

# Handschriften / Autographen

## Tagebuch von Johann Ernst Geister und Johann Zacharias Kiernander.

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Kiernander, Johann Zacharias**

**Cuddalore, 03.01.1742-27.12.1742**

September 1742

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us, of which I had my share to, and then we left him.

In the street the Renter told me that this Man resided some Leagues from hence within the Country, and had been called to Consecrate a New made Image in the Pagoda. And this Man <sup>was up</sup> ~~was~~ he, who seemingly in a composed manner could say before Company, that Idolatry was a wrong thing, and that he was drawn only by the Lord God. We returned the same way we came and passed by smaller Pagoda, where the Idols lady has her own house keeping by herself. The lamps being lighted up, and the Renter payed his Adoration, with both hands lifted up, and the same he did passing by the greater Pagoda. It shocks one, to see a Man who in his other Behaviour and Conversation shews a good deal of sense, on a sudden do such stupid things, the Reasonableness of which he cannot maintain, but must give up the Argument in a few Minutes. I set down at the Renter door once more upon his request, and having invited him to further Acquaintance and Conversation I took my leave.

31. To Day another Man signified his desire, to turn Christians with his Family. He was directed to acquaint himself, with our Catechist, and that we would not be wanting to take care of him in Religious matters?

## September.

The season being not very healthful hindered us greatly in the main part of our Business.

We went on in order to finish that part of the building which was begun lately, though it proceeded slowly for want of materials; there being a great demand as well from the Company, as from several Inhabitants.

About the end of this month we had News that our Chests &c. sent out for us last Year were arrived from Bengal, at Madras, but that our Silver remaineth yet unsold at Calicatte, because the Maratters had entered that Country with a great army, which had put

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an intire stop to all Trade. This was disagreeable News to us, and we  
resolved to write again on that Account to the Gentlemen at Madras,  
who correspond with the Society.

From the Month of April it has been one part of our Care to Instruct  
and prepare that Person to Baptism, who shewed a willingness for it.  
As he was in external want, we endeavoured to find him some employ  
or other and sometimes gave him a small matter for Charity. On our Recom-  
mending he was taken into an English Family, but the Gentleman happening  
to dye he was out of Service again. As we had pulled down the thatched  
Mudhouse where the Catechist lives, he desired leave, and some of the  
materials, (which were of no use to us) to patch up a little hut for him-  
self in one corner of the ground, which we granted him willingly, as it gave  
us the opportunity to have him near us, and observe him so much the better.  
We had no great opinion yet of <sup>his</sup> Sincerity, however we conceived hopes, that by  
further instructing him, the Christian doctrine would have such an influence  
on his mind, as to mend him. Since we had begun to build, we employed  
him for some weeks to take care of the Materials, and Tools, to look after  
the Labourers &c. and now we thought we had done what we could possibly  
do, to shew him our willingness and to excite him to much the more to an  
attention for his spiritual welfare. But about this same Time we found  
him gone so far in his disorderly Life, that without any manner of shame  
or fear, since he could hardly go a step without our knowing of it imme-  
diately, he carried things to such a degree, that even some of his Countrymen  
blamed him for it. We found him unfaithfull and deceitfull so that we  
could not trust him to send him on a message. He was Admonished  
by the Catechist and by us, and promised to mend his ways, but kept the  
same course. We therefore resolved to discharge him from that employ,  
and leave him quite to himself as for his Maintenance, though he should

have Liberty to come to hear Sermons and other instructions. Likewise we told him, that he must quit the hut which had been allowed to him, this we chiefly did to frighten him, being resolved not to insist upon the immediate execution of it. As he found by this, that we were to carefully to be deceived by him, he left us, and we were in a manner glad to have discovered his unsincerity in proper Time.

## October.

We heard that the Poor person mentioned before, had quitted his hut with a pitifull Bravery, selling his earthen Pots to other Peoples, because he thought them to be defiled by his having had so near a Conversation with the Europeans. At the same time he continued to go on in such a way of Life, that even according to the Country way he could hardly deserve any other Character but that of a downright Profligate. This plainly shews how his mind must have been disposed at that Time, when he hoped to deceive us with fair words, and we were glad, to have discovered these things in proper Time.

1. To day we received the Chests &c. from Bengal tolerably well Conditioned, considering the length of time and change of Climates, through which they had gon. We wrote afterwards to Madras to the Gentlemen Corresponding with the Society desiring their advice and kind assistance concerning our Silver which remained yet unsold in Bengal.
3. A new born Daughter of a Highgerman, who serves the Company as a Soldier, was Christened.

Towards the end of this Month a Gentleman in this place, who lives next door to us desired that his Slave boy might be admitted to learn English in our School, which we gladly complied with.

Having till now declared the Epistle to the Romans in the Portuguese Congregation and finished the same, we begun this Month the first Epistle