

CHRIS BAKER

DHIRAVAT NA POMBEJRA

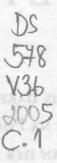
ALFONS VAN DER KRAAN

DAVID K. WYATT



CONTENTS

Preface and Ack		40				•••	•••	•••	vii
	•••				•••	•••	•••	• • •	ix
Introduction: Ay				at Tho	ng, the	Dutch	ı, and		
Jeremias van	Vliet	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	1
The Written W	orks of	Jerem	ias van	Vliet		•••			33
Diary of the Translated an			•	,			•••		35
Description Translated by						 ris Bak	er	•••	89
The Short H Translated by							 t		179
Historical Ad Translated by and Chris Bai	Alfons					-	 na Pom	 bejra	245
Appendices									
I Structure	of Gov	ze rn me	ent						323
II Table of			•••						326
III Dynastic	_		•••						328
IV Yamada				•••		•••	•••	•••	329
iv ramada	Tagaii	lasa	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	347
Glossary	•••							•••	331
T3 11 11 1	•••			•••	•••	•••	•••		333
Index							•••		339



This publication was made possible by a grant from The James H. W. Thompson Foundation.

© 2005 by Chris Baker and Alfons van der Kraan

All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission in writing of the publisher.

> ISBN-10: 974-9575-81-4 ISBN-13: 978-974-9575-81-9

First published in 2005 by
Silkworm Books
6 Sukkasem Road, T. Suthep
Chiang Mai 50200, Thailand
E-mail: info@silkwormbooks.com
Website: www.silkwormbooks.com

Cover: "Judea" painting reproduced with the permission from the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam.

Set in 10 pt. Janson Text by SilkType

Printed by O. S. Printing House, Bangkok

Van Vliet's Siam

CHRIS BAKER • DHIRAVAT NA POMBEJRA
ALFONS VAN DER KRAAN • DAVID K. WYATT

The most detailed and fascinating account of old Siam was written by Dutch merchant Jeremias Van Vliet between 1636 and 1640 in four works: the earliest surviving chronicle of Siam's history; a wide-ranging description of the kingdom's geography, economy, society, politics, and religion; a blow-by-blow account of a bloody struggle over the crown; and the Dutchman's day-by-day diary during a crisis. Here they appear together in English translation for the first time.

Jeremias Van Vliet went to the east to make his fortune. He became head of the Dutch Factory in Ayutthaya, and later was convicted of massive corruption. His writings offer an intimate view of a major Asian port, the politics of its court, and early European merchant activity. The Diary of the Picnic Incident is printed here for the first time. The Historical Account appears in a totally new translation from the original old Dutch text, correcting the major errors and omissions in earlier versions. The Description and Short, History reproduce the earlier translations with new annotation and analysis. The editors add new details on Van Vliet's life, the Dutch community, the city of Ayutthaya, and the court of King Prasat Thong, which set this ordinary merchant's extraordinary literary work into its context of time and place.

