

Dänisch-Hallesche Mission

A Letter To the Reverend Mr. Geo. Lewis, Chaplain to the Honourable the East-India-Company, at Fort St. George

Ziegenbalg, Bartholomäus
Gründler, Johann Ernst
Lewis, George

London, 1715

[Einleitung]

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A
LETTER

To the Reverend
Mr. George Lewis.

REVEREND SIR,



It is a Thing known to all understanding Persons, that the general Good of any Country or Nation depends upon a Christian and careful Education of Children in Schools; due Care and Diligence in this Matter producing wise Governours in the State, faithful Ministers of the Gospel in the Church, and good Members of the Common-wealth in Families. For which Cause, many Persons in *Christendom*, of all Ranks, laying to Heart a thing so needful, have agreed to employ their Cares that Way. Happy *England* more especially,

B

cially, as we understand from Accounts of its well-order'd CHARITY-SCHOOLS, publish'd every Year, hath set a most excellent Example in this respect, which some of other Nations have followed with great Zeal: But it is not our Business, at present, to make particular Mention of them.

Only this we say, that we likewise are fully perswaded, that true Christianity, and all that can make for the common Good of the *Gentiles*, at least here in the *East-Indies*, must be founded and built upon Christian *Schools* for Children, who growing up from their Infancy in the Knowledge and Fear of God, may, by the divine Blessing, become a means of planting a Church of Christ, deeply rooted in the Word of Truth. Wherefore we being sensible of this Truth from our own Experience, and it being the End of our holy Calling, that Men may be turned away from their abominable Idolatry unto the Living God, we make it our principal Business to procure, by the divine Assistance, the Establishment of Christian Schools for Children of the *Gentiles*; to which we have been likewise stirr'd up by Letters from *Europe*.

And since the *Latin* Relation sent by us last Year, gave you an Account in general of our Proceeding in the Work of *Propagating the Gospel of Christ* here among the *Gentiles*, we now find our selves oblig'd to acquaint you particularly, with *The Method of Instruction us'd in our Schools*. And to the End that they who here in the *Indies*, and elsewhere, take Delight in the Works of the Lord, might know

know what that *Method* is, we have thought fit to write this Letter in the *Portuguese* Language. Please then, *Reverend Sir*, to receive it favourably, since it is in Truth, but an Answer to a Question put by your self in the Presence of one of us, *viz.* What was our *Method*, especially in our *Charity-Schools*?

For the greater Benefit and Improvement of the Scholars of both Sexes in Religion, and other Knowledge, there are Five Schools appointed, *viz.* three *Malabarick*, one *Portuguese*, and one *Danish*.

I. *The Order of the First Malabarick School; consisting of Eleven Scholars, and one Master.*

From Six a Clock till Seven;

Those of riper Years being come to one of the *Missionary's* Chambers, do there hear a *Catechetical* Discourse on the Articles of Faith, which are clearly and thoroughly explain'd and apply'd: Likewise Men and Women of the *Malabarick* Church, come thither to hear the Word of Salvation.

From Seven to Eight;

All being in the School, learn the principal Texts or Proofs out of the *New Testament*;