

# GLOSSARY

## A

- Achar:** Pickles.
- Alcatief, alcatieven:** Carpets. From the Arabic *al-katifah* named after the city of Al Qatif near the Persian Gulf.
- Ambergris:** Yellowish, fragrant, hard, oily substance from the intestines of a sperm whale, used as perfume or for medicine.
- Andon:** 行灯. Japanese standing lantern.
- Areca:** Betel nut (*pinang*), the fruit of the areca palm, *Areca catechu*. It contains a stimulating alkaloid and tannins, which give it a pleasantly astringent taste. An extract of the nut is used as a worming agent for animals. Crushed nuts are mixed with lime and *catechu* and wrapped in a betel leaf (from the *Piper betle*) to form a small package, which is chewed. These packages, *pan* or *sirih*, are mildly stimulating and popular in the Indian subcontinent and South-East Asia.
- Armozijn, armozijnen:** Armozeen. Thin silk or satin-like fabric, often used as lining, named after the place of Hormuz.
- Assistent:** Assistant, clerk, ranked below a bookkeeper.

## B

- Baatjes:** from → Kabaai
- Balsamum Copaivae:** Balsam taken from several *Copaifera* species. Promotes urination and used to cure inflammations of the genitourinary tract.
- Balsamum Peruvianum:** Balsam taken from the *Myroxylon Pereira* tree. Internally used to treat dysentery; externally to cleanse and heal wounds and ulcers.
- Barge:** A small sailing vessel with one deck. A big one, the *hofreisbark*, was hired every year by the Dutch to sail them between Shimonoseki and Osaka on their way to Edo and back.
- Berloquen:** Small objects attached to a watch chain.
- Bas:** Swivel gun.
- Benjuin:** Benzoin. Fragrant balsamic resin obtained as exudation from *Styrax benzoin*. White or yellow in colour. Used for medicine and fragrances.
- Benzoin** → Benjuin
- Bima:** Kingdom on East Sumbawa. From here sapanwood was exported by the VOC.
- Boekhouder:** Bookkeeper, ranked below the sworn scribe.
- Boeklio:** *Bukuryō/Fukuryō* 茯苓. The fungus *Pachy- ma cocos* (*Poria cocos*) or orange poria. In Japanese classics used in the treatment of palpitations and muscle spasms. An article of export of the Chinese.
- Boklieden/Bokluiden:** Japanese workmen on De- shima.

- Bokman** → Boklieden
- Bon Festival** → Lampjesfeest
- Bongiois, bongioisen** [Opper-, onder-]: The etymology of this word is not entirely clear: most probably it is derived from the Japanese *bugyō-shū* 奉行衆, denoting officers of the Nagasaki governor, generally entrusted with guard and inspection duties. There were several ranks, like *opperbongiois* (senior) and *onderbongiois* (junior). During the court journey an *opperbongiois* and a couple of *onderbongioisen* or *bongioisen* of the city, appointed by the Nagasaki governor, acted as escort. The *opperbongioisen* alternated with other officers from Edo every year.
- Boodschapper** → Zaakbezorger
- Boontje:** *Ichibu* 一分. A small gold coin worth 1/4 *koban* 小判.
- Boos, bozen:** *Bōzu* 坊主. A priest, but in the diaries generally denoting the private secretaries of the Shogun with a shaven head.
- Bōzu** → Boos
- Bosschieter:** Able seaman
- Bottelier:** Steward. Ship's officer assigned to supervise and share out the provisions to the cook and the crew.
- Botteliersmaat:** Petty officer, assistant of the *botte- lier*.
- Bugyō** → Gouverneur
- Burgemeester, [Rapporteur -]:** *Machidoshiyori* 町年寄. Mayors chosen by the landed proprietors in Nagasaki. They were appointed for life and their office was hereditary. They took turns as *rappor- teur burgemeester*, presiding over the meeting of the *burgemeesters*. Every year one had to render account to the Court in Edo. They were subordinate to the governor and their authority was restricted to civil matters and criminal misdemeanours. They also supervised Dutch trade. The senior *burgemeester* was also one of the commis- sioners of the *Geldkamer* or commissioner of the foreigners in Nagasaki (*Nagasaki kaisho shirabe- yaku* 長崎会所調役).

## C

- Calambac:** 1. Resin from the finest kind of aloes- wood, with a strong, pleasant scent, used in medicine and fragrance. 2. The dried root of the Chi- nese rhubarb used as a laxative.
- Cambang** → Kambang
- Cammon:** Xiamen [Kamon 廈門]. Island lying in front of Anhai (Fujian prov.), one of the home ports of the Chinese junks trading to Japan.
- Canaster:** Wicker container.
- Candareen** → Condrijn
- Capitain/Kapitan:** A ship's captain. The word *kapi-*

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*tan* カピタン was also the Japanese title for the *opperhoofd*.

**Caret:** Tortoiseshell, imported by the Dutch and the Chinese. Used to make, among other things, combs and hairpins. In some years it was banned.

**Caseros, caserosen** [Opper-, onder-]: Officers (*kumigashira* 組頭) who assisted the *otonas* 乙名 and deputized for them. The supervision of the warehouses on Deshima was entrusted to their care. The chief *caseros* was a Deshima *otona*. Also used in the broader sense of owner of the buildings on Deshima.

**Casjes** → *kasjes* → *pitjes*

**Catechu** → *Catjoek*

**Catjoek:** Catechu. Dried decoction of the pith of the *Acacia Catechu*, an ingredient for the *sirih*-chew and also used as a styptic medicine.

**Catty:** A unit of weight: 1 catty = 1 1/4 Amsterdam lb; 100 catties = 125 lbs = 1 picul.

**Cavallos:** Iōjima 伊王島. Island in the Bay of Nagasaki.

**Chaya:** *chaya* 茶屋. Japanese teahouse; rest house along the road.

**Cherchanijs:** A kind of silk fabric from Bengal.

**Cheveaux de frise:** A line of spikes or nails fixed along the top of a railing or wall to repel intruders.

**Chirurgijn:** Surgeon, without an academic degree.

**Chūjō sama** → *Tjusjo Samma*

**Chūnagon:** 中納言. Title of the third rank officially bestowed by the Emperor, inferior to the title *dainagon* 大納言.

**Cloth rash** → *Lakenras*

**Coggel:** Japanese pimp.

**Commelmaas, commelmasen:** *Katsuo bushi* 鱧節. Dried bonito. Dried strips of bonito were often presented as complimentary gifts.

**Commissaris van 's keizers reparatien:** *Sakuji bugyō* 作事奉行. Superintendent of works. He was sometimes called *Gouverneur van 's keizers reparatie* or *Reparatiemeester*.

**Commissaris der vreemdelingen:** Commissioner of the foreigners. There were two *commissarissen der vreemdelingen* to look after the affairs of the foreigners in Edo and Nagasaki. They were usually appointed from among the ranks of *sakuji bugyō* 作事奉行 (superintendents of works, surveyors) and *shūmon aratame yaku* 宗門改役 (religious inspectors) or *ōmetsuke* 大目付 [inspectors general]. See also *Burgemeester*.

**Commissioner of the foreigners** → *Commissaris der vreemdelingen*

**Compradoor:** A member of the *kompura nakama* コンプラ仲間 (Guild of Compradors). They supplied the Dutch on Deshima with provisions and trifles.

**Conderijn:** Candareen, 0.01 tael.

**Connemon:** *Kōnomono* 香物. Japanese pickles.

**Cora:** Kora. A variety of Bengali silk further subdivided in *dom* and *ceem*.

**Councillor** → *Rijksraad*

**Court journey** → *Hofreis*

**Croonras, croonrassen:** Crown-rash. First quality ras, twilled woollen or silk fabric that was shorn.

**Crown-rash** → *Croonras*

### D

**Daats:** Steelyard. From the Chinese *daqing*. A kind of balance with a short arm to take the thing weighed and a long graduated arm along which a weight is moved till it balances this.

**Dainagon:** 大納言. Title of the third rank officially bestowed by the Emperor, superior to the title of *chūnagon* 中納言.

**Dairi:** 内裏. The palace of the Japanese Emperor in Miyako, hence the Emperor himself. The Dutch made a distinction between the *Dairi*, 'geestelijke keizer' (spiritual emperor), and the 'wereldse keizer' (temporal emperor), the Shogun 將軍. In the diaries the word 'keizer' denotes the Shogun and it has throughout been translated as such.

**Dammer** → *Waxdammer*

**Derde meester** → *Opperreester*

**Derdewaak:** Sub-lieutenant in the VOC. He ranked below the *opperstuurman* (first mate) and *onderstuurman* (second mate).

**D'herrijs:** Also referred to as 'monsterstoffen,' silk fabric from Bengal.

**Dispencier:** Dispenser, store-keeper.

**Doll's Festival** → *Popjesfeest*

**Dom:** Variety of → *Cora* silk

**Dongrij:** Dungaree. Cheap cotton fabric used as packing material for more expensive fabrics like silk.

**Doorn:** One of the fireproof warehouses (the *ro-nokura* ろノ蔵) on Deshima, where the piece-goods were stored. See also *Lelie*.

**Dōshin** → *Doosen*

**Doosen:** *Dōshin* 同心. Lowest-ranking guardsmen, footsoldiers, clerks of *yoriki* 与力.

**Drab de Dames:** Kind of thin woollen cloth, imported by the Dutch in Japan.

**Dubbeltje:** A double stiver. Silver coin worth two *stuivers*.

**Ducaton:** Silver coin worth 63 'heavy' *stuivers*.

**Dungaree** → *Dongrij*

**Dwarskijker:** *Metsuke* 目付. Any kind of inspector; checker of officials. See also *Tolk*.

### E

**Eerste rijksbestierder:** *Tairō* 大老. Great Councillor. This office was not always occupied. It was largely of symbolical value and politically not a powerful one within the Tokugawa bureaucracy. In 1784, Ii Kamon-no-kami Naohide was appointed as Great Councillor. He resigned in 1787.

**Emplastrum de ranis cum mercurio:** Plaster against joint disease, pain, swelling and venereal ulcers. 'De ranis' since frogs washed in wine were added.

**Envoys of the Emperor** → *Gezanten van de Dairi*

Escort → Geleider

## F

**Fabita:** White, glossy silk fabric of the finest quality.

**Faktoor:** *Goyōmono yaku* 御用物役. Agent who administered the property of the Shogun. He was one of the *toshiyorishū* 年寄衆, often belonging to the Takagi family and traditionally named Sakumon.

**Fassak:** *Hassaku* 八朔. An exchange of presents that formerly took place between masters and servants on the first day of the eighth lunar month. The ceremony took the nature of a festival celebrating good relations. The citizens and officials of Nagasaki presented both governors with gifts, which the Dutch were also obliged to do. They also called it the *Nagasaki recognitie*.

**Fassembakkoos:** *Hasamibako* 袂箱. Japanese travel-trunks.

**Fioosmaar/Fioosma/Fijosimas/Fioschima:** *Hiyoshi maru* 日吉丸. The name of the *hofreisbark*, the barge used by the Dutch on the court journey to transport them from Shimonoseki to Hyōgo.

**Foedasan:** Putuoshan 普陀山. Island lying next to Zhoushan, the main island of the Zhoushan Isles, south of Shanghai.

**Fokkefoeri:** Fukahori 深堀. The location of an observation post (*tōmibansho* 遠見番所), two miles from Deshima opposite the *Papenberg*. Fokkefoeri is also the name given to the dispatch boats which brought news to the Governor of Nagasaki if a ship or ships had been spotted out at sea.

Fukahori → Fokkefoeri

**Fushin bugyō:** 普請奉行. Superintendent of public works. See also *Opsiender van 's keizers gebouwen/werken*, *reparatiemeester*.

## G

**Gantang/Ganting:** Measure of weight. 12.5 Amsterdam pounds or 0.1 picol, but also a cubic measure of appr. 8.5 litre.

**Garrioffel nagelen:** Prime quality cloves, imported by the Dutch.

**Geldkamer:** *Nagasaki kaisho* 長崎会所. This institution managed all trade with the Dutch and the Chinese, and was responsible for the distribution of income from this trade to the city of Nagasaki.

**Geleider:** Escort. Usually a *bongiois* in the function of *kenshi* 検使: the *opperbongiois* who escorted the Dutch on the court journey. The interpreters, catchpoles and *onderbongiois* were also called geleiders.

**Gezanten van de Dairi:** *Buke tensō* 武家伝奏. Envoys of the Emperor.

**Gielam:** Silk fabric named after Gilan in northern Persia. It was also produced in China and Tonkin.

**Gingams:** Gingham. (Malay: *gingam*). Striped or checkered cotton-silk fabric from Coromandel.

**Glattiks/Glattix:** Java sparrow, rice bird.

**Goenij:** Gunny. Strong, coarse calico or Bengali jute

used for sacking and covering for bales.

**Gongin:** *Gongen-sama* 権現様. The posthumous Buddhist name of Tokugawa Ieyasu (1542-1616), founder of the Tokugawa Shogunate.

**Gorgolet(ten):** *Kendi*. A water vessel with a more or less rounded body, a straight neck, and a spout set at an angle on the shoulder for pouring.

**Gouverneur:** *Machibugyō* 町奉行. Governor of shogunal cities like Edo, Miyako, Osaka, and Nagasaki. Two governors presided over Nagasaki, one residing in Nagasaki and the other in Edo, alternating every year. The incoming governor arrived in Nagasaki in the ninth lunar month, before the departure of the Dutch ships. His family had to remain in Edo as surety. Before the reins of government changed hands, both governors tended to visit the Dutch on Deshima and one of the ships. They issued licences to the Dutch for all kinds of purposes. The Dutch had to address the Court in Edo through them. When the *opperhoofd* was in Edo to pay his respects to the Shogun and the councillors, the governor residing there was responsible for the Dutch and supervised their activities and deportment. Four times a year the *opperhoofd* was received in audience by the governor in Nagasaki: before his departure on the court journey; after he returned; for the presentation of the *hassaku* 八朔; and on his departure from Japan. The governor was assisted by two secretaries. He dealt with matters of criminal justice and capital punishment, unless it was a matter which concerned the Shogun or shogunal affairs. In that case the governor had to refer to the Court in Edo. See also *Stadhouder*

**Gouverneur van 's keizers reparatien** → *Commisaris van 's keizers reparatien*

**Great Councillor** → *Eerste Rijksbestierder*

**Greinen/grijnen:** Camlet. Fabric made of a mixture of wool and camel's or goat's hair or pure wool.

**Grootrechter:** *Kyōto shoshidai* 京都所司代. The deputy who kept an eye on the imperial court in Miyako (Kyōto) on behalf of the Tokugawa government. As such he ranked above the Governors of Miyako. The Dutch had to apply to him for safe conducts on their journey to and from the Court in Edo.

**Grote landweg:** *Tōkaidō* 東海道. The great highway of Eastern Japan between Edo and Kyōto.

**Guilder** → *Gulden*

**Guinees, guinezen:** Guinea-cloth. Simple, coloured cotton fabric, usually striped or checkered. This kind of fabric was exported in large quantities to the West Coast of Africa, and also called *negroskleden*.

**Gulden:** Guilder. Monetary unit used in account books, equal to 20 *stuivers*.

**Guldewater:** Liqueur mixed with gold leaf.

**Gum Olibanum:** Gum taken from the trees of the *Boswellia serrata*. Used as incense or in medicines.

**Gum Therebintina:** Gum taken from trees of the *Pinus* family. Its oil increases the volume of urine

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and was used a.o. to treat podagra, rheuma and phtisis.  
**Gunny** → Goenij

### H

**Hamman:** Compact, heavy fabric originally used as scarves in the cold season or as towels. The Arabic *hamman* means Turkish bath.

**Hasamibako** → Fassembakkooos

**Hassaku** → Fassak

**Heeren Seventien:** The Gentlemen Seventeen, the board of directors of the Dutch East India Company in the Netherlands.

**Hiyoshi-maru** → Fioosmaar

**Hofreis:** Court journey. The annual journey made by the Dutch *opperhoofd* to the Court in Edo to pay homage to the Shogun on behalf of the VOC and to present him and members of the Japanese government with gifts. The audience with the Shogun was set on the first day of the third lunar month. The *opperhoofd* and his party, usually consisting of a scribe and the surgeon, with the requisite Japanese escorts and bearers, set off on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the first Japanese lunar month. The journey went overland from Nagasaki to Kokura along the *korte landweg*. From Kokura (from 1781 from Dairi) the party crossed over to Shimonoseki, where they embarked in the *hofreisbark*, which sailed them to Hyōgo. From there they travelled overland along the *grote landweg* to Edo. Normally they would return at the end of May or the beginning of June. After 1790 the Court journey was held every fourth year.

**Hofreisbark:** The barge used by the Dutch on the court journey, also called → Fioosmaar.

**Hoge Regering van India:** The High Government of the Indies: the Governor-General and the Council of the Indies. They were the supreme command of the Dutch East India Company in Asia. Their seat was in Batavia, the administrative centre and rendez-vous for the Company's shipping traffic. Besides the Governor-General there were six councillors, apart from a few extraordinary councillors, who enjoyed only an advisory capacity.

**Hokskieuw:** Fuzhou 福州. One of the home ports in Fujian province of the Chinese junks coming to Japan.

### I

**Ichibu** → Boontje

**Ikje:** *Ikken* 一間. A Japanese unit of length. 1 *ikje* = 3 Dutch ells or 6 Japanese feet and three inches or appr. 1.9 m.; 1 Japanese foot (*shaku* 尺) = 30.3 cm; 1 Japanese inch (*sun* 寸) = 3.03 cm.

**Imperiaal, imperialen:** a kind of woollen fabric imported by the Dutch in Japan.

**Inassa:** Inasa 稲佐. Mountain located opposite Deshima on the other side of Nagasaki Bay. The

cemetery of the Dutch and the Chinese is located here in the grounds of the Goshin-ji Temple.

**Intendant** → Rentmeester

**Interpreter** → Tolck

### J

**Jedo:** Edo, present day Tōkyō.

**Jisha bugyō** → Tempelheer

**Joosje:** Chinese statue of a god or an idol. It is a corruption of the Portuguese word 'deus.'

**Jorik:** *Yoriki* 与力. Mounted soldiers, enforcement officers, ranked above *Dōshin* 同心.

**Jūbako** → Sjobakken

### K

**Kabaaï, kabaaïen:** (Malay) *Kabaya*. A light cotton overcoat. The silk kimonos which the Shogun gave to the Dutch as reciprocal presents were also called *kabaaïen*.

**Kaburo** → Kaper

**Kaisho shirabeyaku** → Burgemeester

**Kajang:** (Malay) Bamboo matting.

**Kambang:** The term is derived from the *kamban* 看板 (signboard) that was put up to announce a sale or auction of the Company's goods. We can find references to this in the *dagregisters* of the mid-seventeenth century. From around the middle of the eighteenth century, the Dutch used the term to designate the officially permitted private trade of the Dutch Company servants. This private trade, not to be confused with the illegal *sluik-* or *morshandel* (meaning smuggling) was instituted by the Japanese authorities in 1685. The higher-ranking servants on Deshima all had a share in it, as did the captains of the ships. The Japanese too profited from this trade, which existed till well into the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The participants were not allowed to trade in goods on which the VOC held a monopoly, such as copper and camphor. According to Hendrik Doeff, the term derived from the Japanese 'kamawanu', meaning 'tolerated,' which would be closer to the official Japanese term 'wakini,' 'on the side.'

**Kambangcommissaris** → Kambangheer

**Kambangheer:** *Wakinigakari* 脇荷掛. An extra function of one of the senior interpreters whose duty it was to assist in the *kambang* trade.

**Kami:** Lord 守, e.g. Chikuzen-no-kami: Lord of Chikuzen. Not necessarily equivalent to *daimyō* 大名 because *kami* 守 can also refer to an honorary title, which was not always directly related to the supervision of a particular domain.

**Kan, kannen:** A cubic unit of appr. 1.5 liter, or 10 *mutsjes*. Also called a *flapkan*

**Kanjō bugyō** → Rekenmeester

**Kaper:** *Kaburo* (*kamuro* 禿). Young female pages who attended to the courtisans.

**Karikam, karikams:** Simple, plain, red or blue fabrics, mostly from Gujarat.

GLOSSARY

- Kasjes:** Cash, *caixas* → Pitjes.  
**Kastelijns** → Stadhouder  
**Keizers- en Keizerinnewachten:** The shogunal guards (*gobansho* 御番所) at Tomachi 戸町 and Nishidomari 西泊, and the patrol boats guarding the entrance of Nagasaki Bay. The *daimyō* 大名 of Hizen and Chikuzen were alternately in charge of them. The guards replaced each other every 100 days.  
**Kelder:** Cellaret. Box with compartments containing several (square) bottles of alcoholic beverages.  
**Kennislieden/Kennisliuden:** *Mekiki* 目利. Japanese officials who sorted the presents for the Court, in particular the raskins.  
**Kharradherrijs:** Striped gingham.  
**Kleine landweg** → Korte landweg  
**Klipzuigers:** *Awabi* 鮑, abalone. Edible mollusc with ear-shaped shell lined with mother-of-pearl, sea-ear. Exported in dried form by the Chinese.  
**Koban:** 小判 Gold coin. The highest denomination in ordinary circulation. It was valued at six to eight *tael*. Its size and purity would vary but its value was appr. equal to one-seventh of an *ōban* 大判.  
**Koku:** 石. Measure of capacity of appr. 180.9 litre. From the 16<sup>th</sup> century onwards the revenues of *daimyō* 大名 and the salaries of officials were estimated in *koku* of rice. A revenue of at least 10,000 *koku* was necessary to entitle one to the rank of *daimyō*.  
**Komabaars:** Sailor's blanket.  
**Kompira:** Konpira 金比羅. Mountain located on the north-west side of Nagasaki. From the shrine at its feet, the Konpira Jinja, one had a beautiful view over Nagasaki Bay.  
**Koopman [Opper-, onder-]:** Merchant [Senior -, junior -]. The highest position, that of *opperhoofd* (chief of a factory), was held by a senior merchant. The next lower rank was that of merchant, and the next lower that of junior merchant. Below them ranked the assistants.  
**Korte landweg:** *Nagasaki-ji* 長崎路. The 'highway' from Nagasaki to Dairi. The Dutch travelled along this road to Kokura (after 1781 to Dairi) from where they crossed over to Shimonoese by boat.  
**Koseto/Cosido:** 小瀬戸. One of the observation posts (*tōmibansho* 遠見番所) at the entrance of Nagasaki Bay.  
**Kotsūji** → Tolk  
**Kreeftsogen** → Oculi cancrorum  
**Kust:** The Coromandel Coast.  
**Kyōto shoshidai** → Grootrechter

L

- Laken:** Woollen cloth, worsted, the major commodity from Europe imported by the Dutch in Japan.  
**Lakenras, lakenrassen:** Cloth rash. A smooth tex-

- tile fabric made of worsted.  
**Lampjesfeest:** *Bon* Festival お盆. Also called Festival of the Lanterns because of the lanterns that were lit on this occasion to welcome, and later bid farewell to the spirits of the dead. The festival started on the thirteenth day of the seventh lunar month and lasted until the sixteenth day, the Feast of the Dead (*Doodefeest*).  
**Landgate** → Landpoort  
**Landpoort:** *Omotemon* 表門. The gate linking Deshima with the city of Nagasaki. This gate was constantly guarded by Japanese guards (*monban* 門番) and every passerby had to show a small wooden pass and had to undergo a body search by so-called *voelders* (feelers). The gate to the sea, the *waterpoort* or *suimon* 水門 was normally closed.  
**Landsheer:** Translated here as 'Lord.' Although '*daimyō*' 大名 is now accepted usage in English, some caution is necessary. The term '*daimyō*' denotes, ideally speaking, a lord within the Japanese feudal system who has his own domain with a revenue of more than 10,000 *koku* 石 of rice, and is thus of equal rank with the Shogun. It therefore does not refer to *hatamoto* 旗本, direct vassals of the Shogun who sometimes were entrusted with part of the Shogun's domain. It could not be expected of the Dutch to make this fine distinction. For this reason, we have consistently translated '*Landsheer*' with 'lord.'  
**Lange peper:** *Piper longum*, long pepper.  
**Laxa:** (Malay) *Laksa*. A finer kind of *bifun*, rice vermicelli.  
**Lelie:** One of the fireproof warehouses (the *i-no-kura* いの蔵) on Deshima, used to store bulk wares. See also Doorn  
**Lijfwachter:** *Sobayōnin* 側用人. Grand Chamberlain.  
**Limp(ho)** → Nepha  
**Lord** → Landsheer

M

- Maas:** Mas. Unit of weight and a silver monetary unit of 0.1 *tael*.  
**Machidoshiyori** → Burgemeester  
**Magome:** 馬込. A small village to the north of Deshima where the sampans of the VOC were kept. It was near the place of execution and, according to Kaempfer, 'inhabited by leather-tanners, who perform the duty of public executioners in this country'.  
**Mankok:** *Mangoku* 万石 = 10,000 *koku*.  
**Mas** → Maas  
**Master of Shogunal Ceremony** → Oproeper in het paleis  
**Mat:** *Tatami* 畳. The standard size amounted to appr. 1.80 x 0.90 m. Also a Spanish piastre.  
**Matsuri:** 祭 A Japanese fair. In the *dagregisters*, *matsuri* usually means the festival to honour the Shintō deity Suwa, patron of Nagasaki. No work was

done during this fair, which was held from the ninth day of the ninth lunar month for several days.

**Mercurius sublimatus:** Mercury sublimate. Orally used in the treatment of syphilis.

**Miaco:** Miyako 都, Kyōto 京都. The old capital of Japan where the Emperor resided.

**Mijl:** Mile. Three Japanese sea miles are one or 1.3 Dutch mile. One street was 60 *ikjes* or 30 *Rijnlandse roeden* of 12 feet, therefore almost the same as a Dutch land mile.

**Mijt, mijten:** Copper coin worth half a penny.

**Miso:** 味噌 Bean paste.

**Miyako** → Miaco

**Moernagelen:** Mother-of-cloves, imported by the Dutch. These were the fully developed seed buds of the clove flowers, looking like a 2 cm. long olive.

**Mookjes:** *Mō* 毛. A small silver coin. See also Tael

**Mosseltrap:** *Ōhato* 大波戸. The landing place in Nagasaki near Deshima.

**Mumia:** From the Arabic *mumia*. Name for different kinds of asphalt, especially a substance found in Egyptian graves with which the corpses were embalmed. It was used as medication, a.o against bone fractures.

**Mutsje:** A cubic unit of appr. 0.15 liter. Ten *mutsjes* made a (*flap*)kan.

## N

**Nachoda:** Captain of an Asian vessel. From the Persian *na-khuda*.

**Nagamoets:** *Nagamochi* 長持. Large trunks fitted with shoulder poles.

**Nagasaki daikan** → Rentmeester

**Nagasaki kaisho** → Rapportkamer

**Naidaijin** → Naij Daijsin

**Naij Daijsin:** *Naidaijin* 内大臣. Formerly minister at the Imperial Court, who, under the *Udaijin* 右大臣 and the *Sadaijin* 左大臣, took part in the administration of the Home Department. In the Edo Period it became an honorary title of the second rank.

**Namra(c)k** → Black liquid lacquer from the *rak* lacquer tree in Cambodia and Siam.

**Nenban** → Rapporteur tolk

**Nepha:** Ningpo 寧波 (Ningbo). One of the home ports, south of Shanghai, of the Chinese junks trading to Japan. Also Limpo.

**Neusjes:** (*Bekkō no tsume* 龜甲の爪. Caret, side parts of the tortoise's shell, shaped like 'nails' or 'noses,' used to make hair ornaments, or plectra for string instruments.

**Nombo:** Nomozaki 野母崎. The southernmost tip of the Nagasaki Peninsula, where an observation post (*Ōmibansho* 遠見番所) had been established in 1638.

**Norimon:** *Norimono* 乗物 [駕籠]. Palanquin.

## O

**Ōban:** 大判 A gold coin, only in use among the *daimyō*, worth about 45-50 tael. Its size and purity varied but it was appr. equal to 7 *koban* 小判.

**Oculi cancrorum:** Crab's-eyes. Round concretions found in the stomach of the crayfish and some other crustacea, consisting mainly of carbonate lime; it has been used, finely powdered, as an absorbent and antacid.

**Oedaisin:** *Udaijin* 右大臣 (Minister of the Right). Honorary title of the second rank, officially bestowed by the Emperor. See also Naij Daijsin and Saij Daijsin

**Oeje Samma:** *Ue sama* 上様. A honorific title.

**Ondermeester** → Opperreester

**Onderrapporteur** → Rapporteur

**Oleum succini:** Oil of amber, volatile oil obtained by dry distillation of amber (*succinum* or *ambra falva*). Medicinal use: stimulant, diuretic and anti-spasmodic; externally as rubefacient.

**Ōtsūji** → Tolk

**Oppelhoofd, oppelhoofden:** Chief of the Dutch factory on Deshima with the rank of senior merchant. From 1641 onwards the *opperhoofd* had to be replaced every year, but he could serve several terms.

**Opperreester:** Senior Surgeon in the service of the VOC. Below him ranked the *ondermeester*, junior surgeon, and the *derde meester*, third surgeon.

**Opperrapporteur** → Rapporteur

**Oproeper in het paleis:** *Sōshaban* 奏者番. Master of Shogunal Ceremony.

**Opsieder/Opsigter van 's keizers gebouwen/werken:** *Fushin bugyō* 普請奉行. Superintendent of public works. Sometimes also referring to a *sakujibugyō* 作事奉行 (superintendent of works).

**Ōsaka jōdai** → Stadhouder

**Otona:** *Otona* 乙名 (also called *wijkmeester* by the Dutch), the head of a ward, *machi* 町, in Nagasaki. There were about eighty wards in Nagasaki. They had to carry out the orders of the *burgemeesters*, but they also served as a kind of Justice of the Peace. Complaints had to be brought before them and only when they were unable to settle the matter, could the complaint be taken to the *burgemeesters*. The *otona* of Deshima, the most senior of the owners of the buildings on Deshima, supervised the cleaning of the island and the repairs of the warehouses. He was assisted by *caserossen*, the eldest of whom was second *otona* of Deshima.

## P

**Pajong:** *Payong*. (Malay) Parasol. A status symbol in the VOC hierarchy.

**Pakhuismeester:** Warehousemaster, ranked as junior merchant.

**Pancado:** Term of Portuguese origin for the Japanese system of *ito wappu* 糸割符, in which silk was purchased by the Japanese merchants as a group at a price set by the authorities in order to prevent

- rising prices as a result of competition. Originally applied in 1604 for the Portuguese, from 1631 for the Chinese, it was only enforced for the Dutch after their arrival in Nagasaki in 1641. The system was abolished in 1654 and reinstated in 1685, but lost all importance due to the growth of sericulture in Japan and the takeover of all foreign trade by the *Geldkamer* (Nagasaki *kaisho* 長崎会所). It formally continued until the end of the Edo period. This term is also used for the senior merchants (*shukurō* 宿老) who were selected as representatives of the privileged merchants of the five shogunal cities (*gokasho shōnin* 五カ所商人) who were allowed to participate in the Dutch trade. There were two for every city.
- Papenberg:** Takaboko-jima 高鉾島. The island at the entrance of Nagasaki Bay. It was called thus because it was said that during the persecution of the Christians the victims were thrown from this high island into the sea and thus died a martyr's death.
- Parcal, parcallen:** Percale. Finely woven cotton fabrics. Possibly derived from the Persian *pargālah*, piece of fabric.
- Pas:** The trading pass issued by Tokugawa Ieyasu to the Dutch, which was kept in a lacquered box in a sealed camphor-wood chest and which had to be taken to safety in case of any hazard. Also the safe-conduct issued by the *grootrechter* in Kyōto to the Dutch when they travelled to Edo.
- Pelong Festival** → Vlaggefeest
- Perpetuaan:** Perpetuana (everlasting). Durable woollen fabric produced in England, imported by the Dutch in Japan.
- Picol:** Picul. A unit of weight: 1 picul = 10 *ganting* = 100 catties = 125 Amsterdam lbs. A Japanese picul was 96 catties.
- Piering:** Plate or bowl (Malay: *piring*).
- Pinang:** Areca nut, *q.v.*
- Pitje:** Picis. (Chinese: *piti*, Javanese: *pitjis*) Coin with a hole in it. In Japan a coin worth 1 *mon* 文, and therefore as a small denomination most frequently used for daily transactions.
- Poetjoek:** Putchuk. Dried, fragrant, spicy root of *Aucklandia costus*, a species of thistle. Chief ingredient of joss-sticks. Used in medicine as a stomach tonic, diuretic, expectorant.
- Polemieten:** Called perpetuana in Japan, durable woollen cloth.
- Popjesfeest:** Doll's Festival, *Hina matsuri* 雛祭. Held on the third day of the third lunar month.
- Precipitaat:** White precipitate (*Mercurius precipitatus albus*). Ammoniated mercury chloride, used for treating syphilis. *Mercurius precipitatus* as such might also refer to *mercurius precipitatus ruber* or red mercuric oxide.
- Presmeester:** Pressmaster. He supervised the work of the coolies on Deshima.
- Prijseerder:** Appraiser. This was one of the extra duties the interpreters could be commissioned with. It could also refer to *fuda shōnin* 札商人, specially selected merchants from the five shogunal cities who had received official permission to partake in the Dutch trade.
- Putchok/Putchuk** → Poetjoek

## R

**Radix China:** Dried root of the *smilax China*, used as medicine against skin diseases.

**Rapporteur tolk [Opper-, onder-]:** *Nemban tsūji*, 年番通詞. The interpreter responsible for the communication between the Dutch and the Governors of Nagasaki. Every year the governor appointed one from among the senior interpreters (the *opperrapporteur*) and one from among the junior interpreters (the *onderrapporteur*). They escorted the *opperhoofd* on the court journey. See also Burgemeester.

**Rekenmeester:** *Kanjō bugyō* 勘定奉行. Superintendent of finance in the Tokugawa bureaucracy. *Rekenmeester* may also refer to lower-ranking accountants in Nagasaki or dispatched from Edo, like the *kanjō ginmiyaku* 勘定吟味役, *kanjō* 勘定, *shihai kanjō* 支配勘定 or *kanjō kumigashira* 勘定組頭.

**Rentmeester:** *Nagasaki daikan* 長崎代官. Intendant. The official in Nagasaki directly responsible to the Tokugawa government for the management of affairs that did not fall under the jurisdiction of the Nagasaki governors. He was assisted by a *rekenmeester*. Since 1676 the position was held by one of the Nagasaki *burgemeesters*. Unlike the governors, the secretaries, the *opperbongioisen*, and the *rekenmeester*, he had his fixed abode in Nagasaki. The Dutch scribes sometimes wrote *rentmeester* instead of *rekenmeester*. In some cases *rentmeester* could refer to a *gundai* 郡代, a regional intendant / inspector who stood under the jurisdiction of the superintendent of finance.

**Reparatiemeester:** We have translated this as Master of Repairs, because generally it is not clear which specific position in the bureaucracy is meant. In some cases the individual was known to have been *sakuji bugyō* 作事奉行, Superintendent of works or a *fushin bugyō* 普請奉行 Superintendent of public works.

**Rijksdaalders:** Rixdollars. One was valued at 48 *stuivers*. In the East it was valued at 60 *stuivers*.

**Rijksraad:** Councillor in the Tokugawa bureaucracy. There were ordinaire *rijksraden* (senior councillors, *rōjū* 老中) and *extraordinaire rijksraden* (junior councillors, *wakadoshiyori* 若年寄), who ranked according to their years in office.

**Rijnlandse roede:** Unit of length. A *Rijnlandse roede* measured 3.7674 m.

**Rixdollars** → Rijksdaalders

**Roede** → Rijnlandse roede

**Rok:** Originally denoting an over-garment. In the Japanese context, it denotes the gowns presented by the Shogun and his heir to the Dutch after the audience with both in Edo (called *jifuku* 時服, de-

noting a piece of clothing given by a superior on a certain occasion). The Company received thirty of these from the Shogun and twenty from the crown prince and also some inferior ones from the *rijksraden*: the latter were distributed among the *bongioisen* and servants.

**Rōjū** → Rijksraad

**Roos**: One of the warehouses on Deshima.

**Rosolio**: A fine liqueur made of brandy, sugar, spices and flavourings.

## S

**Sadaijin** → Saij Daijsin

**Saij Daijsin**: *Sadaijin* 左大臣. Literally: Minister of the Left. Formerly the second of the three principal ministers at the Imperial Court, inferior to the *Dajō-daijin* 太政大臣, and superior to the *Udaijin* 右大臣. He shared the administration with them, revised the judgments of the High Court, but his special duty was to superintend the affairs pertaining to the Imperial palace. It later became an honorary title to denote status.

**Sakana** → Sekaandoosje

**Sakuji bugyō**: 作事奉行. Superintendent of works. See also Commissaris van 's keizers reparatie, Commissaris der vreemdelingen and reparatiemeester.

**Salempoerie**: Salempore. Varicoloured chintz named after the city of Salemporis or Serampore in Coromandel.

**Sam(ma)**: sama 様. Japanese term of respect; Mr., Mrs.

**Sampan**: Small vessels used to transport the goods between the ships and Deshima. When not in use they were laid up at Magome.

**Santoku**: *Santoku* 三徳. A wallet carried on the chest, in which notepaper, toothpicks, a small mirror, some medicine, incense, tissuepaper, &<sup>a</sup> were kept.

**Sapho**: Chap'u 乍波 (Zhapu). One of the home ports of the Chinese junks trading to Japan, situated to the south of Shanghai.

**Sappanhout**: Sappanwood. Red-wood, mainly from Siam, from which a dye was obtained.

**Sassafras**: The dried bark of the root of the *Sassafras officinale*. Relieves flatulence and increases the urine volume. Also used in the treatment of syphilis.

**Sawasa**: Probably derived from the verb *sawasu* 髹す, which means to apply a thin coat of black lacquer in order to prevent the surface from becoming shiny. Objects made for the European market consisted of an alloy of copper, gold, silver, and arsenic, decorated with black lacquer and gold. Initially produced in Japan, but later in China and Indochina as well.

**Schairoode**: Scarlet red.

**Schanskleed**: A piece of cloth to embellish the sides of the large barge during the court journey. It also referred to the red-white-blue flag with the VOC mark on the white linen. This was what the

Japanese would call a *maku* 幕, a 'curtain' on which a heraldic emblem served to denote the identity of important persons present.

**Schieman**: Boatswain's mate. Petty officer responsible for part of the rigging.

**Schuit(je)**: Shape in which metals were cast, especially tin and iron, to serve as ballast. Also a weight of silver.

**Secretaris, secretarissen**: Secretary, *karō* 家老, *yōnin* 用人. Every Governor of Nagasaki had two of these secretaries, who entertained guests and received letters on their behalf. Like the Governors of Nagasaki, they alternated every year.

**Secunde**: Deputy-Chief of the Dutch trading post on Deshima.

**Sekaandoosje**: Box for *sakana* 肴. Food served to go with *sake*.

**Sendō** → Sindo

**Serge**: Originally silk fabrics, but later also thin, twilled woollen fabrics, often used for lining. From the Italian *sargia* (Latin *sericus*), meaning 'of silk.'

**Shamisen**: 三味線. Three stringed lute with long neck, often played by geishas and other entertainers.

**Shingoban gashira** → Singoban Gazira

**Shogunal guards** → Keizers- en Keizerinnewachten

**Shogunal Messenger** → Zaakbezorger

**Shūzan** (Jap.): Zhoushan 舟山. The main island of the Zhoushan Isles in front of Nepha and Sapho, south of Shanghai. One of the home regions of the Chinese junks trading to Japan.

**Siks** → Vlaggefeest

**Sindo**: *Sendō* 船頭. Skipper.

**Singoban Gazira**: *Shingoban gashira* 新御番頭, *shimban gashira* 新番頭. Captain of the New Guard.

**Sjobakken**: *Jūbako* 重箱. Tiered food box.

**Sjaams** → Shūzan

**Sjokai**: Dinghai 定海. One of the home ports of the Chinese junks trading to Japan. Situated on the main island of the Zhoushan Isles in front of Nepha and Sapho, south of Shanghai.

**Sjoucoutesen**: A kind of silk fabric from Bengal.

**Sōshaban** → Oproeper in het paleis

**Specificatieboekje**: Accounts of the presents given to the Japanese officials.

**Spilentijt/Spilt den Tijt**: The name of the hen-coop on Deshima. It was situated near the *opperhoofd's* house. It had a pond and was enclosed by an outer wall. The name 'waste your time' suggests that it was also a place to repose.

**Staartpeper**: *Piper cubeba*, tailed pepper. The original purpose was medicinal, mainly as a treatment for respiratory problems.

**Stadsburgemeester** → Burgemeester

**Stadhouder**: The *machibugyō* 町奉行 or city magistrates of Kyoto, Osaka and Edo. It could also denote the Keeper of Osaka Castle, the *Ōsaka jōdai* 大坂城代. The latter was also, more correctly, referred to as *kastelijn* or *kasteelwachter*. See also

Gouverneur  
**Steenbrasem:** *Tai* 鯛, sea bream.  
**Sterrefeest:** *Tanabata matsuri* 七夕祭. The Star Festival, the Festival of the Weaver. Celebrated on the seventh day of the seventh lunar month. It owes its origin to a Chinese legend.  
**Stroo:** Straw packaging for porcelain, containing a certain number of pieces, depending on the size.  
**Stuiver:** Stiver. Silver coin. One *stuiver* would make 16 *penningen* and 20 *stuivers* one guilder.  
**Sum/som:** Ginseng.  
**Superintendent of finance** → Rekenmeester  
**Superintendent of public works** → Fushin bugyō  
**Superintendent of temples (and shrines)** → Tempelheer  
**Superintendent of works** → Commissaris van s'keizers reparatie.

## T

**Tael:** A monetary (silver) unit and a unit of weight. 1 tael = 10 *maas* = 100 *conderijn* = 1000 *vosjes* = 10,000 *mookjes*. As a weight 1 tael was appr. 37.5 gr. or one-sixteenth catty. As a monetary unit, it had the value of weight of one tael of silver, which in 1666 was fixed at 70 *stuivers* or 3.5 *gulden*. In 1743 the tael was devalued to 40 *stuivers* or 2 *gulden*, and in 1768 to 33 *stuivers* or 1.65 *gulden*.  
**Taffachelas, taffachelassen:** Fine striped or checkered silk or cotton fabric. From the arabic *tafasjilah*, meaning part of a fabric.  
**Tanabata matsuri** → Sterrefeest  
**Tannij silk:** A superior quality of Bengali (raw) silk, woven using *patteni* yarn. Thanna is a place in the vicinity of Hugli in Bengal.  
**Tatami** → Mat  
**Taxatiehandel:** *Shihō shōhō* 市法商法. A measure which was introduced in 1672 to control trade. The Governors of Nagasaki fixed the prices of the goods, based on a secret bid from the ten most important merchants. If the Dutch did not accept, they had to return the goods to Batavia. This measure was in force till 1685.  
**Tempelheer:** *Jisha bugyō* 寺社奉行. Superintendent of temples and shrines. He ranked below the senior and junior councillors. In the main text we have abbreviated this function to superintendent of temples.  
**Tempelhoek:** Kōzaki 神崎. The promontory at the entrance of Nagasaki Bay. This was one of the *dai-ba* 台場, strategic sites where cannons were placed for the defense of the city.  
**Temporeel (provisioneel) ondertolk** → Toik  
**Tenjin:** 天神. The Tenmangu 天満宮 Shrine in Sakurababa at the outskirts of Nagasaki where the Dutch were bidden farewell or welcomed back from the court journey  
**Tent wine** → Tintwijn  
**Theriac:** Theriaca. A kind of universal antidote of which the composition widely varied (up to sixty-four ingredients). Venetian theriaca was valued as the best. Mostly used to treat diarrhea and dysentery.  
**Tintwijn:** Tent wine. A dark red Spanish wine made of the tinto grape; often used to colour other wines darker. Also known for its medicinal properties.  
**Tjusjo Samma:** *Chūjō sama* 中将様. Vice-commander of the Imperial Guards. *Chūjō* was an honorary title of the fourth rank bestowed by the Emperor. According to the *dagregister* of 1787, this title was awarded to the Lord of Satsuma. Honorary titles such as *Udaijin*, *Sadaijin*, *Naidaijin*, and *Chūjō* were originally functions at the Imperial Court set up according to the Chinese model in the eighth century. After the Emperor had lost all secular powers, the titles continued to be used to denote status. Although they were still officially bestowed by the Emperor, the Shogun had a definitive voice in the awarding of titles during the Edo Period.  
**Tolk:** *Tsūji* 通詞. Interpreter. The interpreters were the intermediaries between the Dutch and the Japanese. There were *oppertolken* (senior interpreters, *ōtsūji* 大通詞), (*absolute / effectieve*) *ondertolken* (junior interpreters, *kotsūji* 小通詞), *temporele ondertolken* (temporal junior interpreters, *kotsūji suke* 小通詞助), *vice-ondertolken* (vice-junior interpreters, *kotsūji nami* 小通詞並), *provisionele ondertolken* (provisional junior interpreters, *kotsūji masseki* 小通詞末席) *temporele provisionele ondertolken* (temporal provisional junior interpreters, *kotsūji masseki minarai* 小通詞末席見習), and *leerlingtolken* (apprentices, *keiko tsūji* 稽古通詞). In some lists we also find *junior leerlingtolken* (*kuchi-keiko tsūji* 口稽古通詞 or *minarai* 見習). The term *minarai* 見習 generally means 'apprentice' and is occasionally combined with other functions. There were also private interpreters, the *naittsūji* 内通詞, of which the representatives were called the *naittsūji kogashira* 内通詞小頭. Each year one senior and one junior interpreter were appointed as *rapporteurs* (*nenban tsūji* 年番通詞). This was an extra duty (*kayaku* 加役) for which the interpreter would receive extra salary. That was also the case with the office of *dwarstkijker* (inspector), the *keizerlijke boodschapper / zaakbezorger* (*goyōkata* 御用方, *gonaiyōkata* 御内用方), the *prijseerder* (appraiser), the ship's and goods inspectors and the *kambangheer* (*wakinigakari* 脇荷掛). In the 18th century, the whole group consisted of fifty to sixty officially recognized persons. There were, however, many more so-called private interpreters, including Japanese servants to the Dutch, from among whom new interpreters were recruited when necessary. A similar organization existed for the Chinese interpreters.  
**Tolken College:** The board of interpreters. The actual composition of this group is not clear. Most probably only referring to those interpreters who were serving on the island: the two *rapporteur-tolken*, the *dwarstkijker* and a few junior interpreters. *Tolkencollege* is not to be confused with the Japan-

## GLOSSARY

ese *tsūji nakama* 通詞仲間, which refers to the whole group of interpreters but probably excluding the private interpreters (*naitōji kogashira* 内通詞小頭 and other *naitōji* 内通詞).

**Trepang:** *Iriko* 海參. Dried sea slug, exported by the Chinese.

### U

**Udaijin** → Oedaisin

**Uesama** → Oeje Samma

### V

**Vertoefzaal:** *Tenjō-no-ma* 殿上の間. The waiting-room or antechamber in Edo Castle, to which only people above a certain rank were allowed.

**Vlaggefeest:** *Pelong* Festival, *peiron*. Dragonboat Festival, when boat races were held in Nagasaki Bay. It is said that this tradition originated in South China. It was held on the fifth and sixth days of the fifth month of the lunar calendar.

**Vosjes:** *Avos*, 0.001 tael or 1 *rin* 厘.

### W

**Waaier:** A unit of length: 5 *waaiers* = 1 *ken* 一間.

**Wakadoshiyori** → Rijksraad

**Wankang:** A sea-going junk of medium size, about 100-150 tons.

**Watergate** → Waterpoort

**Waterpoort:** *Suimon* 水門. The gate at Deshima facing the sea. It was only opened when the ships had to be unloaded and loaded.

**Waxdammer:** Torch. From the Malay '*damar*.' *Waxdammers* were torches of wax and were a status symbol in the VOC hierarchy, as were *pajongs*. Over the years the High Government in Batavia issued several decrees as to the persons who were allowed the use of *waxdammers* and the number of these they were entitled to.

**Wijkmeester** → Ottona

### Y

**Yoriki** → Jorik

### Z

**Zaakbezorger (boodschapper):** *Goyōkata tsūji* 御用方通詞; from 1774: *Gonaiyōkata tsūji* 御内用方通詞. This office was normally fulfilled by a senior interpreter, who had to tend to everything pertaining to shogunal affairs. He was also in charge of the negotiations concerning the shogunal presents.

**Zeecroos:** *Konbu* 昆布. Seaweed.

**Zeekat, zeekatten:** *Surume* 鰯. Dried cuttlefish.

**Zeug:** Fig. A block of metal such as tin, iron or lead. Also a measure of weight