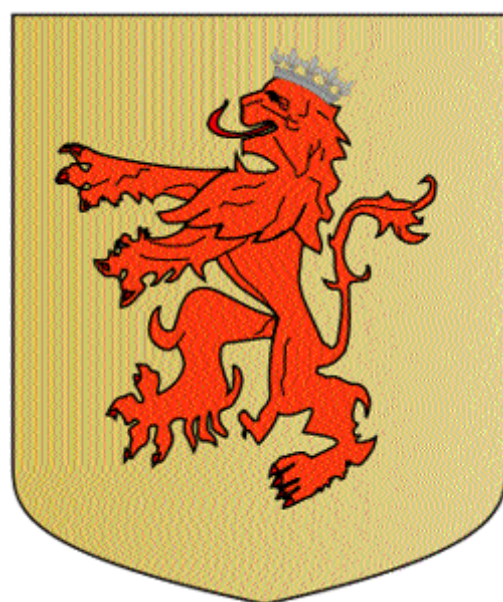


CILICIAN  
ARMENIA  
ԿԻԼԻԿԵԱՆ  
ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆ  
1080-1375 A.D.



The Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia (also known as Little Armenia; not to be confused with the Armenian Kingdom of Antiquity) was a state formed in the Middle Ages by Armenian refugees fleeing the Seljuk invasion of Armenia. It was located on the Gulf of Alexandretta of the Mediterranean Sea in what is today southern Turkey. The kingdom remained independent from around 1078 to 1375.

The Kingdom of Cilicia was founded by the Rubenian dynasty, an offshoot of the larger Bagratid family that at various times held the thrones of Armenia and Georgia. Their capital was Sis. Cilicia was a strong ally of the European Crusaders, and saw itself as a bastion of Christendom in the East. It also served as a focus for Armenian nationalism and culture, since Armenia was under foreign occupation at the time.

King Levon I of Armenia helped cultivate Cilicia's economy and commerce as its interaction with European traders grew. Major cities and castles of the kingdom included the port of Korikos, Lampron, Partzerpert, Vahka (modern Feki), Hromkla, Tarsus, Anazarbe, Til Hamdoun, Mamistra (modern Misis: the classical Mopsuestia), Adana and the port of Ayas (Aias) which served as a Western terminal to the East. The Pisans, Genoese and Venetians established colonies in Ayas through treaties with Cilician Armenia in the thirteenth century.[3] Marco Polo, for example, set out on his journey to China from Ayas in 1271.

For a short time in the 1st century BCE the powerful kingdom of Armenia was able to conquer a vast region in the Levant, including the area of Cilicia. In 83 BCE, after a bloody strife for the throne of Syria, governed by the Seleucids, the Hellenic Syrians decided to choose the Armenian ruler Tigranes the Great as the protector of their kingdom and offered him the crown of Syria. Tigranes then conquered Phoenicia and Cilicia, effectively putting an end to the Seleucid Empire, though a few holdout cities appear to have recognized the shadowy boy-king Seleucus VII Philometor as the legitimate king during his reign. The southern border of his domain reached as far as Ptolemais (modern Akko). Many of the inhabitants of conquered cities were sent to his new metropolis of Tigranakert (Latin name, Tigranocerta).

At its height his empire extended from the Pontic Alps (in modern north-eastern Turkey) to Mesopotamia, and from the Caspian to the Mediterranean. Tigranes apparently invaded as far as Ecbatana and took the title king of kings which, at the time, according to their coins, even the Parthian kings did not assume. From the time of his conquests, some Armenian settlements are thought to have remained in the region of Cilicia.

Cilicia was reconquered from the Arabs by the Byzantine Emperor Nicephorus II Phocas around 965. He expelled the Muslims living there, and Christians from Syria and Armenia were encouraged to settle in the region. Emperor Basil II (976-1025) attempted to expand into Armenian Vaspurakan in the East and Arab-held Syria towards the south. As a result of the Byzantine military campaigns, the Armenians spread into Cappadocia and eastward from Cilicia into the mountainous areas of northern Syria and Mesopotamia.

The Armenian immigration increased with the formal annexation of Greater Armenia to the Byzantine Empire in 1045 and the Seljuk conquest 19 years thereafter, giving two new waves of migration. [5] After the fall of Bagratid Armenia, and during the following centuries, the Armenian state was unable to re-establish itself and its sovereignty. It remained under the rule of Turkic tribes.

The Armenians came to serve the Byzantines as military officers and governors; they were given control of important cities on the Byzantine Empire's eastern frontier. When Imperial power in the region weakened in the chaotic years after the Battle of Manzikert, some of them seized the opportunity to set themselves up as sovereign Lords, while others remained, at least in name, loyal to the Empire. The most successful of these early Armenian warlords was Philaretos Brachamios, a former general of Romanus IV Diogenes. Between 1078 and 1085 Philaretus built a principality stretching from Malatya in the north to Antioch in the south, and from Cilicia in the west to Edessa in the east.

He invited many Armenian nobles to settle in his territory, and gave them land and castles. The state that Philaretus had created had begun to crumble even before his death in 1090. and after his death the remains of his dominion disintegrated into local lordships.

One of those princes was Ruben, who had close ties with the last Bagratuni Dynasty Armenian king, Gagik II. He thought that he would never be able to reinstate the Bagratid kingdom, so he rebelled against the Byzantine Empire in Cilicia. He rallied with him many other Armenian landlords and nobles. Thus, in 1080, the foundations of the independent Armenian principality of Cilicia, and of the future kingdom, were laid under Ruben's leadership and that of his descendants (who would be called Rubenids).

By the end of the 11th century, upon Ruben's death in 1095, there were several important Armenian principalities in the area:

Lampron (after Namrun, now Camliyayla) and Babaron (Candir Kale), located at the southern end of the Cilician Gates, were controlled by the former Byzantine general Oshin, the founder of the important Hethumid dynasty.

To the north east was the principality of Constantine I of Armenia, the son of Prince Rouben I. His power was based around the fortresses of Partzaper and Vahka.

Further to the north east, and outside of Cilicia, was the principality of Marash (modern Kahramanmaraş). It was ruled by Thatoul, a former Byzantine official.

East of Maras, the Armenian Gogh Vasil (Basil the Robber) held the fortresses of Raban (modern Altınkale) and Kesoun as a Seljuk vassal.

To the north of these, on the Upper Euphrates, lay the principality of Malatya (Melitene), held by Gabriel, one of Philaretus' former officers, under Seljuk overlordship.

Finally, beyond Malatya, was Edessa, controlled by Thoros, another of Philaretus' officers, and son-in-law of Gabriel of Malatya.

With the exception of Gogh Vasil and Constantine, these Armenian lords were alienated from most of their Armenian compatriots, and disliked by Syrian Christians, because they were either Greek Orthodox or held official titles conferred upon them by the Byzantine Emperor.

During the reign of Constantine I, the Crusaders, in retaliation for the Seljuk invasion of Jerusalem, descended upon Anatolia and the Middle East. With the First Crusade, the Armenians in Cilicia gained powerful allies among the Frankish crusaders. With their help, they secured Cilicia from the Turks, both by direct military actions in Cilicia and by establishing Crusader states in Antioch and Edessa.[7] The Armenians also helped the Crusaders, as described by Pope Gregory XIII:

Among the good deeds which the Armenian people has done towards the church and the Christian world, it should especially be stressed that, in those times when the Christian princes and the warriors went to retake the Holy Land, no people or nation, with the same enthusiasm, joy and faith came to their aid as the Armenians did, who supplied the crusaders with horses, provision and guidance. The Armenians assisted these warriors with their utter courage and loyalty during the Holy wars.

The Armenians and crusaders were partly allied, partly rivals for two centuries to come.

Eventually, there emerged some sort of centralized government in the area with the rise of the Roupenid princes. During the 12th century they were the closest thing to a ruling dynasty, and wrestled with the Byzantines for the power over the region. Prince Leo I integrated the Cilician coastal cities to the Armenian principality, thus consolidating Armenian commercial leadership in the region. He was even-

tually defeated by Emperor John II in 1137, who still considered Cilicia to be a Byzantine province, and was imprisoned with several other family members.[7] He died in prison three years later. Leon's son and successor, Thoros II, was also imprisoned, but escaped in 1141. He returned to lead the struggle with the Byzantines. Initially he was successful, but eventually, in 1158, he paid homage to Emperor Manuel I.

Cilicia had become so significant in these years, that in 1151, the head of the Armenian Church transferred his see to Hromkla.[5]

The Rubenid princes continued to rule Cilicia.

King Leo I started his reign as a Prince Leo II in 1187. He became one of the most important figures of the Cilician Armenian state. During his reign, he had to face Konya's, Aleppo's, and Damascus' rulers. By doing so, he integrated new lands to Cilicia and doubled the state's ownership of the Mediterranean coast. He also put great effort into augmenting the state's military might.

At that time, Saladin of Egypt greatly weakened the Crusader states, forcing the Europeans to launch another Crusade. Prince Leo II profited from the situation by improving relations with the Europeans. Thanks to the support given to him by the Holy Roman Emperors (Frederick Barbarossa, and his son, Henry VI), he was able to elevate the principedom's status to a kingdom. In 1198 Prince Leo II managed to secure his crown, becoming the first King of Armenian Cilicia as king Leo I.

The crown later passed to the rival Hethoumid dynasty through Leon's daughter Zabel and her second marriage to Hethoum I. At that time, the Mongols reached the Middle East and conquered Greater Armenia, Mesopotamia, Syria, and advanced towards Egypt. The Mongol conquest was disastrous for the Armenians who still inhabited Greater Armenia, but this wasn't the case for those in Cilicia, as the Mongols never attacked them. Instead, Hethoum allied, or submitted, to the Il-Khanate in 1247, and in doing so, he guaranteed the safety of the Armenians outside Cilicia.

Hetoum and his forces fought together with the Franks of Bohemond VI (Principality of Antioch) under the Mongols of Hulagu, in the conquest of Muslim Syria and the capture of Aleppo and Damascus in 1259-1260. Hetoum even attempted, in vain, to convert the Mongols to Christianity.

In 1266, the Mamluk leader Baibars summoned Hetoum I to abandon his allegiance to the Mongols, to accept Mamluk suzerainty, and remit to the Mamluks the territories and fortresses Hetoum had acquired through his submission to the Mongols. Following these threats, Hetoum I went to the Mongol court of the Il-Khan in Persia to obtain military support. During his absence however, the Mamluks marched on Cilician Armenia, led by Mansur II and the Mamluk commander Qalawun, and defeated the Armenians at the Disaster of Mari, causing great devastation to the country. Soon after, the huge 1268 Cilicia earthquake devastated the country.

In 1269, Hetoum I abdicated in favour of his son Leon II, who was forced to pay large annual tributes to the Mamluks. Even with the tributes though, the Mamluks continued to attack Cilicia every few years.

In 1281, following the defeat of the Mongols and the Armenians under Möngke Temur against the Mamluks at the Second Battle of Homs, a truce was forced on Armenia by the Mamluks. Further, in 1285, following a powerful offensive by Qalawun, the Armenians had to sign a 10 year truce, which left many Armenian fortresses to the Mamluks, prohibited them to build defensive fortifications, and forced them to trade with the Mamluks, thereby circumventing the trade embargo imposed by the Pope. The Mamluks kept raiding Cilician Armenia on numerous occasions however. In 1292 Cilician Armenia was invaded by Khalil, the Mamluk sultan of Egypt, who had conquered the Kingdom of Jerusalem the year before, and Hromkla was sacked, forcing the Holy See to move to Sis. Hethum

was forced to abandon Behesni, Marash and Tel Hamdoun to the Turks. In 1293, he abdicated in favour of his brother Thoros III and entered the monastery of Mamistra.

In the summer of 1299, Hetoum I's grandson, King Hetoum II of Armenia, again facing threats of attack by the Mamluks, sent a message to the Mongol khan of Persia, Ghâzân to obtain his support. In response, Ghazan marched with his forces towards Syria and sent letters to the Franks of Cyprus (the King of Cyprus, and the heads of the Knights Templar, the Hospitallers and the Teutonic Knights), inviting them to come join him in his attack on the Mamluks in Syria.

The Mongols successfully took the city of Aleppo, where they were joined by King Hetoum, whose forces included some Templars and Hospitallers from the kingdom of Armenia, who participated in the rest of the offensive. The combined force then defeated the Mamluks in the Battle of Wadi al-Khazandar, on December 23 or 24, 1299. The bulk of the Mongol army then had to retreat, probably because their horses needing grazing room. In their absence, the Egyptian Mamluks regrouped, and then retook the area in May 1300.

In 1303, the Mongols tried again to capture Syria, this time in greater strength (about 80,000) together with the Armenians, but they were defeated at Homs on March 30, 1303, and at the decisive Battle of Shaqhab, south of Damas, on April 21, 1303.[18] It is considered to be the last major Mongol invasion of Syria.

When the Mongol leader Ghazan died on May 10, 1304, dreams of a rapid reconquest of the Holy Land were destroyed.

Hetoum II abdicated in favour of his nephew Levon III and became a Franciscan monk. In 1307 Hetoum II, his nephew Levon III, and his entire entourage were murdered by Bularghu, the Mongol's representative in Armenian Cilicia and a recent convert to Islam, while visiting Bularghu's encampment just outside Anavarza.

In 1198, a Union was proclaimed between Rome and the Armenian Church by the Armenian catholicos of Sis Grigor VI Apirat. This was not followed in deeds however, as the local clergy and populace was strongly opposed to such a union.

Numerous Roman Catholic missions were also sent to Cilician Armenia to help with rapprochement, with limited results. The Franciscans were put in charge of this missions. John of Monte Corvino himself arrived in Cilician Armenia in 1288.[21] The Armenian king Hethoum II would himself become a Franciscan monk upon his abdication. The Armenian historian Nerses Balients was a Franciscan and a member of the "Unitarian" mouvement advocating unification with the Latin Church.

Again in 1441, long after the fall of the Kingdom, the Armenian Catholicos of Sis Grigor IX Musabekiants proclaimed the union of the Armenian and Latin churches at the Council of Florence, but this was countered by an Armenian schism under Kirakos I Virapetsi, who installed the Catholicos see at Edjmiatzin, and maginalized Sis.

Contact with crusaders from Western Europe, particularly France, brought important new influences on Armenian culture. The Cilician nobility eagerly adopted many aspects of Western European life, including chivalry, fashions in clothing and the use of French Christian names. The linguistic influence was so great that two new letters were added to the Armenian alphabet. The structure of Cilician society became closer to Western feudalism than to the traditional nakharar system of Armenia in which the king was merely "first among equals" among the nobility. In other areas, there was more hostility to the new trends. Above all, most ordinary Armenians frowned on conversion to Roman Catholicism or Greek Orthodoxy. The Cilician period also produced some important examples of Armenian art, notably the illuminated manuscripts of Toros Roslin, who was at work in Hromkla in the 13th century.

The Hethoumids ruled Cilicia until the murder of Leo IV in 1341. In spite of his alliance with the Chris-

tian Kingdom of Cyprus, Leo IV was unable to resist the attacks of the Egyptian Mameluks. In 1341, his cousin Guy Lusignan was elected king. The Lusignan dynasty was of French origin, and already had a foothold in the area, the Island of Cyprus. There had always been close relations between the Lusignans of Cyprus and the Armenians. However, when the pro-Latin Lusignans took power, they tried to impose Catholicism and the European way of life. The Armenian leadership largely accepted this, but the peasantry opposed the changes. Eventually, this led way to civil strife.

In the late 14th century, Cilicia was invaded by the Mameluks. The fall of Sis in April, 1375 put an end to the kingdom; its last King, Leo V, was granted safe passage and died in exile in Paris in 1393 after calling in vain for another Crusade. The title was claimed by his cousin, James I of Cyprus, uniting it with the titles of Cyprus and Jerusalem. Thus ended the last fully independent Armenian entity of the Middle Ages after three centuries of sovereignty and bloom. Although the Egyptian Mameluks had taken over Cilicia, they were unable to maintain their hold on it. Turkic tribes eventually made their way to the region and established themselves there, leading to the conquest of Cilicia by Tamerlane. As a result, 30000 wealthy Armenians left Cilicia and settled in Cyprus, which continued to be under French rule until 1489. Only the humbler Armenians remained in Cilicia, and by doing so, conserved the Armenian foothold in the region until the Armenian genocide of 1915. Their descendants are now dispersed in the Armenian diaspora, and the Holy See of Cilicia is now based in Antelias, Lebanon.

# Ruben (or Rupen) I, Lord of the Mountains -1080-1095

Ruben I (also transliterated Rupen or Roupén in Western Armenian from Armenian: 1025–1095) was the founder of the Kingdom of Cilician Armenia. Initially lord of Gobidar and Goromosol, he declared independence when he launched a rebellion against the Byzantine Empire in 1080 and seized the fortress of Partzerpert. Born in Armenia, Ruben was likely a member of the Bagratuni Dynasty that had ruled in Cilicia after the fall of Ani in 1045. He was related to, maybe a son of Gagik II, the last King of Ani.

Ruben died in 1095 and was buried at the monastery of Castalon. His son Constantine I of Armenia succeeded him.



## CILICIAN ARMENIA

RUPEN I - 1080-1095

AE Pogh 21mm, 1.40g. Tentatively attributed to Roupén.

Note that obverse, reverse, and orientation may be wrong.

Obverse: Simple latin cross. Inscription illegible and indecipherable.

Reverse Simple latin cross. Inscription illegible and indecipherable.

## **GOSDANTIN - 1095-1100**

Constantine I (Western Armenian transliteration: Gosdantin or Kostantine; died January 24, 1102) succeeded his father Roupen I as Prince of Armenian Cilicia in 1095.

He began his reign by capturing the castle of Vahka on the upper Seyhoun River, allowing him to tax goods traveling from Ayas to the interior. Throughout his reign, he continued to expand his control over Cilicia. Upon the arrival of the First Crusade, he supplied the Crusaders with provisions and other aid, and was rewarded with the titles of Count and Baron. He had four children:

Beatrice, married Joscelin I of Edessa.

Thoros I (d. 1129), succeeded him.

Levon I (d. 1140)



### **CILICIAN ARMENIA**

Gosdantin I - 1095-1100

AE Pogh 20-22 mm.

Tentatively attributed to Gosdantin I. Note that obverse, reverse, and orientation may be wrong.

Obverse: Simple latin cross (Pellets in field?). Inscription illegible and indecipherable.

Reverse: Simple latin cross (Pellets in field?). Inscription illegible and indecipherable.

**TOROS I - 1100-1123**

**LEVON I - 1123-1138**

**BYZANTINE OCCUPATION - 1138-1144**

**TOROS II - 1144-1168**

**MLEH - 1169-1174**

**No Coin Specimens for Above Rulers**



# ROUPEN III - 1174-1187

Roupen III (1145-1186) was prince of the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia, ruling from 1174 to 1186. He was the son of Stephen of Armenia and Rita of Barbaron. During the reign of Mleh, he took refuge with his mother's kinsmen in Barbaron. After Mleh's assassination, Ruben was invited by the barons to take the throne.

His generosity and good nature won him much good will, and he recaptured Mamistra, Adana, and Tarsus. He pretended to offer a great reward to the murderers of Mleh, but when they revealed themselves, he had them put to death, an episode reminiscent of King David's dealings with the murderers of Ishbosheth.

In 1181, he travelled to the Kingdom of Jerusalem, where he took to wife Isabella of Toron, sister of Humphrey IV of Toron. By her he had two daughters:

Alice (born 1182), who was married

firstly to Hathum of Sasun and

secondly to Raymond IV of Tripoli, eldest son of Bohemund III of Antioch (their son was Raymond-Roupen of Antioch)

Philippa of Armenia (born 1183), who married Theodore I Komnenos Laskaris, Emperor of Nicea.

Around 1185, he experienced trouble from the alliance of Hethum of Lampron, one of his barons, and Bohemond III of Antioch. His brother Leo was dispatched to besiege Lampron, but Ruben himself was taken prisoner by Bohemond, either by treachery or (according to Smbat Sparapet) while visiting prostitutes in Antioch. He was subsequently ransomed, but as part of the conditions of his release, had to surrender Saravantikar, T'il, and Chkar to Bohemond.

In 1185 Ruben retired to the monastery of Trazarg. On his death he was succeeded by his brother Leo I.



## CILICIAN ARMENIA

Roupen II - 1174-1187

AE Pogh 22 mm. 2.35g

Note that, reverse orientation may be wrong.

Obverse: Fortress or Turret or Battlement. Inscription illegible and indecipherable. "Rouben son of Stephen."

Reverse: Simple latin cross. Inscription illegible and indecipherable. "By the Will of God"

# LEVON II - 1187-1199

Leo I or Leon I ( Eastern transliteration: Levon Metsagorts, Western trans.: Levon Medzakordz; 1150 – 2 or 5 May 1219), called the Magnificent, was the Prince of Cilicia, as Leo II, from 1187 and first King of Cilicia from 1199 until his death.

Leo became "Lord of the Mountains" (ruler of Cilician Armenia) in 1187, his brother Ruben III of Armenia resigning the crown to him shortly before his death. He was initially the 'Regent and Tutor' for his nieces, Alice and Philippa, but later he set them aside and had himself crowned on January 6, 1199.

On 3 February 1189 Leo married with a lady called Isabelle. Her origins are unclear (her surname "of Austria", indicate a possibly German origin); the only certain about her is she was the daughter of a brother of Sybille, third wife of the Prince Bohemund III of Antioch. The marriage only produced a daughter, Stephanie (also called Rita), born after 1195 and later married John of Brienne. With the onset of the Third Crusade, he opened negotiations with Frederick Barbarossa to receive the title of King of Armenia, but Frederick's drowning at the Saleph River in Cilicia forestalled the plan. This represented a significant shift in Armenian policy, which had traditionally looked towards the Byzantine empire for authority. Leo is also said to have attended the wedding of Richard the Lionhearted in Cyprus as a groomsman in 1191.



In 1194, Leo seized the castle of Bagras, on the northern border of the Principality of Antioch, which had been captured by Saladin in 1189. Bohemund III of Antioch and the Knights Templar, its original owners, demanded its return. Leo lured Bohemund to Bagras under pretense of a parley, captured him, and imprisoned him in Sis. Under duress, Bohemund was compelled to cede the Principality to Leo. Bohemund was subsequently released through the mediation of Henry II of Champagne, but was forced to abandon all claims to the suzerainty of Armenia. In addition, the two entered into a marital alliance in 1195. Bohemund's son Raymond married Alice of Armenia, the daughter of Ruben III.

Leo continued to appeal to the new Emperor, Henry VI, and to Pope Celestine III for a royal title. These efforts were successful, and on January 6, 1199, he was crowned King of Armenia by the papal legate, Conrad of Wittelsbach, Archbishop of Mainz, in the Church of Holy Wisdom at Tarsus. He was nominally an Imperial vassal, but soon abandoned any acknowledgement of fealty.

Strife had by now broken out in Antioch; Raymond of Antioch had died in 1197, leaving a posthumous son, Raymond-Roupen of Antioch, heir to the Principality through primogeniture. However, Raymond's younger brother Bohemund, already Count of Tripoli, vigorously disputed the succession, and ejected his own father from the city in 1199. However, Leo intervened against him and restored Bohemund III to the Principality; but on his death in 1201, the younger Bohemund was recognized as Prince of Antioch as Bohemund IV. Leo attempted to capture Antioch in 1203 and place Raymond-Roupen on the throne, but he was defeated by the Knights Templar, who favored Bohemund.

In 1206, the Catholicos John of Sis accused the Queen Isabelle of adultery. Leo put to death several members of his wife's suite and personally attacked her. Their marriage was annulled and Isabelle was imprisoned on 28 January in the fortress of Vahka. She was poisoned there in 1207.

In Cyprus on 28 January 1210, Leo married secondly with the princess Sybilla of Lusignan, daughter of King Amalric II of Jerusalem, who bore him a daughter, Isabella or Zabel, on 27 January 1216. In Leo's later years

he suffered from deformed hands and feet, probably a symptom of gout.

Leo continued to support the claims of Raymond-Roupen, who had married Helvis of Lusignan, another daughter of Amalric II (by his first wife), in 1210, and had him crowned "King Junior" of Armenia on August 15, 1211. However, Bohemund's allies, including the Knights Templar, and the Ayyubid emir of Aleppo Az-Zahir always forestalled attempts to eject Bohemund from the citadel of Antioch, although Leo several times entered the city. In 1216, with the aid of the Knights Hospitaller, Leo was finally able to capture Antioch and install Raymond-Roupen as prince. Having established Raymond-Roupen with Antioch, Leo decided that his daughter Isabella, rather than Raymond-Roupen, should succeed him in Armenia. On his death on May 2, 1219 Isabella became queen, but Raymond-Roupen was ejected from Antioch and came to contest the crown.

Leo was a powerful ruler, remembered by chroniclers as "Leo the Magnificent". His court at Sis was cultured and he was a supporter of calligraphy and the arts. He allied himself with the Knights Hospitaller and the Teutonic Knights, but drove the Knights Templar from his kingdom. He fostered commerce with Venice and Genoa, opening his ports at Ayas and Corycos to the world. The Assizes of Antioch were adopted as the law of the kingdom,



**Baronial coppers of Levon II. 1187-1199**

**No Mint No Date. 19-20, 18-20, 20-21 mm.**

**Obverse:** Equestrian knight to the left in armor wielding a banner.

**ԼԵՎՈՆ ԾԱՌԱ ԱՅ** "Levon Servant of God"

**Reverse:** Cross with circles at tips, and arcs in four quadrants.

**ՍՏԵՖԱՆԻ ՍՈՐՈՒ** "Son of Stefan."



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Double Dram. (Pre 1199 from Tarsus mint?) 28mm, 5.49g.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a globus cruciger in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

**+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ** “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Lion standing left with patriarchal cross behind. Three rayed object above lion.

**+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵՆ ԱՍՏՈՒԾՈՑ** “By the Will of God”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Double Dram. (Pre 1199 from Tarsus mint?)

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a globus cruciger in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

**+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ** “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Lion standing left with patriarchal cross behind. Rosette next to lion's tail. This is not listed in Bedoukian.

**+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵՆ ԱՍՏՈՒԾՈՑ** “By the Will of God”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Double Dram. 24 mm. , 5.34 g.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a globus cruciger in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

**+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԳՐ ԱՄԵՆԱՅՆ ՀԱՅՈՑ** “Levon King of All Armenians”

Reverse: Lion standing left with patriarchal cross behind. Fieldmark crescent in front of lion.

**+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵՆ ԱՍՏՈՒԾՈՑ** “By the Will of God”

**Notes** This is a variety of double drams quite different from most, and is done in a Western style. Some think it was issued by Levon I during his Antiochian campaigns.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Double Dram. 28 mm. , 5.23 g.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a globus cruciger in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

**+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԳՐ ԱՄԵՆԱՅՆ ՀԱՅՈՑ** “Levon King of All Armenians.”

Reverse: Lion standing left with patriarchal cross behind. Rosette in front of lion and two crescents around tail (?).

**+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵՆ ԱՍՏՈՒԾՈՑ** “By the Will of God”

**Notes** This is a variety of double drams quite different from most, and is done in a Western style. Some think it was issued by Levon I during his Antiochian campaigns.





CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Double Dram. 27mm, 5.32g.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a globus cruciger in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

**+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԳՐ ԱՄԵՆԱՅՆ ՀԱՅՈՑ** “Levon King of All Armenians.”

Reverse: Lion standing left with patriarchal cross behind. Rosette in front of lion and two crescents around tail.

**+ԿՐՈՂՈՒԹԸՆ ԱՍՏՈՒԾՈՑ** “By the Will of God”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Double Dram. 27mm, 5.70g.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a globus cruciger in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

**+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԳՐ ԱՄԵՆԱՅՆ ՀԱՅՈՑ** “Levon King of All Armenians”

Reverse: Lion standing left with patriarchal cross behind. Rosette in front of lion and two crescents around tail.

**+Կ ... ԹԸՆ ԱՍՏՈՒԾՈՑ** “By the Will of God”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Double Dram. 5.59g.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a globus cruciger in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

Reverse: Lion standing left with patriarchal cross behind. Rosette in front of lion and two crescents around tail.

Reference: Bedoukian 25. Scarce in this condition. XF, with fine toning.

Estimate: 100 EUR. Price realized: 280 EUR (approx. 357 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Double Dram. 5.56g.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a globus cruciger in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

Reverse: Lion standing left with patriarchal cross behind. Rosette in front of lion and two crescents around tail.

Reverse slightly off-center. XF.

Estimate: 150 EUR. Price realized: 320 EUR (approx. 490 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Dram. 2.69g.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a globus cruciger in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

Reverse: Lion standing left with patriarchal cross behind. Mint-mark in paw and under lion.

Reference: Necessian 274. XF+

Estimation: € 100,00. Price realized: 400 EUR (approx. 570 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Dram. 2.76g.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a globus cruciger in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

Reverse: Lion standing left with patriarchal cross behind.

Reference: Necessian 274 var.. Good VF.

Estimation: € 100,00. Price realized: 120 EUR (approx. 171 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Dram. 2.38g

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a globus cruciger in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

Reverse: Lion standing right with patriarchal cross behind. Mark in paw, ball over body.

Reference: Necessian 275. Slight rim damage, good VF.

Estimation: € 200,00. Price realized: 400 EUR (approx. 570 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Dram. 3.08g.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a globus cruciger in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

Reverse: 2 lions back-to-back, facing outward, with patriarchal cross between them.

Good XF.

Estimation: € 125,00



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Dram. 2.91g

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a globus cruciger in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

Reverse: 2 lions back-to-back, facing outward, with patriarchal cross between them.

Reference: Necessian 287. VF.

Estimation: € 100,00.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Dram. 3.02g

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a globus cruciger in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

Reverse: 2 lions back-to-back, facing outward, with patriarchal cross between them.

Reference: Necessian 290. Weak strike, VF-XF.

Estimation: € 100,00



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Dram. 2.83g

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a globus cruciger in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

Reverse: 2 lions back-to-back, facing outward, with patriarchal cross between them.

Reference: Necessian 296 var. Weak strike, VF-XF.

Estimation: € 100,00



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Coronation Dram. 2.80g

Obverse: Christ or the Virgin standing on the left, king kneeling to the right. Rays of light or hand descending from above in the middle.

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: A patriarchal cross between two lions, rampant, regar-dant.

+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵՆ ԱՍՏ “By the Will of God”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Coronation Dram. 2.90g

Obverse: Christ or the Virgin standing on the left, king kneeling to the right. Rays of light or hand descending from above in the middle.

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: A patriarchal cross between two lions, rampant, regar-dant.

+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵՆ ԱՍՏ “By the Will of God”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Dram. 23mm, 2.70g.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a cross in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: A patriarchal cross between two lions, rampant, regar-dant.

+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵՆ ԱՍՏՈԾՈ “By the Will of God”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Dram. 22mm, 2.82g.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a cross in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: A patriarchal cross between two lions, rampant, regar-dant.

\*ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵՆ ԱՍՏՈՒԾՈՅ “By the Will of God”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Dram. 21mm, 3.02g. (Found in Southern Italy.)

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a cross in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: A patriarchal cross between two lions, rampant, regar-dant.

+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵՆ ԱՍՏՈՒԾ “By the Will of God”





CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Dram. 23mm, 2.91g. (Double Struck)

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a cross in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: A patriarchal cross between two lions, rampant, regar-dant.

\*ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԸ ԱՍՏՈՒԾՈՅ “By the Will of God”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Dram. 19-23mm

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a cross in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

+ԼԵ ... ՈՆ ԹԱ ... ՀԱՅՈՅ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: A patriarchal cross between two lions, rampant, regar-dant.

+ԿԱՐՈ ... Ն ԱՍ ... “By the Will of God”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Dram.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a cross in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right. *Note the very odd style of seated king, in particular the crown.*

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: A patriarchal cross between two lions, rampant, regar-dant.

+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԸ ԱՍ... “By the Will of God”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Dram. 2.65g.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a globus cruciger in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

Rev.: Crowned lion left, with patriarchal cross.

Slightly corroded, still VF.

Estimate: 50 EUR. Price realized: 90 EUR (approx. 138 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Coronation Dram. 2.82g.

Obverse: Christ or the Virgin standing on the left, king kneeling to the right. Rays of light or hand descending from above in the middle.

Reverse: A patriarchal cross between two lions, rampant, regar-dant.

Irregular flan, VF-XF.

Estimate: 50 EUR. Price realized: 170 EUR (approx. 261 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Dram. 2.94g.

Obverse: Christ or the Virgin standing on the left, king kneeling to the right. Rays of light or hand descending from above in the middle.

Reverse: A patriarchal cross between two lions, rampant, regar-dant.

Reverse slightly off-center, good VF.

Estimate: 40 EUR. Price realized: 70 EUR (approx. 107 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Dram. 2.99g.

Obverse: Christ or the Virgin standing on the left, king kneeling to the right. Rays of light or hand descending from above in the middle.

Reverse: A patriarchal cross between two lions, rampant, regar-dant.

XF.

Estimate: 50 EUR. Price realized: 110 EUR (approx. 169 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Dram. Sis mint. 2.55g.

Obv.: King riding right, with patriarchal cross.

Rev.: Lion left with patriarchal cross.

VF.

Estimate: 40 EUR. Price realized: 60 EUR (approx. 92 U.S. Dol-lars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Half Double Dram. (Pre 1199 from Tarsus mint?) 22 mm.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a cross in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Lion standing left with patriarchal cross behind.

+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵԱՍԲՆ ԱՍՏՈՒԾՈՅ “By the Will of God”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Half Double Dram. (Pre 1199 from Tarsus mint?) 22 mm, 2.75 g.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a cross in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Lion standing left with patriarchal cross behind.

+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵՆ ԱՍՏՈՒԾՈՅ “By the Will of God”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Half Double Dram. (Pre 1199 from Tarsus mint?) 22 mm, 2.54g.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a cross in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Lion standing *right* with patriarchal cross behind. Dot above lion and inverted letters ԴԻ next to lion's head.

+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵՆ ԱՍՏՈՒԾՈՅ “By the Will of God”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Half Double Dram. (Pre 1199 from Tarsus mint?) 23 mm.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a cross in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Lion standing *right* with patriarchal cross with two bars behind. Dot above lion, two dots next to lion's head and letters ԴԻ next to lion's head.

+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵՆ ԱՍՏՈՒԾՈՅ “By the Will of God”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Half Double Dram. (Pre 1199 from Tarsus mint?) 22mm, 2.71g

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a cross in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

+ԼԵԻՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ Ե “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Lion standing right with patriarchal cross with two bars behind. Letters ԴԻ next to lion's head.

+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԸՆ ԱՍՏՈՒԾՈՅ “By the Will of God”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Half Double Dram. (Pre 1199 from Tarsus mint?) 21 mm, 2.47g

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a cross in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

+ԼԵԻՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Lion standing right with patriarchal cross with two bars behind. Letters ԴԻ next to lion's head.

+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԸՆ ԱՍՏՈՒԾՈՅ “By the Will of God”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Half Dram. 16 mm, 1.30 g.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a cross in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

+ԼԵԻՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: A patriarchal cross between two lions, rampant, regardant.

+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԸՆ ԱՍՏՈՒԾՈՅ “By the Will of God”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Half Dram. 16 mm, 1.30 g.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a cross in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right.

+ԼԵԻՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: A patriarchal cross between two lions, rampant, regardant.

+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԸՆ ԱՍՏՈՒԾՈՅ “By the Will of God”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Half Dram. Sis mint. 1.04 g.

Obv.: King riding right, with patriarchal cross.

Rev.: Lion left with patriarchal cross.

Irregular flan, good VF

Estimate: 15 EUR. Price realized: 60 EUR (approx. 92 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Tank (Cu). 7.06 g.

Obverse Crowned bust of leonine king. Five dots in the crown.

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՆ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Greek cross, with stars in the field beneath.

Dark patina, XF.

Estimation: € 100,00. Price realized: 90 EUR (approx. 128 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

AE Tank. Sis mint. 29mm, 7.8gm.

Obverse: Crowned bust of leonine king. Six dots in the crown.

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՆՅ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Greek cross, with stars in the field beneath.

+ՇԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՍ Ի ՍԻՍ Ի “By the Will of God”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Tank (Cu). Sis mint. 7.11 g.

Obverse: Crowned bust of leonine king. Seven dots in the crown.

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՆՅ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Greek cross, with stars in the field beneath.

+ՇԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՍ Ի ՍԻՍ Ի “By the Will of God”

XF

Estimate: 50 EUR. Price realized: 150 EUR (approx. 230 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)





CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Cu.-Tank, Sis mint. 7.44 g.

Obverse: Crowned bust of leonine king. Five dots in the crown.

Reverse: Greek cross, with stars in the field beneath.

VF.

Estimate: 30 EUR. Price realized: 30 EUR (approx. 46 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Cu.-Tank, Sis mint. 6.39 g.

Obverse: Crowned bust of leonine king. Six dots in the crown.

Reverse: Greek cross, with stars in the field beneath.

Some green corrosion. VF-XF.

Estimate: 40 EUR. Price realized: 80 EUR (approx. 123 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon I – 1199-1219

Denier. 0.86g

Obv.: +REX ARMENOR, crowned bust of king facing.

Rev.: +LEO DEI GRATIA, cross.

Reference: (Bedoukian 10; Necessian 281; Schlumberger III:10 var). Very fine and very rare.

Estimate: £ 1000. Price realized: 2,600 GBP (approx. 5,242 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)

**REGENCY FOR ZABEL  
( UNDER BAIL GOSDANTIN)  
1219-1222**

**ZABEL AND PHILIP  
1222-1225**

***NO KNOWN COINS***

# HETOUM I – 1226-1270

**Hetoum I** (also transliterated *Hethoum*, *Hethum*, *Het'um*, or *Hayton* from Armenian: Հէթոնւմ Ա) ruled the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia from 1226 to 1270. He was the son of Constantine, Lord of Baberon and Partzapert (a third-cousin of Leo I) and was the founder of the dynasty which bears his name: the Hetoumids.

Hetoum's father Constantine had been regent for the young Queen Zabel of Armenia. Zabel originally married Philip (1222-1225), son of Bohemond IV of Antioch. However, Constantine had him disposed of, and instead forced Zabel to marry his own son, Hetoum, on June 14, 1226, which resulted in Hetoum becoming co-ruler. The couple had six children:

Leo II (died 1289)

Thoros (died at the battle of Mari in 1266 fighting the Mamluks)

Sibylla (died 1290), who married Bohemund VI of Antioch

Euphemie (died 1309), who married to Julian Grenier, Lord of Sidon

Rita of Armenia

Maria, who married Guy d'Ibelin

His sister Maria married John of Ibelin around 1240.

Hetoum dealt with the enmity of Antioch via the intervention of King Louis IX of France, by marrying his daughter Sibylla to Bohemond VI of Antioch in 1254. Antioch stayed in Armenia's sphere for the rest of its existence, until it was destroyed by the Mamluks in 1268.

During the rule of Hetoum I, the Mongols were rapidly expanding their empire in all directions, and this was bringing them closer and closer to Cilician Armenia. As the Mongols approached the borders of Cappadocia and Cilicia, King Hetoum made a strategic decision to ally (submit) to the Mongols,[2][\[3\]](#)[\[4\]](#) and sent his brother Sempad to the Mongol court in Karakorum. There, Sempad met Great Khan Guyuk, and made a formal alliance/submission in 1247 with/to the Mongols, against their common enemy the Muslims. In 1254 Hetoum himself traveled through Central Asia to Mongolia to renew the agreement.[5] He brought many sumptuous presents, and met with Mongke Khan (Guyuk's cousin) at Karakorum. The account of his travels was recorded by a member of his suite, Kirakos Gandzaketsi as "The Journey of Haithon, King of Little Armenia, To Mongolia and Back". The Journey of Hethoum was later translated into Russian, French, English,[6] and Chinese languages.

The monk Hayton of Corycus in "La Flor des Estoires d'Orient" ("The flower of the stories of the Orient") later wrote about the meeting:

"The Khan wanted to go to Jerusalem in order to deliver the Saint Lands from the Saracens and to remit it to the Christians. The king Hetoum was very happy with this request, and assembled a great score of men on foot and on horse, because, in that time, the Kingdom of Armenia was in such a good state that it easily had 12.000 soldiers on horse and 60,000 soldiers on foot".

—*"La Flor des Estoires d'Orient", circa 1300, Haiton, Doc. Arm II, p170 [7]*

On his way back from Karakorum, Hetoum visited the Mongol leader Bayju, and was present in his camp to witness Bayju's victory in Asia Minor against the Seljuq Turks.[8]

With assistance from their Christian subjects, including Georgians and Armenians, the Mongols were able to invade Syria and Mesopotamia, and capture Baghdad in 1258. Armenia also engaged in an economic battle with Egypt, for control of the spice trade.[9]



Hetoum I, together with the Frankish ruler Bohemond VI, joined the Mongols in the capture of Damascus in 1260.

Hetoum strongly encouraged other Frankish rulers to follow his example and submit to Mongol overlordship, but the only one that did was Hetoum's son-in-law, Bohemond VI, who submitted around 1259. The combined forces of the Armenians and Antiochenes fought in the Mongol Army under Hulagu, and briefly conquered Muslim Syria. They took together the city of Aleppo, and later took Damascus together with the Mongol general Kitbuqa:[10]

"The king of Armenia and the Prince of Antioch went to the military camp of the Tatars, and they went off to take Damascus".

—*Le Templier de Tyr*[11]

However, the Muslim Mamluks then rallied and defeated the Mongols at the historic battle of Ain Jalut in late 1260. The Mongols would not again capture Syria until 1299-1300, and then again would only hold it for a few months.

During the last years of Hetoum's reign, the Kingdom battled against the Mamluks, who invaded in 1266 and took 40,000 Armenians captive, including Hetoum's son, Leo, at the Disaster of Mari. Hetoum was able to ransom his son, by conceding territory to the Egyptians. In May 1268 Antioch (virtually an Armenian dependency) was also overrun and dismantled by the Egyptians.

Hetoum abdicated in 1270 in favor of his son Leo II, and lived out the rest of his life in a monastery, as a Franciscan monk.



Hetoum I (seated) in the Mongol court of Karakorum, "receiving the homage of the Mongols".[1] Miniature from "Histoire des Tartars", Hayton of Corycus, 1307.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

Dram. Citing Kaykhusraw II, A.H. 637/AD 1239 22-23 mm

Obverse: Equestrian king Hetoum wearing a crown and holding a scepter capped with a fleur-de-lis. Cross in the field behind king. Surrounding inscription in Armenian.

+ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ “Hetoum King of Armenians”

Reverse: A three line inscription, and then a counterclockwise surrounding inscription on three sides (both in Arabic) inside a dotted border. - (و ستمائة) / كيخسرو بن كيقيباد / غياث الدنيا والدين / السلطان الاعظم - (ضرب بسيس سنة سبع و ثلاثين)

The Sublime Sultan | Protector of the World and Faith | Kaykhusraw son of Kayqubad.

(Struck in Sis, the year seven and | thirty | - | and six hundred.) Notes Bears some traces of overstrike. Probably struck over a Seljuq dirham of Kayqubad from the Konya mint.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

Dram. Hetoum I citing Kaykhusraw II, A.H. 637/A.D 1239, AR Dram. 24-25 mm, 3.07g..

Obverse: Equestrian king Hetoum wearing a crown and holding a scepter capped with a fleur-de-lis. Cross in the field behind king, and crescent in front of him. Surrounding inscription in Armenian .

+ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ “Hetoum King of Armenians”

Reverse: A three line inscription, and then a counterclockwise surrounding inscription on three sides (both in Arabic) inside a dotted border. - (و ستمائة) / كيخسرو بن كيقيباد / غياث الدنيا والدين / السلطان الاعظم - (ضرب بسيس سنة سبع و ثلاثين)

The Sublime Sultan | Protector of the World and Faith | Kaykhusraw son of Kayqubad.

(Struck in Sis, the year seven and | thirty | - | and six hundred.) Notes L.A. Saryan: note the Armenian letter Hee Ծ on the coin. the style of the letter is unique to one specific die cutter.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

Dram. Hetoum I citing Kaykhusraw II, A.H. 637/A.D 1239, overstruck on a Seljuq of Rum dirham.

Obverse: Equestrian king Hetoum wearing a crown and holding a scepter capped with a fleur-de-lis. Cross in the field behind king and crescent in front of king. Dot below horse a fieldmark, or part of surviving design of Rum coin. Surrounding inscription in Armenian .

+ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ “Hetoum King of Armenians”

Reverse: A three line inscription, and then a counterclockwise surrounding inscription on three sides (both in Arabic) inside a dotted border. - (و ستمائة) / كيخسرو بن كيقيباد / غياث الدنيا والدين / السلطان الاعظم - (ضرب بسيس سنة سبع و ثلاثين)

The Sublime Sultan | Protector of the World and Faith | Kaykhusraw son of Kayqubad. (Struck in Sis, the year seven and | thirty | - | and six hundred.) Notes: Bears traces of overstrike. Struck over a Seljuq dirham of Kayqubad from the Konya mint, from about 630's A.H..



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

Dram. Hetoum I citing Kaykhusraw II, A.H. 635/A.D 1237, 2.98 g. Probably struck in Sis.

Obverse: Equestrian king Hetoum wearing a crown and holding a scepter capped with a fleur-de-lis. Cross in the field behind king, and six pointed star in front of him. Surrounding inscription in Armenian .

+ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ “Hetoum King of Armenians”

Reverse: A three line inscription, and then a counterclockwise surrounding inscription on all sides (both in Arabic) inside a dotted border. - (و ستمائة) / كيخسرو بن كيقيباد / غياث الدنيا والدين / السلطان الاعظم - (ضرب سنة خمس و ثلاثين)

The Sublime Sultan | Protector of the World and Faith | Kaykhusraw son of Kayqubad. (Struck in the year | five | and thirty | and six hundred.)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

Dram. Hetoum I citing Kaykhusraw II, A.H. 637/A.D 1239, 2.96 g.

Obverse: Equestrian king Hetoum wearing a crown and holding a scepter capped with a fleur-de-lis. Cross in the field behind king and crescent in front of king. Surrounding inscription in Armenian .

+ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ “Hetoum King of Armenians”

Reverse: A three line inscription, and then a counterclockwise surrounding inscription on three sides (both in Arabic) inside a dotted border. *السلطان الاعظم / كخسرو بن كيقباد / غياث الدنيا والدين* - | وستمائة) / (ضرب بسيس سنة سبع و | ثلاثين | The Sublime Sultan | Protector of the World and Faith | Kaykhusraw son of Kayqubad. (Struck in Sis, the year seven and | thirty | - | and six hundred.)

Bears traces of overstrike. Probably struck over a Seljuq dirham of Kayqobad. This coin appears to be an obverse and reverse match to N.G. Rhodes, "Some Armenian Notes," *The Numismatic Circular*, Vol. LXXXIV October 1976), No. 10, pp. 370-371.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

Dram. Hetoum I citing Kaykhusraw II, A.H. 641/A.D 1243/4, 2.91 g. 26mm.

Obverse: Equestrian king Hetoum wearing a crown and holding a scepter capped with a fleur-de-lis. Cross in the field behind king and crescent in front of king. Also, dot below horses head. Surrounding inscription in Armenian .

+ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ\* “Hetoum King of Armenians”

Reverse: A three line inscription, and then a counterclockwise surrounding inscription on three sides (both in Arabic) inside a dotted border. *السلطان الاعظم / كخسرو بن كيقباد / غياث الدنيا والدين* - | وستمائة) / (ضرب بسيس سنة احد | اربعين |

The Sublime Sultan | Protector of the World and Faith | Kaykhusraw son of Kayqubad.  
(Struck in Sis, the year one | forty | - | and six hundred.)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

Dram. Hetoum I citing Kaykhusraw II, A.H. 637/A.D 1239 2.99 g.

Obverse: Equestrian king Hetoum wearing a crown and holding a scepter capped with a fleur-de-lis. Cross in the field behind king and crescent in front of king. Surrounding inscription in Armenian .

Reverse: A three line inscription, and then a counterclockwise surrounding inscription on three sides (both in Arabic) inside a dotted border.

VF+

Estimate: 150 EUR. Price realized: 250 EUR (approx. 383 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

Dram. Hetoum I citing Kaykhusraw II, A.H. 637/A.D 1239 2.94 g.

Obverse: Equestrian king Hetoum wearing a crown and holding a scepter capped with a fleur-de-lis. Cross in the field behind king and crescent in front of king. Star in field before horse. Surrounding inscription in Armenian .

Reverse: A three line inscription, and then a counterclockwise surrounding inscription on three sides (both in Arabic) inside a dotted border.

Reference: Album Checklist 1221. Rare! XF.

Estimation: € 300,00. Price realized: 600 EUR (approx. 854 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

Dram. 2.93 g.

Obv.: Crowned lion left with patriarchal cross.

Rev.: King and queen stand facing; patriarchal cross between them.

Good XF.

Estimate: 50 EUR. Price realized: 130 EUR (approx. 199 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

Dram. 2.93 g.

Obv.: Crowned lion left with patriarchal cross.

Rev.: King and queen stand facing; patriarchal cross between them.

VF.

Estimate: 40 EUR. Price realized: 70 EUR (approx. 107 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

Dram. 1.40 g.

Obverse: King Hetoum I and Queen Zabel holding a cross together. A four pointed star at the bottom of the cross.

Reverse: Crowned lion standing right with paw lifted, cross behind.

Rim damage, VF.

Estimate: 100 EUR. Price realized: 150 EUR (approx. 230 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

Dram. 22 mm, 2.85 g.

Obverse: King Hetoum I and Queen Zabel holding a cross together. A four pointed star at the bottom of the cross.

+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹ' - ԻՒՆՆ ԱՅ Ե "By the Will of God."

Reverse: Crowned lion standing right with paw lifted, cross behind.

+ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ "Hetoum King of Armenians."

Notes: Though the Hetoum-Zabel drams are undated, typical of most Cilician coinage, one can chronologically organize them by the degeneration of style. This specimen is Bedoukian 842, the first Hetoum-Zabel type dram in the corpus, indicating VERY early issue. On the obverse, the king and queen are slightly worn, but show great depth, not seen on these issues. On the reverse, the lion is quite impressive. For one, he is done in depth and realistically. Also, the head is rather extraordinary: the crown is attractive and not of usual design. Furthermore, the nose is intact and attractive, quite a rarity. Typically, even if the nose is intact, it is rather long and ugly. The quality of the inscription is very high, also atypical for this type.





CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

Dram. 21 mm, 3.0 g.

Obverse: King Hetoum I and Queen Zabel holding a cross together.

+ԿԱՐՈՂՈԹ - ԻՆՆ ԱՅ Ե "By the Will of God"

Reverse: Crowned lion walking right with star below lion, cross behind.

+ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ "Hetoum King of Armenians"



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

Dram. 19-21 mm.

Obverse: King Hetoum I and Queen Zabel holding a cross together.

+ԿԱՐՈՂՈԹ - ԻՆՆ ԱՅ Ե "By the Will of God"

Reverse: Crowned lion standing right with paw lifted, cross behind.

+ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ "Hetoum King of Armenians"



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

Half Dram. 15.7 mm, 1.40 g.

Obverse: King Hetoum I and Queen Zabel holding a cross together.

+ԿԱ ...ԻՆ ԱՅ "By the Will of God"

Reverse: Crowned lion walking right with star below lion, cross behind.

+ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ Հ "Hetoum King of Armenians"



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

AE Kardez. ~19 mm

Obverse: King enthroned, sitting on a conventionalized throne. Fleur-de-lys in one hand, and cross in the other.

+ՀԵԹՈՒ ... ՀԱ :Hetoum King of Armenians"

Reverse: Simple latin cross with stars in field.

+ՇԻՆԵԱԼ ... :Struck in the city of Sis"



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

AE Kardez. 24 mm

Obverse: King sitting on a throne, cross in hand.

+ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒ ... "Hetoum King of Armenians:

Reverse: Simple latin cross with crescent and waterdrop shapes in the field.

+ՇԻՆԵԱԼ Ի Ք ... Ի ՍԻՍ "Struck in the city of Sis"



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

AE Kardez. 26 mm, 4.50 g.

Obverse: King sitting on a throne, cross in hand. Star next to king

+ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ "Hetoum King of Armenians"

Reverse: Simple latin cross with crescent and waterdrop shapes in the field.

+ՇԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՍԻՍ "Struck in the city of Sis"



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

AE Kardez. Sis mint. 5.72 g.

Obverse: King riding right, holding scepter; star in field left.

Rev.: Cross, star in each angle.

Scratches at edge, cleaned. VF.

Estimate: 20 EUR. Price realized: 35 EUR (approx. 54 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

AE Kardez. Sis mint. 4.96 g.

Obv.: Enthroned king facing, with lily and globus cruciger.

Rev.: Cross, in each angle a dash.

Irregular flan, reverse slightly off-center. VF.

Estimate: 25 EUR. Price realized: 40 EUR (approx. 61 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

AE Tank. 30 mm

Obverse: King enthroned, sitting on a conventionalized throne. Fleur-de-lys in one hand, and cross in the other. Star in the field next to king

+ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Hetoum King of Armenians”

Reverse: Simple latin cross with star and lily field marks in quadrants.

+ՇԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՍԻՍ “Struck in the city of Sis”

Notes: Identical to Bedoukian 1334 or 1335 with exception of the field marks being flipped, and possibly some variation on the flower in the field. Unlisted subvariety.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

Fake AE Tank. 30 mm - Seems to be a poorly cast forgery. Metal used was copper?

Obverse: King enthroned, sitting on a throne adorned with lions, star in the field. Fleur-de-lys in one hand, and cross in the other. Star in the field next to king.

+ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Hetoum King of Armenians”

Reverse: Simple latin cross with stars in four quadrants.

+ՇԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ԱԱ “Struck in the city of Ayas”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

AE Tank, Sis mint. 29mm, 7.20 g.

Obverse: King enthroned, sitting on a leonine throne. Fleur-de-lys in one hand, and cross in the other. Note the dotted border on the obverse.

+ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Hetoum King of Armenians”

Reverse: Simple latin cross with lines in the quadrants.

+ՇԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՍԻՍ “Struck in the city of Sis”

Notes: Note the dotted border on this tank. Most tanks of Hetoum I have a solid border. Those that have a dotted border are extremely similar, a friend noted most seem to be die matches. Perhaps the work of a single engraver.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

AE Tank, Sis mint. 28-30 mm.

Obverse: King seated facing on a bench-like throne, holding a scepter in the right hand and a globus cruciger in the left. Star in the field.

+ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Hetoum King of Armenians”

Reverse: Latin cross with four crescents in four quadrants.

+ՇԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՍԻՍ “Struck in the city of Sis”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

AE Tank, Ayas mint. 29mm, 6.70 g.

Obverse: King enthroned, sitting on a conventionalized throne. Fleur-de-lys in one hand, and cross in the other. Star in the field next to king

+ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Hetoum King of Armenians”

Reverse: Simple latin cross with star and star & dot field marks in quadrants.

+ՇԻՆԵԱՒ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ԱԻԱ “Struck in the city of Ayas”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

AE Tank. Sis mint. 7.51 g

Obverse: King enthroned, sitting on a conventionalized throne. Fleur-de-lys in one hand, and cross in the other. Star in the field next to king

Reverse: Simple latin cross with star and star & dot field marks in quadrants.

Slightly corroded. VF.

Estimate: 25 EUR. Price realized: 40 EUR (approx. 61 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Hetoum I., 1226 - 1270.

AE Tank. Sis mint. 7.29 g

Obverse: King enthroned, sitting on a conventionalized throne. Fleur-de-lys in one hand, and cross in the other. Star in the field next to king

Reverse: Simple latin cross with star and star & dot field marks in quadrants.

Reverse slightly off-center. VF.

Estimate: 25 EUR. Price realized: 26 EUR (approx. 40 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



# LEVON II – 1270-1289

**Leo II** or **Leon II** (occasionally numbered **Leo III**; Armenian: Լեւոն Բ, *Levon II*; c. 1236 – 1289) was king of the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia, ruling from 1269 to 1289. He was the son of King Hetoum I and Queen Isabella and was a member of the Hetoumid family.

In 1262 Leo married Keran (Kir Anna), the daughter of Prince Hethum of Lampron.

In 1266, while their father the king Hetoum I was away to visit the Mongol court, Leo was captured and his younger brother Thoros killed while fighting the Mamluk invaders at the Disaster of Mari. Leo was imprisoned and took in captivity together with 40,000 Armenian soldiers. Upon his return Hetoum I managed to ransom his son, by paying a large sum, remitting several fortresses, and accepting to intercede with Abagha to have one of Baibars's relatives freed.

Hetoum I abdicated in 1269 in favour of his son, and entered the Franciscan order. He died a year later. The new king Levon II was known as a pious king, devoted to Christianity. He pursued active commercial relations with the West, by renewing trade agreements with the Italians and establishing new ones with the Catalans. He also endeavoured to reinforce the Mongol alliance.

In 1271, Marco Polo visited the Armenian harbour of Ayas and commented favourably about Levon's reign and the abundance of the country, although he mentions his military forces were rather demoralized:

"The king [Levon II] properly maintains justice in his land, and is a vassal of the Tartars. There are many cities and villages, and everything in abundance.(...) In the past, men were courageous at war, but today they are vile and chetive, and don't have other talents than drink properly."

—Marco Polo *"Le Livre des Merveilles"*[3]

In 1275 the Mamluk sultan Baibars would invade Cilicia a second time. The following year, the country fought off an invasion by the Turkomans, but the Constable Sempad was killed in combat.

In 1281 Levon joined the Mongols in their invasion of Syria, but they were vanquished at the Second Battle of Homs. Levon had to sue for peace, and in 1285 obtained a 10-year truce in exchange for important territorial concessions in favour of the Mamluks.[4]

Levon died in 1289 as Mamluk power kept rising and the Mongol alliance was becoming more and more inefficient.[5] He was succeeded by his son Hetoum II.

During twenty-one years of marriage Leo had fifteen children by his wife Keran, eight sons and seven daughters. Two sons and two daughters died at an early age. Five of his children reached the throne. The eldest, Hethum II of Armenia, abdicated after four years in favor of his younger brother Thoros III of Armenia, but was placed back on the throne in 1294. In 1296, their brother Sempad of Armenia strangled Thoros and blinded Hethum, in order to seize power. Sempad was then overthrown in 1298 by their younger brother Constantine III of Armenia, who was replaced by older brother Hethum, who then abdicated in 1305 in favor of Thoros's son Leo III of Armenia.



Hethum II (ruled 1289 to 1293, 1294 to 1297, 1299 to 1307)

Princess Fimi of Armenia (born c. 1266)

Princesse Sybil of Armenia (born c. 1269)

Thoros III (ruled 1293 to 1298)

Prince Ruben of Armenia (born c. 1272)

Princess Zablun of Armenia (born c. 1274)

Isabelle (Zabel) or Sybil, Princess of Armenia (born c. 1276)

Sempad (ruled 1297 to 1299)

Constantine III (ruled 1299)

Isabella of Armenia (died c. 1321), who married Amalric of Tyre

Princess Theophane of Armenia (born c. 1278)

Rita of Armenia, who married Michael IX Palaeologus, co-Emperor of the Byzantine Empire with his father Andronicus II Palaeologus

Prince Nerses of Armenia (born c. 1279)

Oshin (ruled 1308 to 1320)

Prince Alinakh of Armenia (born c. 1283)

Five of the fifteen children, Hetoum, Thoros, Sembat, Constantine, and Oshin, later became the Armenian kings, who often fought each other to gain the throne. Finally, it were the descendants of his daughter Isabella that would inherit the throne.



Leon II, Queen Guerane, and their five children, 1272.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON II – 1270-1289

Dram. Ayas mint. 24mm, 2.05 g.

Obverse: Equestrian king, crowned and holding sceptre to the right. Dot behind king, in front of him and below horse.

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՒՆ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Lion standing to the right, cross with two bars behind.

+ՇԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ԱԻԱ “Struck in the city of Ayas”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON II – 1270-1289

Dram, Sis mint.

Obverse: Equestrian king, crowned and holding cross with two bars, to the right. Star behind king.

+ԼԵՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ԱՄԵՆԱՅՆ ՀԱՅՈՒՆ “Levon King of All Armenians”

Reverse: Lion walking to the left, cross with two bars behind.

+ՇԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՍԻՍ Ի “Struck in the city of Sis”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON II – 1270-1289

Dram, Sis mint. 20.7 mm, 2.54 g.

Obverse: Equestrian king, crowned and holding cross with two bars, to the right.

+ԼԵՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՄԵՆԱՅՆ ՀԱՅՈՒՆ “Levon King of All Armenians”

Reverse: Lion walking to the left, cross with two bars behind.

+ՇԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՍԻՍ Ի “Struck in the city of Sis”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON II – 1270-1289

Dram, Sis mint, 2.17 g, 22mm.

Obverse: Equestrian king, crowned and holding cross with two bars, to the right.

+ԼԵՈՆ ... ՄԵՆԱՅՆ ՀԱՅՈՒՆ “Levon King of All Armenians”

Reverse: Lion walking to the left, cross with two bars behind.

+ՇԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՍԻՍ Ի “Struck in the city of Sis”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON II – 1270-1289

Dram, Sis mint. 18-22mm.

Obverse: Equestrian king, crowned and holding scepter capped with a fleur de lys and dots. Field marks: Cross to the left of king, and dot in a circle below horses belly.

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈ “Levon King of All Armenians”

Reverse: Lion walking to the right, cross with two bars behind.

+ՇԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՍԻՍ “Struck in the city of Sis”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON II – 1270-1289

Dram, Sis mint. 18-20mm.

Obverse: Equestrian king, crowned and holding scepter capped with a cross.

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ... “Levon King of All Armenians”

Reverse: Lion walking to the right, cross behind.

... ՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ... “Struck in the city of Sis”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON II – 1270-1289

Half Dram, unknown mint. 16mm, 1.04 gm.

Obverse: Equestrian king, crowned and holding sceptre to the right. Sceptre capped with a two bar cross.

Reverse: Lion standing to the left, patriarchal cross with two bars behind.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON II – 1270-1289

AE Kardez, Sis mint. 22.3mm, 3.25 g.

Obverse: Lion to the right.

...ԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱ... “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Latin cross.

...ԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ... “Struck in the city of Sis”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON II – 1270-1289

AE Kardez, Sis mint. 20 mm.

Obverse: Lion to the left or right.

...ՈՆ ԹԱԳԱ... “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse Latin cross, stars in the field.

+ՇԻ ... “Struck in the city of Sis”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON II – 1270-1289

AE Kardez, Sis mint. 26mm, 3.93 g.

Obverse: Lion to the left.

+ԼԵ ... ԹԱ ... ՆՅՅ (?) :Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse Latin cross. Stars in the field.



# HETOUM II

## 1289-1293, 1295-1296, 1299-1301, 1301-1306

**Hetoum II** (also transliterated *Hethoum*, *Hethum*, *Het'um*, or *Hayton* from Armenian: Հեթում Բ) (1266-August, 1307) was king of the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia, ruling from 1289 to 1293, 1295 to 1296 and 1299 to 1303, while Armenia was a client state of the Mongol Empire. He was the son of Leo II of Armenia and Kyranna de Lampron, and was part of the Hetoumid-family, being the grandson of Hetoum I, who had originally submitted Cilicia to the Mongols in the 1240s.



Hethum married Helvis de Lusignan, the daughter of King Hugh III of Cyprus. Hethum's son and heir Thoros was murdered in 1296 by the usurper Sempad.

In 1292 Armenia was invaded by Khalil, the Mamluk sultan of Egypt, who had conquered the Kingdom of Jerusalem the year before, and Hromgla was sacked. Hethum was forced to abandon Behesni, Marash and Tel Hamdoun to the Turks. In 1293, he abdicated in favour of his brother Thoros III and entered the Armenian monastery of Mamistra.

However, Thoros III asked Hethum to resume the throne in 1295 to help renew the Mongol alliance. This effort was successful, and in 1296, Hethum and Thoros further allied with the powerful Byzantine Empire: they went to Constantinople to bestow their sister Rita upon the Caesar Michael IX Palaeologus. During their absence, their brother Sempad usurped the throne with the aid of Constantine, and captured them in Caesarea as they returned. Hethum and Thoros were imprisoned in the fortress of Partzerpert, where Hethum was partially blinded by cauterization. In 1298, Thoros was murdered in Partzerpert; but Constantine turned against Sempad and freed Hethum.

Hethum resumed the crown in 1299 after recovering from his blindness, and soon engaged Armenian troops alongside the Mongols in their attempts at conquering Syria.

In the summer of 1299, King Hetoum II sent a message to the Mongol khan of Persia, Ghâzân to obtain his support. In response, Ghazan marched with his forces towards Syria and sent letters to the Franks of Cyprus (the King of Cyprus, and the heads of the Knights Templar, the Hospitallers and the Teutonic Knights), inviting them to come join him in his attack on the Mamluks in Syria. The Mongols and their allies defeated the Mamluks in the Battle of Wadi al-Khazandar, on December 23 or 24, 1299. One group of Mongols then split off from Ghazan's army, and pursued the retreating Mamluk troops as far as Gaza, pushing them back to Egypt.

According to tradition, King Hethoum visited Jerusalem in 1300 after helping with the Mongol offensive. The origin of the account is a document by a medieval Armenian historian, Nerses Balients:

"The king of Armenia, back from his raid against the Sultan, went to Jerusalem. He found that all the enemies had been put to flight or exterminated by the Tatars, who had arrived before him. As he entered into Jerusalem, he gathered the Christians, who had been hiding in caverns out of fright. During the 15 days he spent in Jerusalem, he held Christian ceremonies and solemn festivities in the Holy Sepulchre. He was greatly comforted by his visits to the places of the pilgrims. He was still in Jerusalem when he received a certificate from the Khan, bestowing him Jerusalem and the surrounding country. He then returned to join Ghazan in Damas, and spend the winter with him"

—*Recueil des Historiens des Croisades, Historiens Armeniens I, p.660*

According to some historians, the account does not match with any other accounts by any other historians of the time period, and in modern times has been recognized as having originated from an unreliable source. In other words, it was simply Armenian propaganda of the time.

However, in *The Crusaders and the Crusader States*, Andrew Jotischky used Schein's 1979 article and later 1991 book to state, "after a brief and largely symbolic occupation of Jerusalem, Ghazan withdrew to Persia". According to Peter Jackson in *The Mongols and the West*, the Mongols liberated the Holy City. Steven Runciman in *"A History of the Crusades, III"* stated that Ghazan penetrated as far as Jerusalem, but not until the year 1308. Claude Mutaftian, in *Le Royaume Arménien de Cilicie* mentions the writings and the 14th century Armenian Dominican which claim that the Armenian king visited Jerusalem as it was temporarily removed from Muslim rule. Demurger, in *Les Templiers*, mentions the possibility that the Mongols may have occupied Jerusalem, quoting an Armenian tradition describing that Hethoum celebrated mass in Jerusalem in January 1300.

According to the historian Claude Mutaftian, this may be on this occasion that Hetoum II remitted his amber scepter to the Armenian convent of Saint James of Jerusalem.

The remaining Templars from Cyprus continued making raids on the Syrian coast in early 1303, and ravaged the city of Damour, south of Beyrouth. As they had lost Ruad, though, they were not capable of providing important troops.

In 1303, the Mongols appeared in great strength (about 80,000) together with the Armenians, but they were defeated at Homs on March 30, 1303, and at the decisive Battle of Shaqhab, south of Damas, on April 21, 1303. It is considered to be the last major Mongol invasion of Syria. Also in 1303, Ghazan had again sent a letter to Edward I, in the person of Buscarello de Ghizolfi, reiterating Hulagu's promise that they would give Jerusalem to the Franks in exchange for help against the Mamluks. But Ghazan died on May 10, 1304, and dreams of a rapid reconquest of the Holy Land were destroyed. Hethum resigned his crown to his nephew Leo and retired to a monastery, although he retained the office of Regent of Armenia.

In 1304, the Mamluks continued their assault on Cilician Armenia, and succeeded in taking back

all the lands which the Armenians had acquired during the Mongol invasion. In 1305, he and Leo led an Armenian army to victory over Mameluke raiders at the Battle of Ayas.

In 1307, Hetoum II and Leon III were assassinated by the Mongol general of Cilicia, Bilarghu, following an internal plot against Hetoum's efforts to unite the Armenian Church with Rome.



**Hetoum II (left) parting from Ghazan and his Mongols in 1303.**





CILICIAN ARMENIA  
HETOUM II – 1289-1293, 1295-1296, 1299-1301, 1301-1306

AR Obol (0.66 g).

Obv.: Crowned head facing.

Rev.: Cross potent; crescent in lower right corner.

Reference: Bedoukian 1582; AC 394 var. (no crescent, legends).

Very rare. VF, toned.

Estimate \$200. Price realized: 190 USD.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
HETOUM II – 1289-1293, 1295-1296, 1299-1301, 1301-1306

Billon. 13mm, .5g.

Obverse: Facing bust of king wearing a crown.

+ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ “Hetoum King - “

Reverse: Simple latin cross.

+ԱՄԵՆԱՅՆ ... “- Of All Armenians”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
HETOUM II – 1289-1293, 1295-1296, 1299-1301, 1301-1306

Billon. 14.8-15.7mm, .56g.

Obverse: Facing bust of king wearing a crown.

+ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ “Hetoum King”

Reverse: Simple latin cross.

+ԱՄԵՆԱՅՆ ՀԱՅՈՒՆ “- Of All Armenians”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
HETOUM II – 1289-1293, 1295-1296, 1299-1301, 1301-1306

Billon. 0.57 g.

Obverse: Facing bust of king wearing a crown.

Reverse: Simple latin cross. Crescent in second angle.

Reference: Nercessian 395 var. Rare! VF-XF.

Estimation: € 200,00. Price realized: 230 EUR (approx. 327 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
HETOUM II – 1289-1293, 1295-1296, 1299-1301, 1301-1306  
Kardez. Sis mint. 4.69 g.

Obv.: Crowned head facing.

Rev.: Patriarchal cross.

Reverse off-center, VF.

Estimate: 25 EUR. Price realized: 40 EUR (approx. 61 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
HETOUM II – 1289-1293, 1295-1296, 1299-1301, 1301-1306  
AE Kardez, Sis mint. 20 mm

Obverse: King enthroned, sitting on a conventionalized throne. Fleur-de-lys in one hand, and cross in the other.

+ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱ "Hetoum King of Armenians"

Reverse: Simple latin cross.

+ՇԻՆԵ ... ԱՔԻ "Struck in the city of Sis"



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
HETOUM II – 1289-1293, 1295-1296, 1299-1301, 1301-1306

AE Brockage Kardez, no mint. 21.2 mm, 3.33 g.

Obverse: King seated in oriental fashion, holding staff in left hand and globus(?) in right hand.

...ԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒ... "Hetoum King of Armenians"

Reverse: Mirror image of obverse. Incuse legend.

...ԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒ... "Hetoum King of Armenians"



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
HETOUM II – 1289-1293, 1295-1296, 1299-1301, 1301-1306

AE Kardez, Sis mint. 4.1 g., 22 mm.

Obverse Facing bust of king.

+ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱ "Hetoum King of Armenians"

Reverse Simple latin cross.

+ՇԻՆԵ ... "Struck in the city of Sis"



CILICIAN ARMENIA

HETOUM II – 1289-1293, 1295-1296, 1299-1301, 1301-1306

AE Kardez with Arabic O/S, Sis mint host. 19-22 mm

Obverse: King seated in oriental style, holding mace in hand (?). Arabic overstrike on top third of coin.

...Մ ԹԱԳԱՒ.../ [السلطان] “Hetoum King of Armenians” / Arabic overstrike which seems to read [The Sultan].

*This might refer to the Seljuq of Rum sultan Kaykubad III or Mamluk sultan Nasir al-Din Muhammed I.*

Reverse Simple latin cross. Illegible Arabic overstrike

+ՇԻ ... Ի Ս “Struck in the city of Sis”



CILICIAN ARMENIA

HETOUM II – 1289-1293, 1295-1296, 1299-1301, 1301-1306

Kardez. Sis mint. 3.56 g.

Obv.: Crowned bust facing.

Rev.: Patriarchal cross, ball to each side.

Green residue, slightly off-center. VF.

Estimate: 50 EUR. Price realized: 50 EUR (approx. 77 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA

HETOUM II – 1289-1293, 1295-1296, 1299-1301, 1301-1306

Kardez 2,08 g.

Obv.: King enthroned facing, holding scepter and globus cruciger.

Rev.: Latin cross.

Reference: Necessian 406. Rare! VF.

Estimation: € 150,00

## REGENCY OF PRINCE TOROS – 1293-1295

### No Known Coins

## SMBAT – 1296-1298

**Sempad, Smpad, Sambat, or Smbat** (Armenian: Սմբատ); 1277 – c. 1310) was king of the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia, ruling from 1296 to 1298. He was the son of Leo II of Armenia and Kyranna de Lampron and was part of the Hetoumid-family.

Sempad seized the throne with the aid of his brother Constantine while his brothers Hethum II and Thoros were in Constantinople. In 1297, on a volitional journey to the Ghazan's court, Sempad managed to receive recognition of his position as king from the Mongol ruler of Persia, which was necessary to legitimate his usurpation. He also received a bride from the Mongol khan in order to form a matrimonial alliance, perhaps a relative of the khan himself.[1][2]

On Hethum's return, Sempad had Hethum blinded by cauterization and both brothers imprisoned at Partzerpert. Thoros was murdered there on Sempad's orders in 1298, but Constantine turned traitor again and helped Hethum overthrow Sempad, assuming the throne while Hethum's blindness healed. Sempad again plotted with Constantine to resume the throne soon after Hethum's restoration, and both were imprisoned for the rest of their lives.







CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Smbat, 1269-1298.

Dram. 20-21mm, 2.75 g.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, feet resting on a footstool, wearing a crown and a royal mantel, holding a cross in the right hand and fleur-de-lis in the left.

+ Ծ ՄՄԲԱՏ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Smbat King of Armenians”

Reverse: A cross between two lions, rampant, regardant. Peculiar Cross.

+ ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵՆ ԱՍՏՈՒԾՈՅ “By the Will of God”



Notes: There are circles in the field, and between the cross and first letter in the legend. This is a curious and unknown phenomenon seen on some of Smbat's drams. Only these two have them in the legend as well, most only between the king next to throne's lions. This specimen appears to be a die match to CNG 61, Lot: 2350.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Smbat, 1269-1298.

DRAM. 22-24mm.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, feet resting on a footstool, wearing a crown and a royal mantel, holding a cross in the right hand and fleur-de-lis in the left.

+ ՄՄԲԱՏ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱ “Smbat King of Armenians”

Reverse: A cross between two lions, rampant, regardant.

+ ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵՆ ԱՍՏՈՒԾՈ “By the Will of God”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Smbat, 1269-1298.

Dram. ~20 mm, 2.82 gm.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, wearing a crown and a royal mantel, holding a sceptre in the right hand and cross in the left.

+ ՄՄԲԱՏ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅ “Smbat King of Armenians”

Reverse: A cross between two lions, rampant, regardant.

+ ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵՆ ԱՍՏ “By the Will of God”





CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Smbat, 1269-1298.

Dram. 23mm, 3.04g.

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, wearing a crown and a royal mantel, holding a sceptre in the right hand and cross in the left.

+ ՍՄԲԱՏ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Smbat King of Armenians”

Reverse: A cross between two lions, rampant, regardant.

+ ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵՆ ԱՍՏ... “By the Will of God”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Smbat, 1269-1298.

AE KARDEZ, Sis mint. 20mm.

Obverse: King on horseback, crowned, riding right, holding a scepter in hand. Legend: “Smbat King of Armenians”

Reverse: Dotted cross with lilies or birds in quadrants.

...ՔԱՂԱՔ ՍԻ... “Struck in the city of Sis”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Smbat, 1269-1298.

Kardez. Sis mint. 1.88 g.

Obv.: King riding to right, holding scepter.

Rev.: Cross, in each angle a lily (a bird?)

Good VF.

Estimate: 25 EUR. Price realized: 40 EUR (approx. 61 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Smbat, 1269-1298.

Kardez, Sis; 2.02 g.

Obv.: King riding to right, holding scepter.

Rev.: Cross, in each angle a lily (a bird?)

Good VF.

Estimate: 25 EUR. Price realized: 35 EUR (approx. 54 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)

# Constantine I (1299)

**Constantine I** (also called **Constantine III**; Armenian: Կոստանտին Ա, Western Armenian transliteration: *Gosdantin* or *Kostantine*; 1278 – c. 1310) was briefly king of the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia from 1298 to 1299. He was the son of Leo II of Armenia and Kyranna de Lampron and was part of the Hetoumid-family.

He helped his brother Sempad to usurp the throne in 1296, but turned against him two years later in 1298 to restore his older brother Hethum II. He assumed the throne for a year while Hethum recovered from his imprisonment. Shortly after Hethum's resumption in 1299, Constantine plotted to restore Sempad again, and both were imprisoned for the rest of their lives.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Gosdantin I – 1299

Double Dram. No mint, no date. 28 mm. 5.674 g.

Obverse: Equestrian king on horse with sword in hand to the right.

+ԿՈՍՏԱՆՏԻՆԱՆՈՍ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Gosdantin King of Armenians”

Reverse: Crowned and robed king standing, holding sword in left hand and cross in the right hand.

+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԷՆ ԱՅ Ե ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ “By the Will of God is he King”

PUBLISHED IN: Saryan, L.A. "An Unpublished Silver Double Tram of Gosdantin I (1298-1299), King of Cilician Armenia," *The American Journal of Numismatics* 12 (2000), pp. 195-204, 1 pl.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Gosdantin I – 1299

DRAM, No Mint. 23mm, 2.93g.

Obverse: Equestrian king on horse with sword in hand to the right.

+ԿՈՍՏԱՆԴԻՆ ԹԱԳՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Gosdantin King of Armenians”

Reverse: Crowned and robed king standing, holding sword in left hand and cross in the right hand.

+ԿԱՐՈ ... ԹԲՆ ԱՅ Ե ԹԱԳԱԻՈՐ “By the Will of God is he King”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Gosdantin I – 1299

AE Kardez, Sis Mint. 20mm, 2.8gm.

Obverse: Crowned and robed king standing, holding sword in left hand and cross in the right hand.

+ԿՈՍ ... ԻԱՆՈՍ ԹԱԳ “Gosdantin King”

Reverse: Simple latin cross with lines in field.

+ՇԻ ... Ս Է “Struck in the city of Sis”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Gosdantin I – 1299

Kardez. Sis mint. 2.56 g.

Obverse: King stands facing with sword and cross.

Reverse: Cross, in each angle a dash.

Very rare. Some green deposit. VF.

Estimate: 100 EUR. Price realized: 420 EUR (approx. 644 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Gosdantin I – 1299

Kardez 2,56 g.

Obverse: King stands facing with sword and cross.

Reverse: Cross, in each angle a dash.

Reference: Nercessian 417. VF.

Estimation: € 75,00. Price realized: 120 EUR (approx. 171 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)

## LEVON III – 1301-1307

**Leo III** or **Leon III** (occasionally numbered **Leo IV**; Armenian: Լեւոն Գ, *Levon III*; 1287/1289 – 1307) was king of the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia, ruling from 1303 or 1305 to 1307, along with his uncle Hethum II. He was the son of Thoros III of Armenia and Margaret de Lusignan, daughter of King Hugh III of Cyprus and was part of the Hetoumid family.

He was married to his cousin Agnes (Marie) de Lusignan (died 1309), daughter of Princess Isabella of Armenia and Amalric de Lusignan, without issue.

In 1303 or 1305, he was crowned King of Armenia after the retirement of his uncle and Regent Hethum II. The king and his uncle led the Armenian army in 1305 to smash a Mamluk raiding force at Bagras.

In August, 1307, Leo and Hethum were murdered with their retinue while visiting the Mongol emir Bilarghu at Anazarva. He was succeeded as king by his uncle, Oshin.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON III – 1301-1307

1/2-Dram. 1,26 g

Obverse: King riding to right, holding scepter.

Rev.: Lion left, patriarchal cross behind.

Reference: Necessian 428. Rare! VF.

Estimation: € 200. Price realized: 625 EUR (approx. 890 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON III – 1301-1307

Takvorin. Sis mint. 2.53 g.

Obverse: King riding to right, with scepter. 3 balls in field left.

Reverse: Lion right with patriarchal cross.

VF.

Estimate: 30 EUR. Price realized: 80 EUR (approx. 123 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON III – 1301-1307

Takvorin, Sis mint.

Obverse: King on horseback, riding right, holding a scepter capped with cross. Field mark behind king.

+ԼԵՒ[Illegible Script]ԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse” Lion to right, ornate cross behind. Fieldmark \* below the lion.

+ՇԻՆ[Illegible Script]ՔՆ Ի ՄԻՍ “Struck in the city of Sis”

Notes: Note the fine quality of engraving on the coin, yet a very odd, and partially illegible inscription. Perhaps made by illiterate or foreign die-makers.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON III – 1301-1307

Takvorin, Sis mint. 2.00 gm, 20.2 mm.

Obverse: King on horseback, riding right, holding a scepter capped with cross or fleur de lys.

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՐ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Lion to right, cross behind.

+ՇԻՆԵԱԼ ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՄԻՍ “Struck in the city of Sis”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON III – 1301-1307

AE Kardez, Sis mint. ~18mm.

Obverse: King seated on throne.

ԼԵՒՈՆ... “Levon King”

Reverse: Latin cross.

...ԵԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ... “Struck in the city of Sis”





CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON III – 1301-1307

AE Kardez, Sis mint. ~20mm.

Obverse: King seated in oriental fashion.

ԼԵ... ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ “Levon King”

Reverse: Latin cross.

...ԹԱԳԱՒ... “Levon King”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON III – 1301-1307

AE Kardez, Sis mint. ~20mm.

Obverse: King seated in oriental fashion.

ԼԵԻՈ... “Levon King”

Reverse: Latin cross.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON III – 1301-1307

AE Kardez, Sis mint. 19mm, 3.00g.

Obverse: King seated on throne adorned with lions. Holding sceptre in left hand and cross in right.

+ԼԵԻՈ ... ՀԱՅՈՅ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Latin cross. Lines in the field.

+ՇԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ Ս “Struck in the city of Sis”

~ These Kardez' are very distinct due to their workmanship and completeness of inscription. Most types in this series are much more crude and struck with carelessly engraved dies.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON III – 1301-1307

AE Kardez, Sis mint. 18mm, 3.55gm.

Obverse: King seated on a bench like. Holding sceptre in left hand and cross in right.

ԼԵԻՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Latin cross. Lines in the field.

+ԼԵԻՈՆ ԹԱ... “Levon Ki...”

# OSHIN – 1307-1320

**Oshin** (Armenian: Օշին; 1282 – July 20, 1320) was king of the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia, ruling from 1307 to 1320 and a member of the Hetoumid-family.

Oshin became king on the death of his nephew Leo III and brother Hethum at the hands of Bilarghu, and initiated his reign by raising an army and driving out the Mongols. He favored a union of the Armenian and Roman churches, which aroused no little popular discontent. In 1309, he had his wife's uncle Oshin, Marshal of Armenia, executed for the murder of Thoros III.

His sister Isabella of Armenia had married Amalric of Tyre, and when Amalric usurped the government of Cyprus from his brother Henry II of Cyprus, Henry was held in Armenia by Oshin. He was, however, released and returned to Cyprus on the assassination of Amalric in 1310.

Oshin was married three times:

—First to his cousin, Isabel of Korikos, by whom he had one son, Leo IV (born 1309). She died in 1310.

—Second to Isabelle of Lusignan, daughter of the King Hugh III of Cyprus and widow of Constantine of Nephir, Lord of Partzerpert. Oshin divorce her before 1316. Isabelle died in 1319.

—Third to Jeanne of Anjou on February, 1316 in Tarsus. She bore him one son, George (1317-after 1323).

On his death on July 20, 1320, Oshin was succeeded by his minor son Leo V. Oshin was popularly believed to be poisoned by his cousin (and brother-in-law) Oshin of Corycos.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Oshin, 1307-1320.

Takvorin. Sis mint. 21 mm, 2.37 g.

Obverse: Equestrian king to right, crowned, and holding staff.  
Letter Յ next to horses head.

+ՕՏԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՒՆ “Oshin King of Armenians”

Reverse: Lion standing left with cross behind.

+ՇԻ ... ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՄԻՍ “Struck in the city of Sis”

\*Note the error in the spelling of the kings name. It reads: ՕՏԻՆ, but it should read ՕՏԻՆ. Missing the letter Ն in the end.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Oshin, 1307-1320.

Takvorin. Sis mint. 2.4 g.

Obverse: Equestrian king to right, crowned, and holding staff.  
Letter Յ next to horses head and dot behind king..

+ՕՏԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՒՆ “Oshin King of Armenians”

Reverse: Lion standing left with cross behind.

+ՇԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՄԻՍ “Struck in the city of Sis”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Oshin, 1307-1320.

Dram. Sis mint. 2.86 g.

Obverse: King seated with globus cruciger and lily.

Rev.: Patriarchal cross between two lions back to back, facing outwards, heads turned toward each other.

Beautiful toning, VF.

Estimate: 100 EUR. Price realized: 400 EUR (approx. 613 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Oshin, 1307-1320.

Coronation Dram, 22.5 mm

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a cross in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right. Hand of God above king's head. Ornate footstool.

+ԱԻՇԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: A cross between two lions, rampant, regardant.

+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԲՆ ԱՅ Է “By the Will of God”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Oshin, 1307-1320.

Coronation Half Dram. 1.4651 g, 18.5 mm

Obverse: King seated on a throne ornamented with lion heads, holding a cross in the left hand and fleur-de-lis in the right. Hand of God above king's head.

+ԱԻՇԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: A cross between two lions, rampant, regardant.

+ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԲՆ ԱՅՈՑ “By the Will of God”

Note: Exceedingly rare half coronation tram of Oshin, King of Cilician Armenia (1308-1320), two examples known to exist. To my knowledge, this is the only example in private hands, the other is in a museum in Moscow. Published in Armenian Numismatic Journal, IV (1978), pp. 91-94. Ex-Araratian 1 Auction, CNG 36, December 5-6, 1995, lot 857. Bedoukian (revised ed) 1936b



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Oshin, 1307-1320.

AE Pogh. Sis mint. 16 mm, 1.32g.

Obverse: Crowned King seated on a bench-like throne. Holding cross in left hand and fleur de-lys in right.

+ԱԻՇԻՆ Թ... ՀԱ “Oshin King of Armenians”

Reverse: Simple Latin Cross.

+ՇԻՆԱ ... “Struck in the city of Sis”

# LEVON IV – 1320-1342

**Leo IV** or **Leon IV** (also numbered **Leo V**; Armenian: Լեւոն Դ, *Levon IV*; 1309 – 28 August 1341) was the last Hethumid king of Cilicia, ruling from 1320 until his death. He was the son of Oshin of Armenia and Isabel of Korikos, and came to the throne on the death of his father. His name is sometimes spelled as Leo or Leon.

He spent his minority under the regency of Oshin of Korikos. During this period, the kingdom was much harassed by Mamluks and Mongols. In 1320, the Egyptian sultan Naser Mohammed ibn Kelaoun invaded and ravaged Christian Armenian Cilicia. In a letter dated July 1, 1322, Pope John XXII sent a letter from Avignon to the Mongol ruler Abu Sa'id, reminding him of the alliance of his ancestors with Christians, asking him to intervene in Cilicia. At the same time he advocated that he abandon Islam in favor of Christianity. Mongol troops were sent to Cilicia, but only arrived after a ceasefire had been negotiated for 15 years between Constantin, patriarch of the Armenians, and the sultan of Egypt.[1]

The Regent Oshin had married his stepmother, Jeanne of Anjou, and Leo was forced to marry Oshin's daughter Alice (by his first wife, Margaret d'Ibelin) on August 10, 1321. Oshin murdered a number of members of the royal family to consolidate his own power, and Leo's reaction upon reaching his majority in 1329 was violent. Oshin, his brother Constantine, Constable of Armenia and Lord of Lampron, and Leo's wife Alice were all murdered on the king's orders, the head of Oshin being sent to the Ilkhan and of Constantine to Al-Nasr Muhammad.

Leo was strongly pro-Western and favored a union of the Armenian and Roman Churches, which deeply displeased the native barons. His second marriage on December 29, 1331 to Constance, daughter of Frederick III of Sicily and Eleanor of Anjou, widow of Henry II of Cyprus, further aroused anti-Western sentiment. In 1337, Al-Nasr Muhammad invaded again, taking the city of Ayas, and Leo was forced to conclude a humiliating truce, surrendering territory and a large indemnity and promising to have no dealings with the West. He spent the last years of his reign holed up in the citadel at Sis, hoping for Western aid. On December 28, 1341 he was murdered by his own barons. His only son by Alice, Hethum, had died before 1331; the barons elected his cousin Guy of Lusignan to succeed him.



King Levon IV doing justice by Sarkis Pitzak, 1331



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON IV – 1320-1342

Takvorin. Sis mint. 21mm, 2.2gm.

Obverse: Equestrian Horseman to the right. I think fieldmark letter Գ behind king and another, but illegible fieldmark next to horses head.

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Lion walking *left* with cross behind.

+ՇԻՍԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ ՍԻՍ “Struck in the city of Sis”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON IV – 1320-1342

Takvorin. Sis mint. 22-23mm.

Obverse: Equestrian Horseman to the right. I think fieldmark letter Թ behind king.

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Lion walking *left* with cross behind.

+ՇԻՍԱԼ ՔԱՂԱՔ ՍԻՍ “Struck in the city of Sis”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON IV – 1320-1342

Takvorin. Sis mint. 24 mm.

Obverse: Equestrian king holding fleur de lys to the right. Fieldmark Ճ behind king and Մ below horses head.

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Lion walking *right* with cross behind.

+ՇԻՍԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ ՍԻՍ “Struck in the city of Sis”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON IV – 1320-1342

Takvorin. Sis mint. 21-24 mm.

Obverse: Equestrian king holding fleur de lys to the right. Fieldmark Թ behind king. Note that obverse is struck from a rusty die, resulting in the “dotty” appearance.

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Lion walking *right* with cross behind.

+ՇԻՍԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ ՍԻՍ “Struck in the city of Sis”





CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON IV – 1320-1342

AR Surcharge Takvorin. Sis mint host. 17-21 mm.

Obverse: King on horseback to right. Illegible fieldmark behind king. Some overstrike seen at lower right.

+ԼԵ ... ԳԱԻՈՐ ՀԱՅՈ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Lion walking right with cross behind.

...ՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂ... “Struck in the city of Sis”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON IV – 1320-1342

AR Surcharge Takvorin. Sis mint host. 18-22 mm.

Obverse: Equestrian Horseman to the right. I think fieldmark letter Թ behind king and dot next to horses head. Over is illegible Arabic.

+ԼԵԻՈՐ ԹԱԳԱՐԻՈՐ ՀԱՅՈ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Lion walking right with cross behind. Illegible Arabic overstrike.

+ՇԻՆԵԱԼ Ի Ք[ԱՂԱՔՆ Ի] Ս “Struck in the city of Sis”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON IV – 1320-1342

Pogh (Cu). 1,56 g.

Obverse: King enthroned, holding cross in right hand, lily in left hand.

Rev.: Cross.

Reference: Nercessian 465. Good XF.

Estimation: € 80,00. Price realized: 64 EUR (approx. 91 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON IV – 1320-1342

AE Large Pogh, Sis mint. 17 mm, 1.4 g.

Obverse: King seated on a peculiar throne, holding a cross in his right hand and a fleur-de-lis in the left.

+ԼԵԻՈՐ ԹԱԳԱՐԻՈՐ ՀԱՅՈ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Latin cross, and fieldmark lines between cross.

+ՇԻՆԵԱԼ ... “Struck in the city of Sis”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON IV – 1320-1342

AE Large Pogh, Sis mint. 20mm.

Obverse: King seated on a peculiar throne, holding a scepter in his right hand and a cross in the left.

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈ՝ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Latin cross, dots in the field, and lines between cross.

+ՇԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի՝ ՄԻ “Struck in the city of Sis”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON IV – 1320-1342

AE Large Pogh, Sis mint.

Obverse: King seated on a peculiar throne, holding a scepter in his right hand and a cross in the left.

+ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱ՝ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Latin cross, dots in the field, and lines between cross.

+ՇԻՆԵԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՄԻ “Struck in the city of Sis”

## GUY LUSIGNAN or GOSDANTIN II - 1342-1344

### No Known Coins

## GOSDANTIN III – 1344-1363

**Constantine III** (also **Constantine V**; Armenian: Կոստանտին Ե, Western Armenian transliteration: *Gosdantin* or *Kostantine*; died 1362) was the King of Armenian Cilicia from 1344 to 1362. He was the son of Baldwin, Marshal of Armenia, a nephew of Hethum I of Armenia, and a distant cousin of Constantine II.

When Constantine II was killed in an uprising in 1344, Constantine II succeeded him. He was the second king of the Lusignan house. He attempted to wipe out all rival claimants to the throne; he gave orders to kill Constantine II's nephews, Bemon and Leo, but before the murder could be carried out they escaped to Cyprus.

Constantine was the first husband of Maria, daughter of Oshin of Corycos and Jeanne of Anjou. He was predeceased by his two sons. Upon his death from natural causes he was succeeded by his cousin Constantine IV.



Constantin III of Armenia on his throne with the Hospitallers. "Les chevaliers de Saint-Jean-de-Jerusalem rétablissant la religion en Arménie" ("The knights of Saint-John of Jerusalem reestablish the religion in Armenia"), 1844 painting by Henri Delaborde.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
GOSDANTIN III – 1344-1363

AR Takvorin, Sis Mint. ~20 mm(?). 2.10 g.

Obverse: Equestrian king to right, crowned, and holding staff. Letter Ե left of king, and another mark, possibly \* to the right of king.

+ԿՈՍՏԱՆԴԻ...Թ... Յ “Gosdantin King of Armenians”

Reverse: Lion to the right with cross behind.

+ՇԻ ... ԱԼ ՔԱՂԱՔ ... ՍԻ “Struck in the city of Sis”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
GOSDANTIN III – 1344-1363

AE Pogh, Uncertain Mint.

Obverse: King seated on throne, crowned, holding a cross in left hand and leur de-lys in right. Legend should read Gosdantin King ...

Reverse: Latin cross with lines in the field.

+ՇԻ ... ՔԱՂԱՔ ... “Struck in the city of ... “(Unclear whether Tarsus or Sis, though appears to be Sis.)

# LEVON THE USURPER – 1363-1365



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON THE USURPER – 1363-1365

AR takvorin. 20-23mm.

Obverse: Equestrian king on horse to the right, crowned, and holding sceptre. Fieldmark mostly obliterated behind king, but appears to be a circle.

+ԼԵՎՈՆ ԹԱԳ ... ՀԱՅՈՑ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Lion to the right with cross behind it.

+ՇԻՆ ... Ի ՍԻՒ “Struck in the City of Sis”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
LEVON THE USURPER – 1363-1365

AR takvorin. 19-23mm.

Obverse: Equestrian king on horse to the right, crowned, and holding sceptre. Circle in the field.

+ԼԵՎՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՒ “Levon King of Armenians”

Reverse: Lion to the right with cross behind it.

+ԼԵՎՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՒ “Levon King of Armenians”



# GOSDANTIN IV – 1365-1373

**Constantine IV** (also **Constantine VI**; Armenian: Գոստանտին Նիսի, Western Armenian transliteration: *Gosdantin* or *Kostantine*; died 1373) was the King of Armenian Cilicia from 1362 until his death. He was the son of Hethum of Neghir, a nephew of Hethum II of Armenia. Constantine came to the throne on the death of his cousin Constantine III, whose widow, Maria, daughter of Oshin of Corycos, he married. He is usually considered one of the Lusignan dynasty.

Constantine formed an alliance with Peter I of Cyprus, offering him the port and castle of Corycus. On Peter's death in 1369, Constantine looked for a treaty with the Sultan of Egypt. The barons were unhappy with this policy, fearing annexation by the sultan, and in 1373 Constantine was murdered. Upon his death he was succeeded by his distant cousin Leo V, who would become the last king of Cilician Armenia.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
GOSDANTIN IV – 1365-1373

AR Takvorin, Sis mint. 1.80 g.

Obverse: Equestrian king to right, crowned, and holding staff.  
Fieldmark letter L below horses hind legs.

+ԳՈՍԱՍԱ ... ԹԱԳԱՆԻ Հ “Gosdantin King of Armenians”

Reverse: Lion to the right with cross behind.

+ՇԻՆ ... Ի Ս “Struck in the city of Sis”



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
GOSDANTIN IV – 1365-1373

AR-Takvorin, Tarsus. 2.07 g.

Obverse: Equestrian king to right, crowned, and holding staff.

Reverse: Lion to the right with cross behind.

Irregular flan, VF-XF.

Estimate: 50 EUR. Price realized: 140 EUR (approx. 215 U.S. Dollars as of the auction date)

# LEVON V LUSIGNAN – 1374-1375

**Leo V** or **Leon V** (occasionally **Leo VI**; Armenian: Լեօն Վ, *Levon V*; 1342 – 29 November 1393), of the House of Lusignan, was the last Latin king of the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia. He ruled from 1374 to 1375.

Leo was described as "Leon V, King of Armenia" on his own personal seal ("SIGILUM LEONIS QUINTI REGIS ARMENIE"), and as "Leon de Lusignan the Fifth" in the Middle French inscription on his cenotaph: *Leon de Lizingnen quint*

Leo was the son of John of Lusignan (Constable and Regent of Armenia) and his wife (or, more probably, mistress) Soldane, daughter of George V of Georgia. Constantine V, in order to wipe out all claimants to the throne, had given orders to kill Leo and his brother Bohemond, but they escaped to Cyprus before the murder could be carried out. He was made a Knight of the Chivalric Order of the Sword in 1360 and Titular Seneschal of Jerusalem on October 17, 1372.

Leo was elected to the throne on the death of his distant cousin Constantine VI of Armenia in 1373. After a short regency by Mary of Korykos, widow of Constantine, Leo left Famagusta in spite of the ongoing conflict between Cyprus and Genoa. Landing at Korykos, he managed difficultly to reach Sis, which was already being besieged by the Muslim emir of Aleppo. Leo and his wife, whom he married at Cyprus in May, 1369, Marguerite of Soissons, daughter of Jean de Soissons and wife, were crowned at Sis on July 26 or September 14, 1374, according to both the Latin and Armenia rites. His right to the throne was challenged by Ashot and Leo's short reign was marked by numerous disputes between the various factions.

After several battles against superior Mamluk forces, he locked himself in the Kapan fortress and eventually surrendered in 1375, thus putting an end to the last Armenian state until the establishment of the short lived Democratic Republic of Armenia (1918-1920) and the Republic of Armenia in 1991.

The Mameluks took Leo to Cairo with his family, where he was placed under surveillance for several years. In August 1377, he met with Jean Dardel, a Franciscan who was on his way for a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. Leon befriended him and employed him as his secretary. Dradel returned to Europe to plead the case of Leon V, and managed to convince King John I of Castile to pay a ransom of precious stones, silks, and birds of prey in 1382. His wife had died in Cairo, between 1379 and July 4, 1381.

Leon de Lusignan arrived ill and poor to Medina del Campo. In 1382 or 1383, the King of Castile named Leon Lord of Madrid.[7]. John I granted him for life the town of Madrid, Villa Real and Andújar and a yearly gift of 150,000 maravedis. Leon rebuilt the towers of the Royal Alcázar.

According to Father Mariana, Leon left Castile for France after the death of his protector in 1390. Federico Bravo, however states that he left after two years of ruling, and five years later, the Madrilenians were conceded the revocation of the lordship by John. Leon V apparently went to Paris in June 1384, and received the Saint-Ouen castle and a sizable pension from Charles VI. He attempted to reconcile the French and the English (as the time fighting the Hundred Years War) in order to set up a new Crusade and obtain help to recover his lands, but the meeting he organized in 1386 between Boulogne and Calais were unsuccessful. Leon continued diplomatic mission to England in 1389 and in 1392.

Leon V never recovered his throne, and died in Paris on November 29, 1393. His remains were laid to rest in the Couvent des Célestins, near Place de la Bastille in Paris, the second most important burial site for royalty after Saint-Denis. The prestigious convent was located nearby Leon's residence of Hôtel des Tournelles, itself near Hôtel Saint-Pol, the favourite residence of Charles V and Charles VI in the area of Le Marais.

Leon received lavish funerals and had a lavish tomb, located in the choir of the church. However the convent was profaned during the French Revolution. After the revolution, his tombstone was recovered by Alexandre Lenoir who placed it in his Musée des monuments Français in the Saint-Denis Basilica. In 1815, during the Restoration, a new cenotaph was established for Leon V at the royal Saint Denis Basilica where most representatives of the French monarchy lie.

The effigy on the tomstone, by an anonymous artist, is of a high realism and quality, and it is thought that it was made

while Leon was still alive. Leon V is depicted holding a scepter (now broken) and gloves, symbol of great princes. The tombstone bears the following inscription in French:

"Here lies the right noble and excellent Prince Leon de Lusignan V, Latin king of the kingdom of Armenia, who passed away in Paris on the 29th day of November of the year of Grace 1393. Pray for him." [13]  
("Cy gist tres noble et excellent prince Leon de Lizingnen quint roy latin du royaume d'Armenie qui rendit l'ame a Dieu a Paris le XXIXe jour de novembre l'an de grace M.CCC.IIIXX.XIII. Priez pour luy") Original 14th century inscription.

He had one legitimate daughter, Marie de Lusignan (ca 1370 – Cairo, before July 4, 1381, who predeceased her mother and father), and two illegitimate sons, Guy de Lusignan or Guido de Armenia (died 1405), a Canon in Autun, Bayeux, Paris and Arras and Captain de la Tour d'Amblay, and Stephan or Etienne de Lusignan, a Knight in Sis.

Upon his death the title of King of Armenia was claimed by Leo's distant cousin James I.





CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon V., 1374-1375.

Billon; 0.56 g.

Obverse: Crowned head facing.

Reverse: Cross, dash in each angle.

Very rare! VF.

Estimate: 50 EUR. Price realized: 360 EUR (approx. 552 U. S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon V., 1374-1375.

Billon. 16 mm, .70 g.

Obverse: Bust of crowned king Levon.

+ԼԵՒՆ ԹԱԳ "Levon Ki- "

Reverse: Simple Latin cross.

+ԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ "-ing of Armenians"



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon V., 1374-1375.

AE "Billon." 15 mm, 1.00 gm. **Wrong metal, unique.**

Obverse: Bust of crowned king Levon.

+ԼԵՒՆ [ԹԱԳ] "Levon Ki- "

Reverse: Simple Latin cross.

+ԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ "-ing of Armenians"



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon V., 1374-1375.

AE "Billon." 15 mm, 1.00 gm. **Wrong metal, unique.**

Obverse: Bust of crowned king Levon.

+ԼԵՒՆ [ԹԱԳ] "Levon Ki- "

Reverse: Simple Latin cross.

+ԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ "-ing of Armenians"



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon V., 1374-1375.

Pogh (Cu). 0,95 g.

Obverse: Lion left.

Reverse: Cross.

Reference: Nercessian - (like. 505). Very rare! Good VF.

Estimation: € 100,00. Price realized: 80 EUR (approx. 114 U. S. Dollars as of the auction date)



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon V., 1374-1375.

AE Pogh. 16 mm.

Obverse: Lion of Cyprus to right.

[+Լ]ԵԻ[ՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ] "Levon King"

Reverse: Simple Latin cross.

+ԱՍ[ԵՆԱՅՆ Հ]ԱՅՈՑ "of All Armenians"



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon V., 1374-1375.

AE Pogh. 16mm, .84g.

Obverse: Lion of Cyprus to *left*.

Reverse: Simple Latin cross.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
Levon V., 1374-1375.

AE Pogh. 14mm, 1.1gm.

Obverse: Lion of Cyprus to right.

... ԼԵԻՈ ... "Levon King"

Reverse: Simple Latin cross.

+ԱՍ ... ՀԱՅՈ "of All Armenians"



# POST ROUPENIAN – AFTER 1375 ?



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
POST ROUPENIAN – AFTER 1375 ?

AE Pogh ? ~20mm.

Obverse: Equestrian figure to right. Pseudo-Armenian script(?).

Reverse: Lion to right with cross behind. Dot in the field. Pseudo-Armenian script(?).

Notes: I recently got this poorly preserved and curious coin. At first I thought it was a copper coin of an earlier king struck with takvorin dies, but after exhaustively studying plates of coins, I could not confidently match it to any king. I suspect Oshin, but it could be a PR. Also, it is interesting to note this coin is much like the Byzantine tracheas in a "cup" shape.



CILICIAN ARMENIA  
POST ROUPENIAN – AFTER 1375 ?

AE Pogh ? 19mm, 2.0gm.

Obverse: Equestrian figure to right. Pseudo-Armenian script(?). Some recognizable Armenian letters ?

... Վ ... Թ ... (?)

Reverse: Lion to right with cross behind. Pseudo-Armenian script (?). Some recognizable Armenian letters ?

... Ի ... (?)