



ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF
THE DOCTORAL DEGREE CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY
LEIDEN UNIVERSITY

To whom it may concern.

The Rector and the College of Faculty Deans of Leiden University salute the readers:

Our ancestors, in their wisdom, have judiciously determined that students, prior to putting their knowledge into practice, on completion of their academic studies, should attempt to obtain documentary proof of their diligence and learning.

Accordingly, when after fulfilling the graduation requirements of the University, the distinguished mr. **Binu M. John** strove to attain the highest academic degree, we, the undersigned, in order to support this most honourable cause, did not only examine him in the subjects of the Faculty of Arts but we also heard the defence of his thesis submitted under the title "The Ali Rajas of Cannanore: Status and Identity at the interface of Commercial and Political Expansion, 1663-1723".

Whereas in all this he has given us convincing proof of his erudition and care, we have presented him the honourable certificate of competence [i.e. the doctoral degree certificate] to which he is entitled.

Consequently, by virtue of the authority bestowed upon us, we have created and claimed him a doctor in the approved way, and we have granted him all the rights and honours which by law and custom regularly pertain to those legitimately admitted to the doctorate¹.

As confirmation and testimony hereof, the present official diploma, signed by the Rector Magnificus, the Supervisor(s) of the thesis, and the Secretary, and certified with the Great Seal of the University, was handed over to him by us.

Issued at Leiden, on the 12th day of the month December in the year 2007.

signature
Rector Magnificus

signature(s)
Supervisor(s)

signature
Secretary of the Committee of
Opponents [being the Dean of
the Faculty]

Prof. Dr. P.F. van der Heijden
rector magnificus



¹ For the readers' information: the holder of the doctoral degree certificate is entitled to add to his/her name the title of 'doctor' (abbr. 'dr.').