

Prof. Osmund Bopearachchi is a Director of Research at the French National Centre for Scientific Research (C.N.R.S.-E.N.S. Paris) and also visiting professor and member of the Doctoral School VI of the Paris IV-Sorbonne University. He is a numismatist, historian and archaeologist. He holds a B.A. from the University of Kelaniya (Sri Lanka), and B.A. Honours, M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D. from the Paris I-Sorbonne University, and a Higher Doctorate (Habilitation) from the Paris IV-Sorbonne University. He has published nine books, edited six books and published 150 articles in international journals. Going beyond the traditional approach of simply cataloguing coins, he has made an attempt to link numismatics with the sculptural and pictorial iconography. These attempts made him more and more interested in diverse art forms in ancient India. The exhibition catalogues that he has edited and co-authored, international colloquia that he has organised and published and numerous research articles that he has written are the outcome of his deep-seated interest in Central Asian and South Asian archaeology, art and architecture.

Osmund Bopearachchi currently serves as the director of the Sri Lanka-French Archaeological Mission, and also has launched a joint project with the Department of Near-Eastern Studies of the University of California at Berkeley focusing on Sri Lanka's role in ancient maritime trade in the Indian Ocean. He is currently excavating the most ancient shipwreck in the Indian Ocean dating back to the 2nd century before the Common Era with the collaboration of the Department of Archaeology, Sri Lanka, INA, University Texas A & M, University of California at Berkeley) and CNRS.

Major Publications

Books:

O. Bopearachchi, *Monnaies gréco-bactriennes et indo-grecques, Catalogue raisonné*, Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris, 1991, 459 pages, 69 plates.

O. Bopearachchi, *Catalogue of Indo-Greek, Indo-Scythian and Indo-Parthian Coins of the Smithsonian Institution*, Washington D.C., 1993, 140 pages, 41 plates.

O. Bopearachchi & A. ur Rahman *Pre-Kushana Coins in Pakistan*, Iftikhar Rasul IRM Associates (Pvt.) Ltd., Karachi, 1995. 237 pages, 76 plates.

O. Bopearachchi & W. Pieper, *Ancient Indian Coins*, Brépols, Turnhout, Belgique, 1998, *Indicopleustoi*, vol. 11, 289 pages, 59 plates.

O. Bopearachchi, *Sylloge Nummorum Graecorum. Graeco-Bactrian and Indo-Greek Coins. The Collection of the American Numismatic Society, Part 9, New York, 1998, 94 pages, 76 plates.*

O. Bopearachchi & R.M. Wickremesinhhe, *Ruhuna. An Ancient Civilisation Re-visited. Numismatic and Archaeological Evidence on Inland and Maritime Trade, 1999, Colombo, 140 pages, 3 maps, 36 plates.*

O. Bopearachchi, *An Indo-Greek and Indo-Scythian Coin Hoard from Bara (Pakistan), Seattle, 2003, 104 pages, 33 plates.*

O. Bopearachchi & Philippe Flandrin, *Le Portrait d'Alexandre. Histoire d'une découverte pour l'humanité, Édition du Rocher, Monaco, 2005, 267 pages, 8 plates.*

O. Bopearachchi, *The Pleasure Gardens of Sigiriya. A New Approach, Godage Book Emporium, Colombo, 2006. 80 pages, 26 plates (Sinhalese translation, Godage Emporium, Colombo, 2008).*

Editor:

Origin, Evolution and Circulation of Foreign Coins in the Indian Ocean, edited by O. Bopearachchi et D.P.M. Weerakkody, Manohar Publishers, New Delhi, 1998, 273 pages.

Silk Road Art and Archaeology, Papers in honour of Francine Tissot, vol. 6, edited by E. Errington & O. Bopearachchi, Journal of the Institute of Silk Road Studies, Kamakura, 1999/2000, 313 pages.

Alexander's Legacy in the East. Studies in honor of Paul Bernard, Bulletin of the Asia Institute, vol. 12, edited by O. Bopearachchi, C. Altman and Fr. Grenet, Michigan, 1998, 272 pages.

Catalogue de l'Exposition : De l'Indus à l'Oxus. Archéologie de l'Asie Centrale, edited by O. Bopearachchi, C. Landes et C. Sachs, Association IMAGO - Musée de Lattes, Lattes, 2003, 419 pages.

Afghanistan. ancien carrefour entre l'Est et l'Ouest, edited by O. Bopearachchi & M.-Fr. Boussac, Archaeologies of the Indian Ocean, (Proceedings of the international colloquium on "Afghanistan. ancien carrefour entre l'Est et l'Ouest", at Musée archéologique Henri-Prades, Lattes, 5 - 7 May 2003), Turnhout, 2005, 539 pages.

The Alexander Medallion. Exploring the Origins of a Unique Artefact, edited by F. Holt and O. Bopearachchi, (Proceedings of the International Roundtable held at the Ecole normale supérieure, Paris on 26th March, 2007) Imago-Lattara, 2011, 104 pages.