

FRENCH INDO-CHINA



1879 - 10 CENTIMES - OBVERSE

FRENCH COCHIN-CHINA, COLONY of
PARIS MINT

10 CENT. 19MM .900 FINE 2.721 GRAMS

1879 400,000

^OV: Seated Liberty holding fasces, REPUBLIQUE FRANCAIS (French Republic) around / BARRE 1879 below.

∇RV: 10 / CENT. / (bee) A (mintmark) (anchor), within wreath of laurel, oak and wheat tied with a ribbon below, .COCHINCHINE FRANCAISE. (French Cochinchina) around / TITRE (fineness) 0,900. POIDS (weight) 2,721. below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: A = PARIS

DESIGNER: BARRE (anchor) = Auguste Barre 1878-79

DIRECTOR: (bee) = Alfred Renouard deBussiere 1834-60

REFERENCE: Y-3, VG-3943, Z-60

POPULATION: French Cochinchina - 1873 - 1,527,000

FOOTNOTE: French Cochinchina was a direct colony of France with a Governor in place of a Resident Superior. Later the colony formed part of French Indo-China.



1879 - 10 CENTIMES - REVERSE

FOOTNOTE: The first 10 centimes coinage of French Cochinchina was minted in Paris dated 1879 with a design by Auguste Barre which continued unchanged in design through 1937, except the name changed from *CochinChine Francaise* to *IndoChine Francaise* and the weight changed from 2.721 to 2 GR 7 in 1895 and the reduction in silver from .900 fine to .835 beginning in 1898 through 1919 followed by later changes as the price of silver increased.

FOOTNOTE: The Barre design of the French Cochinchina coinage features on the obverse a seated female figure, symbolic of the Republic, to the left of the design is a crop of rice; just behind the seated figure can be seen the tip of an anchor and her left arm rests on a rudder.



Native cart



1884 - 10 CENTIMES

FRENCH COCHIN-CHINA, COLONY of
PARIS MINT

10 CENT. 19MM .900 FINE 2.721 GRAMS

1884	510,000	
1885	100	proof

^OV: Seated Liberty holding fasces, REPUBLIQUE FRANCAIS (French Republic) around / BARRE below with DATE.

∇RV: 10 / CENT. / (cornucopia) **A** (mintmark) (fasces), within wreath of laurel, oak and wheat tied with a ribbon below, .COCHINCHINE FRANCAISE. (French Cochinchina) around / TITRE (fineness) 0,900. POIDS (weight) 2,721. below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (cornucopia) **A** = PARIS

DESIGNER: BARRE = Auguste Barre 1878-79

ENGRAVER: (fasces) = Jean LaGrange 1880-96

REFERENCE: Y-3, VG-4016, Z-67

FOOTNOTE: During the latter half of the eighteenth century French missionaries began to take an active part in the national politics of Annam. During the Taiping Rebellion, France used military power to seize the three western provinces of Cochin China and to occupy Saigon. Seeking a route to southwestern China, France explored the Mekong River which proved to be unnavigable. They then discovered that the Red River could be navigated directly to Yunnan. Hanoi was occupied and most of the Red River delta. In 1874 the Annamite Emperor signed a treaty at Saigon with France making it a protectorate of France. In 1880 France quartered troops at Hanoi and Haiphong, but bandits made life insecure in the delta area. Military activity continued for several years. In 1882 France attacked Liu Yung-Fu's Black Flag troops. By 1883 the Black Flag soldiers were recognized as part of the Chinese Army with formal appointment from the Ch'ing Court. In the spring of 1884 French troops moved northward defeating the Chinese. The Ch'ing Court ordered Li Hung-Chang to negotiate a peace treaty which was signed in May 1884. When China's troops in Langson failed to receive the orders to withdraw, a skirmish with the French caused small casualties, but the news reaching Paris prompted France to demand an indemnity of 250 million francs. The French demands were not complied with and on August 5, 1884 French warships bombarded Keelung on Formosa. The attack was repulsed by the Chinese garrison. The French fleet then sailed into the Min River destroying Chinese ships and the Foochow Shipyard on August 23, 1884. As China did not wish to continue war with France, secret negotiations were conducted with a new peace treaty signed June 9, 1885. The name of the protectorate was changed on new coinage dated 1885 minted in Paris for French Indo-China, which now had the border of China on the north and Siam on the west, and included all of the Province of Tongkin, Annam, Laos, Cambodia and Cochin-China.



1892 - 10 CENTIMES - OBVERSE

FRENCH INDO-CHINA, PROTECTORATE of
PARIS MINT

10 CENT. 19MM .900 FINE 2.721 GRAMS

1885	2,040,000	VG-4026	
1888	1,000,000	VG-4089	
1889	100	VG-4117	proof
1892	200,000	VG-4181	
1893	600,000	VG-4202	
1894	500,000	VG-4221	
1895	600,000	VG-4247	

^OV: Seated Liberty holding fasces, REPUBLIQUE FRANCAIS (French Republic) around / BARRE below with DATE.

∇RV: 10 / CENT. / (cornucopia) **A** (mintmark) (fasces), within wreath of laurel, oak and wheat tied with a ribbon below, .INDO-CHINE-FRANCAISE. (French Indo-China) above / TITRE (fineness) 0,900. POIDS (weight) 2,721. below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (cornucopia) **A** = PARIS

DESIGNER: BARRE = Auguste Barre 1878-79

ENGRAVER: (fasces) = Jean LaGrange 1880-96

REFERENCE: Y-6, Z-74, KM-2

POPULATION: 1891 - 2,034,453

FOOTNOTE: The proof issues of Y-3, dated 1885 were struck for the Antwerp Exposition.





1892 - 10 CENTIMES - REVERSE CORNUCOPIA - A - FASCES

FRENCH INDO-CHINA, PROTECTORATE of
PARIS MINT

10 CENTIMES 19MM .900 FINE 2.7 GRAMS

1895	300,000	VG-4247
1896	650,000	VG-4273

^OV: Seated Liberty holding fasces, REPUBLIQUE FRANCAIS (French Republic) around / BARRE below with DATE.

∇RV: 10 / CENT. / (**cornucopia**) **A** (mintmark) (fasces), within wreath of laurel, oak and wheat tied with a ribbon below, .INDO.CHINE.FRANCAISE. (French Indo-China) above / TITRE (fineness) 0,900. POIDS (weight) 2 GR.7 below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (**cornucopia**) **A** = PARIS

DESIGNER: BARRE = Auguste Barre 1878-79

ENGRAVER: (fasces) = Jean LaGrange 1880-96

TYPE: I - Fasces mark

REFERENCE: Y-6A, KM-2a

FOOTNOTE: The natives live in villages adjacent to the rivers, which form almost the only means of communication. The only roads at present (1891) existing are those connecting Saigon, the capital with the principal towns; a railway of 42 miles connects Saigon and Mytho. The principal export is rice, mainly to China; cotton and silk are also exported. The export and import trade is mostly carried on by British vessels, while the local trade is chiefly in the hands of the Chinese. The French number only several hundred. The majority of the inhabitants are Anamese. *Cabinet Cyclopaedia, 1895.*

FOOTNOTE: France long had had an interest in the vast western shores of the China Sea. Some French missionaries were killed in Annam, and Napoleon III used this as an excuse for attacking its king and demanding possessions in the area. Having obtained this foothold the French Government gradually extended its colonial control in all directions. Protectorates were established first for Cambodia and Cochin-China. China surrendered Tonkin and in 1893 France extended her authority over Laos. Each protectorate is governed by a Resident Superior, except Cochin-China which is direct colony and has a Governor.

FOOTNOTE: Saigon, together with part of the territory of which it is the capital, was taken by the French in 1860. Treaties of peace and commerce, concluded with the Annamite Government, in 1864, provided that the Protectorate of the six Provinces of Lower Cochin-China should remain in the hands of France; that three important ports on the coast of Annam should be opened; and that a space of nine kilometers on the shore of each port should be conceded to the French for the establishment of factories; that French merchants and missionaries should be allowed to travel the Kingdom of Annam without hindrance, and that an indemnity of 100 million Francs should be paid. In 1867, in consequence of fresh aggressions, encouraged by the Government of Annam, the French took the Town of Vinh-Long, and by a new Treaty, added three other Provinces to their dominions... *Library of Universal Knowledge, N. Y. 1880.*

FRENCH INDO-CHINA, PROTECTORATE of
PARIS MINT

10 CENTIMES 19MM .900 FINE 2.7 GRAMS

1896	included with Fasces	VG-4273
1897	900,000	VG-4301

^OV: Seated Liberty holding fasces, REPUBLIQUE FRANCAIS (French Republic) around / BARRE below with DATE.

∇RV: 10 / CENT. / (**cornucopia**) **A** (mintmark) (torch), within wreath of laurel, oak and wheat tied with a ribbon below, .INDO.CHINE.FRANCAISE. (French Indo-China) above / TITRE (fineness) 0,900. POIDS (weight) 2 GR.7 below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (**cornucopia**) **A** = PARIS

DESIGNER: BARRE = Auguste Barre 1878-79

ENGRAVER: (torch) = Henri-Auguste Patey 1896-1930

TYPE: II - Torch mark

REFERENCE: Y-6A. KM-2a

FOOTNOTE: Prior to 1895 the weight of the 10 Centimes was 2.721 and the Piastre 27.215 grams, from 1895 on the weight was reduced to 2.7 grams for the 10 Centimes and 27 grams for the Piastre. The price of silver continued to rise but it was not practicable to reduce the weight of the coinage further, so in 1898 the silver content was reduced from .900 fine to .835 fine. In 1920 their coins were further debased. The weight and fineness show on the reverse of all issues except the San Francisco mintage of 1920 which was struck as .400 fine and 3 grams.

FOOTNOTE: Indo-China includes; Toquin, Cambodia, and Lower Cochin-China (dependencies of France), and several petty native states. *Geography, William Swinton, 1880.*



**1914 - 10 CENTIMES
PARIS MINT**

FRENCH INDO-CHINA, PROTECTORATE of
PARIS MINT

10 CENT. 19MM .835 FINE 2.7 GRAMS

1898	500,000	VG-4351	
1899	4,100,000	VG-4378	
1900	3,600,100	VG-4404	
1901	2,950,000	VG-4429	
1902	7,050,000	VG-4460	
1903	1,300,000	VG-4490	
1908	1,000,000	VG-4616	rare
1909	1,000,000	VG-4646	rare
1910	2,689,161	VG-4683	
1911	2,310,839	VG-4703	rare
1912	2,500,000	VG-4727	rare
1913	4,846,605	VG-4771	
1914	3,667,393	VG-4823	rare
1916	2,000,000	VG-4853	
1917	1,500,000	VG-4873	
1919	1,500,000	VG-4907	

▲OV: Seated Liberty holding fasces, REPUBLIQUE FRANCAIS (French Republic) around / BARRE below with DATE.

▼RV: 10 / CENT. / (cornucopia) A (mintmark) (torch), within wreath of laurel, oak and wheat tied with a ribbon below, .INDO.CHINE.FRANCAISE. (French Indo-China) above / TITRE (fineness) 0,835. POIDS (weight) 2 GR.7 below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (cornucopia) A = PARIS

DESIGNER: BARRE = Auguste Barre 1878-79

ENGRAVER: (torch) = Henri-Auguste Patey 1896-1930

TYPE: Fineness reduced to .835

REFERENCE: Y-14, KM-9

POPULATION: French Indo-China - 1910 - 16,315,063 with capital Hanoi with 103,238 inhabitants.

FOOTNOTE: The issue date 1900 included 100 proof strikes.

FOOTNOTE: The monetary unit is the piastre divided into 100 centimes. The chief native coin is the sapek of zinc or tin, six hundred of which strung together form a ligature, a tenth of which is called a tien. The piastre is worth 2700 sapeks. *Encyclopedia Britannica, Eleventh Edition, N.Y. 1910.*



**1920 - 10 CENTIMES
SAN FRANCISCO MINT**

FRENCH INDO-CHINA, PROTECTORATE of
SAN FRANCISCO MINT

10 CENT. 19MM .400 FINE 3.0 GRAMS

1920 10,000,000

▲OV: Seated Liberty holding fasces, REPUBLIQUE FRANCAIS (French Republic) around / BARRE 1920 below.

▼RV: 10 / CENT. / within wreath of laurel, oak, and wheat tied with ribbon below, INDO•CHINE (Indo-China) above, FRANCAISE (France) below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = SAN FRANCISCO

DESIGNER: BARRE = Auguste Barre 1878-79

TYPE: Fineness reduced to .400

REFERENCE: Y-14A, KM-14



1928 - 10 CENTIMES - OBVERSE



1928 - 10 CENTIMES - REVERSE

FRENCH INDO-CHINA, PROTECTORATE of
PARIS MINT

10 CENT. 19MM .680 FINE 2.7 GRAMS

1921	12,515,504	VG-4966
1922	22,380,600	VG-5003
1923	21,755,368	VG-5035
1924	2,815,659	VG-5070
1925	4,909,029	VG-5113
1927	6,470,800	VG-5174
1928	1,592,863	VG-5193
1929	5,830,820	VG-5245
1930	6,607,520	VG-5270
1931	100	proof

▲OV: Seated Liberty holding fasces, REPUBLIQUE FRANCAIS (French Republic) around / BARRE below with DATE.

▼RV: 10 / CENT. / (**cornucopia**) **A** (mintmark) (torch), within wreath of laurel, oak and wheat tied with a ribbon below, .INDO.CHINE.FRANCAISE. (French Indo-China) above / TITRE (fineness) 0,680. POIDS (weight) 2 GR.7 below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (**cornucopia**) **A** = PARIS

DESIGNER: BARRE = Auguste Barre 1878-79

ENGRAVER: (torch) = Henri-Auguste Patey 1896-1930

REFERENCE: Y-16.1, KM-16.1

TYPE: Fineness increased to .680 and Engraver Patey

POPULATION: French Indo-China - 1921 - 20,268,728

FOOTNOTE: Saigon is the chief seat of French power in French Indo-China.



1937 - 10 CENTIMES - OBVERSE

FRENCH INDO-CHINA, PROTECTORATE of
PARIS MINT

10 CENT. 19MM .680 FINE 2.7 GRAMS

1937 19,538,220

▲OV: Seated Liberty holding fasces, REPUBLIQUE FRANCAIS (French Republic) around / BARRE below with 1937.

▼RV: 10 / CENT. / (**cornucopia**) (mintmark) (wing), within wreath of laurel, oak and wheat tied with a ribbon below, .INDO-CHINE•FRANCAISE. (French Indo-China) above / TITRE (fineness) 0,680. POIDS (weight) 2 GR.7 below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (**cornucopia**) = PARIS (Permanent mark for Paris since 1880)

DESIGNER: BARRE = Auguste Barre 1878-79

ENGRAVER: (wing) = Lucien Bazor 1931-1959

TYPE: Engraver: Bazor

REFERENCE: Y-16.1, KM-16.1



Ships about 1896