

SWAZILAND



1968 - 5 CENTS - OBVERSE

SWAZILAND, KINGDOM of
PRETORIAMINT

5 CENTS 17.4MM .800 FINE 2.5 GRAMS

1968 10,550 proof

^OV: Head of Sobhuza II, facing left SWAZILAND INDEPENDENCE, around above / SOBHUZA II below.

^RV: A Swazi shield and assagais (spears) / 5 c, left, 1968 right, below.

EDGE: Plain

MINT: (no mintmark) = PRETORIA

DESIGNER: Tommy Sasseen

REFERENCE: KM-1

TYPE: Commemorative of Independence

FOOTNOTE: Commemorating the Independence of Swaziland on September 6, 1968, this issue was part of 2,000 proof sets comprising 1 gold lilangeni (equal to 25 South African rands) and a silver one luhlanga along with silver 50, 20, 10, and 5 cent coins and 10,000 silver proof sets. A total of 1,450 of the the gold proof sets were melted. The monetary unit of Swaziland is the lilangeni (meaning 'founder of the nation') equal to 100 cents.

FOOTNOTE: In 1910 Swaziland entered the South African Customs Union. The population (1910) 110,746 Swazis, and about 2205 white men.



1968 - 5 CENTS - REVERSE

FOOTNOTE: Swaziland was an independent state before 1894, when it was placed under the administration of the Transvaal until 1906, then under the British High Commissioner for South Africa continuing until 1934, when under the British High Commissioner for Basutoland until the British Crown granted independence again in 1968.

FOOTNOTE: Sobhuza II, King of Swaziland became Ngwenyama (the Lion of the People) or head of the Swazi nation in 1921 after twenty years of rule by a regent, the queen mother, Lobatsibeni. He ruled the tiny mountain and valley enclave for more than 60 years until his death on August 21, 1982. He was buried in a secret mountain cave near the Royal Palace. A steadfast and traditional King, he ruled as absolute monarch of more than a half million essentially primitive and pastoral people. The King regarded as a fertility symbol, sired more than 300 children by an estimated 100 wives. Some of his wives were selected for him to keep peace among the various clans of Swaziland - and thus part of the vast Royal Family, because of the productivity of the King. Swaziland is bounded on the north, west and part of the south by the Transvaal, Natal on the south, both parts of the Union of South Africa, and by Mozambique to the east.

SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Pretoria



Swaziland within South Africa