

## NEWSLETTER

# No. 152

Spring 1997

## ORIENTAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

*Secretary General:*  
Mr. M. R. Broome,  
30 Warren Road, Woodley,  
Reading, Berks, RG5 3AR, U.K.

*Newsletter Editor:*  
Mr. S. Goron,  
74 Outram Road, Croydon,  
Surrey, CR0 6XF, U.K.  
e-mail: sgoron@msn.com

*Regional Secretaries:*  
*General:* Mr. R. Senior,  
Butleigh Court Tower, Butleigh,  
Glastonbury, Soms, BA6 8SA, U.K.

*Europe:* Mr. J. Lingen,  
Dr. A. Schweizerstr. 29,  
2861 XZ Bergambacht, Netherlands.

*U.K. & Eire:* Mr. K. W. Wiggins,  
Flat 31, Oaklands, Montargis Way,  
Crowborough, E. Sussex, TN6 2XL, U.K.

*America:* Mr. W. B. Warden, Jr.,  
P.O. Box 356, New Hope,  
PA 18938, U.S.A.

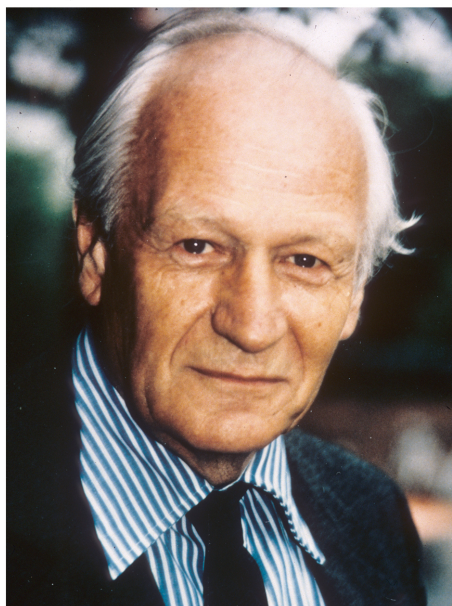
*South Asia:* Mr. K. K. Maheshwari,  
507 Raheja Centre,  
214 Nariman Point,  
Mumbai, 400 021 India.

*Pakistan Chapter:* Mr. S. M. Mirza,  
2-98-E Panorama Centre, Blue Area,  
Islamabad, Pakistan.

*Annual Subscription:*  
£10, H.Fl. 35, FF 100, \$20.

### Obituary

Peter Jaeckel (1914-1996)



Peter Jaeckel passed away on 13 September 1996. He worked from 1948 to 1969 at the Staatliche Münz-sammlung in Munich. Most Islamic numismatists will know him as the editor of one of the most useful tools on Islamic numismatics: the life work of Eduard von Zambaur, *Die Münzprägungen des Islams*.

Jaeckel's name is connected with the attempt to revive Islamic numismatics after the Second World War in West Germany. Once Heinrich Nützel had left the Berliner Münzkabinett in 1924 (he had already ceased publishing ten years previously), there was no Islamic numismatist in Germany for many decades. No-one replaced him as orientalist at Germany's largest oriental collection

in Berlin. The second largest German collection, in Jena/Thuringia, the Grand-ducal Oriental Coin Cabinet, fell into oblivion, when the Chair for Oriental Languages ceased in 1919.

After the Second World War, the collection of Frédéric Soret (1795-1865), formerly located in Jena and which was given back to the grand-ducal house immediately before the outbreak of the war, found its way into the Staatliche Münzkabinett Munich. It was the starting point for Peter Jaeckel to study Islamic numismatics, a field totally new for him. Before that, he had studied classical archaeology, art history and Latin in Berlin. In 1941, he submitted his doctoral thesis on the weapons on the reliefs of the Pergamene sanctuary of Athena. After the war he became lecturer at the School of Applied Art in Berlin-Weißensee, located within the Soviet sector. He moved in 1948 to Munich and devoted his time to numismatic studies as a free-lance. In 1950 he secured a modest position at the Staatliches Münzsammlung, but before him lay an enormous task: to reorganise the old holdings of oriental coins and the huge incoming collection of Frédéric Soret. Jaeckel first had to learn to decipher the Arabic script and to become acquainted with Islamic history and topography. This he did, teaching himself. In the field of Islamic numismatics he had no teacher or colleague in Germany with whom to exchange information or ideas. In 1969 he was promoted to Director of the Bavarian Army Museum in Ingolstadt, a position he held for ten years. Despite his new activities, he still managed to keep an eye on the oriental world. He was the "discoverer" of the famous "Turkish Booty" of 1683, slumbering in a museum store in Kassel/Hessen. He obtained this on long-term loan for the displays in Ingolstadt.

When he left the Staatliches Münzkabinett in 1969, he unfortunately had no successor in the oriental field. His move to Ingolstadt marked the end of the first attempt to re-institutionalise Islamic numismatics in West Germany. Nevertheless, he tried his best to revive it and to ease the way for new scholars to come. Until the early nineties, Peter Jaeckel taught at the Ludwig-Maximilian University in Munich, where he found in the Turkologist, Franz Babinger (1891-1967), a helpful friend. Jaeckel tried to bridge the gap between numismatics as a science in its own right and Islamic studies - but in vain. In a letter of 1988 he commented: *For over twenty years I have been teaching Islamic numismatics at the Institute for Turkish Studies and History of the Near East but do not have a single student who has really taken a serious interest in the subject.* He was one of those who favoured the idea of a research unit for Islamic numismatics in Tübingen in the late eighties and helped to pave the way for the revival of Islamic numismatics in the nineties.

Despite his wide-spread interests, Peter Jaeckel never published a great deal. There are only four short articles on Islamic numismatics and a number of short activity reports in the Munich Museums Yearbook. Jaeckel's ability and interest were more concerned with laying the foundation for future research, for example in his custodial work on the oriental collection in Munich or his efforts to conserve and present the collections of the Bavarian Army Museum, and with drawing people's attention to important objects. This was the case with the "Turkish Booty" and with the edition of Zambaur's *Die Münzprägungen des Islams*. This work was printed in 1942-3 but never finished. During the war and afterwards the printed sheets were stored in Vienna. Jaeckel - as B. Spuler pointed out in his preface - succeeded in convincing the German Research Foundation (DFG) and several scholars to support the final publication of the book in 1968. *Die Münzprägungen* is the key to all relevant literature before 1939. It is the most successful German contribution to numismatic discussion in the field of oriental studies measured in terms of reviews. Never before had a German numismatic publication been so wide-spread or well received.

## Bibliography

### Numismatic Monographs:

*Die Münzprägung des Hauses Habsburg 1780 - 1918 und der Bundesrepublik Österreich 1918 - 1956.* Basel 1956.

### Articles on Islamic numismatics:

'Bagdad 1638', in *Schweizer Münzblätter* 16/1966, pp.86-9.  
'Ein Meisterwerk orientalischer Stempelschneiderkunst', in *Jahrbuch für Numismatik und Geldgeschichte* 12/1962, pp.209-14.

'Eine Rebellenmünze aus der abbasidischen Revolutionszeit', in *Jahrbuch für Numismatik und Geldgeschichte* 24/1974, pp. 181-90.  
'Ein unbekanntes Goldstück aus Yemen', in *Berliner Numismatische Zeitschrift* 14/1953, pp.50-52.

### Annual Work Reports:

'Orient', in *Münchner Jahrbuch der bildenden Kunst* 2/1951, pp.253f; 9-10/1958-9, p.426; 15/1964, pp.240f; 20/1969, p.245; 24/1973, pp.263, 266.

### Numismatic reviews by Peter Jaeckel:

*JNG* 8/1957, pp.195-7: D. M. Lang, *Studies in the Numismatic History of Georgia in Transcaucasia*, NY 1955; R. J. Nesmith, *The Coinage of the First Mint of the Americas at Mexico City*, NY 1955; S. P. Noe, *The Pine Tree Coinage of Massachusetts*, NY 1952; E. P. Newman, *Coinage of Colonial Virginia*, NY 1956.  
*JNG* 9/1958, pp.202f: H. L. Adelson, *The American Numismatic Society 1858-1958*, NY 1958.  
*JNG* 10/1959-60, pp.247-9: K. Scott, *Counterfeiting in Colonial New York*, NY 1953; idem, *Counterfeiting in Colonial Pennsylvania*, NY 1955; E. P. Newman, *The Secret of the good Samaritan Shilling*, NY 1959; G. Probszt, *Judenburg in der Münz- und Geldgeschichte vergangener Jahrhunderte*, Judenburg 1958; idem, *Die Münzen Salzburgs*, Basel, Graz 1959.

### Editorial work:

Eduard von Zambaur: *Die Münzprägung des Islams, zeitlich und örtlich geordnet*. I. Band, der Westen bis zum Indus mit synoptischen Tabellen. Wiesbaden (Franz Steiner) 1968.

### Reviews on E. von Zambaur, Münzprägungen:

Anonym, in *Bibliotheca Orientalis* 26/1969, p.151.  
Bivar, A. D. H., in *BSOAS* 32/1969, pp.158f.  
Brisch, Klaus, in *Kunst des Orients* 7/1970-1, p.79.  
Ehrenkreutz, Andrew S., in *JAOS* 89/1969, pp.627f.  
Farah, Caesar E., in *Journal of Asian History* 4/1969, pp.178f.  
Hansman, John, in *JRAS* 1969, p.75.  
Köbert, R., in *Orientalia* 38/1969, pp.370f.  
Linder-Welin, Ulla S., in *Hamburger Beiträge zur Numismatik* 21-23/1967-9, pp.925-6.  
Matuz, Josef, in *ZDMG* 121/1971, pp.355-8.  
Miles, George C., 'Addition to Zambaur's Münzprägung des Islams', in *ANSMN* 17/1971, pp.229-33.  
Mitchell, Helen W., in *NC* 7th series 9/1969, pp.354f.

### Obituaries:

Aichner, Ernst: 'In memoriam Dr. Peter Jaeckel', in *Kaskett* 7/1996, pp.46f.  
Klose, Dietrich O.A.: 'Peter Jaeckel', in *Geldgeschichtliche Nachrichten* 177/Januar 1997, p.31.  
Overbeck, Bernhard: 'Peter Jaeckel †', in *Numismatische Nachrichtenblatt* 12/1996, p.12.  
- 'Peter Jaeckel (18.5.1914 - 13.9.1996)', in *International Numismatic Newsletter* 29/1996, pp.21f.  
Schabenstiel, Martin: 'In Memoriam Dr. Peter Jaeckel', in *Sammlerbrief der Vereinigung Freie Zinnfigurensammler e. V.* 9-10/1996, p.186.

His manuscripts and lectures on Islamic numismatics are placed in the Thüringer Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek by courtesy of his niece, Mrs. Marianne Nienaber.

Stefan Heidemann, Jena