
Document 1525D

Da Rocha's voyage—Tertiary account by Andrade

Source: Francisco de Andrade, "Cronica do muyto alto e muyto poderoso rey destes reynes de Portugal dom Ioão o III", Lisbon, Rodriguez, 1613; part 1, chapter 92, folio 110v.

Andrade's text

Iorse d'Albuquerque...se partio para a India...chegou a Cochim, onde deu novas do que era passado em Malaca & Maluco este anno de 1525, que he o que se segue. Atras fica dito que Antonio de brito & dom garcia anriquez em Maluco se concertarão que Antonio de brito no agosto seguinte entregaria a fortaleza a dom Garcia, & se passaria a hum lugar duas legoas da fortaleza ate acabar hum junco que aly fazia, & o levar comsigo para Malaca. Durando este tempo Antonio de brito armou huma fusta com vinte & cinco Portuguese, de que fez capitão o almoxarife, em que meteo muytas roupas, & a mandou que fosse resgatar ha ilha dos Celebes, onde lhe dizião que avia muyto ouro, que era sessenta legoas de Ternate: chegado o nossos ha ilha, forão recebidos dos moradores della com muyto gasalhado, porem quando souberão que os nossos hi[v]ão resgatar ouro, receosos de que depois de feito o resgate os quisessem roubar, & fazer-lhe alguns males, detriminarão tomar a fusta, & dar a morte a todos os nossos que não ficasse quem pudrise levar a nova a Ternate, & huma noite estando elles dormindo dentro na fusta seguros & descansados, os da terra con suas armas se vierão ha praya, donde sarão outros a nado que cortarão a amarra da fusta & a começarão a alar a temporem tanto que tocou o sentirã os nossos que tomando as armas começarão a ferir y matar os que acharão diante, tam que os outros se puserão todos em fugida & os nossos forão dali correndo outras ilhas, onde os não quiserão consentir com que lhes foy forçado voltarem para Maluco, & por lhe serem os ventos contrarios forão por outro caminho, em que correrão grandes tormentas, & forão ter a huma ilha onde acharão bom recolhimento & gasalhado de que a gente assy homes como molheres são de bons corpos, & baços da cor: os vestidos erão compridos da cinta para baixo somente, é se cubrião com outros muyto bons feitos de palha de junco: a terra era muyta viçosa de arvoredos & rios dagoa, ha nella muytas galinhas cabras, & cocos & he tão sadia que dos nossos os que hi[v]ão doentes em entrando nella receberão saude, aquy se detiverão coatro meses

ate que tiverão moução para se tornarem a Maluco, onde forão recibidos com muyta festa porque os tinham por perdidos.

Translation of the above

Jorge de Albuquerque left for India...later arrived at Cochin where he gave news about the events in Malacca and in the Moluccas in the year of 1525, which is the one that follows. It has already been said that Antonio de Brito and Don Garcia Enriquez in the Moluccas agreed between themselves that Antonio de Brito would turn over the fortress [in Ternate] to Don Garcia the following August [1526], and that he would transfer himself to a place two leagues from the fortress until he had finished a junk that he was building there, which he would then take with him to Malacca.

Meanwhile Antonio de Brito outfitted a *fusta* with 25 Portuguese men, the captain of whom was the customs officer, and in her placed many cloths, and send her on a trading voyage to the island of the Celebes, where they had told him there was much gold, and which was 60 leagues from Ternate. When our people arrived at the island, they were received by its inhabitants with much hospitality. However, when they learned that our people were trading [for] gold, [our people] were afraid that after the trading was over they would be robbed and harmed. They determined to take the *fusta* and to kill all our people so that none of them could take the news to Ternate. One night when they were sleeping aboard the *fusta*, safe and resting, those from ashore with their weapons came down to the beach, while others swam out to the *fusta* and cut her moorings and began to drag her toward the shore but in such a way that she touched or our people became aware of it, and they then took up arms and began to wound and kill those they found aboard, so much so that all the others took flight.

Our people left there and ran to other islands [but] they did not wish to permit them [to stop there], so that they were forced to return to the Moluccas. Because the winds were contrary, they took another route and met with big storms, and [finally] came to an island where they found a good welcome and hospitality.

The people there, men as well as women are of good body and dark in color. The clothing covered [the body] only from the belt downward and they covered themselves with some other ones finely made of straw from rushes. The land was very lush with groves and waterways. There are in it many hens, goats and coconuts. There were so many of them that those of our people who were sick when they arrived there received health. They stopped there for four months until they got the monsoon in order to return to the Moluccas, where they were received with much festivity because they had been given up for lost.¹

1 Ed. note: Again, there is evidence, in Barros and Castanheda (See next document by Lessa), that they stayed at Ulithi from 1 October 1525 to 20 January 1526.