



ancient Siraf port, if the information from Indic inscriptions is accurate.<sup>16</sup>

The discovery of the Châu Tân shipwreck off the coast of *Quảng Ngãi* province has significant implications for those studying the maritime contacts between historic Champa and the outside world. The significance of these recoveries is that they provide the physical evidence that is complementary to the accounts of 9<sup>th</sup> century Middle East and Chinese authors. The recoveries affirm that the coast of *nagara* Amarāvati was a favorable destination for long-distance travelers and merchants during the Song dynasty era. The recovered assemblages of this shipwreck as briefly introduced may be seen as one of the fullest representations of cross-cultural exchanges by the ninth century as these involve Middle Eastern traders, Chinese commodities,

and Southeast Asian ship technology. Amaravati's coast, as documented in both Middle East and Chinese maritime diaspora itineraries and reaffirmed by the Jia Dan shipwreck, appears to be the favoured stopover of the South China Sea oceanic vessels of that era.

**Fig. 3** Map of Châu Tân shipwreck.