

Notes On Transcription And Translation by Paul Michael Taylor

F.S.A. de Clercq's *Ternate: The Residency and its Sultanate*

F.S.A. de Clercq wrote in Dutch for a largely Dutch East Indies readership who would be familiar with his Malay expressions, with his occasional allusion to classical Greco-Roman mythology, and with his references to earlier navigators' accounts or to political figures in the Indies. A web-based English translation for a much broader 21st-century audience requires some explanation.

Translator's notes. Since de Clercq rarely uses the asterisk (*), translator's footnotes are asterisked and signed "--Trans."; or are bracketed as [*Translator's note:*] or signed thus: [*--Trans.*]. Such notes attempt to explain metaphors or references that were familiar to a nineteenth-century educated Dutch or Dutch East Indies audience, but might be unfamiliar to today's readers. In addition, de Clercq's own extensive Errata pages have been integrated into his text and, since this web-translation allows side-by-side access to the original, we have indicated each correction, e.g.: [*as corrected in Errata--Trans.*]. So, readers comparing passages in the two languages will recognize the source of the difference.

Pagination and footnotes. De Clercq's own footnotes are numbered sequentially on each page, beginning again with 1 on the subsequent page. In our translation, we number all original footnotes sequentially within a chapter, placing a reference within brackets to the page and footnote number in the original text. Among these original numbered footnotes, we intersperse asterisked Translator's notes as necessary.

Throughout the translation, we indicate the approximate location of the beginning of each page in the original text, to facilitate comparison with (and to encourage correct citation of) the original. (An exception is made for the Ternatese word-list, however, since the words have been re-alphabetized according to the Roman rather than Arabic alphabet and thus no longer correspond to the page layout of the original, as explained below.) Similarly, our translated footnotes indicate in brackets the original text page and footnote number. Thus our footnote 9 of Chapter 2 refers to the reader to [p. 32, n. 1] of the original Dutch. When a long footnote continues on the bottom of a subsequent page of the original (e.g., [p.33] in the same example), we indicate that in brackets as well. Similarly, footnotes have been renumbered sequentially for Parts B and C.

Transcription and updated spelling of Malay (Indonesian) and local languages. To assist contemporary Indonesian-language readers, in Indonesia and elsewhere, the spelling of Malay (Indonesian)¹ words and of words in other indigenous Indonesian languages has been updated using a standard set of conversions described below. This

¹ "Indonesian" was proclaimed the language of the "Indonesian" nation at the Second Youth Congress held in Jakarta in October, 1928 – well before that nation, the former Dutch East Indies, declared independence in 1945 and before its independence was recognized by the Netherlands in 1949. The language had previously been called Malay and is thus referred to as "Malay" throughout this text.

will help today's readers familiar with the languages de Clercq discusses, and will hopefully help non-specialists recognize place-names and other terms in this text as similar to those used in other modern sources. The decision to restrictively update spellings has been made easier by the fact that those most likely to prefer the original spelling system have immediate access to the Dutch original in this publication format.

The rules for spelling changes in our transcription of this text follow:

First, the spelling of Dutch vocabulary, all European proper names, all bibliographic citations and all scientific names has been left intact. Citations from other European languages (e.g. French) are also left intact, and translated into English within brackets [thus].

The spelling changes made to the remaining words (that is, Malay and local Moluccan languages, as well as proper names) reflect Malay and Indonesian spelling reforms since 1890, and will be familiar to those who read standard Indonesian:

The diphthong *oe* becomes *u*

Note, however, that diacritic marks above the *e* [e.g.: Boëng] indicate that this is not a diphthong, so in that case this change is not made.

The consonant *j* becomes *y* except when *j* occurs in the consonants transcribed as *dj* and *tj* and *nj*, in which case they are transcribed as follows:

dj becomes *j*

tj becomes *c*

nj becomes *ny*

Finally, *sj* becomes *sy* and *ch* becomes *kh*.

De Clercq's diacritic marks on Ternatese and other vowels are not phonemic, and have not been preserved here (though, again, they can easily be found in the images of the original book's pages). In cases where the diacritic indicates that *oe* is not a diphthong, it can also be removed because *oe* in such cases does not become *u* (see above). Thus *Doefa-Doefa* becomes *Dufa-Dufa*; *Boeong-Boeong* becomes *Buong-Buong*; *Kajoe-mérah* becomes *Kayu-merah*; and *Doë Podo* becomes *Doe Podo*.

There was no attempt to "correct" or update spellings other than making these standard changes corresponding to past Indonesian spelling reforms.

Finally, in a very few cases, de Clercq quotes at length a historic document or an earlier author with an idiosyncratic transcription of Malay or Ternatese. I have handled de Clercq's very small number of these quotes from archaic European sources (e.g., an earlier English writer who is already using "j" where a Dutch writer would have used

"dj"; or a seventeenth-century Dutch writer using "c" for the "k" sound) with bracketed remarks, or translator's footnotes in the text.

Pronunciation. Using the modified transcription noted above, we can provide some guidance for pronunciation of the words and texts. However, since de Clercq provides vocabulary items, place names, and some word lists from many languages, it is not possible to state with certainty the rules of transcription that he used in every case. Still, the vast majority of the indigenous terms he uses are either Malay or Ternate, and (in the updated spellings used in this translation) the transcriptions constitute an attempt at a phonemic transcription using the twenty-one consonantal sounds of standard Indonesian: *b, c* (pronounced as *ch* in church), *d, f, g* (as in good), *h, j, k, kh* (a voiceless uvular fricative), *l, m, n, ng* (as in singer), *ny* (as in canyon), *p, r* (as in Spanish pero), *s, sy* (as sh as in shake) *t, w,* and *y*.

Vowels (*a, e, i, o, u*) may roughly be pronounced as in standard Indonesian; that is, as in Spanish or Italian.

Ternate texts and glossary. In Section VI of Part C, de Clercq provides a Ternate-Dutch glossary or word-list (pages 245 to 318), giving definitions and some discussion of Ternate terms, including those found in the historic texts published here. Those texts, in the modified Arabic script used on Ternate, were printed and bound into the book as the final pages of the volume, and numbered back-to-front as pages 1 through 13. The word-list (glossary) is arranged alphabetically according to the Arabic alphabet, the terms themselves given in Arabic script, then transcribed using de Clercq's transcription system (which has been modified for this translation using the rules above).

In this web-publication, the original Ternate texts are visible in image-based format (not character-based), along with the rest of the original book. There is no attempt to preserve the Arabic alphabetical ordering of the original word-list (those who want to look up a word in that order can do so using images from the original book). Instead, the Ternate words have been transcribed in modified form using the spelling conventions described above, and arranged alphabetically according to the Roman alphabet. Consequently, the convention of cross-referencing in our translation the page numbers in the original text has also been abandoned for this word-list (Section VI of Part C).

Finally, de Clercq's short Index of Names (pp. 355-359 of the original publication) is not translated here because most of these names, and many others appearing in this text, can be found by searching the text of this web-based publication. Also, the page numbers only refer to the original publication, and would be different page numbers in the translation. De Clercq does include some other key words in his index, such as "*Bergers, Christen*" ("city-dwellers, Christians"); such words can also be searched in the text. In fact, these search capabilities are clearly a strength of any digital edition. These capabilities have also given us further incentive to standardize the spelling system in the careful way that has been done here, so non-specialists can more easily search for standard terms and place-names as they are commonly transcribed today.

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