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Villalobos—Galvão's narrative

Sources: Galvão's Tratado and Hakluyt's translation.

Galvão's text about Villalobos' voyage

No anno de 542 em mes Doutobro, mādou o viso rey dō Antonio ás ylhas de Mindanao, Cebu & Nata, õde Magalhães fora morto uma armada de seis velas, quatrocentos ou quinhentos soldados nelas, & outros tātos Indios da terra: & por capitam mōr Ruy lopez de Vilhalobos seu cunhado, pessoa de muita estima. Partiram do porto do Natal, que estā em vinte graos ao norte, vespera de todos os sanctos gouernaram a loeste, & á quarta do Sudoeste em dezanoue graos, ouueram vista da ylha de sancto Thomas que Fernam de grijalvarez descobrira. Mais a diante em dezasete graos viram outra, a que poseram nome a Nublada. Dahi foram a outra que chamam Roca partida. A tres dias de Dezembro acharam huns baxos de seis ou sete braças de fundo. A vinte & cinco deste mes viram as ylhas que Diogo da Rocha, & Gomez de Sequeira, & Aluaro Sayavedra descobrirā, poseram nome dos Reis por a verem em seu dia. E ao diante acharam outras em dez graos, todas em roda: & da mesma maneira surgirā nelles, & tomaram agoa & lenha...

No anno de 1543 em mes de Ianeiro se fizeram aqui à vella com toda a armada, & ouueram vista dalgumas ylhas, de que sahiram paraos & calaluzes com gente, & traziam nas mãos cruces, & os saluaram com bōs dias matalotes, de que ficaram marauilhados por se verem de Castella tam alongados, & homens naquella terra cō cruces, & sudarem nos em lingoa Espanhol, & traziam diuisa que pareciam sentirem alguma cousa da nossa sancta fe catholica, por nam saberem que auia muytos della que Francisco de Castro por mandado de Antonio Galuam baptizara, huns lhes chamam as ylhas das Cruces, & outros dos matalotes.

Neste mesmo anno de 543, o primeiro de feureiro ouue Ruy lopez vista daquella nobre ilha de Mindanao, em noue graos daltura, nam pode dobrala, nem surgir como desejava, porque os Reys Christãos & pouo della lho defenderam, por terem dado a obediencia a Antonio galuam, que eles muito estimauam, & nam queriam anojalo cinco ou seis Reys que tinham tomado agoa de baptismo. Vendo Ruy lopez isto, & o vento

contraíro, foy se ao longo da costa buscar algum abrigo, & em quatro ou cinco graos daltura acharam hum ylha pequena, a que os da terra chamam Saranguam: & tomada perforça, em memoria do Viso rey que os la mandaua, poseramlhe nome Antonio, onde esteueram hum anno, socederam lhe cousas dignas de serem escritas, nam me meto antre ellas por serem mais historias que descobrimento.

No mesmo anno de 543 em mes Dagosto mandou ho Geral Ruy lopez a Bernaldo dela torre em hum nauio á noua Espanha dar conta a dõ Antonio de mendoça o que la passara. Forã ter aa ylha de Syria, gaonata, Bisaya, & outras que ahi muytas em onze & doze graos da parte do Norte, por onde o Magalhães andara, & Francisco de Castro dera saude perpetua a muytos que por aly se baptizaram, & hos Castelhanos lhe poseram nome as Filipinas, em memoria do principe de Castella. Tomaram mantimento, agoa, & lenha, & se fizeram à vella: foram alguns dias em Léste vento a popa, ate que lhe foy escasseando, & se poseram porto do Tropico de Cancro: em .xxv. do mes de Setembro virã humas ylhas, a que poseram nome Mal abrigo. E alem delas descobrirão as duas yrmãs: & mais auante quatro, a que chamarã os Bolcanes. A dous Doutubro ouuerã vista da Forfana: & alem della ha hum penedo alto, que deita fogo por cinco partes.

Hindo assi em .xvj. graos daltura setecentas legoas donde partirã segundo o que lhes pareciã, por nã acharem tempo arribarã as ylhas Felipinas, ouueram vista de seis ou sete, mas nam surgirã nellas: acharam em hum archipelego de ylhas bem pouoadas de gente, que estam em quinze ou dezaseis graos daltura, aluas, bem despostas molheres mais fermosas & ataiadas que ha naquellas partes, com muitas joyas douro, que era sinal auello na terra. Auia tambem nauios de remo de quarenta & tres couados em comprimento, duas braças & mea de largo, & o taboado de .v. dedos em grosso, & dizia que nauegauã nelles pa a China, que se la quisessem hir, que lhes dariam pilotos pera ysso, que nam erã mais que cinco ous seis dias de caminho.

Tambem vierã a elles paraos & calaluzes bem laurados & guarnecidos: & os señores vinhã assentados em alto, & por baxo certos negros de cabello reuolto, como por estado: perguntando dõde os ouuerã? Respõderam que de humas ylhas. Iunto de Sebu e mantam auia muitos, de que se os Castellanos marauilhauam, porque dali a mais de trezentas legoas, nam auia gentes pretas, por onde parece que nam, sam naturaes da Clima, se nam ha os em manchas pella redondeza, como qualquer outra casta: porque assi os ha nas ylhas de Nicober & Andamam, que estam no golfam de Bengala, & dali a quinhentas legoas nam sabemos gentes pretas. Valboa tambem conta que hindo descobrir ho mar da outra banda do Sul, que em hum certa terra que se chama Cauça, achou gente preta de cabelo frisado, nam os auendo em toda a Noua Espanha, nem em Castella do ouro, nem nas terras do Peru, a que elles chamam Noua Castella...

No ano de 545 em mes de Ianeyro, chegou Ruy lopez de Vilhalobos geral dos Castelhanos, á ylha do Moro & cidade de Samofo: foy bem recebido dos Reis de Geilolo, & Tidore, & gente da terra: por Antonio galuam ser ja partido, que deu assaz de trabalho ao capitam dom Jorge de Castro, segundo parece que lhe socedeo, & aos Portugueses que cõ elle estauam, & muyto gasto à fortaleza.

No mesmo ãno de 545 tornou mandar Ruy lopez de Vilhalobos da ylha de Tidore, onde ja estaua da parte do Sul outro nauio pera a Noua Espanha, capitam delle Ynhigo ortiz de Roda, piloto Gaspar Rico, natural Dalmada: foram ter aa costa dos Papuas, correram na toda, & como nam sbiam que por ali andava Sayavedra, adquiriram assi esta honra & descobrimento, por a gente se preta & de cabelo reuolto, poseram lhe nome noua Guinea, por ser ja perdida a memoria de Sayauedra, que assi faz tudo o que nam alumea a escriptura.

Hakluyt's translation of the above text

In the yeere 1542, [in the month of October], Don Antony de Mendoça [the viceroy] sent vnto the Islands of Mindanao [Cebu and Nota¹, where Magellan died] a fleete of sixe ships, with fower or fiue hundred soldiers, and as many Indians of the countrey, the generall whereof was one Rui Lopes de villa Lobos, being his brother in law and a man in great estimation. They set saile from the hauen of Natiuidad, standing in 20 degrees towards the north, vpon All Saints eeue, and shaped their course towards the west [and in the south-west quarter in 19 degrees]. They had sight of the Island of S. Thomas, which Hernando de Grijalva had discouered [in 1533], and beyond in 17 degrees they had sight of another island, which they named La Nublada (that is, The cloudie Island). From thence they went to another island named Roca partida (that is, The clouen Rocke). The 3 of December they found certaine baxos or flates of sixe or seuen fathoms deepe. The 15² of the same moneth they had sight of the **islands**, which Diego de Roca, and Gomez de Sequeira, and Aluaro de Saauedra had discouered, and [had] named them Los Reyes, because they came vnto them on Twelfe day [after Christmas]. And beyond them they found other **islands** in 10 degrees all standing round, and in the midst of them they came to an anker, where they tooke fresh water and wood...

In the yeere of 1543, in Januarie, they departed from the foresaid islands with all the fleete, and had sight of certaine **islands**, out of which there came vnto them men in a certaine kinde of boats, and they brought in their hands crosses³, and saluted the Spaniards in the Spanish toong saying, Buenas dias, Matelotes [sic], that is to say, Good morrow, companions; whereat the Spaniards much marueiled, being then so farre out of Spaine, to see the men of that countrey with crosses, and to be saluted by them in the Spanish toong, and they seemed in their behauour to incline somewhat to our Catholique faith. The Spaniards not knowing that many thereabout had beene christened by Francis de Castro, at the commandement of Antony Galuano, some of them named these islands, Islas de las cruces, and others named them Islas de los Matelotes.

In that same yeere 1543, the first of February, Rui Lopez had sight of that noble island Mindanao, standing in 9 degrees: they could not double it nor yet come to an ancre

1 Ed. note: Mactan Island.

2 Ed. note: Typographical error for 25.

3 Ed. note: The error is due to Galvão. The natives of Fais did not carry crosses in their hands, but made the signs of the cross with them.

as they would, because the christened kings and people resisted them, hauing giuen their obedience to Antonio Galuano, whom they had in great estimation, and there were fiue or sixe kings that had receiued baptisme, who by no meanes would incurre his displeasure. Rui Lopez perceiuing this, and hauing a contrary winde, sailed along the coast to finde some aide, and in 4 or 5 degrees he found a small island, which they of the countrey call Sarangam, which they tooke perforce, and in the memory of the vizeroy who had sent them thither they named it Antonio, where they remained a whole yeere, in which time there fell out things worthie to be written; but (because there are more histories that intreat of the same)¹ I leaue them, meaning to meddle with the discoueries onely.

In the same yeere 1543, and in the moneth of August, the generall Rui Lopez sent one Bartholomew² dela torre in a ship into new Spaine, to acquaint the vizeroy don Antonio de mendoça with all things. They went to the islands of Siria, Gaonata, Bissaia³ and many others, standing in 11 and 12 degrees towards the north, where Magellan had beene, and Francis de Castro also, who [had given eternal salvation to many who were] there baptized, and the Spaniards called them the Philippinas in memory of the prince of Spaine. Here they tooke victuals and wood, and hoised sailes: they sailed for certaine daies with a fare-winde, till it came vpon the skanting⁴, and came right vnder the tropique of Cancer. The 25 September they had sight of certaine islands, which they named **Malabrigos** (that is to say, The euil roads). Beyond them they discouered **Las dos Hermanas** (that is, The two sisters). And beyond them also they saw 4 islands more, which they called los **Volcanes**. The second of October they had sight of **Farfana**⁵, beyond which there standeth an high pointed rock, which casteth out fire at 5 places.

So sayling in 16 degrees of northerly latitude [700 leagues] from whence they had come, as it seemeth [to them], wanting winde they arrived againe at the Islands of the Philippinas. They had sight of 6 or 7 islands more, but they ankered not at them. They found also an Archipelagus of Islands well inhabited with people, lying in 15 or 16 degrees: the people be white, [well disposed], and the women more beautifull and better arraigned then in any other place of those parts, hauing many iewels of gold, which was a token that there was some of that metal in the same countrie. Here were also barkes of 43 cubits in length, and 2 fathomes and a halfe in bredth, and the planks 5 inches thicke, which barkes were rowed with oares. They told the Spaniards, that they vsed to saile in them to China, and that if they would go thither they should haue pilots to

1 Ed. note: Translation error; this should read: As they belong more to general histories than to discoveries.

2 Ed. note: Error for Bernard.

3 Ed. note: My guess is that the islands, or districts, in question are Surigao, Tandaya, and Visaya.

4 Ed. note: Slack winds.

5 Ed. note: In Spanish, this would have been La Huerfana, the Orphan (One).

conduct them, the countrie not being about 5 or 6 daies sayling from thence. there came vnto them also certaine barkes or boates handsomely decked¹, wherein the master and principall men sate on high, and vnderneath were very blacke moores with frizled haire [as if for parade or state]: and being demanded where they had these blacke moores, they answered, that they had them from certaine islands standing fast by Sebu [and Mantam]², where there were many of them, a thing that the Spaniards much maruailed at, because from thence it was about 300 leagues to the places where the black people were. Therefore it seemed, that they were not naturally borne in that climate, but that they be in certaine places scattered ouer the whole circuite of the world [like other races]. For euen so they be in the Islands of Nicobar and Andeman, which stand in the gulf of Bengala, and from thence by the space of 500 leagues we doe not know of any blacke people. Also Balboa declareth, that as he went to discouer the South sea, in a certaine land named Quareca, he found black people with frizled haire, whereas there were neuer any other found either in Noua Spagna, or in Castilia del Oro, or in Peru [called New Castile]...

In the yeere 1545, and in the moneth of Januarie, Rui Lopez de villa Lobos, and Giraldo [sic], with the Castilians³, came to the Island of Moro[tai], and the citie of Carnaf [i.e. Zamafo], where they were well receiued of the kings of Gilolo and Tidore, and of the people of the countrey (because Antony Galuano was gone), and put the captaine Don George de Castro to great trouble, as appeared by those things which passed betweene him and the Portugals, and the great expenses whereunto he put the fortresse.

In the same yeere 1545 Rui Lopez de villa Lobos sent from the Island of Tidore another ship towards New Spaine by the south side of the line, wherein was captaine one Inigo Ortez de Rotha⁴, and for pilot one Gaspar Rico [a native of Almeida]. They sailed to the coast of Os Papuas, and ranged all along the same, and because they knew not that Saauedra had beene there before, they chalenged the honor and fame of that discouerie. And because the people there were black and had frised haire, the named it Nueua Guinea. For the memorie of Saauedra as then was almost lost, as all things else do fall into obliuion, which are not recorded, and illustrated by writing.

1 Ed. note: Proper translation: Well-built and fitted.

2 Ed. note: That is, near Cebu and Mactan. The island in question was named Negros for that very reason by the Spanish a quarter of a century later.

3 Ed. note: Translation error: Not Giraldo, but General of the Castilians.

4 Ed. note: His correct name was Iñigo Ortiz de Retes.