

Medal for the Russo-Turkish War of 1828-1829.

In silver; measures 31.3 mm in height incl. eyelet, 26.1 mm in width. The obverse features an Eastern Orthodox cross standing upon a Muslim crescent and the dates 1828-1829. The inscription on the reverse reads: "For the Turkish War".

In very fine to excellent condition. Both sides show a mild wear to the high points of the artwork, lettering and numerals, but the fine details - including the rays of light emanating from the cross - are essentially intact and well defined. The edge is completely free of nicks or bumps, having only a few tiny dings on the reverse that are barely noticeable. A very attractive even patina to silver on both sides.

Ottoman Turkey declared war on Russia in 1827, and by spring of 1828 the Russian army invaded Bulgaria. The campaign culminated in the capture of Adrianople, the capital of the European Turkey, in the fall of 1829. The war resulted in the opening of the Dardanelles straits for maritime commerce, long coveted by Russia and European countries and also in some territorial gains by Russia.

The medal was established in 1829 and awarded to all ranks who had participated in the campaign. A total of close to 100000 medals were struck at the St. Petersburg Mint. Unlike the similar medal for the 1877-1878 War with Turkey, there is only a silver version of the 1829 medal.

/See Dimitri Romanov, The Orders, Medals and History of Imperial Russia, pp. 146-147; Mikhail Diakov, Medals of the Russian Empire, Vol. 3, fig. 46/

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