Asia-China-Coin- Southern Dynasties-宋Song (420-79)

Southern Dynasties-宋Song (420-79).

13.1 Obv:囚蛛Si Zhu (Four Zhu). No inner rims on obverse. FD562,8215 rarity 8

13.2 Two dots on the obverse. FD563 rarity 7

The North and South Dynasties era was another long period of disunity and strife. The north and south of China were each ruled by two separate successions of dynasties. During this period, coin inscriptions other than (nominal) weights, such as names or year titles, were introduced, although the Wu Zhu coin was still issued. Seal script remained the norm for inscriptions and some coins of highly regarded calligraphy were produced. However, the general coinage was of a very poor quality. In 465, permission was granted for the people to mint coins. A thousand of these“goose eye" coins which resulted made a pile less than three inches high. There were others,的ill worse, called“Fringe Rim" coins, which would not sink in water and would break in one's hand. In the market, people would not bother counting them, but would pick them up by the handful. A peck of rice sold for 10,000 of these. Reforms by Emperor Ming from 465 onwards, had only a limited success in improving the quality of the coinage

 