

# *Coins and Icons*

Divine representations on  
Indian Coins



# Divinities on coins in the Ancient World



**Athena**

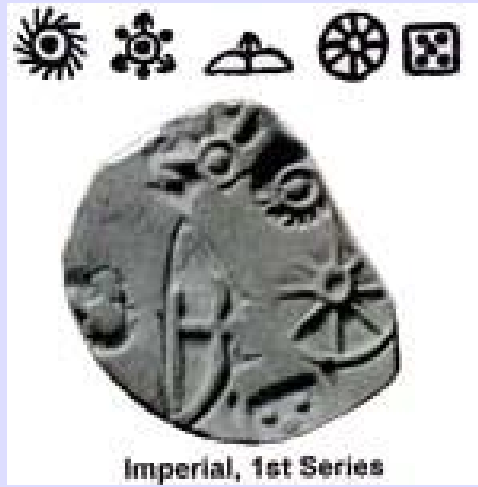


**Fortuna**



**Anahita**

# Icons on Indian coins: The symbolic tradition





# Earliest Indian Representations



Post-Mauryan localized PMC from Mathura region – Balarama and Ithyphallic Siva





# The Foreign Influence

**Nike**



**Tyche and Zeus**

Indic Gods, Greek rulers:  
Agathocles,  
c. 180-160 BCE



**Samkarshana Balarama**



**Vasudeva Krishna**



**Zeus - Indra**

**The cultural  
confluence**



**Abhisheka Lakshmi**



# Kings and Divinities – coins of Panchala



**Bhoomi**



**Phalguni**



**Agni**



**Vishnu**



# Kushana Coinage: The Iranian Pantheon



**Lrooaspa**



**Verethragna**



**Vohu-Manah**



**Vaneinti**



# Siva: Iconic Transformations



**Ithyphallic image**



**Lakulisa with Chakra**



**Siva with thunderbolt**



**Siva and Uma**





**Gold coin from Ahin-Posh Stupa**



**Sakyamuni**



**Maitreya**

# Buddha: Earliest Images



# Transformation of Image: Ardochsho-Nana-Durga-Lakshmi



# The King as God

Wima Kadphises, c. 110-127 CE







**Brahmanya**

**Gods as  
Kings**



**Chitreshvara**

# ‘Chosen Deities’ on Gupta Coins: Sri Lakshmi and Karttikeya





# Incarnations



**Varaha**

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**Rama**



**Narasimha**



# Icons Rarely Seen



**Vishwamitra**



**Durvasa**



**Yaksha (Manibhadra?)**

# Veneration on Coins





# Rituals and Sacrifice





# The Temple on Ancient Coins





Temple on  
later coins





# Islam and Icons

