



**Grand Marshall  
Antonio de  
Sucre**

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# Grand Marshall Antonio Jose de Sucre

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Recently I found a brief biography of Antonio Jose de Sucre that I would like to share with you. His portrait appears on several South American bank notes such as those of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and, of course, Venezuela.

Antonio Jose de Sucre was born on February 3, 1795, in Cumana, Venezuela, the son of Don Vicente Sucre and Manuela Alcala. He received his education in Caracas where in 1808 he started his studies of mathematics and, subsequently, of engineering.

In the Patriot Army he began his brilliant military career in 1810, involved in the Independence War, leaving apparent his intelligence, his nobility and, above all, his moral integrity.

In Barcelona, Venezuela, he was an engineering commandant in 1811;

he was under the orders of General Francisco de Miranda until 1813; in Guayana under the orders of Libertador Simon Bolivar until 1817; in the Orient he was under the orders of Bermudez and Marino until 1819.

Among his military victories of major relevance are: Battle of Boyaca, Colombia (1819) which secured the independence of Colombia; Yaguachi, Ecuador (1821); Pichincha, Ecuador (1822) which secured the independence of Ecuador; Pasto, Colombia (1822); Junin, Peru (1824); in Ayacucho, Peru (1824), the place where he received the name of the Grand Marshall of Ayacucho for consolidating the independence from Spain for the entire northwest of South America.

On the other hand, for his large trajectory and his honesty, Sucre was named by Libertador Simon Bolivar,

president for life of the rising Republic of Bolivia, as well as the first president of his country in 1826, a position practiced for just two years. For that reason his portrait appears in different denominational notes in 1928; later in notes in 1945 and finally in the note of 50 pesos Bolivianos of 1962 printed by Thomas de la Rue & Co. Ltd.

The Republic of Ecuador venerates him as Father of the Country, adopting "sucre" for its currency unit in his honor. In Quito City he established his permanent home. His portrait has appeared just in notes of 5 sucres since 1950, until 1988 printed by Waterlow & Son Ltd. and Thomas de la Rue & Co. Ltd.

In January 1830, Sucre was designated President of the Constituent Congress of Colombia. Soon after he received Bolivar's presidency



50 pesos oro 1923-1953. Green. Portrait of A. J. de Sucre at lower left.



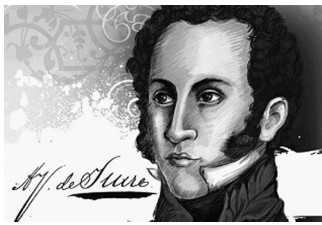
P402. 50 pesos oro, 1958-67. Light brown. Portrait of A. J. de Sucre at lower left. Back, liberty at center.



5000 bolivianos. Red. Dec. 20, 1945. Portrait of A. J. de Sucre on right side.



5 sucres. March 25, 1953. Portrait of A. J. de Sucre at center.



P113. 5 sucres, 1958-88. Portrait of A. J. de Sucre at center. Back, red-violet, arms at center.



P156. 50 pesos bolivianos L. 1962. Orange. Portrait of A. J. de Sucre at right. Puerta Del Sol on back.



10 bolivares. April 17, 1958. Purple. Simon Bolivar at left. A. J. de Sucre on right side.



P60. 10 bolivares., June 10, 1981. Purple. Portrait of A. J. de Sucre at right. Arms at left. officers on horseback at center right on back.

resignation from the Republic of Colombia. The formal disintegration of Gran Colombia was just months ahead. Also, his portrait appeared in notes of 50 pesos oro from 1923 until 1967, printed by the American Bank Note Co. in the U.S.A.

On June 4, 1830 when he was going to Quito, Ecuador, he was assassinated in the Berruecos Mountains in Pasto Province in southern Colombia.

Recently, the Banco Central de

Venezuela put into circulation a new note of 200 bolivares (May 12, 1994) printed by the American Bank Note Co. in the U.S.A. This note is a commemorative issue of the bicentennial celebration of the birth of the Gran Mariscal Sucre. The portrait which appears on the note is the work of an anonymous painter.

Also the portrait of Sucre usually appears on the note of 10 bolivares, since 1945, with his close friend Libertador Simon Bolivar. In 1980, on

a new note of 10 bolivares, his portrait was made by a famous Venezuelan painter called Arturo Michelena in the 19th century, and an original portrait was given by the Venezuelan Government to the Republic of Bolivia. Also the same portrait is printed on notes of Ecuador and Bolivia.

**References:**

"Antonio Jose de Sucre, Demasiado Joven para tanta Gloria," by Dr. Rafael Caldera, August 1994.

"Billetes de Venezuela," by Richard L. Rosenman, November 1980.

"Catalogo Billetes de Colombia," by Pedro P. Hernandez, September 1993.



P 74. 2000 Bolivares., December 5, 1994. Dark green and black. Portrait of A. J. de Sucre at right and Sucre family arms. Battle of Ayacucho, Peru (1824) on back.