

## Coins of the Greco-Bactrian Kingdom and their Classification

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**Annatation:** The role of the science of archeology in the study of our history is incomparable. In addition to historical and cultural events from BC to the present day, the coins give us valuable information about the political, economic, religious worldviews of nations, the titles of rulers. Numismatic sources also bear witness to the name of the state, the name of the ruler, the title he received, the image of the ruler, the time he ascended the throne, and the years he ruled. The article contains information about the coins of the Greco-Bactrian kingdom and their classification, types and circulation of coins, important numismatic findings related to the Greco-Bactrian kingdom.

**KEYWORD:** Greco-Bactrian kingdom, Nomisma, Antiochus I, Hellenic and Eastern culture, Euthydemus, Demetrius, royal titles.

The prestige of numismatics, which has its place among the auxiliary fields of history, has increased since the independence of our country. Because the role of the science of archeology in the study of our history is incomparable. In addition to historical and cultural events from BC to the present day, the coins give us valuable information about the political, economic, religious worldviews of nations, the titles of rulers. Numismatic sources also testify to the name of the state, the name of the ruler, the title he received, the image of the ruler, the time he ascended the throne, and the years he ruled. That is why we study coins as a small resource. However, when it comes to details, there is no source that comes to him in objectivity and science. Each of the images of kings and gods created by Greco-Bactrian jewelers is a world in itself. During this period, it was customary to praise kings by lifting them to the heavens. This theme is expressed differently in coins, as in monumental art, in different historical periods. Of course, there were many objective reasons for this. First of all, the level of development of this society, the state system, the existing social relations, the ethnic composition of the population, political, ideological and religious beliefs, etc. have had a different impact on the formation of art. After all, art is the fruit of a certain socio-economic period. As for the history of Central Asian coinage, the depiction of the ruler in coins dates back to the time of Alexander the Great. For the first time on the coins he struck, he struck the image and title of kings and gods. The appearance of the first coins minted in Bactria is associated with the name of Antiochus I, son of Seleucus (son of Apama, daughter of Spitamen). The names of these coins were also different. In particular, gold coins are called stater, silver coins are called tetradrachma, drachma and semi-drachma. On the right side of the coins of Antiochus I (280-262 BC) there is an image of a horn with a crown. On the reverse, there is a picture of Zeus naked. A handful of lightning in his right hand. On his left hand is Zeus holding a shield, and in Greek the title "Vasilevs Antioch" or "Horn Antiochus". The Greek-Bactrian coins are basically in the same pattern, and on the right we can see the image of

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the ruler and his rank, name and title written in Greek in the form of a circle or column. On the contrary, there were images of gods whom the ruler had taken for granted, such as Zeus, Hercules, Poseidon, Apollo, and Dioscurus. They contain the king's rank, name, and title of ruler, for example, the Greek title "king Antimach god" in the form of a semicircle or column. On the reverse side of the coin, next to the image of the god, there is a monogram consisting of several Greek letters (monogram in Greek mono - one; gram letter). The monogram on the coin is the silent capital letter of the name of the master or ruler who struck the coin.

As an example, the silver coin of the Greco-Bactrian king Euthydemus, who was one of the masterful, cunning, skillful politicians of his time, is depicted on these coins as a proud, ruthless, strong-willed man. The reverse of Eutidem coins depicts the hero Hercules. Interestingly, in the coins depicting the youth of Euthydemus, Hercules is also depicted as young, and in the coins depicting his adulthood, Hercules is also depicted as old. According to historical sources, Demetrius founded more than a thousand cities during his reign, and was able to significantly expand the territory of the kingdom. In particular, he conquered much of India. Demetrius is depicted on his coins wearing an elephant-like hat. In doing so, he sought to propagate his victories among the general public. It is known that India was also called the homeland of elephants at that time. If we compare the picture of Euthydemus with the picture of Demetrius, the similarity between them becomes obvious. This resemblance is so close and strong that if we put a helmet on the head of Demetrius on the head of the imaginary Euthydemus, then it is as if Demetrius was standing in front of us, not Euthydemus. In general, Demetrius' face was characterized by a certain determination, pride, and perseverance in achieving his goal. Numismatic materials allow us to think more deeply about the period, and also cause a lot of controversy. In the 19th century, A. Cunningham presented numismatic information related to the name "Demetrius". Published information about the Demetrius coin is. Demetrius coins provide us with interesting inscriptions and pictures. Firstly, the title of Demetrius is remarkable, "invincible", secondly, the bilingual coins, one minted in Indian and the other in Greek, are interesting, and thirdly, the portrait of Demetrius wearing an elephant-shaped helmet. Sh. In Pidaev's book "Ancient Termez" he gives the following information about the coins of the Greco-Bactrian kings: On the right side of the coins struck by Euthydemus there is a portrait of Hercules with a beard, a horse on the reverse and the title "Horn Eutidemus" (Vasilevs Eutidemoy). Well-known archaeologist Henning describes the Aramaic MRY in the tetradrachms of Euthydemus as MRAY, a title bestowed on hierarchical rulers who were considered inferior to the king. The paintings on the coins of the Greco-Bactrian kings are depicted with great skill. These coins are brilliant examples of medal art. King Euthydemus confirms that the title "King Euthydemus is the ruler" is engraved on the coin. The coin system of the Greco-Bactrian kingdom was based on an ancient standard: coins were minted mainly of silver and copper, and sometimes of gold. Among them are Eucratides' 20-stater (160 g.) Gold coins, the largest gold coins of the ancient world period.

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