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PORTUGUESE SOURCE-MATERIAL IN THE GOA ARCHIVES FOR THE ECONOMIC HISTORY OF KONKAN IN THE SIX- TEENTH AND SEVENTEENTH CENTURIES

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OUR INDIAN scholars have been very sparing in their efforts to utilise the rich store of records housed in the Goa Historical Archives. The late Professor Pissurlencar, the former Director of the Goa Archives, did his utmost to win for this institution a place of standing in the world of historical research. But the times and circumstances in which he lived and worked had an attraction for a kind of history which could be described as 'past politics'. Almost all his published works point out to it. *Portuguez-Marathi Sambandh*,¹ which is regarded as an outstanding contribution to the history of the Marathas, is restricted to pointing out source-material for the study of Portuguese-Maratha political relations. The aim of this paper is to bring to the notice of the scholars that Goa Historical Archives have also records which throw welcome light on the economic past of Konkan during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. And it is well known that Konkan played an important role in Shivaji's strategy to control the Europeans, chiefly the Portuguese.²

Fortunately there are still several people in Goa, both young and old, who speak or know Portuguese. Therefore, one who is seriously interested in utilising Portuguese records and does not know the language should try to find some time and search a friend in Goa in order to gain some knowledge of Portuguese.

It may be noted that the language of the records is not very much different from the modern Portuguese as far as the vocabulary is concerned, but there are differences in syntaxes and a recurring set of abbreviations which one has to learn only by handling the records. Still another little hurdle is the special type of handwriting used in some documents, chiefly of the sixteenth century, although it is known as *letra quinhentista* or fifteenth century handwriting. We come across this type of handwriting, say, for instance, in several volumes of the *Goa Municipality Records (Alcordaos e Assentos do Senado)*,³ some early Village Community Records of the Old Conquest⁴ region of Goa, some dispersed records in the Series of *Provisoes e Regimentos* (Provisions and Standing Orders).⁵ This much for the language problems. The only other difficulty which arises in the case of some records is their present physical condition, but most of the records are in good shape and with fine leather bindings. As far as access to the records is concerned, the hospitality and welcome extended by the present management is remarkable: there are almost no formalities to go through by way of permission. For finding the material one wishes to consult, there is a *Roteiro* (Handbook)⁶ where the codices with their accession numbers are arranged subjectwise. The classification, however, is very misleading at times and there are instances where the dates shown on the spine of the codex do not correspond to the dates of the records inside. We hope to have soon a handbook in English, for the present Director seems to be working on it already.

Turning our attention to the matter that concerns us immediately now, I could say that source-material of economic significance for the history of Konkani during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries can be found in codices containing most of the records of political nature, and therefore scattered all over, as well as in codices of exclusive economic interest. Besides, the Religious records are not primarily of economic nature, but they also contain very important economic data. What follows is an attempt to introduce to the scholars here source-material of the second and third kind, namely, records

or *State Papers of exclusive economic importance*, and *Ecclesiastical records with important economic data*. But in considering the former type we shall select one series for more detailed analysis and make just a running commentary as regards others. The series which we have singled out is known as *Assentos do Conselho da Fazenda* or the Proceedings of the Revenue Council.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE REVENUE COUNCIL

This series of records is in 24 bound volumes, each having an average number of 285 folios. The code numbering of this series extends from 1159 to 1182, as indicated in the *Roteiro*, p. 48. The whole length of time covered by the series is 1613-1808. For the seventeenth century only we have 16 volumes and 130 folios of the seventeenth. Only a few volumes have fragmentary indexes either at the beginning or at the end. However, most of the minutes bear headings summing up the contents. With the exception of volume six, which has most of its folios damaged with water, the rest of the series is in good reading condition.

The importance of this series: The whole gamut of trade and fiscal administration of the Portuguese overseas dominions in the East was controlled by a House of Accounts or *Caza dos Contos*. The working of this body had become so complex by the end of the sixteenth century that it was given a new constitution or *Regimento* in 1589. There are two manuscript copies of this *Regimento* in the Goa Archives.⁷ The new *Regimento* created a *Meza e Tribunal dos Contos* or Board and Court of Accounts to expedite the work and to check corruption. The Board was presided over by the Viceroy and its membership included the Comptroller of Accounts (*Vedor dos Contos*) and two seniormost accountants of the House of Accounts.

The Board and Court of Accounts underwent a change in its designation and composition in 1615. The new designation was *Conselho da Fazenda* or Public Revenue Council, and its permanent membership included the followings officials:⁸ the

Viceroy, the Chancellor of the High Court (*Chanceler da Relacao*), the Chief Revenue Comptroller (*Vedor Geral da Fazenda*), the Chief Superintendent of Accounts (*Provedor-mor dos Contos*), the Royal Attorney (*Juiz dos feitos da Coroa*), the Custodian of the Property of the Dead and the Absent (*Provedor-mor dos Defuntos e Ausentes*), and the scribe (*Escrivo da Fazenda*). The Council met for its regular meetings on Wednesday evenings.⁹ The members of the Council received no extra pay or allowance until in 1668 it was decided in the same Council that every member should receive 1% from the increasing revenues and from the booty of the captured vessels of those who trespassed Portuguese sea-monopoly.¹⁰

All important decisions pertaining to matters of economic nature were discussed in the Fazenda Council which assisted the Viceroy. The importance of the series can be judged from the issues that came under the jurisdiction of the Council. For that we shall classify the contents of the whole series under a few general headings and transcribe some specimen documents for some of them along with summary translations in English.

As far as the authenticity of the documents is concerned, most of the minute-recordings bear the signatures of the Council members.

A General Classification of its Contents

1. *Purchase of food-grains from the North¹¹ and Canara* for replenishing the stores in Goa and other Portuguese forts and factories in the East. Cf., for instance, *Ass. do Cons. da Faz.*, IV, fl. 88 (Nov. 1629) : Deal with a private contractor to supply 17885 fardles (of 3 maunds each) from Bastur to Muscat for 22000 xerafms (of 5 tangas each),¹² including the freight charges; again *ibid.*, IV, fl. 163 (1630-31) : the price of a *mura* (half khandi) of rice in Bassein in 1630 was 6 patacois (of 6 tangas or little less than a Rupee), while the scarcity of rains made the price rise up in 1631 to 11 patacois; *ibid.*, V, fls. 50v-51 : Goa shop-keepers agreed to import rice from Bastur and Mangalore and to supply it to the people at the rate of 8 xfs, 3 tgs./khandi in 1639. Cf. *Documentary Appendix*, n. 1.

2. *Norms for minting money and exchange-rates.* Cf., for instance, *Ass. do Cons. da Faz.*, IV, fl. 1 : 1600 pagodas are given to be equivalent to 5000 xerafms, and 800 pagodas to 2500 xerafms, and 100 pagodas to 304 xerafms. The document deals with a trade deal with Vittala Sinay, the Ambassador of Venecapa Nayak of Ikkeri, to supply pepper to Goa (1627) : *ibid.*, IV, fl. 82 (1629) declares that the value of a golden *Southone*¹³ is 15 tangas, 20 reis.¹⁴ *Ibid.*, IV, fl. 26-126v : contains instructions of the Viceroy Count of Linhares for melting *Redillas* of silver and minting *patacois* of 6 tangas each, and half-patacois of 3 tangas each. Fixes the brassage rates of the mint officials. Cf. *Documentary Appendix*, n. 2.

3. *Employment and regulation of salaries to the state employees in administration and defence.* Cf. *Ass. do Cons. da Faz.*, XVI, fl. 206v (August, 1695) : The Public Revenue Council decides to fix the salary of the native soldiers serving in Bassein at five xerafms per month. The factor of Bassein is told to follow these instructions. See *Documentary Appendix*, n. 3.

4. *Pepper and Cinnamon trade*, chiefly with Canara and Ceylon respectively. Cf. *Ass. do Cons. da Faz.*, IV, fls. 1-1v, 42, V, 3-4, 22v-23, 97v, are some of the deals to purchase pepper from the kings Venecapa and Virabhadra Nayaks of Ikkeri. Vol. VIII, fl. 46v contains a decision of the Council to use the good services of Fr. Antonio Correa, S. J., of the Canara mission to buy up to 200 khandis of pepper from King Sivappa Nayak at the rate of 25 pagodas / khandi. See *Documentary Appendix*, n. 4. for the Portuguese text.

5. *Grants of lands and money to religious institutions.* Cf. *Ass. do Cons. da Faz.*, V, fls. 186v-187 : The Council decides that the parish priests of Aguada fort, Pomburpa village, and Mapusa as well as Calangute Churches be paid 150 xerafms each per year out of the tobacco revenues of the Bardes region of Goa. *Ibid.*, fls. 187-187v : The Council discusses a petition of the Superior of the Jesuits to free them from the duty of looking after the defence of the forts in the Province

of the North. The Council, however, comes to the conclusion that the Jesuits have shown much zeal in keeping the places well provisioned and guarded and that they should continue with the good work.

6. *The administration of customs and customs duties.* Cf. *Ass. do Cons. da Faz.*, II, ffs. 145-52v : In keeping with the instructions of the Council, the Chief Revenue Comptroller visited Salsete taluk of Goa and discovered that the administration of the customs was in a mess. The Customs House was run by a *ddangui* who had inherited the job from his ancestors and kept records on palm leaves together with some translations which he himself had made in the language of the Muslims and in Portuguese. The Chief Revenue Comptroller examined all these customary practices and ordered that a new procedure should be adopted thereafter. A new *regimento* having 72 clauses follows. This *regimento* gives the reader a fair idea of the kind of goods that came into Goa from the mainland and the duties levied on them (1619).

7. *Ship-building and ship-repairs in Goa and Bassein.* Cf. among several others, we have records bearing on this topic in *Ass. do Cons. da Faz.*, Vol. X, f. 218, XI, f. 25v, 84, 117, 163, 221v, XII, ffs. 159, 264, XIV, ffs. 30v-31, 43, 112, 116v, 118v. In Vol. XI, f. 218, for instance, the Council decides that a contract be signed with Diogo de Freitas de Macedo, the Captain of Bassein, to build 20 oar-vessels every year. The expenses of each vessel are estimated as one thousand xerafms, that is about 500 Rupees in those days (1669).

8. *The Administration of the Village Communities and the Collection of the Land Revenues.* We have, for instance, in Vol. VII, f. 80v a document of July 5, 1649, wherein considering the case of the village elders of some villages in Salsete taluk (Goa) who had transferred lands belonging to the Community to persons of their choice by way of grants and endowments, the Council resolved to remind the village-elders that all lands belong to the crown and that they cannot be given as grants or endowments by anyone else. The Council also quotes a document left by the Superintendent of Accounts, Simao

Falcao, where it is clearly stated that the ownership of the land paying quit-rent rested with the King of Portugal, and the village communities were held as tenants. Cf. *Documentary Appendix*, n. 5 for an extract of the Portuguese text.

9. *Monopoly of the Sea-Traffic* or the system of *cartazes*. Cf. *Ass. do Cons. da Faz.*, I, f. 75v, ffs. 185v-186, II f. 55, IV, f. 124v. In Vol. XII, f. 215v, dated July 17, 1673, we read that the Revenue Council resolved that two vessels of Shivaji captured in Bassein and Diu waters be returned to Shivaji's agents along with whatever was found in the vessels. In case the boats and their contents might have been sold in auction, the proceeds of the sale be handed over to Shivaji's agents. Cf. *Documentary Appendix*, n. 5 for the Portuguese text of this resolution of the *Fazenda* Council.

10. *Farming out of State Revenues.* Cf., for instance, *Ass. do Cons. da Faz.*, II, ffs. 101v-102v, 106-106v, 107-107v, 115v-116, 122-23, 128-129v, 131-131v, and several such in every volume. In vol. III, f. we read that the gold and silver revenues were farmed out to Santopa Naik for an amount of 6995 xerafms and for a period of 3 years, beginning with 1632.

11. *Sale of voyages to China, Japan and Manila.* Cf. *Ass. do Cons. da Faz.*, I, ffs. 7-7v : one such voyage was sold to a certain Gaspar Tenreiro in 1613 for an amount of 29000 xerafms. *Ibid.*, III, ffs. 95v-99 : on arranging regular voyages to China, Japan and Manila for the benefit of the Royal Treasury and conducted by the Government itself. *Ibid.*, III, ffs. 221-24v : two copies of a Royal Decree that one voyage each from Goa to China and Japan be auctioned and the income be applied to the private trade of the Queen of Portugal. *Ibid.*, Vol. III, ffs. 105-121v : gives interesting details as to the kind of trade items appreciated in China, Japan and Manila, the possible profits from voyages to these lands, and unimpeachable details pertaining to the *voyages*.

12. *Purchase of salt-petre, Gifts from and to the neighbouring kings and Judicial processes against cases of graft and corruption* are some more headings under which we could

suggest several references from this series of the Proceedings of the Public Revenue Council.

With this we stop our appreciation of one important series of Portuguese records from the Goa Archives for the economic history of Konkan during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries and pass on to some other series of no less importance.

Let us now take a glance at the characteristic features of five other series of records belonging to the general category of our classification, namely, four of these series belonging to official state papers of exclusive economic interest, and the fifth, known as *Papeis dos Conventos Extintos* (Records of the Extinct Convents), which are private Ecclesiastical records but contain very important data of interest to us.

1. LAND AND REVENUE REGISTERS (*Tomboos e Forais*)

Codex n. 7594-5 : 2 copies of the *Foral das Ilhas de Goa*, 1567 (Revenues of the Goa islands).

" mn. 7598, 3031 : 2 copies of the *Tombo das Rendas que Sua Magestade tem nas terras de Salcete, Bardes e nesta ylha de Goa*, 1595 (Register of revenues which the Portuguese Crown collects in Salcete, Bardes and this island of Goa).

" mn. 3070-71 : 2 copies of the *Foral de Salcete* 1567 (Register of Salcete revenues).

" mn. 7583-5 : 3 vols. of the *Foral de Salcete*, 1622.

" mn. 7587-8 : 2 copies of the *Foral de Bardes*, 1647.

" n. 624 : *Tombo de Chaul e Dio*. The initial 29 fls. cover Chaul (Revadanda), 1591.

" n. 7599 : *Tombo de Damão*, 1592. This includ-

des the places like Dahanu, Tarapur, Mahim, Boticer (island of Butcher or Seveon ?) and Gortogar (?).

Codex n. 3067 : *Tombo de Bacaim*, 1610. The jurisdiction of Bassein included 8 districts (*tenadarias* ou *Cassabes*), namely, Sabaina of Bassein or Bassein Taluka, Cassabe of Tana, Salsette Island, islands of Caranja, Nevem, Seveon and Elephanta. Belflor (today Belapur and Sheheba), Manora, Asserim and Bombay island, which included Mahim, Parel, Wadala, Sion, Worli, Bombay, Mazagon, Nagon, Matunga and Sewri.

All the above codices supply information relating to the distribution of land village-wise, people-wise and crop-wise, the types of measures and weights in use, the modes of payment of land-revenue and the rates of the payment. We also learn about the existing currency and the exchange value.

2. VILLAGE-COMMUNITY RECORDS (*Livros das Comuidades*)

Unlike elsewhere in India, in Goa the Portuguese protected the organization of village Communities, although these institutions could no longer have the same wide jurisdiction they enjoyed prior to the arrival of the Portuguese. They lost whatever judicial powers they had had, and continued looking after the cultivation of the village lands and supplying the Government with their yearly contribution of land-revenue or *foros*.

There are in the Goa Historical Archives hundreds of volumes of this type of records, but those belonging to the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries pertain only to the Old Conquest region of Goa, that is Salcete, Bardes and Goa Islands. An interesting feature of these records is that the extant records prior to 1620's are written in a local version of the Halkanda script but in Marathi language. There are two dozen codices of

this kind, and they had remained undeciphered until now. It is no longer the same, because we have already been offered a guide to their reading by the present Archivist, Mr. Gajanana Chankar.¹⁵ He tells us in the Introduction to his *Goan Marathi Records in Halakanada Script* that these records in the Goa Historical Archives are specimens of the earliest written Marathi prose. From 1614 onwards, the language of these records becomes Portuguese, although there are a few vestiges of *Condevi*, as the Halakanada was known in Goa, up to 1629. Cf. The *Rotivo* for the Codex numbering of this series, pp. 43-4, 223-4.

3. FARMING OUT OF PUBLIC REVENUES (*Arrenatacoes das Rendas*)

Right from the days of Afonso de Albuquerque, the conqueror of Goa, Malacca and Ormuz, the Portuguese showed their administrative wisdom by taking into confidence the natives as far as the collection of revenues was concerned. Even when the missionary zeal reached its peak during the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries, the right of collecting revenues was farmed out to Hindus, who showed greater efficiency in the matter. The Portuguese must have taken to this system in imitation of the Adilshahi administration.

The records listed below cover State revenues and the revenues of the Goa Municipality. The term *Arrenatacao* stands for auctioning to the highest bidder, and *Fianças* were the sureties deposited with the State Treasurer or the Fazenda scribe as guarantees for the observance of the contract.

<i>Codex Number</i>	<i>Title of the records</i>
656	Arrenatacao das Rendas do Estado (1658-68).
2320	Do. (1696-1756).
7836	Senado de Goa : Arrenatacao das Rendas (1650-88).
7838	Do. (1690-1722).
1369-71	Termos das Fianças (1626-1653), 3 vols.
7856	Senado de Goa : Fianças (1643-5).
7852	Do. (1695-1721).

4. FACTORY RECORDS (*Fetorias*)

It is a long series of records dealing with Portuguese trade at their various trading points or Factories in the East. These include, Bassein, Chaul, Diu, Goa and Mangalore. However, with the exception of one single volume (n. 2316) covering the period between 1667 and 1684, all the rest belongs to the eighteenth century and thereafter.

The only volume that interests us contains detailed accounts of the annual income and expenditure of the Portuguese factories at Chaul (ff. 16 and v), Bassein (ffs. 18-18v), Damam (ffs. 22-24), Diu (ffs. 25-26v) and some others. On ff. 32 we are given an overall view of the income and expenditure of all the factories on the West Coast and of Bombasa and Congo. The whole volume contains correspondence between the Chief Revenue Comptroller in Goa and the administrators of the different factories. This correspondence contains references to trade times and their prices.

5. RELIGIOUS RECORDS (*Papeis dos Conventos Extintos*)

These records belonged to the various religious Orders which had their convents in Goa and were confiscated along with their other goods, and perhaps as pointers to their vast possessions, after their extinction during the rule of Marquis of Pombal in Portugal.

The Roterio classifies these records under several sub-headings, but those which attracted our attention were the ones listed under *Contas* and *Recibos*. For the first half of the seventeenth century we could use the *Contas* or Accounts of the Augustinian monks¹⁶ in the Convent of Graca and Populo to draw lists of the prices of essential food-items year by year without break. The same can be done for the second half of the seventeenth century with the help of the Accounts of the Jesuits of the College of St. Paul.¹⁷ The *Recibos* or Receipts contain very useful data relating to money-lending and rates of interest.

By way of conclusion I would like to call upon our scholars to follow the modern trend of interest in socio-economic studies and to take pains and utilise the Portuguese source-material from the Goa Historical Archives to fill whatever gaps there may be, or substantiate further whatever is based still on conjectures, in the sixteenth- and seventeenth-century-history of Konkan, or wherever such source-material can be of help in the historiography of Modern India.

DOCUMENTARY APPENDIX

n. 1

Vol. 11, ff. 24v

Asento pera se vender o bate delrey Asentousse em conselho da fazenda prez(te) o senhor Visorey e mais ministros deputados delle que feitor va venden do o bate de Sua Mag(e) q esta no bangassal com toda a brevidade a Rezao de vinte dous x(es) a mura do branco e o mura de bate preto a dezanove x(es) e p firmeza do conheudo se fez este assento em que se asinou o dito senhor Visorey e ministros Pedro de Abreu o fez em Goa a nove de Julho de seiscientos sessenta e seis Joao B(a) do lago(?) o fiz escrever,

(signatures)

Summary in English :

It was resolved in the Council that before renewing the stock of rice in the Government stores the old stock should be sold at the rate of 22 xerafms / mura of girasal rice and 19 xerafms / mura of black rice.

July 6, 1666.

n. 2

Vol. 4, ff. 138v.

Asento sobre a ultima estiba q
se fez sobre os baz(os) e a quebra q
se deve dar de cada quintal de
calay.

Aos vinte e dous dias do mes de Marco de mil seis centos trinta e hu annos, Estando em cons(o) da faz(a) os ministros deputados delle na caza dos contos presente eu escrivao da faz(a) gr(al) abaixo nomeado Eu Antonio da Costa Pr(a) que serve de Escrivao do juiz dos feitos em lugar de Diogo Rasquinho E Antonio Fonseca, escrivao da fectoria e da moeda de bazarucoos que todos se tinhao achado na ultima estiba que em dez do dito mes de M(co) se tinha feito pelos ditos ministros sobre os bazarucoos e tratandose sobre a dita ultima estiba se asentou que posto que nella se achara quebrar em hu quintal de calaim, hu arratel E dez onsas e m(a) com tudo pela differenca que podera aver no calaim, e fundicao se deve dar de quebra por cada quintal dous arates que fica sendo sinco arates menos do que se dava na estiba antiga por nella se darem de quebras sete arates p cada quintal. E trazendose ao dito Cons(o) os ditos baz(os) da dita ultima estiba se fizerao alguns pezos delles de arratel cada hu e contandoos se achou lansar hum pezo de arratel meo x(e) e dez baz(os) e meo que nos ditos sinco arates que ha de cressenca da Estiba antiga se montao dous x(es) tres tangas dez baz(os) e meo em

ff. 138v :

quintal de calaim. Por bem do q se fez este asento em que se asimarao os ditos ministros e escrivaes asima nomeados ; fr(co) manol o fez, Joao.....

(signatures)

Summary in English :

Considering the change in the value of *kallhoi* the Ministers of the Council and the Mint officials decided to adopt new rates in the minting of budbrooks. Instead of making half a xerafin and ten budbrooks of each *arrotel* of kallhai (=8 oz.), it was decided to make two xts, three tangas and ten and a half budbrooks.

March 22, 1631.

Assento p(a) o feitor de Bacaim
Joseph Coelho ou quem o dito cargo
servir pagar sinco x(es) p mez a cada solda-
do preto q assiste de goarnicao da praca
como das comp(as) eas q levantou de novo
Asentousse em Conselho da fz(a) prez(te) o Sor
Conde

VRey e ministros deputados delle q
o feitor de Bacaim Joseph Coelho ou quem dito cargo ser
vir pague a rezao de sinco x(es) p mez a cada sol-
dado das comp(as) da Infantaria assy da goarnicao
da praca como das q levantou de novo o dito s(or)
p assim se entender ser conveniente ao servico
de S, Mg(de) e p este lhe serao levadas em conta
e as mayorias da dita paga de q se fez este assento
asinado pello dito s(or) Conde VRey e Ministros
Joseph Borges o fez Goa dezasete de Agosto de
seiscentos noventa e sinco. Francisco Roiz
vicencio o fiz escrever.

(signatures)

Summary in English :

It was resolved by the Viceroy in the Fazenda Council that the Factor of Bassein, Joseph Coelho, or whoever may occupy his place, that all the native soldiers serving in Bassein be paid five xerafins per month.

n. 4

Vol. 8, ff. 46v.

Assento sobre a compra da pim(ta)
do Canara

Asentouse em Cons(o) da fz(a) presente o s(or) VRey E
mais ministros deputados delle q se compre ao Rey
Sivapa naig atne dusentos candis de pimenta
do Canara e q o p(e) Ant(o) Correa da Comp(a) Jesus
q assiste naquella missao trate do preco della tra
balhando m(to) para q se faca o menor q puder
ser co tanto q nao passe de vinte a sinco pagodes
o candil e por assy se assentar se mandou fazer
este assento em q se asinou o dito S(or) VRey E mi-
nistros Ant(o) da Costa o fes em Groa a 6 de
Mayo de 657. Miguel Pinto Tx(ra) o fis es-
crever

(signatures)

Summary in English :

The Viceroy in the Fazenda Council resolved to purchase up to 200 candis of pepper from the king Sivappa of Ilkeri, and to use the good services of Fr. Anthony Correa of the Canara Mission to see to the fixing of price which is not to exceed 25 pagodas per khandi.

May 6, 1657.

n. 5

Vol. 7, ff. 80v.

"Em Goa aos sinco de Julho de seiscentos corenta e nove Propos o S(or) VRey Dom Phellipe Mascarenhas em Conselho da fz(a) presente os ministros deputados delle que os gancares das aldeas de Salcete faziao e tinhao feito datas e doacoes de algumas terras e propriedades a pecoas particulares sem inter-vencao ne consentimento do direito senhorio dellas que he Sua Mag(e) entredozindosse os ditos gancares por esta maneira derel-tos senhorios das ditas terras nao sendo mais que meramente Rendeiros como constava de hua certidao de provedor dos Contos Simao Falcao..."

Summary in English :

Considering the case of the village elders of some villages in Salcete (Goa) having transferred lands to persons of their choice by way of grants and endowments, the Viceroy in the Council resolved to remind them that all lands belong to the Crown and that the villagers are only tenants without any right to dispose of the lands as they wished.

July 5, 1649.

REFERENCES

- ¹ Pissurlencar, P.S.S., *Portuguez-Marathi Sambandh* (series of lectures delivered at the Poona University in 1964 under the auspices of "N. C. Kelkar Memorial Lecture Series"), Poona University Publication, 1967.
- ² During my work in the Archives of Goa I counted four foreign scholars, none of them Portuguese, but all of them sufficiently acquainted with the Portuguese language; while a lone Indian scholar who visited the Archives was ignorant of the language of the records. This sad situation has been noticed by Dr. M. N. Pearson of the University of Pennsylvania, U.S.A., who remarked in the Introduction to his article on 'The Goa Archives and Indian History' (published in *Little Used South Asian Archives with High Potential: Their Value and Accessibility; Case Studies of North India, Goa, Andhra and Ceylon*, Pennsylvania, 1970 p.1).
- ³ "The Historical Archives of Goa, Daman and Diu are one of the most neglected archives on the subcontinent.... The reasons for this are difficult to set out, but in the case of Indian historians the main problem has been an inability to read Portuguese...."
- ⁴ Pissurlencar, P.S.S., *Roteiro dos Arquivos da Índia Portuguesa*. Bastora (Goa), 1955.
- ⁵ *Velhas Conquistas* or Old Conquest was the designation given to the regions in Goa which came under Portuguese rule between the years 1510-43. It included Ilhas, Salcete and Bardéz taluks. The designation was used to distinguish the early acquisitions from the ones gained after 1763 and which came to be known as New Conquests.
- ⁶ *Roteiro*, pp. 161-88, gives summaries of select documents from four codices. These codices contain important documents for economic history.
- ⁷ Cf. Pissurlencar, *op. cit.*
- ⁸ *Ms. of Goa Historical Archives* : 855, ffs. 1-39v; 3032.

- ⁹ *Assentos do Cons. da Faz.*, *Ms. of Goa Hist. Archives*, Vol. I, ffs. 11, 135, 155v.
- ¹⁰ *Monções 194*, *Ms. of Goa Hist. Archives*, ff. 298.
- ¹¹ *Assentos do Cons. da Faz.*, XI, ffs. 150, 153v.
- ¹² Boxer, C.R., *The Portuguese Seaborne Empire*, London, 1969, p. 136 : "The Province of the North comprised the Portuguese settlements along the sixty-mile stretch of the coast between Bombay and Daman. It extended for some twenty or thirty miles inland in some districts and it was the most productive part of what Indian territory was left to the Portuguese after their disastrous wars with the Dutch and the Omami."
- ¹³ Cf. also *Índica* (Publication of the Heras Institute, Bombay), Vol. I, n.1 (March 1964), pp. 49-50.
- ¹⁴ On Indo-Portuguese numismatics refer to : A. C. de Teixeira Aragao, *Descripcao Geral e Historica das Moedas Cumbadas em nome dos Reis, Regentes e Governadores de Portugal*, Vol. III, Lisboa, 1880.
- ¹⁵ Grogan, H. T., *Numismatica Indo-Portuguesa*, Lisboa, 1955.
- ¹⁶ Cunha, Gerson da., *Contribuicoes para o Estudo da Numismatica Indo-Portuguesa*, Lisboa, 1955.
- ¹⁷ Nazareth, J. M. do Carmo, *Numismatica da Índia Portuguesa*, 2nd edn., Nova Goa, 1891.
- ¹⁸ Xavier, F. N., *Descripcao do conqueiro, arequeiro, arvoos e moedas da Goa*, Nova Goa, 1966.
- ¹⁹ All gold coins minted in Goa were given a general designation of *Santhomes* because they bore the effigy of the Apostle St. Thomas on one face. The value of this *Santhome* was normally 1 tanga less than a *pagoda* which was valued as 16 tangas, though its value fluctuated between 16 and 19 tangas.
- ²⁰ Sixty reis went into the making of a *tanga*, and five such tangas made a silver *arequeira*. It may also be noted 96 reis were equivalent to a silver *larim* which was quite current among the Indian traders.
- ²¹ Ghanekar, G., *An Introduction to Goan Marathi Records in Halakannada Script*, Panaji (Goa), 1973.
- ²² The Augustinian Religious Order came to Goa for the first time in 1572. The Convent of Grace was inaugurated in Sept. 1597, and De Populo in 1602. The half tower of the former one is still standing in Old Goa. Cf. *Cottineau's History of Goa*, Examiner Press Publication, Bombay, 1910, pp. 81-2.
- ²³ *Ibid.*, p. 75. The Jesuits took over the College of St. Paul in 1543 soon after it was established. This College trained missionaries for the whole of Asia and the Far East. This College is also known for the first printing press in Asia.