

MEDIEVAL SERBIAN COINS 6 TYPES OF KING STEFAN RADOSLAV

King Stefan Radoslav Nemanjić Doukas was born in 1192, became King at the age of 36 in 1228 and not known when exactly but died somewhere after 1235. He was the only known son of Stefan the First-Crowned Nemanjić by his first wife Eudokia Angelina. His father Stefan the First-Crowned Nemanjić was born around 1165 and died 24th September 1228 after which he as a only son and heir inherited the throne.

His mother later remarried, to Alexios V Doukas, who only for few month ruled as Emperor of Byzantium in 1204. She was a daughter of Alexios III Angelos Komnenos and Euphrosyne Doukaina Kamatera. So Stefan Radoslav grandparents were the Byzantine Emperor Alexios III Angelos (1195–1203) and Euphrosyne Doukaina Kamaterina.

His wife was Anna Angelina Komnene Doukaina, who was the daughter of the ruler of Epirus and Thessalonica, his father in law, Theodore Komnenos Doukas Angelos (1215–1230).

It was his grandmother Euphrosyne Doukaina Kamaterina that brought the Doukas name into the Stefan Radoslav life. This is the name that he took on and that later appeared on his coins when he took over kingdom from his father. Maybe his grandmother and his step father Alexios V Doukas as well as later his wife influenced him to view himself as a member of Doukas royal family.

Doukas or Ducas in Greek language Δούκας, feminine: Doukaina or Ducaena, in Greek language Δούκαινα; plural: Doukai or Ducae, in Greek language Δοῦκαι, from the Latin title *DUX* meaning "leader" or "general", in Greek language δούξ [*ḍouks*].

It is interesting to notice that *DUX* does appear on Venetian matapan silver coins on which later Serbian rulers have based their coin issues but replacing it with the title *REX* meaning *KING*. Doukas Byzantine Greek noble family has provided several generals and rulers to the Byzantine Empire between 9th and 11th century. After the 12th century, the name "Doukas" and other variants of it became common across the Byzantine world. So there is no surprise that Stefan Radoslav also adopts this name and puts it on his copper and silver coins as a statement. He uses both names *STEFAN* and *DOUCAS* but not Radoslav. Name Radoslav does not appear on any of his coins. Later Serbian rulers adopt *STEFAN* as title rather than as a name similar to Roman *CAESAR*.

Manuel Komnenos Doukas also called Manuel Angelos was ruler of Thessalonica (1230-1237). He was a first cousin of the emperor Alexios III Angelos, Stefan Radoslav grandfather and a brother of Michael I Komnenos Doukas and Theodore Komnenos Doukas of Epirus, Stefan Radoslav father in law. He married the sister of Serbian Grand Prince Stefan Nemanjić (1196-1228), Stefan Radoslav father so to him he became his uncle, so all in all a very, very strong family connections and understandable Greek-Byzantine influence.

Anna Komnene Angelina was a sister of King Stefan Radoslav mother Eudokia Angelina so Anna Komnene Angelina was his aunty. Her husband was Theodore I Laskaris, Emperor of Nicaea (1204-1222), his uncle.

Their daughter was Irene Laskarina an Empress of Nicaea, King Stefan Radoslav cousin. She was wife of John III Doukas Vatatzes, Latinized as Ducas Vatatzes, Emperor of Nicaea (1222-1254).

His choice was to model his coins according to Byzantine coins using images of:

1. Himself as a king
2. Constantine the Great, Roman Emperor who accepted Christianity as an official state religion in the 4th century,
3. Mary, mother of Jesus,
4. Jesus himself and
5. Archangel Michael, Jesus name and the title in his pre-human existence.

Following research shows 51 known King Stefan Radoslav coins from the first two published by Dr Karl Stockert in Vienna in 1914 to the ones published in various books by Rastislav Maric 1956, Miroslav Jovanovic 2002 and 2012, Sergije Dimitrijevic 1997 and 2001 and Vujadin Ivanisevic 2001, study works by Museums in Belgrade, Nis, Sabac and Krusevac to the latest ones sold online and from private collections between 2012 and 2020. So over 100 years of publishing history.

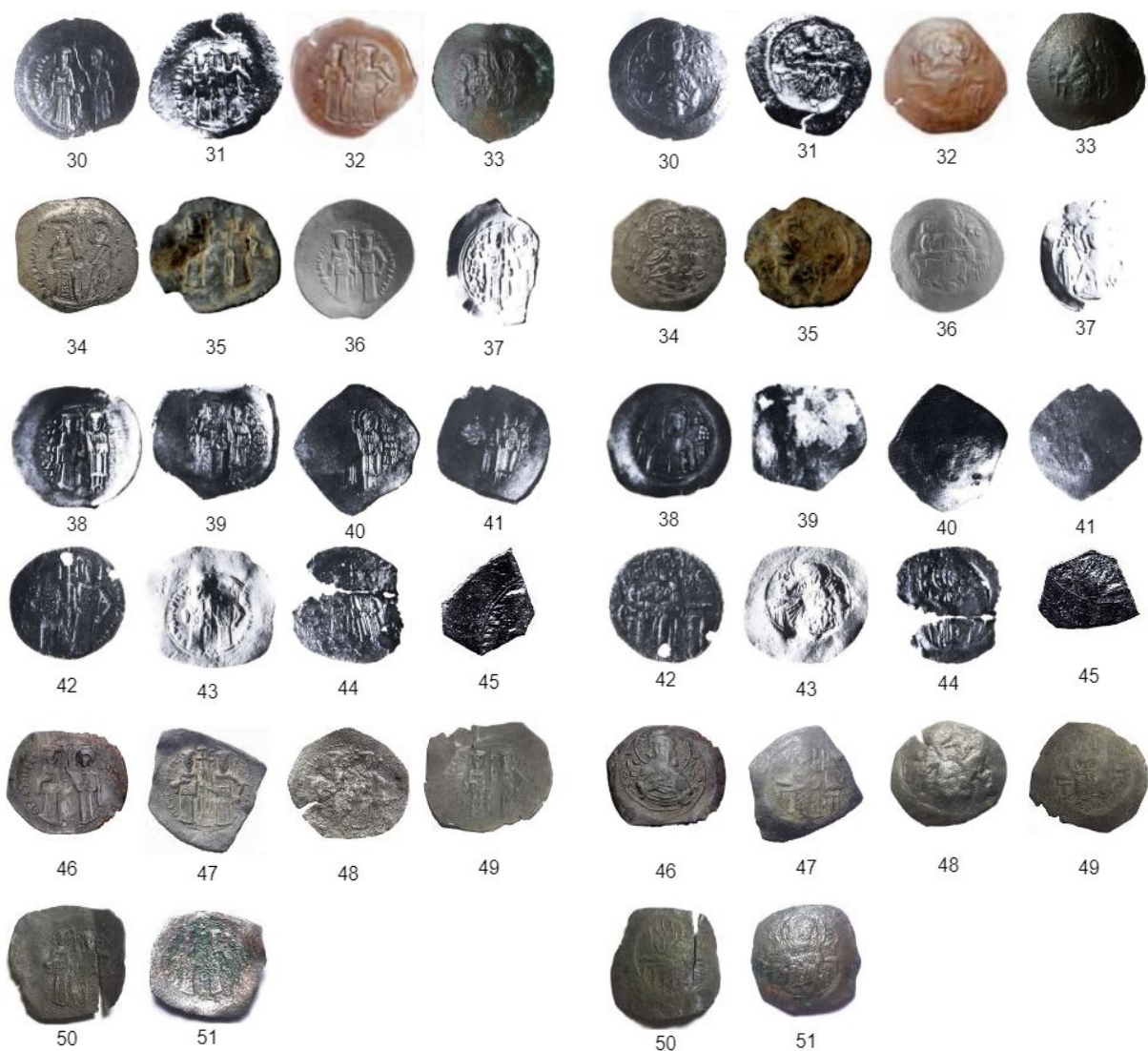
This is a list and images of all known King Stefan Radoslav copper and silver coins:

1. Coin no1 is kept in The Archaeological Museum in Split and is a first published King Radoslav coin by Dr Karl Stockert in Vienna in 1914, its 31mm, 3.29g. Same coin 2nd picture appears in Miroslav Jovanovic book *Serbien Medieval Coins* published in Belgrade in 2002 as a 4th coin listed on page 13 but claims that coin is 30mm and 3.26g. In his other book *"Srpski Srednjovekovni Novac"* 2012 is listed as a 4th coin on page 8 and in the book by Sergije Dimitrijević *"Katalog Srpskog Srednjovekovnog Novca"* 2001 under type 1 page 1.
2. Coin no2 is coin published by Rastislav Maric in the book *"Studies of Serbian Numismatics"* in Belgrade in 1956. Mentioned by Dr Karl Stockert in Vienna in 1914 as being 29mm and 4.7g.
3. Coin no3 was sold on eBay in 2014 for around £650.
4. Coin no4 was published by Vujadin Ivanisevic in his book *"Money of the Medieval Serbia"* in Belgrade in 2001 listed in the book as 4th King Radoslav coin. Found in the area of the Fortress of Ras.
5. Coin no5 was found during the archaeological excavations in Ras in 1974-75. Published by Sergije Dimitrijevic in his book *"Medieval Serbian Coins"* in Belgrade in 1997 page 19 and by Vujadin Ivanisevic in his study work called *"Novac Kralja Radoslava King Radoslavs Coinage"* 1998.
6. Coin no6 was sold on cngcoins.com auction website for \$2700 plus buyers auction fee which is normally 20%, its 32mm, 3g. It came back on sale November 2018 with auction ending January 2019 on the same website. It has sold again for \$3250 plus 20% auction fee which is \$650 ending with a \$3900 price tag.
7. Coin no7 was sold on www.rudnik.com website for \$1125, its 2.93g.
8. Coin no8 was found during the archaeological excavations in Ras in 1976 and published by both Vujadin Ivanisevic in his book *"Money of the Medieval Serbia"*, Belgrade, 2001 listed in the book as 3rd King Radoslav coin and Sergije Dimitrijevic in his book *"Medieval Serbian Coins"*, Belgrade, 1997 page 18. Found in the area of the Fortress of Ras.
9. Coin no9 is from a private collection of Lj. Nedeljković in his work page 31-39 and was published by Miroslav Jovanovic in his book *"Serbien Medieval Coins"* published in Belgrade in 2002 as 3rd coin listed on the page 13 and by *"Catalogue of the Byzantine coins in the Dumbarton Oaks"* Volume 4 Part 2 Plate XLVII.
10. Coin no10 was published by Vujadin Ivanisevic in his book *"Money of the Medieval Serbia"*, Belgrade, 2001 listed in the book as 2nd King Radoslav coin. Also identified by Marko Popovic in the publication *"The Fortress of Ras"* 1999. Found in the area of the Fortress of Ras

11. Coin no11 is kept in National Museum of Serbia Belgrade. Published by Rastislav Maric in the book "Studies of Serbian Numismatics" in Belgrade in 1956. This is a coin used on mobile phone card Telekom Serbia. 28mm, 2.67g.
12. Coin no12 is kept in National Museum of Serbia Belgrade. Published by both Miroslav Jovanovic books "Serbien Medieval Coins" published in Belgrade in 2002 as 1st coin listed on page 12 and "Srpski Srednjovekovni Novac" 2012 also as a 1st coin on page 6, in the book by Sergije Dimitrijević "Katalog Srpskog Srednjovekovnog Novca" 2001 under type 3 page 2 and by Vujadin Ivanisevic in his book "Money of the Medieval Serbia", Belgrade, 2001 listed in the book as 1st King Radoslav coin as well as on National Serbian Museum website in Belgrade www.narodnimuzej.rs. 29mm, 2.55g.
13. Coin no13 was sold on www.limundo.com auction website in 2015, 26mm, 4.7g. Its currently owned by us and its available for sale at <http://www.serbianmedievalcoins.com/king-stefan-radoslav.php>.
14. Coin no14 was published by Miroslav Jovanovic in his books "Serbien Medieval Coins" published in Belgrade in 2002 as 2nd coin listed on the page 12 and "Srpski Srednjovekovni Novac" 2012 as a 2nd coin on page 7 and it's on www.muzejras.org website without obverse. 31mm, 4.02g
15. Coin no15 was sold on Numismatik and Naumann auction website in 2017 for 2400 euros. 29mm, 3.22g.
16. Coin no16 was found in Raska area and sold in Vienna in 1996 for 10000 schillings which at the time of introduction to euro currency was around 725 euros. Second picture is original condition that coin was found in.
17. Coin no17 was sold on Stacks and Bowers auction website in 2009, 3.88g, 31mm.
18. Coin no18 was sold to private collection, 2.73g, 29mm.
19. Coin no19 was sold to private collection, 2.62g, 30mm.
20. Coin no20 was bought for 1100 euros from private collection in 2018.
21. Coin no21 is currently owned by us and its available for sale at <http://www.serbianmedievalcoins.com/king-stefan-radoslav.php>.
22. Coin no22 was sold to private collection in 2018.
23. Coin no23 was sold to private collection in 2018.
24. Coin no24 is currently owned by us and its available for sale at <http://www.serbianmedievalcoins.com/king-stefan-radoslav.php>.
25. Coin no25 was also sold to private collection.
26. Coin no26 was also sold to private collection Jan 2019 for 1400 euros.
27. Coin no27 was identified by Vujadin Ivanisevic in the publication "The Collection of Works by Byzantine Institute" 1998.
28. Coin no28 was also identified by Marko Popovic in the publication "The Fortress of Ras" 1999. Found in the area of the Fortress of Ras.
29. Coin no29 was also sold to private collection.
30. Coin no30 is kept in The State Hermitage Museum of art and culture in Saint Petersburg, Russia number 151. Published by Sergije Dimitrijevic in his book "Katalog of the Serbian Medieval Coins" 2001 page 1 listed in the book as 2nd coin and by "Catalogue of the Byzantine coins in the Dumbarton Oaks" Volume 4 Part 2 Plate XLVII.
31. Coin no31 was found during the archaeological excavations in Ras in 1974-75. Published by Ph. Grierson from his collection number 6, by M. Handy in "Coinage and Money in the Byzantine Empire 1081-1261", D. O. "Center for Byzantine Studies" 1961 page 297-298 T. 47 1, in Numizmatičar number 8 issued in 1985 by Serbian Numismatic Society as a type III coin number 6 and in Numizmatički Časopis Dinar Broj 1 1996 page 8.
32. Coin no32 is published by The Barber Institute of Fine Arts Birmingham in Coins Catalog 2007 page 36 and also mentioned in Numizmatički Časopis Dinar Broj 28 2007 page 22.
33. Coin no33 is the only known copper "Jesus blessing the king" type coin with the high throne currently owned by us and its available for sale at <http://www.serbianmedievalcoins.com/king-stefan-radoslav.php>.

34. Coin no34 was published by Miroslav Jovanovic in his book "Serbian Medieval Coins" published in Belgrade in 2012 as 3rd coin listed on the page 7.
35. Coin no35 was seen on eBay coming from a private collection. It is possible that coins 20-26, 29 and this one number 35 are coming from so called Skadar lot found around Skadar Lake area.
36. Coin no36 is kept in Fitzwilliam Museum Cambridge England and published in "Catalogue of the Byzantine coins in the Dumbarton Oaks" Volume 4 Part 2 Plate XLVII.
37. Coins no37 is kept in The State Hermitage Museum of art and culture in Saint Petersburg, Russia, the second-largest art museum in the world, number 150 published in Numizmatičar number 8 issued in 1985 by Serbian Numismatic Society as a type Ia coin number 3.
38. Coin no38 is from a private collection of Lj. Nedeljković in his work page 31-39 and published in Numizmatičar number 8 issued in 1985 by Serbian Numismatic Society as a type Ib coin number 1.
39. Coin no39 was found during the archaeological excavations in Ras in 1976 and published in Numizmatičar number 8 issued in 1985 by Serbian Numismatic Society as a type Ic coin number 3.
40. Coin no40 was found during the archaeological excavations in Ras in 1976 and published in Numizmatičar number 8 issued in 1985 by Serbian Numismatic Society as a type Ic coin number 4.
41. Coin no41 was found during the archaeological excavations in Ras in 1976 and published in Numizmatičar number 8 issued in 1985 by Serbian Numismatic Society as a type Ic coin number 5.
42. Coin no42 is kept in The Archaeological Museum in Zagreb number 1061 and published in Numizmatičar number 8 issued in 1985 by Serbian Numismatic Society as a type III coin number 3.
43. Coin no43 is kept in The Kunsthistorisches Museum of art in Vienna, Austria and published in Numizmatičar number 8 issued in 1985 by Serbian Numismatic Society as a type III coin number 2.
44. Coin no44 was found during the archaeological excavations in Ras in 1974-75 and published in Numizmatičar number 8 issued in 1985 by Serbian Numismatic Society as a type III coin number 5.
45. Coin no45 cut fragment was found in Bulgarian town Pomorie in 2009 with only "OC PIZ" legend visible on the reverse and published in Numismatics, Sphragistics & Epigraphy 2015 No 11 by Vladimir Pencev Pages 69-71, Plate IX No 1.
46. Coin no46 was sold on cngcoins.com auction website July 2019 for \$2000 plus 18% buyer fee totalling \$2360, described as being 2.70g.
47. Coin no47 was sold from a private collection.
48. Coin no48 was seen on eBay in 2019 coming from a private collection.
49. Coin no49 was sold from a private collection.
50. Coin no50 was sold from a private collection.
51. Coin no51 was also sold from a private collection. In addition to the above coins 20-26, 29 and 35 it is possible that these last 5 coins 47-51 are also coming from so called Skadar lot found around Skadar Lake area.





Among the above only known 51 King Radoslav coin we can differentiate 6 types: 32 “double cross with Constantine” type where all coins seem to be made of copper using at least 3 different dies, 8 “Mary mother of Jesus blessing the king” type with at least 3 different dies where 7 have no high throne in the background of which 6 are identical, on the 7th king wears different attire and on the 8th king is holding a globe and a sceptre with the high throne in the background on the obverse. Finally 11 “Jesus blessing the king” type of which 9 seem to be made of copper and only 2 of silver with at least 4 different dies between them.

We can identify 2 different royal attires. One is more common and found on most of his copper and both known silver coins. King and Constantine wear a 5 dot belt and a long robe with a single dotted line in the middle. Second one is much more rare attire and its only found on type 2 where on coins number 8, 16, 27, 30, 34 and 46 king has 6 dot belt and a long robe with a twin parallel dotted lines in the middle.

What does analysis of these coins show?

Type 1. In his short history King Stefan Radoslav issued 32 so far known copper “double cross with Constantine” type coins with Greek legend CTEΦANOC PIZ on the left, Greek letter Theta Θ and KONCTANTH on the right side on the reverse. King is wearing a 5 dot belt and a long robe with a single dotted line in the middle and Constantine is also wearing a 5 dot belt and a long robe but with a twin parallel dotted lines in the middle. Jesus seating on the high throne with Latin legend IC XC above on the obverse. (Coins number: 1-7, 15, 17-26, 29-32, 35, 36, 43-45, 47-51).





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All coins seem to be made by same moneyer or maker using same die except 3 coins number 6, 17 and 20 below. They seem to be made using different die and therefore possibly made by a different moneyer.



Of all 51 known King Stefan Radoslav coins these 32 above are most common.

Following examples are coins of the Byzantine Emperors from King Stefan Radoslav time, Emperors that he is related to and who have heavily influenced a choice of his own coins.

1. His grandfather Alexios III Angelos Komnenos, Byzantine Emperor (1195–1203).
2. His father in law Theodore Komnenos Doukas Angelos, ruler of Epirus and Thessalonica (1215–1230).
3. His uncle Manuel Komnenos Doukas Angelos, ruler of Thessalonica (1230-1237).
4. His uncle Theodore I Laskaris, Emperor of Nicaea (1204-1222).
5. Husband of his cousin John III Doukas Vatatzes, Emperor of Nicaea (1222-1254).



1. His grandfather Alexios III Angelos Komnenos (1195–1203).



2. His father in law Theodore Komnenos Doukas Angelos (1215–1230).



3. His uncle Manuel Komnenos Doukas Angelos (1230-1237).



Picture 1



Picture 2

4. His uncle Theodore I Laskaris, with no high throne in the background on the obverse, picture 1 and with high throne in the background on the obverse, picture 2 (1204-1222).



5. Husband of his cousin John III Doukas Vatatzes (1222-1254).

Type 2. 6 copper “Mary mother of Jesus blessing the king” type coins with Greek legend CTEΦANOC PIZ on the left side, Greek initials MP (mother) in the middle and ΘV (of god) on the right side on the reverse. King is holding a globe wearing a 6 dot belt and a long robe with a single dotted line in the middle and Mary is wearing a long robe. Jesus enlarged sitting with Latin legend IC XC above but no visible throne in the background on the obverse. (Coins number: 8, 16, 27, 30, 34 and 46).



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Type 3. As a only exception here, and this is up to now, only known copper “Mary mother of Jesus blessing the king” type coin like type 2 where reverse has Greek legend CTEΦANOC ΠIZ on the left side, Greek initials MP (mother) in the middle and ΘV (of god) on the right side but King is wearing a 5 (not 6) dot belt and a long robe with a single dotted line in the middle with Mary wearing a long robe. This is also only known coin where king is holding a globe and a sceptre or a ceremonial staff on its own. Obverse is like “double cross” type 1 coins with Jesus, smaller in size, seating on the high throne in the background and Latin legend IC XC above. **There is not a single known coin where king is holding globe and a sceptre and with Jesus on the high throne which up to now was exclusively found on “double cross with Constantine” type 1 coins.** This is unpublished and only known variant of all known King Stefan Radoslav coins. (Coin number: 33).



33



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Type 4. This copper type is just like type 3 with “Mary mother of Jesus blessing the king” type coins with Greek legend CTEΦANOC PIZ on the left side, Greek initials MP (mother) in the middle and ΘV (of god) on the right side on the reverse. Jesus enlarged sitting with Latin legend IC XC above but no visible throne in the background on the obverse just like type 2. The only difference is that King is holding globe but wears a different attire. King is wearing a 5 (not 6 – type 2) dot belt and a long robe with a single dotted line in the middle with Mary wearing a long robe. Like type 3 this is also only known example of its kind. (Coin number: 9).



9

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1. His grandfather Alexios III Angelos Komnenos with no high throne in the background on the obverse (1195–1203).



2. His father in law Theodore Komnenos Doukas Angelos with high throne in the background on the obverse (1215–1230).



3. His uncle Manuel Komnenos Doukas Angelos with no high throne in the background on the obverse, picture 1 and with high throne in the background on the obverse, picture 2 (1230-1237).



4. His uncle Theodore I Laskaris, with no high throne in the background on the obverse (1204-1222).



5. Husband of his cousin John III Doukas Vatatzes, with high throne in the background on the obverse (1222-1254).

Type 5. 9 “Jesus blessing the king” type copper coins where number 11 has Greek legend ΣΤΕΦΑΝΟΣ ΡΙΖ, Greek letter Theta Θ and ΔΥΚΑΣ signature on the left and ΟΠΑΝΤΟΚΡΑΤΟΡ on the right with the exception of the coin number 10 and 14, having ΔΥΚΑ signature without C and all have isolated P on the reverse. King is holding a globe and wearing a 5 dot belt and a long robe with a single dotted line in the middle and Jesus is wearing just a long robe. Winged Archangel Michael holding sword and scrolls with Greek initials: ΜΗ(ΧΑΗΛ) ΑΡ(ΧΑΓΕΛΟΣ) to the sides standing for "Michael Archangel" which is Jesus name and the title in his pre-human existence, on the obverse. (Coins number: 10, 11, 14, 28 and 37-41).



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Type 6. Finally 2 “Jesus blessing the king” type silver coins with Greek legend CTEΦANOC PIZ, Greek letter Theta Θ and ΔYKAC signature on the left and OΠANTOKPATOP on the right. King is king holding globe and wearing a 5 dot belt and a long robe with a single dotted line in the middle and Jesus is holding book of gospels and wearing just a long robe. Winged Archangel Michael holding sword and scrolls with Greek initials: MH(XAHΛ) AP(XAΓEΛOΣ) to the sides standing for "Michael Archangel" which is Jesus name and the title in his pre-human existence on the obverse. These are only 2 known silver coins in existence. (Coins number: 12 and 13).



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It is also interesting to note similarities between copper coin number 11, 37 and 38 and silver coins number 12 and 13. All 5 have Greek legend CTEΦANOC PIZ Θ ΔYKAC signature on the left, IC in the middle and XC OΠANTOKPATOP on the right on the reverse. King is holding a globe and wearing a 5 dot belt and a long robe with a single dotted line in the middle and Jesus is holding book of gospels and wearing just a long robe. Winged Archangel Michael holding sword and scrolls with Greek initials: MH(XAHΛ) AP(XAΓEΛOΣ) to the sides standing for "Michael Archangel" on the obverse. These are only 5 examples in existence with preserved obverse featuring winged Archangel. They are rarest and most expensive King Stefan Radoslav Nemanjic Doukas coins.



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37



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Numizmatičar number 8 issued in 1985 by Serbian Numismatic Society has an article by Dobrila Gaj-Popović "Novac i Kovnica Kralja Radoslava" that has listed 31 King Stefan Radoslav coin as found in Novi Pazar and Stari Raš area. 10 of those coins listed (coins no 1, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 28, 30 and 31) we have already identified and are listed above as there were published in various books and study works over the years. 12 are found in really bad, thin or broken condition and are pictured in reverse only. 9 are added to the list and numbered 37 - 44. Out of all 31 found 22 are copper "Jesus blessing the king" type 5 but as we have stated sadly 12 of those, as shown below, are in a really poor condition. 3 are "Mary mother of Jesus blessing the king" type 2 and 6 "double cross with Constantine" type 1.

