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# From The History Of Armenian Coins. 1st Ever Paper Money Circulated In Armenia In 19th Century

Viktoria Araratyan, Varo Rafayelyan /  
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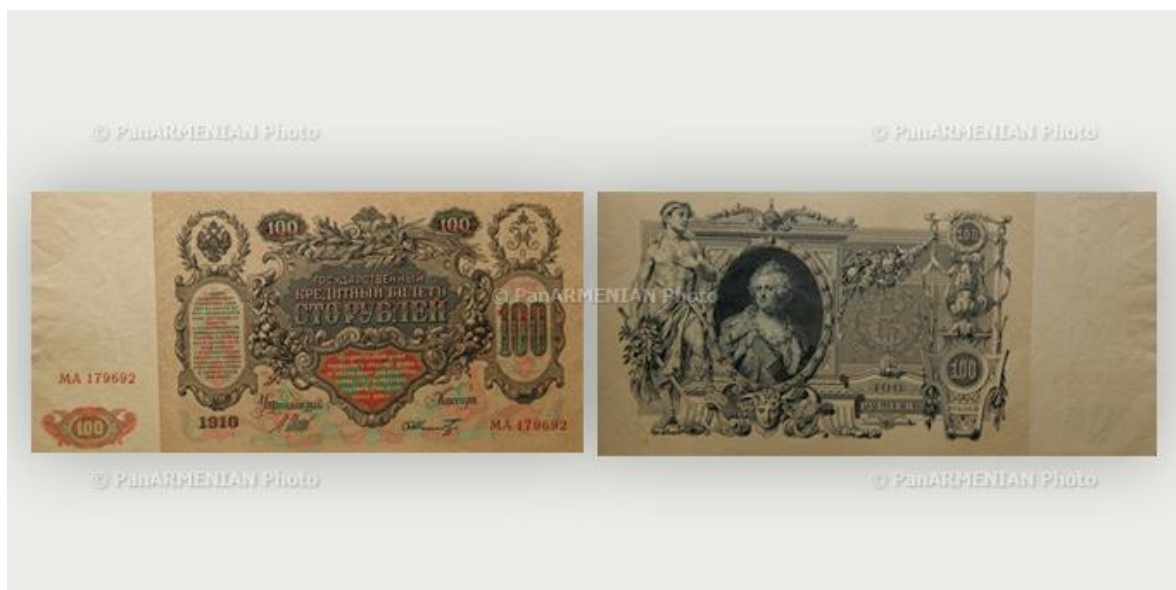
*Along with paper money, gold, silver and copper coins were also circulated, with billon (low-grade silver) coins entering circulation later.*



In early 19th century, Eastern part of Armenia was annexed to the Russian Empire with the latter's paper currency entering into circulation. This was the first time ever paper currency was circulated in Armenia to last for 100 years till 1917: among banknotes circulated were those of Russian emperors Alexander I, Nicholas I, Alexander II, Alexander III and Nicholas II.

## **Description of paper currency**

Russian emperors' paper money was very diverse, ranging from state bank notes, state credit bills, State Treasury bills, Treasury banknotes, short-term liabilities of State Treasury.



*1910 banknote of 100 rubles*

### **Description of coins**

*Along with paper money, gold, silver and copper coins were also circulated, with billon (low-grade silver) coins entering circulation later.*

In 1828 through 1845, for the first time ever, 3, 6 and 12-rouble platinum coins were minted. As a result of reforms, gold monometallism-based paper money and coin systems were optimized to become one of the most advanced ones in the world. Among the most interesting ones are 1 and 1,5-rouble commemorative silver coins, timed to most important events in the Russian Empire.

Copper coins had face values of 1/4, 1/2, 1, 2, 3 and 5 copecks; billon coins - 5, 10, 15 and 20 copecks; silver coins - 25, 50 copecks and 1, 1,5 rubles; gold ones - with a face value of 3, 5 rubles, 7 rubles 50 copecks, 10 and 15 rubles.



*Reverses of Russian Empire copper coins*



*Reverses of Russian Empire billon coins*



*Obverse of Nicholas II silver coin*

Unusual gift coins - gold coins with a face value of 25 rubles, 37 rubles 50 copecks are of special interest.

After the February Revolution of 1917, the currency of Russia's provisional government entered into circulation. Only paper currency was used at the time, with no coins minted.



*Russian Provisional Government's Kerensky coins*

The material was prepared in cooperation with Gevorg Mughalyan, the numismatist of the Central Bank of Armenia.

<http://www.panarmenian.net/eng/details/171639/>

*From the history of Armenian coins. Arabic coins of Dvin, Sassanid drachmas and unique Umayyad dinar*



After the Arab Caliphate conquered Transcaucasia, an area called Arminia was formed, mostly occupying the territory of the historical Armenia.

*From the history of Armenian coins: First known coin with Armenian inscription*



The Bagratid dynasty coins haven't been preserved, which leads to belief that Bagratid rulers did not mint their own currency.

