

STEPHEN ALBUM
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110

ANA, ANS, NI, ONS, CSNA, AVA

PRICE LIST N° 110 - SEPTEMBER 1994

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ABBREVIATIONS:
en=edge nick, mt=mount, wk=weak, sl=slight(ly), cl=cleaned, lt=light, nr=near(ly), ND=no date, NM=no mint, dof=date off flan, cr=crude, ctr=center, str=strike, hbl=has been looped, oc=off center, fc=flan crack, ds=doublestruck, tm=test mark(s).

GRADING AND RARITY: Standard American abbreviations are used. Grading is by conservative American standards.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Lists are free to buyers of \$100+ per year. For others, cost is \$11 per year in US & Canada, \$17 elsewhere.

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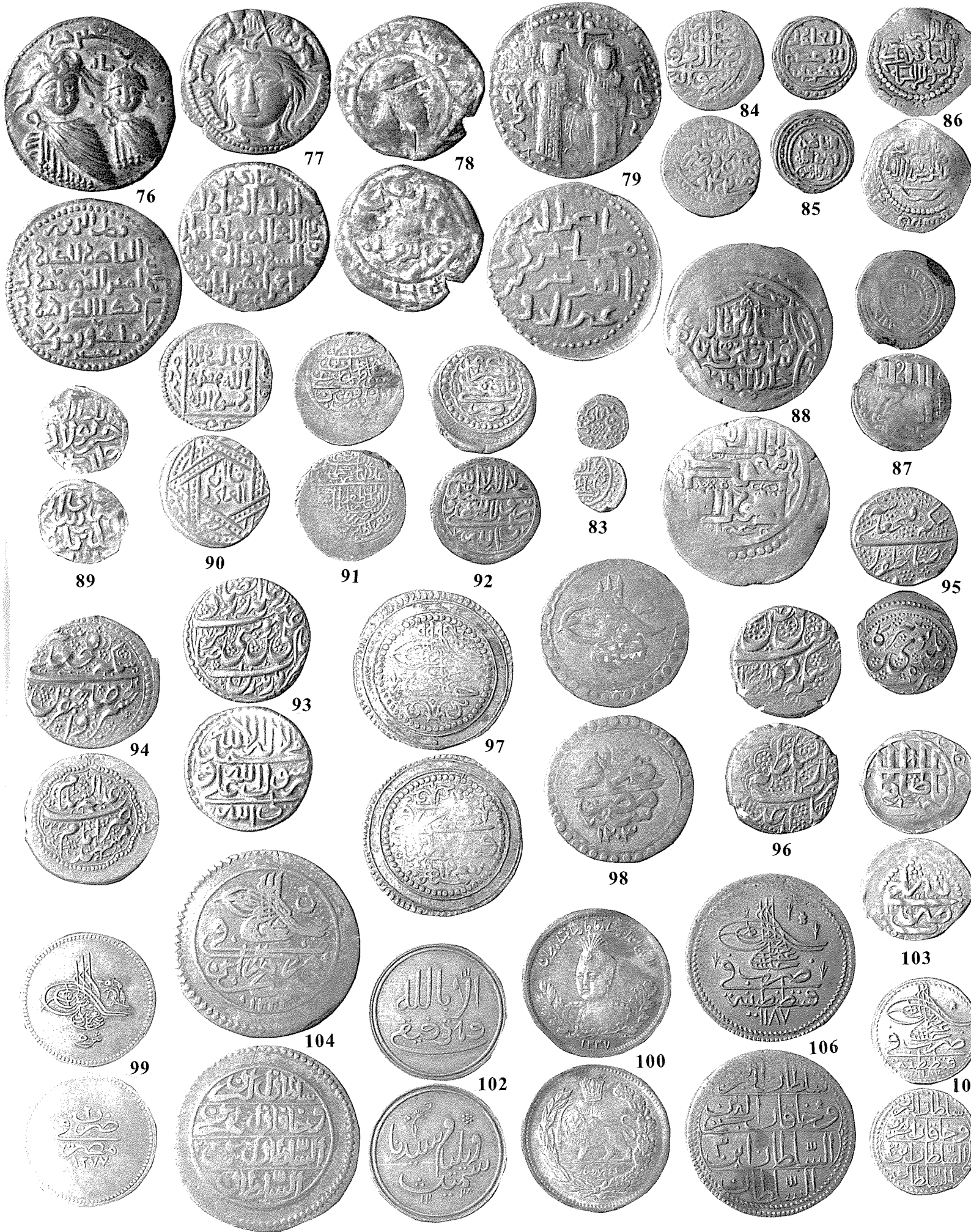
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- GOLD** (lots nos. 1-55 are gold)
- Ancient**
- KUSHAN: Kanishka I**, ca. 130-158, AV dinar (7.9g), king standing, sacrificing at altar obv, Ardoksho stdg. r. rev., Göbl #77.3 (same dies), extremely fine, R \$800
 - Huvishka**, ca. 158-195, AV dinar (7.9g), half-length bust of king l. emerging from clouds/Ardoksho stdg. r., as G331 but more literate reverse (probably same obverse die), vf-xf, crude style \$550
 - KUSHANO-SASANIAN: Hormizd I**, c. 270-295, AV dinar (7.9g), usual Kushan types with Siva & bull on reverse, Balkh mint (βοχλο), as Cribb #4 but ruler name with omicron instead of omega, choice xf, good reverse \$1050
 - GUPTA: Samudragupta**, c. 335-380, AV dinar (7.6g), Standard type, Mitchiner #4775, vf, one test mark, cheap \$225
 - Budhagupta**, c. 480-500, AV dinar (9.3g), archer type with Lakshmi-on-lotus reverse, Skanda #155, Altekar, p. 278, Allan, plate xxi:24-26, crude xf, RR \$1000
 - EPHTHALITE: Anonymos** AV scyphate dinar (7.6g), king standing/rudimentary reverse, Göbl #739 (= Emission #84 in the Hun book), choice extremely fine, very crude \$500
- Islamic**
- UMAYYAD: temp. al-Walid I**, 705-715, AV dinar (4.3g), without mint name as usual, 90, Walker #201, choice au \$400
 - temp. Hisham**, 724-743, AV dinar (4.2g), no mint name, 106, Walker 225, choice extremely fine \$400
 - ABBASID: al-Rashid** (786-809), AV dinar (4.2g), no mint name but struck at Fustat, Egypt, 192, with *lil-khalifa* in field, Paris #769, nearly xf \$225

- al-Mu'tamid**, 870-892, AV dinar to local Yemeni standard (2.9g), San'a 274, citing Ahmad b. al-Muwaffaq, Bikhazi #53, choice very fine, R \$400
 - al-Qahir**, 932-934, AV amiri dinar (1.9g), San'a 314 (sic), muling with old obverse of time of al-Muqtadir, unlisted by Bikhazi and others, xf-au, RR \$600
 - al-Nasir**, 1180-1125, AV dinar (4.8g), very broad flan, Madinat al-Salam 608, Paris #1287, slightly crude extremely fine, most original lustre remaining \$300
 - AGHLABID: Muhammad II**, 864-874, AV dinar (4.2g), without mint name as always, 259, Ush #81, choice vf+, scarce in this grade \$475
 - MUWAHHIDID: Abu Muhammad 'Abd al-Mu'min**, 1130-1163, AV 1/2 dinar (2.2g), Fès, undated as always (struck after 540/1146), Hazard #458, very fine \$400
 - Abu Yusuf Ya'qub**, 1184-1199, AV dinar (4.6g) (also called *dobla*), no mint or date as usual, Hazard #501, superb strike nearly uncirculated, very bold detail \$925
 - TULUNID: Khumarawayh**, 884-896, AV dinar (4.2g), Misr 279, citing caliph al-Mu'tamid and caliphal heir al-Mu'tadid, Grabar #52, choice extremely fine \$350
 - AYYUBID: al-Kamil Muhammad**, 1218-1238, AV dinar (3.3g), al-Qahira (Cairo) 627, Balog #374, extremely fine \$300
 - MAMLUK: Barquq**, 1382-1399, AV heavy dinar (8.4g), Halab 79(8), Balog #577, vf-xf \$330
 - Faraj**, 1399-1412, AV heavy dinar (10.55g), al-Qahira 806, vf-xf, 15% flat as usual for this reign \$250
 - BUWAYHID: al-Marzuban**, governor of Khuzistan 977-983, AV dinar (5.2g), Suq al-Ahwaz 369, A1567, vf-xf \$240
 - GHAZNAVID: Mawdud**, 1041-1050, AV dinar (3.6g), pale gold as always, Ghazna 440, A1625, good very fine \$225
 - GREAT SELJUQ: Alp Arslan**, 1063-1072, AV dinar (3.7g), Isfahan 457, A1670, very fine, S \$200
 - Malikshah**, 1072-1092, AV dinar (2.9g), Hamadan 467, citing local governor Shams al-Ma'ali Chaghri Tekin, choice nearly uncirculated, RR \$600
 - SUFID: temp. Husayn**, 1361-1372, AV fractional dinar (1.1g) (the weight suggests that this denomination is 1/4 mithqal), Khwarizm 768, A2063, very fine, R \$400
 - Same ruler and type** (1.2g), Khwarizm 774, A2063, good very fine or better, R \$440
 - SAFAVID: Shah 'Abbas I**, 1588-1629, AV mithqal (4.6g), Urdu (the court mint), undated, A2627, very fine \$185
 - ZAND: Karim Khan**, 1753-1779, AV 1/4 mohur (2.7g), Kashan, undated (not date missing), KM-525, choice extremely fine, far above average style \$175
 - QAJAR: Fath 'Ali Shah**, 1797-1834, AV toman (4.5g), Khuy 1232, C206d (the new number will be KM753 beginning with the 1996 edition), finest style, vf-xf, R \$275
 - Same ruler & type** (4.6g), Tehran 1235, KM753, choice extremely fine \$150
 - DURRANI: Ahmad Shah**, 1747-1772, AV mohur (10.9g), Mashhad, year 9 (retrograde), KM639, choice uncirculated, the nicest example I have seen of this scarce type \$700
 - Shah Zaman**, 1793-1801, AV mohur (10.9g), Herat 1215, unlisted date for mint, good very fine, RR \$740
- Modern & Miscellaneous**
- BUKHARA: C65**, AV tilla of Haidar Tora (4.6g), 1233, choice extremely fine, R \$275
 - EGYPT: K341**, AV 100 piastres of King Fuad, 1922/1340, xf-au \$200
 - IRAN: Y-A38**, AV 2000 dinars of Muzaffar al-Din Shah, dated "9301", presumed error for 1309 on an old die from the time of Nasir al-Din Shah, extremely fine, RR \$250
 - TURKEY: K242**, AV 5 sultani of Mahmud I (16.6g), 1143, mark *س*, vf-xf, hole repaired (these large multiples are virtually never found unholed, as they were worn as military or civilian decorations), RR \$1250
 - K680**, AV 250 piastres of Abdumecid, 1255, year 18, extremely fine, never mounted, scarce thus \$400

37. K823, AV 500 piastres of Mehmet VI, 1336, year 2, very fine, light traces of having been mounted, overall a very attractive specimen of this rare type	\$800
Gold coins of India	
38. CHANDELLAS of Bundelkhand: Paramarddi , fl. 1165-1201, AV dinar (4.0g), Mitchiner #408, crude vf, flan crack	\$150
39. CHAULUKYAS of Anahillapataka: Kumarapala , fl. 1145-1171, AV dinar (4.0g), Mitchiner #441/43, Deyell #149, extremely fine, S	\$200
40. DELHI Sultanate: Tughluq Shah , 1320-1325, AV tanka (10.8g), Deogir 723, Rajgor #1092, very fine, S	\$400
41. Muhammad Shah III , 1325-1351, AV dinar (11.0g), no mint name (struck at Delhi), 733, R1216, good very fine	\$380
42. MUGHAL: Akbar , 1556-1605, AV mohur, K105.1, Agra, 973, choice vf+	\$400
43. AV square mohur, K112.6, Jaunpur, no date, very fine, scarce mint & type	\$500
44. Aurangzeb , 1568-1707, AV mohur, K315, Haidarabad 1105, year 38, mint epithet <i>dar al-jihad</i> , good very fine	\$265
45. AV mohur, K315.39, Nusratabad 1101, year 34 (unlisted date), extremely fine, minor nick, broad struck specimen with full mint name showing, RR	\$800
46. Jahandar , 1712-1713, AV mohur, K368, Akbarabad, 112x, year one, mint name at top of reverse, extremely fine, R	\$440
47. Farrukhsiyar , 1713-1719, AV fanam (0.37g), K-"386.x", Sira, undated, extremely rare South Indian mint (in what is now the Tumkur district of Karnataka), extremely fine, RR	\$135
48. AWADH : K376, AV 1/2 ashrafi of Wajid Ali Shah, 1266, year 4 (unlisted), nearly extremely fine	\$275
49. K378.1, AV ashrafi of same ruler, 1265, year 2, vf-xf	\$330
50. KUTCH : Y18, AV 50 kori of Pragmalji II, 1874/1931, nearly uncirculated, somewhat crude strike	\$375
51. Y19, AV 100 kori of same series, 1866/1923, xf	\$500
52. PATIALA : Y15, AV 1/3 mohur (3.6g) of Bhupindra Singh, VS [19]58, extremely fine, S	\$200
53. GOA (Port.) : K187, AV 12 xerafin (4.9g) of Maria I, 1790, good very fine, RR	\$1100
54. BENGAL (Brit.) : K94, AV mohur with legends of Shah Alam II, 1194, year 19 (san 19), the first gold coin to bear what was subsequently to become a frozen year 19, choice uncirculated, superb, RR	\$1650
55. MADRAS (Brit.) : K418, AV mohur with Alamgir II legends, frozen date 1172, san 6, lotus mint name (issue of 1817), choice extremely fine	\$450
THE ANCIENT WORLD	
56. HIMYARITE : Anonymous AR tetradrachm (5.0g), in imitation of Athenian owl, 1st c. BC, male head in wreath/owl with South Arabian inscription, BMC VIII:7, good vf	\$300
57. SASANIAN : Ardashir I , 224-241, AR drachm (3.9g), Göbl #9, usual types with no special symbols, good vf+, bold portrait with good detail	\$200
58. Varahran I , 273-276, AR drachm (4.3g), as G41 but with extra line of inscription behind the bust on obverse, nearly very fine, some scratches in obverse field, RR	\$250
59. Varahran II , 276-293, AR drachm (4.1g), usual types with three busts, Göbl #64, extremely fine, superb obverse, somewhat weak reverse, R	\$450
60. Shahpur II , 309-379, AR drachm (4.1g), type assigned to Isfahan mint, G1249 (in the Kushan atlas), small diadem on altar shaft, extremely fine	\$100
61. Shahpur III , 383-338, AR drachm (4.2g), G126, ex. fine	\$125
62. Kavad I , 488-497, 499-531, AE broad fals (3.4g), probably Ephthalite or other imitation, good fine, unusual, presumably very rare	\$150
63. EPHTHALITE : Shah Mapama type, AR drachm (3.0g), traces of reverse still show, Mitchiner #1442/43, very fine	\$165
ISLAMIC DYNASTIES	
64. ARAB-SASANIAN : Salm b. Ziyad , ca. 680-684, AR drachm (4.0g), HRA (Herat) 67, Walker #119, large star at 11h30 reverse, good nearly extremely fine, R	\$250
65. LATER SISTAN : Khalid , mid-late 8th c., AR drachm (3.8g), SK (Sijistan), undated, A84, crude extremely fine	\$200
66. ABBASID : al-Mahdi , 775-785, AR dirham (2.8g), Arminiya 168, citing local governor Ibn Khuzaym, vf	\$175
67. al-Rashid , 786-809, AR dirham (2.9g), Zaranj 182, citing governor Humam, who held office for only a couple months during 182, extremely fine, RR	\$300

68. AR dirham (2.7g), Zaranj 193, citing governors al-Hakam b. Sinan & Harthama b. A'yan, very crude very fine, RR	\$200
69. al-Ma'mun , 810-833, AE fals (3.4g), Ghazza (Gaza in Palestine) 217, SNATübingen #179-180, crude vf, R	\$300
70. al-Muqtadir , 908-932, AR dirham (3.1g), al-Muhammadiya 313, pure Abbasid type with no local ruler cited, good very fine, RR	\$200
71. UMAYYAD of Spain : Hisham II , 2nd reign, 1010-1013, AR dirham (3.5g), al-Andalus 401, citing 'Abd Allah beneath obverse, Miles #345w, vf-xf	\$115
72. QARAKHANID : 'Ali b. al-Hasan, fl. ca. 1024-1034, AR dirham (3.6g), Khutlukh Urdu ("Great Horde") 420, with long inscription <i>fi wilayat al-khan al-ajall qutb al-dawla wa nasr al-milla wa 'uddat al-din</i> in obv margin, superb xf	\$240
73. <i>similar</i> , Khutlukh Urdu 425, shorter inscriptions without all the above titles on obverse, uncirculated, superb style & finest calligraphy, full original lustre, R	\$275
74. ARTUKID of Hisn Kayfa : Qara Arslan , 1144-1167, AE dirham (13.8g), no mint, 560, facing head slightly left, SS-6, virtually uncirculated, superb bold strike with full detail and full inscriptions, superb example of this scarce type	\$500
75. ARTUKID of Mardin : Alpi , 1152-1176, AE dirham (14.0g), no mint or date, 2 busts facing each other, SS28, superb vf-xf	\$175
76. Ighazi II , 1176-1184, AE dirham (17.2g), [Mardin] 579, large & small facing busts, SS32.3, extremely fine, superb dark patina, perfect strike, rare in this quality	\$300
77. ZANGID of Mosul : Ghazi II , 1169-1180, AE dirham (11.2g), [al-Mawsil] 567, facing head, angels above, Edhem #121, superb vf-xf	\$120
78. DANISHMANDID : Dhu'l-Qarnayn , 1152-1162, AE dirham (6.9g), no mint or date, head r., Whelan #4, A1240, good fine, nice portrait	\$180
79. Nasir al-Din Muhammad , 1162-1170, AE dirham (11.6g), no mint (struck at Malatya), 558, Byzantine style investiture scene, Whelan #3, A1241, superb vf+, no weakness and full strike, RR , especially in this quality	\$1150
80. MENKUJAKID : Bahramshah , 1167-1225, AE fals (2.0g), bust l. with huge eye, Artuk #1189, A1892, very fine, R	\$250
81. SALGHURID : Abish bint Sa'd , 1265-1285, AR dirham (4.7g), citing Hulagu as overlord, no mint or date, A1929, superb calligraphy, choice vf, RR	\$450
82. QUTLUGHKHANID : Padishah Khatun , queen, 1294-1295, AR dirham (2.3g), citing Gaykhatu as overlord, Kirman, undated, A1937, crude nearly very fine, RR	\$175
83. OTTOMAN : Musa Celebi , 1410-1413, AR akçe (1.2g), Edirne (81)3, Pere #36, good very fine, off center	\$185
84. Süleyman I , 1520-1566, AR dirham (4.3g), Tabriz 942, struck during occupation of northwestern Iran, vf, RR	\$300
85. GREAT MONGOLS : Chingiz Khan , 1206-1227, AR dirham (3.0g), Ghazna style, no mint or date, A1967, choice vf+, R and very popular	\$400
86. <i>temp.</i> Ögedei , 1227-1242, AR dirham (2.9g), bow type of Caucasian mints, Bazar (court mint), undated, earliest use of Bazar as a mint name, A1973, good vf, RR	\$125
87. CHAGHATAYID : <i>temp.</i> Chaghatay , 1227-1241, AR dirham (1.9g), Almaligh 638, first Chaghatayid coin and first coin of Almaligh mint (now located in Xinjiang), A1979, fine, RRR	\$400
88. Buyan Quli , 1348-1359, AR dinar kebeki (7.8g), Samarqand 7xx, obverse in looped octagon, A2007, good very fine	\$140
89. GOLDEN HORDE : Mir Pulad Khan , 1363, AR dirham (1.6g), Saray al-Jadida 764, A2043, vf-xf, RR	\$175
90. ILKHAN : Anonymous qa'an al-'adil type, AR dirham (2.8g), Tabriz 643, hexagram type, the first Ilkhan coin, A2132, extremely fine, RR	\$200
91. SAFAVID : Isma'il II , 1576-1578, AR 2 shahi (4.8g), Fuman ND, muled with obverse of Muhammad Khudabanda, type A, Sari mint, vf, unusual, R	\$125
92. ZAND : Karim Khan , 1753-1779, AR abbasi (4.3g), Shemakhi 1177, unlisted, K528.1, very fine, RR	\$115
93. QAJAR : Muhammad Hasan Khan , 1750-1759, AR rupi (11.5g), K504, Mazandaran 1170, superb xf-au	\$100
94. Fath 'Ali Shah , 1797-1834, AR riyal (9.1g), Mashhad 1244, K712, superb extremely fine	\$175
95. AR kran (6.7g), Tuyserkan 1241, K710, virtually uncirc., bold strike, very rare mint, RR	\$150
96. BARAKZAI : Dost Muhammad , 1st reign, 1823-1839, AR 'rupee, Kabul 1239, year one, <i>sahib al-zaman</i> type, K476, vf	\$100





MODERN & MISCELLANEOUS

97. **ALGERIA:** K83, AR budju, Constantine mint, 1247, very fine, usual soft strike but no flat areas, **RR**
98. **EGYPT:** K148, 20 para of the Napoleonic occupation (5.9g), 1203, year 13, f-vf, weak regnal year, **RR**
99. K254, AR 5 piastres, 1277, year 2, choice vf
100. **IRAN:** Y72, 2000 dinars, 1337, prooflike specimen strike, unlisted as such in KM, **RRR**
101. **KHOQAND:** C105, tenga of Muhammad Fulad, 1875-76, 1292, dated both sides, A3077, very fine, **RR**
102. **PALESTINE:** Related issue, Arabic language token of William Sidney Smith, 1764-1840, Napoleonic war admiral who led defense of Acre in 1799, AE 26, Bucknill, pp. 199-202, fig. 148, good very fine, **RR**
103. **SHAMAKHI:** K10, abbasi of Qasim Khan (1789-94), 1209, A2946, vf-xf, **R**
See also n° 92.
104. **TRIPOLI:** K215, 40 para (9.8g) of Mahmud II, 1223, year 22, very fine
105. **TURKEY:** K379, 5 para of Abdulhamid I, 1187, yr. 3, unc
106. K387, 20 para, 1187, year 3, au
107. **XINJIANG:** Y16, miscal, 1310, vf-xf, **S**
108. Y-C16, miscal, 1332, good very fine, **R**

COINS OF INDIA

109. **ANDHRA:** temp. Gautamiputra, ca. 106-124, potin vimsatika (10.2g), elephant/tree in railing, BMC59, vf-xf
110. **VIDARBA:** AE square double karshapana (6.6g), voided cross/ chaitya (hill symbol), cf. *Num. Dig.*, v. 6, pp. 3ff, clear strike, very fine, **R**
111. **GHORID:** Mu'izz al-Din, 1170-1206, AR dirham (4.5g), bullseye type, mint & date off flan, A1770, nice vf, **S**
112. **QARLUQID:** Hasan Qarluq, 1226-1249, AR tanka (10.4g), no mint, (62)3, caliph Zahir (622-623), vf, **RR**
113. **DELHI Sultanate:** Iltutmish, 1210-1235, AR tanka, horseman type, no mint or date, Rajgor #846, nice pictorial but margins very weak, reasonable, **R**
114. **Firoz I**, 1235-1236, AR tanka, (Lakhnauti) 63x, R866, very fine, extremely rare ruler in silver, **RRR**
115. **Raziyya**, Queen, 1236-1240, AR tanka, Lakhnauti 634, R898, vf-xf, **RR**
116. **Mahmud I**, 1246-1266, AR masha (1/12 tanka) (0.9g), title *al-sultan al-mu'azzam*, no mint or date, R915, vf, **RR**
117. **Muhammad IV**, 1390-1393, AR tanka, [Delhi] 833, unlisted date, posthumous issue by Mubarak II (1421-34), R1407, extremely fine, **RR**
118. **BENGAL:** Ali Mardin, sultan, 1210-1212, AR tanka, no mint, possibly dated 609, R113, full name showing, crude extremely fine, carefully cleaned, **RRR**
119. **Iwaz**, 1207-1226, AR tanka, no mint as usual, 616, R119 but unpublished date, vf-xf, one test mark & couple scratches, **RR**
120. —, NM 620, R125 (this specimen!), good vf, **RR**
121. **Jalal al-Din Mahmud**, 1287, AR tanka, Lakhnauti 686, R145, good very fine, **RRR**
122. **Husayn**, 1493-1518, AR nazarana tanka, broad flan, no mint name, 910, unlisted year, R486, xf, sl. crude, **RR**
123. **MAABAR (Madura):** Ahsan Shah, 1333-1339, AR 1/4 tanka, no mint, 738, R2926, unlisted date, good vf-xf
124. **MUGHAL:** Anon., temp. Akbar, AR tanka of the Shaybanid Iskandar, Bukhara 977 (A2990) cmk'd *Kabul* 983, with partial earlier cmk also of Kabul, very fine, **R**
125. **Aurangzeb**, 1658-1707, rupee, K300.33, Hukeri, 1110, year 49 (sic), extremely fine, Maratha issue, **RR**
126. **Muhammad Shah**, 1719-1748, rupee, K436.37, Katak 113x, year one, unlisted date, vf, **RR**
127. **Shah Jahan III**, 1759-1760, K475.3, rupee, Shahjahanabad (117)4, year one, vf-xf, **R**
128. **BUNDI:** Y9a, square nazarana rupee of Victoria, VS1953, unlisted date, fine, **RR**
129. Y14a, nazarana rupee of Edward VIII, VS1965, unlisted, very fine, **RR**
130. Y18a, nazarana rupee or George V, VS1974, fine
131. **GOA (Port.):** K279, AR rupia, 1861, choice vf+
132. **BENGAL (British):** K98, rupee, Calcutta mint but Murshidabad on coin, 1202, san 19, wrong photo in KM, good vf-xf

WHOLESALE LOTS

Starter Lots: Nice coins, representative of the series, intended for novice or dealer. Retail of each lot about \$160-180 for average grade coins, \$140-160 for higher grade coins, no duplicates, no junk, all coins identified in envelopes (unless otherwise specified). You specify the area, grade range, etc., and we will try our best to fill your needs. These lots are especially tailored for collectors who want a general representation of a series they are just starting to collect, allowing them to obtain some of the more common coins at a discounted price. Some sample topics:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| H1. Umayyad dirhams. | H6. Seljuqs of Rum. |
| H2. Shaybanids of Central Asia. | H7. Sultans of Gujarat |
| H3. Timurids. | H8. Mughal silver coins. |
| H4. Delhi Sultanate. | H9. Mysore state. |
| H5. Yemen medieval. | H10. Princely state rupees. |
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Each lot, NET \$125
Triple size lot, still all different, retail three times as much, somewhat larger discount and greater variety of coins \$340

Discount Schedule: Remaining coins from pricelists 107-109 are now available at 10% discount, except on bullion-related items. Serious counteroffers for old stock may be considered.

Invoice number: Please be sure to mention the invoice number with all returns and payments, to assure proper credit and facilitate matters for us. Nobody enjoys paperwork.

Show Schedule: (No changes from list 109). However, I will also be attending the Middle East Studies Association conference in Phoenix on 19-22 November, where I will deliver a paper tentatively entitled *No small change: the disappearance of copper coinage in the Islamic world in the 9th century.*

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COMMENTARY (4 September 1994) — It seems that summer has only just begun, yet now it draws to a close. I guess I am still one of those who fervently regrets that God did not put 44 hours into each day and 444 days into each year. The surest sign of autumn is the arrival of the first auction catalogs for the fall season, some of them more than one inch thick and weighing two kilos or more. The schools here have already been open for one week, as we all get bombarded with back-to-school commercials on radio & TV. The weather is hot—September is our hottest month in Sonoma County. The grape harvest has begun, as dozens of grape trucks can be seen hauling their precious cargoes to start the process that will eventually turn them to wine.

And with elections just two months away, the air waves are filled with ads imploring us to vote for or against this candidate or that proposition. Here in California, the hottest debate is developing over Proposition 186, the so-called Single Payer initiative that would restructure the state's health care industry more or less according to the Canadian model. Health insurance would become a state prerogative, with universal coverage and minimal charges per use of the service. The insurance industry has allegedly pledged \$100m to fight this bill, and alone that seems to be sufficient reason to vote in favor of it.

We will also elect a governor, one senator, all our representatives, some state senators and all our state assemblyman. There will be local issues and local candidates as well. The ballot can be several pages long, and the voter's handbook, which contains summaries of the issues together with arguments for and against them, can run to 100 pages or more of rather tedious reading. Sometimes we are confronted by such an overload of information, including lots of misinformation and disinformation, that it seems miraculous that anybody can form an opinion.

And of course, all of this will take place during what has been billed as the "Greatest Show on Earth," the OJ Simpson murder trial. Just think of how much more business we coin dealers would have if just 1% of the attention paid to that trial would be diverted to us! Well, we are all entitled to dream a little, even if our dreams are utter fantasy.

