 18 April 2013 | Mumbai    | Auction 9  | Nov. 2013  | Mumbai |
| Auction 6 | 02 June 2013  | Mumbai    | Auction 10 | Dec. 2013  | Mumbai |
| Auction 7 | 16 Aug. 2013  | Ahmedabad |            |            |        |



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## A New Venture

By R Vaidyanadhan



It would be a great experience to dabble in antiques and paintings.

They are not far away from numismatics. In fact, it is one of the branches of India's ancient heritage.

Collection of antique figurines, staccato, clay tablets is similar to collecting ancient punch marked coins and allied monetary units.

I am sure Dr Dilip Rajgor, has become the first in the numismatic business to venture into the auction business of antiques and painting. Thus far the business was handled by a couple of galleries. And it was more or less their monopoly. The business was going hand in hand with gallery owners, painters, investors and corporate houses.

But what Dilip has envisaged is purely help the collector sell his possession or induce him to acquire new ones. Also this enables coin collectors who also happened to add a piece or two that came his way to dispose of and divert his funds to augment his numismatic collection.

Dilip Rajgor's Endeavour will go a long way, and truly he became the leader in the pioneering movement.



## Numismatist r observing "WAIT n WATCH" Policy

By Sandeep Shah

Hi, Silver & Gold prices plummeted to 50650 Rs n Gold to 28768. Though their was no sell off as one had indicated, the prices gradually came off.

The Budget Announcement on precious metals was a move to reduce the appetite of Gold. Also more schemes were announced with modified Rajiv Gandhi Equity Saving Schemes to attract and deviate investors from investments in Precious Metals

Policymaker's seem intent on finding the least painful solutions to the debt problems. Budget announced showing actual deficit of 5.2% on GDP last year n the FM targeting 4.8% this fiscal year. Given the concern over EU and US debt and the ongoing quantitative easing, the debt problems are now so big

that the devaluing the currencies n further monetarisation of Precious Metals especially GOLD will only help investors to preserve wealth. Precious Metals will thus remain bullish though with hick up's.

In all their is always a ray of hope. Current financial year starts with Rajgor's Auction on 18th, immediately we have Shukla Day Fair. We have 3 to 4 Auctions between 19th to 21st of April. Silver coins rates too have subsided, which one can see through the Auction sale n market updates.

At present Numismatic market n Numismatist r observing "Wait n Watch" policy. Silver can always b bought on declines as stated n guided earlier.

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| Ultra Rarity             | Rs. 5 Lakhs to Rs. 10 Lakhs       | Rs. 7,000  | Rs. 6,500 (5 & more)   | Rs. 13,000   | Yes                               |
| Great Rarity             | Rs. 10 Lakhs & Above              | Rs. 10,000   | Rs. 9,500 (2 & more)   | Rs. 18,000   | Yes                               |
| Re-Slab                  | --                                | Rs. 200  | Rs. 150 (10 & more)  | Rs. 300  | --                                |
| Certificate <sup>5</sup> | --                                | Rs. 100  |  | Rs. 200  | --                                |
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# Highlight's of Rajgor's Auction 4 18-04-13 at Taj President Vivanta Mumbai

## 7. Goddess Bhudevi (Lakshmi)



Bronze  
Vijayanagara Empire, early 15<sup>th</sup> century  
Southern India  
H: 17 cm, W: 6.5 cm, D: 4.5 cm  
Estimate: ` 5,00,000-8,00,000  
(Registered Antiquity, Not-Exportable)

**Names:** Bhudevi, Devi, Bhumi, Bhumidevi, Prithvi, Lakshmi, Kasyapi, Satyabhama, Koumudi, Andal

**Religions:** Hindu

The intricately carved bronze statue of the Goddess Bhudevi is the best example of the famous Vijayanagara art of Southern India.

## 11. Miniature Folding Shrine of Goddess Andal (Lakshmi)



(Tanjore Glass Painting)

Oil, coloured stone,  
glass and gold foil on wood panel  
Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century AD  
Thanjavur, Southern India  
Closed: H: 74 cm, W: 59 cm, D: 7 cm  
Open: H: 74 cm, W: 110 cm, D: 10 cm  
Estimate: ` 3,00,000-4,00,000

**Names:** Andal, Antal, Lakshmi, Bhudevi, Bhumidevi, Kodhai, Matangi

**Religions:** Hindu

The central figure of this Tanjore painting is Goddess Andal or Lakshmi with a parrot on her right shoulder. Parrot is a symbol of her devotees who ask her questions and she replies to them on all aspects of life as well as of spiritualism.

## Jain Antiques

### 24. Kalpasutra Folio with 14 Dreams of Mata Trishla



Paper  
Early 18<sup>th</sup> Century AD  
Western India

H: 12 cm, W: 29 cm

Estimate: ` 50,000-60,000  
(Registered Antiquity, Not-Exportable)



The single side page from the sacred *Kalpasutra* is written in golden ink in the center with blue floral designs in the margins. The right hand portion of the folio illustrates the famous scene of 14 Dreams of the would-be mother of Mahavir Svami. The scene of the Divine event is illustrated on the present page of the *Kalpasutra* manuscript with Trishla Mata dreaming the 14 Divine Objects while she is asleep on a royal bed. The objects of the dream are placed in three lines with 4, 6 and 4 objects in a line.

### 25. Panch Tirthik of Suparshvanath, the 7<sup>th</sup> Tirthankar



Bronze  
AD 1297 (Vikram Samvat 1354)  
Gujarat

H: 16.5 cm, W: 10.5 cm, D: 6.5 cm

Estimate: ` 2,00,000-3,00,000  
(Registered Antiquity, Not-Exportable)

The bronze Panch-tirthika of the 7<sup>th</sup> Tirthankar Jina Suparsvanath is the central idol of the sculpture seated in a *padmasana* mudra on a cushioned throne over a stepped pedestal with five serpent hoods over the head (the identifying mark of the Tirthankar). He is surrounded by four small Jina figures in *Kayotsarga* posture, and two in *padmasana* posture. All the Jina figures are depicted in arch-shaped *Parikara*. The pedestal contains Sasanadevatas, Navagrahas, worshippers and an attendant figure. The central figure of the Tirthankar is richly inlaid with silver. The Panch-Tirthika is inscribed on the reverse in early Gujarati script, dated in Vikram Samvat 1354, equivalent to AD 1297.



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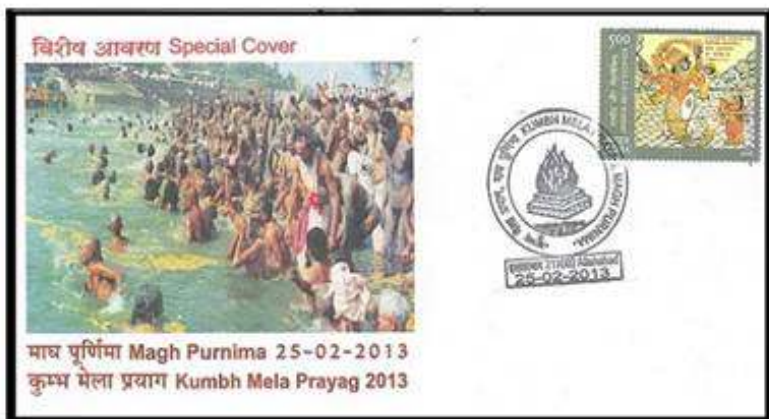
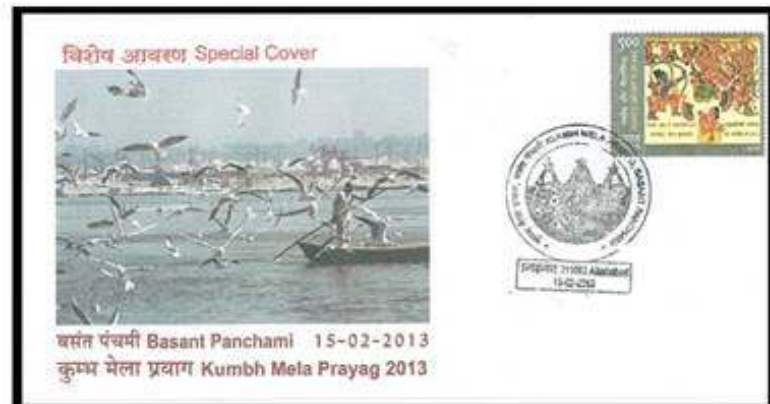


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Maha Kumbh Mela most powerful spiritual festival in India. Every 12 years it takes place from 14 Jan to 10th March. A largest ever gathering in recorded history of world.

India Posts release six special covers with cancellation on this occasion, i.e. Makar Sankranti (January 14), Paush Purnima (January 27) Mauni Amavasya (Feb. 10), Basant Panchami (Feb. 15) Magh Purnima (February 25) and Mahashivratri (March 10) These special cover depict the legend of Kumbh and important bathing occasions.



India Postle has released this set of 5 Special Covers from 16 to 21 March 2013



Ghodakatora Lake, Bihar



Holi



Sun Temple of Bihar



100 years of co-operative movement in Bihar



Rajgir wall (Cyclopean Wall) & Banganga Valley



# Highlight's of Rajgor's Auction 5 18-04-13 at Taj President Vivanta Mumbai



Lot # 12

The Gupta Empire, Samudragupta (AD 335-380), Gold, 7.51 g, Dinar, King & Queen type, issued to commemorate the memory of his parents. The obv of the coin is shown with the Emperor Chandragupta I standing to left and his Queen Kumaradevi facing him to right

Estimate: Rs. 2,00,000



Lot # 16

The Gupta Empire, Chandragupta II, Gold, 7.71 g, Dinar, Horseman type, the king is riding a prancing horse to right with Brahmi legend in the right and at the bottom margins on obv

Estimate: Rs. 1,00,000



Lot # 18

Guptas of Bengal, Post Gupta period, c. 5th century AD, Gold, 6.69 g, Dinar, King & Queen type, with the king standing to left holding a battle-axed Standard in his left hand and the right hand is stretched out.

Estimate: Rs. 5,00,000



Lot # 48

Nayakas of Shivaganga, Anonymous, 18th century, Gold, 5.21 g, Ram-Lakshman (Sita) type with the three deities standing and carrying their respective *ayudhas* in their hands on obv. A Shiva Linga placed on a high pedestal on rev.

Estimate: Rs. 1,00,000



Lot # 49

Nayakas of Madura, Anonymous, 18th century, Gold, 4.30 g, Garuda type with Garuda (Eagle), the Divine *Vahana* (vehicle) of Lord Vishnu standing carrying his *ayudhas* (attributes) in his hands, and looking to left on obv.

Estimate: Rs. 1,00,000



Lot # 51

Jala-ud-Din Fath Shah (AD 1481-1486, AH 886-893), Gold, 10.86 g, Tanka, Fathabad mint, AH 886, with the ruler's titles on both the sides, ornamental borders on either side around the central circles (compare Rajgor# 223; G&G# B607). Minute test marks on either side, Very Fine+, Unpublished, First Known Coin and Unique.

Estimate: Rs. 1,50,000



Lot # 65

**Bahman Shah** (AD 1347-1359), Gold, 10.97 g, **Tanka, Hazrat Fathabad mint, Sikandar al Sani** type (Rajgor# 2512; G&G# BH10). *Extremely Fine+*, *Great Rarity*.

Estimate: Rs. 2,50,000



Lot # 88

Jahangir, Silver, Zodiac Rupee, Cancer (Crab) Sign, Ahmedabad mint, AH 1027, RY 13 (KM# 150.10). The zodiac sign of a crab is shown like it is emerging from the sun, with the regnal year at bottom on obv, Persian legend on rev reads

Estimate: Rs. 3,00,000



Lot # 89

Jahangir, Silver, 10.63 g, Zodiac Rupee, Gemini (Mithun) Sign, Ahmedabad mint, AH 1027 (KM# 150.2). The zodiac sign on the obv is centrally struck with the couple hugging each other and are shown from behind, and are emerging from the Sun rays.

Estimate: Rs. 1,60,000



Lot # 112

Azam Shah, Silver, Rupree, Junagadh mint, full name of the ruler on obv, and the complete mint name at bottom on rev, AH 1119, RY Ahad (KM# 332.9). Two test marks, About Extremely Fine, Exceedingly Rare.

Estimate: Rs. 2,25,000



Lot # 115

Shah Alam I, Gold, 10.94 g, Mohur, Akbarabad Mustaqir ul Khilafat mint, AH 1119, RY Ahad. The coin is the issue of the first year with the couplet identifying the ruler as Bahadur Shah, the 2nd Alamgir.

Estimate: Rs. 6,00,000



Lot # 245

George V, **Gold**, 15 Rupees, Bombay mint, **1918**, (Pridmore# 25), Slabbed & graded by NGC as **AU 58**, Rare.

Estimate: Rs. 2,30,000



## Anti Forgery Bureau of NGS

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



NGS No. 2120000-017814  
 Authority: EIC Uniform Coinage  
 Ruler: William IV  
 Specs: Silver, 11.50 g, 30.39 mm  
 Edge: Milled  
 Denomination: Rupee  
 Year: 1835



NGS. No. 2120024-011839  
 Authority: Kutch  
 Ruler: Khengarji III  
 Specs: Silver, 2.35 g, 13.67 mm  
 Edge: Plain  
 Denomination: 1/2 Kori  
 Year: VS 1985



NGS No. 2120000-017815  
 Authority: EIC Uniform Coinage  
 Ruler: William IV  
 Specs: Silver, 11.35 g, 30.50 mm  
 Edge: Milled  
 Denomination: Rupee  
 Year: 1835



NGS No. 2120024-011841  
 Authority: Kutch  
 Ruler: Khengarji III  
 Specs: Silver, 2.35 g, 13.67 mm  
 Edge: Plain  
 Denomination: 1/2 Kori  
 Year: VS 1985

## Academic Recognition to Philately

*By Anil Nawlakhe*

The RTM Nagpur University, Nagpur, India had issued [notification](#) for a Ph. D. on a study of philately and postage stamp. The topic of the research work lies within subject of 'LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE-LIS' under Social Science faculty.

This study attempts for the academic recognition of postage stamp as an information source. The associated hobby of stamp collecting- 'philately' and related activities not only needs information but creates information products as well. Here through this study an attempt is made to understand postage stamps, the philately, origin, evolution and development with an approach for investigation to identify some **LIS projections of philately** along with prospective extension of bibliophilately to **LIS philately**. The work considers two **case studies on bibliophilately and Indian philately**. The work is based on wide survey and evaluation of philatelic organizations (national and international) and philatelic literature (print and digital mode) and the rephrased *Five Laws of Library for Postage Stamp*.

The researcher may be contacted by Email at [unawlakhe@ymail.com](mailto:unawlakhe@ymail.com) and / or by snail mail at 41, Gayatri Nagar, Ganeshpur, Bhandara 441904

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# REPUBLIC COINS OF INDIA

A Website of Ravi Shankar Sharma

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## Calendar of Events 2013

| Month    | Date    | Place      | Event                                | Venue  |
|----------|---------|------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| April    | 18      | Mumbai     | Rajgor's Auction 4                   | Antiques, Paintings, Collectibles: Taj President Vivanta, 90 Cuffe Parade, Mumbai- 400005                                |
| April    | 18      | Mumbai     | Rajgor's Auction 5                   | Coins, Medals, Paper Money: <b>6.15 pm.</b> Taj President Vivanta, 90 Cuffe Parade, Mumbai- 400005                       |
| April    | 19-21   | Mumbai     | 22nd Shukla Day Coin Fair            | World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade (Farokh Todywalla)  |
| May      | 10-12   | Coimbatore | Coinex - 2013                        | Shree Coimbatore Gujarati Samaj, Mettupalayam Road, Coimbatore - 641 012.(T. M. Ravichandran 0 94433 25960)              |
| June     | 2       | Mumbai     | Rajgor's Auction 6                   | <b>3.00 pm</b> - The Ambassador, Churchgate, Mumbai - 400020   |
| August   | 16      | Ahmedabad  | Rajgor's Auction 7                   | <b>6.00 pm</b> (Ahmedabad Coins & Currency Fair) Hotel Comfort Inn President, C.G. Road, Navrangpura, Ahmadabad - 380009 |
| August   | 16-18   | Ahmedabad  | Ahmedabad Coins & Currency Fair      | Hotel Comfort Inn President, C.G. Road, Navrangpura, Ahmadabad - 380009  |
| Aug-Sept | 30-31-1 | Mumbai     | 11th Coin, Banknote & Philately Fair | World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade (Mumbai Coin Society - 98218 81452)   |
| December | 19-22   | Pune       | Coinex Pune - 2013                   | Sonal Hall, Karve Road, Pune<br>(International Collector's Society, 020- 2457 8427)                                      |

### Black List - Public Notice



## Rajgor's auctions

The following person has purchased items in the Auction 1, amounting to **Rs. 22,597/-** on 12th December 2012, and now has defaulted on paying the money. In spite of repeated reminders, calls, SMS and notices, he is not responding and has flatly refused to pay his dues.

Other Auctioneers, Collectors and Dealers are requested to make a note of this. This information is given to all so people should be aware in dealings with him. The Rajgor's Auctions has Black Listed him and has barred him from bidding on any of their auctions.

### His name is Maunish Shah

He has given these contact details:  
17035, Prestige Shantiniketan,  
ITPL Road, Near Whitefield,  
**Bangalore 560048**

maunish@gmail.com  
Cell: 8123834453

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**DIVIDED LEGEND DATED 1840.** The Legend on the Obverse, **VICTORIA QUEEN**, is divided by the Queen's head.

The obverse design was prepared by William Wyon, Royal Mint, London. The reverse was copied by the Calcutta engraver Kasinath Dass from Wyon's pattern of 1849. They were struck at the three Indian mints in continuation of **Continuous Legend** until the year 1862, when the Imperial series commenced.

In the Second series of the Queen's coinage (with **Divided Legend**), the initials came across were 'W.W'. raised, 'W.W.B' raised, 'W.W.BO' raised & 'W.W.S' raised. As mentioned earlier, 'W.W'. stands for **William Wyon**, the Chief Engraver at the Royal Mint, London, who had been responsible for the 'Master Matrices' for King William IV & Queen Victoria coinage under Company Administration. The presence of his initials on all coins of the Second series (with **Divided Legend**), but not on the First series (with **Continuous Legend**), or on King William IV coins indicate the initiation of a new policy to have the name of the engraver recorded on the coins struck.

Those coins stamped with the 'W.W.S' are a continuation of the Madras Mint issues & belong to the period 1851-1855. However, 'W.W.S' is in relief. It appears to be the initials of **J. T. Smith** Mint Master at **Madras Mint** from Feb 1840 to Sept 1855. The initial 'W.W.B', also in relief, has only been traced

on the rupee denomination. It appears to be the initials of **Brevet Major J. H. Bell**, who followed **J. T. Smith** in the appointment of Mint Master at **Madras** & who retained the office from **Sept 1855 until April 1859**. Another rupee has been observed with the letters 'W.W. BO' in the truncation, All letters in relief. This, too, is a product of **Madras Mint**. **J. H. Bell** was followed by a **Major C. A. Orr**. His term of office extended from 1859-1864, a period which extends beyond the last year of striking of **Divided Legend** coins. From the marking of the coin it would seem that instead of cutting a new matrix for the obverse, **Orr's** initial 'O' was added after the 'B' for **Bell**.

In the distinction between **Bombay** & **Calcutta Mints**, no mark or unusual feature in the design has been traced that could be assigned to either mint. Coins with the truncation impressed with the initials **W.W.** (**William Wyon**) alone are therefore classed as common to both the mints of **Bombay** & **Calcutta**. The only way to decipher coins between **Bombay** & **Calcutta** Mints is by their circumference, diameter 30.6mm or below **Calcutta Mint** & diameter 30.7mm and above **Bombay Mint**.

Silver Rupee Coins of Queen Victoria (divided legend) were struck at three mints, **Calcutta**, **Bombay** & **Madras**. The quantities of silver rupee coins struck at three mints were **Calcutta 398,553,660 coins**, **Bombay 312,598,076 coins** & **Madras 55,049,201 coins**.

There are four differences in the number of berries in the wreath on the reverse of rupee coins. The number in the left & right segments being 1<sup>st</sup>. **left 13 berries & right 12 berries = 25 Berries**, 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Left 13 berries & right 15 berries = 28 Berries**, 3<sup>rd</sup> **Left 13 berries & right 16 berries = 29 Berries** & 4<sup>th</sup>. **Left 14 berries & right 15 berries = 29 Berries**.

**References:**

1. *Nineteenth & Twentieth Century Coins of India* by D. Chakravarty.
2. *The coins of British Commonwealth of Nations Part 4 India Volume 2 - Uniform coinage* by F. Pridmore.

**DESCRIPTIVE ALBUMS OF COINS AND NOTES**



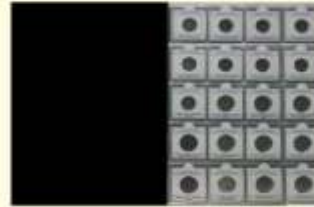
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