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Fig.1: Bust of J.G. Stickel by Hermann Raabe (1880). Gift of Stickel's great-great-grand-son, Arnd Kniese, on the occasion of the bicentenary of Stickel's birth. In the centre, Tobias Mayer, author of the Sylloge, and to the right and left Gisela and Arnd Kniese.

Oriental Numismatic Society in Jena, 22-24 April 2005 - 200th Anniversary of Johann Gustav Stickel – Report by Stefan Heidemann

For the fourth time, Jena in Thuringia/Germany had the honour to host scholars and collectors of Oriental numismatics. Two special occasions highlighted this meeting. Firstly, the first volume of the new series of Sylloges edited by the Chair for Semitic Philology and Islamic Studies came just in time from the publisher (review see ONS NL 184). It was dedicated to the memory of Johann Gustav Stickel (1805-1896). And secondly, the bicentenary of the birth of the founder of the Oriental Coin Cabinet Jena was celebrated during a reception on Friday evening at a historical location, the garden house of Friedrich Schiller (1759-1805), his home during his professorship in Jena. Friedrich Schiller, after whom the University is named, is one of the most famous authors of the German Classics. The rector of the University, Klaus Dicke, emphasised in his welcome speech the special attention paid by the University to its historical collections in research and teaching within the historical disciplines.

He expressed the gratitude of the University to the patrons of the Oriental Coin Cabinet who had enabled the collection to grow successfully in recent years.

On Saturday morning Torsten Kleinschmidt guided the participants through the special exhibition "Moneta Augusti." The Roman coins were treated from different aspects: political, art-historical and economical in nature. The different sections had been prepared by students on successive courses. The exhibition presented to the public the other important coin collection of the University, the "Academic Coin Cabinet" belonging to the Chair for Classical Archaeology.

On Saturday afternoon Norbert Nebes, director of the Oriental Coin Cabinet and Professor for Semitic Philology and Islamic Studies, opened the meeting in the fine Art Nouveau ambience of the meeting hall of the senate of the University under the benevolent gaze of "Minerva" by the French sculptor, Auguste Rodin (1840-1917). Two distinguished numismatists were remembered who passed away this year. Hans Wilski recalled the life and achievements of Kenneth Mackenzie (1917-2005). The Scotsman in New Jersey belonged to the generation of collectors

who founded Islamic Numismatics again after WWII. More than 200 numismatic publications mostly on Ottoman coins were authored by him. Johann-Christoph Hinrichs remembered Ömer Diler (1945-2005), who was a member of the scholarly active circle of Turkish collectors who had enriched the field from the 1970s onwards with many important studies (both obituaries in ONS NL 184). About 30 members attended the meeting from the countries of the EU, Switzerland, Turkey and the Sudan. It was organised by S. Heidemann.

New literature on the occasion of the meeting:

Sylloge der Münzen des Kaukasus und Osteuropas im Orientalischen Münzkabinett Jena by Tobias Mayer with contributions by Stefan Heidemann and Gert Rispling (Orientalisches Münzkabinett Jena 1), Wiesbaden (Harrassowitz) 2005. ISBN 3-447-04893-X. Euro 78,- (<http://www.harrassowitz.de/verlag/Turkic/4893.htm>).

Angelika Geyer (ed.), Torsten Kleinschmidt (redaction): *Moneta Augusti - Römische Münzen der Kaiserzeit und Spätantike im Akademischen Münzkabinett der Friedrich-Schiller-Universität*, Exhibition in the City Museum Jena 10 February - 1 May 2005, Weimar (Glaux) 2005. ISBN 3-931743-79-9, Euro 35,-.



Fig. 2: Gold-medallion in honour of J.G. Stickel by Waldemar Uhlmann (1889) sponsored by the Grandduke of Saxe-Weimar-Eisenach Carl Alexander (OMJ, inv.-no. 1996-1-1).

Stefan Heidemann, Jena: *Johann Gustav Stickel and Islamic numismatics - on the bicentenary of his birthday*.

In 1840 Johann Gustav Stickel tried to convince the Grandducual house in Weimar to purchase the, for that time, large collection of about 1500 Oriental coins as a resource for philological and historical studies. He was successful. Within the new philological and historical determination of Oriental studies, which tried to record all kinds of textual sources available, including coins, Stickel now had an important instrument of research at hand. Until his death in 1896 he was able to build up a collection of about 13,000 specimens with the generous support of the Grandducual family. In the middle of the 19th century the Grandducual Oriental Coin Cabinet in Jena was the only research institute for Oriental coins and the largest collection of its kind except for the Asiatic Museum in St. Petersburg.

Stickel was the first to introduce the geographical principle as a system for putting order into Islamic Numismatics, with his catalogue of 1870. Later he formulated this approach programmatically within a review of Tiesenhäuser's Abbasid corpus of 1873. Stickel's catalogue of 1870 also opened the way for the series of still important museum catalogues of Oriental collections before WWI. This series continues to form some of the basic literature for all research in the field. Stickel departed from the interpretation of single legends of coins examined in isolation, towards the recognition of the output of a single mint over time as a textual source of its own, like a sequence of documents or state bulletins, a precise chronicle of the political and religious circumstances at the time of their formulation and production.

In all European countries, except for the former Soviet Union, scholarly research on Islamic coins came to an end in the wake of WWI in general and in particular in Jena after the death of Stickel in 1896 and the closing of the Oriental Seminar in 1919. Scientific work on Islamic coins at European universities was renewed as late as the 1990s, first in Tübingen - with the acquisition of a new collection and, following suit, in Oxford and

in Jena on the basis of old collections. About 120 years after the programmatic article by Johann Gustav Stickel, the geographical principle - as a historical narrative of a mint - was applied in the form of a Sylloge edition, first in Tübingen, then in Oxford and finally for the collection founded by Stickel himself in Jena. This time, however, the inspiration came from a similar project in Greek numismatics, initiated in 1931 by the British Academy.

In Jena the publication of the collection was begun in a research-intensive field, where the Oriental Coin Cabinet possessed the largest collection outside the states of the former Soviet Union: the coins of the Caucasus and Eastern Europe. How far-reaching Stickel's acquisition policy for the Coin Cabinet was, becomes evident from the fact, that, out of the 1470 coins published, 670, i.e. 46%, came from the initial collection of 1840. The new Sylloge is, on the one hand, an enduring achievement of the collecting efforts of Johann Gustav Stickel and, on the other hand, a late acknowledgement of his postulation of the geographical principle, which is nowadays one of the methodological foundations for research in Islamic Numismatics.

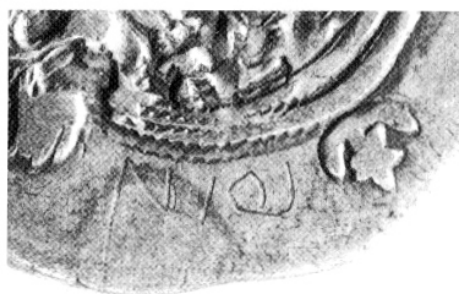


Fig. 3: Pahlavi graffiti P'N or W on a drachm of Xusrō II, Hamadan (AHM), 10th regnal year (SB2798).

Dieter Weber, Moringen: *Some observations about Pahlavi graffiti on Sasanian coins*.

The interpretation of Pahlavi script can be interpreted to read the characters in different ways. This problem is increased if we have only isolated words scribbled with ink or scratched on coins without any syntactical context. Some examples of Pahlavi graffiti on Sasanian drachms from Kaw-d I (reigned 484-531) onwards to Yazdigird III (reigned 632-651) were discussed in order to explain the problems of Pahlavi script and the divergent readings that are possible for single or complex characters. This part was based on examples taken from the pioneering article by A. B. Nikitin ("Middle Persian and some other graffiti on Sasanian coins from the Moscow Collection", *Iran* 31 [1993], 99-101, pl. xxx-xxxv).

With respect to the criteria developed in part one, the second part dealt with some coins with possible Pahlavi graffiti, which are preserved in the Oriental Coin Cabinet Jena and others: coins from the reigns of Valax@ (484-488 AD) up to Xusrō II (590/1-628 AD) and an Abbasid dirham of al-Mahdī Mu-ammad (775-785 AD). Some of them had already been discussed by S. Heidemann on the occasion of the meeting of the ONS in 2001 (ONS NL 169).

Klaus Weber, Ebersberg: *Coin weights of the eastern Mediterranean from the Byzantine and early Islamic period: The example of 1-nomisma weights in bronze and glass*.

The reforms of ʿAbd al-Malik (685-705 AD) and his successors changed the currency system and the related weight standards. Therefore the coin weights continued to be used in the early decades after the Islamic conquest in the former Byzantine territories. Coin weights were made of bronze and glass, the latter only in Egypt. The bronze weights appear in different geometrical shapes. The weight of the Byzantine gold-nomisma, the solidus or standard Byzantine gold coin (about 4.55g) was slightly different over time and region. The coin weights were adjusted accordingly. About 380 bronze and 25 glass 1-nomisma weights were surveyed. 150 bronze specimens among them were too

heavily corroded and thus not included into the expanded study. The bronze weights showed a much greater variety in their actual weights than the glass. That may be due to different forms of corrosion but also the common use of bronze weights in many regions and over a long time should be taken into consideration.

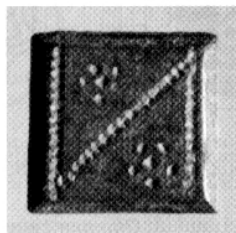


Fig. 4: Bronze weight of a nomisma.

The square shaped bronze coin weight (fig. 4) (4.2 g) was punched with an N and two x o. That the N is inverted is not an unusual feature. The weights are individually made. The survey resulted in several hundred different punched and engraved marks being noted on the weights. Weights marked on both sides existed. The shape can be square, rectangular, round or octagonal.



Fig. 5 Egyptian glass weight; 1.19 g; 18 mm.

The Egyptian glass weight (fig. 5) shows a Byzantine monogram of an official with the name of Konstantinos. After the reforms of 'Abd al-Malik the nomisma was replaced by the *mithqāl* (about 4.23g), which was then the standard weight of the gold-dinar. The *mithqāl* had its origin in the former Sasanian empire. Different composition of the glass may point to different workshops and technological processes.



Fig. 6. Dirham, al-'Abbāsīya, 172/788-9, with test marks, from the Prerow-hoard.

Antje Hückstädt, Prerow - Hans-Jürgen Ulonska, Erfurt: ***The Viking age silver-hoard from the river Prerow - revisited.***

In spring 1873 a hoard was discovered by the river Prerow on the small peninsula of Darß in West Pomerania, on the shore of the Baltic Sea. The hoard comprised silver coins and fragments from the 8th and 9th centuries. A preliminary report (Baltische Studien 27 [1877], 14, 46-48, 77) was given by Wilhelm Pertsch (1832-1899) of the Coin Cabinet in Gotha/Thuringia and Johann Gustav Stickel heard about the discovery at an early stage.

The hoard is one of the earliest Viking-age hoards from the area of the Baltic Sea. It comprised 70 Arabic and 2 European coins. The earliest one was a drachm of Khusr^o II of his 24th regnal year (613-4 AD). The final coin is probably a denar of Charlemagne (768-814 AD) from Dorstat (Dürstede, in the present day province of Utrecht, Netherlands). The local Museum in Prerow preserved about 50 Arabic coins and dirham fragments. About 40 of them could be identified from the descriptions given

by Pertsch and, in some cases, corrected. The exact location of the find-spot on the ever-changing coast-line of the Baltic Sea could be traced from old Swedish survey-maps for tax purposes (Matrikelkarten) from the 17th century. The study will appear in: XIII. *Congreso Internacional de Numismática* 2003, Madrid (forthcoming).

Johann-Christoph Hinrichs, Alanya: ***Mamluk aspects of Anatolian coinage in the 14th century.***

Several coins of the Anatolian principality of the Eretnā in the 14th century bear the names of the Mamluk sultans in Egypt and Syria. They provide new, important and hitherto unused information for political history. Several examples were presented, only two of them are discussed here:



Fig. 7: Dirham, Sīwās, 739/1338-9.

Firstly, a dirham, minted in Sīwās in 739/1338-9 (2.09g; 22 mm) (fig. 7), names the Mamluk sultan, al-Nāṣir Muḥammad (3rd reign 1309-1340). Sīwās was the capital of the principality of the Eretnā. The Mamlūk army never reached as far north as Sīwās. The chronicler, al-'Umarī (d. 749/1349), however, reports, that Eretnā asked the Mamluks for military assistance and, in exchange, they acknowledged the suzerainty of the Mamluk sultanate. This newly discovered coin is material evidence for what al-'Umarī reported.

Secondly, two coins minted in Lārende, south-east of Konya, in 762/1360-1 share the same reverse die. One of them (1.64 g; 18 mm) names on the obverse Muḥammad ibn Eretnā (reigned 1352-1366), whereas the other names the Mamluk sultan, al-Nāṣir Ḥasan (reigned 1347-1352, 1354-1361). Lārende was at that time the capital of the dynasty of the Qarāmāns. The actual ruler responsible for the coin protocol, therefore, has to be one of the Qarāmāns. This was either Saif al-Dīn Sulaimān, who was assassinated on behalf of Muḥammad ibn Eretnā, or, more probably, his brother and successor, 'Alā' al-Dīn (reigned 1360-1398). For ten years the latter had shared the same school with Muḥammad ibn Eretnā in Konya. In the same year, 1361, Peter of Cyprus (1359-1369) occupied the cities of Antalya and Alanya, both belonging to the Qarāmāns. This would make a call for military assistance plausible and a subsequent acknowledgement of the Mamluk overlordship, a fact which is not reported by any literary source.

Lutz Ilisch, Tübingen: ***The Second Alexanders.***

Alexander III of Macedonia (reigned BC 336-323) has been regarded as a military genius and a model for an aggressive, successful ruler driven by vision, from ancient times to the present day. In spite of his character as a short-lived hero, the panegyric reference to a Second Alexander can be traced for many famous conquerors and would-be-Alexanders. In the Islamic world, "*Iskandar al-thānī*", "the Second Alexander", occurred as an official title, which can be found on coins. Most of those mentioned in the talk were recent acquisitions of the collection of the Tübingen University. Several references were made to Alexander in contemporary literary. Two periods were focused on, the first around the year 1200 AD, the second around 1300 AD. Until the 6th/12th century his actual name *Iskandar* was not used at all in Islamic societies, but only his epithet *Dhū l-Qarnain*, the two-horned one. An increased interest in his life was stimulated by Nizāmī of Ganja who wrote an Alexander romance in two parts, finished about 590/1193. The hero was presented not only as a conqueror who campaigned against China and India, but also as a philosopher and a prophet.



Fig. 8: Copper coin of a Zeus-type from Azerbaijan, about 1200.

A still unpublished and unattributed copper coin type (fig. 8) from Azerbaijan of that period reproducing the Zeus-type of Alexander's tetradrachms may be regarded as a sign of a renewed interest in the hero.

Just in time, the defeat of the Gurkhān of the Qarā Khitāi provided a perfect reason to use "*Sikandar al-thānī*" as an official title for the victorious Khwārizmshāh, 'Alā' al-Dīn Muḥammad (1200-1220 AD). It could perhaps be argued that the Khwārizmshāh thus honoured then developed a certain dislike of the short-lived king and that he preferred an alternative historical comparison with the Great Seljūq sultan, Sanjar (1097-1157 AD). He adopted the name *Sanjar* as title as well. Sanjar's long-lasting reign was still in people's memory.



Fig. 9: Two coins from Qunduz with the title "*Sikandar al-thānī*"

After only a brief appearance of the Alexander-title on coins in Transoxiana (Samarqand, 610/1213-4) the full title can be traced on a series of provincial jitals from Qunduz (fig. 9) and gold dinars from the region of Gharjstān. Qunduz and Gharjstān both belonged to old Bactria, where local traditions of Greek descent might have survived. The Mongol invasion brought a temporary end to the use of the title.

The "Second Alexander" reappeared at the end of the century from 695/1295-6 onwards for two decades in Delhi on the coinage and in monumental inscriptions of a homonym of the Khwārizmshāh, 'Alā' al-Dīn Muḥammad Khiljī (1296-1316 AD). Again a new version of the Alexander romance had been completed in 699/1299-1300. This time the author was Amīr Khusrū Dihlawī.



Fig. 10: Dirham, Badakhshān, 691/1291-2, with "*Iskandar al-thānī*"

Finally the relation of the aforementioned Indian issues to a group of coins from Badakhshān was discussed. An almost unknown ruler of that area used the title *Iskandar al-thānī*. The coin was published by Florian Schwarz in *SNATübingen XIVc*, no. 400, as an issue of a sultan Yahyā in 721 H. (fig. 10). Based on new acquisitions in Tübingen it can now be shown that these were in fact issues of the local ruler 'Alīshāh ibn Daulatshāh as a Mongol vassal and dated 691/1291-2. Therefore the Khiljī sultan of Delhi might perhaps have borrowed the title from a petty ruler in Badakhshān, who adopted it shortly before him. The fact that both times the title was primarily used in old Bactria, by the

Khwārizmshāh and by the local Mongol vassal, provides a nexus and a probable context between the two periods of official use.



Fig. 11: Ottoman copper coin of Salīm I from Cizre. (American Numismatic Society)

Necdet Kabaklarlı, Istanbul: *Ottoman coins minted in Cizre*.

Quite frequently in the literature as well as in sales catalogues the Ottoman mint of Cizre has been taken for the port of Ḥudaida in Yemen or for Jidda in the Ḥijāz. It was argued in this talk that all those coins were in fact minted at the Ottoman mint of Cizre (*al-Jazīra*) in Diyār Bakr, northern Mesopotamia, during the reigns of Salīm I (1515-1520 AD) and Sulaimān II (1520-1566 AD). Coins in gold, silver and copper were produced in Cizre. The city had a strategic position for the Ottoman army facing towards Iraq. Ḥudaida in the Yemen was an unimportant fishing village at that time. Cizre was built on one of the islands in the Tigris river, thus giving it the name "the island". The name was spelt differently over time as *Jazīra*, *al-Jazīra* and, on Ilkhānid, coins as *al-Jazīrat al-'Umariya*. For the full article see: <http://www.osmanliparalari.com>.



Fig. 12: First issue of tokens of the 'Centralcasse'

Hans Wilski, Sulzbach: *The tokens of the "Centralcasse des Tempels", Jerusalem*.

In 1861 Christoph and Wilhelm Hoffmann founded the Christian Protestant "Gemeinschaft des deutschen Tempels" (Community of the German Temple) in Württemberg/Germany. In 1868 all members of this society, which numbered about 1,000 people, emigrated to Palestine to embody there the 'Kingdom of God on earth'. At first they settled at Haifa, later also in Jaffa and Jerusalem. The Ottoman administration welcomed the new settlers since they were likely to pass over improved methods of cultivation to the local Arab communities.

In 1880 in the Ottoman empire all copper coins of 5, 10, 20 and 40 paras were recalled and mostly withdrawn. This made every-day business difficult. To improve the situation, the 'Centralcasse', the main treasury of the religious community, issued tokens varying from 16 to 23 mm in diameter. They had the same numerical values as the withdrawn Ottoman coins, but they do not show any denomination. Three issues are known, all of them sharing the same obverse: a plough, the symbol of the community, and, in the margin: CENTRALCASSE DES TEMPELS.

I. First issue, brass, obv. as above, rev. large numerals 5, 10, 20 and 40.

- II. Second issue, brass, obv. as above, rev. smaller numerals, margin: CONSUMMARKE.
- III. The third issue is like the second one, but struck on nickel-plated zinc flans.

The metal used for the tokens of the third issue was determined by measuring its density; and a look at the edge of the tokens clearly shows a thin and tiny nickel layer. The tokens remained in use from 1880 to 1917. After WWI they were withdrawn and presumably melted down. They are nowadays extremely rare. See A. Kindler, *Museum Haaretz Bulletin* (June 1966), p. 79ff.

At the end of the meeting unidentified and noteworthy coins were presented and discussed by Reinhard Hüther, Stefan Möller and Hans Wilski.

The following papers from the Jena meeting of 2003 (ONS NL 176) have now been published:

- S. Heidemann: Die orientalischen Münzen der Universitätsbibliothek in Leipzig - Eine Wiederentdeckung für die Forschung. In: Reiner Cunz (ed.) in connection with Rainer Polley and Andreas Röpcke: *Fundamenta Historiae. Geschichte im Spiegel der Numismatik und ihrer Nachbarwissenschaften. Festschrift für Niklot Klüßendorf zum 60. Geburtstag am 10. Februar 2004* (Veröffentlichungen der urgeschichtlichen Sammlungen des Landesmuseums zu Hannover 51), Hannover 2004, p. 339-352.
- S. Tyler-Smith: Calendars and Coronations. The Literary and Numismatic Evidence for the Accession of Khusru II. In: *Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies* 28 (2004), p. 33-65.
- K. Weber: Erkenntnisse zur Herstellung byzantinischer Elektrom-Skyphaten. Die problematische Zusammensetzung des Münzmetalls Elektrom und die Folgen für Herstellung und Lebensdauer der Gepräge. In: *Jahrbuch für Numismatik und Geldgeschichte* 53-54 (2003-2004), p. 25-71.

The next meeting will be held in Bamberg on the weekend of 29-30 April 2006, organised by Lorenz Korn, Islamic Art History and Archaeology at Bamberg University, D-96045 Bamberg, e-mail: lorenz.korn@split.uni-bamberg.de, +49 (0951) 863 21 89.