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ANDHRA PRADESH GOVERNMENT MUSEUM SERIES

No. 3

QUTUB SHAHI COINS IN THE  
ANDHRA PRADESH GOVERNMENT  
MUSEUM

BY

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*Keeper of the Coins*

Hyderabad Museum.



يُوسَى تَبَلَعَتْ اِلٰهِي تَعِيْرَةٌ فُلُوْسِ شَاهِي

Paivasta ba La'nate Ilahi — Ta'yeer Dah Fuloos-i-Shahi

God's Curse be on him who finds fault with Royal Fuloos

*General Editor*

**Sri N. Ramesan, M.A., I.A.S.,**

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## P R E F A C E

A few years ago a hoard consisting of 218 Qutub Shahi copper coins was received in the Museum. This hoard was discovered while the foundation of 7th Battalion near Golkonda fort was being laid. This appears to have been buried by an oil merchant since some measures were also found along with this hoard. Most of the coins were of the time of Mohd. Quli Qutub Shah and six were of the time of Mohd. Qutub Shah (the 6th ruler).

Prior to the receipt of this hoard, we were of the opinion, that among the hoards of the copper coins of Qutub Shahis in the Cabinet of Hyderabad Museum, except the coins of Mohd. Quli Qutub Shah of Golconda and Hyderabad Mint, and the coins of Abdulla Qutub Shah some with the legend Abdulla Badshah Gazi, and some without any legend issued in 1068 A. H., there were no other coins belonging to other kings of this dynasty. But the above discovery of Mohd. Qutub Shah coins threw further light, and I was fully confident, that a systematic examination of the hoards of copper coins, in the Museum, would produce good results.

In connection with the Session of the Indian History Congress held at Nagpur in the year 1950, I was advised by the Director of Archaeology, to prepare photographic charts of the Indian coins, during the ages, i. e. from Satavahana to Asafjahi dynasty which ruled over this part of Deccan. I happened to select the coins in respect of those dynasties.

On completion of the photographic charts, I had recommenced the detailed examination of the copper hoards with a view to compile a catalogue relating to Qutub Shahi dynasty. This detailed examination brought to light some rare coins of Qutub Shahi Sultans i.e. those of Jamsheed Qutub Shah, Subhan Qutub Shah, Mohd. Qutub Shah, Abdulla Qutub Shah. Besides this, other published coins of Qutub Shahi dynasty have also been selected by me for this catalogue. Upto now no catalogue of Qutub Shahi coins has been published and I have selected 385, coins of this dynasty of kings, out of a total of 65,000 copper coins belonging to various dynasties, that are available in the Hyderabad Museum. The preparation of this catalogue has involved hard and systematic effort for eight years. All the photographs that are included in this catalogue have been prepared by myself.

Only a few articles have so far been published in the Journals and Periodicals about Qutub Shahi coins. The interesting article of Maj. Haig, Mr. R. Burn Dr. P. M. Joshi and Sri Hurmuz Kaus are worthy to be mentioned. Dr. Joshi has thrown light over the coins which were current in the Qutub Shahi kingdom during the reign of Mohd. Qutub Shah and his successors. The articles of Mr. Hurmuz Kaus published in the Numismatic Circular London in 1955 also throw light on the Qutub Shahi coins.

I am deeply thankful to Sri N. Ramesan. M. A., I. A. S., the present Director of Archaeology, Government of Andhra Pradesh, who besides his multifarious other duties, has taken keen interest towards the completion of this catalogue and the successful completion of this work, is also due to his interest in the matter. I am also grateful to Sri S. Ramayya, I. A. and A. S., Financial Adviser, Nagarjunasagar-Control Board, for his full co-operation and help in the preparation of this catalogue. Sri Dharam Singh, Sri A. Raziq, Sri R. Narayana, Sri S. Rama Kantham, my colleagues, have rendered full assistance in this, and I am thankful to them for their co-operation. My thanks are also due to Sri Abdul Rahman, Numismatic mechanic of the museum, for the preparation of the ink impressions and drawings of the coins.

*Mohd. Abdul Wali Khan*

Hyderabad-Dn. Dated: 1-3-1961.

## FOREWORD

This catalogue on the Qutub Shahi coins, is the third of the series of Publications on the coins, that are available in the Government Museum at Hyderabad, the other two being a catalogue on the Punch-marked coins of the Government Museum, Hyderabad by Sri Parameshwari Lal Gupta, M.A, Ph.D. and a catalogue on the Satavahana coins by Dr. M. Rama Rao.

The Qutub Shahi kings were well known rulers who ruled in the late medieval centuries over the portion now included in the Andhra Pradesh. Though they were all Muslims, they evinced keen interest in the welfare of the people, and Telugu art and literature owe much to the patronage of these kings. Akkanna and Madanna are household names in Andhra and these were very high officers in the service of the Qutub Shahi kings. The Rama temple at Bhadrachalam enjoyed munificent donations from these kings. These kings identified themselves with the people of the land, and so endeared themselves to them that they came to be considered not as foreigners, but as part and parcel of the country.

The Government Museum at Hyderabad has about 65,000 copper coins in its hoards, and these have been very systematically examined and analysed by Sri Md. Abdul Wali Khan, the author of the present monograph, who has selected 385 representative coins of the Qutub Shahis for the purpose of this catalogue. Sri Mohd. Abdul Wali Khan has spent nearly eight years of very hard work and research in this, and the present catalogue is a result of his efforts in this field. He is a specialist in almost all the coins of the Deccan, and particularly so of the Muslim coins. Coming as it does from him, the present catalogue can be accepted to be authoritative.

A short general paper on the political history of the Qutub Shahi kings has been prepared by Sri S. Ramakantham, Assistant Curator of the Government Museum, Hyderabad, and his short paper has also been added on to the catalogue.

The catalogue had to be printed in great hurry, and our thanks are due to all, including the Vir Milap Printers, who have laboured hard in bringing out this catalogue successfully. We hope to follow this by several other catalogues of other dynasties of Andhra in the next year.

Hyderabad-Dn.

1st March, 1961

N. RAMESAN,  
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Government of Andhra Pradesh  
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