

## TRADE ITEMS

### Ancient Ruhuna Period (3rd Century BC - 1st Century AD)

Items from Ruhuna, which was on the trade route of ancient ships.

Lead tortoise and fish, copper signet ring and a teracotta seal with fly-whisk ('Chamara'), crown and Brahmi characters.



Source: lakdiva.org collection

## JANUARY

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# 2008



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**'PURANA' KARSHAPANA**  
**Early Anuradhapura Period (3rd Century BC - 3rd Century AD)**

The earliest known coins used in Lanka were small pieces of silver, punched with a variety of marks.

A pot of silver '*Karshapana*' and below an enlarged view of two showing Five punches on front. The reverse is most often blank.



*Source: BMuna collection*

**FEBRUARY**

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## 'LAKSHMI' PLAQUES

Anuradhapura Period (1st Century BC - 3rd Century AD)

A broken pot with a hoard of plaques struck in copper.

Below an enlarged view of three plaques cast in a lead based alloy, with goddess 'Lakshmi' on reverse and a railed 'Svastika' on obverse.

Usually oblong these coins are found minted in few different sizes.



Source: BMuna collection

## MARCH

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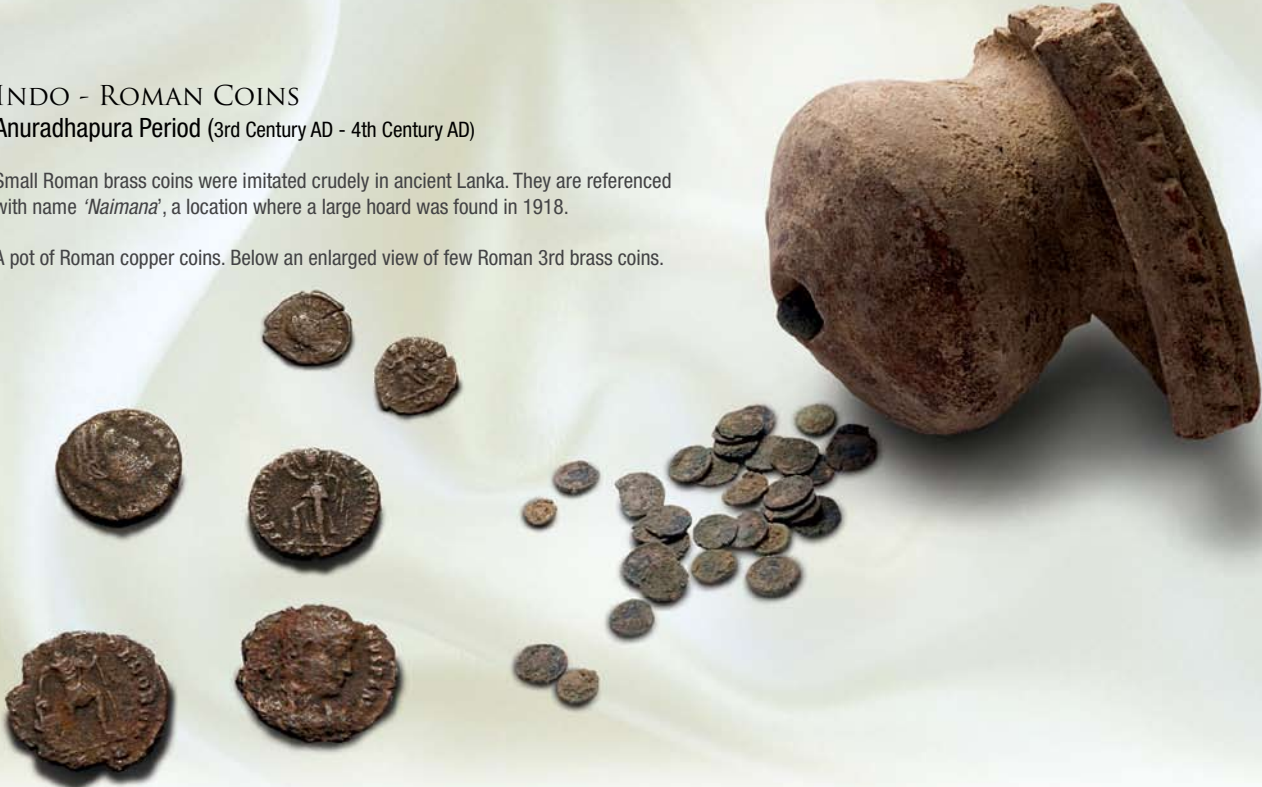
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## INDO - ROMAN COINS

Anuradhapura Period (3rd Century AD - 4th Century AD)

Small Roman brass coins were imitated crudely in ancient Lanka. They are referenced with name 'Naimana', a location where a large hoard was found in 1918.

A pot of Roman copper coins. Below an enlarged view of few Roman 3rd brass coins.



Source: BMuna collection

## APRIL

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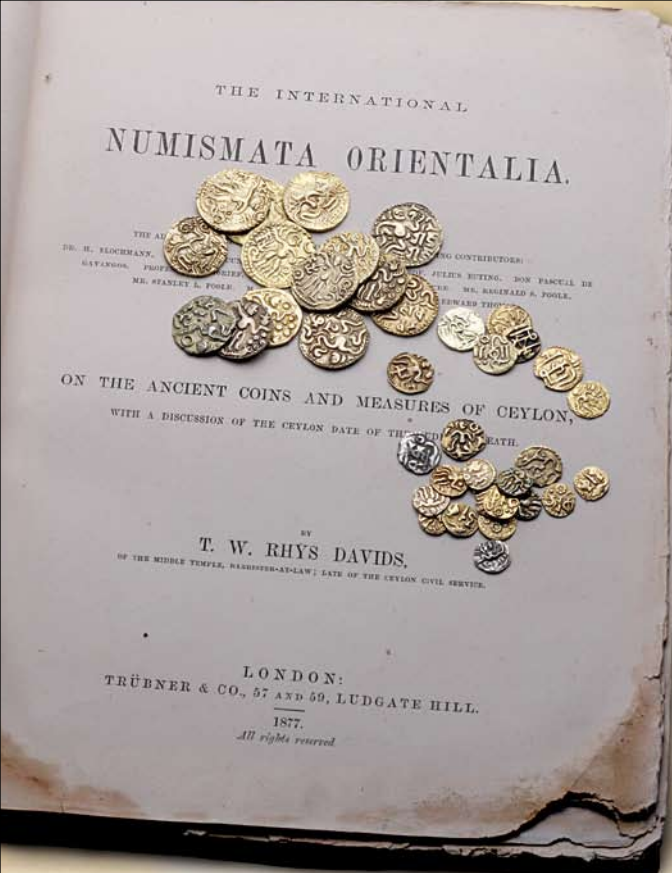
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## GOLD 'KAHAVANU'

Polonnaruwa Period (9th Century Ad - 12th Century AD)

Medieval gold 'Kahavanu' and fractions 'Pala' (1/4) and 'Aka' (1/8) on the oldest book on Lankan Numismatics.

Below an enlarged view of few 'Kahavanu' shows the standing king on obverse and on reverse the seated king with text 'Sri Lak Vibhu' in Devanagari on the right.



Source: BMuna collection

## MAY

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## 'RAJARAJA CHOLA' COINS

Jaffna Kingdom (10th Century AD - 11th Century AD)

Pot and 'Rajaraja Chola' copper 'massa'.

Below enlarged view of 'Rajaraja Chola' gold Madais and also coins in silver and copper. All with the same basic design of standing and seated king used in 'massa' coins of Lankan monarchs.



Source: BMuna collection

JUNE

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## COPPER 'MASSA'

Polonnaruwa and Dambadeniya Periods (12th Century AD - 13th Century AD)

A pot of 'Lillawathi' Massa from the 11th century.

Below an enlarged view of the reverse of six coins with names of different monarchs in Devanagari to the right of seated king. Obverse of one coin with standing king.

In the top most center are both sides of a clay Mould used to cast coins. Known as 'Dambadeni kasi'.



Source: Lakdiva.org collection

JULY

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# TANGA AND 'VILISIYANU KASI'

Late Portugese Era (17th Century AD)

Silver Tanga with court of arms of Portugal.

Venetian Gold Ducats known as 'Vilisiyanu Kasi' was part of the treasure at Kotte plundered by the Portugese in 1551.



Source: BMuna and Lakdiva.org collection

## AUGUST

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## LARINS AND 'PANAMAS'

Kandy Era (17th Century AD - 18th Century AD)

An ornate '*Pettagama*' used to lockup valuables.

Below an enlarged view of a Silver Larin ('*Koku Ridi*') and small gold '*Panamas*', from Kotte and Kandyan kingdoms.

Also a gold '*Parangipatta*' (Pagoda) with standing god '*Siva*' minted in Colombo and Tuticorin.



Source: BMuna collection

## SEPTEMBER

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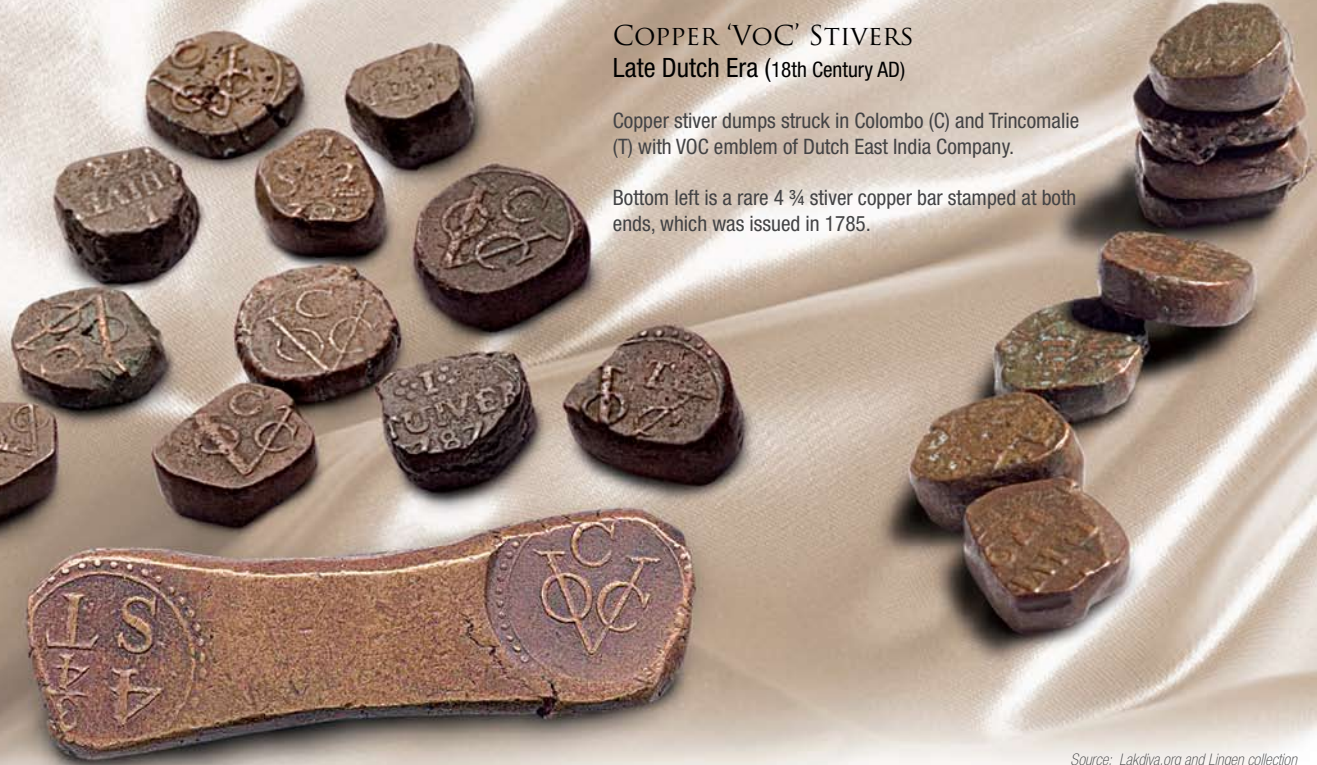
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COPPER 'VOC' STIVERS  
Late Dutch Era (18th Century AD)

Copper stiver dumps struck in Colombo (C) and Trincomalie (T) with VOC emblem of Dutch East India Company.

Bottom left is a rare 4 ¾ stiver copper bar stamped at both ends, which was issued in 1785.



Source: Lakdiva.org and Lingen collection

OCTOBER

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## RIX DOLLARS TO RUPEES Early British Era (19th Century AD)

Elephant Dumps. Obverse and reverse of 1/24 and 1/12 Rix dollar in copper, and 96 Stiver (2 Rix dollars) in silver.

Below an enlarged view of silver One Rupee of East India Company with Queen Victoria.



Source: Lakdiva.org collection

## NOVEMBER

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## MODERN COMMEMORATIVES Independent Ceylon (20th Century AD)

Rare 'Buddha Jayanthi' proof coin set in presentation box with Royal Mint Emblem.

Issued in 1957, they were the 1st Commemorative coins of modern era. One Rupee in Cupro-Nickel and Five Rupee in Sterling Silver.



Source: Lakdiva.org collection

## DECEMBER

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