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(Batticaloa, Sri Lanka) Baticalo

Stock#: 76348
Map Maker: Valentijn
Date: 1724
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 14 x 11 inches
Price: \$ 275.00



Description:

Attractive view of Batticaloa in the eastern portion of Sri Lanka. The view is taken from far out to sea, with numerous tall ships and smaller fishing vessels seen. The mainland is seen to be very mountainous, with exaggerated precipitous peaks and plateaus.

Batticaloa is in eastern Sri Lanka at the edge of a broad coastal plain and was a town first fortified by the Portuguese. The Dutch fleet started its takeover of the island at this location, where Dutch Admiral Joris van Spilbergen joined with the local population to overthrow Portuguese rule. The town is now most famous for its supposed "singing fish," an underwater noise phenomenon that local fishermen use to determine directions.

This view first appeared in Valentijn's *Oud en Nieuw Oost-Indien*. . . , which was a five-part, eight-volume masterpiece which informed European readers about Southeast Asia and was based on Valentijn's trips to the East Indies for the V.O.C. (Dutch East India Company).

Detailed Condition: