

CENTRAL BANK OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA



COLLECTOR COINS OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA



2013

Y E R E V A N 2014

ARTHUR JAVADYAN

Chairman
Central Bank of Armenia



Dear reader,

This annual journal *Collector Coins of the Republic of Armenia* introduces new collector coins which the Central Bank of Armenia issued in 2013. The coins mark anniversaries and other important events we had during the year.

On November 22, 2013, the Republic of Armenia celebrated the 20th anniversary of introduction of the national currency, the Dram. Over these years, the Dram has gone

through major changes to become a modern and secure currency. By production quality, protection level and attractiveness, our currency is favorably among the world's leading currencies. In addition to circulating coins and banknotes, the Central Bank of Armenia now issues commemorative coins, investment coins and collector coins. With an upward path aimed at improving the issuance of the national currency and strengthening the independence of the statehood, the Central Bank of Armenia carried out a number of events in 2013 dedicated to the 20th anniversary of the Dram, and put into circulation the coin *20 Years of National Currency*.

The year was also outstanding for an unprecedented numismatic program, under which gold and silver coins of the series *Letters of the Armenian Alphabet* were issued. This milestone event was the Central Bank's tribute to Mesrop Mashtots, a prominent Armenian scholar and Christianity proponent, who created the Armenian letters in 405-406 and therefore pioneered an independent Armenian literature as well as translation literature. This has tremendously contributed to the strengthening of Christianity in Armenia. The coins of the series *Letters of the Armenian Alphabet* includes all 39 letters of the Armenian alphabet.

Year 2013 saw more issuances of collector coins dedicated to a renowned Armenian actor Vahram Papazyan's 125th anniversary of birth, painters Ara Beqaryan's 100th anniversary of birth and Stepan Aghajanian's 150th anniversary of birth, a world-famous astrophysicist Benjamin Margaryan's 100th anniversary of birth. It has been our pleasure to know these coins celebrate the life of these greatest devotees and once again manifest how they contributed to the national art and the development of science.

In 2013, the Central Bank of Armenia issued a silver collector coin *Holy Lance* from the new series titled *Treasures of Etchmiadzin* as part of the international numismatic program "History of Armenia", under which there have been issued coins of the series *Cross-stones of Armenia* and *Armenian Monasteries and Churches*. Not only this series is important in terms of involvement of Armenian and world Christian symbols, but it gives lasting human values a new meaning.

I would like to refer to a great event taken place in an Italian city of Vicenza in 2013, as our silver collector coin *500th Anniversary of Armenian Book Printing* proudly won the first place at *Vicenza Numismatica* 10th international coin contest and was awarded the title "The Best Coin of the Year". Happily, this coincided with the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the national currency, which best reflected the Central Bank's achievements in this field.



**SUREN
SIMONYAN**

Head of Money Cycle Regulation Department
Central Bank of Armenia

COLLECTOR COINS 2013

Year 2013 was remarkable for a number of special issues.

The Central Bank of Armenia and International Coin House of Switzerland have launched a major project for issuance of coins of the series *Letters of the Armenian Alphabet*. The project involves 78 types of gold coins and the same number of silver coins. Each coin

depicts one letter of the alphabet, in typical national patterns, and all the letters of the alphabet are placed along the rim of the coin. The types of coin-letters are differentiated not only by metal but also production quality, edge design and issue quantity. The Central Bank of Armenia presents Mesrop Mashtot's invention as a symbol of national identity and in the meantime provides an opportunity for people to get these coins for themselves or give them as a nice gift on a family event or whatever solemn occasions.

The series of collector coins under the theme *Armenian Statehood* was added with a silver coin *20 Years of National Currency*. The coin featuring the anniversary of the national currency was struck using state-of-the-art technologies, such as Minted Security Printing, Multi View Minting and Minted Photo Image. A few years back, these technologies were only used in the security printing of banknotes. In this regard, the issuance of this silver coin is unique not only for Armenia but for the region as well. Reverse of the coin depicts the security features of Armenian banknotes by best displaying trends with which notes and coins of independent Armenia have improved.

In fine arts and science, the thematic series *Celebrities* featured new coins: *Vabram Papazyan-125* in gold and *Ara Beqaryan-100*, *Stepan Aghajanian-150*, *Benjamin Margaryan-100* in silver. These coins were struck by the Royal Dutch Mint. Following the established tradition of presentation of the coins dedicated to the artists *Ara Beqaryan-100* and *Stepan Aghajanian-150* have been presented in illustrated informational booklets, unlike other coins, which are available in leather or wooden cases.

The Central Bank of Armenia issued and put into circulation a silver collector coin *Holy Lance*, which is the first issue from the new series titled *Treasures of Etchmiadzin* under the international numismatic program "History of Armenia". Specialists from Holy See of Etchmiadzin kindly offered their help with information on the Holy Lance and elaboration of the design and booklet of the coin. Struck at the Mayer Mint of Germany, the coin *Holy Lance* stands out with technological solutions which presently are in broad use in artistic decoration of collector coins. The coins *Holy Lance* and *Letters of the Armenian Alphabet* are included in the thematic series "Armenian Culture" and offer a great addition to the assortment of the coins that illustrate the culture of Christian Armenia.

As well as certificates of authenticity, which contain all important technical specifications of the coins, informational booklets now available in three languages - Armenian, English and Russian - have come to complement Armenian collector coins.

Vahram Papazyan - 125



Theme: Celebrities
(Cinema, Theatre, Circus)



VAHRAM PAPAZYAN (1888-1968) is a prominent Armenian dramatic actor. Papazyan acquired theatrical practice in Paris by maintaining contacts with masters of the Italian stage. His premier performances where he played as Kean ("Kean or Genius and Depravity" by Dumas-father) and as Othello ("Othello" by William Shakespeare) were in Constantinople in 1904 and 1908, respectively.

In 1909-1913, he played in Armenian theatrical troupes in Constantinople, Smyrna, Baku, Tiflis. In 1913-1917, he played in Art Theater in Tiflis and Armenian Drama Theater in Baku. In 1922-1927, he was an actor of the First State Theater of Yerevan and of Armenian troupes in Tiflis and Baku. During the World War II (1941-1945), Papazyan was in Leningrad, besieged at the time, and played with his

Nominal value	10 000 dram
Metal and alloy	gold 900 ⁰
Weight	8,6 g
Diameter	22,0 mm
Quality	proof
Edge	ribbed
Quantity	1000 pcs

Designed by Eduard Kurghinyan.

Minted in the Royal Dutch Mint.

In circulation since 14.01.2013.

troupe for the soldiers. He then traveled to Riga, Tallinn, Kaunas and Paris. Starting from 1954, he settled as an actor at the Yerevan Sundukyan Theater.

Papazyan's best roles included Othello (played by more than 2000 times), Lear, Hamlet ("Othello", "King Lear", "Hamlet" by W. Shakespeare), Arbenin ("Masquerade" by M. Lermontov), Protasov ("The Living Corpse" by L. Tolstoy), McGregor ("My Heart's in the Highlands" by W. Saroyan). Papazyan built up an exceptionally theatrical character, with stressed spontaneity, harmonized sense of element and

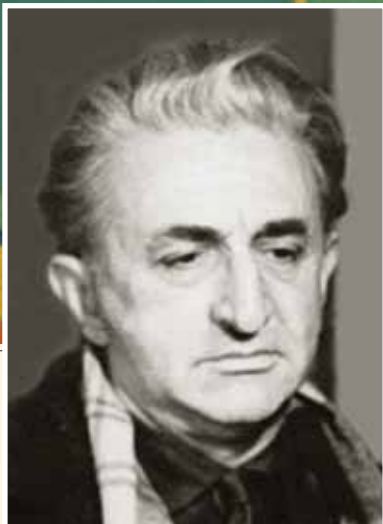


measure, unexpected variations and ultimate persuasion of the play. Vahram Papazyan was a great philosopher both on stage and in life. He is author of many books which are valuable works of memoir in Armenian literature. His works "My Othello" (1964), "Hamlet, As I Saw It" (1968) and "King Lear" (1971) are indeed among the best pages of Shakespeareology.

Obverse of the coin depicts masks, which symbolize the theater, and reverse portrays Vahram Papazyan.

Ara Beqaryan - 100

Theme: Celebrities
(Fine Arts)



ARA BEQARYAN (1913-1986) is a prominent Armenian painter, People's Artist of the Soviet Armenia.

Beqaryan graduated from Yerevan Artistry and Industry College in 1932 and All-Russian Art Academy of Leningrad in 1939. He participated in the World War II (1941-1945). In 1945-1986, he lectured in Artistry and Theater Institute of Yerevan (served as professor since 1964) and in 1947-1950, in Art College after P. Terlemezyan.

Beqaryan created compositional patterns, landscapes, still lifes. His best works include "Entry of the 11th Army to Yerevan in 1920" (1949), "At the Cradle" (1953), "A Woman Selling Flowers" (1958),

"Armenia in the Year 1920" (1960), "Damascus" (1967), "A Bridge in Venice" (1975), "An Armenian Dance Ver-Veri" (1981), "Saghmosavanq" (1982). He authored many portraits, including "Karo Ghafadaryan" (1961), "Painter A. Gharibyan" (1962), "A. Spendaryan" (1971), each of which is done with brilliant mastery of expressing a variety of thoughts and feelings of human nature. He also did book illustrations, painting episodes from the classic Armenian literature, such as "Qaj Nazar" (1958), "Beggars of High Esteem" (1962).

Beqaryan participated in exhibitions in nearly 20 countries of the world, including his individual exhibitions in Yerevan, Moscow, Lvov and Zagreb.

Obverse of the coin depicts a fragment from the work "Ashtarak" and reverse portrays Ara Beqaryan as well as an illustration of the fairytale "Qaj Nazar".

Nominal value	100 dram
Metal and alloy	silver 925 ⁰
Weight	28,28 g
Size	28,0 x 40,0 mm
Quality	brilliant uncirculated
Edge	even
Quantity	500 pcs

Designed by Eduard Kurghinyan.
Minted in the Royal Dutch Mint.
In circulation since 14. 01. 2013.



Stepan Aghajanian - 150

Theme: Celebrities
(Fine Arts)



STEPAN AGHAJANIAN (1863-1940) is a well-known Armenian painter, People's Artist of the Soviet Armenia. In 1939, he was awarded the Order of the Red Banner of Labor.

Aghajanian received artistic education in France. In 1886-1890, he studied in Marseille Artistic Studio. In 1897-1900, he took classes at the B. Constant and J. P. Laurence Studio in Julian Academy, Paris, which he graduated with a gold medal. Even in academic works he demonstrated a unique artistic ability to disclose the model's inner world in true patterns.

In the period 1904-1921, he lived and worked in Rostov-on-Don, Russia. In 1921, he moved to Yerevan and in 1938 had an individual exhibition in Yerevan. Aghajanian was a link between Armenian artists of the

19th and 20th centuries: he gave the Armenian art of portraying a sense of inclusiveness, bringing the national realist painting to new quality and height. Aghajanian also painted landscapes, children's portraits, which was pretty uncommon in Armenian fine arts. Aghajanian saw the human body and soul in harmony, utmost luminous and realistic. Best works include "Self-Portrait", "The Artist's Wife", "Vasil" (1926), "Writer Emin Ter-Grigoryan" (1927), "Pioneer" (1928), "Red Army Man" (1930), "Actress Baronkina" (1935).





Nominal value	100 dram
Metal and alloy	silver 925 ⁰
Weight	28,28 g
Size	28,0 x 40,0 mm
Quality	brilliant uncirculated
Edge	even
Quantity	500 pcs

Designed by Vardan Vardanyan.
Minted in the Royal Dutch Mint.
In circulation since 14.01.2013.



Aghajanian's legacy comprised more than 130 paintings and, more importantly, involved a younger generation of portraitists who continued developing the principles of his artistry.

Obverse of the coin depicts a fragment from "The Artist's Niece" (Gasparyan Varditer) and the sketch of the same fragment; reverse of the coin depicts the work "Self-Portrait", a palette and brushes.

Benjamin Margaryan - 100

Theme: Celebrities
(Science)



BENJAMIN MARGARYAN (1913-1985) is a world renowned astrophysicist, an academician of the Sciences of the Soviet Armenia, Honored Armenian Scientist. He was awarded the Order of Friendship of Peoples.

Since 1942, Margaryan worked in the Byurakan Observatory, where in the period 1956-1985 served as head of Galaxy Studies Unit. In 1976-1979, he was president of "Galaxies" Commission at the International Astronomical Society.

Margaryan's works mainly refer to the problems in stellar and off-galaxy astronomy. He participated in the development of a theory of fluctuations which are observed in stellar distribution. Margaryan developed a

method by which the Byurakan Observatory launched a stellar survey in 1965. He discovered galaxies with excessive amounts of ultraviolet emissions known in astrology as "Margaryan Galaxies".

Memory of the World International Register of UNESCO registered the "Benjamin Margaryan's Study of Galaxies", which was supplemented with the international program of the documentary heritage (in 1997, Armenia was represented by Mesrop Mashtots Matenadaran).

Obverse of the coin depicts stylized images of the universe and galaxies and reverse portrays Benjamin Margaryan and the galaxies he discovered.



Nominal value	1000 dram
Metal and alloy	silver 925 ⁰
Weight	33,6 g
Diameter	40,0 mm
Quantity	proof
Edge	ribbed
Quantity	500 pcs

Designed by Vardan Vardanyan.
Minted in the Royal Dutch Mint.
In circulation since 14. 01. 2013.

Letters of the Armenian Alphabet

Theme: Armenian Culture
(History of Culture)



Nominal value	5000 dram
Metal and alloy	gold 999,9 ⁰
Weight	3,89 g
Diameter	20,0 mm
Quality	proof / brilliant uncirculated
Edge	interrupted ribbed / ribbed
Quantity	200 pcs / Ա, Մ, Ս, Բ, Ն, Ի, Վ, Հ, Ե, Լ, Գ, Ո, Է, Ձ, ՌԻ, Կ, Բ, Ռ, Ը, Թ, Տ letters up to 5000 pcs Յ, Պ, Դ, Ջ, Փ, Օ, Ք, Խ, Ժ, Դ, Ֆ, Ծ, Յ, Լ, Ը, Զ, Ձ, Ճ letters up to 1500 pcs
Nominal value	500 dram
Metal and alloy	silver 999 ⁰
Weight	15,55 g
Diameter	30,0 mm
Quality	proof / brilliant uncirculated
Edge	interrupted ribbed / ribbed
Quantity	200 pcs / Ա, Մ, Ս, Բ, Ն, Ի, Վ, Հ, Ե, Լ, Գ, Ո, Է, Ձ, ՌԻ, Կ, Բ, Ռ, Ը, Թ, Տ letters up to 8000 pcs Յ, Պ, Դ, Ջ, Փ, Օ, Ք, Խ, Ժ, Դ, Ֆ, Ծ, Յ, Լ, Ը, Զ, Ձ, Ճ letters up to 2000 pcs

The Central Bank of Armenia issued a series of collector coins The Letters of the Armenian Alphabet.

*st Mesrop
Mashtots*



Matenadaran, Ms. 1502, 297a

Designed by Armen Kyurkchyan.
Minted in the Royal Dutch Mint.
In circulation since 20. 11. 2013.

After Christianity was proclaimed as state religion in Armenia in 301, having an Armenian alphabet and schooling became a must, not only for strengthening the country's spiritual and cultural foundation but also for political unity. Christian preaching and ceremonies needed to be served in Armenian. Creation of an Armenian alphabet could develop literature in mother tongue. The challenge, so brought forward by the church and the king, was courageously taken by Mesrop Mashtots (circa 362-440), a founder of Armenian schooling, Christian preacher, cultural and public figure. The newly created Armenian alphabet, a system of writing symbols which phonetically accurately reflected each such symbol, consisted of 36 letters. The alphabet was so perfect that it is still usable; it has only incurred minor changes and supplemented the original with 3 more letters **և, օ, ֆ**, which read **yeu, o, f**.

The creation of the Armenian alphabet greatly contributed to the culture and science. In the 5th century, inspired with success in translating world literature, Armenian scholars did great job to develop their own literature, historiography and philosophy in mother tongue, represented in works by Agatangeghos, Pavstos Buzand, Movses Khorenatsi, Yeghishe, Ghazar Parpetsi, Davit Anhaght, Yeznik Koghbatsi, among others. The Armenian Church has canonized Mesrop Mashtots. The tomb of Mesrop Mashtots is in Oshakan village, and a monument dedicated to the Mashtots Alphabet stands on the road nearby. Many state and public institutions, schools, roads in Armenia and Diaspora are called after Mesrop Mashtots. Yerevan Matenadaran, the richest repository of ancient manuscripts, is called after his name. In 1993, an order *Saint Mesrop Mashtots* was established in the Republic of Armenia.

Obverse of the coin depicts the coat of arms of the Republic of Armenia. Reverse of the coin depicts one particular letter of the Armenian alphabet while all the letters of the alphabet are inscribed along the rim.



Nominal value	1000 dram
Metal and alloy	silver 999 ⁰
Weight	31,1 g
Diameter	38,0 mm
Quality	proof
Edge	even, numbered
Quantity	500 pcs

Designed by Vardan Vardanyan.
Minted in the Royal Dutch Mint.
In circulation since 24.06.2013.

20 Years of National Currency

Theme: Armenian Statehood
(Armenian Currency)



The coin is dedicated to the 20th anniversary of introduction of Armenian currency, the Dram. On September 21, 1991, Armenia's independence was declared. This brought about the need to have a national currency. On November 22, 1993, the first series of banknotes were put into circulation in the Republic of Armenia.

With design works delivered for the first series of banknotes, the Central Bank of Armenia has actually started the tradition of presenting Armenia's cultural and historical heritage on the notes and coins.

For the issuance of the second series of banknotes, much attention was paid to the improvement of security features and quality aspects of the banknotes and modern solutions of security technologies were introduced. There are up to 17 security features applied to the Armenian banknotes, which meet the internationally accepted standards of security printing.

Currently, the money cycle involves circulation,

collector, commemorative and investment coins. Since 1994, the Central Bank of Armenia has issued more than 180 gold and silver coins which are dedicated to important historical and cultural events and anniversaries in Armenia.

The Central Bank of Armenia's coordinated efforts aimed at improving the quality of banknotes, have proved effective as its notes and coins have repeatedly won awards at prestigious international contests and been highly praised by the international community.

Obverse of the coin depicts the coat of arms of the Republic of Armenia and the logotype of the 20th anniversary. On the background of the coat of arms, there are depictions resembling security features of Armenian banknotes (guilloche and security thread).

Reverse of the coin depicts the building of the Central Bank of Armenia and depictions resembling security features of Armenian banknotes (guilloche and see-through ornament).



Nominal value	1000 dram
Metal and alloy	silver 925 ⁰
Weight	25,0 g
Size	27,0 x 47,0 mm
Quality	proof
Edge	ribbed
Quantity	2500 pcs

The design of the coin and the informational booklet are created with assistance of the Holy Etchmiadzin's specialists.
Minted in the Mayer Mint, Germany.
In circulation since 24. 12. 2013.

HOLY LANCE

Theme: Armenian Culture
(Religion)



CENTRAL BANK OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

With the issuance of this collector coin, new series titled *Treasures of Etchmiadzin* started as part of the international numismatic program "History of Armenia", which includes the series *Cross-stones of Armenia* and *Armenian Monasteries and Churches*. The Holy Lance is the spear with which a Roman legionary centurion Longinus pierced the side of Jesus Christ. As the Gospel of John says, "one of the soldiers pierced his side with a lance, and immediately there came out blood and water" (John 19:34). The history goes that the mixture of blood and water dripping out of Christ's wounds splattered on the eyes of Longinus and treated them, restoring his eyesight. That's why he converted into a Christian, long preached in the Middle East with the Holy Lance.

St Thaddeus, one of the 12 apostles of Christ, brought the Holy Lance to Armenia in 30s of the first century AD. The Holy Lance has since been one of the

sacred relics of Christianity. Originally, it was kept in different places of worship in historical Armenia, and since the 13th century, in Ayrivank monastery (which was called Geghardavank afterwards). This sacred relic kept in Ayrivank made the monastery one of the most significant places of pilgrimage in medieval times. There is an ample of evidence that in Armenia and neighboring countries the Holy Lance was used in order to bless the land and the people and to safeguard them from wars and disasters. In 1760s, the Holy Lance was brought to Etchmiadzin and it is still there, in the museum of the Mother Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin, packed in the silver icon with foldable side flaps. The Holy Lance is one of the three main shrines sanctified by the Holy Myrrh.

Obverse of the coin depicts the coat of arms of the Republic of Armenia and reverse depicts the Holy Lance in the silver icon with foldable side flaps.

COLLECTOR COINS 2013

Collector coins of the Republic of Armenia by series and years of issue

(1994 - 2013)

Armenian Statehood

Artsakh	(silver, 1994)
National Assembly Building	(silver, 1995)
Kingdom of Cilicia	(silver, 1995)
Kingdom of Artashes	(silver, 1995)
Arshakuni Kingdom	(silver, 1995)
Bagratuni Kingdom	(silver, 1995)
10 th Anniversary of the Republic of Armenia (1991-2001)	(silver, 2001)
15 th Anniversary of the Republic of Armenia (1991-2006)	(silver, 2006)
20 th Anniversary of the Republic of Armenia (1991-2011)	(silver, 2011)

Armed Forces of Armenia

Armed Forces of Armenia	(gold / silver, 2005)
15 th Anniversary of Formation of Armenian Army	(gold, 2007)
15 th Anniversary of Liberation of Shushi	(gold, 2007)
20 th Anniversary of Formation of Armenian Army	(gold / silver 2012)
20 th Anniversary of Liberation of Shushi	(gold, 2012)

Armenian Commanders

Marshal Baghramyan-100	(silver, 1997)
Garegin Nzhdeh	(silver, 2001)
Marshal Babajanyan-100	(silver, 2006)

Armenian Currency

Spindle	(silver, 1994)
5 Years of National Currency	(silver, 1998)
15 Years of National Currency	(silver, 2008)
20 Years of National Currency	(silver, 2013)

Armenia and International Community

UN-50	(silver, 1995)
Armenia-Diaspora Forum	(silver, 1999)
New Millennium	(silver, 2000)
Armenia - a Member of European Council	(silver, 2001)
International Polar Year	(silver, 2006)
200 th Anniversary of Establishment of the Mechitarists Congregation in Vienna	(silver, 2011)
Anniversaries of Singing and Organization of the Treaty on Collective Security	(silver, 2012)

Celebrities

Literature

Pushkin-200	(silver, 1999)
William Saroyan-100	(gold, 2008)
Khachatour Abovyan-200	(gold, 2009)
Raffi-175	(gold, 2010)
Vahan Terian-125	(gold, 2010)
Misak Metsarents-125	(gold, 2011)



Fine Arts

Arshille Gorky-100	(gold, 2004)
Martiros Sarian-125	(gold, 2005)
Hakob Gyurjian-125	(gold, 2006)
Jan Garzou-100	(gold, 2007)
Vardges Sureniants-150	(silver, 2010)
Toros Roslin-800	(gold, 2011)
Stepan Aghajanian-150	(silver, 2013)
Ara Beqaryan-100	(silver, 2013)

Music

Aram Khachatryan-100	(gold, 2002)
Aram Khachatryan-100	(silver, 2002)
Komitas	(gold, 2006)
Sayat-Nova-300	(gold, 2012)

Science

Anania Shirakatsi-1400	(silver, 2004)
Artem Mikoyan-100	(silver, 2005)
Viktor Ambartsumian-100	(silver, 2008)
Movses Khorenatsi-1600	(silver, 2010)
Leo-150	(silver, 2010)
Joseph Orbeli-125	(silver, 2012)
Benjamin Margaryan-100	(silver, 2013)

Cinema, Theatre, Circus

Leonid Engibaryan-75	(silver, 2010)
Vahram Papazyan-125	(gold, 2013)

Sport

Tigran Petrosyan-70	(silver, 1999)
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Architectural Monuments

Sardarapat	(silver, 1994)
David of Sasoun	(silver, 1994)
Garni	(silver, 1994)
Monastery of Gandzasar	(silver, 2004)
Armenian Monasteries and Churches (Mother Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin, Noravank, Gndevank, Sanahin, Goshavank, Kecharis)	(silver, 2012)

Armenian Culture

History of Culture

1600 th Anniversary of Invention of Armenian Alphabet	(gold, 2002)
1000 th Anniversary of the Poem "Book of Lamentations"	(silver, 2002)
Sahak A Partev	(silver, 2005)
King Vramshapuh	(silver, 2005)
825 th Anniversary of "The Codex" written by Mkhitar Gosh	(silver, 2009)
825 th Anniversary of Gladzor University	(silver, 2009)
Gospel Scenes in Armenian Miniatures (Annunciation, Adoration of Magi, Entry into Jerusalem, Ascension)	(silver, 2010)
Cross-stones of Armenia (Gndevank, Goshavank, Kecharis, Sanahin, Etchmiadzin, Noravank)	(silver, 2011)
500 th Anniversary of Armenian Book Printing	(silver, 2012)
Letters of the Armenian Alphabet	(78 types, gold / silver, 2013)

Science, Literature, Art

Matenadaran - 50	(silver, 2007)
Hovhannes Aivazovsky	(silver, 2006)
75 th Anniversary of the Opera and Ballet Theatre	(silver, 2008)
Jazz	(silver, 2010)
Teodor Axentowicz	(silver, 2010)
Sergei Parajanov	(silver, 2012)

Mythology

Goddess Anahit	(gold, 1997)
Noah Descending from Ararat	(gold, 1999)
Haik Nahapet	(gold, 2007)

Religion

Holy Etchmiadzin	(gold / silver, 1998)
Ani	(gold / silver, 1998)
Aghtamar	(gold / silver, 1998)
Haghpat	(silver, 1998)
Armenian Patriarchs of the 20 th Century	(gold, 2008)
St Sargis the Commander	(gold, 2009)
Holy Lance	(silver: gold-plated, 2013)

Armenian History

10 th Years of the Earthquake	(silver, 1998)
Tigran the Great	(gold, 1999)
Tigran the Great	(gold, 2003)
110 th Anniversary of the State Bank	(silver, 2003)
10 th Anniversary of the Court of Cassation	(gold, 2008)
Ani-1050	(gold, 2011)
Artashat-2200	(gold, 2011)
Noah's Ark	(silver, 2012)

Armenian Flora and Fauna

Flora

Apricot	(silver, 1994)
Armenian Grape	(silver, 2007)
Beauty of Flowers (Galanthus Artjuschenkoae, Tanacetum Zangezuricum Sorbus hajastana, Crocus adamii)	(silver, 2010-2011)
Pomegranate	(gold, 2011)

Fauna

Caucasian Otter	(silver, 1997)
Armenian Gull	(silver, 1998)
Wild World of Caucasus	
Wide-Eared Hedgehog	
Trans-Caucasian Grey Bear	
Caucasian Forest Cat	
Mediterranean Tortoise	
Fore-Asian Leopard	
Wide-nosed Duck	
Trout	
Armenian Viper	
Bezoar Armenian Moufflon	
Caucasian Owl	
Toad Agama	(silver, 2006-2008)

Sport

Chess Olympiad	(silver, 1996, «LIALOOSIN»)
Chess Olympiad	(silver, 1996, «ROYAL MINT»)
18 th Winter Olympic Games	(silver, 1998)
1998 Football World Cup	(silver, 1998)
First Pan-Armenian Games	(silver, 1999)
2006 Football World Cup	(silver, 2004)
37 th Chess Olympiad	(gold, 2006)
Kings of Football	
Pele, Eusebio, Yashin, Beckenbauer, Boniek	(silver, 2008-2009)
Kempes, Cruyff	
Platini	(silver, 2010-2011)
Art of Fighting	
(Judo, Wushu, Karate, Kokh)	(silver, 2011-2012)

Other

The Signs of Zodiac	
Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Virgo, Libra, Scorpio, Sagittarius, Capricorn, Aquarius, Pisces	(silver, 2007-2008)
The Signs of Zodiac	
Libra, Scorpio, Sagittarius, Aries, Aquarius, Pisces, Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Virgo	(gold, 2008-2009)



Armenian Collector Coin Issue Program 2014

Hovhannes Shiraz-100

Nominal value	10 000 dram
Metal and alloy	gold 900 ⁰
Weight	8,6 g
Diameter	22,0 mm
Quality	proof
Edge	ribbed
Quantity	500 pcs

Voskan Yerevantsi-400

Nominal value	1000 dram
Metal and alloy	silver 925 ⁰
Weight	33,6 g
Diameter	40,0 mm
Quality	proof
Edge	ribbed
Quantity	500 pcs

Eduard Isabekyan-100

Nominal value	100 dram
Metal and alloy	silver 925 ⁰
Weight	28,28 g
Size	28,0 x 40,0 mm
Quality	brilliant uncirculated
Edge	even
Quantity	500 pcs

2014 World Football Championship

Nominal value	100 dram
Metal and alloy	silver 925 ⁰
Weight	20,0 g
Diameter	38,61 mm
Quality	proof
Edge	ribbed
Quantity	up to 5000 pcs



Mints

In 2013, the Central Bank of Armenia continued cooperation with the Royal Dutch Mint and Mayer Mint of Germany. Such collector coins as *Vahram Papazyan-125*, *Stepan Aghajanian-150*, *Ara Beqaryan-100*, *Benjamin Margaryan-100*, *20 Years of National Currency*, and *The Letters of the Armenian Alphabet* were struck at the Royal Dutch Mint. The collector coin *Holy Lance* was struck at the Mayer Mint of Germany.

Royal Dutch Mint

The Royal Dutch Mint originates from the mint that was established in Utrecht, Netherlands, in 1567. In early 19th century, it was renamed the National Mint; from 1999 on, the mint is known with its current name. The Royal Dutch Mint successfully applies a handful of patented technical tricks and technologies responsible, inter alia, for volatility of image when a viewing angle changes. These technologies were successfully used in the production of the collector coin *20 Years of National Currency*.

The Royal Dutch Mint is of international significance. It has established a firm relationship with many countries of the world. Cooperation with the Central Bank of Armenia began in 1997 as the Mint struck the gold collector coin *Goddess Anahit*. The Mint has since struck a large number of Armenian collector coins, three of which - *Movses Khorenatsi-1600*, *Artashat-2200* and *500th Anniversary of Armenian Book Printing* won prizes at international numismatic contests.



Mayer Mint of Germany

The Mayer Mint of Germany started in 1871. Despite a challenge of increasing competition, it remains true to its rich history and traditions of high quality standards. In Germany, some of the mints have their insignia. The Munich-based "Mayer" Mint carries an emblem "D". The Mint has achieved a big track record in the international numismatic market; it produces a wide range of coins of numismatic value. It cooperates with many companies, including a Lichtenstein-based company Coin Invest Trust, established in 1970, which has struck the collector coin *Holy Lance*.

The Central Bank of Armenia has been cooperating with the Mint since 2010. From that time on, more than 20 silver coins have been struck by the Mint. Three of the coins *Tanacetum Zangezuricum*, *Jazz* and *Cross-Stones of Armenia* won prizes at international numismatic contests.



Participation in Contests

International Contest 2013

At the 10th international contest held in Vicenza, Italy in 2013, the collector coin *500th Anniversary of Armenian Book Printing* issued by the Central Bank of Armenia in 2012 won the first prize in the category "The Best Coin of the Year".

The international jury highly appreciated the effective combination of the modern design on obverse and a classic style on reverse of the coin. The two sides of the coin symbolically unite the past and the present, reflecting not only the 500th Anniversary of the first Armenian print book "Urbatagirq" (published in 1512 in Venice by Hakob Meghapart) but also Armenia's capital Yerevan and its role as an international cultural hub.

The author of the design is Vardan Vardanyan.



Vardan Vardanyan Vardanyan is an architect, and is known as designer of Republic of Armenia postage stamps and coins. One of his works, the postage stamp "Europe" which is dedicated to the Scout movement's 100th anniversary, was recognized the best in the 2009 contest organized for 50 European postal operators. He has done many design works for many collector coins, including *Viktor Ambartsumian-100*, *Leonid Yengibaryan-75*, *20 Years of National Currency*, *Stepan Aghajanian-150*, *Benjamin Margaryan-100*, and so on.



Internal Contest

In 2013, the Central Bank of Armenia organized the 5th internal contest for collector coins offered in two categories: *Best Gold Collector Coin of the Year* and *Best Silver Collector Coin of the Year*. On offer were all the coins issued by the Central Bank of Armenia in 2013. In the category Best Gold Collector Coin preference was given to the series "Letters of the Armenian Alphabet" while the coin "Holy Lance" was preferable in the category *Best Silver Collector Coin*.

The author of the design of the coins in the series "Letters of the Armenian Alphabet" is Armen Kyurkchyan and the design of the coin "Holy Lance" was developed with the support of specialists from Holy See of Etchmiadzin.

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