

THE COINS OF THE HINDU PERIOD OF INDONESIA

THE HINDU SUMATRAN AND HINDU JAVANESE COINS – THEIR ORIGIN, NAME, WEIGHT AND SYMBOLS IN AN HISTORICAL CONTEXT

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1 Introduction

Although they have been partly described, little is known of the Hindu Sumatran and Hindu Javanese coins.

Millies^[1] describes three gold coins, nos 128, 129 and 130 and one silver coin no 131, from Sumatra (figure 1). The weight of the gold coins is respectively 0.73, 0.88 and 0.26 g and the silver one weighs 0.15 g.

He writes: *'On the obverse there is a square forming a star or flower. On the reverse is a Sanskrit letter Ma, Bha or Pra. The letter Ma is the most probable.'*

SUMATRA. FANTSOUR (BAROUS).



Fig. 1 – Millies: Sumatra

Coins from Java are published by Netscher & van der Chijs (figure 2) and by Millies (figure 3).

Netscher & van der Chijs^[2] mention two gold coins of 2.4 g, one with a letter on the reverse and one with two parallel lines on the reverse. They only present the coin with the letter as no. 119. They describe the symbol on the obverse as a *lingam* or a lotus flower.

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[1] Millies 1871, p. 66-77 and illustration xv.

[2] Netscher & van der Chijs 1864, p. 130-133 and illustrations XII and XIII.

***Bent u geïnteresseerd in het vervolg van dit artikel?
Contacteer dan het EGMP voor de aankoop van het Jaarboek.***