

Letter from the Editors

This first issue of *Itinerario* of the year 2000 starts in a rather sombre note, since two of our oldest friends and subscribers recently passed away. Leonard Blussé pays tribute to the memory of the distinguished Indian historian Ashin Das Gupta, well known for his *Malabar in Asian Trade, 1740-1800* (1967) and his *Indian Merchants and the Decline of Surat c. 1700-1750* (1979), and the outstanding historian Charles Ralph Boxer, famous for *The Christian Century in Japan*, *The Golden Age of Brazil* and *Jan Compagnie in War and Peace*, to name just a few of his works. In this issue of our journal we publish a bibliography of Professor Das Gupta and an interview with him.

Besides, we have our regular number of articles. The three articles by Ayodeji Olukoju, Leonard Andaya en Felipe Fernández-Armesto were originally meant for the International Economic History Congress in Sevilla, 1998. But that session was never held. Later the articles were presented to a small seminar on 'Seascapes' at the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study (NIAS), Wassenaar. NIAS and *Itinerario* would like to present you the outcome of this conference.

The Editors