

ing, and saluting with their cannon), and met with a most friendly reception from the Rajah of Zebu, who allowed him to erect a chapel on shore and celebrate mass, and who eventually became a Christian, being with all his family publicly baptized; an example followed by most of his subjects. Notwithstanding their Christianity, the natives were wholly addicted to pleasure and idleness. Five or six hours every day were occupied by their meals, their meat being very little cooked and much salted, making them drink much and often. Their dress consisted only of a light covering round the middle, and their houses were built on poles, the ground floor being occupied by their pigs, goats, or poultry. In the villages many houses were constructed in trees. The domestic animals at Zebu were dogs, cats, pigs, goats, and poultry, the two former being used for food equally with the latter. The vegetable provisions were rice, maize, cocoanuts, sugar cane, oranges, pumpkins, and lemons.

Magellan, unfortunately for himself, shortly after his arrival began interfering in the wars between the various Rajahs of Zebu and the neighbouring islands, and was killed at Mactan, on the 27th April, in a quarrel unnecessarily engaged in, and for an unjust cause. On the spot where he was killed a monument has been erected to his memory.

In April 1565, forty-four years after the death of Magellan, Miguel Lopez de Legaspi arrived at Zebu, having been commissioned to annex the Philippine Islands as a colony of Spain, and to convert the natives. He also was peacefully and well received by the Zebu people, but quarrels arising respecting provisions, the natives took up arms and were then conquered and subjected by the Spaniards, who founded here their first settlement, which they named the "City of Jesus," because they found in one of the native huts a carved image of Christ, which it was believed had remained there from the time of Magellan. This image is still in the monastery of St. Augustine in the city.

The island of Zebu is 120 miles in length, and varies from 10 to 17 miles in breadth; its area is about 1200 square miles. A lofty mountain range traverses the island from north to south, reducing the ground sufficiently level for cultivation to a minimum, so that although the island produces sugar, tobacco, maize, and rice, and, in the mountains, potatoes, the quantity of rice grown is not sufficient for the population, the deficiency being supplied from Panay.

The town of Zebu has a population of about 34,000; it is the seat of government of the Bisayans and the residence of a bishop. A considerable export trade is carried on, the articles exported being principally sugar and Manila hemp (abaca). The sugar is of inferior quality, and principally used in the distillery and for making beer, its value being from £12 to £15 per ton.

Zebu possesses considerable beds of coal, but the surface crop only is worked. The ship took in 10 tons to report on its quality, and found it very inferior; the price paid was 8 dollars a ton, whilst for Australian coal the price was 16 dollars a ton; small