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INTERNATIONAL BANK NOTE SOCIETY JOURNAL

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IBNS Book of the Year and Literary Awards

The International Bank Note Society has selected as its Book of the Year, for a work published in 2011, *Devlet-i Alillye-i Osmaniyyi* (Banknotes of the Ottoman Empire) by Mehmet Gaciroglu, while the Fred Philipson Award for the best article published in the IBNS Journal in 2011 went to Jonathan Callaway and Dave Murphy for their article “The Leith Banking Company, One of Scotland’s Forgotten Banks.” Neil Kaplan won the Ward D. Smith Memorial Award for the best Journal article in 2011 on Chinese banknotes for his work “The Finance and Currency of Manchuria, 1932-1950.” The awards were announced at the Annual General Meeting of the IBNS during the International Paper Money Show in Memphis, Tennessee, USA on June 10.



The Book of the Year award winner by Mehmet Gaciroglu is a groundbreaking compilation covering the vast range of negotiable paper issues of the Ottoman era, beginning with the issues by the six Ottoman sultans and those of the Ottoman Bank. But it also includes specimens, errors, cancellations, counterfeits, endorsements, colour essays, postage stamp currencies, sketches,

municipal currencies and World War I legal tender issues.

Coverage ranges from the earliest Ottoman paper money to the various church and synagogue tokens, tramway tickets, local currencies and all the mainstream notes through World War I.

While the catalogue section of the book is in Turkish, the preface and the foreword are both provided with English translations and offer an insight for non-Turkish speaking readers into what this book has tried to do. They make clear what a pioneering effort it represents. The foreword offers in detail much of context and background of the various kinds of early notes produced for a wide variety of purposes. As the award judges noted, much of this information has never before been presented in an organized form, making the book an important breakthrough for paper money researchers and collectors in this area.

Devlet-i Alillye-i Osmaniyyi is a handsome volume, extensively illustrated in full colour and impressively detailed. In all, it is a worthy recipient of the Book of the Year award in the view of the the IBNS judges. (A full review of the book appears on page 69 of this Journal.)

Among other works considered for the Book of the Year Award, those picked out for honourable mention (in alphabetical order, by title) were:

Miguel A. Fajardo, *Billetes de Chile 1879-2011*.

Pam West, *English Paper Money – Treasury and Bank of England Notes from 1694* (8th Edition).

Guy Sohier, *Les Eurobillets – 2002-2011*.

Robert Pepping, *New Zealand History Noted – Reserve Bank of New Zealand Notes*.

Jaime Casas Pla, *Notafila y Ciencias de la Salud*.

Kishore Jhunjhunwalla and Rezwana Razak, *Presidency Banknotes of India (1770-1860)*.

In the Literary Awards section, the article by Jonathan Callaway and Dave Murphy on the Bank of Leith was considered to be very readable, authoritative and entertaining and well worthy of the Philipson Award for the year’s best Journal article. The runners up for the Philipson Award were the late John Sandrock (“The World War II Philippine Guerilla Notes of Mindanao Island”) and Owen Linzmayer (“Eritrean Banknotes – The Birth of the Nakfa”).

Neil Kaplan’s work on Manchurian paper money went some way to illuminate a very complex series of Chinese notes, earning for it the Ward D. Smith Memorial Award as the year’s best offering on Chinese paper money.

Articles selected for honourable mention in the Literary Awards category were (in alphabetical order by author):

Mark Brook – “A Guide to Collecting Isle of Man Government Issue Banknotes, 1961 to Present Day.”

Miguel Chirinos – “Who’s Who on the Fractional Currency of Latin America.”

Gene Hessler – “Revealing the Hidden Secrets of Canadian Banknote Engraver Yves Baril.”

Dmitriy Litvat and Alexander Kuznetsov – “The Last Emir of Noble Bukhara and His Money,” and “Continuing the Story of Bukhara – The Paper Money of the Soviet Era.”

David Lok – “Candido Rondon: From the Amazon Jungle to the Face of a Banknote.”

Dave Mills – “Solving a Micro-Puzzle on Some Modern French Banknotes.”

Stefano Poddi – “The Banknotes of Hyderabad and the Salvage of the S.S. Egypt.”

Peter Symes – “The Elusive Unofficial Banknotes of New Sudan.”

Member Profile

IBNS members are encouraged to introduce themselves to the Society by submitting a short profile and photograph to the Editor, sent to editor@ibns.biz or to the postal address on page 2 of this Journal. Profiles should be 350-450 words and may include contact details.

Rezwan Razack 9733 – India

Rezwan Razack, probably India's leading collector of Indian banknotes, was born in Bangalore, the second son of Razack Sattar. He grew up in Bangalore where his father handled the family retail business. Rezwan attended the prestigious St. Joseph's College of Commerce. As a student, he won many laurels both academically and in extracurricular activities. Graduating with a degree in Commerce, Rezwan entered the family retailing business. He dabbled in real estate trading and diversified into property development in Bangalore in 1985.

Rezwan is best known today as the Managing Director of the Prestige Group, one of South India's leading property developers. With over 30 years of business development experience, Rezwan handles all construction and engineering activities in the Prestige Group.

Rezwan is very passionate about Indian paper money and his collection as a specialist in the hobby. He possesses one note of every variety of paper money relating to India since its inception. His collection was built over 40 years, coupled with in-depth research, study and learning on this subject. As a result of this research on Indian paper money, Rezwan co-authored *The Revised Standard Reference Guide to Indian Paper Money*. This book was released in January 2012.



Rezwan Razack.

Currently Rezwan is the Chairman of the International Bank Note Society – India Banknote Collectors' Chapter. He was a runner up for the Fred Philipson Award for the best article in the *IBNS Journal* in 2010 and received an 2010 Achievement Award for a significant contribution to the advancement of numismatic knowledge for his article "Banknotes of Portuguese India."

In addition to being the driving force behind the Prestige Group's success, Rezwan is involved in numerous social causes. He has dedicated himself to coordinating the Terry Fox Run – a fund-raising event in aid of cancer research in Bangalore. Rezwan also supports the P.R.A.Y. (Pain Relief And You) Foundation, an organization providing assistance toward medical needs of the underprivileged.

Rezwan is an avid golfer as well as an enthusiastic numismatist. He also enjoys listening to music, F1 motor sports, cooking and horse riding and has travelled widely. He is a member of various social and sporting clubs in Bangalore.

Test Your Knowledge – Answers

These are the answers to the quiz on page 9.

1. The Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO) is the current note issuing authority for Benin.
2. Andrew Jackson (1767-1845) was the seventh President of the United States of America (1829–1837) and appears on the \$20 notes of that nation.
3. The 'birr' is the principal unit of currency in Ethiopia.
4. Johannes Kjarval's painting *Yearning for Flight* is illustrated on the back of Iceland's 2000 Krónur issued in 1995 (P57). Also illustrated on the back is the painting *Woman with Flower*, while on the front is the artist and another of his works, *Inside, Outside*.
5. Cows are depicted on the notes issued in Swaziland, Costa Rica and Guinea.
6. The 'Caisse Hypothécaire du Canton de Fribourg' issued banknotes in Switzerland from 1854 to 1881.
7. The 'Canakkale Martyr's Monument' appears on 500,000-lira banknotes issued in Turkey (P208 and 212).
8. Banknotes issued by the Central Africa Currency Board circulated in the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland from 1955 until the notes issued by the Bank of Rhodesia and Nyasaland were issued in 1956. The Federation consisted of Northern Rhodesia, Southern Rhodesia and Nyasaland, which subsequently became established respectively as Zambia, Zimbabwe and Malawi.
9. The \$50 banknote issued by the Bermuda Monetary Authority in 2003 commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II (1953–2003)
10. The Australian security printing company Note Printing Australia is often abbreviated to the initials 'NPA.'

There were some general matters dealt with during the meeting. Reports were given on recent shows attended by members, including the Memphis Show (Milt); Verona, Italy (Krzysztof Bieganski), and a local show in Vancouver (Lynn Balmer). There was also discussion of the coming 10th anniversary of the founding of the Chapter in September.

Show and tell saw a number of items focusing on Queen Elizabeth's Jubilee. New commemorative issues from Jersey, Guernsey, and the Royal Bank of Scotland; Tonga specimens of the early 1950s; and a Ceylon 2 rupees dated 3-6-1952 (P49), the earliest note issued bearing the portrait of the then, new Queen Elizabeth. Milt also displayed a selection of notes from the Falkland Islands to support the night's program.

Gawain O'Connor's program for the meeting, with help of PowerPoint illustrations, covered the small range of issues from the Falklands. He also showed a considerable number of pictures of the stark landscape of the Falklands which he took himself during a visit in 2000. The Falkland Islands have a special significance for Gawain. They were the jumping off point for Gawain and his then-fiancee Deborah when they travelled to the isolated South Georgia Islands (1,400 km southeast of the Falklands), where they were married in March 2000 by the British Government Officer, one of just a handful of residents on the islands.

The next meeting of the Vancouver Chapter was set to for September 12 at our usual meeting place, the Burnaby Public Library, at 7 pm.

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