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The Dutch East India Company's tea trade with China, 1757-1781

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STELLINGEN

behorende bij het proefschrift van Liu Yong,

*The Dutch East India Company's Tea Trade with China,
1757-1781*

1

Even if the *Chinasche Commissie* took the reins in hand bypassing Batavia, the VOC China trade could not be achieved without Batavia.

2

In an age of the decline of the VOC as a whole, the reorganization of the direct China trade in the Dutch Republic created an extraordinary boom in the second half of the eighteenth century.

3

The High Government of the East Indies rather reluctantly had to play two painful roles in the direct China trade under the management of the China Committee: one as a great contributor and the other as a poor beneficiary.

4

The Fourth Anglo-Dutch War (1780-1784) and the British Commutation Act of 1784 were the two fundamental causes of the sudden decline of the VOC tea trade with China in the 1780s.

5

From a global perspective the Asian economy and not the European one held centre stage for most of early modern history. In the twenty-first century Asia will regain that position.

6

While the Dutch impact on Chinese commercial life was very limited in the eighteenth century, Dutch commercial culture is nowadays much more successfully disseminated via the Unilever, the Philips, and the Royal Dutch Shell all over China.

7

All through the history of the Chinese empire the economy has been subjected to ideologies; nowadays the economy subjugates China.

8

Drinking tea is actually better than drinking water. Water is essentially replacing fluid. Tea replaces fluid and contains antioxidants, so it has two things going for it.

9

The description of “Red-haired Barbarians” for Dutchmen rings as true as “Yellow Peril” for the Chinese.

10

Windmills and leeboards (*zijzwaarden*) were most likely introduced from China, but they were developed so much further in the Netherlands that they hardly looked like the original specimens anymore. This proves the Landes thesis on the inventive spirit of the West.

11

There is no faster way to learn about somebody’s character than by taking a person on a sailing trip, and watching whether he or she is willing to do odd jobs.