

Transcript

00:00:00 Speaker 1

Our next speaker is Jorge Santos Alves, who is an assistant professor at the Faculty of Human Sciences at the Portuguese Catholic University in Lisbon.

00:00:09 Speaker 2

I'm delighted to join you in this workshop on Behind the Scene, and I have to thank all the organizers of this amazing initiative, but let me

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I like the role that Rowena has done.

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I mean, she's been absolutely amazing, giving us all the assistance and all the, I mean, giving us updated on everything.

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So I want to turn to my point to my presentation.

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So actually I'm going to talk to you about the and Euro Asian businesses partnerships in Southeast Asia and the South China Sea, and I will

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focus as I threaten to do that on my abstract on the case of the failed 1520 treaty between Portugal, well, Portuguese in Malarca actually, and the southern of Baham.

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So let's proceed to our elevation.

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This is on the cover of my DPT.

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You have an image of the manuscript kept in Torjuton in Lisbon that basically is the instruction given to the Portuguese ambassador back in 1520.

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to his mission, his diplomatic mission in Pan.

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So let me move forward.

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So just, I mean, a very brief bibliography that I would like to share with you, but it's actually some of the things that you may consider, I mean, seeing just to trying to line up some of the most important references that perhaps you find useful to

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to see and those that I use support my presentation here this afternoon.

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Okay, so topic #1, well, actually it's the presence of Kahan in Portuguese archives.

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So just give you a very brief overview of what's going on in terms of the, well, let me be clear about this actually research.

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And in that research still remains to be conducted in Portuguese archives.

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I mean, from what I've seen from each piece that I have in dealing with Portuguese archives, actually, there should be several developments of documents on Bahrain and Bahrain's relations with the Portuguese, with other European in the area, but also with other states in Southeast Asia, which is of course something that I would like to highlight because, I mean, most of those documents, of course,

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they have to do with the coach, this presence, expression, I mean, trade, politics, diplomacy, and so on and so forth.

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But honestly, from my point of view, the most important things that you may find on those documents have to do with the political, diplomatic, and economic and social life behind itself.

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So actually, that is basically the perspective

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that I would like to highlight on this case.

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Well, let me also point out two key cases of documents.

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Well, the first one that you may find an image on the left side of the slide, it's actually the peace agreement between Sultan Alauddin and the representative of the King of Portugal, actually slash Spain in 1614, that according to my

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the Leban friend, Anadar Gallo, the earliest known Islamic seal from the Malay Peninsula.

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The second one, and let's now move into my presentation, it's actually the instruction or, as we used to recall it in diplomatical terms, the terms of reference to the Portuguese ambassador to Pahan in 1520.

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That will be, of course, the central topic of this presentation.

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That document is actually

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in deposit in the National Archives in Lisbon.

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And those are the earliest instructions given by a Portuguese ambassador to a Malay state, which is something not to be neglected.

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So let me give you, first of all, the grief with the context.

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So, actually, in terms of the context, some chronological references, of course, the Portuguese Congress of Malacca, that in a way, in a way, not, but in a way, reshape the religion's power balance.

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And, of course, we have to consider several main players.

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Of course, I am and China, that's South Africa, China, Mintan slash Johor, the on the northern tip of Sibatra, Patani, and, of course, Tahang.

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The economic agents and networks, we should not overlook the overseas Chinese, most of them coming from the southern provinces of China, so Wandong, Fujian, and Zhejian areas.

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The Tamil merchants, basically, most of them Shetiya caste, coming, of course, from the Tamil Nadu area, from the South India.

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The Japanese and the traders coming in from Luzon on the northern part of the Philippines.

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The main communities, of course, are spices, gold,

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forest products and what we nowadays call delicacies.

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And let me express what the documents, both the Chinese and the Portuguese documents, will show for the early, let's say, happened until the mid-16th century, is that actually the Southeast Asia passing through Pahang most of the times and going into the Chinese markets was actually a very profitable trade.

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with an average tax over some, even sometimes more than 200% of profit, which is of course absolutely amazing from several points of view.

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So one of the things that I would like also to, I mean, just to end up the context part of this presentation is that it's not very common in the early 16th century to have the names of

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actual traders, especially Asian traders, that we can find them both in Chinese documents, for instance, and also in European documents, namely in Portuguese documents.

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So it's absolutely amazing that we can identify and, in a way, try to almost highlight and try almost to follow their CVs, their biographies, in terms of the role that they play in society, in economy, in trade, and even in politics.

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in Malacca or in Patani or in Pahang or even in China sometimes.

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So let me start by highlighting 2 Filipino, as we would say, now, Lusan merchants.

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So Alia An Adi Haja and Suria Adi Haja, that both of them have a very strong ties with Pahang, although they've been based basically in Malacca.

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during the end of the Sultanate period, or also during the early stages of the Portuguese presence there, to, well, actually, Chinese family of tycoons, of magnets.

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So, first of all, was one of the brothers of the Chu family, and Lin Jiang that was actually very influential.

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This can be also taken from Portuguese or Analay's horses in Bahrain in the early 16th century.

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Let's see now a little bit the evolution of partnerships between the 1530s and the 5050s, actually.

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First of all, the collaboration with Portuguese merchants and officials in Malacca.

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Let me do a footnote, a very brief footnote.

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talk about the partnerships between those Asian merchants and the Portuguese officials, we are basically talking about illegal trade or smuggling because actually it was forbidden for the officials to be involved in any kind of trade except the official trade by the Portuguese crown.

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And of course those trading networks were extremely active and they extended to the Fujian, Zhejiang and Guangdong provinces in China.

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Although, let me also

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say that the port of Canton or Guangzhou was actually the most important one.

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Now let's look, I think that I was able to, I mean, in a nutshell, bring you the context.

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Let me, in a way, also try to present you what's going on with this failed 1520 Pahang Malacca treaty.

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The first landmark in terms of chronology, 1540, it's actually the initial informal agreement between Sultan and Mansur Shah from Tahan that in a way agreed to pay tribute in world to the King of Portugal as, by the way, other sultans from the neighboring areas of Walaka, from the Malay Peninsula, and even some of them from the

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the island of Sumatra actually paid tribute to the king of Portugal.

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But let's also be very good about that.

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This is basically a very symbolic relation that was established between those monarchs and the king of Portugal.

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And then in 1519, 1520, we have the Bahrain embassy coming to Malaga.

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Negotiations failed, apparently.

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That's what we get from the Portuguese documents, at least, because apparently the envoys lacked official mandates.

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So one of the several question marks that I have in my presentation is perhaps were they truly ambassadors, I mean, credited by the Tahim Sultan or actually the word merchants acting as Pahim's ambassadors, as most of the time happened in Malacca, by the way, also in China.

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Actually, we have a new ruler in Bahar in 1519, so Sultan Mahmud Chah and the Portuguese diplomacy from Alaka, of course, sought to restore the relations right away.

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And we know also that there was clearly a lobby from Chinese merchants in Alaka.

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By Chinese, I mean, of course, the actual family and several others.

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So generally speaking, the

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the large overseas Chinese community we find in Patani, in Malacca, but also in Bahrain, trying to press for an agreement with Bahrain.

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The overseas Chinese merchants, that is clear, perhaps also that some Tamil were present in the 1520 Portuguese embassy to Bahrain.

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So this is also very clear, but let me stress this,

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Actually, some overseas Chinese were involved and participated in the Portuguese Embassy of 1520.

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What were the main terms of the treaty that the Portuguese Ambassador tried to sign?

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First of all, that the Sultan of Pahan would pay an annual tribute in growth to the King of Portugal, that the Portuguese Formula would pay, would give military aid to Pahan against the Sultan of Bintan, that the private traders of Pahan

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Portuguese private traders in Bahrain should be expelled immediately, that there should be tax exemptions for Portuguese ships officially doing business in the name of the King of Portugal in Bahrain, and that Bahrain vessels would be encouraged to trade.

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in at Malacca, sending in goods like gold, pepper, and provisions.

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There was also a kind of a secret term to the ambassador that they should be trying to seduce Chinese and Indian nations, settle the environment to relocate to Malacca and allow me

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to end up with a linguistic note.

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The document uses the word Malay, which means, as you all know, trade, and uses the Portuguese version of that word preneare, that, by the way, still use nowadays in Portugal.

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And, as far as I remember, it's one of the very first times that this Malay word appears in a Portuguese document referring as to trade.

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So,

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At the end of the day, after the failure of the signature of the treaty between Bahrain and Portuguese Malacca, the trade was the treaty then was unratified and it developed a series of naval tensions between Bahrain and Portuguese Malacca.

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There was in way kind of a collapse of formal diplomatical and trade official relations between the Portuguese Crown and

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the southern of Pahrain, but that, on the other hand, led to the emergence of private Euro-Asian commercial partnerships since the 1520s, up until at least the 1540s, if not a little bit more further in time.

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A few features of this kind of new Euro-Asian trade totally out of the control of the Portuguese ground.

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First of all, it was financed clearly by all the French Chinese and

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capital money, capital time and money, which included Portuguese private and official actors.

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A reference, the name that you find here, actually, this guy, he was not only Captain Apalaka, but he reached the top of the reality, becoming the viceroy of the study of the Indian.

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So actually, there was clearly people engaged in legal and illicit trade with southern China, Zhejiang, Fujian, and Guangdong area.

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So Pahang worked as a kind of a nodal center of

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with trade makers.

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So actually, again, don't forget that actually this kind of partnerships in a way was a kind of a mirror that the Portugues were doing, repeating a little bit what has happened previously when the Sultans of Malacca or the Sultans of Bahan invested in partnerships with foreign merchants, some of them coming in from Lusan, some of them were Chinese, some of them were Tamil.

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But this is my favorite case, the case of the Tuan Bandan

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businessman established in Malacca for a very, very long time, actually even resisted the conquest of Malacca by the Portuguese.

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So basically to wrap up and before we might share, I'll share rightly a message.

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So at the end of the day, trying to wrap up things, what 5 points, 5 topics on historical significance of these 1520 terms of reference to the Portuguese

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Treaty, so actually enduring time's growth in global trade dynamics, the Fifth in Plenty Fair Trade marks a turning point in early Euro-Asian diplomacy.

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It reduced the flexibility.

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Let's call it the fluidity, a word that I prefer, of local political economies in responding to European arrival and, of course, the reinforcement of informal and private networks that replace official diplomacy.

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And this, of course, highlights that's the whole purpose about Carlottian Reif Parang as an amazing and fascinating case study.

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Thank you so much.

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Thank you.

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Thank you.

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And thank you also for keeping the time.

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Appreciate it.