

EGYPT



1887 YEAR 11 - 2 GURUSH - OBV

EGYPT, OTTOMAN EMPIRE PROVINCE of
BERLIN MINT

2 GURUSH (KURUS) 19MM .833 FINE 2.75 GRAMS

(1886)	AH 1293	YEAR 10	4,011,000	
(1887)		11	989,000	
(1893)		17	540,000	
(1896)		20	1,113,000	
(1900)		24	500,000	
(1905)		29	450,000	
(1906)		30	250,000	rare

▲OV: Toughra with flower to right (Lord Abdul Hamid, Son of Abdul Mejid, The Ever Victorious) ★★★★★★ (seven 5 point stars) , above / denomination ۲ (2) sh (end letters of gurush) two fasces and wreath of roses tied with ribbon below / W below.

▲RV: ★★★ (3 stars) / Regnal Year Number / Zarbe / Fe / **Misr** / ١٢٩٣ (Arabic number/ Struck / in / Egypt / 1293 AH accession year) within wreath.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = Imperial Mint, BERLIN

MINTMASTER: W = Emil Weigand, 1887-1904

REFERENCE: Y-19, NP-992, KM-293

POPULATION: Egypt - 1900 - 9,734,405 with Cairo capital with 570,062 inhabitants



1887 YEAR 11 - 2 GURUSH - REV

FOOTNOTE: The *Modern Dime Size Silver Coins* of Egypt were minted at several foreign mints in addition to the Cairo mint which used the 'Misr' as mintmark. Berlin, Bombay, Birmingham and Brussels all struck this size coinage. Listings are by mint. The inscriptions on Egyptian coins are in Arabic. Numbers can be read as below:

1234567890

١٢٣٤٥٦٧٨٩٠

The Accession Year Number 1293 is shown on the coins as;
١٢٩٣

FOOTNOTE: In the year 1882 political and financial reasons combined led the English Government, now conducted by Gladstone, to interfere in the affairs of Egypt. A mutinous uprising against the authority of the Khedive having taken place in the Egyptian Army, an expedition was sent out under the command of Lord Wolseley for the purpose of suppressing the revolt, and by the restoration of the authority of the Khedive to render secure the Suez Canal, and protect the interests of English bondholders in Egyptian securities. Three years later, in 1885, a second expedition had to be sent out to the same country. The Sudanese, subjects of the Khedive, encouraged by the disorganized condition of the Egyptian Government, had revolted, and were threatening the Egyptian garrisons in the Sudan with destruction. Lord Wolseley was sent out a second time, to lead an expedition up the Nile to the relief of Khartum, where General Gorden, a representative of the English Government, was commanding the Egyptian troops, and trying - to use his own phrase - to "Smash the Mahdi", the military prophet and leader of the Sudanese Arabs. The expedition arrived too late, Khartum having fallen just before the advance relief party reached the town. The English troops were now recalled, and the greater part of the Sudan abandoned to the rebel Arabs. *Outlines of History*, P.V.N. Myers, Boston 1895.

FOOTNOTE: The cultivation of tobacco in Egypt was prohibited in 1890, because some manufactures of the famous Egyptian cigarettes were mixing inferior home tobacco with imported Turkish leaf, thereby imperiling the export trade which was a large source of Government Revenue through the export tax. Most genuine Egyptian cigarettes were made in Cairo by Grecian workmen, using Turkish tobacco and paper manufactured in Germany, Austria and Italy.

FOOTNOTE: Turkish Sultan Abdul Aziz was the first Sultan to travel abroad visiting Paris, Vienna and London. Beginning with the nineteenth century the political movement of liberal Turkish thinkers and writers resulting from the study of French became wide spread. The processes of modernization would have continued had it not been for the setback under the reign of Sultan Abdul Hamid II (1876-1909 AD) one of the longest and most reactionary of the Turkish reigns. He was deposed in April 1909 AD to be succeeded by his brother Muhammad V Rashad (1909-1918 AD). A national uprising in AD 1882 in Egypt left the British in sole control. Under the unpretentious title of Resident and Consul General Lord Cromer became the virtual ruler of the country with his main support the Army of Occupation. In the Anglo-French Entente Cordiale of 1904 AD the French agreed to end the obstruction of British policy in Egypt in return for support for the French policy in Morocco.

FOOTNOTE: At the foot of the Sphinx a crowd of lazy Bedouin contractors were whipping fifty boys and girls to and fro, as they carried little baskets of sand away from the Sphinx's paws. They dug them out years ago, but the sphinx' invoked the western winds to cover them again with drifting sand. Every time these little boys and girls came struggling from the pit, up through the running sands in which the foot slipped backward half the distance, one of these ruffians smote them with a leather thong to make them hurry on. And farther on another burly villain stood with leathern switch in hand to make them scamper back. In this way contract work is done in Egypt. All the embankments made to hold the Nile in check, all railroad fillings, are done with human hands; children and coolies packing the dirt in little baskets on their heads. Horse and carts might be used, but then what would the people do to get their 2 or 3 gurush (ten or fifteen cents) a day which goes to buy their daily bread and cotton drilling shirt? To clothe these people costs 20 or 40 gurush (a dollar or two) a year (c. 1887). To feed them, 1 gurush (five cents) a day, but that seems rather high. Some greens, a very little coarsest bread, some sugar-cane to chew, make up the measure of the daily food. They have nothing but huts to live in, and the cheapest, coarsest sort of food, yet they are the most content. *A Girdle Round the Earth, D.N.Richardson, Chicago 1888.*

FOOTNOTE: In Hebrew Egypt is called Mizraim, this is preserved in the Arabic **Misr**, pronounced MASR in the vulgar dialect of Egypt. It occurs in the Koran as the name of Egypt, but has been applied to the country and to its chief capitals since the Arab conquest, EL-Fustat, now called Masr-el-Ateekah, or Old Masr, and El-Kahireh, the Cairo of the Europeans. *Encyclopedia Britannica, 9th Edition, 1887.*

FOOTNOTE: Abbas II, Hilmi, Khedive of Egypt was the eldest son of Tewfik Pasha. He was educated at Vienna, and succeeded his father in 1892 at the age of eighteen. Though his attitude toward England in Egypt was unfriendly, he carried on his government under British supervision after the abortive attempt to form an anti-British cabinet in 1893. *New International Encyclopedia, 1910.*

FOOTNOTE: The British occupied Egypt in 1882, after a revolt of natives demanding "Egypt for the Egyptians". This was to be a temporary occupation to supervise the army and finances of Egypt, but it continued until 1914.



1909 - YEAR 33 - 2 GURUSH - REV

EGYPT, OTTOMAN EMPIRE PROVINCE of
BIRMINGHAM MINT

2 GURUSH (KURUS) 19MM .833 FINE 2.81 GRAMS

(1904)	AH1293 YEAR 29	1,250,000
(1905)	30	250,000
(1909)	33	450,000

^OV: Toughra with flower to right (Khan Abdul Hamid, Son of Abdul Mejid, The Ever Victorious)★★★★★★ (seven 5 point stars), above / denomination ۲ (2) sh (end letters of gurush) two fasces and wreath of roses tied with ribbon below / H (mintmark) below.

^RV:★★★ (3 stars) / Regnal Year Number/ Zarbe / Fe / Misr / ١٢٩٣ (Arabic number/ Struck / in / Egypt / 1293 AH accession year within wreath.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: H = THE MINT, BIRMINGHAM

REFERENCE: Y-19a, NP-992, EG8, KM-293a

POPULATION: 1907 - 11,287,359

FOOTNOTE: The standard unit of currency is the kirsh or piastre, which is coined in gold pieces of 5, 10, 20, 25, 50, 100 piastres; silver of 1, 2½, 5, 10, 20 piastres copper coins of 5, 10, 20 para (or faddahs, 40 to the piastre) and 1 piastre are also coined. The kees or purse, of 500 piastres, is equal to about £5,2s.6d. The khazneh, or treasury, consists of 1000 purses. 97 ½ piastres are given for the English pound sterling. Beside the regular Egyptian currency, European coins of all kinds are commonly employed in Egypt, especially the English sovereign, the French napoleon, the Venetian sequin, the Spanish doubloon and dollar, the 5 franc piece, and the Constantinople coins. *Encyclopedia Britannica, Ninth Edition 1887.*



1911 - YEAR 3 - 2 Gurush - OBV

EGYPT, OTTOMAN EMPIRE PROVINCE of
BIRMINGHAM MINT

2 GURUSH (KURUS) 19MM .833 FINE 2.8 GRAMS

(1910) AH 1327 YEAR 2	250,000
(1911) 3	300,000 rare

▲OV: Toughra with flower to right (Khan Mohammed, son of Abdul Hamid, The Ever Victorious) ★★★★★★ (seven 5 point stars), above / denomination ۲ (2) sh (end letters of guruh) two fasces and wreath of roses tied with ribbon below / H (mintmark) below.

▲RV: ★★★ (3 stars) / Regnal Year / Zarbe / Fe / Misr / ١٣٢٧ (Arabic number/ Struck / in / Egypt / 1327 AH accession year) within wreath.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: H = THE MINT, BIRMINGHAM LTD.

REFERENCE: Y-30, NP-1057, EG19, KM-307

POPULATION: Egypt - 1912 - 11,287,350 with Cairo the capital with 654,476 inhabitants.

FOOTNOTE: Egypt is nominally independent, but in any Government crisis the British High Commissioner can overrule the Egyptian King. The Commander-In-Chief of the Egyptian Army is a British Officer and is also Governor-General of the Sudan. He is responsible to both the Egyptian and British Governments. In both capacities he takes orders from British High Commissioner Viscount Allenby, of Palestine fame. Both countries have extensive economic interests in the Sudan. The region was in a wretched condition when it was taken over by Lord Kitchener in the late 90's. An agreement signed in 1899 made the Sudan the joint property of Egypt and Britain. The Sudan is divided into fifteen Provinces, each under the direct rule of a British Governor.



1911 - YEAR 3 - 2 GURUSH - REV

EGYPT, BRITISH PROTECTORATE of
BIRMINGHAM MINT

2 PIASTRES 18.5 MM .833 FINE 2.8 GRAMS

1917 AH 1335 2,180,000

▲OV: Arabic inscription (Sultan Hussein Kimal) / Arabic ١٣٣٣ (AH 1333) within wreath tied with ribbon below, within circle of pearls near rim.

▲RV: Arabic inscription (Sultanate of Egypt) / 2 and - divided by vine design / PIASTRES (Arabic denomination guruh) within wreath tied with ribbon below / 1917 left, ١٣٣٥ (AH 1335 in arabic) right, H (mintmark) below, within circle of pearls near rim.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: H = THE MINT, BIRMINGHAM LTD.

REFERENCE: Y-39, EG27, KM-317

FOOTNOTE: The issue struck at Birmingham dated 1917 was minted in 1919.

FOOTNOTE: Fuad I, Sultan of Egypt, born 1868, the eighth ruler of the Dynasty of Mohammed Ali, on the death of Hussein Kimal, his brother, on October 9, 1917, was proclaimed Sultan of Egypt as Ahmed Fuad Pasha. On March 16, 1922 he was declared King of Egypt and the British terminated the Protectorate, and recognized the independence of Egypt.





1920 AH 1338 - 2 PIASTRES - OBV

EGYPT, BRITISH PROTECTORATE of
BIRMINGHAM MINT

2 PIASTRES 18.5 MM .833 FINE 2.8 GRAMS

(1920) 1920 AH 1338	2,545,000	rare
(1921) 1920 1338	275,000	i/a

▲OV: Arabic inscription (Sultan Fuad I) / DATE in arabic ١٣٣٥ (AH 1335) (The accession date AH 1338 of Sultan Fuad I).

▲RV: Arabic inscription (Sultanate of Egypt) / left: 2 / PIASTRES / 1920, right: arabic ٢ / (denomination in arabic (gurush) / ١٣٣٨ (AH 1338) / H (mintmark) below at rim.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: H = THE MINT, BIRMINGHAM

REFERENCE: Y-44, EG-31, KM-325

FOOTNOTE: Egypt, long under British dominion, broke off all relations with Turkey during the First World War and then sent delegates to the Paris Peace Conference to demand independence from the Protectorate imposed on Egypt by the British Government. Meanwhile Nationalist agitation broke out in various sections of the country. Early in 1922 England announced that independence would be granted and within a year Egypt was declared to be a Sovereign State with a hereditary monarchy and a parliament - subject to certain reservations protecting British interests. On November 21, 1924 Major-General Sir Lee Stack, Sirdar of Egypt and Governor-General of the Sudan was assassinated. Lord Allenby, British High Commissioner in Egypt, called upon Premier Zaghlul Pasha demanding full satisfaction for the Sirdar's assassination, demanding full apology from the Egyptian Government; punishment of the criminals, compensation of £500,000 (\$2,300,000 U.S.) and ordered the withdrawal from Sudan of all Egyptian units of the Egyptian Army. The Premier resigned and complied with the demands although British troops were sent to Cairo and Sudan before the crisis passed.



1920 AH 1338 - 2 PIASTRES - REV

EGYPT, KINGDOM of
BIRMINGHAM MINT

2 PIASTRES 19MM .833 FINE 2.8 GRAMS

(1924) 1923 AH 1342	2,500,000
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▲OV: Head of King Fuad I, facing right / s back of neck, Arabic inscription (Fuad the First, King of Egypt) around.

▲RV: Arabic inscription (Kingdom of Egypt) within circle, arabic denomination ٢ (2 piastres) above, Arabic AD DATE (١٩٢٣ = 1923) left and arabic AH DATE (١٣٤٢ = 1342) right, below / H (mintmark) below at rim.

EDGE: Reeded

DESIGNER: s = Hamid Effendi Sirry, of the Government Assay Office, Egypt.

MINT: H = THE MINT, BIRMINGHAM

REFERENCE: Y-52, EG34, KM-335

FOOTNOTE: This issue dated in Arabic with both AD 1923 and AH 1342 was struck at Birmingham in 1924.

FOOTNOTE: By the terms of the draft Constitution promulgated in 1923, Egypt became governed by a Hereditary King, his Ministers and a Parliament of two houses.





1916 AH 1334 - 2 PIASTRES - OBV

EGYPT, BRITISH PROTECTORATE of
BOMBAY MINT

2 PIASTRES 18.5 MM .833 FINE 2.8 GRAMS

1916 AH 1334 2,504,614
1917 1335 4,461,226

^OV: Arabic inscription (Sultan Hussein Kamel) / ١٣٣٤ (The accession date (in arabic) AH 1333 of Hussein Kamel) within wreath tied with ribbon below, HR in center of bow, within circle of pearls near rim.

^REV: Arabic inscription (Sultanate of Egypt) / 2 and ٢ divided by vine design / PIASTRES (Arabic denomination Gurush) within wreath tied with ribbon below / AD DATE left, AH DATE (in arabic) right, within circle of pearls near rim.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = Royal Branch Mint, BOMBAY

ENGRAVER: HR = John Harvey Rowntree, M.B.E. of the Egyptian Survey Department, at Giza.

REFERENCE: Y-39, KM-317

FOOTNOTE: On December 14, 1914 (AH 1333) Egypt was declared independent of Turkey under a permanent Protectorate of England. The Khedive remained loyal to the Turks, he was removed from the throne and the title was abolished. A new ruler was acclaimed, Sultan Hussein Kamel. On February 28, 1922 the Protectorate was terminated with the death of the Sultan, the new King declaring a new monarchy on March 16, 1922.



1903 - YEAR 27 - 2 GURUSH - OBV

EGYPT, OTTOMAN EMPIRE PROVINCE of
BRUSSELS MINT

2 GURUSH (KURUS) 19MM .830 FINE 2.75 GRAMS

(1903) AH1293 YEAR 27 1,000,000

^OV: Toughra with flower to right (Lord, Abdul Hamid, Son of Abdul Mejid, The Ever Victorious) ★★★★★★ (seven 5 point stars), above / denomination ٢ (2) sh (end letters of gurush) two fasces and wreath of roses tied with ribbon below / W below.

^RV: ★★★ (3 stars) / Regnal Year Arabic number ٢٧ / Zarbe / Fe / Misr/ ١٢٩٣ / (arabic number 27/ Struck / in / Egypt / 1293 AH accession year) within wreath.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = BRUSSELS

MINTMASTER: W = Emil Weigand, 1887-1904

REFERENCE: Y-19, NP-992, KM-293

FOOTNOTE: The Suez Canal connecting the Mediterranean and Red Seas is a vital link in the trade route between Occident and Orient, obviating the necessity of the long voyage around the Cape of Good Hope. It is a neutral waterway, open on equal terms to vessels of all nations at all times and is exempt from blockade. Built in 1859-69 at a cost of \$127,000,000 U.S. by Egypt, it was financed chiefly in France by Count Ferdinand de Lesseps; but the British acquired control of the stock in 1875 by purchase. The length of the Canal, 103 miles.





1903 - YEAR 27 - 2 GURUSH - REV



1929 AH1348 - 2 PIASTRES - REV

EGYPT, OTTOMAN EMPIRE PROVINCE of
BUDAPEST MINT

2 PIASTRES 19MM .833 FINE 2.8 GRAMS

1929 AH 1348 2,500,000

^OV: Head of King Faud I, wearing fez, facing right, arabic inscription (The King Of Egypt) left, arabic inscription (Faud I) right, PM under bust.

^RV: Arabic inscription (The Kingdom of Egypt) in center circle, arabic inscription for denomination (2 piastres) above, ١٩٢٩ (arabic 1929) left, ١٣٤٨ (arabic AH 1348) right, **BP.** (mintmark) below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: **BP.** = BUDAPEST

DESIGNER: PM = Percy Metcalfe

REFERENCE: Y-66, KM-348



1929 AH 1348 -2 PIASTRES - OBV

FOOTNOTE: Crossing the Lybian Desert - During the autumn of 1923 a French explorer named DeLaborie completed a most remarkable journey across the Arabian desert from the Cameroons to the Oasis of Siwa, thence to Alexandria, Egypt. A distance of over 3,000 miles, he was the first European to cross this merciless waste and not only overcome the desert but bypass the exceedingly fanatical Mohammedans known as the Senyussis who are especially hostile to Christians.

FOOTNOTE: Crossing the Lybian Desert (continued) The purpose of the expedition was the collection of material for the Museum of Natural History and the extraction of samples of venom from certain species of snakes, in addition to looking for a travel route from Lake Chad to Egypt for the French. The entire journey was attended with great danger since the Lybian desert is considered the most difficult to cross of any desert in the world. If the party misses the trail and fails to find the wells, death from thirst is almost certain. The journey was made with camels. At the Oasis of Siwa an outpost of the British Army was found and members of the Post escorted the party to Alexandria.

FOOTNOTE: In the early nineteenth century an uprising in Egypt established Muhammad Ali as a semi-independent dynasty. Turkish Sultans continued to be named on the Ottoman coinage of Egypt until AH 1334 (1916 AD) with the issue of Sultan Hussein Kimal.

EGYPT, OTTOMAN EMPIRE PROVINCE of
CAIRO MINT

1 GURUSH (KURUS) 18MM .883 FINE 1.42 GRAMS

(1861)	AH 1277	YEAR 1	u/m
(1862)		2	u/m
(1863)		3	u/m
(1864)		4	u/m
(1865)		5	u/m
(1866)		6	u/m
(1867)		7	u/m
(1868)		8	u/m
(1869)		9	u/m

^OV: Toughra (Lord, Abdul Aziz, Son of Murad, The Ever Victorious) with flower to right, denomination ۱ (1) sh (end letters of gurush).

^RV: Regnal Year Arabic number / Zarbe / Fe / **Misr** / ۱۲۷۷ (Struck / in / Egypt / 1277 AH accession year).

EDGE: /////

MINT: Misr = EGYPT (CAIRO)

REFERENCE: Y-7, NP-939, KM-250



Opening of the Suez Canel

FOOTNOTE: Cairo (The Victorious), the capital of Modern Egypt, is situated on the right bank of the Nile, 12 miles above the apex of its delta, and 150 miles by rail from Alexandria. The character of the town is still mainly Arabic, though in modern times the European style in architecture has become more prevalent. The city is partly surrounded by a fortified wall, and is intersected by seven or eight great streets, from which run a labyrinth of narrow crooked streets and lanes. There are several large squares or places, the principal being the Ezbeklyeh. To the south-east of the town is the Citadel, on the last spur of the Mokattam Hills, overlooking the city. It contains the fine Mosque of Mohammed Ali, a well 270 feet deep called Joseph's Well, cut in the rock, the Palace of the Viceroy. The trade of Cairo is large, and the bazaars and markets are numerous. Of these the Khan el Khalili, in the north-east of the town, consists of a series of covered streets and courts in which all kinds of eastern merchandise are displayed in open stalls. Cairo was occupied by the British in September 1882. Population - Cairo (c. 1895) 374,838. *Cabinet Cyclopaedia, 1895.*



1872 - YEAR 12 -1 GURUSH - OBV

EGYPT, OTTOMAN EMPIRE PROVINCE of
CAIRO MINT

1 GURUSH (KURUS) 18MM .900 FINE 1.42 GRAMS

(1870)	AH 1277	YEAR 10	u/m
(1871)		11	u/m
(1872)		12	u/m
(1873)		13	u/m
(1874)		14	u/m
(1875)		15	u/m
(1876)		16	u/m

^OV: Toughra (Lord, Abdul Aziz, Son of Murad, The Ever Victorious) with flower to right, denomination ۱ (1) sh (end letters of gurush).

^RV: Regnal Year Arabic number / Zarbe / Fe / **Misr** / ۱۲۷۷ (Struck / in / Egypt / 1277 AH accession year).

EDGE: /////

MINT: **Misr** = EGYPT (CAIRO)

REFERENCE: Y-7a, NP-939, KM-250

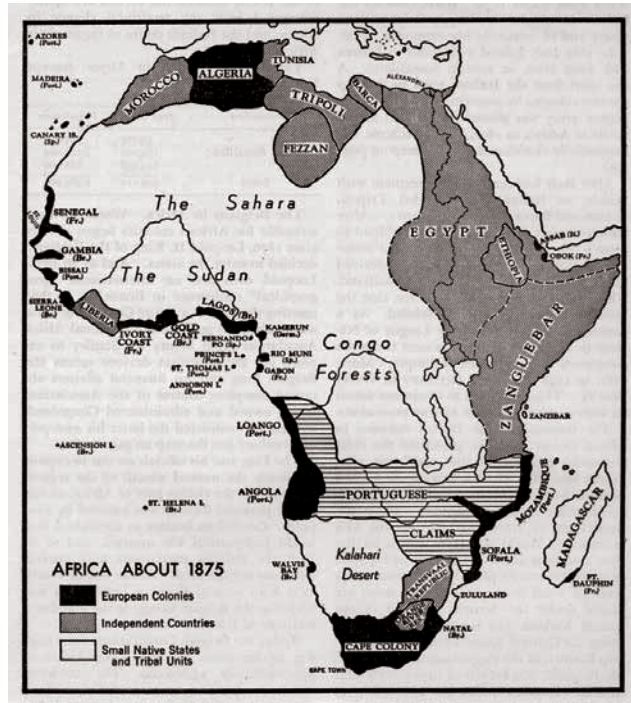
FOOTNOTE: The Egyptian ruler Ismail I, who came to the throne in 1863 involved his country in a heavy debt due to his reckless extravaganzas. This forced him to sell a block of his Suez Canal shares to the British Government at a low price. Still heavily in debt, Ismail was forced by his English and French creditors to let them oversee his financial administration. On June 26, 1879 the Khedive, Ismail Pasha, abdicated in favor of his son Tewfiq. He left Alexandria on his yacht "Mahroussa" for Naples, taking with him his harem and treasures.

FOOTNOTE: The Suez Canal was completed in 1869 after about ten years of work. The canal extends from Port Said, on the Mediterranean, 103 miles to Suez at the head of the Red Sea. Of this distance true canals cover 76 miles, and lakes 27 miles. It is 35 feet deep and accommodates all but very large ocean vessels.



1872 - YEAR 12 - 1GURUSH - REV

FOOTNOTE: Cairo (Arabic, Misr el Kahirah), "The Victorious Capital", the capital of modern Egypt is situated in a sandy plain between the right bank of the Nile and the ridge of Mokattum, and near the point of the delta of the Nile. The city of Cairo occupies about three square miles, and is surrounded by a low wall. Of late years it has been greatly improved. It is lighted with gas, and many fine broad streets have been opened through the crowded districts. The bazaars are well and richly supplied. The houses, which are generally two or three stories high, are all built of variegated brick, with interlinings of wood, and have flat roofs. The city is divided into different quarters, one quarter being appropriated to the Turks, one to the Christians, one to the Jews, etc.; so that every religious sect had its own quarter, which is separated from the adjoining one by strong gates at the end of the streets; these are closed at night, and guarded by a porter, who opens the gate when any one wants to pass. The remarkable buildings in the city of Cairo are its Minarets and Mosques. The Minarets are the most beautiful of any in the Levant, of a prodigious height, and built of alternate layers of red and white stone. The population of Cairo consists of the ruling class, who are all Turks; Arabs, the former conquerors of the land, who form the bulk of the population, all the petty tradesmen and cultivators of the soil being of Arab origin; Copts, who are descended from the original Lords of the land, the ancient Egyptians; Jews, Armenians, Syrians, Africans, and Europeans. Population - Cairo (c.1872) 350,000. Since 1863 the part of Cairo occupied by Europeans has been handsomely rebuilt. In 1876, Cairo was connected by rail with Heluan, one of the numerous bathing-places lying to the south. Of objects worthy of note in the environs of Cairo, the public gardens, which consist of groves of orange, citron, palms, and vines, are very beautiful. The trade of Cairo is rapidly increasing. The exports consist mainly of native products, such as ivory, gum, wood, hides, ostrich feathers, cotton and sugar; while imports are cotton and woolen goods, prints, hardware, cloth, furniture, shawls, indigo, sheep, tobacco, etc. In 1873 about 120,000 lbs. of ivory were exported. The language spoken at Cairo is Arabic, which, though not the purest, is superior in pronunciation to that spoken in Syria. Cairo is the official residence of the Viceroy of Egypt, and the residence of a Consul-General from Great Britain, France, etc. Cairo has railway connection with Alexandria and Suez, and there is also a line to Upper Egypt. *Library of Universal Knowledge, N.Y. 1879.*



Africa showing Egypt in 1875

EGYPT, OTTOMAN EMPIRE PROVINCE of
CAIRO MINT

1 GURUSH (KURUS) 18MM .900 FINE 1.25 GRAMS

(1876) AH1293 YR 1 u/m rare

▲OV: Toughra (Lord, Mehmed Murad, Son of Abdul Mejid, The Ever Victorious) with flower to right, denomination 1 (1) sh (end letters of guruh).

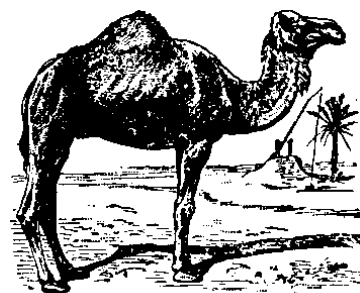
▲RV: Regnal Year Arabic 1 / Zarbe / Fe / Misr / ١٢٧٧ (arabic year 1/ Struck / in / Egypt / 1293 AH accession year) .

EDGE: Plain

MINT: Misr = EGYPT (CAIRO)

REFERENCE: Y-G11, KM-270

FOOTNOTE: Sultan Murad V of Turkey ruled for less than a year, May 30 - August 31, 1876.



EGYPT, OTTOMAN EMPIRE PROVINCE of
CAIRO MINT

1 GURUSH (KURUS) 18MM .833 FINE 1.25 GRAMS

(1876) AH1293 YEAR 1	u/m
(1877)	2 u/m
(1878)	3 u/m
(1879)	4 u/m
(1881)	5 u/m

^OV: Toughra (Lord, Abdul Hamid, Son of Abdul Mejid, The Ever Victorious) with flowers to right, denomination ۱ (1) sh (end letters of gurush).

^RV: Regnal Year Arabic number / Zarbe / Fe / **Misr** / ١٢٩٣ (Struck / in / Egypt / 1293 AH accession year).

EDGE: Plain

MINT: **Misr** = EGYPT (CAIRO)

REFERENCE: Y-18a, NP-994, KM-277

FOOTNOTE: The Cairo mint was closed in 1883, with the Egyptian coinage struck by foreign mints for many years.

FOOTNOTE: Pasha Mohammed Tewfik, Khedive of Egypt from 1879 to 1892, was the eldest son of Ismail Pasha, who secured from the Sultan a firman decreeing the Khedival succession to Tewfik instead of his brother Halim, who would have become Khedive under the order of succession then in force. Tewfik was fond of country life, and spent most of his time before his accession on his estates. Tewfik was interested in educational matters and founded several schools. On June 26, 1879, the Sultan deposed Ismail and Tewfik became Khedive, at a time when Egypt was deeply embarrassed financially and the power of the Khedive was much curtailed. His general policy was modern and European, and the year 180 witnessed the establishment of the dual control of Egypt by England and France. Tewfik soon had to face the rebellion of the Nationalists under Arabi Pasha, and Egypt was rescued from anarchy by the intervention of England, which thereby established a controlling influence in the country. The conquest of the Sudan by the Mahdi occurred during Tewfik's reign and its recovery was not begun till after his death, which took place near Cairo, January 7, 1892. *New International Encyclopedia, 1910.*



Street Scene in Cairo - 1880

FOOTNOTE: The city of Cairo is built partly upon the plain and partly on the lower slopes of the adjacent mountains. From the ramparts of the citadel the view of the ancient city is a sight of magnificence and beauty. Standing on the walls of the fortress two hundred feet above the city are seen below the strongly built walls and towers, the gardens and squares, the palaces and mosques, the domes and minarets with their delicate carvings and fantastic tracery. The broad river studded with islands and the valley of the Nile dotted with groves form an artistic background, while in the north the pyramids raise their heads in silent majesty and on the east there are barren cliffs backed by an ocean of sand. Formerly, Cairo was little better than a labyrinth of winding lanes, low, illbuilt houses and narrow unpaved streets swept by constant clouds of dust blown from the huge mounds of rubbish outside the walls, but modern ideas have made themselves felt, and new streets have been cut through, along which are shops and houses. In the center, what was once a wild waste has been transformed into the principle square of the city with trees and walks and a lovely lake in the center. The houses of the city form a striking contrast. The poor classes live in miserable mire hovels with filthy courts, dilapidated windows and tattered awnings, while those of the wealthy are built tastefully with windows shaded by projecting cornices and ornamented with stained glass. A passage to an open court with a fountain in its midst shaded by palm trees. Above the center is the fountain hangs a decorated lantern which sheds a soft light on the surroundings. The sides are inlaid with rare cabinets and richly stained windows, while in the recess near by is a low cushioned seat running around the sides on which to sit. *Round the World with Note Book and Camera, Lida Brooks Miller, Chicago 1897.*

FOOTNOTE: In 1884 the British Administration appointed a commission to inquire into the defects of the currency and remodel it. The commission decided to adopt the Egyptian pound as the unit for the new monetary system and discard the old Piaster unit. The commission divided the Egyptian pound into 100 piastres and the piastre into 10 paras. Silver coins were to be in denominations 20,10,5,2,1, half and quarter piastres; the nickel pieces of 5,2 and 1 ochr el guerche; and bronze pieces of half and quarter ochr el guerche. A new design was approved and the minting arranged with Berlin mint. The gold pieces of 20,10, and 5 piastres struck were not for circulation. Although the monetary reform of 1885 prohibited the circulation of foreign silver coins, the Egyptian Government reserved itself the right to introduce foreign silver in order to provide for the trade requirements of the Sudan and Red Sea regions. In these districts a metallic currency has to circulate among the most diverse classes of society, and must be suited to the wants and even to the prejudices of the population using it. The traders of the Sudan dealing with Abyssinia have to provide large quantities of Maria Theresa dollars in order to pay for the goods purchased. The Abyssinians for many years have used these coins, and the prejudice against any other is so great that if the introduction of these coins was forbidden the trade between Abyssinia and the Sudan would for a long time be conducted with the greatest difficulty. It has been said "The Austrian dollar of Maria Theresa is the only large coin current in Abyssinia; the effigy of the Empress with a very low dress and a profusion of bust, the charm that suits the Arab taste" "So particular are these people that they reject the coin, after careful examination, unless they can distinctly count seven dots that form the star upon the coronet, no clean money will pass current in this country; all coins must be dirty and gummy, otherwise they are rejected." During the period 1858 to 1891, over 41,000,000 Maria Theresa dollars were minted and since they have no current value in Egypt except in the regions mentioned, it is presumed that large quantities must have found their way to the most remote trading centers of Central Africa. Previous to the introduction of this dollar, salt was the unit of exchange. *W.H.Cook, The Bankers' Magazine, London 1909.*



1939 - AH 1358 - 2 GIRSH - OBV

EGYPT, KINGDOM of
LONDON MINT

2 GIRSH 19MM .833 FINE 2.8 GRAMS

1937 AH 1356	500,000	
1939 1358	500,000	rare
1942 1361	10,000,000	

^OV: Head of King Farouk I, wearing fez, facing left, arabic inscription (The King of Egypt) left, (Farouk The First) right, PM below.

^RV: Arabic denomination ٢ (2 girsh) above, in center, arabic inscription (Kingdom of Egypt), AD and AH DATES within arabesque design around.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = Royal Mint, LONDON

REFERENCE: Y-83, KM-365

DESIGNER: PM = Percy Metcalfe

POPULATION: Egypt - 1940 - 15,230,000



King Farouk I of Egypt



1939 - AH 1358 - 2 PIASTRES - REV



Egyptian with wife on donkey - 1902



Ships on the Nile, Egypt



1944 AH 1363 - 2 PIASTRES - OBV

EGYPT, KINGDOM of
LONDON MINT

2 PIASTRES 19.5 MM .500 FINE 2.8 GRAMS

1944 AH 1363 32,000,000

▲OV: Head of King Farouk I, wearing fez, facing left, arabic inscription (The King of Egypt) left and (Farouk The First), right.

▲RV: Arabic denomination ٢ (2 girsh) above, in center, arabic inscription (Kingdom of Egypt) / ١٩٤٤ (arabic 1944) - ١٣٨٣ (arabic AH 1363).

EDGE: Plain - Sexagon planchet

MINT: (no mintmark) = Royal Mint, LONDON

REFERENCE: Y-87, KM-369



1944 AH 1363 - 2 PIASTRES - REV



Mosque Kaid Bey, Cairo



Pyramid and Sphinx, Egypt -1902



Streets of Cairo, Egypt



1964 AH 1384 - 5 PIASTRES - OBV

UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC, (Egypt and Syria)
CAIRO MINT

5 PIASTRES 19MM .720 FINE 2.5 GRAMS

1964 AH 1384 500,000

^OV: Aswan Dam with hydroelectric transmission lines, rising sun on horizon, arabic date (15 May 1964), above / arabic legend (Anniversary of the charging of the course of the River Nile) below.

^RV: Arabic inscription (AL' GUMHURIYA AL'ARABIA AL'MUTTAHIDA = United Arab Republic) above around, in center 5 (Arabic 5) / arabic denomination below, dividing arabic dates 1964 1384 (1964 and AH 1384) / ornamental design at bottom.

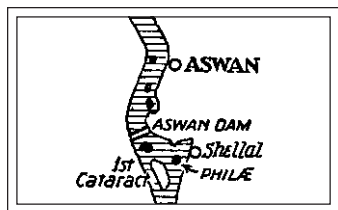
EDGE: Reeded

MINT: no mintmark = CAIRO

TYPE: Commemorative - Division of the Nile

REFERENCE: Y-117, KM-404

FOOTNOTE: This commemorative issue was also struck in proof with mintage of 2,000 sets.



Aswan below the 1st Cataract

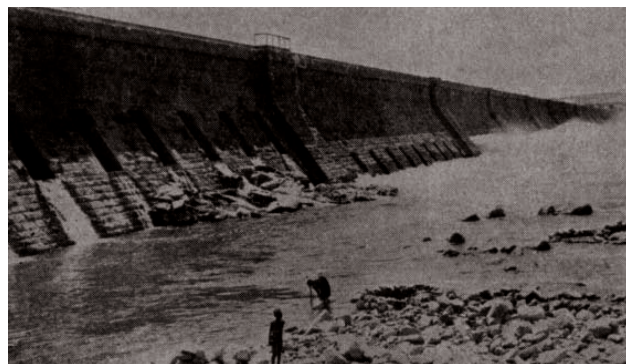


1964 AH 1384 - 5 PIASTRES - REV



Temple of Philae, on the Nile

FOOTNOTE: Under British direction a dam about 6400 feet long was built at Assuan, [Aswan] setting back the water and forming a lake or reservoir 200 miles long. The water is distributed over the field, and increases the amount of land that can be cultivated. Egyptian cotton is of excellent quality, exported to the United States and England. *Essentials of Geography, Brigham & McFarland, New York, 1922.*



Aswan dam on the Nile - 1922