

CONTENT GUIDE FOR EOSC118

The Use of Laser and X-Ray Scanning to Create a Model of the Historic Koh-I-Noor Diamond

Sucher, S.D., Carriere, D.P. (2008) *Gems & Gemology*

This 18-page article reviews the history and importance of the famous Koh-i-Noor diamond that is currently part of the crown jewels in England.

As this is a long article, we'll only be requiring you to read a part of it. The **abstract (p124), introduction (p124-125), Box A (p126), and summary (p140-141)** sections will be required and addressed in this guide.

As usual, use the discussion board on Connect to pose questions, since questions that you have are probably being thought by another one of your fellow students.

Use the following questions to help you through the reading:

Abstract:

1. How many carats was the Koh-i-Noor diamond before and after recutting?

before: 186.1 After: 105.6

2. What material were the replicas of both the pre- and post-recut gems made from?

Why do you think this material was chosen?

plaster - because it is moldable before hardening, thus the original can be preserved while it is easy to mold at first

Introduction:

3. Who had the stone recut and when?

Queen Victoria in 1852

Box A:

4. What region is the stone generally believed to originate from?

Golconda region in India (source of many high quality colorless diamonds)

5. What is the earliest approximate of the stone's discovery, and when was the first reliable reference to it?

Earliest = 5000BC, first reliable reference = 1304, captured by Babur

6. How long has it been in British possession?

since 1850, so 165 years

7. How long did it take to cut the stone?

38 days by Coster Diamonds from amsterdam

Summary:

8. How many facets did the original stone have?

169

9. Do the authors believe the cutter did a good job with the recut?

yes

10. Do you believe the gem should have been recut at all?

maybe