

RICHARD C. RAMER



*SPECIAL LIST 489*  
*BARROS & COUTO*  
DECADAS

# RICHARD C. RAMER

*Old and Rare Books*

225 EAST 70TH STREET · SUITE 12F · NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021-5217

EMAIL [rcramer@livroraro.com](mailto:rcramer@livroraro.com) · WEBSITE [www.livroraro.com](http://www.livroraro.com)

TELEPHONES (212) 737 0222 and 737 0223

FAX (212) 288 4169

SEPTEMBER 18, 2023

## *SPECIAL LIST 489* *BARROS & COUTO* DECADAS

Items marked with an asterisk (\*)  
will be shipped from Lisbon.

### SATISFACTION GUARANTEED:

All items are understood to be on approval,  
and may be returned within a reasonable time  
for any reason whatsoever.

VISITORS BY APPOINTMENT

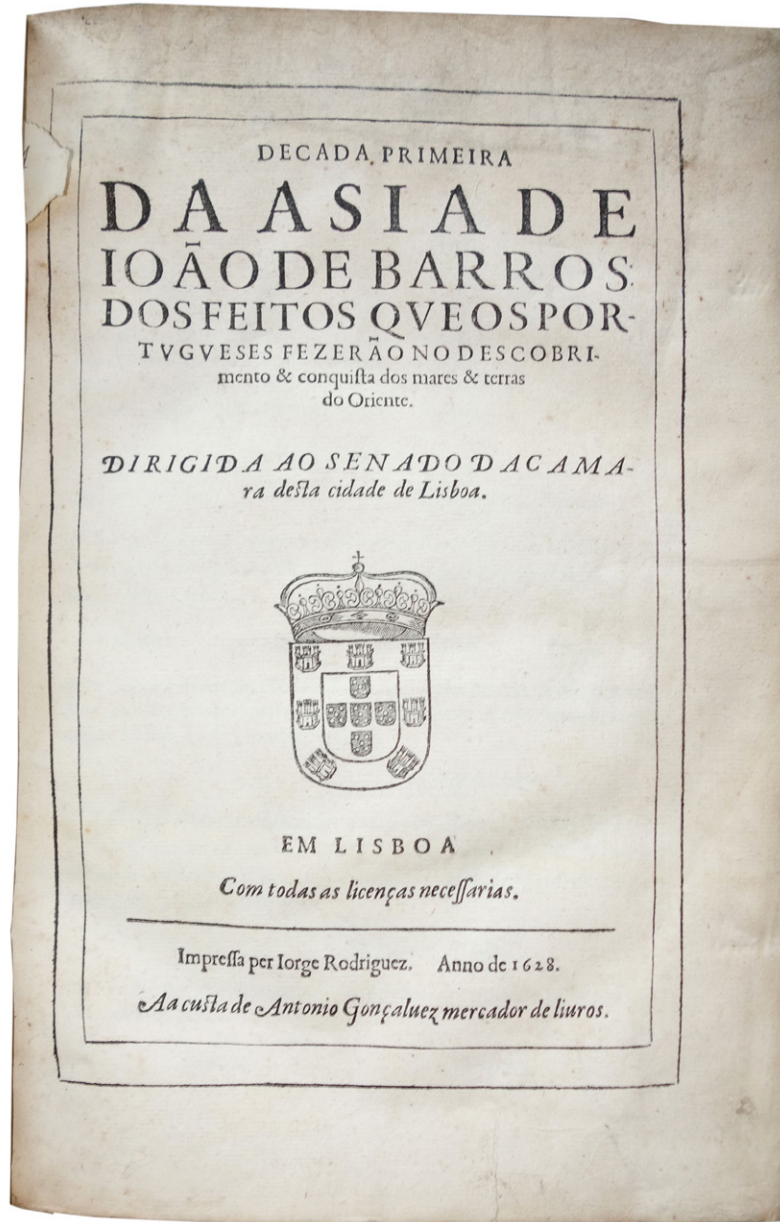


*SPECIAL LIST 489*  
*BARROS & COUTO*  
*DECADAS*

*Our first choice is to sell all the books on this list as a collection, for \$40,000.*

*This collection includes all of the Decadas by João de Barros & Diogo do Couto published in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The first two Decadas, by Barros, are second editions. All the others are first editions.*

*After October 1, 2023, if there are no takers for the collection, then we can release individual item numbers for the prices listed.*



Item 1

*João de Barros*

João de Barros (1496-1570) was one of Portugal's leading humanists and remains one of her greatest historians. As Comptroller of Customs he was entrusted with the writing of the history of the conquest of the Indies, and used the official documents to which he had access in his eleven years of research. He also consulted maps and chronicles, and even bought a Chinese slave to translate a work on Chinese geography. Barros' prefaces to each Decade are very revealing of the sixteenth-century Portuguese approach to history, which blended elements from Erasmus with a belief in the destiny of Portugal. Barros was also a donatario of Brazil; he was given a captaincy there by D. João III, but suffered a severe financial setback when in 1539 the squadron he and his partners sent there was wrecked, and most of the colonists drowned.

*Brazilian Donatario Writing about the Discovery of Brazil and  
Early Portuguese Exploits in Africa and Asia*

**1. BARROS, João de.** *Decada Primeira da Asia de João de Barros dos Feitos que os Portugueses fizeram no descobrimento & conquista dos mares & terras do Oriente. Dirigida ao Senado da Camara desta cidade de Lisboa.* Lisbon: Imprensa per Jorge Rodriguez, As custa de Antonio Goncalves mercador de livros, 1628. Folio (29.2 x 19.8 cm.), contemporary limp vellum (recased, much later endleaves). yapped edges, vertical short author-title in manuscript on spine. Title page with double ruled borders and woodcut Portuguese royal arms. Woodcut headpiece. Numerous woodcut initials, some large and rather elegant. In good to very good condition. (7), 208 ll. Main text and "Tavoadas" in 2 columns. [1, a2, [1, b2, A-Z8, 2A-2C8.

WITH:

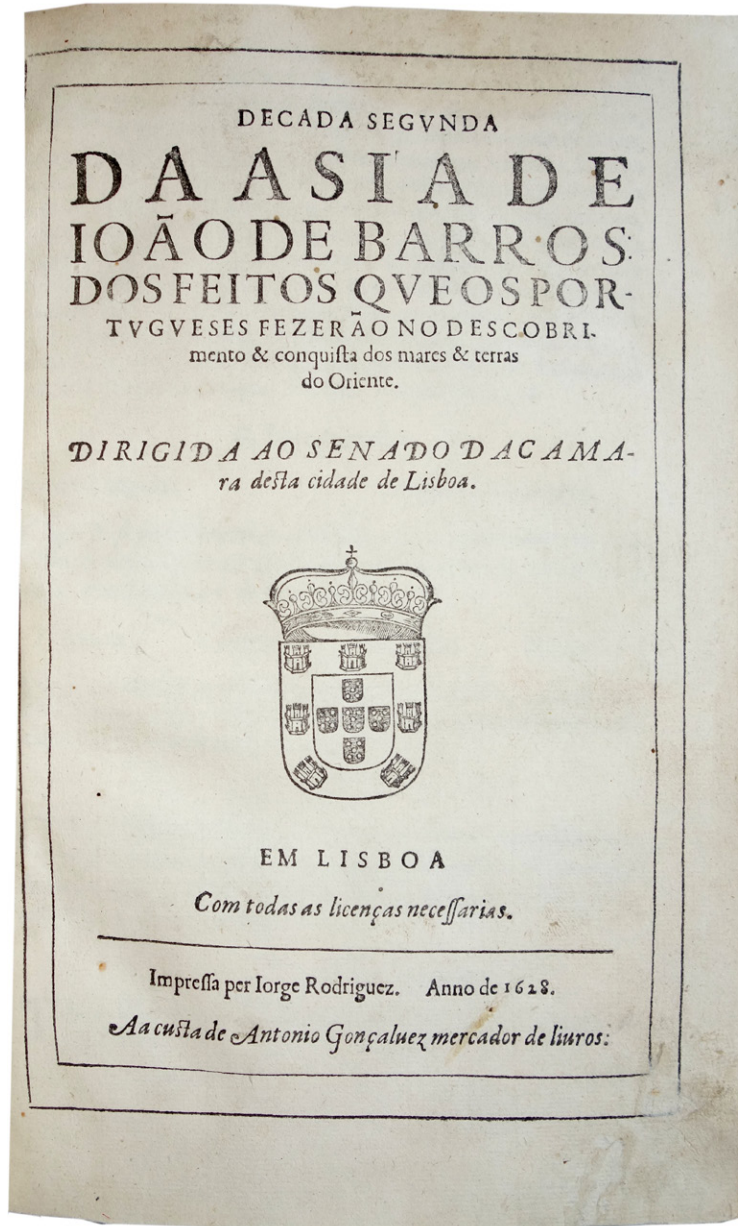
**BARROS, João de.** *Decada Segunda da Asia de João de Barros dos Feitos que os Portugueses fizeram no descobrimento & conquista dos mares & terras do Oriente. Dirigida ao Senado da Camara desta cidade de Lisboa.* Lisbon: Imprensa per Jorge Rodriguez, As custa de Antonio Goncalves mercador de livro, 1628. Folio (29 x 18.8 cm.), contemporary limp

vellum (recased, much later endleaves). yapped edges, vertical short author-title in manuscript on spine, text block edges sprinkled red. Small repair to outer blank margin of second leaf. Somewhat larger repairs to outer blank margins of final leaf. In good condition. Old oval stamp of Livraria de Alcobaca on first numbered leaf recto. (5, 1 blank), 238 ll. [ ]2, ¶4, A-Z8, 2A-2F8, 2G6. Leaf ¶2 signed §2. Main text and "Tavoada" in 2 columns. *2 volumes.* \$2,000.00

Second edition of the first two *Decadas da Asia* by João de Barros, often referred to as the "Edição do Senado". The first editions are of considerable rarity and commercial value.

"As an historian and stylist Barros deserves the high fame he has always enjoyed. His *Decades* contain the early history of the Portuguese in Asia and ... are distinguished by clearness of exposition and orderly arrangement" (E. Prestage in *Encyclopedia Britannica* [1910-1911] III, 439). The first *Decade*, originally published in 1552, deals with the background to the discoveries and explorations through 1505. It includes descriptions of the voyages of Vasco da Gama (1497-98 and 1502-04) and Pedro Alvares Cabral (1500-01), the wars between the rulers of Calicut and Cochin, the Swahili coast of Africa, the leading kingdoms with which Portugal fought or traded, and the Monomotapa confederacy in central southeast Africa ("remarkable alike for its compactness, its accuracy, and the critical sense which Barros displays," says Boxer, p. 102). The second *Decade*, first published in 1553, covering 1505 to 1515, has significant material on the defeat of the Egyptian-Gujarati fleet off Diu in 1509, Alfonso de Albuquerque's efforts to capture Hormuz and Goa, the early history of Malacca and Singapore, and the defeat of the Sultan of Japara's fleet by Fernão Peres de Andrade in 1513, which established Portuguese supremacy in the eastern end of the Indian Ocean. In addition, the *Decades* contain numerous digressions on such matters as Eastern customs, locusts, chess, palm-trees and monsoons. Outside Portugal the *Decades* were immediately recognized as fundamental works on the subject (see *Europe Informed*, p. 52), and played a major role in exploding old myths about the East and shaping contemporary European perceptions of it.

\* Howgego I, 90-1 (B34). Alden & Landis 628/15. Arouca B56-7. Borba de Moraes (1983), I, 87: "This edition ... is today quite scarce." Barbosa Machado II, 607. Innocência III, 322. *Europe Informed*, pp. 51-3. Pinto de Mattos, p. 64. Figanière 920. Iberian Books B9905 [22149]. *Bibliotheca Boxeriana* 46. Biblioteca da Marinha, *Século XVII*, 57. HSA, p. 53. Palha 4143. Monteverde 461. Azevedo Samodães 336. Ameal 235. Rodrigo Veloso (Segundo escrinio) 590A. See also Boxer, *João de Barros: Portuguese Humanist and Historian of Asia.*; Boxer, *Three Historians of Portuguese Asia*, pp. 6-12; Bell, *Portuguese Literature*, pp. 195-8.



Item 1



Item 2



*Rarest of the Rare*

**2. BARROS, João de.** *Terceira decada da Asia de Joam de Barros: Dos feytos que os Portugueses fizeram no descobrimento & conquista dos mares & terras do Oriente.* Lisbon: Por Joam de Barreira, 1563. Folio (27,3 x 19,8 cm.), contemporary limp vellum (recased, much later endleaves). yapped edges, vertical short author-title in manuscript on spine. Elaborate woodcut architectural border on title page (slightly cropped at upper and outer margins; a few small holes), with allegorical figures, globes and royal Portuguese arms. Numerous woodcut initials, some large and elegant. In good to very good condition. Some very old (contemporary?) ink underlining and other occasional annotations. (8 ll.), 266 pp. ₣8, A-Z8, 2A-2I8, 2K6, 2L4. "Tavoada" in 2 columns. \$30,000.00

FIRST EDITION, extremely rare. "This Decade is, perhaps, the most interesting one for the modern reader."—Boxer, *João de Barros*, p. 105. It continues the history of the Portuguese in Africa, including Abyssinia and Francisco Alvares' embassy to the Negus, much on various parts of India, Ceylon, Burma, Siam, a great deal on China, Japan, Persia, Arabia, the Persian Gulf, Bahrein, Hormuz, Singapore, Malaya, Malacca, Sumatra, Southeast Asia, etc., carrying the history through the administration of Dom Henrique de Meneses, viceroy in 1525 and early 1526. Baarros' account of Magellan's voyage is particularly valuable, since he had access to Spanish documents which had been seized. The first printed reference in a European book to the Great Wall of China appears here. Some argue that a voyage of discovery in described in Book X reached the North coast of Australia, while others identify the discovery as that of the Ulithi Atoll off the Western Carolines of Micronesia. The first edition of the third Decada is the "jewel in the crown" of this collection. It is in good to very good condition and of the greatest rarity. Charles Boxer once mentioned how lucky he was to find a copy in Maggs basement in the 1920s or 1930s. We had the good fortune to find one in a Paris bookshop in 1980, which was sold forthwith for \$12,500. We've had the first editions of Barros' first two Decadas twice, and have seen others for sale, but have never seen another first edition of the third on the market since beginning to take notice of such things in 1969.

\* Howgego I, 90-1 (B34). Alden & Landis 1563/1. Anselmo 176. Barbosa Machado II, 607. Innocêncio III, 322. Borba de Morais (1983) I, 87: "The third *Decada*, printed ten years after the first two, is very rare." Brunet I, 669. King Manuel 74: "perhaps even rarer than the two that preceded it.... The following copies are recorded: Biblioteca d'Ajuda, Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal Paris, New York Public Library, Harvard University, Hispanic Society of America, British Museum, and King Manuels' copy. There are seven copies altogether, fewer than are known of the first Decadas." *Europe Informed*, pp. 51-3. *Index Aureliensis* 113.428. Pinto de Mattos, p. 63. Streit IV, 667. *Bibliotheca Boxeriana* 47: "... very rare; only five or six copies are known to exist." Biblioteca Nacional de Portugal, *Catálogo dos impressos de tipografia portuguesa do século XVI*, 71 (cites 4 copies of each of the first two volumes, but only one of the third, with title page "reforçado"). Figanière 920. Iberian Books 64633 [1679]. British Museum *Pre-1601 Spanish & Portuguese STC*, p. 129. JFB (1994) B68. Palha 4141. Azevedo Samodães 335. Not in Adams; see B254-255; citing only copies of the Italian translation of the first two Decadas, dated 1561 and 1562 respectively. See also Boxer, *João de Barros: Portuguese Humanist and Historian of Asia.*; Boxer, *Three Historians of Portuguese Asia*, pp. 6-12; Bell, *Portuguese Literature*, pp. 195-8.

*With Maps Engraved by a Student of "El Greco"*

**3. BARROS, João de.** *Quarta decada da Asia de João de Barros. Dos feitos que os Portugueses fizeram no descobrimento, e conquista dos mares, e terras do Oriente.* Madrid: na Impressão Real (printed by Anibal Falorsi), 1615. Folio (28.8 x 20.5 cm.), eighteenth-century mottled sheep (minor wear; neatly recased, later endleaves), spine richly gilt with raised bands in five compartments (bands rubbed, as are head & foot of spine), crimson leather lettering piece in second compartment from head, short author-title gilt, text block edges lightly sprinkled red. Engraved title page (triangularly reinforced at center of outer edge, ca. 16.5 x 11 x 10 cm.; relatively small oval repair to blank portion near center), with elaborate architectural border with allegorical figures, astronomical designs and royal Portuguese arms. Numerous woodcut initials, some large and elegant. Woodcut head- and tailpieces. Small crude repairs to worm traces in blank upper outer corners of 10 leaves (2Q1-8 & 2R1-2); slight worm traces to previous 8 leaves in same position, never affecting text. Some small, light dampstains. Overall in good condition. Old stamp of Livraria de Alcobaça on title page, with small overslip of same (partly obscured by repair) on title page. The stamp twice repeated on next leaf recto. Finely engraved title page, (16 ll.), 711 pp., 3 engraved maps. [1. ¶10, ¶6, A-Z8, 2A-2X8, 2Y4. \$2,000.00

FIRST EDITION, published posthumously in 1615 at Madrid by the Portuguese Cosmographer, Chronicler-Royal, cartographer, mathematician and geographer Joao Baptista Lavanha, who edited and compiled Barros' scattered manuscript. The text covers the period 1526-1538. It deals with events in the Indian Ocean, in Malayan waters, and in the Moluccas. There is a description of Java, including an account of the pepper trade in the Sunda region, which competed with that of Malabar in Southwest India. Chapters on misrule and atrocities in the Moluccas are taken largely from Fernão Lopes de Castanheda and Diogo do Couto. Book III deals mainly with the controversial governorship-general of Nuno da Cunha (1529-1538), including his sack of Mombassa, dubious conduct at Hormuz, and a failed attempt to occupy Bahrein in 1529. Book V begins with a description of the kingdom of Gujarat, describing the reign of the Sultan Bahadur (1526-1537). Book VI treats the establishment of a Portuguese castle at Diu, reluctantly agreed to by the Sultan in September 1535. Also in this book is an account of the voyage of Diogo Botelho from India to Portugal in a rather dicey boat, for which he was inadequately rewarded despite performing an astounding feat. Further misdeeds in the Moluccas are mentioned, until the arrival of António Galvão, whose good character was in stark contrast to his predecessors. Book VII continues narration of the government of Nuno da Cunha with respect to relations with the Indian kingdoms of the Deccan. Book VIII deals mainly with the death of Sultan Bahadur and its consequences. Book IX shifts attention to the Bay of Bengal, then to events in Malayan waters and to António Galvão's house-cleaning in the Moluccas. Book X describes the first siege of Diu, as well as the end of Nuno da Cunha's rule and his death on the homeward voyage.

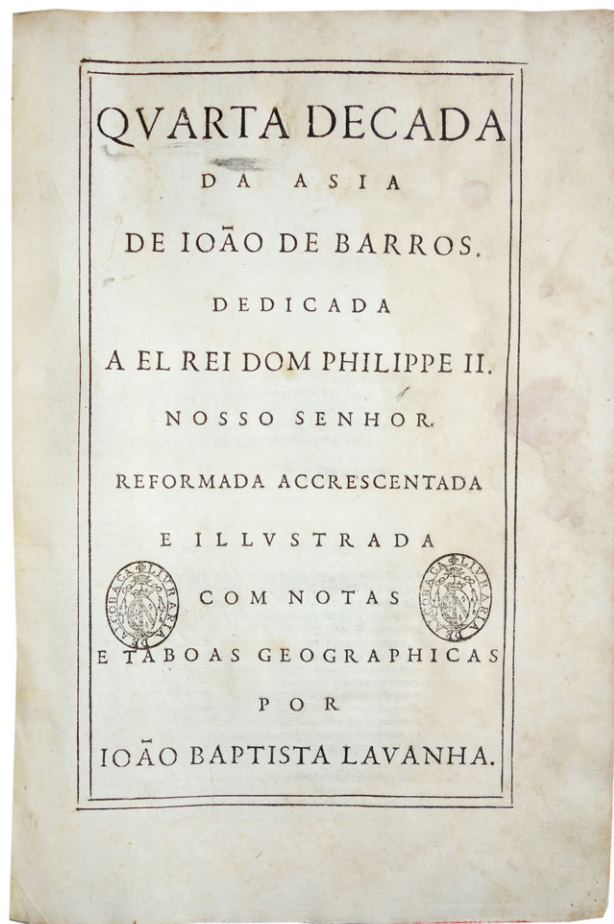
The maps, engraved by Diego Astor after the cartographical work of Joao Baptista Lavanha, are "Descrição da Ilha de Iaoa", including Bali and part of Sumatra (facing



Item 3

p. 38); "Descrição do Reino de Guzarate" (facing p. 272); and "Descrição do Reino de Bengalla" (facing the blank p. [554]). Astor had studied under Domenico Theotokopoulos, better known as "El Greco".

\* Howgego I, 90-1 (B34). Alden & Landis 615/17. Barbosa Machado II, 607. Innocência III, 322. Borba de Morais (1983) I, 87. Brunet I, 669. *Europe Informed*, p. 53. Pinto de Mattos, pp. 63-4. Perez Pastor, *Madrid* 1318. Streit IV, 667. *Bibliotheca Boxeriana* 48. Figanière 920. Iberian Books B2789 [22147]. JFB (1994) B68. Palha 4142. Azevedo Samodães 335. See also Boxer, *João de Barros: Portuguese Humanist and Historian of Asia.*; Boxer, *Three Historians of Portuguese Asia*, pp. 6-12; Bell, *Portuguese Literature*, pp. 195-8.



Item 3

*Diogo do Couto*

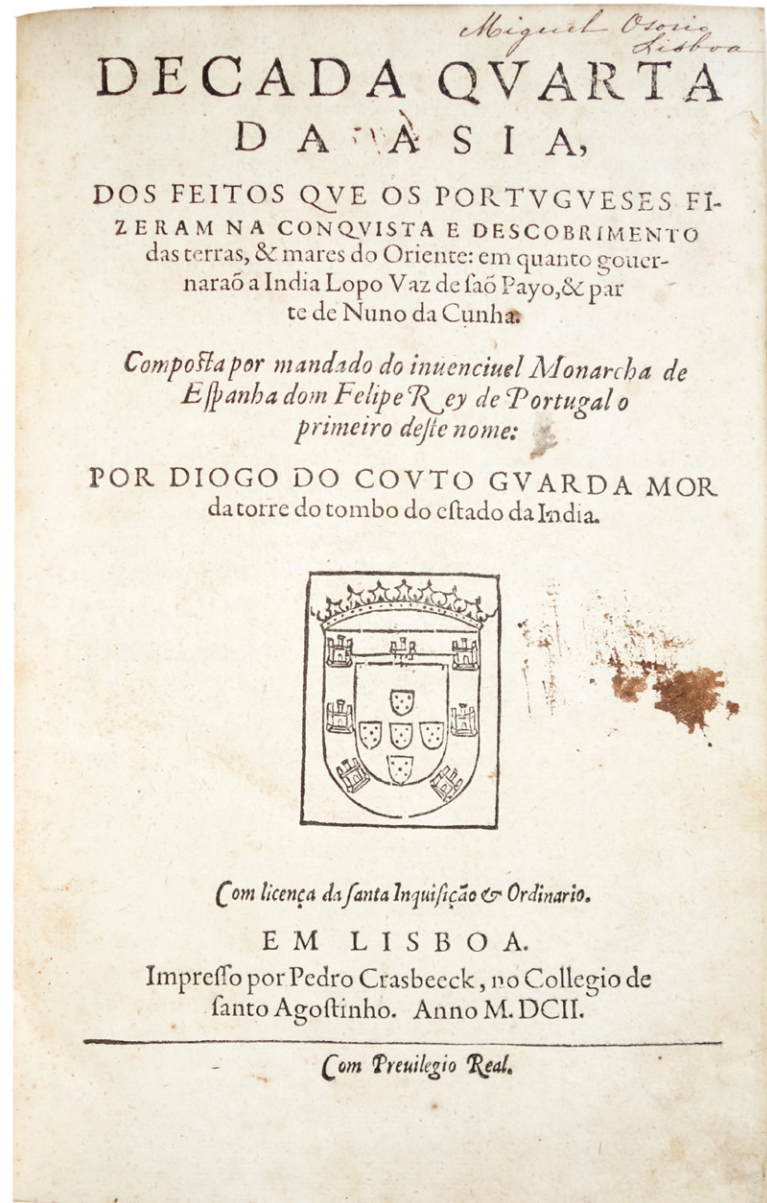
Boxer wrote "as a pioneer Orientalist, Diogo do Couto ranks with João de Barros". Continuing Barros' history *Decades* I-III appeared 1552-1563), Couto wrote *Decades* IV through XII. Couto (Lisbon 1542-Goa 1616) spent the better part of 50 years in India, which gave him a different perspective than that of Barros, for Couto was often personally acquainted with the scenes, events and persons described in his work. "The sententious generalities of the majestic Barros are replaced by bitter protests and practical suggestions. He is a critic of abuses rather than persons. He writes from the point of view of the common soldier, as one who had seen both sides of the tapestry of which Barros smoothly ignored the snarls and thread-ends . . . He can, however, write excellent prose, and he gives more of graphic detail and individual sayings and anecdotes than his predecessor" (Bell, *Portuguese Literature*, p. 196). Couto's manuscripts of the *Decades* suffered at the hands of enemies and the elements; one was on a ship captured by the English, another two were stolen, one vanished, and one laid unpublished until 1788. The fourth *Decade* was the only one that was published immediately upon its completion.

*The Portuguese in Asia 1526-1536, by "A Pioneer Orientalist" (Boxer)*

**4. COUTO, Diogo do.** *Decada Quarta da Asia, dos feitos que os Portugueses fizeram na conquista e descobrimento das terras, & mares do Oriente: em quanto governarão a India Lopo Vaz de São Payo, & parte de Nuno da Cunha. Composta por mandado do invencivel Monarcha de Espanha dom Felipe Rey de Portugal o primeiro deste nome. Por Diogo do Couto Guarda Mòr da Torre do Tombo do Estado da India.* Lisbon: Impresso por Pedro Crasbeeck, no Collegio de Santo Agostinho, 1602. Folio (27.4 x 18.7 cm.), recent morocco, spine with raised bands in six compartments, short author-title lettered gilt in second compartment from head, all text block edges gilt. Woodcut Portuguese royal arms on title page. Numerous woodcut initials. Main text in two columns. Some toning. Small ink blotch in blank portion of title page. In good to very good condition. Old ink signature of "Miguel Osorio // Lisboa" in upper blank margin of title page. (12), 207 ll., (1 blank l.). ¶-2¶6, A-Z6, 2A-2L6, 2M4. Leaf ¶4 wrongly signed ¶3.

\$6,000.00

FIRST EDITION of a major early work on Asia This fourth *Decade* covers the years 1526-36. Barros had left copious material for a volume to follow his third *Decade*; his manuscript was edited by João Baptista Lavanha and published in Madrid, 1615, with



the title *Quarta década da Asia de João de Barros*. Although Barros's fourth *Decade* covers the same ground as Couto's it is an entirely different work.

There is a variant issue with a somewhat different title page, which reads: *Decada Quarta da Asia, dos feitos que os Portugueses fizeram na conquista e descobrimento das terras, & mares do Oriente: em quanto governarão a India Lopo Vaz de sam Payo, & parte do tempo de Nuno da Cunha. Composta por mandado do muito catholico e invencivel Monarcha de Espanha dom Filipe Rey de Portugal o primeiro deste nome. Por Diogo do Couto Chronista e guarda mór da torre do tombo do estado da India*. The verso of the title page of the present copy is blank, while the variant contains a "Carta de su Ma- // gestade pera Diogo do Couto // Chronista & guarda mór da torre do Tombo do esta- // do da India." The rest of both issues appear to be from the same setting of type, except that the present copy contains the signature ¶2, while this signature is absent from the variant.

\* Howgego I, 279 (C208). Arouca C712 (a variant issue). Barbosa Machado I, 648 (apparently the present issue). Innocência II, 153 & IX, 122-4: without collation (the present issue). Pinto de Matos (1970) pp. 225-8 (the present issue). *Bibliotheca Boxeriana* 176 (issue points not determinable, but from the Lilly Library cataloguing of the Boxer copy, he had the present issue). Figanière 908. *Europe Informed*, p. 54 (title given is that of the present issue). Figanière 908 (the present issue). Goldsmith, *British Museum 1601-1700 STC* C712 or C713. Palha 4149 (the present issue). JFB C663 (insufficient information in the Catalog, but from MNCat appears to be the present issue). Streit IV, 667. *Greenlee Catalogue* I, 376 (the present issue). Monteverde 461 (the present issue). Azevedo-Samodães 335 (the other issue). Ameal 235 (the other issue). Avila Perez 591 (issue points not determinable). Brunet I, 669 (with short title and without collation; issue points not determinable). Cordier, *Sinica*, III, 2308; *Japonica*, col. 33 (both with short title and without collation; issue points not determinable). Salvá 3272 (the present issue). Heredia 3267 (the Salvá copy). See also Boxer, *Three Historians of Portuguese Asia*, pp. 12-22; Bell, *Portuguese Literature*, pp. 195-8, and *Diogo do Couto, passim*. Porbase locates five copies, four in the Biblioteca Nacional de Portugal (one of the other issue, lacking the final leaf, with three leaves mutilated, cut down and with serious worming; another of the present issue, lacking the final leaf, cut down, with serious worming and with major repairs; a third of the present issue with serious worming; the fourth copy, the other issue, apparently in good condition or better), and one copy in the Biblioteca Geral da Universidade de Coimbra (cut down and in poor condition; appears to be the other issue).

*Includes the Portuguese "Discovery" of Japan*

**5. COUTO, Diogo do.** *Decada Quinta da Asia. Dos feitos que os Portugueses fizeram no descobrimento dos mares, & conquista das terras do Oriente: em quanto governarão a India Nuno da Cunha, dom Garcia de Naronha, dom Estevão da Gama, & Martim Afonso de Sousa. Composto por mandado dos muito Catholicos & invenciveis Monarchas d' Espanha, & Reys de Portugal, Dom Felipe de gloriosa memoria, o primeiro deste nome: & de seu filho dom Felipe nosso Senhor, o Segundo do mesmo nome.* Lisbon: Pedro Crasbeeck, 1612. Folio (27.4 x 18.4 cm.), recent morocco, spine with raised bands in six compartments, short author-title lettered gilt in second compartment

# DECADA QVINTA DA ASIA.

DOS FEITOS QUE OS PORTVGVESES FIZERAÕ NO descobrimento dos mares, & conquista das terras do Oriente: em quanto gouernaraõ a India Nuno da Cunha, dom Garcia de Noronha, dom Esteuaõ da Gama, & Martim Afonso de Soufa.

COMPOSTA POR MANDADO DOS muito Catholicos & inuenciueis Monarchas d'Esanha, & Reys de Portugal, dom Felipe de gloriosa memoria, o primeiro deste nome: & de seu filho dom Felipe nosso senbor, o segundo do mesmo nome.

POR DIOGO DO COVTO CHRONISTA E guarda mór da torre do Tombo do estado da India.



Com licença do supremo conselho da santa & geral Inquisição, & do Ordinario, & Paço.

Em Lisboa, impresso por Pedro Crasbeeck. Anno 1612.

Com privilegio real.

Estã taxadaa quatrocentos reis em papel.



from head, all text block edges gilt. Woodcut Portuguese royal arms on title-page. Nice full-page woodcut portrait of author on verso. Numerous woodcut initials of four to five lines in height. Woodcut vignettes and tailpiece. Main text in two columns. Light toning. In good to very good condition. (11), 230 ll., lacking only the blank leaf at the end of the preliminaries (called for in Arauca, Boxer, Palha and Azevedo-Samodães). ¶4, 2¶7, A-Z6, 2A-2O6, 2P-2Q4. \$6,000.00

FIRST EDITION of a major early work on Asia. This fifth *Decade* covers the years 1536-44, with accounts of Portuguese trade and battles in (among many other places) Indochina, Diu, Goa, Calicut, Ceylon, Pegu, Mozambique, and Hormuz. Some historical background is given for most of these sites. The discovery of Japan and the customs of its inhabitants are briefly described on ff. 183r-186r. The longest section is devoted to the 1538 siege of Diu (ff. 52v-111r).

\* Arauca I, 570-1, 713. Barbosa Machado I, 633. Innocêncio II, 153 and IX, 122: without collation. Figanière 908. *Europe Informed*, p. 54: locating copies at InU, MH, MnU, NN, NjP and in Boxer's collection. Martins de Carvalho I, 85. Streit IV, 667. Pinto de Mattos (1970) p. 226. *Bibliotheca Boxeriana* 177 (giving collation as [12], 229 ll.). Goldsmith, British Museum 1601-1700 STC C714. Azevedo-Samodães 335. Palha 4150. Monteverde 461. Azevedo Samodães 335. Avila Perez 591. Not in Welsh or *Greenlee Catalog*. See also Boxer, *Three Historians of Portuguese Asia*, pp. 12-22; Bell, *Portuguese Literature*, pp. 195-8 and *Diogo do Couto, passim*. NUC: NN, MH.

*Edition Largely Destroyed in Fire at Printer's House*

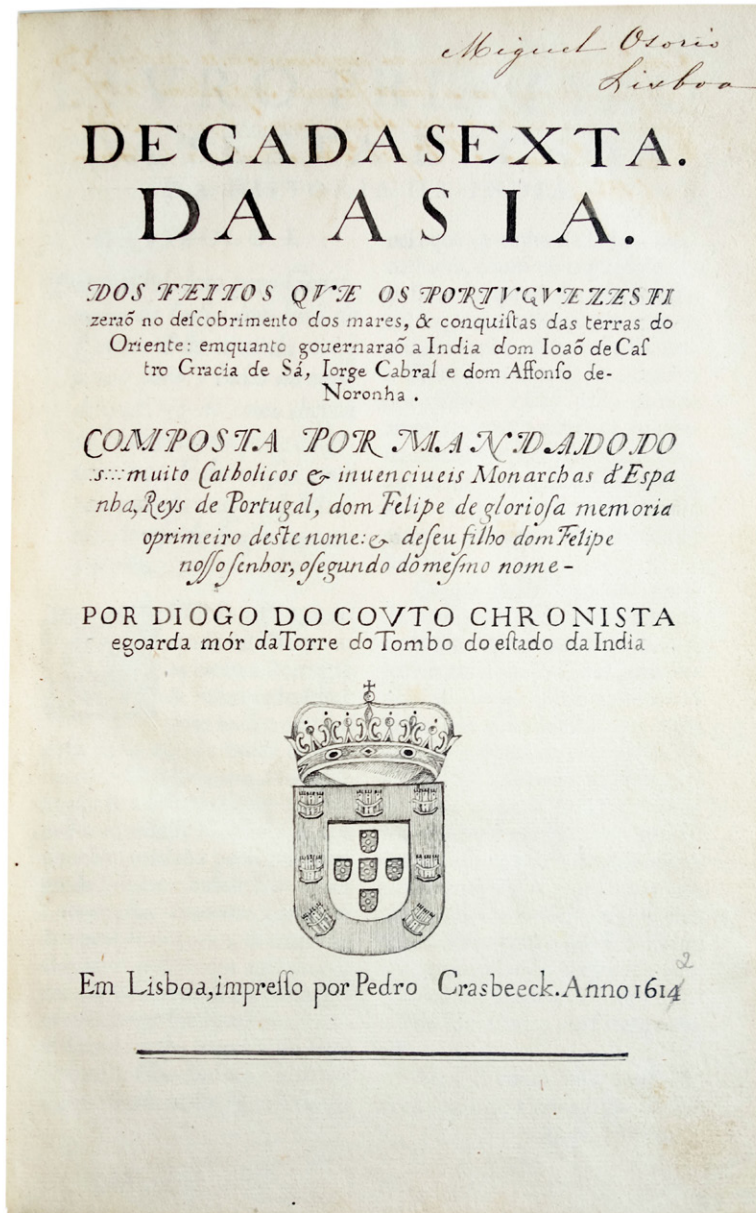
**6. COUTO, Diogo do.** [Decada Sexta da Asia.... Lisbon: por Pedro Crasbeeck, 1612 or 1614]. Folio (27.3 x 18.5 cm.), recent morocco, spine with raised bands in six compartments, short author-title lettered gilt in second compartment from head, all text block edges gilt. Numerous woodcut initials. Woodcut tailpieces. Text in 2 columns. Some light toning; occasional heavier browning. In good to very good condition, albeit incomplete. Old ink signature of "Miguel Osorio // Lisboa" in upper blank margin of supposed title page. Second, much older [contemporary?] front free endleaf verso with old five-line ink manuscript annotation stating that the title page for this edition had never been printed, etc. 236 ll. Lacks title page, which is supplied in supposed facsimile, dated 1614, and 3 preliminary leaves. Leaf Q2 correctly signed [signed Q3 in some copies]. Leaves 93 and 95 with running head correct [reads "Livro Quimto" in some copies]. Leaf 94 with "Capitvlo VI" [reads "Capitolo VI" in some copies]. A-2P6, 2Q-2R4. \$4,000.00

FIRST EDITION. Manuel Severim de Faria in his "Vida" of Couto says that a large part of the edition was destroyed in a fire at the printer's house. Innocêncio points out

that more copies escaped the flames than Severim de Faria would have us think, but that the title page appears to have suffered. Boxer, *Three Historians of Portuguese Asia*, p. 15, states that while the story of destruction by fire may be an exaggeration, the volume was "evidently suppressed in some way, since none of the existing copies have the obligatory civil and ecclesiastical licenses, and only a very few are recorded with a title-page which was issued subsequently, and is variously given as 1612 or 1614." According to *Europe Informed*, there are copies with the title page dated 1612, and others dated 1614; moreover, the New York Public Library copy has the title page of the *Quinta decada*, with "Quinta" scored and "Sexta" supplied in manuscript. (Based on their online catalogue description, the New York Public Library copy does not have any of the three preliminary leaves following the title page.)

The present volume begins in 1545 with the fleet of Dom João de Castro departing Lisbon to take up his post in Goa as thirteenth Governor of India (he was later named fourth Viceroy). It continues with accounts of the governments of Garcia de Sá and Jorge Cabral, ending with the reign of the fifth Viceroy and sixteenth Governor of India Dom Afonso de Noronha, who ruled from 1550 to 1554. In addition to much on the exploits of the Portuguese in India, including the heroic lifting of the seige of Diu by Dom João de Castro, there are significant sections on Tidore and the Maluku Islands, Malacca, Burma, Siam, Ceylon, Aden, Mascate (Oman), and Ormuz. There is also mention of the Cape of Good Hope and Moçambique during the voyage of the fleet taking Dom Afonso de Noronha from Lisbon to Goa. The death of Luis Figueira and the loss of his ship to Turks in the Red Sea is related in Chapter III of Book 9 (ll. 161 verso-162 verso). Chapters XIV and XV of Book 9 (ll. 182 verso-185 verso) deal with the voyage of Dom Antão de Noronha from Goa, into the Arabian Sea and Persian Gulf, entering the Euphrates as far as Basra. Additional events at Basra are mentioned in various subsequent chapters. The shipwreck of the galleon São João off the Cape of Good Hope and heroic, arduous trek overland in East Africa is related in Chapters XXI and XXII of Book 9 (ll. 195 verso-201 verso). Chapter XVII of Book 10 mentions the shipwreck of the São Bento off the coast of East Africa.

\* Arouca C714 (gives the date as 1614): "são rarissimos os exemplares com frontispicio." Barbosa Machado I, 648 (gives the date as 1614). Innocência II, 154 (giving the date as 1614) & IX, 122-4: without collation. Pinto de Matos (1970) pp. 225-8 (calling for only a title page, dated 1612, and 226 ll.). Streit IV, 667. Goldsmith, *British Museum 1601-1700 STC C715* (gives the date as 1614). *Bibliotheca Boxeriana* 178 (no title page or preliminary leaves). *Europe Informed*, p. 54 (gives date of 1612, but states that some copies have a title page dated 1614, differing in some other respects from the earlier title page). Figanière 908 (title page dated 1614): "Os poucos exemplares d'esta Decada, que escaparam ao incendio em que se consumiu grande parte da edição, andam sem folha de rosto ...."). JFB C663 (no specific information about the copy in the Catalogue, but we have been informed that the title page, mounted and re-margined, is dated 1612, and that there are no preliminary leaves). Monteverde 461 (giving the date as 1612, but with the title page in photographic copy, and without any preliminary leaves). Azevedo-Samodães 335 (title page provided in photographic facsimile, dated 1612; without any preliminary leaves). Ameal 235 (title page provided in photographic facsimile, dated 1612; without any preliminary leaves). Avila Perez 591 (title page provided in photographic facsimile, dated 1612; without any preliminary leaves). Brunet I, 669 (without collation, giving the place of printing as Madrid, and the date as 1614, probably having seen a copy with a title page supplied and adapted from Lavanha's edition of Barros' fourth Decada).



Item 6

Cordier, *Sinica*, III, 2308; *Japonica*, col. 33 (both without collation, giving the date as 1614, and quoting Figanière). Salvá 3272 (giving the date as 1612, but with title page in old manuscript facsimile, and without any preliminary leaves). Heredia 3267 (the Salvá copy). This volume not in *Greenlee Catalogue* or Palha. See also Boxer, *Three Historians of Portuguese Asia*, pp. 12-22; Bell, *Portuguese Literature*, pp. 195-8, and *Diogo do Couto, passim*. Porbase locates four copies, one at the Biblioteca Geral da Universidade de Coimbra, and three in the Biblioteca Nacional de Portugal (one of these appears to be complete and in reasonable condition, while the other two lack the title page, and one of those lacking the title page also has the three following preliminary leaves in manuscript facsimile, and has significant worming; this last copy is described as a variant, and appears to have the same "points" as our copy). This volume not in Hollis or Orbis. Copac locates the British Library copy only, with their catalogue note "Published without titlepage or preliminary matter. Prefixed to this copy is an engraved titlepage, probably that of the 1615 edition of the fourth decade of João de Barros' 'Asia,' from which the panel containing title and imprint has been cut out."

*Final Work by Couto to Appear During His Lifetime*

**7. COUTO, Diogo do.** *Decada setima da Asia dos feitos que os Portugueses fizeram no descobrimento dos mares, & conquista das terras do Oriente: em quanto governarão a India dom Pedrono d Mascarenhas, Francisco Barreto, dom Constantino, o Conde do Redondo dom Francisco Coutinho, & João de Mendouça. Composto por mandado dos muito Catholicos & invenciveis Monarchas d' Espanha, & Reys de Portugal Dom Felipe de gloriosa memoria, o primeiro deste nome; & de seu filho dom Felipe nosso Senhor, o Segundo do mesmo nome.* Lisbon: por Pedro Craesbeeck, 1616. Folio (27.1 x 18.5 cm.), recent morocco, spine with raised bands in six compartments, short author-title lettered gilt in second compartment from head, all text block edges gilt. Woodcut Portuguese royal arms on title page. Nice full-page woodcut portrait of author on verso. Full page woodcut of a Latin cross with an architectural arch on leaf 219 recto. Numerous woodcut initials. Woodcut tailpieces. Main text in two columns. Light toning. In good to very good condition. Old ink signature of "Miguel Osorio // Lisboa" in upper outer blank margin of title page. (10), 247 ll. ¶6, 2¶4, A-Z6, 2A-2R6, 2S7. \$6,000.00

FIRST EDITION of a major early work on Asia. The present volume was the final one to appear during his lifetime.

Begins with the viceroyalty at Goa of Dom Pedro Mascarenhas, from 1554 until his death in 1555. While viceroy of Portuguese India, at the direction of the King of Portugal he sent Fr. James Dias and Fr. Gonçalo Rodrigues to Ethiopia in order to determine whether Emperor Galawdewos would be receptive to receiving a Patriarch anointed by the Roman



Item 7

Catholic church. He was succeeded as viceroy by Francisco Barreto, who took up the position of viceroy in Goa in June 1555, following the death of viceroy Mascarenhas. On the occasion of his investiture, a play by Luís de Camões, *Auto de Filodemo*, was performed. Barreto later ordered Camões exiled to Macau for his satirical *Disparates da Índia*, which criticized Portuguese life in India. During his tenure as governor, the intended Catholic Patriarch for Ethiopia arrived, accompanied by an embassy led by Fernando de Sousa de Castello Branco, on 15 March 1556. Because he had more accurate information on matters in that country, Barreto held back most of this party, although allowing Bishop André de Oviedo to continue with some companions. This small group, carried in four small ships, landed at Arqiqo in March 1557, shortly before the Ottoman Empire occupied that port. According to Robert Kerr in *A General History and Collection of Voyages and Travels*, Mascarenhas, in a bid to gain a Portuguese ally in the region, had supported a usurper against one Adel Khan, King of Visapur. Mascarenhas died shortly after sending soldiers to aid in the usurper's takeover, and Barreto continued Portuguese support of the usurper until his capture. In 1557, Barreto clashed with Khan's army at Ponda and was victorious. Barreto was also involved in negotiations for a peaceful acquisition of Daman, but they failed. He was more successful in defeating the Rajah of Calicut and in preparing a huge fleet to be sent against the Aceh sultanate. His departure there was halted with the arrival of a new ruler.

Barreto was succeeded by D. Constantino de Bragança. Best known for having served as Viceroy of Portuguese India and for initiating the Portuguese conquest of Ceylon, he left Lisbon on 7 April 1558 and arrived in Goa on 3 September. He was a remarkable organizer of the local State, conquered Daman, Ceylon (nowadays known as Sri Lanka) and the island of Manar. A first expedition, led by Viceroy Dom Constantino de Bragança in 1560, failed to subdue Jaffna, but captured Mannar Island. By June 1619, despite sharp resistance from Cankili II of Jaffna, there were two Portuguese expeditions; a naval expedition that was repulsed by the Malabari corsairs and another expedition by Dom Filipe de Oliveira and his land army of 5,000, which defeated Cankili and conquered Jaffna, strengthening Portuguese control of shipping routes through the Palk Strait. His government in India lasted three years and eight days, and during that period he made important reforms. He was considered by the historian C. R. Boxer one of the most fanatic Portuguese governors of India together with Dom Francisco Barreto. He protected the poet Luis de Camões, during his stay in India. He was succeeded by Dom Francisco Coutinho, 3.º Conde do Redondo. During his reign as viceroy (1561-1564), Camões wrote an ode in homage to him, which was the earliest text by Camões to appear in print, in the preliminary pages of Garcia da Orta's *Colóquio dos simples e drogas e coisas medicinais da Índia*, published in Goa, 1563. João de Mendonça Furtado was nominated Governor of Portuguese India in 1564.

\* Arouca C715. Barbosa Machado I, 648. Innocência II, 154. Pinto de Mattos, p. 204. Cordier, *Sinica, Japonica. Europe Informed*, pp. 54-5. Figanière 908. Streit IV, 667. *Bibliotheca Boxeriana*. JFB C663. Martins de Carvalho, I, 507. Goldsmith, *British Museum 1601-1700 STC C716*. Salvá 3272. Heredia 3267 (the Salvá copy). Rodrigo Veloso (Segundo escriptorio) 590A. Monteverde 461. Azevedo-Samodães 335. Ameal 235. Avila Perez 591. See also Boxer, *Three Historians of Portuguese Asia*, pp. 12-22; Bell, *Portuguese Literature*, pp. 195-8, and *Diogo do Couto, passim*. Not in HSA.

# DECADA OVTAVA DA ASIA

DOS FEITOS QUE OS PORTVGVEZES  
fizerão no descobrimento dos mares, & conquistas  
das terras do Oriente: em quanto governarão a  
India Dom Antão de Noronha, & Dom  
Luis de Ataide.

P O R

## DIOGO DO COVTO

Chronista, & Guarda môr da Torre do Tombo do Estado  
da India.



LISBOA.

A custa de IOAM DA COSTA, & DIÖGO SOAREZ.

M.DC.LXXIII.

*Com todas as licenças necessarias.*

*Posthumously Edited by João da Costa and Diogo Soares*

**8. COUTO, Diogo do.** *Decada outava da Asia dos feitos que os Portuguezes fizeram no descobrimento dos mares, & conquista das terras do Oriente: em quanto governarão a India Dom Antão de Noronha, & Dom Luis de Ataíde.* Lisbon: A custa de Joam da Costa, & Diogo Soarez, 1673. Folio (27.3 x 18.4 cm.), recent morocco, spine with raised bands in six compartments, short author-title lettered gilt in second compartment from head, all text block edges gilt. Large rectangular woodcut vignette on title page, apparently a printer's mark of Joam da Costa and Diogo Soarez. Woodcut and typographical headpieces. Large, elegant woodcut initials. Large woodcut tailpiece; smaller woodcut tailpiece. Main text in two columns. Very light toning. In good to very good condition. (4 ll.), 247 pp. \*4, A-Z4, 2A-2H4. \$4,000.00

FIRST EDITION, second issue [?], posthumously edited by João da Costa and Diogo Soares. There is another issue, with a slightly different title page. Arouca gives that one precedence. The only difference we are able to discern is a different vignette on the title page (otherwise the two title pages appear to be in the same setting of type), and the licenses on the final preliminary leaf verso: ours has four, dated 10 August 1672, 25 August 1672, 17 November 1672, and 16 October 1673. The other issue contains only the first two (the settings of type for the first two appear to be identical to the ones in our copy).

D. Antão de Noronha was appointed Viceroy of India in 1564 under King D. Sebastião of Portugal, serving from 3 September 1564 to September 1568. He defended Cananor and Malaca, captured Mangalore and built a fort there in 1568. D. Luís de Ataíde, 3.º Conde de Atouguia and 1.º Marquês de Santarém (ca. 1516-Goa, 10 March 1581), was Viceroy of Índia twice: 1568-1571 (discussed in the present volume), and 1578-1581 (not covered here). He arrived at Goa in October of 1568. In November of 1579 with a fleet of 110 ships he conquered the praça de Onor (now Honnavar), then taking Bracelor, which had been a refuge for pirates. By 1570 he was able to write to the king that only 2 ships had been lost, compared to 16 or 18 in previous years.

\* Arouca C717; cf. C716. Xavier da Costa, *Impressões deslandesianas*, p. 589; cf. p. 586. Martins de Carvalho, I, 507: "com uma vinheta alegórica no frontispício." The following do not distinguish between the two issues: Barbosa Machado I, 648. Innocêncio II, 154. Pinto de Mattos, p. 204. Figanière 908. Goldsmith, *British Museum 1601-1700 STC C717*. Salvá 3272. Heredia 3267 (the Salvá copy). See also Boxer, *Three Historians of Portuguese Asia*, pp. 12-22; Bell, *Portuguese Literature*, pp. 195-8, and *Diogo do Couto, passim*. Not in HSA. Porbase locates three copies: two of the earlier issue (one of which is described as having six leaves mutilated, and worming), as well as an incomplete copy of the present issue (with "f. perforadas e reforçadas", and "aparado", lacking leaf 2A4).





*Includes an Introductory Text by Manuel Fernandes de Villa Real  
Jewish Author Later Put to Death by the Inquisition*

**9. COUTO, Diogo do.** *Cinco livros da Decada doze da historia da India por Diogo do Couto, Chronista & Guarda mór da Torre do Tombo do Estado da India. Tirados a luz pello Capitão Mel Frz' de Villa Real, Cavalleiro fidalgo da casa do serenissimo Dom IOAO IV, Rey de Portugal nosso senhor, Residente na Corte de Pariz e Consul da Nação Portuguesa nos Reynos de França.* Paris: n.pr., 1645. Folio (27.1 x 18.2 cm.), recent morocco, spine with raised bands in six compartments, short author-title lettered gilt in second compartment from head, all text block edges gilt. Woodcut vignette on title page. Similar but slightly different woodcut vignette tailpiece. Large, elegant woodcut initials. Typographical headpiece. Main text in two columns. Toning, mostly light but occasionally somewhat heavier. Some light dampstains and foxing. A few minor repairs. Still, in good condition. Old ink signature of "Miguel Osorio // Lisboa" in upper outer blank margin of title page. Older small ink manuscript inscription, scored, in blank outer margin of title page near base of vignette. (8 ll.), 248 pp., (3 ll.). ã4, e4, A-Z4, Aa-li3. Lacks final blank leaf li4. \$4,000.00

FIRST EDITION of Diogo do Couto's final *Decada*. Four licenses on leaf e2 recto are dated Lisbon, 15 February to 8 March 1628. Typographically this work resembles other *Decadas* by Couto printed in Lisbon during the seventeenth century. Might the Paris imprint have been a subterfuge?

There is a six-page dedication (leaves ã2-4) to Dom Vasco Luis da Gama, 5.º Conde da Vidigueira later 1.º Marquês de Nisa, Portuguese Ambassador to the French court, by Manuel Fernandes de Villa Real, who arranged for the posthumous publication of this work. The present volume contains at least one slight variant. At the bottom of leaf ã4 verso, the final page of the dedication, in our copy appears the printed signature "O Capitão Mel Frz de Villa Real." In the copy Reservado 247 of the Biblioteca Nacional de Portugal, six stars appear instead. Otherwise both copies seem to be in the same settings of type.

The main text begins with the arrival at Mombaça on April 10, 1596, of D. Francisco da Gama, 4.º Conde da Vidigueira, on his way to take up his post as Viceroy of India. His reign as Viceroy began in 1597. The five books of this twelfth *Decada* deal entirely with his reign, from 1597 to 1600. (He served again as Viceroy from 1622 to 1628). There are references to Mombasa, Bengal, Orixá, Ceylon, Cananor, Cochim, Malabar, Malacca, China, Ormuz, Mozambique, Manila, St. Thomas Christians, Aleixo de Meneses, the Dutch, Japan, and Pegu.

On leaf e1 Fernandez Villa Real explains why he is publishing Diogo do Couto's final *Decada*, prior to the 8th through 11th seeing the light. The final preliminary leaf recto contains a sonnet by Miguel Botelho de Carvalho, secretary to the Ambassador, in praise of the Ambassador's ancestor, the Conde Almirante D. Francisco da Gama, Viceroy of India. Fernandes Villa Real was a merchant born in Lisbon, 1608, with military experience in North Africa, where he had fought under D. Jorge de Mascarenhas. Fernandes Villa Real knew Spanish, French, Italian and Latin. A friend of Antonio Enriquez Gomez, he wrote, translated and edited several books, served as Consul of Portugal in Paris under D. João IV, and in that capacity helped the king gain acceptance and consolidate his government. When he returned to Portugal in April 1649, however, he was denounced before the Inquisition for having brought books listed on the Index into the country, and

also for having written a work whose content was suspect. In 1652 he was handed over to the secular authorities in an auto-da-fé at the Terreiro do Paço, garroted and burnt. He was a New Christian; his wife was also of Jewish origins. According to Kayserling, he was "Adhérent au judaïsme ...."

\* Barbosa Machado I, 648. Innocêncio II, 154. Pinto de Mattos, p. 205. Figanière 908. Kayserling, p. 109. Martins de Carvalho, I, 507. Goldsmith, *British Museum 1601-1700* STC C718. Salvá 3272. Heredia 3267 (the Salvá copy). See also Boxer, *Three Historians of Portuguese Asia*, pp. 12-22; Bell, *Portuguese Literature*, pp. 195-8, and *Diogo do Couto*, *passim*. Not in HSA.



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