

NELLE TERRE INCOGNITE

Esploratori, avventurieri, missionari e ammiragli italiani nel Sud-Est asiatico (1865-1885)

Alessandro Di Meo

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GBE / Ginevra Bentivoglio EditoriA is pleased to announce the publication of *Nelle* terre incognite. Esploratori, avventurieri, missionari e ammiragli italiani nel Sud-Est asiatico (1865-1885) (In the unknown lands. Italian pathfinders, adventurers, missionaries and admirals in South-East Asia, 1865-1885), a historical essay by Alessandro Di Meo that extensively reconstructs the history of the scientific, naturalistic, ethnographic and commercial explorations undertaken by the Kingdom of Italy in South-East Asia, with the aim of forging diplomatic agreements with the countries of the Indochinese peninsula, particularly Burma and Siam, in the second half of the nineteenth century.

At the same time, negotiations were begun with the sultans and rajahs of the Moluccas, Aceh, and Borneo, to obtain territorial concessions to be used as penal establishments, for the deportation of prisoners, or as commercial outposts, to include Italy in the Far East trade routes.

The book deals extensively with the internal political debate that arose from these initiatives and analyses the contrasting dynamics that arose from the reactions of other European powers with geopolitical interests in the area.

Alessandro Di Meo, born in 1988, after graduating in Contemporary History at the *Sapienza* - University of Rome with a thesis on the Italian concession in Tianjin, he obtained his Ph.D. at the University of Tuscia in Viterbo.

He is currently an *Early Career Member* at the Royal Historical Society in London. GBEditoriA, which has always been interested in investigating little-known historical themes, is delighted to publish a volume that, for the first time, comprehensively reconstructs the events of Italian explorations in Southeast Asia and their political and diplomatic consequences.