

# MILANOVI ZLATNICI IZ 1879. I 1882. GODINE



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## Rezime

Nakon po Srbiju iscrpljujućih ratova sa Turskom, knez Milan Obrenović odlučuje da kuje i krupniji srebrni i zlatni novac. Odluka o kovanju ovih kovanica objašnjavala se tvrdnjom da se za plaćanja u inostranstvu neće morati kupovati skupi strani novac jer će ovaj biti priznat po nominali i izvan Srbije. Zakonom o srpskim narodnim novcima koga je knez Milan potvrdio 10. decembra 1878. godine, uvode se nove vrste metalnog novca u novčani sistem Srbije: u zlatu od 10 i 20 dinara, u srebru od 5 dinara i u bakru od 2 pare.

Sve vrste ovih kovanica iskovane su 1879. godine, jedino je zlatnik od 10 dinara izrađen kada je knez Milan postao kralj i nosi oznaku 1882. godina. Zlatnika od 20 dinara iskovano je samo 50.000 komada i bio je zakonsko sredstvo plaćanja u Kneževini i Kraljevini Srbiji kao i u Kraljevini Srba, Hrvata i Slovenaca, odnosno u Kraljevini Jugoslaviji pune 52 godine. U 1882. godini iskovano je 500.000 komada zlatnika od 10 dinara i 200.000 komada zlatnika od 20 dinara. Oni su nazvani Milandori i zvanično sredstvo plaćanja bili su do 28. juna 1931. godine.

**Ključne reči:** 10 dinara u zlatu, 20 dinara u srebru, kovnica, emitovanje, Milandor, knez, kralj Milan Obrenović, Srbija

**JEL:** E42, N23



Zlatni novac - 20 dinara - 1879.  
Težina - 6,45161 gr  
Prečnik - 21 mm  
Sastav - 900/1000 zlato

Golden coin - 20 dinars - 1879  
Weight - 6.45161 grams  
Diameter - 21 mm  
Structure - 900/1000 gold

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# MILAN'S 1879 AND 1882 GOLD COINS

## Summary

Following the exhausting wars against Turkey, Prince Milan Obrenović decided to mint larger denominations of silver and gold coins. The decision on minting these coins was explained by the fact that for the purpose of foreign payments, the expensive foreign money will no longer have to be purchased, given that the Serbian money will be recognized at its nominal value outside Serbia as well. The Law on the Serbian National Money confirmed by Prince Milan on December 10<sup>th</sup> 1878 introduced new types of metal coins into the monetary system of Serbia: 10 and 20 dinars in gold, 5 dinars in silver, and 2 paras in copper.

All these coins were minted in 1879, except for the 10-dinar gold coin, minted when Prince Milan became the King, bearing the inscription of 1882. There were only 50,000 pieces of the 20-dinar gold coins minted, and it was legal tender in the Principality and Kingdom of Serbia, as well as in the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, and in the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, for full 52 years. In 1882 there were 500,000 pieces of 10-dinar gold coins and 200,000 pieces of 20-dinar gold coins minted. They were named Milandors, and were used as official legal tender until June 28<sup>th</sup> 1931.

**Keywords:** 10 dinars in gold, 20 dinars in silver, coins, issuing, Milandor, Prince, King Milan Obrenović, Serbia

JEL: E42, N23

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Lako je Srbija bila privredno i finansijski iscrpljena posle ratova sa Turskom, knez Milan Obrenović se odlučuje za kovanje i krupnijeg srebrnog, ali i zlatnog novca. Odluka o kovanju ovih kovanica objašnjavala se tvrdnjom da se za plaćanja u inostranstvu neće morati kupovati skupi strani novac jer će ovaj biti priznat po nominali i izvan Srbije. Zakonom o srpskim narodnim novcima koga je knez Milan potvrdio 10. decembra 1878. godine, uvode se nove vrste metalnog novca u novčani sistem Srbije: u zlatu od 10 i 20 dinara, u srebru od 5 dinara i u bakru od 2 pare.

Sve vrste ovih kovanica iskovanе su 1879. godine, jedino zlatnik od 10 dinara izrađen je kada je knez Milan postao kralj i nosi oznaku 1882. godina. Kao i ostali novac iz 1868. i 1875. godine i ovi su po sadržaju, veličini i težini kovani po načelima i odredbama Pariske novčane konvencije iz 1865. godine.

U Narodnoj skupštini raspravljano je o nazivu zlatnog novca. Predlagano je da se zovu: perper, dukat, Obrenovac, Milanovac, srbnjak i srblljak. Osim toga, za zlatnik od 10 dinara u opticaju je bio predlog "zlatica Milanče" a za zlatnik od 20 dinara "zlatica Milan". U raspravi se išlo i tako daleko da su neki smatrali da nije zgodno da naziv zlatnog novca bude ženskog roda, odnosno da se u njegovom nazivu nalazi reč zlatica. Na kraju je usvojen predlog Finansijskog odbora da bude: "MILANOV ZLATNIK".

Kako bi zadržao zlatni novac u opticaju i sačuvao ga od teaurisanja, zakonodavac je odredio gornju granicu do koje se, pri jednom plaćanju, može koristiti srebrni novac: od 5 dinara do iznosa od 500 dinara, a sitan srebrni novac do iznosa od 50 dinara. Usledila je i naredba ministra finansija, od 1. januara 1882. godine, kojom se precizira da državne blagajne nisu dužne da od jednog lica, u jednom plaćanju, primaju više od 500 dinara u srebrnom novcu od 5 dinara niti više od 100 dinara u srebru od 1 i 2 dinara.

Zakonom (član 16) je određeno da će se novac drugih država, iskovan po istim standardima, primati samo pod uslovom ako i te zemlje primaju srpski novac, a gde to nije slučaj vrednost stranog novca će se određivati propisom. Međutim, ovaj član Zakona nije bilo lako sprovesti jer je Srbija prihvatila načela i odredbe Pariske novčane konvencije da novac kuje po istim merilima kao i druge zemlje potpisnice Konvencije. Već 9. februara 1879. godine novom uredbom (tzv. tarifom) određeno je da se zlatni novac Francuske, Belgije, Italije, Švajcarske i Grčke prima u dinarskom tečaju za istu vrednost.

Prema potpisanom ugovoru zlatnici i srebrnici trebalo je da se kuju u Parizu pod francuskom državnom kontrolom. Međutim, nastale su poteškoće u realizaciji ugovora oko kovanja zlatnika te je prva i jedina količina srpskog zlatnika od 20 dinara iz 1879. godine u vrednosti od 1 milion dinara iskovana u francuskoj državnoj kovnici u Parizu. Dalje kovanje precizirano je novim ugovorom s tim da se umesto zlatnika iskuju prvo srebrni i bakarni novac.

Zlatni novac - 20 dinara - 1879.

Težina - 6,45161 gr

Prečnik - 21 mm

Sastav - 900/1000 zlato

Golden coin - 20 dinars - 1879

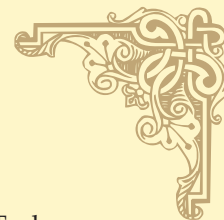
Weight - 6.45161 grams

Diameter - 21 mm

Structure - 900/1000 gold







Although Serbia was economically and financially exhausted after the wars against Turkey, Prince Milan Obrenović decided to mint larger denominations of silver and gold coins. The decision on minting these coins was explained by the fact that for the purpose of foreign payments, the expensive foreign money will no longer have to be purchased, given that the Serbian money will be recognized at its nominal value outside Serbia as well. The Law on the Serbian National Money confirmed by Prince Milan on December 10<sup>th</sup> 1878 introduced new types of metal coins into the monetary system of Serbia: 10 and 20 dinars in gold, 5 dinars in silver, and 2 paras in copper.

All these coins were minted in 1879, except for the 10-dinar gold coin, minted when Prince Milan became the King, bearing the inscription of 1882. Like the other coins from 1868 and 1875, in terms of content, size and weight, these coins were minted pursuant to the principles and provisions of the 1865 Paris Monetary Convention.

The National Assembly deliberated the name for the new gold coins. The proposed names included: *perpera*, *ducat*, *Obrenovac*, *Milanovac*, *srbnjak*, and *srbljak*. Moreover, for the 10-dinar gold coin the proposed name was “*zlatica Milanče*”, and for the 20-dinar gold coin “*zlatica Milan*”. The discussion went so far that some claimed it was inappropriate for the name to be feminine when it comes to grammatical gender, i.e. to contain the word “*zlatica*”. Finally, the proposal of the Financial Board was adopted to name it: “*MILANOV ZLATNIK*” (Milan’s gold coin).

In order to keep gold coins in circulation and preserve it from immobilization, the legislator set the ceiling up to which, within a single payment, one can use silver money: up to 500 dinars when it came to 5-dinar coins, and up to 50 dinars when it came to small denominations of silver coins. This was followed by a decree of the Minister of Finance, as of January 1<sup>st</sup> 1882, prescribing that the state treasuries were not obliged to accept from a single person, within a single payment, more than 500 dinars in silver 5-dinar coins or more than 100 dinars in 1- and 2-dinar silver coins.

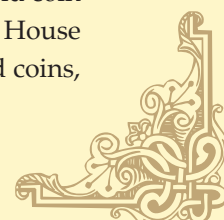
The Law (Article 16) prescribed that the money of other countries, minted according to the same standards, will be accepted only on the condition that these countries accept the Serbian money, and where that was not the case, the value of foreign money was to be determined by a separate regulation. However, this article of the Law was difficult to implement because Serbia accepted the principles and provisions of the Paris Monetary Convention, obliging it to mint money according to the same rules as the other countries that signed the Convention. Already on February 9<sup>th</sup> 1879 a new decree (the so-called tariff) prescribed that the gold coins from France, Belgium, Italy, Switzerland and Greece are to be accepted in the dinar circulation at par value.

According to the signed contract, the gold and silver coins were supposed to be minted in Paris, under French national supervision. However, due to some difficulties in the implementation of the contract related to gold coins minting, the first and only tranche of the Serbian 20-dinar gold coin from 1879, in the amount of 1 million dinars, was minted in the French National Minting House in Paris. Further minting was arranged by a new contract, stipulating that, instead of gold coins, the silver and copper ones should be minted first.



Portret kralja Milana u gardijskoj đeneralskoj uniformi,  
Atelje Adela, Beč, oko 1889.

Portrait of King Milan in a general's uniform,  
Adèle Atelier, Vienna, around 1889





Zlatnika od 20 dinara iskovano je samo 50.000 komada. Sastav legure je zlato 900/1000, težine 6,45161 gr i prečnika 21 mm. Na licu kovanice u desnom profilu je lik vladaoca - kneza Milana sa unaokolo natpisom: MILAN M. OBRENOVIĆ IV. KNJAZ SRPSKI. Ispod lika je prezime gravera -TASSET ispisano latinicom. Novac ima po obodu niz tačkica. Naličje sadrži brojčanu vrednost novca arapskim brojevima, naziv kovanice i godinu serije. Sve je okruženo vencem čija je leva strana od lovorovih, a desna od hrastovih grančica. Grančice su dole povezane trakom, a gore se između njih nalazi kruna. Ispod trake je znak kovnice. Obod je gladak sa ispupčenim natpisom BOG ČUVA SRBIJU. Ovaj novac bio je zakonsko sredstvo plaćanja u Kneževini i Kraljevini Srbiji kao i u Kraljevini Srba, Hrvata i Slovenaca, odnosno u Kraljevini Jugoslaviji pune 52 godine.

Po Zakonu o srpskim narodnim novcima Srbija je nastavila da kuje zlatan novac, sada sa oznakom 1882. godine, a povodom proglašenja kneza Milana za kralja Srbije (22. februara, odnosno 6. marta 1882. godine). Vlada je ugovorila kovanje 500.000 komada zlatnika od 10 dinara i 200.000 komada zlatnika od 20 dinara. Odlučeno je da se kovanje obavi u Carsko-kraljevskoj glavnoj kovnici u Beču. Ovi zlatnici nazvani su Milandori.

Na licu oba zlatnika je u desnom profilu lik kralja Milana, a naokolo piše: MILAN I KRALJ SRBIJE. Ispod lika je ime gravera A. SCHARFF. Po ivici površine su tačkice u krugu. Na naličju je oznaka vrednosti arapskim brojevima, naziv novčane jedinice i godina serije. Sve je okruženo vencem, s leve strane lovorovim a sa desne hrastovim grančicama. U gornjem delu nalazi se kruna, a grančice dole povezane su trakom. Ispod trake je oznaka kovnice. Obod zlatnika od 10 dinara je nazubljen, a kod 20 dinara je gladak sa ispupčenim natpisom BOG ČUVA SRBIJU.

Sa sigurnošću se ne može tvrditi da je količina otkovanih kovanica i emitovana jer je nakon puštanja u opticaj druge partije zlatnika, 2. decembra 1882. godine, usledilo još jedno, ali nema sačuvanih podataka o njihovoj količini. Zvanično sredstvo plaćanja bili su do 28. juna 1931. godine, međutim, znatne količine iz platnog prometa izgubile su se mnogo ranije.



Portret kralja Milana u generalskoj uniformi, Petar M. Arandelović, Niš, oko 1885.

Portrait of King Milan in a general's uniform, Petar M. Arandelović, Niš, around 1885

Zlatni novac - 10 dinara - 1882.

Težina - 3,2258 gr

Prečnik - 19 mm

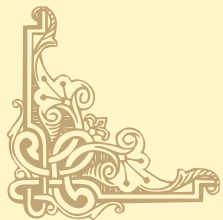
Sastav - 900/1000 zlato

Golden coin - 10 dinars - 1882

Weight - 3,2258 grams

Diameter - 19 mm

Structure - 900/1000 gold







There were only 50,000 pieces of the 20-dinar gold coins minted. The composition of the alloy is 900/1000 gold, 6.45161 grams of weight, and 21 mm in diameter. The obverse side of the coin features the right profile of the ruler - Prince Milan, with the encircling inscription: MILAN M. OBRENOVIĆ IV PRINCE OF SERBIA. Below is the engraver's last name - TASSET, in Latin. The coin has a series of dots on its rim. The reverse features the denomination written in Arabic numerals, the name of the coin and the year of the series. This is all encircled by a wreath, whose left side is made of laurel, and the right one of oak branches. The branches are tied by a ribbon, and above, in between them there is a crown. Below the ribbon there is the logo of the minting house. The rim of the coin is smooth with a protuberant inscription GOD SAVE SERBIA. These coins were legal tender in the Principality and Kingdom of Serbia, as well as in the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, and in the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, for full 52 years.

Pursuant to the Law on the Serbian National Money, Serbia continued to mint gold coins, now bearing the inscription of the year 1882, marking the occasion of Prince Milan's inauguration as the King of Serbia (on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, i.e. March 6<sup>th</sup> 1882). The Government arranged the minting of 500,000 pieces of 10-dinar gold coins and 200,000 pieces of 20-dinar gold coins. It was decided for the coins to be minted in the Main Imperial and Royal Minting House in Vienna. These gold coins were named Milandors.

Both of these coins feature the right profile of King Milan, with the encircling inscription: MILAN I KING OF SERBIA. Below is the engraver's name - A. SCHARFF. The coins have a series of dots on their rim. The reverse features the denomination written in Arabic numerals, the name of the monetary unit and the year of the series. This is all encircled by a wreath, whose left side is made of laurel, and the right one of oak branches. Above it is a crown, and below the branches are tied with a ribbon. Below the ribbon is the logo of the minting house. The rim 10-dinar gold coin has a ragged rim, whereas the 20-dinar one has a smooth rim with a protuberant inscription GOD SAVE SERBIA.

It cannot be claimed with absolute certainty that the entire amount of minted coins was actually issued, although the first release into circulation of the second series of gold coins, on December 2<sup>nd</sup> 1882, was followed by another one, given that there are no preserved data about their exact amount. They remained official legal tender until June 28<sup>th</sup> 1931, yet, substantial amounts disappeared from the payment system much earlier.



Zlatni novac - 20 dinara - 1882.  
Težina - 6,45161 gr  
Prečnik - 21 mm  
Sastav - 900/1000 zlato  
Golden coin - 20 dinars - 1882  
Weight - 6.45161 grams  
Diameter - 21 mm  
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