

Coinage System OF ADIL SHAHIs of Vijayapur**Dr. Chandrakant. N. Koligudde**

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ABSTRACT

This paper throws light on the History of Adil Shahi's Coin System. Numismatics may be defined as the study of coins and medals, coins being metallic objects used as currency and medals. Usually Coins issued on the Occasions of Coronation, Marriage, Birth of Princess and victory Over Enemies. The Adil shahis ruled from 1489 to 1689 with Bijapur or Vijayapur as their Capital. Yusuf Adil Khan, a governor under Bahmanis becomes independent and established Adil shahi dynasty. The coins of Bahmanis were in circulation till 1526 A.D. it was the reason why the coins of the first four sultans of the dynasty namely Yusuf Adil Shah, Ismail Adil Shah, Mallu Adil shah and Ibrahim Adil Shah I. were not available . Ali Adil Shah I (1556-80)the fifth sultan of the Adil shahi dynasty, who issued Independent coins.

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Numismatics is comparatively a neglected subject of study in south Indian. In spite of the fact that south Indian has produced a vast treasure in the form of gold, silver, copper and lead coins for the past two thousand years. This subject has not attracted scholars in a big way. Thousands of ancient & medieval coins are in the strong rooms of State Department of Archaeology lying unidentified even till today. Where treasure troves come to light, the authorities simply give an announcement in local newspapers & the coins are tied secure in a bag and left together dust in dark. It is most unfortunate that Dept. of archeology have not thought it worthwhile to appoint a Competent, Numismatist to study the collections of the coins a systematic study of the coins started by the British officers, namely Henderson, Taylor, Jackson, Turnell and others, Large Number of papers published in the pages of the journal of the Numismatic society of India by Ram Rao, Altekar, M.G. Dikshit, M.M.Prabhu and Walikhan and others.

The coinage system of Adil Shahi dynasty began with Ali I during his reigning period in 1557 A.D-1580 A.D. The coins of this dynasty were chiefly made of copper and were issued in three denominations. Apart from these, a few coins were issued of higher weight. The gold coins of Adil Shahi Dynasty are rare except a few that were issued by Muhammad Adil Shah. These coins bore the same inscriptions as those on the copper coins. In these series, silver products are almost unknown in the styles of the copper ones. During this time a silver currency of a quite different, indeed of a foreign pattern was issued by the rulers.

The Adil shahis ruled from 1489 to 1689 with Bijapur as their Capital city previously it was ruled by many dynasties' it was called as Bijjalanahalli, Vijayapur. Yusuf Adil Khan, a governor under Bahmanis become independent and established this dynasty. The coins of Bahmanis was in circulation till 1526 A.D. it was the reason why the coins of the first four sultans of the dynasty namely Yusuf Adil Shah, Ismail Adil Shah, Mallu Adil shah and Ibrahim Adil Shah I. Ali Adil Shah I (1556-800) were not available. The fifth sultan of the dynasty was the first who issued Independent coins. Whose coins are the earliest he and all his successors issued gold, silver and copper coins of three denominations weighing about 60, 120 and 180 grains. These coins are either round or square. The circular coins range from 0.8 to 0.5 in diameter; the gold coins weight 52 grains. The Adil Shahi coins contain the names of the sultans, the mint, titles, Persian couplets and the dates. The coins of the Abu-Al-Muzaffer Ali Adil Shahi (1557-1580) bear the legend "Ali Ibn Abi talib" and opposite side "Asad Allah Alghalib" Ali called as the son of Abu Talib, while he was the son of Ibrahim I, Ali himself calling as the son of Abu Talib on the coins, He compares with fourth Khalifa of Baghdad. Another coins contain the legend saying that Asad Allah (The lion of Gold). It was the title of Ali I, according to Basatin – I – Salatin, a literary work states that Ibrahim Adil Shah II(1580-1627) issued coins namely **Nauras** in commemoration of the foundation of the New capital city called as Nauraspur. Today it is called as Torvi, where the famous Narasimh Temple is situated. These coins are called Ibrahim Nauras, other coins namely Muhur, Ton, Dharan and Partap. The coins of Mohamad Adil Shah(1627-56) contains the interesting legend on them the first one refers to prophet Muhammad and other refers to queen Taj jahan first context it means " The world received beauty and dignity from two Muhammad's, one is the Prophet Muhammad and other King Muhammad Shaha in the second context it means the world received beauty and dignity from prophet Mahomad and Tajau the queen from Mohammad

Silver Larins were issued by the Adil Shahi; they originated in the district of lar at the head of Persian Gulf. Bijapur kingdom had constant regular maritime trade with Arabian and Persian Gulf Countries. Larins of Persian Gulf provided a trading Currency that was used along the maritime trade route which extended from the Port of the Persian Gulf around the West Coast India as far as Ceylon and the Maldives, Islands. Larins are in the form of thick hair pin made from a thin rod Adil Shahis minted this type for trade purposes. Two types of Larins of Adil Shahis have been discovered. The first one is 3.75 long where as the other one is smaller measuring only 1.75, the weight ranges between 74 to 70 grains. The larins were flattened with Inscription in relief.

Ali I,s Larins Contains the legend of Kalima (Shia formal) and opposite side has “Abul Muzzafar badshah dharab Dabul sann 986, its weight was 4.9 grams and hit at Dabul the chief Port of Bijapur in 1578.The best Larin were discovered at Ceylon.

The larins of Muhammad Adil Shah is Straight, Its weights is 4.9. it can t mention the name of mint and date . It Contains Inscription reference that – Ali Sultan Muhammad Adil Shah and author side mention “Ali Sadiq Shah”.

The larins of Ali Adil Shah II Contains myth saying that “Ali Adil Shah” while the reverse side of the larins has Dharab Dabul sSann 10677. It also Contain the name of sultan, the mint and the date.

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