

PAHANG MARITIME ACTIVITY IN MALAY HISTORIOGRAPHIES

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Pahang & Sea

**Maritime Networks and Connections
between Southeast Asia and Beyond**

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St. Anthony, University of Oxford

Pahang



Pahang Museum's
Collection



Problem statement

- The coming of Islām, arrived *new era*; creation of Language of Jawi (*bahasa Jawi*) (Royal Prof. Dr Syed Muhammad Naquib al-Attas, 1972)
- Malay historiographies: recorded various record maritime activities in Malay world
- Pahang relation with other Malay kingdoms and foreigners, maritime activities recorded
- There are no proper study on maritime activities related to Pahang based on Malay historiographies

Hukum Qanun Pahang



Hukum Qanun Pahang

Characteristics

- Terms & conditions for officer & functionaries
- 12 Positions mentioned: Bendahara Biduanda, Faqih, Hakim, Hamba orang Hamba raja, Mendelika, Nakhoda, Penghulu Bendahari, Penghulu sungai, Shahbandar, Temenggung
- Others: name of ships, currencies, spies



Research Questions

- What are maritimes activities in Pahang relations with other Malay kingdoms
- What are maritimes activities in Pahang relations with foreigners

Objectives

- Analyzing maritime activities Pahang relations with other Malay kingdoms
- Analyzing maritimes activities in Pahang relations Pahang relations with foreigners

Method

- Textual: *Sulālah al-Salāṭīn*, *Ḥukum Qanun Pahang*, *Ḥikayat Fathani*, *Bustān al-Salāṭīn*, *Tuhfāt al-Nāfis* dan *Ḥikayat Pahang*
- Comparison: Malay letters, foreign records

Literature Review

Leonard Y. Andaya (2000). A History of Trade in the Sea of Melayu. *Itinerario*, 24, p. 87–110

- Pahang as important ports for trade: gold, pepper,

Tatiana Denisova, *Refleksi Historiografi Alam Melayu* (Kuala Lumpur: Universiti Malaya, 2011)

- Maritime activities in Malay kingdoms; name of ship, toponyms, geographic

Tatiana Denisova, *Marginalia to the Malay Muslim Historiography* (Kuantan: Al-Asar, 2022)

- Information on navigation, from Malay historiographies

Sources

Malay historiographies

- *Sulālah al-Salāṭīn* (Muhammad Hj. Salleh's Edition)
- *Ḥukum Qanun Pahang* (Ab Halim Muhammady's Edition)
- *Ḥikayat Fathani* (Teeuw and Wyatt's Edition)
- *Ḥikayat Negeri Johor* (Or. 3322)
- *Bustān al-Salāṭīn* (Jelani Harun's Edition)
- *Tuhfāt al-Nāfis* (Virginia Matheeson Hooker's Edition)
- *Ḥikayat Pahang* (Kalthum Jeran's Edition)

Malay letters

- *MS. Laud Or. Rolls b. 1*
- *Rigsarkivet*:
- *Bibliothèque nationale de France*:
- *Leiden Universitaire Bibliotheque*:
Cod.Or.4818a.l.3, Or. 2241, Or. 2242, Or. 3036 III-IV,
- *Library of Congress (United State of America)*,
- *National Archive of Malaysia (Baginda Omar Collection & other related)*

Johor

- Administration
- Security
- War

Terengganu

- Administration
- Marriage

Findings I: Pahang and Malay Kingdoms

Selangor

- Security
- Marriage

Fathani

- Administration
- Marriage

Aceh

- War
- Administration
- Marriage
- Scholarship

Johor-Pahang

Administration

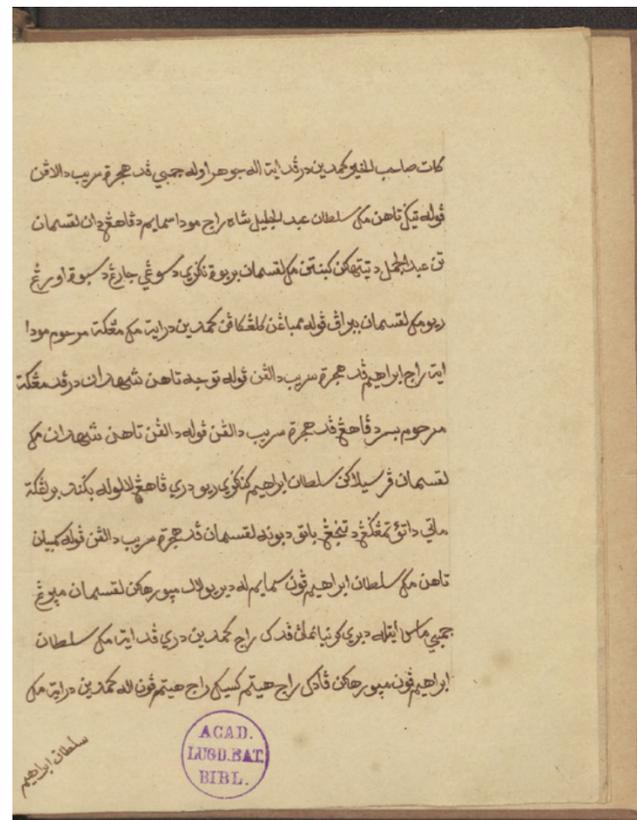
- Sultan Abdul Jalil Shah III, first Sultan of Johor-Pahang
- Sultan Sulaiman & Bendahara Tun Abbas's consensus to appoint Daeng Marewah, first Bugis in government
- Raja Haji fi Sabilillah appointed as Yang Di-Pertuan Muda at Pahang

Security

- Sultan Abdul Jalil Shah III sailed to Pahang during Johor-Jambi War (1666-1681)
- Sultan Abdul Jalil Ri'ayat Shah IV sailed to Pahang (1718)
- Pahang help Sultan Sulaiman to fight against Raja Kechik of Siak (1722)

Johor

Johor–Jambi War (1666–1681): Sultan Abdul Jalil Shah III sailed to Pahang



**Or. 3322 Hikayat Johor
Leiden Universitaire
Bibliotheque**

**Raja Kechik overthrew Sultan
Abdul Jalil Ri'ayat Shah (1718)
*Tuhfāt al-Nāfis***



**BN Mal.-pol. 223
Bibliothèque
nationale de France**

Johor

Pahang help Raja Sulaiman

- “Sebermula Adapun opu-opu itu apabila sampai ke Selangor, lalu(lah) membuat (kelengkapan) gurab tiga puluh buah banyaknya, akan jadi perahu perangnya, serta dicukupkannya dengan alat senjata sekali/dan ubat pelurunya/ semuanya/. Adapun Raja Sulaiman apabila ia sampai ke Pahang, maka ia pun dapat berbelanja-belanja serta kelengkapan, dibantu oleh Bendahara Pahang. Adapun Bugis(- Bugis) yang mengusir-ngusir Raja Kecil ke Lingga” (*Tuhfāt al-Nāfis*, p. 72)

- 30 ghurab
- role of Bendahara to help

Johor

- **Post 1824: meeting port for rulers**
 - **Sultan Muhammad (Riau-Lingga), Sultan Terengganu and Bendahara Tun Ali met together at Pahang**
-
- “Sebermula adapun Baginda Sultan Muhammad Syah di dalam (negeri) Lingga, maka' (bersiaplah ia akan kelengkapan ada kira-kira empat puluh tujuh buah penjajap dan kakap-kakap. Maka apabila sudah mustaid maka Baginda Sultan Muhammad Syah pun) berangkat(lah belayar) ke (negeri) Pahang (singgah ziarah di Johor)...
(*Tuhfāt al-Nāfis*, p. 72)
-
- 40 penjajap & kakap
 - Sultan of Riau-Lingga met Sultan of Terengganu & Bendahara of Pahang
 - royal custom

Fathani

- Ratu Ungu married with Sultan 'Abdul Ghaffar (*Ḥikayat Fathani*)
- Officer of Fathani sailed to Pahang; Ratu Ungu return to Fathani (*Ḥikayat Fathani* and *Bustān al-Salāṭīn*)



Tomb of Ratu Ungu @ Marhum
Pahang, Fathani, Thailand

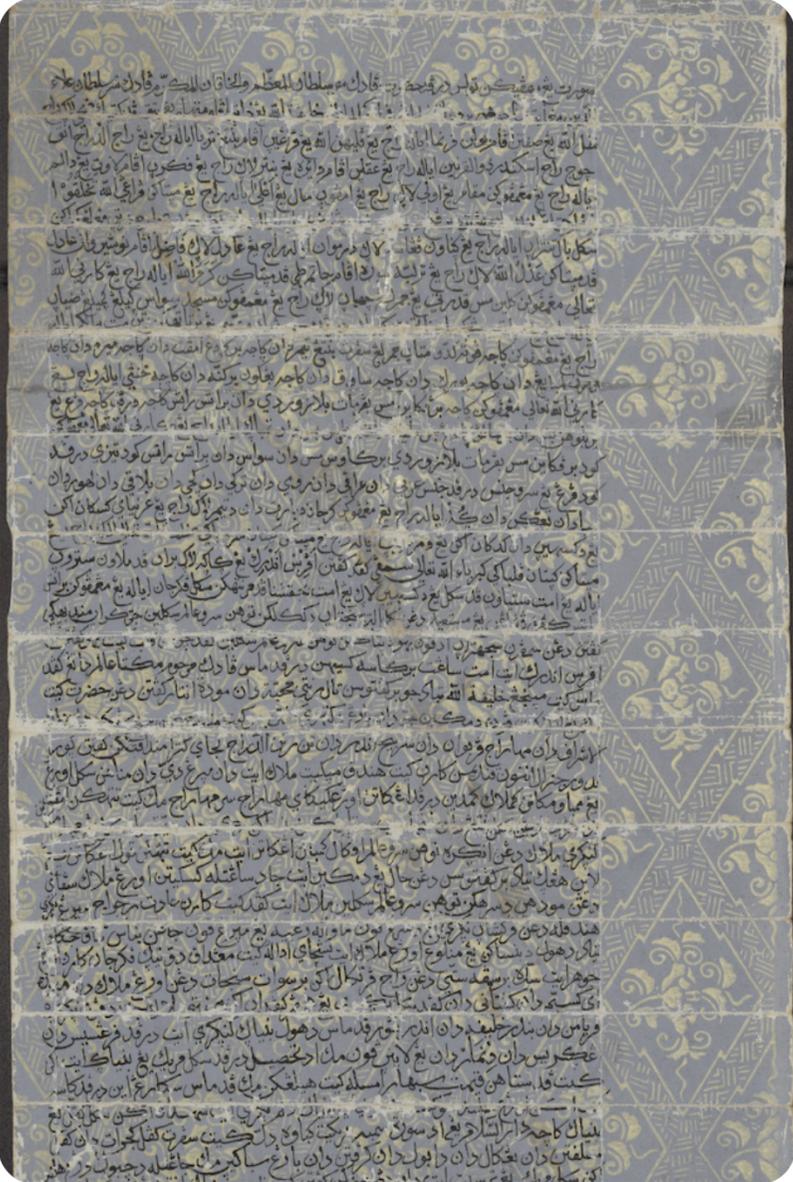
Aceh

Letter of Sultan Iskandar Muda to King James (dated 1615)



MS. Laud Or. Rolls b.1 Bodleian Libraries – University of Oxford

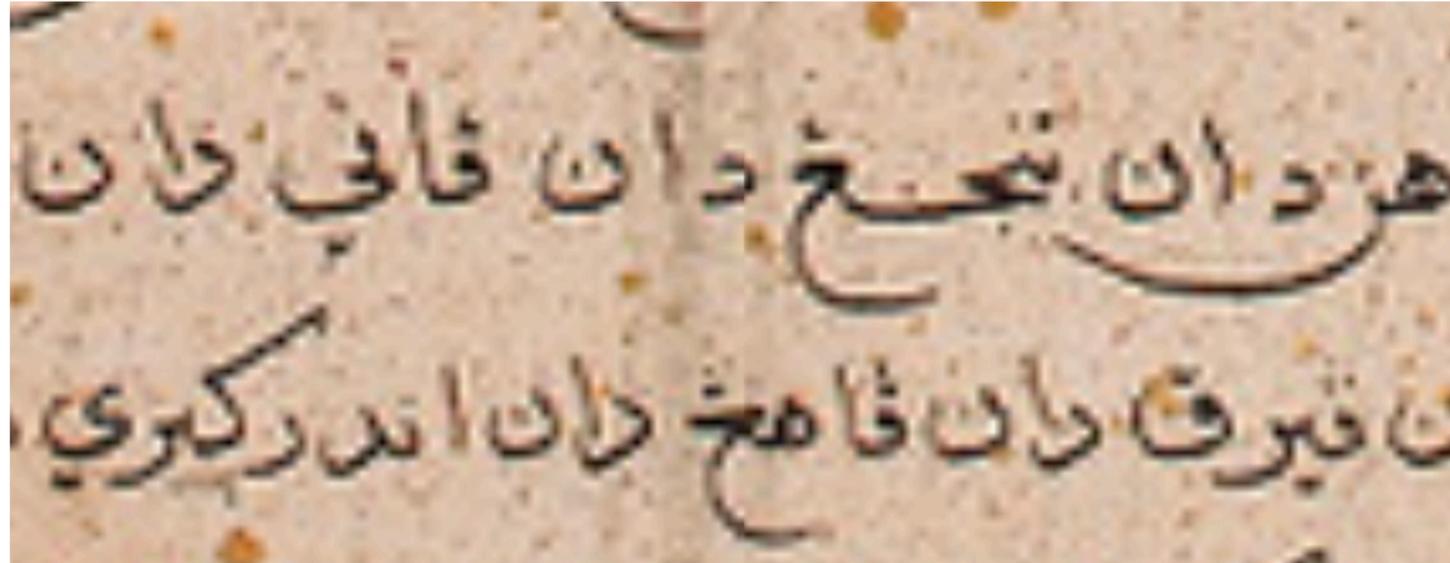
Letter of Sultan Iskandar Thani to Frederik van Oranje (dated 1639)



Or. 4818: a.l.3 Leiden Universitaire Bibliotheque

Aceh

Letter of Sultan Iskandar Muda to King James (dated 1615)



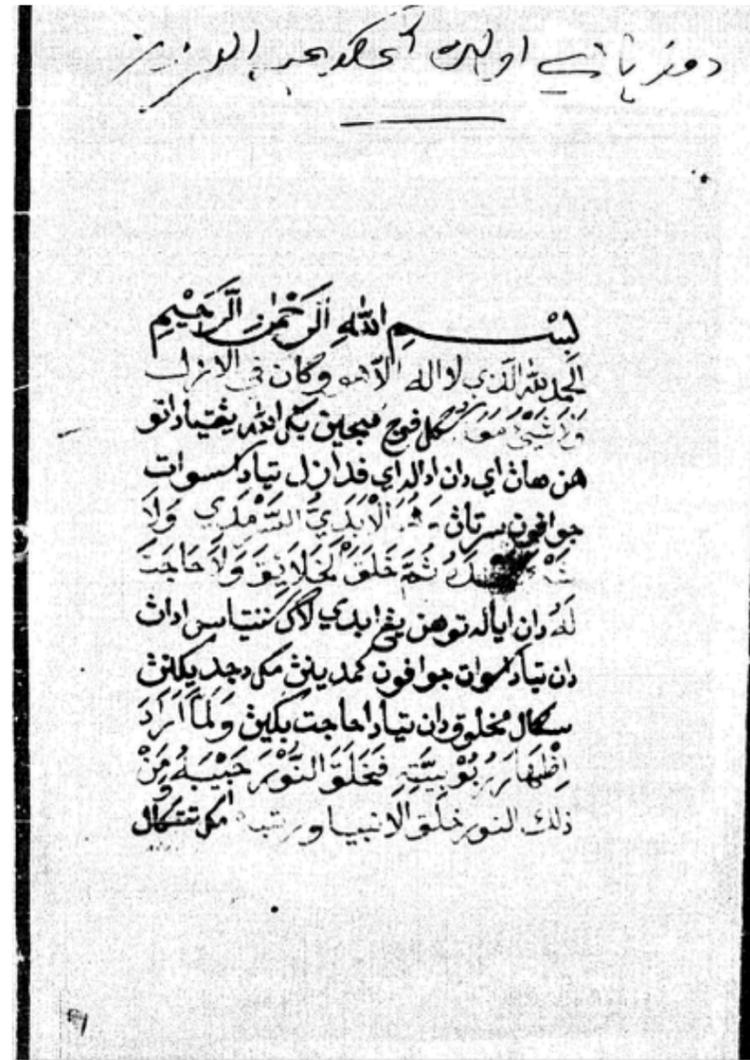
MS. Laud Or. Rolls b. 1
Bodleian Libraries –
University of Oxford

- “The king who has received superiority from the abundance of the superiority of the Lord of all the universe, on the throne of the kingdom of Aceh, the abode of peace; who is the king who continually gives praise to the Lord of all the universe for the abundance of His grace which He has abundantly supplied in giving over to him the countries on the eastern side, such as Lubok and Pedir and Samarlanga and Pasangan and Pasai and Perlak and Basitang and Tamiyang and Deli and Asahan and Tanjong and Pani and Rokan and Batu Sawar and all the countries subject to Batu Sawar and Perak and **Pahang** and Inderagiri”
- Pahang under the reign of Sultan Iskandar Muda Mahkota Alam

Aceh

Bustān al-Salāṭīn

- Sultan Iskandar Muda conquered Pahang: used 'ghurab' and 'penjajap' (1617)
- Sultan Iskandar Muda brought the royal family of Pahang to Aceh Palace
- Sultan Iskandar Thani sent Aceh tombstone to Pahang: 'ghurab' (1640-1641)
- Pahang history written at Aceh: *Bustān al-Salāṭīn* and *Laṭā'if al-Asrār*

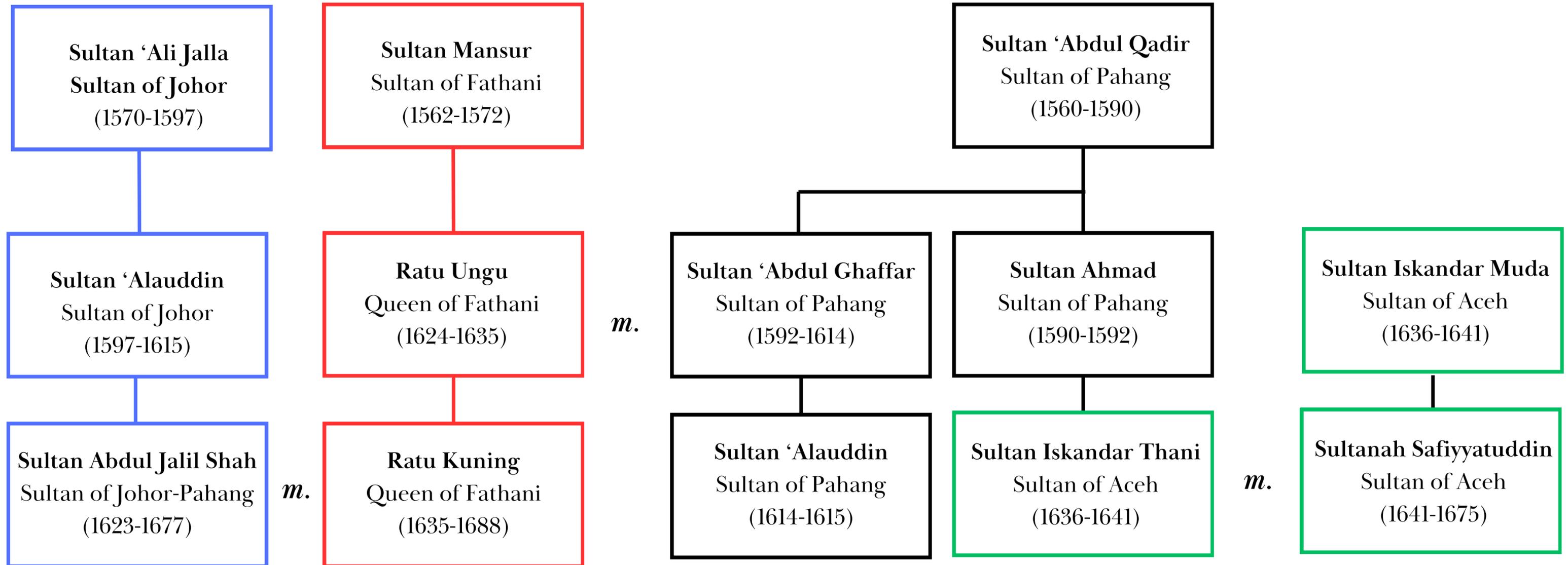


MSS UM41 (then UM101)



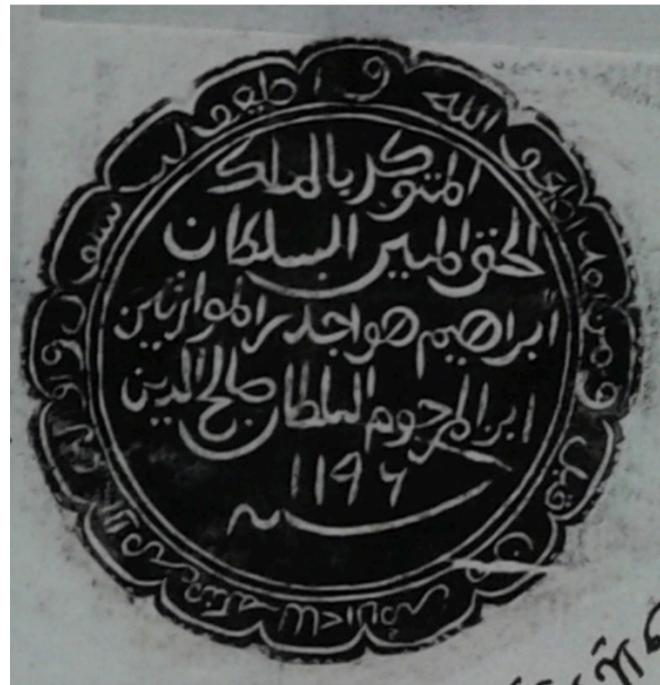
Makam Condong, Pekan, Pahang

Marriage: Pahang, Fathani, Aceh, Johor



Salāsilah Selected Royal Rulers of Pahang, Fathani, Aceh and Johor

Selangor



Seal of Sultan Ibrahim
Or. 2242 Leiden Universitaire
Bibliotheque

Tuhfāt al-Nāfis

- Sultan Ibrahim sailed to Pahang after Dutch conquered Kuala Selangor
- Bendahara Tun Abdul Majid Pahang help Selangor and won war against Dutch
- Sultan Ibrahim (Selangor) married Tun Selamah, daughter of Tun Abdul Majid (Pahang)

Terengganu



National Archives of Malaysia

**Letter of Bendahara Seri Maharaja Tun Mutahir (1857–1863)
to Sultan Omar of Terengganu (1831; 1836–1876)
(dated: circa 1860–1861)**

- “... bearing upon Your Majesty’s command upon your minion to seek out camphor: verily your minion has ordered to search for it as far as Sedili” (*Royal Letters of Baginda Omar*, p. 279)
- Tun Mutahir fulfilling the request of camphor by Sultan Omar of Terengganu

Summary

Administration	Diplomatic relation	Sending boats & letters to Sultan Terengganu	William Farquhar's Collection
	Sultan Muhammad (Terengganu) send letter to Sultan Abdullah (Pahang)	Inform the death of Sultan Zainal Abidin III (Terengganu)	Or. 4818: a.1.3
	Sultan Umar & Tun Mutahir	Barus	
War	Favor to Bendahara Siwa Raja Wan Ahmad	Wan Ahmad	Baginda Omar's Collection; <i>Hikayat Pahang</i>
Marriage	Sultan Zayn al-'Abidīn & Tengku Long	Use 'pinisi', sailed through Pahang Tua River	Hikayat Pahang
	Sultan Sulaiman (Terengganu) & Tengku Mariam (Pahang)	British Commisioner of Singapore granted \$1,000 for the ceremony	Sultan Ahmad's letter

Summary

Name	Length (feet)	Source	Event
Ghurab	300	<i>Bustān al-Salāṭīn, Tuhfāt al-Nāfis</i>	War, sending tombstone
Jalak	72	<i>Ḥikayat Pahang</i>	Bendahara War
Jong	200	<i>Ḥukum Qanun Pahang</i>	Trade
Pinis	120	<i>Ḥikayat Pahang</i>	Royal marriage
Kakap	18	<i>Tuhfāt al-Nāfis</i>	Diplomatic meeting

H Warington, Smyth, "Malay boats and boat building in the Malay Peninsula", *Journal of the Society of Arts*, Vol. 50, (Nov 22, 1901): 569-588.

Findings

Pahang and Foreign

- Portuguese
- Dutch
- Belgian
- British
- China

“Fasal pada menyatakan hukum istiadat negeri seperti hasil mahsul, cukai dan segala yang naik timbangan. Adapun hasil mahsul itu jika kepada **Feringghi** dan **China** sepaha; sepertiga segala dagangan yang lain pada itu hasil seperti selama sehingga dia pulang”

Findings II:
Pahang
and
Foreigns

Siam

- War
- Trade

Ferengghi

Portuguese

- Trade
- War

Dutch

- Trade
- Administration
- Geo-politics

English

- Trade
- Geo-politics
- Colonisation

China

- Trade

Belgian

- Trade

Siam

- War: Sultan Abdul Jamal won war against Raja Ligor of Siam (1500)
- Sending *bunga emas* (*Sulālah al-Salāṭīn*)
- “Bab pada menyatakan ripai mengutus ke Benua Siam ... Adapun adat ke Benua Siam itu bunga emas satu dan bunga perak satu beratnya lima tahil pada satu dan bersamanya surat sembah Paduka Seri Sultan di Pahang.” (*Hukum Qanun Pahang*)
- No record on Siam-Pahang relation from 18th century

Portuguese

Diplomatic & War

- Diplomatic
- War
- Trade



Seal of Sultan 'Alauddin Ri'ayat Shah, Sultan of Pahang (1614–1615)

Lisbon, Biblioteca Nacional, Col. Pombalina, Cod.507/F.345, f. 511

**First published in *Indonesia and the Malay World* Vol. 32 Bil. 93
(2004), h. 188**

Dutch



Cornelis Matelieff de Jonge (1570-1632)

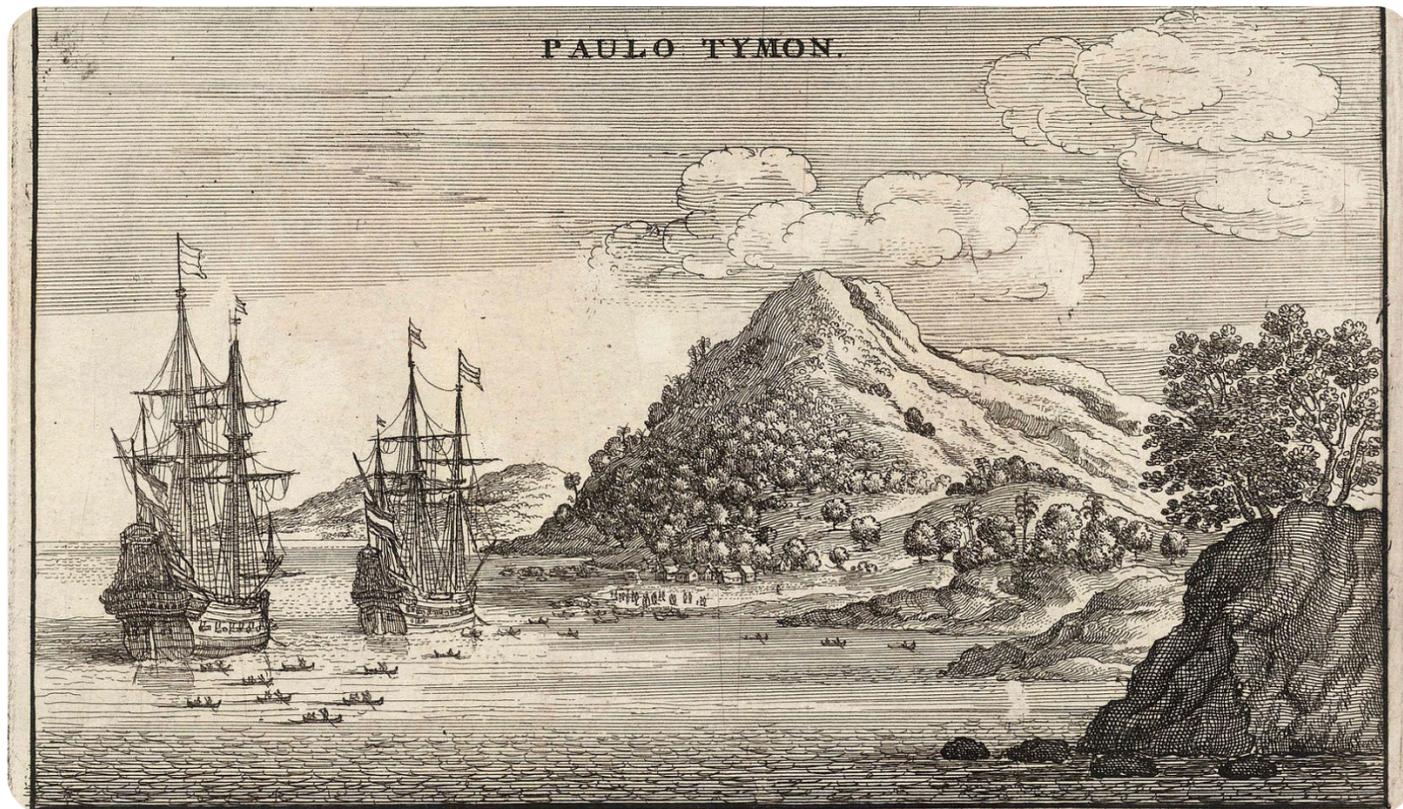
Trade

- Sources of gaharu, kelembak, gold
- Paintings
- 1780s: gold of Pahang for Dutch Malacca

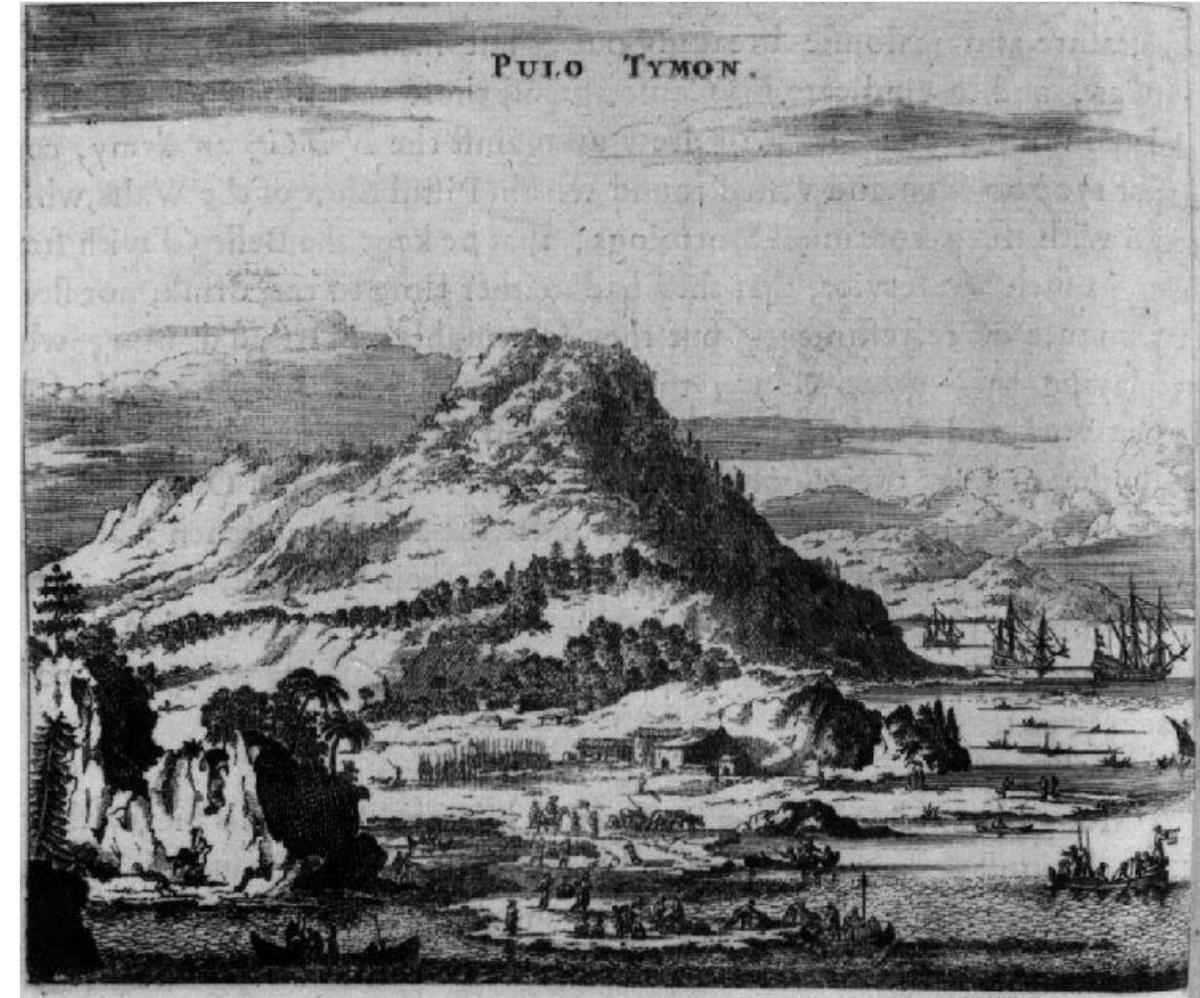
Dutch

Sketch of Tioman Island

- Vereenigde Oostindische Compagnie (VOC) sailing to Canton (China) from Batavia (present day Jakarta)
- Circa 1650s, during Sultan Abdul Jalil Shah III

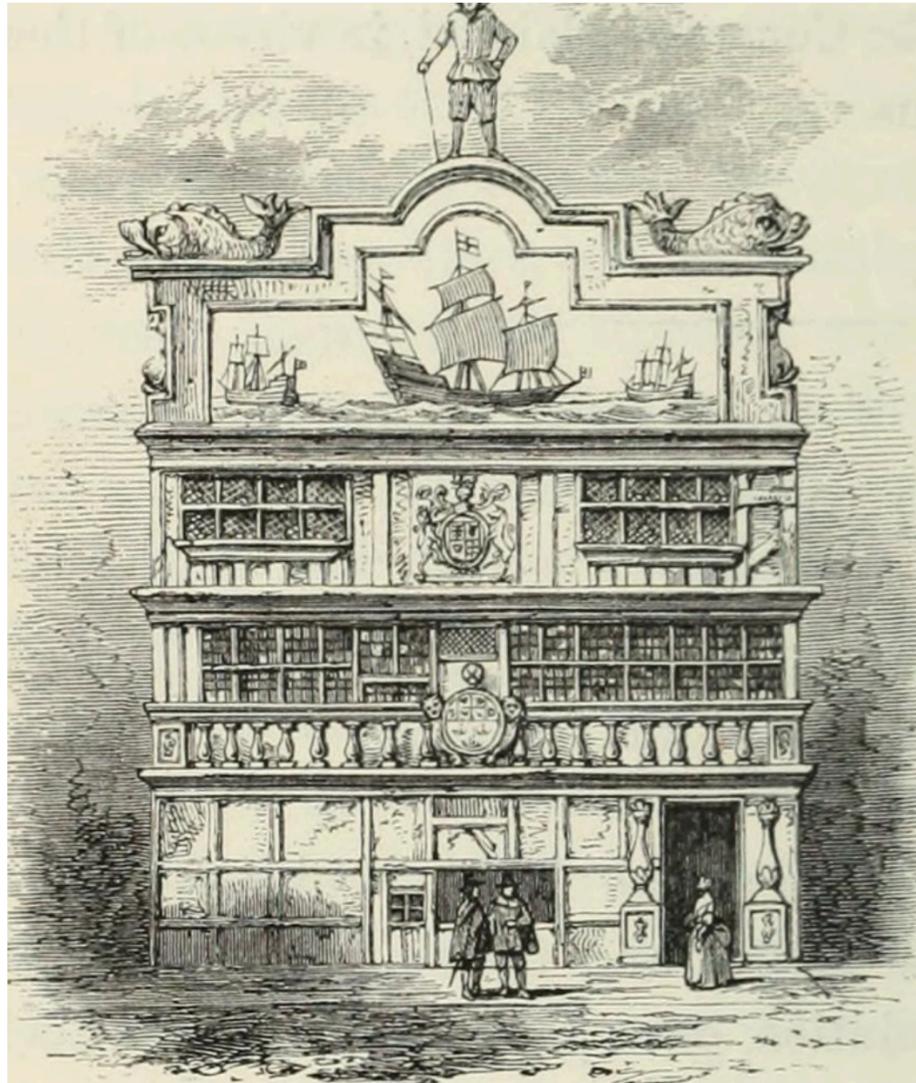


Wenceslas Hollar (d. 1677)



Montanus Arnoldus (d. 1683)

English



Trade

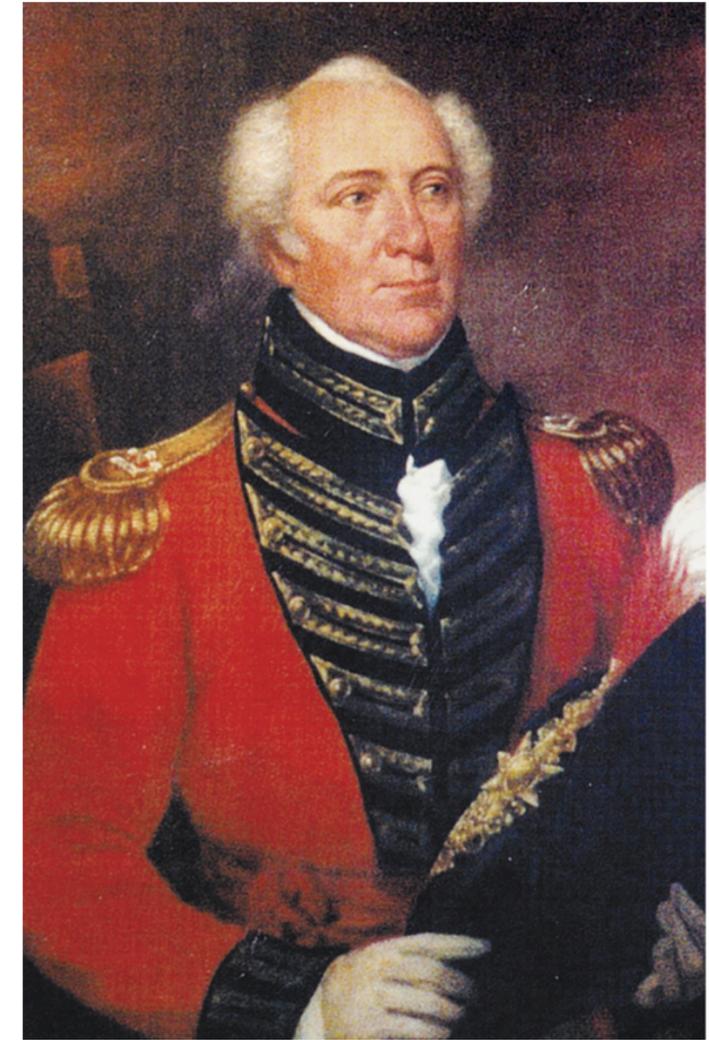
- Philip Wylde (1647)
- Pahang: source of quality gold, agarwood
- (William Foster, *The English Factories in India 1646-1650* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1914) p. 169

East India House (circa 17th century)

British

Letter of William Farquhar to Bendahara Siwa Raja Tun Ali (dated November 1818)

- “Please send boats to bring all kinds of food for sale, paddy, rice, chicken, duck, buffalo, cattle to Singapore.” *Warkah al-Ikhlās*, p. 85
- “There is a letter of ours together with this letter, we ask you to please send to Terengganu the goods of the boat immediately to Terengganu.” *Warkah al-Ikhlās*, p. 85–86

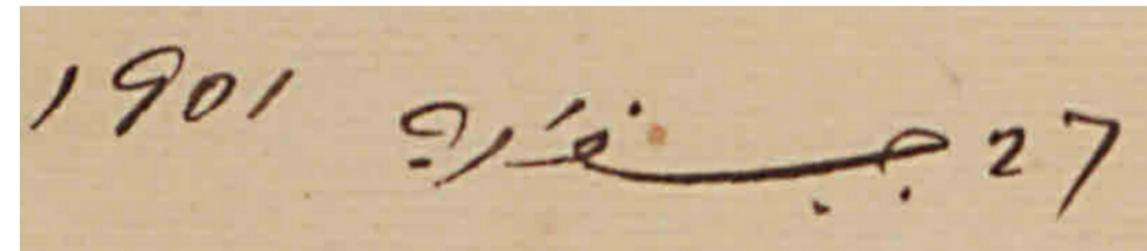


William Farquhar

British

Letter of Sultan Ahmad Al-Mu'adzam Shah to Sir John Alexander Swettenham (dated 1901)

- Expresses His Very Great Sympathy And Grief At The News Of The Death Of H.M. The Queen Victoria
- among the early use of the Gregorian calendar



China

Late 16th century-early 17th century

- 'king of Pahang built hotels here. Merchants could choose big or small rooms according to what they wanted to pay. They stayed in these hotels and traded with the local people'.
- Liu Yingsheng dan Adrian B. Lapijan, "San Fu Qi, its dependent Port States and the trade among them (A study on the description by Zhao Rukua)"
International Seminar Harbour Cities Along The Silk Road (1991), p. 5.

Conclusion

- Pahang relation with Malay kingdom & foreigners recorded historical event with maritime activities
- Johor & Aceh (Malays) & English (foreign) were close related with Pahang
- Pahang, play important role in Malay maritime history
- Suggestion: more research from Chinese, Siam (Thailand), Portuguese, Dutch, English, Danish, French sources

Thank you

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