



RESEARCH ARTICLE

BRITISH INDIAN COINS AT BALAMURI OF HONNALI TALUK

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ABSTRACT

This paper, with its appendices, gives a full account of the coinage of the British administered in India, and It analyses the problems of coins of British India. The main part of the discussion focuses on the coins of Queen Victoria's and George-V period. The present paper intends to discuss mainly coins of Balamuri village. are likely to shed new light on some important aspects of the economy of the contemporary human past.

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INTRODUCTION

Balamuri is a small village located at south-east of Honnali Taluk, Davangere District, Karnataka State, India. It is not recognized as a historical place though there have found some Hero stones of Vijayanagara period. At the time of field work some coins were found at Addamane Utteshappa's house which belongs to the British period. We visited his house and tried to collect the coins but it was not possible. But they permitted to get the photos of those coins. Totally it has five coins. Among them one coin belongs to Queen Victoria's period, the other four coins belong to George-V period. The intention of this article is to show the British Coin System and it is helpful for the people who have a hobby of collecting the coins. Among the colonizers Britisher's are the once who came to India for trading. They became more successful in Indian other than French, Dutch and Porchughese. They defeated the local kings and they occupied India and ruled nearly for about two centuries. During the year 1600 a business organization named East India Company got permission from the Queen of England to visit India. During that period Moghul king Jahangir was ruling and they took permission from him in the year 1613 and they started their trading centre at Surat. At the time of 1834 East India Company gained their prominence in politics. In 1835 they brought their currency in different parts of India.

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They started their minting place at Calcutta, Patna, Marshidabad, Banaras, Farukabada and at many other places. Because of the performance of this company Sepoy mutiny placed in India in 1857. As a result the British Government directly come forward to rule India. The Queen Victoria ruled in India from 1st May of 1876 to 1st of January 1877. Because of this the pattern of the coins was changed. The crown wearing Queen Victoria picture on the front and the word wrote as 'Victoria Queen' on the back of the coin was issued at first time and it was continued. In 1877 when the queen became the emperor then she changed the word 'Queen' into 'Empress' on the currency. Hence, it led to a new type of coins. This kind of coin was found at Balamuri. After the rule of Queen Victoria many kings ruled here. George-V was the main king ruled India from 22nd June 1911 to 20th January 1936. During his period the legacy of the coin pattern was changed. In front of the coin George picture was minted. This made the people angry because in the one rupee silver coin his picture with crown worn gown with an elephant was minted. The elephant was printed small and the trunk minted very small since the coin was very small, the elephant in the coin looks like pig. The Muslim peoples were protested against this coin that they have minted the pig in the coin to dishonour their religion. The government suddenly wake up and cancelled the currency and then designed the elephant picture nicely and minted the coins. Besides this we can see the coins minted with the King George-V picture. We can see only the king picture was minted without elephant. This type of coins was found in the Balamuri village.



In the back of the coin was designed with flower with lata creatures. At the centre mentioned as 'ONE RUPEE' and in the lower part printed year. In these coins two coins were printed in the year 1919, and one in the year 1916 and another in the year 1917.

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The description of the Coins: During Queen Victoria's period, on the one rupee silver coin crown wearing Queen Victoria picture on the front and the English word written as 'Victoria Queen' on the back of the coin was designed with flower with lata creatures. In the centre mentioned as 'ONE RUPEE' and at the lower bottom printed the year as 1884. The four coins of King George-V were printed using the metal of silver which measured 11.56gm. With a diameter of 31 m.m. in the front of the four coins the King George-V picture and around the coin 'George V King Emperor' were printed in English.
