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Silk, porcelain and lacquer : China and Japan and their trade with Western Europe and the New World, 1500-1644. A survey of documentary and material evidence

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Silk, Porcelain and Lacquer

China and Japan
and their trade with
Western Europe and
the New World
1500–1644

A Survey of Documentary
and Material Evidence

Proefschrift

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aan de Universiteit Leiden, op gezag van
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geboren te Santiago, Chili
in 1964

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Silk, Porcelain and Lacquer

China and Japan and their trade with Western Europe and the New World 1500–1644

A Survey of Documentary
and Material Evidence

In memory of Gordon Lang, whose knowledge and passion for Oriental ceramics inspired me to change my career path and pursue research in this field.

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Conversions of units of length, weight and currencies in the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries

Length

1 li = .40057 miles = .6464 km.

1 Che Foot (*che*) = 12.3 inches = 35.81 cm

1 vara = 0.836 meters

1 *palmo de vara* = 22 cm

Weight

1 *picul (dan)* = 100 *catties* = approx. 133 pounds = approx. 60 kilograms

1 *catti* or *cate (jin)* = 20.8 ounces to the pound

1 *arroba* = 25 *libras* (25 pounds)

1 *quintal* = 4 *arobas* = approx. 130 pounds

1 *libra* (1 pound) = 16 *onzas* (16 ounces) = 460.09 grams

Currency

Portugal

1 *cruzado* = 360 *réis* (sixteenth century), 400 *réis* (seventeenth century)

1 *ducado* = approx. 345 to 360 *réis*

1 peso = approx. 320 *réis*

Spain

1 *real* = 34 maravedís

1 *real de a 4* or *tostón* (1 real of 4 pieces) = 136 *maravedís*

1 *real de a 8* or *peso* (1 real of 8 pieces) = 272 *maravedís* = 400 Portuguese *réis*

1 *ducado* (ducat) = 375 *maravedís*

Spanish colonies in the New World and the Philippines

1 *peso de oro común* (1 peso of 8 pieces) = 8 *reales o tomines* = 272 *maravedís*

1 *real o tomin* = 34 *maravedís*

1 *peso de oro de mina* = 450 *maravedís*

Northern Netherlands/Dutch Republic

1 *guilder* (guilder) or *florin* = 28 *stuivers* = 0.36 Portuguese *cruzados* of 400 *réis*

1 *stuiver* = 8 *duit*

England

1 *pound* = 20 *shillings* = 4 Portuguese *cruzados* of 400 *réis*

1 *shilling* = 12 *pennies*

VOC in Japan

1 *tael (thael or thail)* = 10 *mas (maes)* = 100 *condarijn (condrin)*

1 *rial (real, rael de Ocho, Spaanse mat)* = approx. 6.5 *shillings* = 2.5 *guilders*

Abbreviations

ACA	Arundel Castle Archives, Arundel
ADEEC	Archivo del Departamento de Estudios Etnográficos y Coloniales, Santa Fe
AGI	Archivo General de las Indias, Seville
AGNP	Archivo General de las Notarías de Puebla, Puebla
AGS	Archivo General de Simancas, Simancas
AHEC	Archivo Histórico del Estado de Colima, Colima
AHMC	Archivo Histórico del Municipio de Colima, Colima
AHN	Archivo Histórico Nacional, Madrid
AHPM	Archivo Histórico de Protocolos de Madrid, Madrid
AHPNZ	Archivo Histórico de Protocolos Notariales de Zaragoza, Zaragoza
AHU	Arquivo Histórico Ultramarino, Azores
ANHQ	Archivo Nacional de Historia, Quito
AnotDF	Archivo de las Notarías del DF, Mexico City
ANTT	Archivo Nacional da Torre do Tombo, Lisbon
APMZ	Archivo del Palau, Marquesado del Zenete, Barcelona
ASCG	Archivum Storico Compagnia de Gesù, Rome
BA	Biblioteca da Ajuda, Lisbon
BNL	Biblioteca Nacional da Lisboa, Lisbon
CPS, Colonial	Calendar of Estate Papers, Colonial Series. East India, China and Japan
IANTT	Instituto dos Arquivos Nacionais Torre do Tombo, Lisbon
NA	Nationaal Archief, The Hague
NFJ	Nederlandse Factorij Japan
VOC	VOC Archives
Leg.	Legajo (Bundle)
Fol.	Folio (Page)
v.	verso

Chronologies of China and Japan in the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries

Chronology of late Ming China

Reign title	Reign period
Chenghua	1465–1487
Hongzhi	1488–1505
Zhengde	1506–1521
Jiajing	1522–1566
Longqing	1567–1572
Wanli	1573–1620
Taichang	1620
Tianqi	1621–1627
Chongzhen	1628–1644

Chronology of Muromachi/early Edo Japan

Muromachi period	1333–1573
Momoyama period	1573–1615
Bunroku era	1592–1596
Keichō era	1596–1615
Edo period	1615–1868
Kan'ei era	1624–1644