



Aufsätze und Materialien
zur Sammlung RJ Ehlert
»Münzen der Osmanischen Welt«

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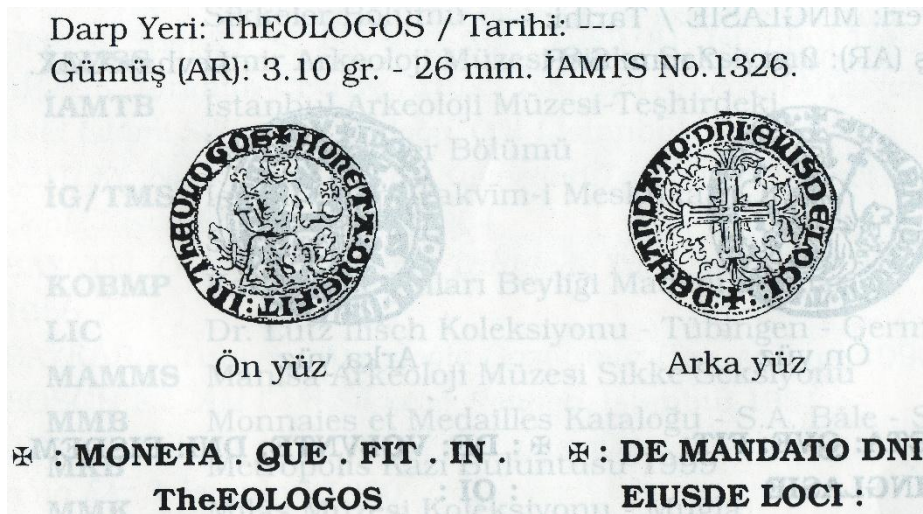
Samuel Lachman: The Initial Letters on Ottoman Coins of the 18th Century

01 | R. J. Ehlert: Fürsten oder Emire von Aidin
(Ionien) oder von Theologos (Ephesos)

Fürsten oder Emire von Aidin (Ionien) oder von Theologos (Ephesos)

Nach Saroukhan war eines der mächtigsten muslimischen Fürstentümer, die zu Beginn des 14. Jahrhunderts in Kleinasien gegründet wurden, ohne Zweifel das von Aidin. Der größte Teil des alten Ionien sowie ein Teil Lydiens bilden noch heute das Vilayet dieses Namens. Die Hauptstadt dieses Emirats war **Theologos, das frühere Ephesos**. Dieser neue Name, eine Verkürzung von „**Hagios Theologos**“ zu Ehren seiner berühmten Kirche des Heiligen Johannes des Theologen, war zum Namen der alten Metropole Ioniens geworden; die Türken machten daraus durch ihre Aussprache von „th“ und „g“ Ajasoluk oder Aiasolouk, was noch heute der Name des armseligen Dorfes ist, das nahe den Ruinen von Ephesos liegt. Theologos war im Mittelalter unter den Fürsten von Aidin eine bedeutende Hauptstadt und ein wichtiges Handelszentrum. Die italienischen Kaufleute verwandelten ihrerseits den byzantinischen Namen „Haghios Theologos“, den sie nur schwer aussprechen konnten, in „**Altoluogo**“; dieser Name stand zudem – entsprechend der damals üblichen ungefähren Benennungen – im Einklang mit der erhöhten Lage des Ortes, der auf einem Hügel unweit der antiken Stadt erbaut war. Es gab im Mittelalter eine Zeit, in der Ephesos dank seiner günstigen Lage so blühend war, dass man es als einen der wichtigsten Handelsplätze Kleinasiens betrachtete. Es stand in engen Beziehungen zu den Genuesen von Phokaia, Chios und Mytilene sowie zu den Venezianern, die dort einen eigenen Konsul hatten.

Übersetzung ChatGPT aus Schlumberger
Numismatique L'Orient Latin p. 482ff



Die Abbildung des Gigliati von Aydin aus Theologos/Ephesus stammt aus der Veröffentlichung von Celil Ender in „Karesi, Saruhan, Aydin ve Mentese Beylikleri Paralari; Istanbul 2000

02 | R. J. Ehlert: Zechine von Pera

Zechine von Pera

Die Zechine von Venedig war **die** Goldhandelswährung weit über das Mittelmeer hinaus. Aus heutiger Sicht kann man von einem „Gold-Euro“ sprechen. Die beliebte Währung wurde daher bald an vielen Orten nachgeprägt. Dabei hielt man sich nicht immer an das Feingehalt des Originals. Geprägt wurde vom Senat in Rom und von den Johannitern in Rhodos und Malta. In der östlichen Levante waren die Genuesischen Kolonien, die Emirate an der Westküste der Ägäis und das Osmanische Reich eifrige Produzenten.

Der Numismatiker Herbert E. Ives kann wohl mit Recht als der „Zechinen-Papst“ bezeichnet werden. Er hat in seinem 1954 in Deutschland gedruckten Werk „The Venetian Gold Ducat and its Imitations“ **das** Standardwerk geschrieben. Es wurde von Philip Grierson in „The American Numismatic Society“ New York 1954 heraus gegeben.

Die Zechinen tragen keinen Prägeort und kein Prägejahr. Sie können jedoch durch den in der Umschrift der Vorderseite genannten Dogen zeitlich eingeordnet werden.

Eine Ausnahme hierzu bilden die in der Kolonie Pera in Istanbul geprägten Zechinen. Pera, heute ein Stadtteil von Istanbul, gehörte zu Mailand, bevor es von Genua übernommen wurde. Die Zechinen sind neben dem Herscher mit einem zusätzlichen großen „**P**“ gekennzeichnet. Ives hat sie auf der Tafel XII abgebildet.



Die angebotene Zechine ist in Pera unter dem Mailändischen Herzog Filippo Maria Visconti (1421-1436) Geprägt worden.

Die meisten anonymen Zechinen-Nachprägungen werden von Ives als Levante-Prägungen bezeichnet. Sie sind oft in „Pale-Gold“ ausgeführt und z.T. untergewichtig. Ives hat neben den meist von den westägäischen Beyliks geprägten Zechinen auch **Zechinen der Osmanen** identifiziert. Sie wurden nach einem Dekret Mehmed II. hergestellt und sind vor den 882er Altin die ersten osmanischen Goldmünzen.

Sie kommen in der nächsten Auktion.

E_PDF 3

Dinar/Altin von Tunus 941

Die nordafrikanischen Küstenländer waren in der ersten Hälfte des 16. Jahrhunderts in die Interessensphären des Osmanischen Reiches und Spanien geraten. Dem Sultan des Osmanischen Reiches Süleyman I. Sohn des Selim stand König Karl I. von Spanien in Personalunion als Karl V. Kaiser des Heiligen Römischen Reiches gegenüber.

Die ausführende Macht lag jedoch in den Händen ihrer Admiräle Khair ad-Din Barbarossa und Andrea Doria. Mit ihnen wirkten auf beiden Seiten höchst fähige Flottenführer, die im westlichen Mittelmeer eine ausgeglichene Machtbilanz herstellten. Die Spanier verloren zwar ihren Einfluss im östlichen Mittelmeer bis Algerien, aber sie konnten ein weiteres Vordringen der Osmanen auf Südeuropa verhindern.

Mit der Inbesitznahme von Tunis durch Khair ad-Din Barbarossa am 26. Muharram (1) 941/17. August 1534 eroberten die Osmanen erstmals Tunis, das sie aber nur 9 Monate halten konnten. In dieser Zeit prägten sie in Tunis als Propaganda-Münzen Dinare zu 4.726 gr. aber mit dem Feingewicht des Altin.



10-Tun-63-A1_D6/3a-9_941 im Buch Band 2 auf Seite 356

RJE 3529; 4,726 gr. 19,5-20,5 mm; 6⁰⁰; 2. Stück nach der Münze im Bardo Museum Tunis 444 (dort ohne Gewicht)

Die Münze hat eine silbrig glänzende Oberfläche. In einer an der Universität Tübingen durch Herrn Dr. Ludger Ilisch durchgeführten Untersuchung wurde ihr spezifisches Gewicht zu 14,8 gr. ermittelt.

Das Gewicht der Münze in der Luft: 4,726 gr.

Das Gewicht der Münze in Wasser bei 20°C: 4,420 gr. zu konvertieren

auf 6°C: 4,407 gr.

Daraus ergibt sich aus der Tabelle von Earle R. Caley¹ ein Feingehalt: ca. 700/1000

Der Feingoldgehalt der Münze beträgt demnach ca. 3,308 gr.

Wegen des optischen Eindrucks wird das Restgewicht als nahezu reines Silber angenommen zu 1,418 gr.

Dies entspräche bei einer angenommenen Gold-Silber-Relation 1:10 = 0,142 gr. Gold-Wert.

Der Wert der Münze in Goldgewicht entspräche damit zusammen 3,45 gr. Gold.

Die Münzen waren damit mit dem osmanischen Goldstandard der Altin konvertibel.

¹ Validity of the Specific Gravity Method for the Determination of the fineness of Gold

E_PDF 4

Dinar Tilimsan

In Tilimsan wurde im Gegensatz zu Algier, das unter den Muwahiden im 12. Jhdt eingeführte Münzdesign und der Gewichtsstandard des Dinar auch unter der osmanischen Oberhoheit beibehalten, so dass die Goldmünz-Prägung von Tilimsan im osmanischen Reich eine sehr seltene und hoch interessante Ausnahme bildet.

Nach einer Fatwa Selims I. durften in den eroberten Gebieten keine Münzen mit Koranversen geprägt werden, wie dies z.B. im Mamlukenreich vorher praktiziert wurde; die Münzen könnten ja in die Hände Ungläubiger fallen. Die Münzaufschriften wurden verweltlicht; sie unterschieden sich jedoch bis 964 von den osmanischen Standardaufschriften.

Hazard 670; Lavoix 987 BNF



Prägung von Abū Muḥammad ‘Abdallāh II. ibn Muḥammad V mit Süleyman als Oberherr

AV:

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم	bismillāh ar-raḥman ar-raḥīm	im Namen Allahs des Allerbarmer des Barmherzigen
عن امر عبد الله	‘n amr ‘Abdallāh	auf Befehl des Dieners Allahs
امير المؤمنين	āmīr al- mūminīn	des Befehlshabers der Gläubigen
ابي الربيع سليمان	Ābū ar-Rabī‘ Sulaīman	Abu ar-Rabī‘ Süleyman
ايده الله و نصره	āīadahū Allāh wa-naṣruhu	Allah möge ihn unterstützen und ihm helfen

Randumschrift:-3-6-9-12-: طبع بمدينة تلمسان حرسها الله

Randumschrift:-12-9-6-3-: tubi‘a // bi-madīnat // Tilimsān // ḥarashā Āllāh

geprägt in der Stadt Tilimsan Allah möge sie beschützen

RV:

عن امر عبد الله	‘n amr ‘Abdallāh	auf Befehl des Dieners Allahs
المتوكل على الله	al-mutawakkil ‘alā Āllāh	des auf Allah Vertrauenden
امير المسلمين	āmīr al-muslimīn	Befehlshaber der Muslime
عبد الله ايده	‘Abdallāh āīadahū	der Diener Allahs möge ihn unterstützen
الله ونصره	Allāh wa-naṣruhu	und Allah ihm helfen

Randumschrift:-3-6-9-12-: بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم صلى الله الح سيدنا محمد

Randumschrift:-12-9-6-3-: bismillāh // ar-raḥmān ar raḥīm // sulla Allāh ‘alā // saīdinā Muḥammad

im Namen Allahs // des Allerbarmer des Barmherzigen // der Segen Allahs sein über // unseren Herrn Muhammad

Erst **Ömer Diler**¹ hat 1987 im Bülten No.22 Seite 27 zumindest einen Teil der Nasri wieder richtig Ahmed 3. zugeschrieben.

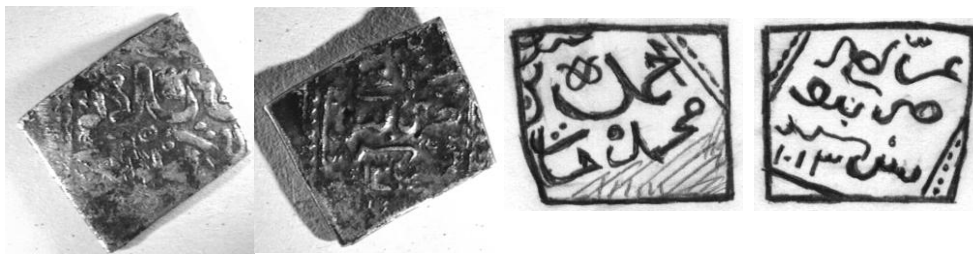
Erschwerend für die Bestimmung ist, daß:

- beide Sultane Ahmed bin Mehmed hießen und
- auf vielen Nasri nur die 2 letzten Zahlen des Prägejahres aufge-bracht sind, die sich bei den beiden Sultanen Ahmed 1. und Ahmed 3. überschneiden.

-Ahmed 1. 1012-1026 (..12 - ..14) <u>..15 - ..26</u>
-Ahmed 3. 1115-1143 <u>..15 - ..26</u> , ..27-..29 (..30 - ..43)

Ahmed 1 (1012 – 1026)

Unter Ahmed 1. wurden Nasri geprägt, die dem Stil seiner Vorgänger und dem seiner Nachfolger (bis Mehmed 4.) glichen.



AV: Sultān Aḥmad bin Muhammad Ḥān

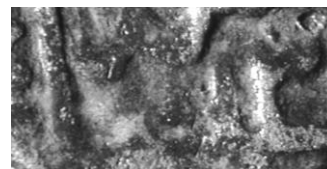
RV: ‘Azza naṣrahū ḡuriba bi-Tūnus sanat 1013

RJE 1135

Nasri Ahmed 1.; Prägeort: Tunus;

Prägejahr 1013;

Maße: 10x13 mm; Gewicht 0,787 gr.



Wie bei Murad 4. und Mehmed 4. sind auch die Nasri von Ahmed 1. nicht mit dem Jahr des Regierungsantritts sondern mit dem Jahr danach geprägt worden. Dies bedeutet, daß der Nasri von Achmed 1. nicht mit der Jahreszahl 1012 sondern mit 1013 geprägt wurde.

¹ Ömer Diler: Bülten No. 22; Türk Nümismatik Dernegi Yayinlari; Istanbul 1987

06 | R. J. Ehlert: Nasri unter
Ahmed 3 (1115–1143), Tunis

Ahmed 3 (1115 – 1143)

Mehmed 4. (1058 – 1099) prägte die letzten Nasri des Typs 1 mit der Jahreszahl ..59. Ahmed 3. führte (nach heutigem Wissen) 1115, also 56 Jahre danach, die Nasri-Prägung mit dem Typ 2 weiter. Im Gegensatz zu seinen Vorgängern prägte er jedoch mit laufenden Jahreszahlen in jedem Jahr von 1115 – 1129. Nasri, die nach ..29 geprägt wurden, sind bis jetzt nicht nachgewiesen. Die Jahreszahl "١٢" (mit mehr oder weniger deutlichem Punkt "•") für vermeintlich ..12 von 1012 ist eine Falschlesung für ".120" also 1120. Die seit längerem bekannte Jahreszahl ..27 wurde fälschlicherweise zur posthumen Prägung von Ahmed 1. deklariert.

Auszug aus
Revue Tunesienne
von 1938
von F.d. Candia

(9) Ce lot de *naçris* provient d'une trouvaille faite près de Gafsa en 1903, remise au service des Antiquités et conservée au Musée du Bardo : ce trésor se compose de 637 pièces carrées d'argent au titre de 650/1.000^e mesurant 12 ^{mm} environ de côté pour chaque pièce, elles sont très irrégulières dans leur forme et leur poids varie de 0 gr. 35 à 0 gr. 55. En voici le détail :

An 1115.....	1 pièce
— 1116.....	13 —
— 1117.....	6 —
— 1118.....	62 —
— 1119.....	50 —
— 1120.....	5 —
— 1121.....	1 —
— 1123.....	1 —
— 1124.....	41 —
— 1125.....	64 —
— 1126.....	39 —
— 1127.....	55 —
Illisibles, dates effacées, etc.....	296 —
Naçris frappés sous les deys.....	2 —
Naçri d'imitation.....	1 —
Total.....	637 pièces

Zusammenfassung eines
von 1942; ebenfalls
Revue Tunesienne

Nasri carrés de Hossein I^{er} :

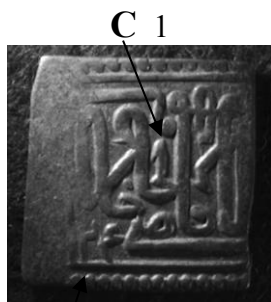
An 1115.....	3 pièces
— 1116.....	8 —
— 1117.....	3 —
— 1118.....	47 —
— 1119.....	49 —
— 1120.....	23 —
— 1121.....	2 —
— 1122.....	1 —
— 1124.....	39 —
— 1125.....	51 —
— 1126.....	53 —
— 1127.....	51 —
— 1128.....	1 —
— 1129.....	1 —
Illisibles, dates effacées, etc.....	162 —
	494 pièces

weiteren Fundes

Nach diesen beiden Auswertungen sind die Prägejahre ..22, ..23, ..28 und ..29 sehr selten. Ein Nasri mit dem Prägejahr ..28 ist erst kürzlich im Münz-handel aufgetaucht.¹ Bei der Darstellung des Prägejahres findet man bis zu 4 Varianten. Die Jahreszahlen können 2, 3 oder 4-stellig sein. Bei der 4-stelligen Jahreszahl ١٢•• ist die 2-stellige Jz (Zehner- u.

Einerzahlen) hinzuzuaddieren. Zwei Jahreszahlen finden sich auf der Rückseite. Auf der Vorderseite der Münzen können über "Sultan" 2, 3 oder 4-stellige Jahreszahlen stehen oder ganz fehlen. Nicht ganz geklärt sind die Angaben unter "C", die "1" oder aber "lām bzw. alif" darstellen könnten.

¹ Scott Cordry: Catalog 109; March 1998.(w.o. picture)



B 24

Jahr		Jahreszahlen		Ge-	Durch	Bemerkungen
	AV	RV	RV	wicht	mess.	
AH	A	B	C	(gr)	(mm)	
1115	1115 li.unt	115	1			Jz links unten
1115	115 li.unt	115	1			Jz links unten
1116	Ohne Ziffer	116	1			
1116	Ohne Ziffer	16	1			
1117	Ohne Ziffer	17	1			
1118	Sultan 1118	118	18			
1118	Sultan 118	18	18			
1119	Sultan 1119	19	9			
1119	Sultan 119	119	9			
1119	Sultan 119	19	9			
1119	Sultan 1100	119	9			
Jahr		Jahreszahlen		Ge-	Durch	Bemerkungen
	AV	RV	RV	wicht	mess.	
AH	A	B	C	(gr)	(mm)	
1120	Sultan 1120	?	20			
1120	Sultan 1120	120	2			siehe Bülten/22-27
1120	Sultan 1100	20	1			
1120	Sultan --	112/0	1			
1121	Sultan ??	21	1			
1122	Sultan ??	22	?			St.Album-list 33/712
1123	Sultan ??	23	1			
1124	Sultan 124	24	1			
1124	Sultan 24	24	1			
1124	Sultan 1100	24	1			
1125	Sultan 24	25	1			Fehlprägung
1125	Sultan 1125	25	1			
1125	Sultan 1100	25	1			
1126	Sultan 126	26	1			
1126	Sultan 26	26	1			
1126	Sultan 1100	26	1			
1126	Sultan --	26	1			
1127	Sultan 27	27	1			
1128	?	?	?			Farrugia di Candia/1942
1129	?	?	?			Farrugia di Candia/1942

Der nachfolgende Sultan Mahmud 1. (1143 – 1168) prägte Nasri mit den Jahreszahlen 1150 u. 1151.

Der Spruch

Auf der Rückseite der Nasri ist ein frommer Spruch (kein Koranvers) aufgebracht:

Yā qādī (al)-ḥağāt يا فاضي حاجات

Yā kāfī (a)l-muhimāt يا كافي لمهمات

Er lautet sinngemäß: **Oh Du, der Du allen Bedürfnissen nachkommst.**
Oh Du, der Du uns mit dem Wichtigsten versorgst.

(wörtlich : Oh Du, Richter über die Bedürfnisse
Oh Du, Genüger auf die wichtigsten Dinge)



2) (al)-ḥağāt

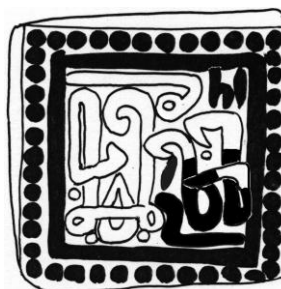
حاجات ١

1) Yā qādī

يا فاضي



4)
(a)l-



muhimāt

لمهمات

يا كافي

3) Yā kāfī

Den Artikel "al" unter 2) und das "ʾalif" unter 4) hat man vielleicht aus kalligrafischen Gesichtspunkten weggelassen; vielleicht ist die "ʾ" aber auch bei einigen Münzen als "lām" zu lesen.

Die Münze gehört sicher zu den schönsten und interessantesten Geprägen der osmanischen Numismatik.

07 | R. J. Ehlert:

Die Riyal-Prägung von Mahmud II in Tunesien

Die Riyal-Prägung von Mahmud II in Tunesien

Typ	1	2	3	4	5	6	Vs	Bey	Gewicht (g)	
									fein	rauh
1225	○						I	Hamuda Osman	5,44	16,0
26	○									
27	●									
28	●									
29	●									
30	●						I	Mahmud	4,80	
31	●									
32	●									
33	●									
34	●						I			
35										
36										
37										
38										
39										
40		●					I	Hussein	3,29	11,5
41		●								
42		●	●							
43			●							
44			●	●						
45				●	●		I	Mustafa Ahmed	3,14	11,0
46					●					
47					●					
48					●					
49					●	●				
50						●		Mustafa Ahmed		
51						●				
52						●				
53						●				
54						●				
55						●				

08 | Samuel Lachman: The Initial Letters
on Ottoman Coins of the Eighteenth Century

THE INITIAL LETTERS ON OTTOMAN COINS
OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

SAMUEL LACHMAN

REPRINTED FROM
THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY
• MUSEUM NOTES 19 (1974)

THE INITIAL LETTERS ON OTTOMAN COINS OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

(PLATES XXVI-XXVIII)

SAMUEL LACHMAN

One of the problems of Ottoman numismatics is the initial letters on coins of the eighteenth century. Beginning sometime later than 1106 H./A.D. 1695, coins of the Ottoman Empire with the exception of those of Tripoli, Tunis, and Algiers, show Arabic initial letters in various positions.

Lane-Poole¹ and Ghalib² state that these letters appeared during the reign of Aḥmad III. Pere³ writes correctly that they were introduced in the reign of Muṣṭafā II. In Egypt the letters appeared in the reign of Aḥmad III. During all reigns of the period, coins without initial letters were also issued.

In Turkey proper the last coins with initial letters were struck in the first regnal year of Muṣṭafā III. In Egypt they continued to appear irregularly until the reign of Selīm III.

The sultans of this period are Muṣṭafā II, 1106–1115 H./A.D. 1695–1703; Aḥmad III, 1115–1143 H./A.D. 1703–30; Maḥmūd I, 1143–1168 H./A.D. 1730–54; ‘Osmān III 1168–1171 H./A.D. 1754–7; Muṣṭafā III, 1171–1187 H./A.D. 1757–74; ‘Abd al-Ḥamīd I, 1187–1203 H./A.D. 1774–89; Selīm III, 1203–1222 H./A.D. 1789–1807.

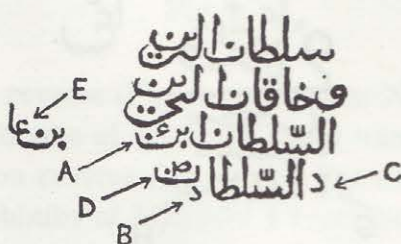


Fig. 1

¹ Stanley Lane-Poole, *The Coins of the Turks in the British Museum. Catalogue of Oriental Coins in the British Museum.* Vol. VIII (London, 1883), p. xxxviii.

² Ismail Ghalib. *Takvim-i Meskûkat-i Osmaniye*, (Istanbul 1307 H./A.D. 1890), p. 282.

³ Nuri Pere, *Osmanlılarda Madeni Paralar*. (Istanbul, 1968), p. 185.

The initial letters have so far been observed in the following positions:⁴

A. Over *ibn* in third row of obverse (Fig. 1 and PLATE XXVI, 1).

On the coins of all sultans from Muṣṭafā II to Muṣṭafā III, when years appear in the same place. In Egypt this position continues to be used until the reign of Selīm III. The letters stand alone or in a cartouche (PLATE XXVI, 2). During the reign of Muṣṭafā III the letters occur in Egypt together with numerals (PLATE XXVI, 4).

B. Beneath *nun* of *al-sultān* in last row of obverse.

(Fig. 1 and PLATE XXVI, 1).

On coins of Muṣṭafā II and Aḥmad III.

C. Before *al-sultān* in last row of obverse.

(Fig. 1 and PLATE XXVI, 1).

On coins of Muṣṭafā II and Aḥmad III, and on Egyptian zeri mahbubs of Maḥmūd I. Usually found in combination with letters in other positions. However, an Egyptian zeri mahbub is known with only an initial letter in this position (PLATE XXVI, 5).

D. Over *nun* of *al-sultān* in last row of obverse.

(Fig. 1 and PLATE XXVI, 6).

On coins of Muṣṭafā II.

E. Joined to *nun* of *ibn* at l., in third row of obverse.

(Fig. 1 and PLATE XXVI, 7).

On an Egyptian zeri mahbub of Maḥmūd I.

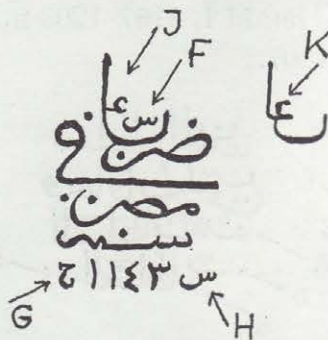


Fig. 2

⁴ The drawings show all possible positions of the respective design; they do therefore not represent existing coins.

Over *bā* of *ḍuribā* on reverse

(Fig. 2 and PLATE XXVI, 8).

From Aḥmad III to Muṣṭafā III, when years appear in the same position.

The letters stand alone or in a cartouche (PLATE XXVI, 9). It occurs on an Egyptian para of ‘Abd al-Ḥamīd I. In Egypt during the reign of Muṣṭafā III the letters exist together with numerals. (PLATE XXVI, 10).

G. Left of accession year on the reverse (Fig. 2 and PLATE XXVI, 11).

On paras and akçes of all reigns from Aḥmad III to Muṣṭafā III, and on Egyptian zincirli altins of Maḥmūd I.

H. Right of accession year on reverse.

(Fig. 2 and PLATE XXVII, 12)⁵

On zincirli altins of Egypt of Maḥmūd I.

J. Joined to *bā* of *ḍuribā* (Fig. 2 and PLATE XXVII, 13).

On Egyptian silver coins of Ali Bey.

K. On top of left upright of *bā* of *duribā*.

(Fig. 2 and PLATE XXVII, 14).

On the Egyptian kuruş of Ali Bey.



Fig. 3

L. Left of tughra on reverse (Fig. 3 and PLATE XXVII, 15).

On Egyptian zeri mahbubs of Maḥmūd I and ‘Osmān III.

M. Right of tughra on reverse (Fig. 3 and PLATE XXVII, 16).

On Egyptian zeri mahbubs of Maḥmūd I together with position L, and on an Egyptian zeri mahbub of Muṣṭafā III. Egyptian yarim zeri mahbubs exist which have in this position the word *nişfiye* (= half). Some have above *nişfiye* an initial letter. These cases will be listed as *n* for *nişfiye* alone, and *Mn* with initial letter.

⁵ I wish to thank the British Museum for providing the photo of this position.

N. Left of *fi* on reverse (Fig. 3 and PLATE XXVII, 17).
On Egyptian zeri mahbubs of Maḥmūd I.



Fig. 4

O. Over *Muṣṭafā* in first line of reverse. (Fig. 4 and PLATE XXVII, 18)
Egyptian gold coins of Ali Bey only.

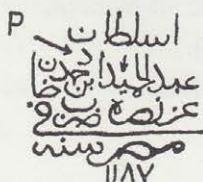


Fig. 5

P. Over *Aḥmad* in second row of reverse. (Fig. 5).

Found on an Egyptian zeri mahbub of 'Abd al-Hamīd I.

There may be further positions. Ghalib⁶ indicates letters near the tughra on Egyptian zincirli altins of Maḥmūd I. In the absence of illustrations in his description, the exact position of these letters is not known.

In positions A and E the initial letters occur in cartouches. More than one form of the cartouche was used for the same letter on the same coins (PLATE XXVII, 19 and 20). The initials may be composed of two or three letters. On Egyptian zeri mahbubs of Maḥmūd I the full name *Rāghib* occurs in position A (PLATE XXVII, 21). The name *Bakīr* is found on coins of Egypt in the reign of 'Abd al-Hamīd I (in position A). Initials may be met with on some coins in up to three positions. In Egypt, in the reign of Muṣṭafā III the letters are found together with

⁶ Ghalib, *Takvimi*, Nos. 708-709.

numerals. It is pointed out that letters in cartouches are sometimes difficult to identify and may be mistaken for an ornament (see description below).

In order to list all known varieties, the initial letters have been numbered and these numbers are used in the list of coins for identification (Fig. 6).

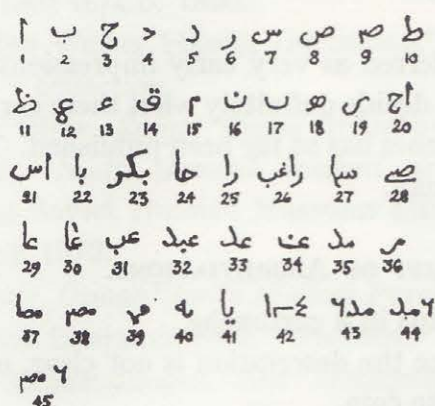


Fig. 6

The first cartouche was used in the reign of Muṣṭafā II. In many of the early cartouches it can not be determined whether the cartouche contains initials or an ornament. The possibility that they are initials is stressed by their asymmetrical appearance. The following list describes a number of cartouches. The serial numbers will appear in the coin lists. This list is in no way complete as the cartouches are frequently not clear enough on the coins. More such cartouches exist. All these cartouches are in position A, and the mint is Qusṭantīniya (PLATE XXVI).

<i>Cartouche</i> No.	<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Coin</i>
	<i>Muṣṭafā II</i>	
101	Probably initial 13.	Kuruş.
	<i>Aḥmad III.</i>	
102	Initial?	Zolta
103	May be initial 33.	Zolta
104	Could be initial 15.	Zolta

105	May be <i>ain-m-d</i>	Zolta
106	Seems to be an ornament.	Zolta
107	May be initial 18.	Zolta
108	Perhaps <i>w-w</i> , the second reversed.	Zolta
109	May be <i>l-kh-l</i> joined, the second <i>l</i> reversed.	Zolta
110	May be initial 33.	Yarim zolta.

This presentation is preferred as very early impressions from these dies are required in order to decide definitely what these cartouches contain. No study of these cartouches has so far been published. The illustrations are about six times normal.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS.

- * The letter stands in a cartouche.
- ? In the reference the description is not clear, or the letters are not clear on the coin.
- + There may be an additional letter in another position which is defaced or off-flan.
- dr The letter appears twice, the second reversed, in position E (PLATE XXVII, 22) and perhaps in some cartouches in position A as described above.

References:

- BERN Samuel Bernard, *Description de l'Égypte*. Vol. XVI *Mémoire sur les monnaies d'Égypte*. 2nd. ed. Paris, 1825.
- BMC Stanley Lane-Poole, *The Coins of the Turks in the British Museum. Catalogue of Oriental Coins in the British Museum*. Vol. VIII. London, 1883. *Addenda*, Vol. X. London, 1895.
- CAIRO Stanley Lane-Poole, *Catalogue of the Collection of Arabic Coins Preserved in the Khedivial Library at Cairo*. London, 1897.
- COP J. Østrup, *Catalogue des monnaies arabes et turques du cabinet Royal des Médailles du Musée National de Copenhague*. Copenhagen, 1938.
- DAV John S. Davenport, *The Dollars of Africa, Asia, and Oceania*. Galesburg, Illinois, 1969.

- FON Adolph Weyl, *Verzeichnis der Münzen und Denkmünzen der Erdteile Australien, Asien, Afrika. . . . der Jules Fonrobert'schen Sammlung*. Berlin, 1878.
- FRI Robert Friedberg, *Gold Coins of the World*. 2nd. ed. New York, 1965.
- GAL Ismail Ghalib. *Takvim-i Meskûkat-i Osmaniye*. Constantinople, 1307 H./A.D. 1890.
- H Collection Walter Hüsch, Dortmund.⁷
- LAC Author's collection.
- OLC Cüneyt Ölçer, *Sovyet Rusya Müzelerindeki (Moskova ve Leningrad). Nadir Osmanlı madeni paraları*. [Rare Ottoman Coins at Soviet Russian Museums (Moscow and Leningrad)]. Istanbul, 1972.
- PERE Nuri Pere, *Osmanlılarda Madeni Paralar*. Istanbul, 1968.
- SASS Collection Benjamin Sass, Jerusalem.⁷
- SCH Anton Schaendlinger, *Zur Münzprägung des Osmanischen Reiches. (Dissertation)*. Vienna, 1962.
- SCH II Anton Schaendlinger, *Osmanische Numismatik*. Braunschweig, 1973.
- ZOD Zodiac Stamp & Coin Auction, Tel Aviv. July 4, 1972.

In general, preference is given to a reference which illustrates the coin. All coins are illustrated by Davenport and Pere. References to the author's collection are followed by references to other sources, when available.

It should be understood that the particulars of the coins shown in the lists have been taken over as described in the various catalogues. The following is a short description of the coin names, mints, etc. mentioned in the lists.

Gold. The cedit eşrefi altın, the Zeri Istanbul, the zincirli altın, the tugrali altın, and the findik altın are all gold coins of ca. 3.50 gm. The zeri mahbub introduced in the reign of Ahmed III in 1128 H./A.D. 1716 weighs ca. 2.60 gm. Yeni tarzda means new type.

⁷ I am grateful to Walter Hüsch and Benjamin Sass for permitting their coins to be included in this description.

Silver: From the time of Aḥmad III the kuruş has 40 paras and the para 3 akçes. The weight of the kuruş varied between c. 12.80 gm, and ca. 26.40 gm. Fractions of the kuruş are expressed by the number of paras. The zolta has 30 paras.

Bronze. The status of the large bronze coins is not clear. Ghalib⁸ writes that they were not mentioned by the official historians of the Ottoman Empire. The denomination of the Egyptian bronze coins is not indicated anywhere; they may have had the value of an akçe.

Numerals. The names of many coins are formed from numerals, thus: Altmış 60, yirmi 20, on 10, beş 5, dört 4, üç 3; çifte = double, birbuçuk $1\frac{1}{2}$, tek = single, yarım $\frac{1}{2}$, çeyrek $\frac{1}{4}$.

<i>Mints.</i>	İslāmbūl	}	Constantinople = Istanbul
	Qusṭantīniya		
	Ordūyu Hūmayun		War issue.
	Mişr		Egypt
	Edirne		Adrianople
	Izmīr		Smyrna
	Gendje		Later Elizabethpol, now
			Kirovabad, U.S.S.R. (Azerbaijan).
	Tabrīz		Tabriz,
	Tiflīs		Tbilisi, U.S.S.R. (Georgia)
	Gümüşh-Khāne		Gûmûsane

Muṣṭafā II

The initial letters began in the reign of Muṣṭafā II. Inasmuch as the kuruş and yarım kuruş from Qusṭantīniya exist in the style of the preceding reign without initial letters (PLATE XXVII, 23), it is obvious that the letters were not introduced at the beginning of the reign in 1106 H. The overstriking of European crown-size pieces⁹ with the tughra design or as the contemporary kuruş began in 1108 H.¹⁰ In the same year mints

⁸ Ghalib, *Takvimi*, p. 257.

⁹ Lane-Poole, *BMC*, Nos. 418-9.

¹⁰ Ghalib, *Takvimi*, p. 254.

were opened at Edirne, Erzurum, and İzmir.¹¹ From İzmir the kuruş is known in the old style without initial letters (PLATE XXVIII, 24). The cedit eşrefi altın *Ordūyu Hümayun* which has an initial letter was struck in 1109 H.¹² It appears therefore that the letters were introduced in 1108 or 1109 H. The number of initials on record for this reign are: Qusṭanṭīniya 6 and one cartouche; *Ordūyu Hümayun* 1; Edirne 2; İzmir 1, for a total of ten.

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Letters</i>	<i>Reference</i>
<i>Qusṭanṭīniya</i>			
Cedit eşrefi altın	B	7	PERE 484
Kuruş	B	39	SASS
	A, B	13, 5	LAC
		13, 17	SASS
		101, 7	LAC
	A, B, C	13, 5, 5	PERE 492
		13, 17, 5	LAC; DAV 317 (PLATE XXVI, 1)
	A, C	15, 5	LAC
Yarım kuruş	D	9	SASS
	A, B	13, 5	LAC
	A, C	13, 5	PERE 493
		15, 5	LAC
	D	9	LAC (PLATE XXVI, 6)
AE 38 mm.	A, B	13, 5	PERE 495
		13, 5	PERE 496
	A	15	LAC
<i>Ordūyu Hümayun</i>			
Cedit eşrefi altın	B	15	PERE 489

¹¹ Joseph von Hammer-Purgstall. *Die Geschichte des Osmanischen Reiches*. (Pest, 1827-1835), Vol. 6, p. 628.

¹² Pere, *Osmanlılarda*, p. 185.

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Letters</i>	<i>Reference</i>
<i>Edirne</i>			
Cedid eşrefi altın	B	13	PERE 481
Kuruş	A	34	LAC; PERE 490
Yarım kuruş	A	34	LAC
AE	A	34	LAC
<i>Izmîr</i>			
Kuruş	B	35	LAC

Aḥmad III

The number of letters of this reign are as follows: Islāmbūl and Qusṭanṭīniya 23 and 9 cartouches; Gendje 1; Mişr 6; Tabrîz 1; Tiflîs 1; for a total of 32.

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Letters</i>	<i>Reference</i>
<i>Islāmbūl</i>			
Zeri Istanbul	F*	3	LAC
			(PLATE XXVI, 9)
		8	BMC 473
		14	PERE 499
		16	LAC
Yarım zeri Istanbul	F*	19	GAL 633
		35	LAC; BMC 472
		35	BMC 474
Zeri mahbub ¹³	A*	36	PERE 500
		35	LAC; PERE 501
		7	GAL 636
Yarım zeri mahbub	A*	8	BMC 476

¹³ The tughra of the Zeri Mahbub BMC No. 475 with letter 12 dated 1123 is that of Maḥmūd I and not of Aḥmed III. The accession year is damaged. It should read 1143. Similar damages were seen by the author.

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Letters</i>	<i>Reference</i>	
<i>İslāmbūl (continued).</i>				
Para	G	5	PERE 522	
		13	LAC	
		14	LAC; BMC 479	
		15	LAC; GAL 638	
		19	LAC; BMC 478	
<i>Qusṭanṭīniya</i>				
Beşlik eşrefi altın (ornate border)	A*, B	19, 2	GAL 606	
	B ?	40	GAL 607	
(dot border)	B	18	PERE 504	
Dörtlik eşrefi altın	B	40	PERE 505	
Çifte eşrefi altın	B ?	13	GAL 608	
	B, C	18, 13	PERE 506	
Eşrefi altın 25 mm	A*	7	GAL 610	
	24 mm	B	9	PERE 508
	21 mm	B ?	13	GAL 611
	32 mm	B	18	PERE 507
	22 mm	A*, B	4, 36	GAL 612
Kuruş	A*	7	LAC; PERE 516	
		35	LAC; DAV 321	
	B	3	BMC 441	
Yirmilik	A*	35	LAC; BMC 447	
	B	3	BMC 448	
	A*, B	36, 3	GAL 715	
		3, 36	PERE 517	
Onluk	A	3	BMC 452	
		7	BMC 453	
		8	BMC 454	
		19	BMC 451	
	A*	19	PERE 518	
		35	LAC	
	A*, B	3, 36	LAC; GAL 617	
		36, 3	LAC	
	14, 6	GAL 618		

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Letters</i>	<i>Reference</i>
<i>Qusṭanṭīniya</i> (continued).			
Beşlik	A*	8	BMC 455
		35	PERE 519
Zolta	B	3	GAL 619
		15	GAL 620
	A, B	13, 17	LAC
		102, 5	LAC
	A*, B	103, 40	LAC
		106, 10	LAC
		107, 33	LAC
		108, 13	LAC
		109, 27	LAC
		35, 18 ?	LAC
		?, 9	LAC
		?, 18	PERE 520
	A*, B, C	104, 18, 13	LAC
		105, 18, 13	LAC
Yarım zolta	B	33	BMC 450
		10	OLC 80 ¹⁴
	A*, B	103, 9	LAC
		?, 13	LAC
	A*, B, C	110, 18, 13	LAC; PERE 521
Zolta (different type)	F*	12	GAL 623
Para (obv. tughra)	G	2	BMC 460
		3	LAC; GAL 625
		5	LAC; BMC 457
		6	LAC
		7	LAC; BMC 458
		14	BMC 462
		36	LAC
Para (obv. inscription)		6	BMC 467 ¹⁵
Akçe (obv. tughra)	G	2	BMC 464
		4	GAL 627

¹⁴ Listed as a zolta, but no doubt a yarım zolta.

¹⁵ Listed in BMC as akçe, GAL 629–631 are listed as paras.

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Letters</i>	<i>Reference</i>
<i>Qus̄an̄in̄iya</i> (continued).			
		5	BMC 463
		25	BMC 465
Akçe (obv. inscription)		7	BMC 470
AE 37 mm.	B ?, C	?, 13	PERE 536
30 mm.	B	18	LAC
Gendje			
Onluk	F*	15	BMC 483
<i>Miṣr</i>			
Çifte eşrefi altın	A	14	GAL 650
Eşrefi altın	A	14	GAL 651
		15	GAL 652
		18	CAIRO 1700
		28	BMC 487
Çifte cedid zincirli altın	F	36dr	BERN 1
Cedid zincirli altın	F*	3dr	BMC 489a
	F	36dr	LAC; PERE 510
			(PLATE XXVII, 22)
Yarım zincirli altın	F*	3dr	GAL 654
	F	36dr	BERN 6
<i>Tabrîz</i>			
Cedid zincirli altın	F*	19	PERE 513
Onluk (obv. inscription)	A*	19	BMC 485
Beşlik (obv. inscription)	A*	19	BMC 486
Onluk (obv. tughra)	F*	19	PERE 530
Beşlik (obv. tughra)	F*	19	PERE 531
Yarım beşlik (obv. tughra)	F*	19	GAL 643
<i>Tiflis</i>			
Çifte eşrefi altın	A*	3	GAL 644
Cedid eşrefi altın	A*	3	PERE 514
Onluk	A*	3	LAC; PERE 532
Beşlik	A*	3	PERE 533
Yarım beşlik	A*	3	PERE 534

Maḥmūd I

The tughra of this sultan exists in two styles which differ in the number of squares in the left lower part of the tughra. Both are inscribed *Khān Maḥmūd b. Muṣṭafā al-muẓaffar daima*. Tughra (a) (PLATE XXVIII, 25) is the earlier one. This can be established by the weight of the kuruş. The kuruş of Aḥmad III has a weight of $8\frac{1}{4}$ dirhams ca. 26.40 gm. The early kuruş of Maḥmūd I has the same weight. This weight was later reduced to $7\frac{1}{2}$ dirhams — ca. 24.0 gm. Tughra (a) exists only on the heavier kuruş. In the list the tughra will be designated (a) or (b) (PLATE XXVIII, 26) if possible, but it should be understood that there are cases of doubt (worn coins or illustrations not clear). A number of coins exist with both styles of the tughra with the same initial letter. In addition several letters have been met with on coins with different ornamentations. A number of silver coins of Qusṭanṭīniya have the accession year in a cartouche (PLATE XXVIII, 27), abbreviated *cart.* in the list. The recorded letters of this sultan are: Qusṭanṭīniya and Islāmbūl 11; Gümüş-Khāne 2; Mişr 17, for a total of 30.

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Letters</i>	<i>Reference</i>
<i>Islāmbūl</i>			
Beşlik cedit Istanbul altın			
Border of flowers (b)	F*	13	PERE 543
Ornamental border (a)		15	GAL 663
		15	PERE 544
		13	BMC 502
Üçlik cedit Istanbul altın			
Ornamental border (b)		13	BMC 502 d
		31	PERE 545
Plain border (b)		31	PERE 546
Çifte cedit Istanbul altın			
Ornamental border (a)		15	PERE 547
Three circles (b)		15	PERE 548
Bibuçukluk cedit Istanbul altın			
28 mm rope circle & circle of buds (b)		8	PERE 551
31½ mm. broad-ornamental border (b)		13	PERE 549

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Letters</i>	<i>Reference</i>
<i>İslāmbūl</i> (continued).			
29 mm. three circles (b)		15	PERE 550
29 mm. ornamental border		31	GAL 667
24 mm. plain border		15	BMC 507
Yeni tarzda cedid İstanbul altınıs:			
Bibuçukluk altın	F*	8	GAL 669
(a)		15	PERE 552
Tek altın	(b)	8	PERE 553
Yarım altın	(a)	8	PERE 554
		15	BMC 510
Zeri mahbub	A	8	GAL 672
(a)		12	LAC
(b)		12	LAC; PERE 555
(a) ¹⁶	A*	15	LAC
			(PLATE XXVII, 19)
(b) ¹⁷		15	LAC; PERE 556
			(PLATE XXVII, 20)
Yarım zeri mahbub	A	3	GAL 677
(b)		12	PERE 557
(b) ¹⁷	A*	15	LAC
Beşlik	(b)	12	PERE 577
<i>Qusṭanṣīniya</i>			
Kuruş ¹⁸	A*	8	GAL 675
(a)		15	PERE 573
(b)	A	14	PERE 572
(b)		29	LAC; DAV 324
cart. (b)		29	LAC
		31	BMC 518

¹⁶ Oval cartouche.

¹⁷ Trapezoidal cartouche.

¹⁸ The zolta BMC 516 is a clipped kuruş. No zolta was struck in the reign of Maḥmūd I. Hammer-Purgstall, *Geschichte*, Vol. 8, p. 214.

<i>Denomination</i>		<i>Position</i>	<i>Letters</i>	<i>Reference</i>
<i>Qus̄tan̄īniya</i> (continued).				
Yirmilik		A*	8	COP 2617
	(a)		15	LAC (PLATE XXVI, 2 and PLATE XXVIII, 25)
		A	8	GAL 679
			12	GAL 681
	(b)		14	LAC; GAL 682
	(a)		29	PERE 574
	(b)		29	LAC
	cart. (b)		29	LAC
			31	GAL 684
Onluk	(a)	A*	15	PERE 575
	(b)		31	LAC; COP 2618
	(b)	A	14	LAC
	cart. (b)		14	LAC
	cart. (b)		29	LAC
	(b)		31	LAC; GAL 687
Beşlik	(a)	A*	15	LAC
			8	GAL 690
	(a)	A	12	PERE 576
			14	BMC 529
	(b)		29	LAC
			31	BMC 528
Para	(b)	G	8	LAC; GAL 693
			12	LAC; GAL 691
	(b)		14	LAC; GAL 694
	(a)		15	PERE 578
	(a)		16	LAC; GAL 695
	(b)		29	LAC; GAL 692
	(b)		30	LAC
	(b)		31	LAC; GAL 697
Akçe	(a)	G	3	LAC
	(a)		12	LAC

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Letters</i>	<i>Reference</i>
<i>Qusṭanṭīniya</i> (continued).			
	(b)	14	LAC; PERE 579
		16	LAC; GAL 701
		25	BMC 534
		29	LAC
		31	GAL 700
AE cart. (b)	A*	29	PERE 583
<i>Gümüsh-Khāne</i>			
Kuruş	(a)	A*	10 PERE 568
	(a)	A	12 LAC
Yirmilik	(a)	A*	10 PERE 569
	(a)	A	12 H
<i>Mişr</i>			
Çifte tugralı altın	A, L	12, 41	BMC 541
Zincirli altın	G & ?	16, 3	GAL 708
	(near tughra)		
	near tughra?	3	GAL 709
25 mm.	H	7	BMC 551
			(PLATE XXVII, 12)
19 mm.	H	7	BMC 552
	G	16	LAC
			(PLATE XXVI, 11)
Yarım zincirli altın	G	16	BMC 553
	H	7	BERN 7
Çifte zeri mahbub	A, N	25, 5	FON 5044
Zeri mahbub	A	8	BMC 548
	(b)	12	LAC; PERE 562
	(b)	25	LAC
	(b)	26	LAC; PERE 561
			(PLATE XXVII, 21)
	(a)	C	11 LAC

<i>Denomination</i>		<i>Position</i>	<i>Letters</i>	<i>Reference</i>
<i>Mişr</i> (continued).				
				(PLATE XXVI, 5)
	(b)	E	29	LAC
				(PLATE XXVI, 7)
		L	4	BMC 545
			15	BMC 546
	(b)		24	LAC
	(b)	A*, C	12, 19	LAC
		A, L	25, 5	BMC 547
	(b)	A, N	25, 5	LAC
				(PLATE XXVII, 17)
	(b)		25, 12	LAC
	(b)		25, 16	SCH II, Pl. 4, No. 51 ¹⁹
	(b)	L, N	15, 5	PERE 563
	(b)	A*, C, L	12, 19, 41	LAC
Yarım zeri mahbub		A	12	BMC 550
	(b)		25	PERE 564
		L, n	15, ?	GAL 714
		L, Mn	15, 7	ZOD 730
		A, L, n	20, 41 ?	GAL 713
Para	(a)	F	5	LAC
	(b)		5	LAC
	(a)		7	LAC; BMC 555
	(a)		12	LAC
				(PLATE XXVI, 8)
	(b)		12	LAC
			15	BMC 557
			32	LAC; BMC 559
Manghir (AE)	(b)	F	5	LAC

¹⁹ Anton Schaendlinger, *Osmanische Numismatik*. (Braunschweig, 1973), pp. 69, 115, plate 4, No. 51, described as a Zeri Mahbub of Muṣṭafā II dated 1113. The tughra of this coin is that of Maḥmūd I and the accession year is 1143. See note 13 above.

‘Othmān III

There are the following letters during this reign:
Qusṭanṭīniya and Islāmbūl, 5; Miṣr 4, for a total of 9.

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Letters</i>	<i>Reference</i>
<i>Islāmbūl</i>			
Beş findik altın			
Ornamental border	F*	4	PERE 588
Floral border		4	PERE 589
Üç findik altın			
Ornamental border	F*	4	PERE 590
Floral border		4	GAL 731
Blank space		4	PERE 591
Birbuçuk findik altın			
Ornamental border	F*	4	PERE 592
Blank space		4	GAL 734
Border of buds, ornaments in the field		4	PERE 593
Zeri mahbub	A	2	GAL 736
		3	PERE 594
Yarım zeri mahbub	A	3	PERE 595
		22	BMC 251
<i>Qusṭanṭīniyya</i>			
Kuruş	A	22	DAV 325
Yirmilik	A	3	PERE 599
Onluk	A	2	COP 2633
		3	LAC; BMC 581
		8	LAC; GAL 739
		22	PERE 600
Beşlik	A	2	PERE 601
		3	GAL 740
Para	G	3	LAC; GAL 741
		8	LAC; BMC 583
		22	LAC; BMC 584

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Letters</i>	<i>Reference</i>
<i>Qusṭanṭīniya</i> (continued)			
Akçe	G	2	PERE 603
		3	GAL 743
		22	GAL 744
<i>Miṣr</i>			
Çifte zeri mahbub	A, L	8, 3	BMC 585
Zeri mahbub	A	7	LAC
	A, L	8, 12	LAC; PERE 596
			(PLATE XXVII, 15)
(yeni tarzda)		8, 12	PERE 597
Yarım zeri mahbub	A	7	BMC 586
		8	BMC 587
Para	F	7	GAL 747
		8	LAC
		12	LAC

Muṣṭafā III

The tuhra of this sultan was changed from (a) *Muṣṭafā khan b. Aḥmad al-muẓaffar daima* (PLATE XXVIII, 28), to (b) *Muṣṭafā b. Aḥmad al-muẓaffar daima* (PLATE XXVIII, 29). The change was not carried out for all denominations in the same year. It has been said that the change was effected between 1173 and 1175 H.²⁰ However, the Egyptian Zeri Mahbub with letter 44 was changed in 1176 H. Both styles of the tughra exist (PLATE XXVI, 3 and 4) in this year. The coins of Qusṭanṭīniya with initial letter were struck in 1171 H. and have tughra (a). In respect to the Egyptian coins the style is indicated as far as possible. The coins of Ali Bey have all the tughra in style (b).

The following initial letters are recorded for this reign:

Qusṭanṭīniya 1; Miṣr 11; Miṣr, Ali Bey 1, for a total of 13.

²⁰ Pere, *Osmanlılarda*, p. 213.

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Letters</i>	<i>Reference</i>
<i>Qusṭanṭīniya</i>			
Kuruş	A	8	SCH 544 b
Onluk ²¹	A	8	PERE 642
Beşlik	A	8	SCH II, Pl. 10 No. 106.
Para	G	8	GAL 798
Akçe	G	8 ?	SCH II, Pl. 10 No. 108.
<i>Mişr</i>			
Çifte zeri mahbub	A	38	BMC 637
(b)		45	PERE 620
Zeri mahbub	A	7	PERE 621
(a)		38	LAC
(a)		42	LAC
(a)		44	LAC
(b)		44	(PLATE XXVI, 3) LAC; PERE 622 (PLATE XXVI, 4)
(b)		45	LAC
(a)	A, M	42, 17	LAC (PLATE XXVII, 16)
Yarım zeri mahbub (a)	A	38	LAC; PERE 623
Çeyrek zeri mahbub (b)	A	44	PERE 624
Para (a)	F	1	LAC
(a)		7	LAC
		24	LAC
		37	GAL 810
(a)		38	LAC
(b)		43	LAC
			(PLATE XXVI, 10)

²¹ Schaendlinger, *Osmanische NUM*, p. 121, lists also altmışlık and yirmilik which may also bear the initial letter 8.

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Letters</i>	<i>Reference</i>
<i>Miṣr—Ali Bey</i>			
Zeri mahbub 1171, year 83	O	29	LAC; PERE 626 (PLATE XXVII, 18)
year 8?		29	PERE 627
Yarım zeri mahbub, 1171, year 83	O	29	PERE 628
Kuruş 1183	J	29	LAC; BERN 16 (PLATE XXVII, 13)
	K	29	LAC (PLATE XXVII, 14)
Kuruş 1183, year 85	J	29	BMC 647 (DAV 13).
Yirmilik 1183	K	29	BERN 18
Yirmilik 1183, year 85	J	29	BMC 648
Onluk 1183	J	29	SCH 591 c
Beşlik 1183	J	29	LAC; GAL 808
Para 1171 (no further year)	J	29	LAC; PERE 644

‘Abd al-Ḥamīd I.

Three letters were in use during this reign:

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Letters</i>	<i>Reference</i>
<i>Miṣr.</i>			
Zeri mahbub	A	23	PERE 664
		32	GAL 870 ²²
Yarım zeri mahbub	A	32	LAC; PERE 665
Yeni tarzda mahbub	P	5	PERE 666
Para	F	5	SASS

²² Ghalib lists this coin as *abd* 15.

Selīm III

Two letters are known from this reign:

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Letters</i>	<i>Reference</i>
<i>Miṣr</i>			
Çifte zeri mahbub	A	21	GAL 913
Zeri mahbub	A	2	LAC; FRI 1 ²³ (PLATE XXVIII, 31)
		21	PERE 702
Yarim zeri mahbub	A	2	FRI 2
Çeyrek zeri mahbub	A	2	FRI 3

The problem is to identify these initial letters. Marsden²⁴ says that they are probably mint marks. Lane-Poole²⁵ states that it may be assumed that they represent some official's name. He says further that if we possessed a list of superintendents of the mint, we should find the explanation of the initials on the coins. Pere²⁶ mentions these initials but does not give any explanation for them.

On the working of a mint in the Ottoman Empire, there is the description by Evliya Çelebi which refers to the 17th century.²⁷ Bernard²⁸ gives a detailed description of the Egyptian mint at Cairo at the time of the French occupation in 1799. He writes that the *Shaikh al-balad*,²⁹ or governors of the country, and the pashas or beys who were responsible

²³ Letter 2 (b) stands for Bonaparte and was applied to gold coins struck in Egypt under French occupation (1798–1801).

²⁴ William Marsden, *Numismata Orientalia* Pl. 1 (London, 1823), p. 416.

²⁵ Lane-Poole, *BMC*, p. xl.

²⁶ Pere, *Osmanlılarda*, p. 185.

²⁷ Evliya Çelebi. *Seyahatnamesi*.—For a description and discussion of the mint arrangements, see Anton Schaendlinger, *Zur Münzprägung des Osmanischen Reiches (Dissertation)* (Vienna, 1962), pp. 80 ff.

²⁸ Samuel Bernard, *Description de l'Égypte*. Vol. 16. *Mémoire sur les monnaies d'Égypte* (Paris, 1825), pp. 443 ff.

²⁹ On the *Sheikh al-balad* see Stanley Lane-Poole, *A History of Egypt in the Middle Ages*. 4th Ed. (London, 1968), p. 355.

for the mint, used to have their initials engraved on the coins.³⁰ However, he does not list any names relative to such initials (with the exception of Ali Bey, see below), or furnishes any other detailed particulars in this respect for the Egyptian mint. He states further that nobody had until his time explained these letters on Turkish coins, but if one knows the names of the *shaikh al-balad*, pashas or beys, they stand for, one could date the coins properly.³¹

Codrington³² mentioned single letters on Islamic coins as denoting the quality of the metal.

Although a definite answer to the question of what these letters stand for in each particular case can only be given when a pertinent manuscript containing detailed particulars turns up, it may be advisable to consider the many possibilities which offer themselves: dating, security measure, governors (pashas) etc., mints or officinae, mint superintendents, other mint officials.

There is probably no doubt that these letters cannot represent a form of dating. The number of letters found on any one of the more common denominations of Aḥmed III or Maḥmūd I is insufficient to cover the period of their reign. Hammer³³ states that zoltas were minted during the reign of Aḥmad III when a daughter was born to him, but this would not form a kind of dating.

The possibility of a security measure is rather doubtful. Forgeries also have initial letters (PLATE XXVIII, 30).

A list of grand vizirs appears in Hammer's description.³⁴ These names have no connection with the letters.

With regard to Egypt, the letter 29 stands for Ali Bey, the rebel at the time of Muṣṭafā III. According to Bernard,³⁵ letter 21 stands for Ismā'īl Bey at the time of Selīm III. Letter 2 is the initial of Bonaparte (Selīm III) (PLATE XXVIII, 31). The historians point out that Alī Bey struck coins in his own name.³⁶ If Bernard is right that the *shaikh al-balad* used

³⁰ Bernard, *Description*, pp. 347 ff.

³¹ Bernard, *Description*, p. 352.

³² Oliver Codrington, *A Manuel of Muselman Numismatics* (London, 1904), p. 9.

³³ Hammer-Purgstall, *Geschichte* Vol. 8, p. 214.

³⁴ Hammer-Purgstall, *Geschichte*, Vol. 7, p. 623 and Vol. 8, p. 587.

³⁵ Bernard, *Description*, p. 351.

³⁶ Hammer-Purgstall, *Geschichte*, Vol. 8, p. 299.

to have his initials engraved on coins, then the statement of the historians may refer to the kuruş and the yirmilik which bear the year 1183, when he declared himself independent, and not to the initial. There are some Egyptian zeri mahbubs in the reign of Maḥmūd I which may bear the initials of the *shaikh al-balad* or the pasha, but in general there is no uniformity among gold, silver, and bronze coins.

After the introduction of the kuruş in the reign of Sülaymān II, the number of mints in the Ottoman Empire was limited. It would therefore be possible that the dies were cut at Istanbul with the inscription *ḍuriba fī Qusṭanṭīniya* but the coins were struck at several mints outside the capital. No information on this is available. It appears unlikely in view of the large number of letters known from Egypt, where a maximum of two or three mints would have been possible. The question of officinae seems not to have existed in the Ottoman Empire. The Imperial mint was in the first court of the seraglio, to which it was transferred some time prior to 1695.³⁷ The irregular sequence of the letters excludes their denoting a number of officinae.

The initials cannot stand for the superintendent of the mint. Not all letters occur on all denominations of a certain period. Some are found on gold coins only, while others appear only on silver coins. In addition, the superintendent of the Imperial mint at Istanbul was frequently a vizir.³⁸ The appearance of the name of a vizir on a coin, even in the form of an initial, would have been impossible in the Ottoman Empire.

The foregoing particulars seem to indicate that the initials stand for officials directly responsible for the production of the coins, possibly the engraver, die cutter, or officer responsible for the alloy. In a case of two or three initials, both may be indicated and the third letter may confirm the quality of the alloy as mentioned by Codrington. The mint master is less likely, as gold and silver coins frequently have different initial letters.

If the letters stand for the engraver, it should be noted that the recurrence of the same letters in different reigns conforms to the habits of the Ottoman Empire. In the guide book of the seals collection of the

³⁷ N. M. Penzer, *The Harem*. 2nd. ed. (London, 1965), p. 87.

³⁸ Anton Schaendlinger, *Dissertation*, p. 91.

Topkapi Saray Müzezi³⁹ it is said that the name of a famous engraver was, after his death, adopted by another famous engraver.

It may be that signs having a similar significance were used in the reigns of Sülaymān II 1099–1102 H./A.D. 1687–91 and Aḥmad II 1102–1106 H./A.D. 1691–5).

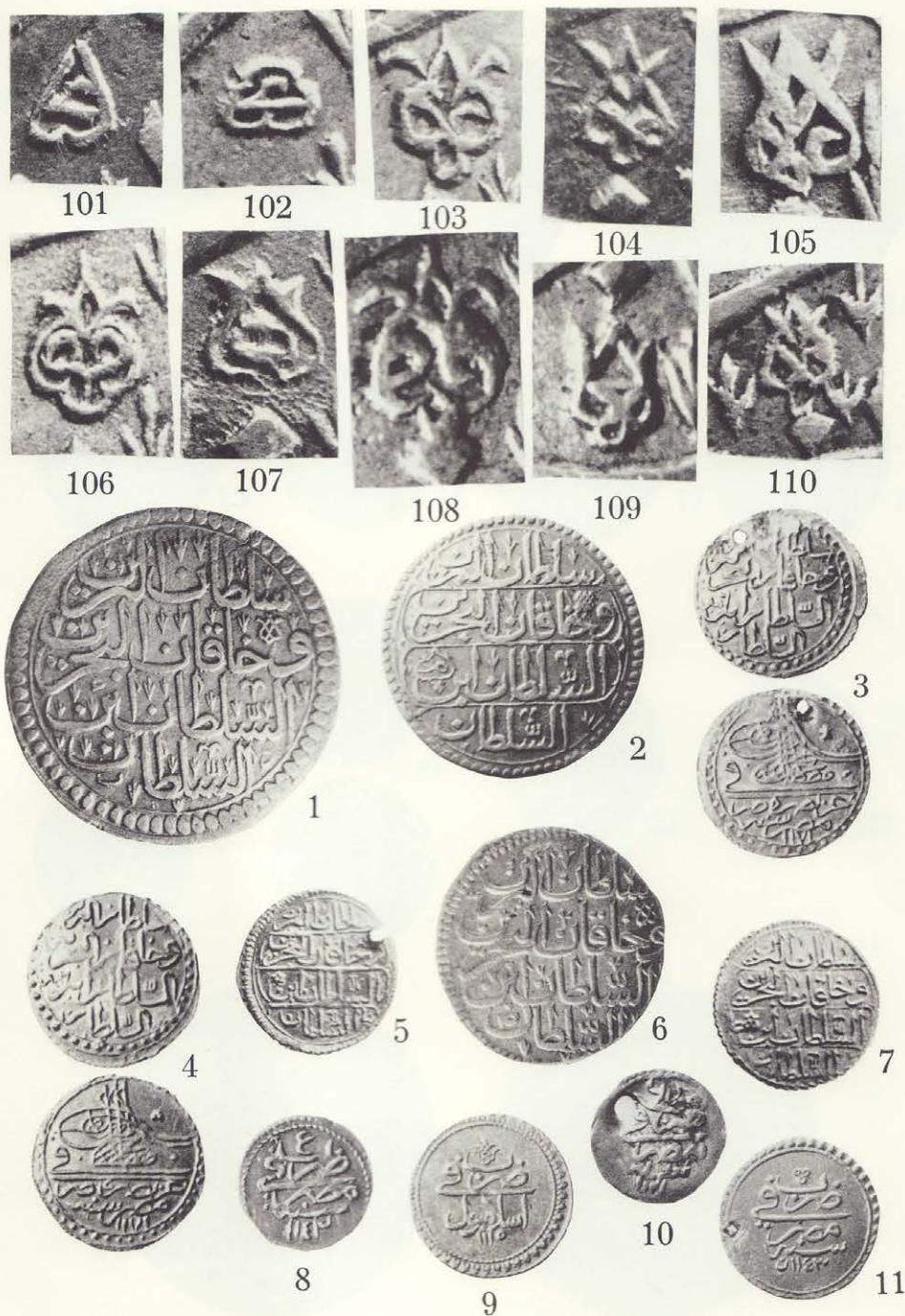
c r l q
a b c d

Fig. 7

Sülaymān II	Kuruş	Position C	Sign a.	PERE 468
			b.	DAV
Aḥmad II	Kuruş	Position B	Sign c.	PERE 476
			d.	DAV 316
	Yarım kuruş	Position B	Sign c.	PERE 477
			d.	LAC (PLATE XXVIII, 32)

Lane-Poole listed 54 initial letters. In the present description 102 initial letters and 10 cartouches are mentioned. There are 315 coins in the list. The whole represents a summary of what could be gathered from available sources.

³⁹ *Guide Book of the Seals Section of Topkapi Saray Museum.* (Istanbul, 1959), p. 50.



OTTOMAN COINS



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