# Connecting China with the Pacific World?\*

Angela Schottenhammer (Ku Leuven)

Whereas Chinese merchants, diplomats, or even soldiers were engaged in East and Southeast Asian waters as well as in the eastern Indian Ocean space, they did not, as a rule, venture into the Pacific, beyond the Philippine Archipelago. At least officially, little to no interest was historically shown for the Asia-Pacific region. Was it simply a matter of disinterest? Or was it the obvious danger lying in a sheer immense body of water, the Pacific?

The East China Sea, the Yellow Sea, and the Bohai Sea have been sailed for centuries, since antiquity. Large parts of it are about a thousand fathoms in depth. The water is warmed by the languid north equatorial current which, starting from the islands of Micronesia, strikes the Philippines and branches into two streams. One enters the South China Sea and the other flows northward as the Kuroshio 黒潮, the “Black Current”. This current, flowing to the north-east, in the direction of the Aleut Islands, and further on to Alaska and then to the west coast of North America, in combination with strong westerly and north-westerly winds in winter, have, until modern steam craft technology was invented, posed a feared and significant danger to all ships sailing along and beyond the eastern coasts of Japan. In summer and autumn too, typhoons blowing from the south-west to the north-east constituted a major threat across the entire Asian and Pacific Ocean space. Also a problem is that a branch current splits off near the north-east of Honshu 本州, and moves on to the Kurile Islands and Kamchatka, further confusing navigation.

We know that Song and Yuan sailors were already aware of the difficulties when sailing eastward related to the Kuroshio Current. *Yuanshi* describes how fishing boats off the Penghu Islands encounter hurricanes (*jufeng*), and are swept into the open ocean by the *luoji* current (“falling shore” or “falling trench”; 近琉求则谓之落漈，漈者，水趋下而不回也。凡西岸渔舟到彭湖已下，遇飓风发作，漂流落漈).[[1]](#footnote-1) In his time, Zhou Qufei 周去非 (1178) in his *Lingwai daida* 嶺外代答 (Answers [to Questions] from beyond the mountain passes) mentioned the ocean currents that drain “east into the boundless ocean and the Weilu (tale gate); this is not a world to go and return from (愈東則尾閭之所泄，非復人世).”[[2]](#footnote-2) The dangerous current is interestingly also mentioned on the famous Selden map, as we will see below.

There can be little doubt that the currents, in combination with the uncertainty regarding what lies beyond, discouraged sailors from venturing into these Pacific seas. While there was discouragement in the area, routes east of Japan, especially along the eastern coasts of Kyūshū, the Ryūkyū Islands and the eastern Philippines were used, if not officially then by merchants and “pirates”. With the advent of the Spanish on the Philippines at the latest, a regular maritime traffic commenced in this region. Still Chinese ships rarely moved beyond their limits and geographical texts continue to pay little attention to the Pacific. Roderich Ptak has suggested that this “may indicate that Chinese merchants (and perhaps even government officials) weighed the costs and benefits of possible voyages through these parts of the world after carefully reconsidering what they had learned from their European partners in Macau, Manila, Nagasaki, and elsewhere”.[[3]](#footnote-3) It is clear that as early as the fifteenth century and thereafter, especially in the seventeenth century under the Kangxi Emperor, Chinese government actively sought to control its Pacific region. And with Kangxi’s integration of Taiwan into the mainland’s administrative system, with his fights against “pirates”, the situation in these waters changed.

## China’s Interest in the Asia-Pacific Rim

### Development of Commercial Contacts with the Philippines

#### *Song-Yuan*

Chinese traders started to establish sporadic bases in the Philippines probably as early as the eleventh and twelfth centuries. Archaeological excavations, as Kenneth Hall has emphasized, have brought to light “urban settlements of over five hundred households in the Manila area dating to the pre-Spanish period, as well as at other urban sites on the Mindoro, Mindanao, and Cebu coasts. Each of these communities’ trade links with China are demonstrated by their association with significant deposits of Sung and Ming porcelain dating to the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries.”[[4]](#footnote-4) Most probably, Yuan ceramics were also among these deposits. In 2016 archaeologists excavated a Yuan period warehouse in Taicang 太倉 on the Yangzi-estuary that revealed a huge amount of mostly Yuan trade ceramics destined for exportation overseas.[[5]](#footnote-5)

From the Song dynasty, we possess evidence of sporadic relations between Chinese and people from the Philippine archipelago. Contacts were with natives of specific islands, not yet conceived of as a uniform archipelago. Around early Song times, the term Mayi 麻逸 appears. Mayi is one of various ways of representing a particular polity name/toponym, often rendered as Mait.[[6]](#footnote-6) A definite localization is, consequently, difficult. An entry in Songshi, mentions Mayi in relation to the establishment of Maritime Trade Offices in Guangzhou, Hangzhou and Mingzhou.[[7]](#footnote-7)A similar entry is included in Song huiyao jigao.[[8]](#footnote-8) But Mayi has there no separate entry in the Fanyi section, whereas Putuan蒲端 (probably Butuan)[[9]](#footnote-9), located in the Agusan Valley within the modern province of Agusan del Norte in the northeastern part of Mindanao, does.[[10]](#footnote-10) Ma Duanlin speaks of a country of Mayi that, in the 7th year of Taiping Xingguo (983), brought valuable merchandise to Guangzhou.[[11]](#footnote-11)

*Yunlu manchao* 雲麓漫抄 lists merchants from foreign countries who call at the Fujian Maritime Trade Office (*shibo si*). Among them are Bosilan 波斯蘭 (?, see below), Mayi 麻逸 (Mait), Sanyu 三嶼 (Palawan/Luzon), Pulihuan 蒲里喚 (= Pulili, i.e. Polillo Island, off the east coast of Luzon?), and Baipu’er 白蒲邇國 (= Baipuyan Islands, off the north coast of Luzon?). Merchants from these places are said to have brought cotton fabrics and cotton threads (吉貝布貝紗).[[12]](#footnote-12) There is probably little doubt that these places refer to islands and locations located around the Philippine Archipelago. Among these places, in the case of Bosilan 波斯蘭, scholars offer various possibilities: Some locate it in Bansala, Cambodia; others think it may be Soc Trang in the Mekong Delta in Vietnam, and some consider it to be Basilan Island.

Zhao Rugua 趙汝括 (1170–1231) also explains that the country of Mayi lies in the north of Borneo (Boni 渤尼/渤泥), local products consist of yellow wax, cotton, pearls, tortoise-shells, medicinal betel nuts (*yao binglang* 藥檳榔) and Yuda 于達cloth, products that are exchanged by foreigners for ceramics (porcelains), trade gold, iron censers, lead, coloured glass beads, and iron needles.[[13]](#footnote-13) Sanyu三嶼, the text continues, Baipuyan (off north coast of Luzon?), Pulilu 蒲里嚕 (Polillo Island, off east coast of Luzon?)[[14]](#footnote-14), Lijindong 里金東 (Lingayan on the west coast of Luzon?), Liuxin 流新 (Luzon?), and Lihan 里漢 (?) belong to this country.[[15]](#footnote-15) But *Zhufan zhi* still has a separate entry on the island dependecies of Sanyu, that is, Jiamayan 加麻延 (Calamian), Balaoyou 巴姥酉 (Palawan?, Penon de Corón?, that was famous for birds’ nests), and Bajinong 巴吉弄 (Busuanga?), which clearly indicates that in the thirteenth century merchants from the Philippine Archipelago were still distinguished according to the islands or ports from which they came to China.

The hypothesis of early commercial relations with the Philippines is increasingly supported by archaeological evidence. The Ayala Museum and Oriental Ceramics Society of the Philippines organized an exhibition from September 5 to October 10, 2017, presenting Fujian wares excavated in the Philippine Islands.[[16]](#footnote-16) This exhibition displayed export wares from the eleventh to the fourteenth centuries, attesting to the assumption that during the Song, and especially the Yuan period, commercial relations between China and the Philippine islands gradually became more and more frequent and routine. Song ceramics have, for example, been found near Butuan on Mindanao.[[17]](#footnote-17) These finds do, of course, not tell us how and when exactly the Chinese ceramics were been shipped there. A direct route is possible as well as a triangular trade connection via Vietnam or other places in Southeast Asia.

A shipwreck dated to approximately 1000 with ninth-century earthenware and elephant tusks has been discovered in 1991 north of Luzon. Artefacts recovered suggest a trade with Sri Lanka.[[18]](#footnote-18) A Southern Song dynasty (approx. 1150) ship cargo of stoneware pots, Chinese ceramics, iron and lead ingots probably from China, has been discovered southwest of Palawan (Breaker Reef Wreck), a Chinese trader junk from ca. 1260, loaded with stoneware pots, in north Palawan, and another Chinese junk (Investigator Shoal Wreck, ca. 1280), salvaged off Kalayaan, Palawan, with a cargo of Chinese celadons and Qingbai ceramics as well as tea.[[19]](#footnote-19) Some archaeological evidence stems from the regions of Pangasinan, the coast of Lingayen Gulf from Bolinao (Zambales) to Balaoan (La Union), and the delta of the Agno River. From China’s Song period onwards, people in Pangasinan used porcelain jars for wine, and, according to an early Spanish account in the sixteenth century, even ordinary people were wearing Chinese silk and Chinese cotton garments.[[20]](#footnote-20)

Speaking about Yuan maritime expansion, of course we also need to consider the issue of overseas Chinese, especially Muslim, communities. Archaeological and textual evidence strongly suggest that a majority of Chinese Muslims on the Philippines originally migrated from Fujian, Quanzhou in particular, and many came during Yuan times. The *Malay Annals of* *Sĕmarang and Cĕrbon* equally refer to Quanzhou as the place of origin for Filipino Muslim communities.[[21]](#footnote-21) Close commercial relations must already have existed during the Mongol Yuan period. In addition, descendants of Muslim officials from Fujian, who had formerly been merchants, were vested with the authority to collect and transport taxes during Yuan rule and these Muslims also maintained close commercial relations overseas.[[22]](#footnote-22)

Wang Dayuan 汪大淵 (1311–1350), in his *Daoyi zhilüe* 島夷誌略 (1349), in fact supplies the earliest extant description of the Sulu Islands, the Moluccas and the Banda Islands, the Klabat region of Sulawesi (if the name in question has been correctly identified), and the large island of Timor.[[23]](#footnote-23) He states that males from Sanyu (Palawan? Or Luzon?) frequently board overseas vessels and come to Quanzhou to trade (男子常附舶至泉州經紀).[[24]](#footnote-24) This statement strongly supports the argument that already during Yuan times, Fujian’s commercial links to the Philippines were significant. Later, when the Spanish arrived in Manila, the maritime trade route between Fujian and Luzon was converted “into the first link of a transoceanic commercial chain that achieved an average of several dozen junks a year, in which people, silver, pottery, silk and spices, knowledge and everyday supplies for the city of Manila and its defence travelled”.[[25]](#footnote-25)

#### Ming-Qing

Many Chinese settled in the Philippines in the course of the Ming dynasty, and Manila with its harbour Cavite emerged as an important hub for international trade, connecting China and East Asia with the Indian Ocean world and the Asia-Pacific region. In Chinese sources, the Spanish were genereally referred to as Ganxila 干係臘/幹係蠟, Gansila 幹絲臘, Shibanya 是班呀 /是班牙 or Folangji 佛郎機 (actually the general reference to the Portuguese). Describing the diversity of life in Manila on the Philippines, the Spanish Dominican missionary, Juan de Cobo [高母羡 Gao Muxian, in Chinese] (ca. 1546–1592), noted in a letter written in July 1589 that “(a)mong all these peoples are the Chinese, whose numbers here are untold and who outnumber everyone else.” This was the situation in late Ming times when Chinese merchants, especially and above all from Fujian, regularly sailed to Manila for doing business there. They were called sangleys, an expression derived from either the Chinese term “changlai” 常來 or “shanglai” 商來, meaning “those who to come frequently or those who come to trade”, and “theycarried all kinds of damasks, silks, porcelains, sugar*,* oranges, pepper, flour, medicinal drugs, musk and other perfumes, mercury, painted trunks”, *etc*. (Miguel López de Legazpi (1502*–*1572), August 11, 1572).[[26]](#footnote-26)

As Igawa Kenji has shown, the Philippine Islands developed as an important crossroads in the (South) East Asian waters in the course of the sixteenth century, with clandestine trade, “piracy” and trade complementing each other. Especially when the Chinese government enforced their anti-piracy campaigns in the sixteenth century, more and more islands along the Chinese coastal regions and beyond disappeared as safe haven and a place for organising their networks. Consequently, the Philippines came to serve as a geographically-speaking well located, “accessible choice for traders and pirates operating in the greater China Seas region. Clearly, Spain also needed the Philippines as a centre of their [own] activities in the western Pacific Ocean instead of the Moluccas.”[[27]](#footnote-27)

According to *Mingshi*, Luzon was a country located in the Southern Seas (Nanhai), close to Zhangzhou 漳州. In 1405, 8th month, Emperor Yongle supposedly sent officials (*qianguan* 遣官) with an imperial letter with instructions to Luzon to appease and pacify (*fuyu* 撫諭) the country.[[28]](#footnote-28) The event is also recorded in *Ming shilu* (10th month, 5th day, or 27 October 1405): “Envoys were sent to take Imperial proclamations for the soothing and instruction of the six countries of Fan-su-er, Mi-nang-ge-bu, Luzon, Ma-ye-weng, Nan-wu-li and Suo-luo.”[[29]](#footnote-29) The second entry states: “A banquet was conferred upon Man-di-li-ha-lu, the uncle of the king of the country of Bo-ni, as well as upon Li You and other envoys and chieftains from Pangasinan and the country of Luzon in the Eastern Ocean…”[[30]](#footnote-30) In 1410 (Yongle 8) Luzon sent tribute together with 馮嘉施蘭, that is Pangasinan).[[31]](#footnote-31) *Dongxiyang kao*, too, mentions a king of Luzon sending a special envoy to China at the beginning of the fifteenth century.[[32]](#footnote-32) The envoy is said to have presented tribute to the Yongle emperor. Luzon is described as so near to Zhangzhou in Fujian, that many of the local Chinese used to go there for trade. Chinese were trading with the natives of some of the islands, especially those where gold was produced. In exchange the Chinese would offer textiles, weapons, and trifles of all kinds.[[33]](#footnote-33) Most of the merchants were actually from either Zhangzhou or Guangzhou.

Although this falls under the initial period of the Zheng He expeditions, Zheng He is not mentioned at all. This can, therefore, not be taken as evidence that Zheng He visited the Philippines.[[34]](#footnote-34) Any official could have been sent there. The text also continues that after the mission in 1410, nobody came again from this region for a long time. After the Yongle reign, there is only a little information about contacts with the Philippines. The next entry in *Ming shilu* only stems from 1576, more than 150 years later, and is related to the fights against the pirate Lin Feng 林鳳 (Limahon), who had fled to Luzon in 1571, after he was defeated off the Guangdong coast by Chinese naval forces.

In 1567, the 200-years private maritime trade proscription was lifted and the Fujian port of Yuegang 月港 (Haicheng 海澄, Amoy), located on the borderline between Quan and Zhang prefectures, was opened to foreign trade. It gradually emerged as the centre of trade with Southeast Asia. With the opening of maritime trade at Yuegang administrative structures were changed as well. A customs checkpoint was set up to oversee maritime traffic to and from Yuegang, and the Customs Taxation Office for Military Supplies replaced the former Coastal Defence Circuit (*haifang guan*) during the Longqing reign period (1567–1572).[[35]](#footnote-35) Its importance was further enhanced when the naval base was moved from Wuyu 浯嶼 to the island of Amoy.[[36]](#footnote-36) The Ming court, of course, sought to control this newly opened port.

A by-product of this supervision and the court’s anti-piracy campaigns was that more and more islands along the Chinese coastal regions and beyond disappeared as safe haven and place for organizing illegal trading networks, so that the Philippine Archipelago moved into the centre of “illegal” activities. Against this background, a triangular trade between China, Luzon and Japan emerged, and Manila also developed as a principal port of call for both Chinese and Japanese ships. In this context, we have to understand the activities of Lin Feng. The Chinese general Liu Yaohui 劉堯誨 asked the local Luzon king to attack the pirates and burn their ships. Liu even sent a fleet to assist him.[[37]](#footnote-37) The archipelago was, thus, no longer of interest to the Ming court, and only returned to the agenda in relation to the enforced anti-piracy campaigns of the government in the late sixteenth century.

The events are described in *Ming shilu*: “The Fujian Grand Coordinator Liu Yao-hui reported: ‘The Regional Commander Zhang Yuan-xun [張元勳] supervised troops in executing the Guang-dong bandit Zhu Liang-bao [朱/諸良寶]. The fugitive bandit Lin Feng then called together his band of 10,000 persons and they fled eastward. The Fu-jian Regional Commander Hu Shou-ren [胡守仁] pursued them, and summoned the fisherman Liu Yi-dao [劉以道] to instruct the Eastern *fan* to cooperate in eliminating them. Thereupon the bandits fled to a distance.’”[[38]](#footnote-38)

Lin Feng could escape but he came back in late 1574 and raided Manila.[[39]](#footnote-39) The city was attacked with reportedly seventy ships and a crew of 3,000 pirates and several hundreds of Japanese soldiers to assist him. A Chinese fleet, under the command of Wang Wanggao 王望高 (Omoncón in Spanish records), assisted the Spanish armada under Juan de Salcedo (1549–1576) to defeat Lin Feng. Combined forces sailed to Quanzhou in July 1575.[[40]](#footnote-40) That troops were sent to Luzon in 1575 to pursue the pirate Lin Daoqian 林道乾[[41]](#footnote-41), is also mention in *Mingshi*.[[42]](#footnote-42) When the Chinese government thus enforced their anti-piracy campaigns, more and more islands along the Chinese coastal regions and beyond disappeared as safe haven and place of organizing their networks. Consequently, the Philippines came to serve as a geographically speaking well located, “accessible choice for traders and pirates operating in the greater China Seas region. Clearly, Spain also needed the Philippines as a centre of their activities in the western Pacific Ocean instead of the Moluccas.”[[43]](#footnote-43)

On September 27, 1576, Liu Yaohui memorialized: “The *yi* troops of Luzon defeated the bandit Lin Feng at sea, burnt ships and took heads. However, Feng burst through the cordon and fled. The Squad Leader Wang Wang-gao and others then took more heads. …”[[44]](#footnote-44) Talking about Luzon, *Mingshi* speaks primarily about the pirates, especially Lin Feng. But one other incident (1593) is also described in some detail, that is the story of how a certain Pan Hewu 潘和五 stabbed the Spanish governor of the Philippines, Don Gómez Pérez Dasmariñas (1519–1593; governor of the Philippines from December 3, 1593 to July 14, 1596; in Chinese 郎雷敝裏系朥).[[45]](#footnote-45) Gómez Pérez Dasmariñas had by force seized Chinese, many of who were peacable merchants and artisans, from the Parian in Manila to assist him with an attack on the Moluccas. In addition, he had forced a number of Chinese traders and sailors who had just arrived in Manila to become his soldiers. Pan Hewu reportedly was the leader of this group of 250 Chinese. But they were defeated on the Moluccas and Hewu decided to revolt with his men. They killed Dasmariñas and took all the gold, valuables and military equipment of the Spanish, escaping to Annam. There, they were robbed by local people, but, being near to another ship, a certain Guo Weitai 郭惟太 and some thirty-two other people seized it and then returned. The son of Don Gómez Pérez Dasmariñas, Luis Pérez Dasmariñas Páez de Sotomayor, learned about this incident from them. Leading his troops, he passed quickly on to Manila and sent a priest to China to report about the wrong done to his father. He requested that the war junks and all the valuables be returned and that those who had incurred his enmity be executed, thus offering retribution for his father. The governor, Xu Fuyuan 許孚遠, pardoned Weitai, Hewu remained in Annam and did not dare to return. The priest was sent back. In Manila, the Spanish expelled the Chinese to an outer part of the city. Dasmariñas namely feared that the Chinese might join Japanese pirates and raiders. Xu Fuyuan thereupon sent an envoy to Manila to invite the Chinese to come back to China. The “barbarians” (*man*) then provided them with provisions for their return journey. “It is namely so that Chinese merchants are keen on profit, they do not care to risk their lives, so for a long time they again dwelt together in the city.”[[46]](#footnote-46)

*Ming shilu* explains: “The son of the head chieftain of Luzon has complained that some of our evil people who had attached themselves to their tribe, had attacked and killed his father, before stealing valuables and fleeing. The Ministry of War re-submitted the memorial and proposed: ‘We should capture the offenders and punish them in accordance with the law. Further, we should entertain and send back the chieftain’s envoy both to strengthen their desire to look towards the Court, and also to use the occasion to spy on the situation of the Japanese *yi*.’ This was approved by Imperial command.”[[47]](#footnote-47)

The developments within China can, consequently, not be separated from the advent of the Europeans in the East Asian waters, and their increasing trade activities. The Portuguese occupied Malacca in 1511 and officially established their trading centre in Macau in 1557. First the Spanish (1626 to 1641), and then the Dutch occupied Taiwan (they settled on Taiwan in 1624, built a fort, “Zeelandia” and were eventually expelled by Zheng Chenggong (1624–1662)= Koxinga in 1662). With the Spanish colonization of the Philippines in 1565 – Manila was founded in 1571 – maritime trade reached a new quantity and quality, as China, and Asia in general, became henceforth linked with Spanish America through the Spanish Manila Galleon trade (1565–1815). China was, thus, eventually linked with places in Mexico, Peru, and their hinterlands, a significant further step in the historical development of globalization that connected China with Europe across the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, in addition to the Indian Ocean and Cape route connections that had developed earlier. In other words, China was linked up with both the Old World and the New World.

### Ming China’s need for silver

It is an established fact that the late Ming dynasty was in urgent need of financial resources. Was there, consequently, no curiosity about all the silver that reached the Philippines via the Spanish trans-Pacific galleon trade? Although Chinese settlers in the Philippines were involved in practically all steps of the galleon trade after the Spanish occupation of the island, for example as shipbuilders, harbor personnel and even sailors on ships to Acapulco – “the majority of the jobs at Cavite shipyard, for example, were filled by Filipino and Chinese employees and they were paid only a minimal salary”[[48]](#footnote-48) – obviously little knowledge about the origins of all the silver was circulating among Ming officials.

A closer reading of the sources, however, shows that scholars and local officials were engaged with the question of where all the gold, and particularly silver that they received on Luzon from the Spanish came from. In order to take care about the consolidation of state finances, eunuchs were dispatched by the central government throughout the country to function as overseers of local mines (kuangjian 礦監) or as tax commissioners (shuishi 稅使). Between 1562 to 1566, a pilot program, the “*yitiao bianfa* 一條鞭法” (single-whip-tax reform) was put into practice. By the late sixteenth century, land tax, labour service and all the miscellaneous levies were converted into a single silver payment.[[49]](#footnote-49) Following the repeal of the maritime ban in 1567, the Ming government designated Yuegang 月港 in Fujian as the home port for Chinese merchants who received licenses to embark on overseas trading expeditions. Maritime trade soon experienced an hitherto unkown peak. One of the eunuchs dispatched to the coastal provinces to seek for more financial resources was Gao Cai 高寀[[50]](#footnote-50), a reportedly ruthless official, who was sent to Fujian. He energetically supported the initiative of a naval expedition to Luzon that was suggested by a military official, Yan Yinglong 閻應龍, because rimours had it that the island was full of gold and silver.

#### Mount Jiyi

Rumours had it that a certain Mount Jiyi 機易山 (also 加溢, 交逸 or 佳逸), probably Cavite (?), the harbour of the Spanish on Luzon, would produce huge amounts of gold and silver.[[51]](#footnote-51) The military official Yan Yinglong, and a local merchant called Zhang Yi 張嶷 memorialized to the emperor that a certain “Mt. Jiyi in Haicheng County, Fujian, produces gold and silver and by proceeding there by ship to wash for it, it will be possible to obtain 100,000 *liang* of gold and 300,000 *liang* of silver every year”.[[52]](#footnote-52) The Philippines had deposits of gold on the islands of Camarines and Mindanao and also Luzon itself operated gold mines in a more remote region, but silver – the metal definitely of much more importance to the Chinese – was not known to be found locally.[[53]](#footnote-53)

*Dongxiyang kao* speaks of gold and silver as local products[[54]](#footnote-54) and provides some further insights: “There is also this matter about the Jiyi Mountain”, a story brought up by a strange man called Zhang Yi 張嶷: “In Lüsong there is a Jiyi Mountain, on which golden beans grow all by themselves. One could send people there to collect them and, in this way, gain enormous profits.”[[55]](#footnote-55)

In 1603, a delegation including the Vice Magistrate of Haicheng, Wang Shihe 王時和 (fl. 16/17th cent.), and the local Company Commander Gan Yicheng 干一成 were dispatched in order to investigate the territory.[[56]](#footnote-56) The Spanish in Manila were of course concerned when the Chinese “delegation” arrived, and were very astonished to hear about a tree that would grow gold beans (*jindou* 金豆), asking what kind of tree this should be? Zhang Yi just replied: “This place is full of gold, there is no need to ask where the beans come from. Yi wanted to use the order of the imperial court to attack and occupy the country, but he did not dare to speak this out clearly. The foreigners all laughed.”[[57]](#footnote-57) The whole undertaking, however, failed in the end. Zhang Yi was captured and only released after some negotiations, and the expedition eventually returned home, where he was eventually executed due to his false reports in early 1605: “The Fu-jian mining taxation Eunuch Director Gao Cai had, on receipt of Imperial orders, sent officers across the sea and they had ascertain that Ji-yi did not produce gold and silver. Thus he submitted impeachments against the evil official Zhang Yi and the Company Commander Yan Ying-long for submitting a false memorial. It was Imperially commanded that, as Zhang Yi had made wild claims, the Eunuch Gao Cai was, together with the grand coordinator and the regional inspector, to send officers to arrest him and send him to the capital, and that he be subject to investigation together with the Company Commander Yan Ying-long (December 1603).[[58]](#footnote-58) … The Emperor said. ‘Zhang Yi and so on have deceived and lied to the Court. They have also initiated troubles abroad leading to the slaughter of 30,000 merchants. This has harmed majesty, and bequeathed calamity. Death will not expiate their crimes. Have them immediately executed, and their heads displayed throughout that province. The Luzon *fan* chieftain has killed officials and civilians without authority. Have the grand coordinator and regional inspector deliberate on appropriate arrangements and memorialize so that a decision can be made.’”[[59]](#footnote-59)

Interesting is also that the section on Luzon in *Mingshi* speaks about the taxation of mines and highlights the silver and gold output from Luzon: “Annually one can get 100,000 *liang* of gold and 300,000 *liang* of silver.[[60]](#footnote-60) All the bandits and pirates were getting very wealthy. “Your servant has heard (臣聞) that the Maritime Trade Officer of Haicheng, Gao Cai, reportedly taxes 30,000 gold (*liang*?) annually, he definitely does not neglect any efforts to yield profit. And as far as the Jiyi (Mountain) is concerned, it lies far away in overseas (越在海外), and there also is no place anywhere in the worl full of gold and silver, people are appointed to manage its extraction. How is it possible that the words about the 100,000 (*liang*?) of gold and the 300,000 of silver are taken for true? But to falsely borrow dynastic orders recklessly exporting probibited items without permission, seducing all the foreigners, carrying out illegal plans in an outrageous manner, this is more than annoying for public and private, and it brings calamity to the district of Haicheng!”[[61]](#footnote-61)

This entry, in addition to a critique of the power of eunuchs, suggests that Zhang Tingyu and the editors of *Mingshi* were aware of the fact that the large quantities of silver did not come from the Philippines but from a country far away in overseas – even though they had obviously no idea and did not care about where exactly this country was located. The expression “your servant has heard” is frequently used in making a powerful argument to advise the ruler or to summarize a case in point.

Gao Cai had been dispatched as a Superintendent of Maritime Trade and should concurrently regulate the mining matters.[[62]](#footnote-62) In 1599, the Wanli Emperor (r. 1573–1619) discussed the empire’s customs duties anew and appointed the three eunuchs: Liu Cheng 劉成, Gao Cai, and Li Feng 李鳳[[63]](#footnote-63) to manage the Maritime Trade Offices in Zhejiang, Fujian, and Guangdong respectively. They also received the authority and responsibility over the taxation of maritime trade.[[64]](#footnote-64) Obviously, when the government urgently needed more financial resources for the suppression of piracy along its coasts, the commercial relations with Luzon were very welcome. *Dongxiyang kao* also informs us that shortly after the eunuch Zhao Xianyi’s 趙賢意 was appointed as supervisor of the Customs Taxation Office for Military Supplies (*duxiang guan* 督餉館), “eunuchs unexpectedly seized the economic rights to the administration of maritime trade, and the offices of the administrators was thereupon abolished”.[[65]](#footnote-65)

Principally, various higher officials remained very suspicious of these reports. *Ming shilu* records a memorial of Censor-in-chief of the Left Wen Chun 溫純 (1593–1607), who warned the emperor not to believe in such fantastic stories: “Yan Ying-long and Zhang Yi have submitted a memorial on being able to bring in 100,000 [liang] of gold and 300,000 [liang] of silver, through maritime trading. Their words are truly like a comedy. However, even the Emperor, with his Heavenly wisdom and perspicacity, has considered the claims possible. We are alarmed and shaken and are unable to eat or sleep. We are afraid that at some time troops will have to be raised and calamities will occur, and that this will require incalculable millions of the Imperial funds. Also, it is not known if it will be possible to defeat them. If it is not possible to defeat them, the calamity will not only be a financial one….”

So, he further suggested: “We humbly consider that although Mt. Ji-yi is overseas, it is not an area where bountiful gold and silver litter the ground, or a place where anyone can wish for and obtain these things. It is also considered that the tax-collecting eunuchs, the evil military officials and their followers constitute the power on which the various evil-doers depend. This may be effective in China, but will certainly not be so among the foreign *yi* peoples. From where then will come this 100,000 [liang] of gold and 300,000 [liang] of silver which has been reported on to the Emperor? Their aim is nothing more than to provide a pretext for the issue of an Imperial order by which the strict prohibitions on communication with the *fan* would be greatly relaxed. The greater the amounts of saltpetre, unworked iron ore, military weapons and ships that can be gotten past the prohibitions, the greater the profits. Then, with full cargoes and sails hoisted, the ships will be able to go anywhere. Thereby military secrets will leak, out and the various countries will be enticed to come. How can it be thought that the only calamities will be confusion of public and private trade through intimidation and deceit, and trouble just for the city of Hai-cheng!”[[66]](#footnote-66)

We shall not discuss here the subsequent massacre of the Chinese in Manila that was committed by the Spanish in the aftermaths of this incident.[[67]](#footnote-67) Local officials, of course, discussed the reasons for the massacre, and related it to the search of the Chinese for the silver and gold producing mountain in Luzon. Li Tingji 李廷機 (1542–1616), a native of Quanzhou, for example, in a letter that was probably written shortly after the massacre happened, clearly states that it was the Chinese curiosity about the Jiyi Mountain that caused the anger of the Spanish and consequently prompted the massacre. The local Chinese had been blamed for having informed China about all this gold and silver.[[68]](#footnote-68) Otherwise, officials were, of course, aware of the great business opportunities that existed in Luzon for merchants from Fujian, and the great quantities of silver that could be procured through the Luzon trade connection; but, at least officially, no further attempts were undertaken to explore the origins of all the silver in the Spanish Philippines.

The fact that Luzon was a source of silver did of course not entirely disappear from the minds of scholars and local officials. Also, officials who did not believe in these fancy stories about gold or silver-bearing trees, could not deny that there definitely was a source of silver overseas. Where, after all, should all the silver that Chinese merchants regularly shipped to Fujian in exchange for Chinese products come from? As we will see below, further information was particularly provided by Jesuit missionaries, and probably also merchants.

As Cao Jin has noted, there are “certain details indicating that knowledge of the Chinese could have been somewhat closer to the truth than can be assumed from their own sources.” In a Spanish translation of a letter to the Spanish governor, originally written in Chinese, which was said to have arrived four days ahead of the Chinese delegation to Luzon, “Cavite is called ‘one lonely mountain in the midst of the widespread sea’ and it is stated that the people living close to this mountain ‘store [the precious metals] up to trade with the Sangleys (i.e. Chinese living on the Philippines) who come there to trade so that they may buy their property.’ According to these passages, a stretch of sea needed to be crossed to reach the mountain, which was obviously done by Chinese in the Philippines who sold Chinese products to obtain precious metals.”[[69]](#footnote-69)

The “lonely mountain in the midst of the widespread sea” is not only portrayed on contemporary maps, as we will see below, but this description actually resembles the usage of portraying important countries and locations within maritime space during Song times. Being an ‘island in the sea’, during Song times obviously stood as a metaphor or symbol for the significance of a place (country, port, island) in China’s contemporary maritime trade system.[[70]](#footnote-70) This usage Cavite being an island in the sea would fit perfectly into this same concept.

### China and the Manila galleon trade

The Spanish galleons brought mainly silver ingots, Spanish coins, and some American products like wines, sweet potatoes, chocolate and cacao or tobacco back across the Pacific to Manila, from where in particular silver was shipped further to China (especially Fujian) in exchange for Chinese goods, above all silks, porcelains, but also a great variety of other items ranging from handicraft goods like ivory figurines, writing desks to agricultural products like fruits or flour. Chinese junks brought their goods from Fujian ports (mainly Yuegang) to Manila, where the cargoes were reloaded in the galleons bound for Acapulco and the Spanish markets of the Americas. As a result of the flourishing trade with Luzon, concentrated at Zhangzhou, in the late sixteenth century, Quanzhou officials even suggested a demarcation to separate maritime trading spheres between Quanzhou and Zhangzhou – a plan that due to the strong opposition of Zhangzhou officials could eventually not be carried out.[[71]](#footnote-71)

Thriving commerce may be conceived just from quantities of silver that flowed into China from Spanish America via Manila alone. The lucrative silver import trade associated with Manila was, of course, also an important motivation to shift trading activities to the Philippine Archipelago, especially Luzon where “the locals paid everything in silver and there was plenty.”[[72]](#footnote-72) In 1659, the Casa de Contratación in Sevilla announced that Peru alone annually shipped a quantity of 500,000 pesos of silver via Acapulco to China in exchange for Chinese and Asian goods. An estimated 33 to 40 percent of the silver output of Mexico and Peru, which combined accounted for approximately 85 percent of global production between 1500 and 1800, flowed to China. Spanish galleons sailing from Manila to Acapulco carried between 300 and 500 boxes containing bales of Chinese silks on average (approximately 30 to 52 metric tons, an amount that increased to up to 238 to 716 metric tons in the early eighteenth century, when Spain began to transport larger quantities of raw silk).[[73]](#footnote-73) The quantities of silver imported into China in return varied, for example, with such limited factors as the revival of piracy, for example during the late sixteenth century, or with trade bans, such as the brief but impactful embargo of trade with China and Macao issued by Don Pedro de Quiroga y Moya in 1636, empowered by the Spanish crown to investigate and regulate the Manila galleon trade, and the subsequent Chinese insurrection, suppressed by the Spanish in 1639-40, that once and again weakened Chinese merchant activities in Manila.

After 1627 in particular, Chinese “illegal” or informal – from the Chinese government perspective – trading fleets shifted their focus of operations towards areas dominated by the Zheng 鄭 family. Members of the Zheng family had successfully built up a large and influential Ming loyalist maritime empire in Taiwan – led in succession by Zheng Zhilong 鄭芝龍, Zheng Chenggong鄭成功 (1624–1662), and Zheng Jing鄭經 – in the mid-seventeenth century.[[74]](#footnote-74) When Zheng Zhilong managed to control the trade route to Manila (and to Dutch Taiwan), this coincided with his surrender to the Qing court in 1646, and the legal recognition of his maritime company by Chinese authorities of Fujian in exchange for the pacification of the Taiwan Straits, including control of various smuggling and pirate networks.[[75]](#footnote-75)

Zheng Chenggong, alias Coxinga,[[76]](#footnote-76) took part between 1647 and 1662 in a triangular trade involving Japan, Vietnam, Cambodia, Indonesia, and the Philippines; his fleet to Japan alone comprised fifty ships a year. In the late 1650s, he had begun quite successfully to raid cities in northern Zhejiang and the Zhoushan Islands with perhaps as many as 1,000 ships, and about 130,000 soldiers. The sea routes between Japan, Taiwan, Luzon and Batavia were controlled by merchant fleets operating from southern Fukianese ports like Quanzhou and Xiamen (Amoy). This change also affected old trading networks of Zhangzhou that were largely relocated south towards Guangzhou and Portuguese Macao due to pressure of the Dutch on Taiwan. The annual profit from his Japanese trade has been estimated at 550,000 *liang* of silver and the total profit from overseas trade each year at 2.3-2.7 million *liang* of silver.[[77]](#footnote-77)

Between 1644, the founding year of the Manchu Qing dynasty, and 1662, when Zheng Chenggong, who was considered a pirate or “sea bandit” (*haini* 海逆), expelled the Dutch from Taiwan, one can also observe a decrease in the quantity of and irregularity of Chinese ships sailing to Manila – Zheng Chenggong in 1662 even threatened to conquer Manila, before he passed away from Malaria in the summer of the same year – and a recovery in the momentum of trade between Fujian, Taiwan and Manila when the Kangxi Emperor eventually defeated the Zheng clan in 1683, and reopened maritime trade in 1684.

The situation during the Ming-Qing conquest, especially the fight between Manchu troops and Coxinga has been described by Cheng Wei-chung.[[78]](#footnote-78) In 1656, Coxinga, for example, declared an embargo on all Chinese shipping to Manila.[[79]](#footnote-79) After he had seized Taiwan from the Dutch in 1662, he demanded from the Spanish authorities in Manila to pay him tribute – a demand that resulted in another bloody massacre of Chinese in Manila.[[80]](#footnote-80) The conflict with Coxinga, who passed away in 1662, and his successors, in 1661, prompted Kangxi not only to prohibit private people to sail abroad but even to order an evacuation of the coastal population from the coasts to the hinterlands, in order to cut off Coxinga and his successors, the Zheng “rebels” on Taiwan, from their human and material resources on the mainland. This evacuation or relocation of the entire southeastern coastal strip, referred to as “*qianjie ling*” 遷界令 in Chinese, was not lifted before 1669 and of course seriously affected maritime trade.

In 1683, after defeating the Zheng and occupying Taiwan, Kangxi repealed the maritime embargo enacted to isolate the Zheng, and re-opened Chinese ports to foreign trade. He was also convinced that trade with foreigners would benefit China. The complete reorganization and restructuring of the institutions and personnel responsible for the administration of maritime trade in the Kangxi era attests to the changed attitude towards foreign trade.

#### A Note on Taxation

In 1571 (*longqing* 5), the Ming rulers had initiated a new dual taxation system (*gaiding zhangchou zhi li* 該定丈抽之例), the “*xiangshui zhi* 餉税制” or “*zhangchou shouyin zhi*  丈抽收銀制”, replacing the former “*choufen zhi* 抽分制”, commodity taxation in kind. Following the new system, taxes were first, imposed according to the size (width and tonnage) of the ships (*zhang* 丈; also *chuanshui* 船税 or *boxiang* 舶餉), and secondly, according to the cargo or the value of commodities loaded (*chou* 抽). This kind of taxation was obviously maintained until the re-opening of maritime trade under the Kangxi Emperor.[[81]](#footnote-81)

Haicheng merchants in particular had requested more licenses for their trade with Luzon. In 1589, sixteen licenses were reserved for Luzon, a quantity that had risen to 137 issued at Haicheng by 1597. The number of ships arriving at Manila, whether licensed or not, rose significantly during this period: from annually nine between 1577–78 to forty-eight in 1588 and to between fifteen and forty by the late 1590s.[[82]](#footnote-82) In the early seventeenth century, 1611–12, an estimated 91.5 percent of Manila’s total customs revenue stemmed from Chinese merchants ships calling at the port.[[83]](#footnote-83) After 1589, Chinese junks returning from Manila carried almost exclusively the famous silver pieces-of-eight (reales de à ocho) as cargo. The silver exports from the Philippines to China rose accordingly, reaching a peak with 7,730,500 pesos in the years 1606 to 1610, as table 1 may show.

Table 1: Estimates of silver exports from the Philippines to China, 1586–1615

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Year/period | Value of exports by Chinese junks (in pesos) |
| 1586–1590 | 625,000 |
| 1591–1595 | 3,827,500 |
| 1596–1600 | 4,026,000 |
| 1601–1605 | 5,017,333 |
| 1606–1610 | 7,730,500 |
| 1611–1615 | 4,479,700 |

Source: Pierre Chaunu*, Les Philippines et le Pacifique des Ibériques*, 200-205.

Because the Chinese merchants who traded with Luzon, as a rule, returned with mostly silver and only a few taxable commodities, the government decided to introduce a new tax especially imposed on ships trading with Luzon. It was called “*jiazengxiang* 加增餉” and was meant to compensate for the lack of tax revenue otherwise. The tax was first fixed at 150 *liang* per ship in 1589. In 1590 it was reduced to 120 *liang*.[[84]](#footnote-84) The authorities in Fujian did not tax exports but only levied taxes on imports. But in Canton generally ten percent export taxes were imposed.[[85]](#footnote-85)

Some of the Fujian merchants were authorized by the Ming government to act as brokers or broker merchants (*yashang* 牙商), meaning that they were appointed to manage the purchase and sale of foreign commodities. These authorized merchants were called “shopkeepers” (*pushang* 舖商). When travelling merchants came back to China from overseas, they were not simply permitted to unload and sell their cargo. Instead, the shopkeepers would go on board the ship and purchase (*jiemai* 接買) the overseas merchants’ commodities. They were issued certificates (*haopiao* 號票), and after customs duties had been paid, the supervising officials allowed them to unload their cargos.[[86]](#footnote-86) As the shopkeepers actually purchased the cargo, Ng Chin-Keong has proposed considering them wholesalers rather than brokers.[[87]](#footnote-87)

China’s trade with the Philippines underwent some ups and downs in the late Ming period. This was caused not only by the revival of piracy but also the aggressive competetive policy of the Dutch, who, for example, attempted to seize Macao in 1622 and then occupied first the Pescadores and then, after being pushed away by the Ming navy, took refuge on and seized Taiwan. The activities of the Dutch even prompted the Ming government to initiate a brief maritime trade proscription in 1623–24 and again from 1626 onward. The ban was lifted partly in 1631 and reinstated between 1633 and 1637. All this greatly weakened the Chinese commerce at Manila, but Chinese merchants were mostly quick to regain their trade.

A really drastic setback of Chinese trade in Manila occurred in the aftermath of the bloody suppression of the Chinese uprising in Manily by the Spanish in 1639 to 1640.[[88]](#footnote-88) Attempts in New Spain sought to restrict the trade with China and the enormous outflow of silver through the Pacific route. In 1636, the royal commissioner, Don Pedro Quiroga y Moya (d. 1637) ordered all the goods that had reached Acapulco that year to be seized. In the following years, this decisively altered the China trade with Manila and the traders who went to the Philippines – especially Xiamen and Macao. The silver that arrived that year in the Manila Galleon was clearly insufficient to pay the debts – the galleon trade to a large degree operated on a credit system basis – that the Spanish had contracted with the Chinese and Portuguese traders. The Spanish authorities in Manila even prohibited the exportation of silver what led to even more smuggling. At the same time, silver production in Potosí experienced a decline and eventually more silver was exported to China via Europe and India, carried by Portuguese and Dutch merchants.[[89]](#footnote-89) The drastic decrease in the silver supply contributed to the tensions in the Parian that were, like the one in 1603, forcefully and bloddily repressed by the Spanish authorities.[[90]](#footnote-90)

Portuguese merchants subsequently took over parts of the China-Manila trade from their base at Macao. In addition, lot of smuggling was going on, especially through the Dutch and Spanish settlements on Taiwan.[[91]](#footnote-91) The Dutch, for example, employed Chinese smugglers to engage in the Manila trade but also plundered Chinese on their way back from Manila to Haicheng.[[92]](#footnote-92) The number of Chinese junks calling at Manila between 1633 and 1639 oscillated between twenty-six (in 1634) and fifty (in 1637) – with the exception only of sixteen in 1638, when it dropped to seven after the insurrection in 1640.[[93]](#footnote-93)

Official Chinese trade with Manila recovered particularly during the Kangxi reign in the second half of the seventeenth century. In 1684, the Kangxi Emperor reopened trade: “Now, as China (lit. ‘everything within the seas’, *hainei* 海內) is united, and the world (*huanyu* 寰宇) is at peace, as Manchu and Han people form one uniform body (*Man Han* *xiangtong yiti* 滿漢相同一體), I order you to go abroad to trade, in order to display the good rule of the wealthy and numerous, and by imperial decree open the seas for trade.”[[94]](#footnote-94) Between 1683 and 1684, Customs Houses (*haiguan* 海關) were established in the four most important coastal regions, that is Guangdong, Fujian, Zhejiang and Jiangsu. In 1685, foreign traders also received permission to trade in Chinese ports.[[95]](#footnote-95) The following table provides an overview of how the number of Chinese ships calling at Manila increased between 1684 and 1716.

Table 2: Number of Chinese ships calling at Manila between 1684 and 1716

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Year | Number of ships | Year | Number of ships | Year | Number of ships | Year | Number of ships |
| 1684 | 5 | 1693 | 18 | 1701 | 9 | 1709 | 43 |
| 1685 | 17 | 1694 | 12 | 1702 | 15 | 1710 | 25 |
| 1686 | 27 | 1695 | 19 | 1703 | 21 | 1711 | 14 |
| 1687 | 15 | 1696 | 17 | 1704 | – | 1712 | – |
| 1688 | 7 | 1697 | 17 | 1705 | 17 | 1713 | 15 |
| 1690 | 14 | 1698 | 24 | 1706 | 27 | 1714 | 17 |
| 1691 | 13 | 1699 | 20 | 1707 | 15 | 1715 | 14 |
| 1692 | 14 | 1700 | 17 | 1708 | 32 | 1716 | 10 |

Source: Pierre Chaunu*, Les Philippines et le Pacifique des Ibériques*, 169-180, reproduced in Li Jinming 李金明, Liao Dake 廖大珂, *Zhongguo gudai haiwai maoyi* 中國古代海外貿易史 (Nanning : Guangxi renmin chubanshe, 1995), 402.

After 1685, the Ministry of Revenue (*Hubu*戶部) – instead of the Ministry of Rites that had dominated the *Shibo si* system – received the authority to levy taxes. The system of taxation during the Qing was complex, and many additional and surplus charges were levied. We know that in 1686 (*kangxi* 25, 2nd month, 10th day), the regular taxation of foreign ships at the Customs Houses in Guangdong was ordered reduced to 20 per cent.[[96]](#footnote-96) In 1694, the Manchus imposed the substantial tax of 2,000 *liang* of silver on each ocean-going ship, 60 times the annual average household consumption expenditure in the rich Yangzi Delta.[[97]](#footnote-97) This implies that maritime merchants must have made great profits, as Gang Deng suggests – after all maritime trade continued to flourish. In addition, in the early Qing, annual license fees of 50 to 1,000 *liang* were levied as a permission to participate in import-export trade. Later in the mid-eighteenth century (data from 1752–54) the average import tax for overseas vessels seemed to have been fixed between 470 and 610 *liang* of silver.[[98]](#footnote-98) During the Qianlong era also a “surplus quota” (*yingyu* 盈餘) was introduced, defined by the Qianlong Emperor (r. 1736–1795) as a standard of taxation. Accordingly, a distinction between “regular tax quota” (*zheng*’*e* 正額) and “surplus quota” had to be made. The regular quota was supposed to be determined by the number of ships involved and changed over time. As a rule, the regular quota was sent to the provincial treasury and went to the Ministry of Revenue (*hubu*). The “surplus quota” was directly forwarded to the Imperial Household Department (*neiwufu* 內務府), that means, into the private purse of the emperor.[[99]](#footnote-99) In addition, there existed extra taxes and extralegal demands, which were imposed by the superintendents, their clerks and subordinate officials and went into their pockets.[[100]](#footnote-100)

In terms of trade relations with the New Spanish colonies it is important to note that by the eighteenth century, the share of Spanish silver sent to Manila and then exported to China declined due to the rise of country trade with India – a trade that had started in 1644 and assumed a consumption of almost half of the Spanish silver shipments to Manila by 1762.[[101]](#footnote-101) China was consequently connectied to the Pacific and to the New Spanish colonies in America also via the detour of Atlantic and Indian Ocean trade.

### Official Concerns about Europeans during Early and High Qing

The Philippine Archipelago remained a region of concern in terms of security considerations during the early Qing. The Kangxi emperor in particular was worried about European presence in the East Asian waters including the Spanish on the Philippines. Antoine Gaubil (1689–1759) recorded in his memories from a court meeting with Kangxi soon after the emperor’s death:

“The Portuguese [*i.e*. the Spanish] of Luzon have many Chinese, and they could easily become very powerful in the countries neighbouring China and Japan. Their king in Europe is extremely rich and possesses great states far from Europe. He is of the same family as the king of France, a powerful and bellicose nation which is esteemed and respected on land and sea throughout the world.”[[102]](#footnote-102)

“The Russians, Dutch, and the Portuguese, like the other Europeans, are able to accomplish whatever they undertake, no matter how difficult. They are intrepid, clever, and know how to turn a profit. As long as I reign, there is nothing to worry about from them for China … But if our government were to become weak, if we were to weaken our vigilance over the Chinese in the southern provinces, and over the large number of boats that leave every year for Luzon, Batavia, Japan, and other countries, or if divisions were to erupt among us Manchus…what would become of our Empire? With the Russians to the north, the Portuguese from Luzon to the east, the Dutch to the south, (they) would do with China whatever they want.”[[103]](#footnote-103)

An edict of 1716 also reflects official concerns about maritime security, stating that “after hundreds of years, we are afraid that [China] will suffer from overseas countries, for example, from the European countries”[[104]](#footnote-104); intellectual elites, too, uttered their fears and felt deceived: “When these savage people [the Jesuits] say falsely that they come from a great distance of 90,000 li, it is because they want us to believe that they have no ulterior motives, so as to prevent us from worrying about their aggressive purposes. In fact, they are full of designs and resourceful schemes, whenever they arrive at a country, they would destroy it. Altogether they have destroyed over thirty countries by direct conquest. It is difficult to examine the traces of their distant conquests, but we need just to refer to their latest conquests of such regions as the Philippines … whose kings they killed and whose people they robbed. It required only a few of them to subdue an entire country. Are these facts not obvious proofs of their aggressive nature?”[[105]](#footnote-105) This text is also quoted by Laura Hostettler who suggests “that the conflation of all Europeans into a more general category was not entirely misguided. Future events did bear out some of these fears.”[[106]](#footnote-106)

But relations were not only characterized by suspicions from the Chinese side. The Kangxi Emperor was generally speaking very open and curious and maintained good relationships with various Jesuit missionaries. Others, however, he expelled from China. Famous is his “Edict of Toleration” (*rongjiao ling* 容敎令) from 1692, recognizing the Roman Catholic Church and legalizing Christianity among Chinese citizens, although relations between the emperor and Christian Jesuits later deteriorated, and the Yongzheng 雍正 Emperor (r. 1722−1735) even decided to forbid the proselytization of Christianity in 1724.

Commercial interests became increasingly important and, in general, the Kangxi Emperor in particular adopted a very merchant-friendly policy that valued the importance of overseas trade, and sought to fill the state coffers by promoting private trade.[[107]](#footnote-107) He also sponsored maritime trade and officially proclaimed that China should “expand to the seas” (*zhanhai* 展海). Japan, in particular, was of interest for both commercial and strategic reasons, but also the Europeans with their commercial interests pounced on relatively open ears in China. The eighteenth century finally witnessed a significant increase in Chinese trade with Europeans, who demanded above all tea, but also porcelains and silks, in a foreign trade focused on the ports of Guangzhou and Macau (Macao) 澳門. Nevertheless, he continued to have an attentive and thoughtful eye on what was going on in the maritime realm. His concerns not only pertained to foreigners, but also Chinese who had migrated to Southeast Asia, or who had continued to be involved in smuggling activities.

When Kangxi heard that a shipyard in Suzhou constructed up to 1,000 overseas vessels annually that were sub­sequently used in maritime trade, and that only five or six out of ten would eventually return to China, whereas the others were sold abroad in exchange for silver, he decided to act. In his eyes, these mer­chants, driven by the sheer lust for profit, would not only steal these Chinese prod­ucts[[108]](#footnote-108), but also provide renegades and pirates with solid Chinese ships. China would, consequently, risk losing its monopoly and control over maritime shipping in the nearby waters and be subjected to a possible threat from abroad. In late 1716, Kangxi therefore announced a prohibition on Chinese ships sailing to Southeast Asia (*jinzhi Nanyang yuan’an* 禁止南洋原案), the place he considered to be the root of the renegades.[[109]](#footnote-109) Trade with Japan, the Ryū­kyūs and Annam – Annam providing China with great quantities of rice – was con­tinued. In addition, foreign ships were still allowed to call at Chinese ports. Concerns included the situation on the Philippine island of Luzon, where many Han Chinese had settled over time, and which, in Kangxi’s eyes had had become a harbour for bandits and rebels since Ming times. The proscription was meant to be a security measure, and was targeted especially against Fujian merchants, many of whom had become very wealthy and socially influential through the silver exchange with Manila.[[110]](#footnote-110) With the experience with and suppression of Zheng Chenggong and his commercial overseas “empire” still fresh in mind, also with rumours of anti-Manchu people and powers abroad, little wonders that Kangxi was concerned about possible efforts of influential merchants to undermine the state. Measures like this did, consequently, not result principally from an anti-foreign-commerce attitude, but have to be understood against the politics of national security.

Kangxi’s decision was made on the basis of a thorough observation of Western and Chinese merchants, and of the Chinese diaspora in Southeast Asia. Sources also show that Kangxi became increasingly concerned about the distrust between Han Chinese and the Manchu ruling elite, as well as the ever-growing Han Chinese diaspora in Southeast Asia. This is also reflected in the personnel structure of officials responsible for the administration of maritime trade. Officials had to rotate every two years in order not to gain too much influence, officially 1 Manchu and 1 Han official were responsible simultaneously, while the actual authority lay mostly in the hands of Manchu officials. Yet, maritime trade with Southeast Asia, including the Philippine Archipelago, had already become so important, and commercial networks had already so deeply penetrated local society that the prohibition caused various economic problems for the coastal economies[[111]](#footnote-111) and was eventually lifted by Kangxi’s successor, the Yongzheng Emperor (r. 1723–1735), in 1727. A number of local officials pointed particularly at the prosperous trade with Southeast Asia.

#### Qing navy

In 1659, at the beginning of Manchu rule in China, the Shunzhi順治emperor (r. 1644–1662) ordered a detachment of Manchu troops to move permanently to Hangzhou. During the coastal wars against the Zheng clan (see above), they were temporarily moved to Fuzhou, but returned to Hangzhou in 1683. In 1728, 1,600 Manchu troops were stationed at the naval base at Zhapu 乍浦, the port of Hangzhou. The Qing court assigned special personnel to complete the building of warships, and the navy was ordered “to repair weapons such as artillery, and practice offensive military strategies”. The Yongzheng emperor sought in particular to strengthen the navy and China’s self-defence capacity.[[112]](#footnote-112) Starting in 1725, the coastal provinces step by step established shipyards, and began to build warships, but their technology was not very advanced. Most ships built were simply copies of civilian ships, and not much energy was invested in them to improve the situation. The new navy was successful in fighting pirates – for example, through efficient sailing tactics, and swift dispatch of appropriately-mixed forces of war vessels – but it was not designed for larger naval battles.On the other hand, the warships turned out to be totally vulnerable when confronted with modern Western steam-powered vessels.[[113]](#footnote-113) Initially, naval maneuvers, including swimming excercises, were organized on a regular basis, but less attention was paid to such training in the later Qianlong period.[[114]](#footnote-114)

An island that was forcefully integrated into Chinese territories during Qing times was Taiwan. Its integration was anything but disputed among the Qing ruling elite. Many argued that the mainainance of the island would eventually become an economic burden for state coffers. The discussion continued even after Taiwan’s conquest in 1683. Taiwan was considered “a remote outer island that never has been a part of Chinese territory (*zi gu bu ru bantu* 自古不入版圖), but [only] has strategic importance to shield Min and Yue 粵 (modern Fujian and Guangdong) from [the] outside”.[[115]](#footnote-115) Taiwan was, generally speaking, either regarded as an important strategic point (*jinyao* 緊要)[[116]](#footnote-116) in terms of frontier defence, or as a rice producing area[[117]](#footnote-117), belonging to the “maritime frontier” (*haijiang* 海疆).[[118]](#footnote-118)

Repeatedly, we find references to people who crossed the Taiwan Straits secretly (*toudu* 偷渡). In terms of such references,Taiwan is described as “lonely, hanging outside the seas” (*gu xuan haiwai* 孤懸海外),[[119]](#footnote-119) a “lonely island hanging outside the seas with the evil of cruel foreign people” (*gu xuan haiwai* *you xiong fan zhi huan* 孤懸海外有兇番之患), and with robbers,[[120]](#footnote-120) as a “far away place outside the deep ocean” (*yuan zai zhongyang zhi wai* 遠在重洋之外).[[121]](#footnote-121) The local inhabitants are repeatedly referred to as cruel, ruthless, and stubborn. They are described as “foreign peoples that came from several places outside” (*fanmin zachu er wailai zhi min* 番民雜處而外來之民).[[122]](#footnote-122) Qianlong saw Taiwan as an area in maritime space that was full of bandits, and had therefore been “pacified” to prevent the mainland having to face such dangers. These attitudes demonstrate that the major argument for an integration of Taiwan into the Qing empire was security. Economic reasons ranked second. if at all.

In addition, the Manchus were simply not experienced in naval warfare, and smaller garrisons could not provide the offensive power necessary to conquer the island. It was still occupied by the powerful Zheng clan. Finally, the naval officer Shi Lang 施琅 (1621–1696), who had actually served the Zheng family before he defected to the Qing in 1646, led Qinh forces in the decisive battle in 1683 that officially made Taiwan a part of Fujian Province.[[123]](#footnote-123) He invaded the island with some 300 warships and 20,000 sailors, and he had bought cannon from the Dutch to better equip his ships for the confrontation.[[124]](#footnote-124)

High local officials, such as the contemporary governor-general of Zhejiang, Li Wei李衛 (1687?–1738), regularly informed the emperor about what was going on abroad. He often cautioned him, for example, against Japanese claims of power in the macro-region. and even sent spies into Japan to obtain more information on the political and economic situation there.[[125]](#footnote-125) At least until the early Qianlong reign, local and central authorities maintained a very vigilant eye on maritime commerce, piracy, and coastal defence. Principally national security considerations dominated. In terms of defense, the strategies of the famous Ming naval officer, Qi Jiguang 戚繼光 (1528–1588) as expounded in his *Lianbing shiji* 練兵實紀 (Record of Military Training) and *Jixiao xinshu* 紀效新書 (New Treatise on Military Efficiency), remained influential also during Qing times.[[126]](#footnote-126)The Qing navy remained basically coastal, designed especially for anti-pirates campaigns. Except for Taiwan, it was never intended to attack or invade another country.

### Commercial Relations with Spanish America

The Spanish Viceroy of Peru, the Marquis of Cañete, once commented in a letter to Philip II that “Chinese silk and other textiles are so cheap that local chiefs and even commoners are using them for clothing instead of cloth of local manufacture.”[[127]](#footnote-127) This statement provides us not only with insights into the competitive prices of Chinese products, but also indirectly addresses the negative consequences of these new, cheap textiles for local production.

The variety of Chinese commodities, especially silks, that was shipped to Manila in the early seventeenth century, and of which many were later loaded on board of the trans-Pacific galleons, is described in detail by the Spanish historian António de Morga [Sánchez Garay] (1559–1636), first lieutenant-governor of the Philippines (1595–1598), and later senior judge (*oidor*) of its Audiencia (1598–1603), in his *Sucesos de las Filipinas* (Incidents from the Philippine Islands, published in Mexico in 1609).[[128]](#footnote-128) This account constitutes one of the first non-clerical works on Philippine history, and is considered one of the most important works on the early history of Spanish colonization of the Philippines[[129]](#footnote-129): “A considerable number of somas and junks (which are large vessels) generally come from Great China to Manila, laden with merchandise. Every year thirty or even forty ships … They belong to the provinces of Canton, Chincheo, and Ucheo [Fujian], and sail from those provinces. They make their voyage to the city of Manila in fifteen or twenty days, sell their merchandise, and return in good season, before the *vendavals* [*i.e*. storms, taiphoons] set in – the end of May and a few days of June – in order not to endanger their voyage.”[[130]](#footnote-130) Among the products, he lists especially all kinds of silk and cloth but also food, metal and hand-made objects, furniture, precious stones, spices, *etc*. There is no doubt that silks, porcelains, furniture and other manufactured goods formed the bulk of the Manila galleon cargoes. But what about spices, medicinal drugs, aromatics and scented woods?

There is also no doubt that spices, and the profits to be earned with their trade, constituted the major motivation for many Europeans to expand into Asian waters. Definitely, cinnamon, pepper, cloves, nutmegs, and other spices, such as camphor, as well as perfumes were shipped across the Pacific, and especially in the early years of the trans-Pacific galleon trade many ideas and hopes about the initiation of a profitable spice trade circulated. Captain Juan de la Isla in 1568 wrote that six large galleons of up to 300 tons could be sent to Southeast Asian islands, four of them serving the route between the American west coast and the Philippines, while the other two could be sent to the Spice Islands to collect Cinnamon, pepper and other drugs and products of those islands. Also ginger from China could be provided and annually sent to New Spain and Peru.[[131]](#footnote-131) Various projects were forged to provide goods to Spain and its colonies via trans-Pacific and Indian Ocean routes, especially after the reunion of the Spanish and Portuguese crowns in 1580. The *factor real* of the Philippines, Juan Bautista Román, reflected about the provision of cloves and nutmegs from the Banda Islands, and suggested in 1584 that one could easily control this trade with 300 soldiers and a mobile armada plying these waters. Cloves, nutmegs, and Borneo camphor could be shipped to the Mexican port of Huatulco, and then further as to the Spanish port of La Coruña.[[132]](#footnote-132) All these dreams were finally not successful, especially due to Dutch competition. But the entire undertaking turned out to be quite unprofitable to the Spanish Crown, while at the same time a profitable trade emerged, largely due to fraudulent practices, such as illegal exchanges with Macao, or the transhipment of goods without the registration of payments. The spice trade during the short époque of Spanish Moluccan trade – before the islands fell into the hands of the Dutch in 1666 – was mainly carried out by private Portuguese merchants and their trading networks across the Indian Ocean and the Atlantic, but also across the Pacific. José L. Gasch-Tomás has argued that “spices such as pepper and cinnamon (and other perishable goods, such as benzoin) are very scant,” and obviously were carried from the Philippines only on exceptional occasions.[[133]](#footnote-133) This statement definitely refers to the official Spanish galleon trade.

That spices and aromatics and medicinal drugs did matter can be confirmed by other sources. But they did not constitute the bulk of trade, they can perhaps be considered “marginalia” in the trans-Pacific trade if compared to the networks crossing the Indian Ocean and Atlantic, but they still formed part and parcel of the Pacific trade, too.[[134]](#footnote-134) One of the first galleons that left Manila with destination Acapulco in 1573, the Espíritu Santo y Santiago, carried cinnamon, distantly followed by silks, gold, cotton blankets, wax, ceramics and cheap trinkets (*bujerías*).[[135]](#footnote-135) A list of the goods that Gonzalo Ronquillo sent to Peru(“Relación de las mercaderías que llevaba el navío que embio don Goncales Ronquillo de las Filipinas al Peru”) includes various kinds of ceramics and pottery.[[136]](#footnote-136) Listed, among other items, also are iron (numerous boxes), 3 bundles (*fardos*) and 5 boxes of pepper (*pimienta*), 3 bundles of spices, 5 bundles and 2 boxes of cinnamon.

Interestingly, de Morga’s list does not mention porcelain and ceramics (it is only mentioned among the items Chinese merchants supplied to the Spanish for their personal use in Manila), although we know from the archaeological evidence and other sources that ceramics formed part and parcel of the Manila galleon cargoes.[[137]](#footnote-137) This fact is strange, but agrees with an observation we have made repeatedly during a project investigating commercial interaction in the East Asian world in the early modern period.[[138]](#footnote-138) Up to the present day, we have not yet found a satisfying answer to the question of why ceramics are hardly ever mentioned in Chinese written sources, although we know from archaeological evidence their importance as a trade commodity in the East Asian waters.[[139]](#footnote-139) But the absence of porcelain in de Morga’s list may also have to do with a qualitative change in the composition of export commodities from manufactured to primary goods around that time, as Gang Deng has emphasized: “Antonio de Morga named over fifty import categories from China to Manila; porcelain was for the first time not listed.”[[140]](#footnote-140)

Other documents and findings from shipwrecks can further complement our picture. Most of the wrecks to date we possess from the Kangxi reign period carried ceramics. Chinese ceramics in museums and private collections, but also entries in wills, taxation, cargo, or other judicial documents in Mexico and Peru testify to the prosperous importation of Chinese and Japanese ceramics. Excavations around the Zocalo area in Mexico City, in Lima, and at other sites have brought to light further evidence of Chinese ceramics. “Mexican museums are notably rich in their Chinese ceramic holdings gathered from cathedrals, official possessions of the Spanish crown, and established families. In contrast, Chinese ceramics in Peru are almost exclusively in private collections, many of which are held by families with long established ancestries.”[[141]](#footnote-141)

Recently, archaeologists have investigated ivory sculptures excavated from the *Santa Margarita*, a galleon which wrecked off the northern Mariana Islands. “Carved by Chinese and Filipino sculptors in the Philippines, the ivories reveal much about the making and trading of colonial art, still little understood.”[[142]](#footnote-142) Some of the ivories may have been made in China, particularly in Zhangzhou, or in some other places in Fujian Province in Southeast China.[[143]](#footnote-143) Some ivory pieces were probably reexported from China to the Philippines, and carved there. The raw ivory was first imported from Africa, and possibly South India. The *Local Gazetteer of Zhangzhou* 漳州府志 (1628) states that elephant ivory could no longer be found in the prefecture, and was “wholly traded by those who come to the port markets. Zhangzhou people carve the ivory into Immortals and that sort of thing, supplying them [i.e. the carvings, A.S.] for the purposes of providing pleasure. The ears, eyes, the four limbs of the body and the torso are very realistic. The ivory carvings made by craftsmen from Haicheng are particularly nice, also their level of craftsmanship is very high. […] Ivory chopsticks, ivory cups, ivory belt plaques and ivory fans are also to be had.” (漳州人曾以进口的象牙雕成仙人像等，以作赏玩。这些仙人像的耳、眼、四肢、躯干都十分逼真。海澄工匠所刻的象牙雕品相特别好，工艺水平也比较高，为漳州贝雕的形成发展崛起起到了很大作用…).[[144]](#footnote-144)

A Chinese writer and merchant, Gao Lian 高濂 (fl. 16th cent.), noted in his *Zunsheng bajian* 遵生八箋 (“Eight treatises on following the principles of life”; completed in 1591): “In Fujian, ivory is carved into human forms, the workmanship of which is fine and artful; however, one cannot put them anywhere, or give them as a decent present” (閩中牙刻人物工致纖巧，奈無置放處，不入清賞).[[145]](#footnote-145) The last part of the sentence may be interpreted to the sense that most carvings were made for export purposes, and their religious Christian appearance, likewise the images and scultures of immortals, and their luxury designs as in the form of chopsticks or cups, could not be used for sale on the domestic market.[[146]](#footnote-146) The ivory sculptures discovered on the Santa Margarita have, thus, shown us an aspect of trans-Pacific trade that was hardly known before – being on their way to New Spain, the sculptures were clearly designed for the Latin American market.

As for the *Nuestra Señora de la Concepción*, it, sank on September 20, 1638, on the southernmost point of Saipan, in the Northern Mariana Islands, also on its way back from the Philippines to Acapulco. It was loaded with a rich cargo of Chinese silks/rugs, porcelains, ivory, cotton from India, ivory from Cambodia, camphor from Borneo, cinnamon and pepper and cloves from the Spice Islands, and precious jewels from Burma, Ceylon, and Siam. The excavation yielded more than 1,300 pieces of 22.5-karat gold jewellery – chains, crucifixes, beads, buckles, filigree buttons, rings and broches set with precious stones.

The wreck excavation could prove that European-style jewellery was being made in the Philippines. Some 156 intact storage jars were discovered. Investigations revealed that they had come from kilns in South China, Cochin China (Vietnam), and Siam (Thailand), and one was of Spanish design.[[147]](#footnote-147) The archaeology of the *Nuestra Señora de la Concepción*, consequently, also provides us with intriguing new insights into the trans-Pacific trade connection and the commodities involved.

Each time a galleon arrived at Acapulco, a market, *la feria*, was organized. This attracted all kinds of people such as Indian peddlers, Mexican and Peruvian merchants, soldiers, the king’s officials and friars, as well as a few Chinese and some Filipinos. From Acapulco, the goods were transported into the hinterlands, into Mexico City and various other places, including Peru. The Peruvian port at that time was Callao and the Ciudad de los Reyes, that is Lima, the capital of the Viceroyalty of Peru. Generally speaking, much of what was not sold (“*rezagos*”) directly in Acapulco was redirected towards Peru. Peruvian ships, mainly loaded with silver, mercury, cacao from Guayaquil, and Peruvian wines, sailed to ports along the Mexican and Guatemalan coasts, returning with Asian goods and left-over cargo from the galleon ships. Besides Callao and Guayaquil, Paita was also frequently a port of call.

For the social and ruling elites, such high-quality Chinese fabrics, porcelains or other luxury items were, of course, a prestige and status symbol. Complying with the prohibition legislation meant for political authorities and officials to renounce such luxuries and social prestige items. It was no wonder that so many did not comply with the law. Dionisio Alcedo y Herrera (1690–1777), president of the Audiencia de Quito from December 30 1728 to December 30, 1736, accused José de Araujo y Río, his successor, of having illegally imported Chinese and European clothes of more than 200,000 pesos in value from Acapulco through the port of Paita on the *San Fermín*.[[148]](#footnote-148) José Llorente, fiscal attorney of the Real Audiencia of Panama in 1714, had to pay a fine of 2,000 pesos for having accepted the commercialization and consumption of Chinese clothes that had been transported from Peru.[[149]](#footnote-149)

As a part of the clandestine trading networks, Guatemala and Panama, for example, served as intermediate storage locations for Asian goods. In 1709, for example, the Consulate of Lima informed that various French vessels had arrived at ports of Sotavento with Chinese cargo, and also Spanish galleons returning from the Philippines were full with Chinese cargo, especially clothes. Other manuscripts confirm that a famous local smuggler, José de Frías, undertook two voyages annually to Acapulco or Zihuatanejo from Callao/Lima to deposit large quantities of Chinese clothes.

The case of the Peruvian ship *Santo Cristo de León* in 1716, that belonged to a well-known captain and shipowner of Lima, Matías Talledo, may serve as another example. It carried a huge cargo of contraband items, and the captain had to undergo interrogation when this was discovered. However, so many people profited from illicit trade that in the end the governor of Panama permitted captain Tallado to return to Callao with Asian and European goods, without sending his ship for inspection, although this incident cost the merchants involved 9,000 pesos.[[150]](#footnote-150)

After 1730, smaller ports of Ecuador increased in importance in these networks.[[151]](#footnote-151) In the eighteenth century, Matías de Córdoba, a captain from Lima, was one of the principal actors in the shipment of Asian goods to Peru.[[152]](#footnote-152) Between February and October 1725 1,414 pieces of Chinese clothes (“piezas de ropa de China”) in total were confiscated in Latin America.[[153]](#footnote-153) The benefits from bribes and chantage that the contraband trade yielded for local authorities were simply much more tangible than the compensations offered by the Crown to detect such illegal activities.

Chinese commodities, not only fabrics and ceramics, but also other artisanal items, were so popular in Spanish America that by the eighteenth century more and more cheap imitations appeared on the local market in Lima from where they were further distributed into other parts of Latin America south of Mexico. Against this background, a report of a certain Domingo Marcoleta, the legal agent (*apoderado*) of Buenos Aires, interestingly even speaks of the “trade fair of Peking” in Lima. He complained that there were so many imitations (*copias*) of Chinese commodities that “it seems as if the trade fair of Peking had started in Lima” (*que parece haverfe abierto la Feria de Pequin en Lima*).[[154]](#footnote-154) Manuscripts pertaining to the European, especially French trade, in Canton and Macao, in the other hand, attest to the activities of French merchants especially in the late eighteen century.

### Extending Perceptions towards the Pacific: Evidence from Maps and Geographical Texts

As we have seen above, Wang Dayuan’s *Daoyi zhilue* provides the earliest extant description of the Sulu Islands, the Moluccas and the Banda Islands. The arrangement of the first four sections is such that readers are led from Fujian, via Penghu and Liuqiu to the northern Philippines. The information suggests that ships sailed from Penghu via southern Taiwan to the northern Philippines. They did not necessarily follow a straight line that led directly to the west side of Luzon. Rather, as Roderich Ptak suggests, ships seem to have moved along a smooth arc bent towards the east, possibly with ramifications leading in different directions beyond the Balintang and Babuyan Channels or within the Babuyan group itself.[[155]](#footnote-155) Detailing connections to the “countries beyond the seas”, Wang Dayuan lists second Liuqiu (probably referring in this case to both northern Taiwan and, major parts of the Ryūkyūs).[[156]](#footnote-156) This suggests that he considered northern Taiwan, including the Ryūkyū Islands, as a kind of border or frontier zone.[[157]](#footnote-157) This is strongly attested to in the recent archaeological evidence. A high percentage of Yuan period blue-and-white ceramics shards, for example, stem from Ryūkyū sites, which also have a great variety of other foreign pottery.[[158]](#footnote-158)

Generally speaking, descriptions of Luzon during the Ming dynasty are quite short, if Luzon is mentioned at all. *Shuyu zhouzi lu*殊域周咨錄, for example, a text that is otherwise very important for the study of foreign relations, has no entry on Luzon. Historical-geographical texts that do include a chapter on Luzon are*: Fangyu shenglüe*, *Yisheng*, *Huangming xiangxulu*, *Dongxi yangkao*, *Huangming siyikao*, *Xianbinlu*, and *Siyi guangji*. Luzon is described as a place in the ocean[[159]](#footnote-159), as a small country[[160]](#footnote-160), or as being rich in gold.[[161]](#footnote-161)

Historically, we observe two major overseas trading routes from Fujian: one following the coasts of southern China, passing the east coast of Hainan and then heading across the coasts of Vietnam and Champa to the Malay Archipelago and the Malacca Straits, or coming from southern China going further south into the Philippine Archipelago and from there passing the east coast of Borneo in the direction of eastern Java, and further into the Sulu zone.

The regular sea route from Quanzhou to Luzon would, as a rule, extend along the following or similar directions: Quanzhou 泉州 – Penghu 澎湖 – Sanyu 三嶼 (指密雁港) – Biaoshan 表山 – Liyin dashan 里银大山 – Jiyu 雞嶼 – Lüsong 吕宋. The small islet of Jiyu 雞嶼, modern Corregidor, is located at the entrance of the Manila Bay; it was also called Guiyu 圭嶼or Jiayushan 雞嶼山 (possibly also Gengyiyu 庚逸嶼) in Chinese texts. *Shunfeng xiangsong* 順風相送 records under the entry “From Mt. Taiwu to Lüsong” (太武往呂宋條):

“(Liyin dashan 里銀大山) at the compass direction *jibing wugeng*, take the direction of Capon Island, with *danwu wugeng* sail directly to the harbour of Lüsong, around Jiyu, it is possible to pass with ships, there are no hidden reefs and rocks but water with currents. Ships can excellently enter the harbour from the northeast side of the mountain” (里銀大山）巳丙五更取頭巾礁，單午五更取呂宋港口，雞嶼內外俱可過船，無沉礁，有流水。其船可從東北山邊入港為妙).[[162]](#footnote-162)

The Selden map,[[163]](#footnote-163) which has been investigated in detail by Robert Batchelor, is of particular interest to us in this context. The part portraying the Philippines includes fifteen place names located on the islands, most of them on Luzon.[[164]](#footnote-164) The eastern border of the map interestingly follows the Kuroshio Current, and it includes textual references to both the current and the trans-Pacific route of the Spanish. Two notes on the map, on at the northern Ryūkyū Islands, stating “Yemin [wild alabaster] passage, eastward current” (*yemin men shuiliu dong* 野砇[門](http://www.mdbg.net/chindict/chindict.php?page=worddict&wdrst=1&wdqb=men)[水](http://www.mdbg.net/chindict/chindict.php?page=worddict&wdrst=1&wdqb=water)流東), and one between Luzon and Taiwan, stating what sailors would encounter there: “At this passage, the water is flowing east extremely tight” (*ci men liushui dong shen jin* 此門流水東甚緊). A legend on the eastern side of Luzon refers to the presence there of the Spanish. As Robert Batchelor has already emphasized, this “suggests the mapmaker had a strong interest in trading relations to the east, and that the silver trade that passed through Manila was important to him or his patrons”. In an empty space east of Luzon we read the characters: “*Huarenfan zaichi gang wanglai Lusong*” 化人番在此港往來呂宋 (Spanish foreigners go back and forth from this harbour to Luzon [Manila]), which clearly refers to the trans-Pacific silver route. “Two routes to Manila are indicated from both Guangzhou and Quanzhou and,off Luzon, the reefs and rocky shoals in the shipping lanes leading into Manila Bay are particularlydetailed”, with the turban reef or Capon Island(*toujin jiao* 頭巾礁), named in the north and the “Thousand-shell gate” or, probably, the Maricaban Strait (*jiawan men* 甲万門) in the south.[[165]](#footnote-165)

Robert Batchelor showed that even two relatively new ports depicted on Taiwan, which had become important resupply points for merchant ships moving up towards Japan from Manila and Vietnam in the first decades of the seventeenth century, are also depicted in the Selden Map.[[166]](#footnote-166) “All of this contributes to a potential recentering of trade near Fujian”, he concludes, “but it also suggests a decentering of trade away from the Ming itself that the military gestures of the *Wu beizhi* and the administrative ones of Zhang Xie do not effectively comprehend.”[[167]](#footnote-167)

In 1602, the Italian Jesuit missionary Matteo Ricci (1552–1610) marked Potosí on his world map for China’s Wanli Emperor (r. 1572–1620), *Kunyu wanguo quantu* 坤輿萬國全圖 (*Map of the Myriad Countries of the World*). Accordingly, South America (Nan yamolijia 南亞墨利加) “is today divided into five countries: The first one is Bolu [Peru], which is named after the Bolu river. The second is Jin jiaxila [Golden Castile], which got its name from the great amount of gold and silver it produces.”[[168]](#footnote-168)

Another location on the map that is directly related to local silver deposits is Potosí. The rich silver deposits in the Cerro Rico soon made Potosí a famous city. It was “known in India, China, and Southeast Asia. Built on mining, Potosí was a long-cycle boomtown. By the early seventeenth century it lurched toward decadence. … From its inception Potosí was violent, and even in decline it kept its reputation for mayhem. Vice thrived. By 1600, Potosí had more brothels, taverns, and gambling dens per capita than any other city in the Spanish realm. Desperate for stimulants, the silver city guzzled wine and maize beer, sipped yerba mate and hot chocolate, chewed coca, and smoked tobacco.”[[169]](#footnote-169) “The word ‘Potosí’ was displacing ‘Peru’ ... as the synonym for great wealth.”[[170]](#footnote-170)

Matteo Ricci marked Potosí as “Beiduxi Mountain” 北度西山; a bit south of that it says Yinshan 銀山 (Silver Mountain) and explains: “These mountains have rich silver ore”. Cuzco appears on Ricci’s map as the “Country of Cuzco” 故私哥國, the Amazonas region as Yamazuan guo 亞馬鑽國. The text on Peru also includes the following words: “Peru produces an aromatic called ‘balsam’, the tree produces an oil, when the tree is cut with a knife, the oil leaks out, applied on dead corpses, these do not decompose. The place where the tree has been cut recovers completely after twelve hours. The country of Judea also has this tree.” (孛露，產香名巴爾娑摩，樹上生油，以刀劃之，油出，塗尸不敗。其刀所, 劃處周十二時即如故，如德亞國亦有之).[[171]](#footnote-171) (ill. XXX).

The “balsam tree” is, interestingly even mentioned on an anonymous 1743 Chinese map. A circle is shown in the maritime space southeast of China, and includes the text “White mountain peak(s) [i.e. probably the Andes mountains?]. In Peru, there is a balsam tree that produces an oil; when the tree is cut with a knife, the oil leaks out, applied on dead corpses, these do not decompose (孛露國有巴爾婆[=撒]摩樹上油以刀取之塗尸不敗).[[172]](#footnote-172) On the one hand, this information attests to the interest some map drawers assigned to this “Peruvian balsam”. On the other hand, this entry clearly shows that the use of the balsam for mummifying corpses was obviously considered more important and interesting than its use for medicinal purposes.[[173]](#footnote-173) This map also shows a “Beiduxi 北度西 Mountain” (that is, Potosí), said to contain many silver mines, and states that the silver is used for exchange.[[174]](#footnote-174) The mountain is drawn as a three-peaks mountain in the middle of the water east of the Wenzhou 溫州 on Southeast Chinese coast, as if the map drawer wanted to symbolically emphasize the importance of this silver mountain for China.[[175]](#footnote-175) Here, again, we meet the concept of portraying an island in the sea as a kind of symbol for an economically speaking important place located somewhere in maritime space. Southwest of this entry on Peru still another, smaller, island is portrayed, called “Ganshu 乾庶 country (Concho). There are mountains that produce lots of silver treasures” (ill. XXX).[[176]](#footnote-176)

The large early eighteenth-century encyclopaedia Gujin tushu jicheng 古今圖書集成 (Comprehensive Collection of Books and Pictures of the Past and Present, first published in 1726)also mentions balsam in an entry on Peru 白露, in the section “Borders” 邊裔典.[[177]](#footnote-177) Two other geographical works, *DaMing yitong zhi* 大明一统志 (Records of the Unity of the Great Ming; 1461), compiled under the directorship of Li Xian 李賢 (1408–1467) and Peng Shi 彭時 (1416–1475)[[178]](#footnote-178), and *DaQing yitong zhi* 大清一统志 (Records of the Unity of the Great Qing; 1790), an imperial geography and description of the Qing empire, both mention St. Thomas, Peruvian and Brazilian balsam oil (聖多黙巴爾撒木油, 壁露巴爾撒木油, 伯肋西理巴爾撒木油) as a product of the Europeans (lit. Western oceans).[[179]](#footnote-179)

*Zhifang waiji* 職方外紀 (1623) by Giulio Aleni (1582–1649) mentions Peru (Bolu 孛露), and Lima 利禡, and speaks of the “extremely rich gold and silver” ore (*gu jinyin zuiduo* 故金銀最多).[[180]](#footnote-180) Under the entry “Jinjiaxila 金加西蠟”, referring to “Castilia Del’oro”, that is, the new Spanish colonies in Latin America, silver and gold reserves are mentioned that “rank first under Heaven” (*tianxia cheng shou* 天下稱首), and “at the foot of the mountain there is a city, called ‘Silver City’” (Yincheng 銀城).[[181]](#footnote-181) This is definitely a reference to Potosí, which is rendered on his map as Boduoxi shan 波多西山, but not described in the text.[[182]](#footnote-182)

*Zhifang waiji* is, as far as we know, also one of the first Chinese language sources that describes not only routes in the Indian Ocean and Asia but also the trans-Pacific route:

“Coming from the East, from Spain and the Mediterranean Sea, the ships cross the Straits of Gibraltar towards the territory of America. We can distinguish two routes: either across the Magellan Straits into the Pacific Ocean, or passing through the territory of New Spain; the ships anchor, (people take) the land route to the Sea of Peru. Then, they pass the Moluccas, Luzon and other islands until they reach the Great Ming Sea and arrive in Guangzhou.”

從東而來自以西把尼亞地中海過巴爾德峽住亞墨利加之界;有道或從墨五蠟尼加峽出太平海,或從新以西把尼亞界泊舟從陸路出孛露海過馬路古呂宋等烏至大明海以達廣州.[[183]](#footnote-183)

Aleni explains in *Zhifang waij* that originally there were no horses in America 亞摩利加, which were only brought by the Spanish. Canada 加拿達 and the Magellan Straits 墨瓦蠟泥海峽 are referred to, as well as Christopher Columbus 閣龍 (1451–1506) or Amerigo Vespucci 亞墨利哥 (1451–1512). He speaks of “strange sheep”, Lamas respectively Alpacas (*yiyang* 異羊) and of Emus (*ema* 厄馬).[[184]](#footnote-184) The Alpacas are probably Lamas (*luoma* 駱馬) and are very unbending by nature. Sometimes they lie down and even if you flog them almost to death, they do not rise; but if you console them with good words, then they suddenly rise and go, but you nevertheless have to instruct them. They eat very little, and sometimes do not eat for three or four days. Their liver produces something like an egg, which can be used to cure several diseases. Countries adjacent to the sea all appreciate it.[[185]](#footnote-185) This egg-resembling item is a reference to local bezoar stones that were commonly used in medicinal treatment, especially as anti-venom. Bezoar stones from alpacas from the Andes had been used by the locals in pre-Spanish times, and were also adopted by the Spanish in Peru.[[186]](#footnote-186) He also speaks about the Quipu script, or “knot-records”, a method of the Incas and other ancient Andean cultures to record and communicate information, by making knots in cords. Using a wide variety of colours, strings, and sometimes several hundred knots that are all tied in various ways at various heights, *quipu* could record dates, statistics, accounts, and even represent abstract information: “Generally speaking, it is not their tradition to have written documents or books; but they knot together cords for recording information, on the basis of five colours, form and appearance that are for them like characters and serve the same purpose as history books” (其俗大抵無文字書籍，結繩為識。或以五色狀物形以當字，即史書亦然).[[187]](#footnote-187)

Interesting is also an entry in the *Wuli xiaoshi* 物理小識 (Notes on the Principles of Things, printed 1666) by Fang Yizhi 方以智 (1611–1671). Fang Yizhi was a scholar with a broad interest, including astronomy, geography, mathematics, music, phonetics, philology, medicine, history, and others. Most of his information in *Wuli xiaoshi* on Peru stems from the Peru-chapter in the *Zhifang waiji*, which suggests that this work was circulating among scholars interested in knowledge brought to China by Jesuits and other Europeans. He speaks of a “method to preserve corpses” (留屍法) and a “balsam of Peru”, a balsam tree that produces a resin to balsam corpses so that they do not decompose even after 1,000 years (孛露國有一拔爾撒摩樹脂塗尸千年不朽).[[188]](#footnote-188) This is a clear indication that Fang Yizhi knew about the embalming of dead corpses in ancient Peru. In chapter 9 he adds that this balsam is intensely fragrant and that all wounds and injuries are healed (lit. “muscles and flesh are reunited”) within one day and one night; applied on smallpox, there will not be any scars on the skin, applied to dead corpses, they will not decompose in 1,000 years (中通曰穆公云孛露有樹生脂膏極香烈名拔爾撒摩傅諸傷損一日夕肌肉復合塗痘孛不瘢以塗屍千年不朽壤).[[189]](#footnote-189)

Other entries directly refer to *Zhifang waiji*, for example a note stating that the Indians of the Peruvian Andes mountains have fountains like grease, whih the local people extract to burn or use as oil paint. All oil fire made with the grease extracted from these wells burns even better when sprinkled with water, and is extinguished when dabbed with earth dust (外紀寡斯大山孛露有泉如脂膏人取燃燈或作油漆用凡井油火以水澆之愈熾以地灰撲之則滅).[[190]](#footnote-190) Fang Yizhi aimed to comprehend the seminal forces of natural change and presents his opus as a collection of observations, findings, and other sources. He was open-minded and generally accepted European explanations of natural phenomena, except when they resulted in religious explanations.[[191]](#footnote-191)

A map entitled *Qiankun wanguo quantu gujin renwu shiji* 乾坤萬國全圖古今人物事跡 (*Complete map of the myriads of countries of the world and the history of peoples*; originally dated to 1593, probably between 1603 and 1605), by Liang Zhou 梁輈, speaks of ’Jinjiaxila’ as a place rich in silver treasures. Further south, we see a three-peaks mountain in the sea called “Coconut Mountain Range” (椰林峰) and still further southeast, between the large and the small eastern ocean, we encounter Amazon Country (Yamazuan guo 亞馬鑽國).[[192]](#footnote-192)

The 1644 *Da Ming jiubian wanguo renji lucheng quantu* 大明九邊萬國人跡路程全圖 (Complete Map of the Nine Border Towns of the Great Ming and of the Human Presence and Travel Routes of the Ten Thousand Countries; reprint 1663), by Cao Junyi 曹君義, conversely, places South America where geographically speaking the Philippines should be located.[[193]](#footnote-193) It does not include a silver mountain (Potosí), but mentions Peru (Bolu 孛露). Southeast of the two characters for Peru three mountain ranges are portrayed, probably the Andes, and the characters “Heitu” 黑土 might refer to some metal deposits, or even be interpreted as a reference to the Cerro Rico? In the upper right corner of the map, east of Korea, absolutely separated from the rest of the South American continent, we find a mountainous “island” named “Xiao Yixibaniya dao” 小以西把尼亞島, which should be “Little New Spain”

Summarizing the existing geographical information. and the portrayal of foreign space, it is definitely important to emphasize that foreigners and foreign space were not always marginalized in Chinese world maps. Scholars like Cao Junyi 曹君義, Yan Yong 嚴勇, Chen Lunjiong 陳倫炯, Ma Junliang 馬俊良, and Zhuang Tingfu 莊廷黻, as Richard J. Smith notes, “made concerted and largely successful efforts to depict foreign territories accurately; and the Manchus, for their own political reasons, produced excellent maps of the Qing empire with Jesuit assistance. In fact, it seems clear that reliable cartographic information existed for those scholars who wanted it, despite Manchu efforts to keep certain types of knowledge to themselves, and notwithstanding the understandable confusion produced by so many different renderings of barbarian space.” But during Qing times, “(t)he overwhelming majority of Chinese *mappae mundi* – including works produced after the Jesuit interlude – depict ‘the world’ as if the foreigners inhabiting it existed precariously on the fringes of the Chinese empire. Whole continents appeared either as tiny offshore islands, or as inconsequential appendages to China’s land mass – terrestrial afterthoughts, so to speak.”[[194]](#footnote-194)

In 1751, only briefly before the Chinese empire reached its largest extension ever in 1759, the Qianlong Emperor ordered the compilation of a work entitled “*Huang Qing zhigong tu*”皇清職貢圖 [Map of tribute payers of the Imperial Qing dynasty]. In the preface to this work, he expounds:

“After our dynasty had unified the Empire, all non-Chinese peoples (*miaoyi* 苗夷) in the regions of the universe (*quyu* 區宇) have paid tribute and pronounced their cordial bonds (with us) beyond our (borders). They approached us, in order to come under our transforming influence (*shucheng xianghua* 輸誠向化).[[195]](#footnote-195)

The notion of “*quyu*” refers not only to China. but also to the non-Chinese peoples in the universe beyond, who were ideologically incorporated as it were. The *Huang* *Qing zhigong tu* comprises 550 illustrations of a man and a woman from each country or people described, with brief annotations concerning history, exchanges with China down to the present, as well as illustrations of regional clothing. The templates for this nicely illustrated volume were provided by local officials who formerly had contacts with people from these countries. It also includes a couple from Luzon, “*Lüsong guo yiren Lüsong guo yifu*” 吕宋國夷人 吕宋國夷婦.[[196]](#footnote-196)

Looking at the appearance and clothing of this man and woman, it immediately springs to mind that they must have been Europeans. As Lu Cheng-Heng 盧正恒 has shown, in 1757, a ship from Pangasinam, part of the Spanish colonial empire in the Philippine archipelago, suddenly appeared off the Chinese coast close to Wenzhou 溫州. It was on its way to Manila, but was driven off from its original course due to strong winds. The local maritime officials conducted it into the harbour, and began an official investigation of the ship. On board were Spanish colonial officers, among them the mayor (alcalde mayor) Juan Manuel de Arza y Urrutia (Chin. 龍番攪落那羅) and his siblings.[[197]](#footnote-197) This incident is recorded in various Chinese records.[[198]](#footnote-198) One of the local officials who took care of the wrecked survivors was Shi Tingzhuan 施廷專 (b. 1690), a successor of Shi Lang, the naval officer who assisted the Manchus in making Taiwan officially a part of Fujian Province.[[199]](#footnote-199) In 1727, Shi Tingzhuan had been dispatched as a military officer, and was then supreme commander of naval forces (*shuishi zongdu* 水師總督).[[200]](#footnote-200) A local businessmen who was engaged in trade with Luzon, a certain Zhou Quanxi 周全喜, served initially as interpreter.[[201]](#footnote-201) As the incident happened in the 6th month, in the middle of the hot and taiphoon season, Shi Tingzhuan requested from the emperor that the foreigners be permitted to leave their ship, and stay in an official guesthouse.[[202]](#footnote-202) He was later dismissed because he accepted gifts from the foreigners, a thank-you for friendly treatment at Wenzhou.[[203]](#footnote-203)

At any rate, the description of the man and the woman from Luzon, written in both Chinese and Manchu, as being of tall stature and with long noses, dressed in clothes with accessoires usual among foreigners of the Western Ocean, clearly represents Spanish residents from Luzon. We know that the governor-general (*zongdu* 總督) of Min 閩 and Zhe 浙, Korjishan 喀爾吉善 (?–1757), and the governor (*xunfu* 巡撫) of Fujian, Chen Hongmou 陳弘謀 (1669–1771), were responsible for collecting and sending examples of paintings portraying foreigners to the court in Beijing for the compilation of the *Huang* *Qing zhigong tu*. Against this background, it is possible that the couple included in *Huang* *Qing zhigong tu* was painted after the encounter with the above-mentioned Spanish foreigners from Pangasinam, Luzon.[[204]](#footnote-204) Above all, the whole story demonstrates that local officials, for purely practical, administrative reasons interacted with foreigners, and asked them for detailed information about their places of origins, their circumstances of travel, *etc*. And merchants anyhow had to do with foreigners on a regular basis.

## Conclusion

The traditional image of early modern China is one of a country that, except for the early fifteenth century when Zheng He was sent into the Indian Ocean, was more or less secluded from the outside world during the Ming, and looking inside, it was not at all interested in the maritime world during Qing times. Especially the famous embassy of the Earl of Macartney (1737–1806) in 1793, and the rejection by the Qianlong Emperor of plans to open China for British trade, has continued to be taken as evidence, and as *the* archetype of China’s Sino-centrism, and reluctance to see and understand what was happening beyong its borders. Indeed can we observe a tendency towards a more universal and abstract nation-state during Kangxi’s time that was, however, replaced again by a particularistic Sino-centric world view during the Qianlong era.[[205]](#footnote-205) While a Sino-centric attitude certainly experienced an upswing, we should not forget that the confrontation was also one of contradictory interests: a Chinese empire that was not interested and actually did not need, as Qianlong expounded, foreign products, and a young capitalist nation that was looking for markets to sell its products, and have their businessmen make profits, and in this way increase national wealth. An autarkic society using foreign trade as one means to make profit, but not seeing profit-making as a state purpose (China), was placed opposite against an imperialist, capitalist nation that intended to open foreign markets for her purposes (Britain).

While Qing China pursued a very aggressive expansion policy along her continental borders, a policy that eventually even successfully effected the extinction of the Zungars in Central Asia, Qing China’s maritime policy was comparably defensive. Military “pacification” was not really considered overseas, apparently because any potential threat from countries overseas, except for piracy (also in the case of Taiwan) was considered negligible in contrast to the threat from continental neighbours. China’s self-assessment as the undisputed Middle Kingdom in the Asian world, especially after the successful defeat of the Zungars, most probably contributed a great deal to the emergence of this attitude, and an increasing negligence of maritime space by the Qing ruling and social elites.

But above all we have to realize that *realpolitik* and ideological representation are, and were, two different pairs of shoes. Much more interaction, interconnectivity and reception of the worlds beyond China occurred – not just among people as private individuals, among merchants and travellers, but also at local administrative levels – than the official, state-approved narrative transmitted and desired to make known. Although China was officially increasingly “turning inward”, vivid interaction across the borders continued.

It is obvious that, from its beginnings, interest in the Philippines and in the islands of the larger Philippine Archipelago was predominantly commercial in character, and relations were mostly carried out by private merchants. Official concerns about Luzon obviously first emerged during the Yongle reign. Yongle wanted to “appease and pacify” the island. We should definitely see this policy as a part of the *pax Ming* that was forcefully established in many countries and regions across Southeast Asia. At the same time, the Philippine archipelago seems to have been of relatively less interest in comparison to, for example, the strategically very important Malacca Straits. After all, except for the one mission sent by Yongle in 1405, no further attempts were made during his reign to pacify the islands, or establish any kind of official relations.

The area only returned to the official agenda with increasing piracy in the second half of the sixteenth century. The explicit aim in this case was to clear the waters there of illegal bandits and pirates. Security calculations consequently predominated. And these remained important until far into the eighteenth century. The Kangxi Emperor in particular paid great attention to the macro region. Simultaneously, private trade and commerce with Luzon and the Spanish community peaked after the late sixteenth century. The huge amounts of silver that were annually shipped back from Luzon to China of course also attracted official interest and curiosity. But, except for the episode in search of Mount Jiyi, no official attempts were made, for example, to occupy the island, or otherwise gain access to the monetary sources of all the wealth. Private trade relations, nonetheless, flourished, and Spanish authorities in New Spain and Manila estimated that approximately 5 million (silver) pesos (i.e. 127,800 kg) made their way to China in exchange for a broad variety of Chinese products in the early seventeenth century.[[206]](#footnote-206) From the Chinese perspective, despite any need for monetary metals – silver from the Luzon trade or, as I have shown elsewhere, silver and, later, copper from Japan – no far-reaching, not to speak of aggressive, policies were pursued by the Chinese to direct foreign moneys into their own state coffers.[[207]](#footnote-207) In other words, in complete contrast to the actions of the British Empire some decades later with the initiation of the Opium Wars (1839–42 and 1856–60), the Chinese government saw no necessity to intervene, nor intended to intervene against foreign powers, not even against the background of a lack in monetary metals. Security calculations remained predominant.

Also knowledge and technologies flowed into China from New Spain, reaching the peak of this flow probably during the Kangxi period. Through the Philippine trade, China was eventually linked up with the new Spanish provinces in the New World, both via the Pacific, and the Atlantic and Indian Ocean. A “Pacific Silk Road” came into existence.

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   *Yuanshi* 元史, by Song Lian 宋廉 [1310–1381] (Beijing: Zhonghua shuju, reprint 1995), 210.4667. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. *Lingwai daida* 嶺外代答 (1178), by Zhou Qufei 周去非 (?– after 1178), 2.10b, Siku quanshu-ed. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Roderich Ptak, “The Sea Route between Taiwan and the Philippines in Chinese Texts (c. 1100–1600): New Questions Related to an Old Theme”, *Journal of Asian History* 50:1 (2016), 47-71, 64. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Kenneth R. Hall, *Maritime Trade and State Development in Early Southeast Asia* (Honolulu: University of Hawai’i Press, 1985), 226-227. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Suzhou shi kaogu yanjiusuo 蘇州市研究所, Taicang bowuguan 太倉博物館 (eds.), *Dayuan cang*. *Taicang Fancunjing Yuandai yizhi chutu ciqi jingcui* 大元倉。太倉樊村涇源代遺址出土瓷器精萃 (Shanghai: Shanghai guji chubanshe, 2016). [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. There seems to agreement that it lay in the modern Philippines Islands. Some suggest that it was the precursor of. Maynila/Manila, while others aver that it represented Mindoro.” Geoff Wade, “Champa in the Song hui-yao: A draft translation”, *Asia Research Institute Working Paper Series* No. 53 (2005), 3, footnote 5, Date, [www.nus.ari.edu.sg/pub/wps.htm](http://www.nus.ari.edu.sg/pub/wps.htm) (accessed on December 12, 2017). As Roderich Ptak states, “(w)hether Ma-i-tung (Mo-i, Ma-i, Ma-yeh, Ma-yeh-weng) stands for Mindoro in the Philippines as related through famous accounts of Chao Ju-kua and Wang Ta-yüan, or for Billition Island in the Indonesian Archipelago as suggested is a question that has interested many scholars.” Roderich Ptak, “The Country Ma-yi-[tung] in the Ming Novel Hsi-yang-chi”, *Philippine Studies* 34:2 (Second Quarter 1986), 200-208, here 205. He provides a long footnote with all relevant publications. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. *Songshi*, 186.4558. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. *Song huiyao jigao*宋會要輯稿, ed. by Xu Song 徐松 (1781–1848) *et al*. (Beijing: Zhonghua shuju, 1957), Zhiguan 44/1.3350 (1a). [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. *Song huiyao*, 197, Fanyi 4/95.7761. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. This entryhas been translated into English by William Henry Scott in his “Filipinos in China before 1500”, China Studies Program (Manila: De La Salle University, 1989), 27-28. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. *Wenxian tongkao* 文獻通考, by Ma Duanlin 馬端臨 [1254–1323] (Beijing: ), 332.2606. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. *Yunlu manchao* 雲麓漫抄 (1206), by Zhao Yanwei 趙彥衛 [Tang Song shiliao biji congkan 唐宋史料筆記叢刊] (Beijing: Zhonghua shuju, 1996), 5.19b-20a (88-89). [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. Friedrich Hirth, William W. Rockhill (eds. and transl.), *Chau Ru-kua on the Chinese and Arab Trade* *in the Twelfth and Thirteenth Centuries, entitled Chu-fan-chï* (Amsterdam: Oriental Press, 1960),159-160. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. The sea around the island is described as being full of dangerous rocks, sharper than swords and lances (p. 160). [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. Friedrich Hirth, William W. Rockhill (eds. and transl.), *Chau Ru-kua*, 160. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. Ayala Museum and Oriental Ceramics Society of the Philippines (eds.), *Fujian Ware Found in the Philippines. Song – Yuan Period | 11th – 14th Century* (Makati: Ayala Museum and Oriental Ceramics Society of the Philippines, 2017). [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. Roderich Ptak, *Die maritime Seidenstraße. Küstenräume, Seefahrt und Handel in vorkolonialer Zeit* (München: C. H. Beck, 2007), 168. [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. Thomas Bennett, *Shipwrecks of the Philippines* (E-book. Last edited version 2012), 2. [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
19. Thomas Bennett, *Shipwrecks of the Philippines*, 2. [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
20. Birgit Tremml-Werner, *Spain, China, and Japan in Manila, 1571-1644. Local Comparisons and Global Connections* [Emerging Asia] (Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 2015), 97, with reference to William Henry Scott, *Barangay: Sixteenth-Century Philippine Culture and Society* (Quezon City: Ateneo de Manila University Press, 1994), 248. [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
21. John Chaffee, *The Muslim Merchants of Premodern China*, 173. [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
22. See Mukai Masaki, “Trade Diaspora at the Periphery of Empire”. [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
23. Roderich Ptak, “The Sea Route between Taiwan and the Philippines in Chinese Texts”. [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
24. *Daoyi zhilue*, 23. [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
25. Manel Ollé, “The Chinese in the Philippine Archipelago: Global Projection of a Local Community”, in Angela Schottenhammer (ed.), *Early Global Interconnectivity across the Indian Ocean World*, Volume I. *Commercial Structures and Exchanges* (Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2019), 317-342. [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
26. AGI, Patronato, 24, to be downloaded from http://www.upf.edu/asia/projectes/che/s16/lega1572.htm. [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
27. Igawa Kenji, “At the Crossroads: Limahon and Wako in Sixteenth-Century Philippines”, in Robert J. Antony (ed.), *Elusive Pirates, Pervasive Smugglers, Violence and Clandestine Trade in the Greater China Seas* (Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2010), 73-84, 162-163, 179-191, here 82. [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
28. *Mingshi*, 323.8370. [↑](#footnote-ref-28)
29. Geoff Wade, translator, Southeast Asia in the Ming Shi-lu: an open access resource (Singapore: Asia Research Institute and the Singapore E-Press, National University of Singapore), <http://www.epress.nus.edu.sg/msl/reign/yong-le/year-3-month-10-day-5>, hereafter cited as Geoff Wade, MSL (accessed December 20, 2017). [↑](#footnote-ref-29)
30. Geoff Wade, MSL, <http://www.epress.nus.edu.sg/msl/reign/yong-le/year-8-month-11-day-15> (accessed December 21, 2017). [↑](#footnote-ref-30)
31. *Mingshi*, 323.8370. [↑](#footnote-ref-31)
32. *Dongxiyang kao*, 5.XXX. [↑](#footnote-ref-32)
33. Albert Chan, “Chinese-Philippine Relations in the Late Sixteenth Century and to 1603”, *Philippine Studies* 26:1/2 (1978), 51-82, 53. [↑](#footnote-ref-33)
34. Some scholars are obviously convinced that Zheng He also visited the Philippines. This is also discussed, for example, in Hsu Yun-Ts’iao, “Did Admiral Cheng Ho Visit the Philippines?”, in Leo Suryadinata (ed.), *Admiral Zheng He and Southeast Asia* (Singapore: ISEAS–Yusof Ishak Institute, 2005), 136-141. [↑](#footnote-ref-34)
35. *Dongxiyang kao*, 7.134; on page 153, it says “during the Wanli reign period”, i.e. between 1573 and 1619. No concrete date is provided. [↑](#footnote-ref-35)
36. Ng Chin-keong, Trade and Society, 46, with reference to *Quanzhou fuzhi* (1763-ed.), 25.22a. [↑](#footnote-ref-36)
37. Igawa Kenji, “At the Crossroads”, 80. [↑](#footnote-ref-37)
38. Geoff Wade, MSL, <http://www.epress.nus.edu.sg/msl/reign/wan-li/year-2-month-6-day-10> (accessed December 21, 2017). [↑](#footnote-ref-38)
39. Geoff Wade, MSL, <http://www.epress.nus.edu.sg/msl/reign/wan-li/year-2-month-10-day-20> (accessed December 21, 2017): “The Fu-jian pirate Lin Feng fled from Peng-hu to Wang Port in the Eastern *fan*. The Regional Commander Hu Shou-ren and the Assistant Regional Commander Hu Liang-peng pursued and attacked him, and sent instructions to the *fan* people, requiring that they launch a pincer attack. The bandits' ships were reduced to ashes.” [↑](#footnote-ref-39)
40. Igawa Kenji, “At the Crossroads”, 80, with reference to W. E. Retana, *Sucesos de las Islas Filipinas* (Madrid: Librería general de Victoriano Juárez, 1910), 21, and George Staunton, *The History of the Great and Mighty Kingdom of China and the Situation Thereof*. 2 vols. Translated by T. Parke (London: Hakluyt Society, 1856), vol. 2, 59. [↑](#footnote-ref-40)
41. See also Geoff Wade, MSL, <http://www.epress.nus.edu.sg/msl/reign/wan-li/year-8-month-intercalary-4-day-14>, accessed December 21, 2017: “The pirate Lin Dao-qian had occupied islands in the ocean and was bringing calamities through sudden appearances and rapid disappearances. The generals and troops were unable to apprehend him and he used Patani and Siam as his lairs. Subsequently, he threatened Patani and engaged in violent attacks on Siam, and an interpreter noted that those countries wished to offer their services by capturing him. Liu Yao-hui, the supreme commander of Guang-dong/Guang-xi proposed that a reward for him be again established, as thereby he would certainly be captured. The ministry re-submitted the proposal as a request and the Emperor approved it.” [↑](#footnote-ref-41)
42. *Mingshi*, 323.8370. [↑](#footnote-ref-42)
43. Igawa Kenji, “At the Crossroads: Limahon and Wako in Sixteenth-Century Philippines”, in Robert J. Antony (ed.), *Elusive Pirates, Pervasive Smugglers, Violence and Clandestine Trade in the Greater China Seas* (Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2010), 73-84, 162-163, 179-191, here 82. [↑](#footnote-ref-43)
44. Geoff Wade, MSL, <http://www.epress.nus.edu.sg/msl/reign/wan-li/year-4-month-9-day-6> (accessed December 21, 2017). [↑](#footnote-ref-44)
45. *Mingshi*, 323.8370-8371. This passage is translated in translated in Bertold Laufer, *Relations of the Chinese to the Philippine Islands* [Vol. L; quarterly issue, vol. IV] (Washington : Smithsonian Institution, 1908), 248-284, here 261-262. The events, as Laufer, explains are confirmed by Spanish authors. [↑](#footnote-ref-45)
46. *Mingshi*, 323.8371. *Mingshi* then continues with speaking about the mining tax and the profits that can be made in Luzon with gold and silver. [↑](#footnote-ref-46)
47. Geoff Wade, MSL, <http://www.epress.nus.edu.sg/msl/reign/wan-li/year-22-month-10-day-3> (accessed December 21, 2017). [↑](#footnote-ref-47)
48. Shirley Fish, *The Manila-Acapulco galleons the treasure ships of the Pacific: with an annotated list of the transpacific galleons, 1565–1815* (Central Milton Keynes: AuthorHouse, 2011), 129. [↑](#footnote-ref-48)
49. *Tianxia junguo libing shu*, p. 17b (原編七冊). [↑](#footnote-ref-49)
50. He was also involved in negotiations with the Dutch. In 1604, when the Dutch admiral Wijbrand van Waerwijck (Weima­lang 韋麻郎 or Maweilang 麻韋郎, 1569–1615?) arrived on Taiwan with three ships, he dispatched the Fujianese merchant Li Jin 李錦from Pattani on the Malay coast, to go to Fuzhou to negotiate with Gao Cai. After the reception of a certain sum of money, Gao should write a favourable report to the throne on behalf of the Dutch request to obtain a trading privilege on Taiwan. The new governor of Fujian, Xu Xueju 徐學聚 (*jinshi* 1583), opposed to this arrangement, sent Shen Yourong 沈有容 (1557–1627) with a fleet of fifty ships to Taiwan to negotiate with the Dutch. Shen, eventually, persuaded the Dutch to leave without concluding any transactions with Gao Cai by promising to send Chinese merchants to trade at Pattani. See L. Carrington Goodrich, Chaoying Fang (eds.), *Dictionary of Ming Biography 1368–1644. The Ming Biographical History Project of the Association for Asian Studies*. (New York, London: Columbia University Press, 1976). 2 vols., vol. 2, 1193. [↑](#footnote-ref-50)
51. See also *Minshu* 閩書, by He Qiaoyuan 何喬遠 [*jinshi* 1568] (Fuzhou: Fujian renmin, 1994–1995), 5 vols., 39.XXX; Zhao Shiqing 趙世卿, “Jiuqing Jiyishan kaicai shu” 九卿機易山開採疏 (請罷福建開採), in *Huang Ming jingshi wenbian* 皇明經世文編 (Taibei: Guolian tushu chubangongsi, 1964), vol. 25, 411.338-341. [↑](#footnote-ref-51)
52. Shenzong, 374.9b-11a, *Ming shilu*, volume 112.7036/39, in Geoff Wade, translator, *Southeast Asia in the Ming Shi-lu: an open access resource*, Singapore: Asia Research Institute and the Singapore E-Press, National University of Singapore, http://www.epress.nus.edu.sg/msl/reign/wan-li/year-30-month-7-day-27, accessed July 10, 2019. [↑](#footnote-ref-52)
53. Cao Jin 曹晉, “From Ricci’s World Map to Schall’s Translation of De Re Metallica: Western Learning and China’s Search for Silver in the Late Ming Period (1583–1644)”, *Crossroads – Studies on the History of Exchange Relations in the East Asian World* 17 (2019), 93-138, here 106. [↑](#footnote-ref-53)
54. *Dongxiyang kao*東西洋考 (ca. 1617) by Zhang Xie 張燮 (1574–1640), 5.7b, in Xie Fang 謝方, *Xiyang chaogong dianlu jiaozhu. Dongxi yangkao* 西洋朝貢典錄校注. 東西洋考 [Zhongwai jiaotong shiji congkan 中外交通史籍叢刊] (Beijing: Zhonghua shuju, 2000), 91. [↑](#footnote-ref-54)
55. *Dongxiyang kao*, 5.4a. [↑](#footnote-ref-55)
56. *Dongxiyang kao*, 5.4a-b; see also *Mingshi* 明史, by Zhang Tingyu 張廷玉 [1672 –1755] (Beijing: Zhonghua shuju, 1974), 28.8371. [↑](#footnote-ref-56)
57. *Dongxiyang kao*, 5.4b. [↑](#footnote-ref-57)
58. Shenzong, 390.4b, vol. 113, 7338, in http://www.epress.nus.edu.sg/msl/reign/wan-li/year-31-month-11-day-12, accessed July 10, 2019. [↑](#footnote-ref-58)
59. Shenzong, 404.3a-b, vol. 114.7547/48, in http://www.epress.nus.edu.sg/msl/reign/wan-li/year-32-month-12-day-13, accessed July 10, 2019. [↑](#footnote-ref-59)
60. *Mingshi*, 323.8371. [↑](#footnote-ref-60)
61. *Mingshi*, 323.8372. [↑](#footnote-ref-61)
62. *Dongxiyang kao*, 8.155. [↑](#footnote-ref-62)
63. Li Feng reportedly privately shipped up to thirty huge boats with bribary and 300 big carriers. *Mingshi*, 323.8373. [↑](#footnote-ref-63)
64. Li Jingming 李金明, *Mingdai haiwai maoyi shi* 明代海外贸易史 (Beijing: Zhongguo shehui kexueyuan, 1990), 78. [↑](#footnote-ref-64)
65. *Dongxi yangkao*, 7.148. [↑](#footnote-ref-65)
66. Shenzong, 374.9b-11a, *Ming shilu*, volume 112.7036/39, in http://www.epress.nus.edu.sg/msl/reign/wan-li/year-30-month-7-day-27, accessed July 10, 2019. [↑](#footnote-ref-66)
67. There is a good deal of literature on this topic. See, for example, XXX [↑](#footnote-ref-67)
68. See Cao Jin, “From Ricci’s World Map to Schall’s Translation of De Re Metallica”, 111-112, with reference to Li Tingji 李廷機, *Li Wenjie ji* 李文節集 (Taibei: Wenhai chubanshe, 1970), *juan* 14. [↑](#footnote-ref-68)
69. Cao Jin, “From Ricci’s World Map to Schall’s Translation of De Re Metallica”, 108-109, with reference to Emma Blair and James Alexander Robertson (eds.), *The Philippine Islands 1493‒1803*, 88. [↑](#footnote-ref-69)
70. Angela Schottenhammer, “The Song 宋 Dynasty (960–1279) – A Revolutionary Era Turn?”, in Kósa Gábor (ed.),*China across the Centuries* [Budapest Monographs in East Asian Studies] (Budapest: ELTE University, Department of East Asian Languages, 2017), 156. [↑](#footnote-ref-70)
71. Ng Chin-keong, *Trade and Society*, 47. [↑](#footnote-ref-71)
72. *Chunming menyu lu* 春明夢餘錄, by Sun Chengze 孫承澤 (1592–1676),42.41a-b, Siku Quanshu-ed. [↑](#footnote-ref-72)
73. Gang Deng, “The Foreign Staple Trade,” 275. [↑](#footnote-ref-73)
74. Relations of Zheng Zhilong, Zheng Chenggong 鄭成功 (1624–1662) and Zheng Jing 鄭經 with Manila and the Philippines are introduced by Manel Ollé, “Manila in the Zheng Clan Maritime Networks”, *Revista de Cultura/Review of Culture* 29 (2009), 91-10 [↑](#footnote-ref-74)
75. Manel Ollé, “Manila in the Zheng Clan Maritime Networks”, 92-93. [↑](#footnote-ref-75)
76. This is a westernization of the Chinese expression “Guoxingye 國姓爺”, literally “Lord (permitted to carry) the surname of the imperial family”. [↑](#footnote-ref-76)
77. Gang Deng, “The Foreign Staple Trade”, 255. [↑](#footnote-ref-77)
78. Cheng Wei-chung, *War, Trade and Piracy*, passim, esp. chapter eleven, *e.g*. 169-179. [↑](#footnote-ref-78)
79. Cheng Wei-chung, *War, Trade and Piracy*, 177. During a short truce between Manchu troops and Coxinga the same year, even false rumours spread around Midanao that Coxinga was preparing a large fleet to conquer the Philippines. A galleon that was expected from Acapulco that year ran aground on the northern tip of Luzon. The Spanish later tried to salvage the silver from the wreck (pp. 175-176). [↑](#footnote-ref-79)
80. Cheng Wei-chung, *War, Trade and Piracy*, 225. [↑](#footnote-ref-80)
81. Liang Tingnan, *Haiguo sishuo* 海國四説, *Yuedao gongguo shuo* 粤道貢國説 and Liang Tingnan, *Yue haiguan zhi*, 22.20: “ 康熙二十四年，監督宜爾格圖奏言。粵東向有東西二洋諸國來往交易，係市舶提舉司徵收貨税。明隆慶五年，以夷人报貨奸欺，難於查驗，改定丈抽之例，按船大小以为額税，西洋船定为九等。後因夷人屡請，量减抽三分，東洋船定为四等。國朝未禁海以前，洋船詣澳，照例丈抽。但往日多载珍奇，今系雜貨，今昔殊异，十船不及一船。請於議减之外，再减二分。東洋亦照例行。” [↑](#footnote-ref-81)
82. Richard von Glahn, *Fountain of Fortune: Money and Monetary Policy in China, 1000-1700* (Berkeley, University of California Press, 1996), 119. [↑](#footnote-ref-82)
83. Pierre Chaunu, *Les Philippines et le Pacifique des Ibériques* (XVIe, XVIIe, XVIIIe siècles) [Publication of the Centre de Recherches Historiques, École Pratique des Hautes Études] (Paris : S.E.V.P.E.N., 1960), 266-267. [↑](#footnote-ref-83)
84. *Dongxi yangkao*, 7.132; for details cf. also Chang Pin-tsun, *Chinese Maritime Trade* (1983), 262–264. [↑](#footnote-ref-84)
85. Zhongguo diyi lishi dang’an guan 中國第一歷史檔案館, Macao jijinhui 澳門基金會, Jinan daxue guji yanjiusuo 暨南大學古籍研究所 (eds.), MingQing shiqi Aomen wenti dang’an wenxian huibian 明清時期澳門問題檔案文獻彙編vol. 5 (Beijing: Beijing renmin chubanshe, 1999), 372, with reference to *Jinglin xuji* 涇林續記, by Zhou Xuanwei 周玄瑋. [↑](#footnote-ref-85)
86. Fu Yiling 傳衣凌, *Ming Qing shidai shangren ji shangye ziben* 明清時代商人及商業資本 (Beijing: Beijing renmin chubanshe, 1956), 133; *Dongxi yangkao*, 7.132. [↑](#footnote-ref-86)
87. Ng Chin-Keong, *Trade and Society*,168. [↑](#footnote-ref-87)
88. Jose Eugenio Barao, “The Massacre of 1603: Chinese Perception of the Spaniards in the Philippines”, National Taiwan University (1998), in http://homepage.ntu.edu.tw/~borao/2Profesores/massacre.pdf (a cessed on April 20, 2020); Charles J. McCarthy, “Slaughter of Sangleys in 1639”, *Philippine Studies* 18:3 (1970), 659-667; Juan Gil, *Los Chinos en Manila* (Lisboa: Centro Científico e Cultural de Macau, 2011), 151-154; also Birgit Tremml, “The Global and the Local: Problematic Dynamics of the Triangular Trade in Early Modern Manila”, *Journal of World History* 23:3 (2012),570-571. [↑](#footnote-ref-88)
89. Lin Man-houng, “The Shift from East Asia to the World: The Role of Maritime Silver in China's Economy in the Seventeenth to Late Eighteenth Centuries”, in Wang Gungwu, Ng Chin-Keong (eds.), *Maritime China in Transition*, 77-96, 85. [↑](#footnote-ref-89)
90. Manel Ollé, “The Chinese in the Philippine Archipelago”, 342. [↑](#footnote-ref-90)
91. George Bryan Souza, *The Survival of Empire: Portuguese Trade and Society in China and the South China Sea, 1630–1754* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1986), 78-83; Richard von Glahn *Fountain of Fortune*, 125. Li Qingxin speaks of 1.5 million pesos worth of raw silks and silk fabrics being annually traded by Portuguese merchants via Guangdong and Macao to Manila between 1619 and 1631. See Li Qingxin, *Maritime Silk Road*, 219. [↑](#footnote-ref-91)
92. Cheng Wei-chung, *War, Trade and Piracy in the China Seas, 1622*–*1683* [TANAP Monographs on the History of Asian-European Interaction, 16] (Leiden, Boston: E. J. Brill, 2013), 35-38, 40-42, 60-66, [↑](#footnote-ref-92)
93. Pierre Chaunu*, Les Philippines et le Pacifique des Ibériques*, 156-160. [↑](#footnote-ref-93)
94. Li Xiang, Yang Weibo, “Lun Qingchao qianqi haiwai maoyi zhengce de fei biguanxing’” (2000), 65 (quoting the *Huangchao wenxian tongkao*). [↑](#footnote-ref-94)
95. *Ming Qing shiliao*, *Wubian* 戊編 (Beijing: Zhonghua shuju, 1950), vol. 1, 102. [↑](#footnote-ref-95)
96. Lo-Shu Fu, *A Documentary Chronicle*, 86. [↑](#footnote-ref-96)
97. Gang Deng, *Chinese Maritime Activities* *and Socioeconomic Development, c. 2100 B.C. - 1900 A.D.* [Contributions in Economics & Economic History, Book 188] (Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1997), 111. [↑](#footnote-ref-97)
98. Gang Deng, *Chinese Maritime Activities*, 111-112. [↑](#footnote-ref-98)
99. *Da Qing lichao shilu* 大清歴朝實録 (Qianlong), 712.1b. [↑](#footnote-ref-99)
100. Gugong bowuyuan wenxianguan weiyuanhui 故宫博物院文獻委員會 (ed.), *Wenxian cong­­bian* 文獻叢編 (Shanghai: Tianjin geda shudian, 1931), vol. 11, 8b. [↑](#footnote-ref-100)
101. Lin Man-houng, “The Shift from East Asia to the World”, 85. [↑](#footnote-ref-101)
102. Antoine Gaubil, S. J., *Correspondance de Pékin, 1722*–1759 (Geneva: Librairie Droz, 1970), 710 (letter to P. Berthier 1752). This correspondence is also quoted in Laura Hostetler, Qing Colonial Enterprise. Ethnography and Cartography in Early Modern China (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2001), 39-41. [↑](#footnote-ref-102)
103. Antoine Gaubil, S. J., *op. cit*., 711. [↑](#footnote-ref-103)
104. Lo-Shu Fu, *A Documentary Chronicle of Sino-Western Relations* (1644–1820) (Tucson: The Uni­versity of Arizona Press, 1966), 106, with reference to *DaQing lichao Shengzu Renhuang shilu* 大清歴朝聖祖仁皇實錄 (Kangxi) (Taibei: Huawen shuju, 1964), 160.26-27 (November 24, 1693). [↑](#footnote-ref-104)
105. Su Jiyu 蘇及寓, “Xiedu shiju” 邪毒實據, in Xu Changzhi 徐昌治 *et al*. (ed.), *Shengchao poxieji* 聖朝破邪集, Nanguang shudu 南官署牘 (1639), 3.32-36, in Chang Weihua, *A Commentary of the Four Chapters on Portugal, Spain, Holland, and Italy in the History of the Ming Dynasty* [Yenching Journal of Chinese Studies, Monograph no. 7] (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1934), 162-163. [↑](#footnote-ref-105)
106. Laura Hostetler, Qing Colonial Enterprise, 54. [↑](#footnote-ref-106)
107. See, for example, Gang Zhao, *The Qing Opening to the Ocean*. *Chinese Maritime Policies, 1684–1757* (Honolulu:University of Hawaii Press), 85, passim. [↑](#footnote-ref-107)
108. The special large timbers required for construction of masts and keels were all genuine Chinese products unavailable abroad. [↑](#footnote-ref-108)
109. *Ming Qing shiliao*, vol. 8, 74; Gugong bowuyuan wenxianguan weiyuanhui 故宫博物院文獻委員會 (ed.), *Wenxian congbian* 文獻叢編 (Shanghai: Tianjin geda shudian, 1931), vol. 17, 8. [↑](#footnote-ref-109)
110. Wang Huafeng 王华锋, “‘Nanyang jinhang ling‘ chutai yuanwei lunxi” <南洋禁航令>出台原委论析, *Xinan daxue xuebao* 西南大学学报 (2017), 43(6), 163-170. [↑](#footnote-ref-110)
111. See also Gang Zhao, *The Qing Opening to the Ocean*, 154. [↑](#footnote-ref-111)
112. See Guo Yunjing, “Views of Japan and Policies Toward Japan in the Early Qing”, in Joshua Fogel (ed.), *Sagacious Monks and Bloodthirsty Warriors: Chinese Views of Japan in the Ming-Qing Period* (Norwalk: EastBridge, 2002), 88-108, here 103-104; Angela Schottenhammer, “Empire and Periphery? The Qing Empire’s Relations with Japan and the Ryūkyūs (1644–c. 1800), a Comparison”, *The Medieval History Journal* 16:1 (2013), 139-196. [↑](#footnote-ref-112)
113. Lee Chi-lin 李其霖, “The Development of Shipbuilding during the Qing Dynasty”, *Crossroads – Studies in the History of Exchange Relations in the East Asian World* 16 (2017), 161-193. [↑](#footnote-ref-113)
114. Paola Calanca, *Piraterie et contrebande au Fujian. L’administration chinoise face aux problèmes d’illégalité maritime (XVIIe-au début XIX3 siècle)* (Paris: Les Indes savante, 2011), 233-255. [↑](#footnote-ref-114)
115. Christian Soffel, “Taiwan in Early Qing Chinese Poetry”, in Angela Schottenhammer (ed.), *Taiwan – A Bridge Between the East and the South China Sea* [East Asian Maritime History, 11] (Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz, 2011), 117-132, here 129-130. [↑](#footnote-ref-115)
116. *Shizong Xianhuangdi zhupi yuzhi* 世宗憲皇帝硃批諭旨, by Yongzheng 雍正 (1677–1735) and Qianlong乾隆 (1711–1799), 43.20b, *Siku quanshu*, fasc. 418–423.

     *Shizong Xianhuangdi zhupi yuzhi*, *j*. 43, section xia, p. 20b. [↑](#footnote-ref-116)
117. See for example several entries in *Shizong Xianhuangdi zhupi yuzhi*, 176, section 5, passim. [↑](#footnote-ref-117)
118. *Shizong Xianhuangdi zhupi yuzhi*, 72.17a–b, 22a. [↑](#footnote-ref-118)
119. *Shizong Xianhuangdi zhupi yuzhi*, 176, section 5, 27b. [↑](#footnote-ref-119)
120. *Shizong Xianhuangdi zhupi yuzhi*, 13, section xia, 61a. [↑](#footnote-ref-120)
121. *Shizong Xianhuangdi zhupi yuzhi*, 13, section xia, 22b; also 72.1b (*yuan ge haiyang difang* 遠隔海洋地方). [↑](#footnote-ref-121)
122. *Shizong Xianhuangdi zhupi yuzhi*, *j*. 72, p. 3b. [↑](#footnote-ref-122)
123. See especially publications by Patrizia Carioti, “The Zheng’s Maritime Power in the International Context of the Seventeenth Century Far Eastern Seas: The Rise of a ‘Centralized Piratical Organization’ and Its Gradual Development into an Informal State”, *Ming Qing yanjiu* 明清研究 (Napoli), 5 (1996), 29-67; Patrizia Carioti, *Zheng Chenggong* (Napoli: Istituto Universitario Orientale, 1995); John E. Wills, Jr., “Maritime China from Wang Chih to Shih Lang: Themes in Peripheral History”, in Jonathan D. Spence and John E. Wills, Jr. (eds.), *From Ming to Ch’ing* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1979), 223-228; Frederick E. Wakeman, *The Great Enterprise* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1983). See also Manel Ollé Rodriguéz, “Manila in the Zheng Clan Maritime Networks”, *Revista de Cultura*/*Review of Culture* 29 (2009), 90-103. [↑](#footnote-ref-123)
124. See also Young-tsu Wong, *China’s Conquest of Taiwan in the Seventeenth CenturyYoung-tsu WongVictory at Full Moon* (Singapore: Springer Nature, 2017), DOI 10.1007/978-981-10-2248-7. [↑](#footnote-ref-124)
125. Angela Schottenhammer, “Japan – the tiny Dwarf? Sino-Japanese Relations from the Kangxi to the Early Qianlong Reigns”, in Angela Schottenhammer (ed.), *The East Asian Mediterranean – Maritime Crossroads of Culture, Commerce, and Human Migration* [East Asian Maritime History, 6] (Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz, 2008), 331-388. [↑](#footnote-ref-125)
126. On Qi Jiguang, see Y. H. Teddy Sim, *The Maritime Defence of China Ming General Qi Jiguang and Beyond* (Singapore: Springer Nature, 2017), doi <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-10-4163-1>; also Paola Calanca, *Piraterie et contrebande au Fujian*, 234-253 passim. [↑](#footnote-ref-126)
127. Cinta Krahe, *Chinese porcelain and other orientalia and exotica*, 55, with reference to George Kuwayama, “Chinese Porcelain in the Viceroyalty of Peru”, in *Asia & Spanish America. Trans-Pacific & Cultural Exchange*, 1500–1850 (Denver: 2009), 165-174. See also letter quoted in Borah Woodrow, *Early Colonial Trade and Navigation between Mexico and Peru* (Berkeley: 1954), 122: “Chinese merchandise is so cheap and Spanish goods so dear that I believe it impossible to choke off the trade to such an extent that no Chinese wares will be consumed in the realm, since a man can clothe his wife in Chinese silks for two hundred reales, whereas he could not provide her clothing of Spanish silks with two hundred pesos.” [↑](#footnote-ref-127)
128. António de Morga*, Sucesos de las Islas Filipinas* [México: 1609], Henry E. J. Stanley (ed.), *The Philippine Islands, Moluccas, Siam, Cambodia, Japan and China, at the close of the sixteenth century* (London: Hakluyt Society, 1868); António de Morga (author), Emma Blair and James Alexander Robertson (eds.), *The Philippine Islands 1493‒1803* (Cleveland, Ohio: The Arthur H. Clark Company, 1903‒1909), 55 vols., vols. 1 and 2 in The Project Gutenberg EBook, 2004, http://www.archive.org/stream/historyofthephil07001gut/8phip10.txt (accessed on July 23, 2018). [↑](#footnote-ref-128)
129. A first English translation was provided by Sir Henry Edward John Stanley of Alderley, published by the Hakluyt Society of London, 1868; it is also reproduced in Blair & Robertson, *The Philippine Islands*, as vols. XV and XVI. António de Morga also led the Spanish in one naval battle against Dutch corsairs in the Philippines, in 1600. [↑](#footnote-ref-129)
130. Emma Blair and James Alexander Robertson (eds.), *The Philippine Islands 1493‒1803*, vols. 1 and 2 in The Project Gutenberg EBook, 2004, http://www.archive.org/stream/historyofthephil07001gut/8phip10.txt (accessed on July 23, 2018). [↑](#footnote-ref-130)
131. Luis Alonso Álvarez, “E la nave va. Economía, fiscalidad e inflación en las regulaciones de la carrera de la Mar del Sur, 1565‒1604”, in Salvador Bernabéu Albert and Carlos Martínez Shaw (eds.), *Un océano de seda y plata: el universo económico del Galeón de Manila* (Sevilla: Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, 2013), 25-84, 28 with reference to “Representación de Juan de la Isla sobre ciertas cosas necesarias para la navegación y comercio de Nueva España a Filipinas”, Manila 1 de enero de 1568, AGI, Patronato, 24, r. 4. [↑](#footnote-ref-131)
132. Jean-Noël Sánchez Pons, “Debates Españoles sobre el Comercio de las Especias Asiáticas”, in Salvador Bernabéu Albert and Carlos Martínez Shaw (eds.), *Un océano de seda y plata*, 107-132, 113-114. Originally, even the establishment of a “Spice House” (casa de las especias) in La Coruña had been considered. [↑](#footnote-ref-132)
133. José L. Gasch-Tomás, *The Atlantic World and the Manila Galleons*, 67. [↑](#footnote-ref-133)
134. See also Margarita Suárez, “Lima and the Introduction of Peru into Global Trade of the 16th Century”, 192. [↑](#footnote-ref-134)
135. Luis Alonso Álvarez, “E la nave va”, 30. [↑](#footnote-ref-135)
136. “Relación de las mercaderías que lleva la nao nombrado Nuestra Señora de la Cinta que es de su Majestad procedente de las Islas Filipinas y va a los Reyes del Pirú. [El] capitán del la [*nao*] Don Gonzalo Ronquillo de Ballesteros, Maestro de St. Ana y piloto pedro Rios, surgió ... (8 de diciembre 1581)”, AGI, Patronato 24, R 55. 1581, listed and translated in Cinta Krahe, *Chinese porcelain and other orientalia and exotica*, Appendix 3, 251-252. [↑](#footnote-ref-136)
137. See also Timothy Brook, *The Confusions of Pleasure. Commerce and Culture in Ming China* (Berkeley, Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1998), 206. [↑](#footnote-ref-137)
138. *Hyōka kiji* 漂客紀事 is one of the rare written sources I have been able to find which also mention ceramics, five to six hundred completely preserved pieces, as part of the cargo. *Hyōka kiji* 漂客紀事 (1804), by Kodama Nanka 児玉南柯 (1746–1830), 1.8a. A copy of the original can be downloaded from the library website of the Tōkyō Kaiyō daigaku 東京海洋大学, cf. http://lib.s.kaiyodai.ac.jp/ library/bunkan/tb-gaku/hyoryu/HYOKAKU/hyokaku-index.html. [↑](#footnote-ref-138)
139. Angela Schottenhammer, “Brokers and ‘Guild’ (*huiguan* 會館) Organizations in China’s Maritime Trade with her Eastern Neighbours during the Ming and Qing Dynasties”, *Crossroads – Studies on the History of Exchange Relations in the East Asian World* 1/2 (2010), 99-150, 128. [↑](#footnote-ref-139)
140. Gang Deng, *Chinese Maritime Activities*, 119. [↑](#footnote-ref-140)
141. George Kuwayama, *Chinese Ceramics in Colonial Mexico* (Los Angeles: Los Angeles County Museum of Art, University of Hawai’i Press, 1997), 6. [↑](#footnote-ref-141)
142. Marjorie Trusted, “Survivors of a Shipwreck: Ivories from a Manila Galleon of 1601”, *Hispanic Research Journal* 14:5 (2013). 446-462, here 447. [↑](#footnote-ref-142)
143. Marjorie Trusted, “Survivors of a Shipwreck”, 448. [↑](#footnote-ref-143)
144. *Zhangzhou fuzhi* 漳州府志, quoted in Rong Rong 荣荣, “Fujian chuantong gongyipin zhi yi — Zhangzhou beidiao” 福建传统工艺品之一 — 漳州贝雕, <http://www.weifang168.com/zhifu/techan/5479.html> (accessed on September 24, 2018); also Craig Clunas, *Chinese Carving* (London, Victoria & Albert Museum: Sun Tree Publishing, 1996), 19. [↑](#footnote-ref-144)
145. Gao Lian 高濂 (fl. 16th cent.), *Zunsheng bajian* 遵生八箋 (Chengdu: Bashu shushe, 1958), 5.62. See also Marjorie Trusted, “Survivors of a Shipwreck”, 448, with reference to Craig Clunas, *Chinese Carving* (London, Victoria & Albert Museum: Sun Tree Publishing, 1996), 18-19; inadvertently, the text writes Gao Lin instead of Gao Lian. [↑](#footnote-ref-145)
146. See also Marjorie Trusted, “Survivors of a Shipwreck”, 448. [↑](#footnote-ref-146)
147. http://ns.gov.gu/galleon/ (accessed on September 24, 2018). [↑](#footnote-ref-147)
148. AGI, Ramo Quito, legajo 133, exp. 28, no pagination, quoted by Mariano Bonialian, *China y la América Colonial*, 133. [↑](#footnote-ref-148)
149. AGI, Ramo Panamá, legajo 232, exp. 11, f. 119-123, quoted by Mariano Bonialian, *China y la América Colonial*, 133. [↑](#footnote-ref-149)
150. Mariano Bonialian, *El Pacífico Hispanoamericano*, 315. [↑](#footnote-ref-150)
151. Mariano Bonialian, *El Pacífico Hispanoamericano*, 320. [↑](#footnote-ref-151)
152. *Ibid*. [↑](#footnote-ref-152)
153. Mariano Bonialian, *El Pacífico Hispanoamericano*, 321, with reference to *Acervo Histórico de El Colegio de México, Colección Muro*; extract of the *Archivo Histórico del Ministerio de Hacienda de Peru*, Mayor de contaduría, 1725, no. 504 (“Cargo de comisos”), f. 102v. [↑](#footnote-ref-153)
154. Domingo Marcoleta, “Nueva representacion que hace a su magestad ... D. Domingo de Marcoleta apoderado de la ciudad de Buenos Ayres…”, online http://bdh-rd.bne.es/viewer.vm?id=0000038582&page=1, 6 [page 13 of the document] (accessed September 25, 2018); also Mariano Bonialian, *China en la América Colonial. Bienes, Mercados, Comercio y Cultura des Consumo Desde México Hasta Buenos Aires* (Mexico: Biblos-Instituto Mora, 2014), 128. [↑](#footnote-ref-154)
155. Roderich Ptak, “The Sea Route between Taiwan and the Philippines in Chinese Texts”, 54. [↑](#footnote-ref-155)
156. As local products gold dust, yellow beans, millet, sulphur, yellow wax, deer, deerskin, leopards are mentioned, as trading commodities local pearls, tortoiseshells, golden pearls, coarse bowls, and Chuzhou, that is, Longquan ceramics. [↑](#footnote-ref-156)
157. Wang Dayuan, *Daoyi zhilue* 岛夷志略, annotated by Su Jiqing 蘇繼廎 [Zhongwai jiaotong shiji congkan 中外交通史籍叢刊] (Beijing: Zhonghua shuju, 1981), 17. On the Ryūkyūs, see also Mamoru Akamine, *The Ryukyu Kingdom, Cornerstone of East Asia* (Honolulu: University of Hawai’i Press, 2017), and Pearson, 2013. [↑](#footnote-ref-157)
158. Pearson, *loc. cit*. [↑](#footnote-ref-158)
159. Zheng Xiao, *Huangming siyi kao*, 126. [↑](#footnote-ref-159)
160. Luo Yuejiong, *Xianbin lu*, 160. [↑](#footnote-ref-160)
161. Cheng Boer *et al*., *Fangyu shenglüe*, 5.24a; Zheng Xiao, *Huangming siyikao*, 126; Luo Yuejiong, *Xianbin lu*, 160. [↑](#footnote-ref-161)
162. *Shunfeng xiangsong* 順風相送, Oxford, Bodleian Library, Laud Or. 145, inscribed ‘Liber Guil. Laud Archibpi Cant et Cancillar Universit Oxon 1637’, reprinted in Xiang Da 向達 (ed.), *Liangzhong haidao zhenjing* 兩種海道針經 [Zhongwai jiaotong shiji congkan 中外交通史籍叢刊] (Beijing: Zhonghua shuju, 1961), 88-89; see also *Dongxiyang kao*, 9.182-183. [↑](#footnote-ref-162)
163. A high quality scan of the map can be seen at the website on the map provided by the Bodleian Library (*Selden Map* (17th century, 1620), [http://seldenmap.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/map]. [↑](#footnote-ref-163)
164. These are from north to south: Dagang 大港 (Aparri), Shekunmei 射昆美 (Malolokit), Yuetaomen 月投門 (Pagudpud), Nanwang 南旺 (Lavage), Tainiukeng 台牛坑 (Vigan), Xianggang 香港 (Burgos), Daimao 玳瑁 (Lingayen), Toujin jiao 頭巾礁 (Capones or Turban Reef), Fuding’an 扶鼎安 (Bataan), LüSong wangcheng 吕宋王城 (Manila – Royal capital of Luzon), Jiawenmen 甲万門 (Mindoro Strait, Apo Reef), Futang 福堂 (Oton), Shuwu 束務 (Cebu), Majunjiaolao 馬軍礁老 (Maguindanao – Cotobato City), and Sulu 蘇祿. The identification is taken from Robert Batchelor’s google maps page showing all place names on the Selden map (Robert K. Batchelor, “Google Map of Locations Marked on the Selden Map”, 2014, [http://www.thinkingpast.com/seldenfusionlarge.html]. For other useful information also see Robert K. Batchelor, “John Selden’s Map of East Asia (The Selden Map of China)”, *Thinking Past* (2014), http://www.thinkingpast.com/projects/seldens-map/. [↑](#footnote-ref-164)
165. Robert Batchelor, “The Selden Map Rediscovered: A *Circa* 1619 Chinese Map of East Asian Shipping Routes”, *Imago Mundi* 65:1 (2013), 37-63, 50. [↑](#footnote-ref-165)
166. The ports labelled are 北港 (*beigang*, ‘northern port’ or Tayouan Bay) and 加里林 (*jiali lin*, ‘Jiali forest’ or Soulang near the future Fort Zeelandia), in addition to the adjacent 彭島 (*Pengdao* for Penghu or the Pescadores?). [↑](#footnote-ref-166)
167. Robert Batchelor, “The Selden Map Rediscovered”, 11. [↑](#footnote-ref-167)
168. Kunyu\_Wanguo\_Quantu\_by\_Matteo\_Ricci\_Plate\_4-6. [↑](#footnote-ref-168)
169. Kris Lane, *Potosí. Treasure of the World* (Berkeley, Los Angeles: University of California Press, 2018), 2. [↑](#footnote-ref-169)
170. Kris Lane, *Potosí. Treasure of the World*, 28. [↑](#footnote-ref-170)
171. Kunyu\_Wanguo\_Quantu\_by\_Matteo\_Ricci\_Plate\_4-6. [↑](#footnote-ref-171)
172. Section of an untitled map dated 1743, based on Matteo Ricci’s *Kunyu wanguo quantu* 坤輿萬國全圖. Southwest of this island another yet smaller island is portrayed saying “Ganshu” 乾庶 country (Concho). There are mountains that produce lots of silver treasures. [↑](#footnote-ref-172)
173. For a detailed discussion, see Angela Schottenhammer, “Peruvian Balsam”: An Example of Transoceanic Transfer of Medicinal Knowledge”, *Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine* (forthcoming). [↑](#footnote-ref-173)
174. See Richard J. Smith, “Mapping China’s World: Cultural Cartography in Late Imperial Times”, in Wen-hsin Yeh (ed.), *Landscape, Culture, and Power in Chinese Society*, 71-77; Marcel Destombes, Wang P’an, Liang Chou et Matteo Ricci: Essai sur la cartographie chinoise de 1593 à 1603”, in ***Appréciation par l'Europe de la tradition chinoise*** *a partir du XVIIe siècle; actes du IIIe Colloque International de Sinologie*; Centre de Recherches Interdisciplinaire de Chantilly (CERIC), 11-14 septembre 1980. (Paris: Les Belles Lettres, Cathasia, 1983), 47-65. [↑](#footnote-ref-174)
175. This would accord with an observation I made earlier in relation to “Nanfan” and the importance of the Arab trade for Song period Quanzhou: “The illustrated position of many of these islands absolutely does not represent their *real* geographical position, they consequently carried more of a symbolic meaning. I would argue that this is probably less a sign of ignorance, and more of the fact that these “islands in the sea” were of major importance for China’s and especially Quanzhou’s contemporary commercial relations. Can “Nanfan” thus be interpreted as a metaphor for the importance of the Arabs in contemporary Southeast Asian and Indian Ocean maritime trade? Possibly, being an “island in the sea,” during Song times stands as a metaphor or symbol for the significance of a place (country, port, island) in China’s contemporary maritime trade system”, see Angela Schottenhammer, “The Song 宋 Dynasty (960–1279) – A Revolutionary Era Turn?”, in Kósa Gábor (ed.),*China across the Centuries* [Budapest Monographs in East Asian Studies] (Budapest: ELTE University, Department of East Asian Languages, 2017), 133-173, here 155-156. [↑](#footnote-ref-175)
176. Section of an untitled map dated 1743, based on Matteo Ricci’s *Kunyu wanguo quantu* 坤輿萬國全圖. Courtesy of the British Library. British Library Board, ch5 5 a China. [↑](#footnote-ref-176)
177. Gujin tushu jicheng 古今圖書集成 (between 1700 and 1725)*,* 108.4940-41. [↑](#footnote-ref-177)
178. *DaMing yitong zhi* 大明一统志, compiled by Li Xian 李賢 (1408–1467) *et al*., 423.14996 (巴爾薩嗎油) and 14997, Siku quanshu-ed (quoted according to the electronic version). [↑](#footnote-ref-178)
179. *DaQing yitongzhi* 大清一统志 (1790), by Heshen 和珅 (1750–1799), initiated 1686 under the guidance of Xu Qianxue 徐乾學 (1631–1694), 423.14996 and 14997, Siku quanshu-ed (quoted according to the electronic version). [↑](#footnote-ref-179)
180. Ai Rulue 艾儒略 (Giulio Aleni S. J.), Xie Fang 謝方, *Zhifang waiji jiaoshi* 職方外紀校釋 [Zhongwai jiaotong shiji congkan中外交通史籍叢刊] (Beijing: Zhonghua shuju, 2000), 1-237, 122-123; Paolo De Troia (tr., ed.), *Geografia dei paesi stranieri alla Cina. Zhifang waiji*, vol. 1 of *Opera omnia* v. Aleni (Brescia: Fondazione Civiltà Bresciana, 2009). [↑](#footnote-ref-180)
181. Xie Fang, *Zhifang waiji jiaoshi*, 129-130. [↑](#footnote-ref-181)
182. Xie Fang, *Zhifang waiji jiaoshi*, 26. The name is put vertically approximately on the location of modern Bolivia. [↑](#footnote-ref-182)
183. Xie Fang, *Zhifang waiji jiaoshi*, 158. [↑](#footnote-ref-183)
184. Xie Fang, *Zhifang waiji jiaoshi*, 119-124. [↑](#footnote-ref-184)
185. Xie Fang, *Zhifang waiji jiaoshi*, 123. [↑](#footnote-ref-185)
186. Linda A. Newson, *Making Medicines in Early Colonial Lima, Peru. Apothecaries, Science and Society* [The Atlantic World, 34] (Leiden: Boston: E. J. Brill, 2017), 165. [↑](#footnote-ref-186)
187. Xie Fang, *Zhifang waiji jiaoshi*, 124. [↑](#footnote-ref-187)
188. *Wuli xiaoshi* 物理小識, by Fang Yizhi 方以智 (1611–1671), 3.155, in SKQS. [↑](#footnote-ref-188)
189. *Wuli xiaoshi*, 9.362. [↑](#footnote-ref-189)
190. *Wuli xiaoshi*, 2.111. [↑](#footnote-ref-190)
191. Benjamin Elman, *On Their Own Terms. Science in China, 1550–1900* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2005), 111. [↑](#footnote-ref-191)
192. British Library, C0317-08.TIF. [↑](#footnote-ref-192)
193. Database of Historical Maps in the Yokohama City University Collection, http://www-user.yokohama-cu.ac.jp/~ycu-rare/pages/WC-0\_122.html (accessed on December 6, 2018). [↑](#footnote-ref-193)
194. Richard J. Smith, Mapping China’s World, ‘Concluding Remarks’, in http://www.kunstpedia.com/articles/mapping-chinas-world--cultural-cartography-in-late-imperial-times.html?page=8 (accessed on ‘July 2, 2020). [↑](#footnote-ref-194)
195. *Huang Qing zhi gong tu* 皇清職貢圖 (1761) by Fu Heng 傅恒 (comp.). Copy of the 1761 edition, no place, no publisher, p. 1a. A facsimile of the 1761 Qianlong edition can also be downloaded from the homepage of the Waseda University Library under <http://www.wul.waseda.ac.jp/kotenseki/html/ni16/ni16_02242/index.html>, http://archive.wul.waseda.ac.jp/kosho/ni16/ni16\_02242/. [↑](#footnote-ref-195)
196. A coloured image can be downloaded from https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b55010295q.r=%E8%81%B7%E8%B2%A2%E5%9C%96?rk (accessed on July 2, 2020). [↑](#footnote-ref-196)
197. Lu Cheng-Heng 盧正恒, “Nanfan, zuanshi, zhenchen yu diguo: Shi Tingzhuan y Qianlong 18 nian Xibanya chuannan shijian” 難番、鑽石、鎮臣與帝國： 施廷專與乾隆十八年西班牙船難事件, *Jifeng Yanzhou yanjiu* 季風亞洲研究 8 (2019), 119-157. [↑](#footnote-ref-197)
198. Zhongguo diyi lishi dang’anguan 中國第一歷史檔案館, *Qingdai Zhongguo yu Dongnanya geguo guanxi dang’an shiliao huibian* 清代中國與東南亞各國關係檔案史料匯編, 2 vols. (Beijing: Zhongguo diyi lishi dang’anguan, 1988), 180-181, here 180. The incident and related problems are discussed in various Grand Council memorials (*lufu zouzhe* 錄副奏摺), *op.cit.*, 13-22. [↑](#footnote-ref-198)
199. See especially publications by Patrizia Carioti, “The Zheng’s Maritime Power in the International Context of the Seventeenth Century Far Eastern Seas: The Rise of a ‘Centralized Piratical Organization’ and Its Gradual Development into an Informal State”, *Ming Qing yanjiu* 明清研究 (Napoli), 5 (1996), 29-67; Patrizia Carioti, *Zheng Chenggong* (Napoli: Istituto Universitario Orientale, 1995); John E. Wills, Jr., “Maritime China from Wang Chih to Shih Lang”; Frederick E. Wakeman, *The Great Enterprise* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1983). See also Manel Ollé Rodriguéz, “Manila in the Zheng Clan Maritime Networks”, *Revista de Cultura*/*Review of Culture* 29 (2009), 90-103. [↑](#footnote-ref-199)
200. As Lu Cheng-Heng notes, this contradicts John E. Wills’ observation that the Qing emperors did not trust Shi Lang’s successors. See John E. Wills, Jr., “Contingent Connections: Fujian, the Empire, and the Early Modern World,” in Lynn A. Struve (ed.), *The Qing Formation in World-historical Time* (Cambridge: Harvard University Asia Center, 2004), 167-203, here 198. [↑](#footnote-ref-200)
201. Zhongguo diyi lishi dang’anguan, *Qingdai Zhongguo yu Dongnanya geguo guanxi dang’an shiliao huibian*, 180. He was later replaced by an interpreter from Xiamen, named Lai Lu 賴祿. [↑](#footnote-ref-201)
202. According to Qing regulations it was otherwise strictly forbidden that foreigners left their ships while a detailed inspection of people and commodities on board were inspected. [↑](#footnote-ref-202)
203. The whole story is in detail described in Lu Cheng-Heng, “Nanfan, zuanshi, zhenchen yu diguo”. [↑](#footnote-ref-203)
204. Lu Cheng-Heng, “Nanfan, zuanshi, zhenchen yu diguo”, 144-145. [↑](#footnote-ref-204)
205. Thomas Göllner and Achim Mittag, *Geschichtsdenken in Europa und China. Selbstdeutung und Deutung des Fremden in historischen Kontexten* (Sankt Augustin, 2008), 67-113. [↑](#footnote-ref-205)
206. Richard von Glahn, *Fountain of Fortune*, 123. [↑](#footnote-ref-206)
207. Angela Schottenhammer, “Japan – the tiny Dwarf?”. [↑](#footnote-ref-207)