

# A personal recollection on navigating a ship along zheng he

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Within the time I have lived in China I have seen my culture prosper and mature into an intelligence civilization with slight worry of destruction. For a new time begins for me as I shall join Zheng He on a journey to an unknown area within west and have agreed to be the ships navigator, in which I will give all the information and detail while also creating a map so that we may not get lost. I am leaving on the marvelous expedition tonight and I am thanking my family for their consent on me going to the area. I truly hope that in my time on the Junk I will truly be able to find the great wonders that make this world astonishing.

First, I have meet Zheng He a promising man full of hope and dedication with little restraint on the normal man's thinking, and he has revealed to us what we will be exploring. He has said that we will focus on an uncharted area said to be filled with a large amount of unknown animals and an amazing amount of treasure just waiting to be retrieved. I had hoped that he would explain the militaries of this supposed civilization. He had just told us that the area was starting out and did not have the same kind of quality and drastic information that the Chinese area had accomplished so I believed that we would be safe. Compiling all of the information of the clouds formation and the constellations found such as saggitario and byxis I was able to reassure the captain that everything was going smoothly and that nothing should be to harmful for the ship, yet I had a strange feeling that something was coming and that we were going to be in grave danger.

Furthermore, the expedition is going as planned though I fear that something is approaching at an alarming rate and does not seem too pleasant.

Second, crashing of great force as my ear drums continued to pound and my body swayed with uncontrollable motion as the ships were being attacked by a large fleet of European ships. Though their size was small their amount was massive having up to fifty waiting to obliterate us as we try to fight back. We had to make sure that everything was secure within the trunks and that our silks were perfectly fine but many of the animals on our ship were bombarded and had even died by the tens. The fleets continued to drag on with pain and rage but my fellow crew members fought back and had even destroyed most of the fleets. Then a whiplash had hit me and then a grave mastery of pain came as cannons had just blasted within my area. I felt so weak and then I found a grave site as my leg looked so bloody and bruised I could not feel it for it seemed that the pain had been so extraordinary that I could not comprehend the pain as did my brain as I slowly passed out within the constant roar of the ships had continued. Adding on, as I awoke I saw my leg in bandages and the pain I felt being immeasurable as I came to see that I was on another junk ship and the one I laid in before had sank due to the merciless attack.

Third, the time seemed endless as I had discovered that many of my crew members had perished within the battle I looked in despair as I saw what seemed to be land and that of a glorious one. I took a few steps to see what the land may be like and I saw it I knew that I had no fear or grief to think about for I was safe. I had to use a stick to get by now but I could still go as I was still very injured. I soon came to the area and found myself and Zheng He being welcomed by the royal area as they had said that we had stumbled upon an area where there were bizarre creatures of stripes and large furless

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animals with enormous mass. I was truly astonished by the many gazing sites but I also thought about the beautiful area and how it truly gave me a hope for greater success. The ruler of the area said that we could take any supplies needed and that he would trade us for some of our treasures and in return we would have some of the animals that we saw. We had taken an animal with an incredibly large neck and a great amount of dots all over it adding on to its strange yellow color. Making our voyage all the will worth for as time had passed by back on the sea I could remember the pain that has been gained but also the treasure and knowledge that I have learned in the process. At the moment, I understood what it meant to be an explorer and how everything could seem reasonable for the hope of greater knowledge.

Last, I was back in my village and I had told my family of the great success that had come within the area. They had thanked the gods that I had returned and had even said that the animal that me and Zheng He had brought back was said to be a symbol of great luck and success within the coming years quite a surprise to me. I came to Zheng He after my recovery thanking him for the great journey and the friendship made reminding me of another act I must do. Concluding, I came to the graves with little replicas of the animal and small amounts of gold and thanked the many comrades I had while exploring the area and for allowing me to see greater things that very few men will ever see, and promised that I will continue to search the world for a new expedition is coming very soon and I can not wait.