*HIPPO #5*

*“Cosmas Indicopleustes on Trade in Southern India” (Chapter 16, page 417)*

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| **H** | ***H****istorical Context* | This was written in the early 6th century CE by a Christian monk from Egypt. At this time the Byzantine Empire was at its height and Islam had yet to be founded. Yes, trade was already occurring between Southwest Asia, South Asia and East Asia.  |
| **I** | ***I****ntended Audience* | This account is titled the Christian Topography. Most likely this was intended for Christian readers back in the Byzantine Empire.  |
| **P** | ***P****urpose* | The motive for writing this source was undoubtedly for educational purposes. To illuminate fellow Christians about the wealth and habits of the people of India and Ceylon.  |
| **P** | ***P****oint of View* *(P.O.V.)* | The author of this document was a Christian monk from Egypt. Therefore he talks with enthusiasm about the appearance of a Persian church in Ceylon, while lamenting that everyone else are heathens. He speaks continually about the amount of trade goods changing hands.  |
| **O** | ***O****utside Info.* | The trade in this region will only increase over time. The diffusion of technology, agricultural products and disease will highlight the interactions between groups from East Asia and Europe. The Middle-East and South Asia will continue to play a large role in this link.  |