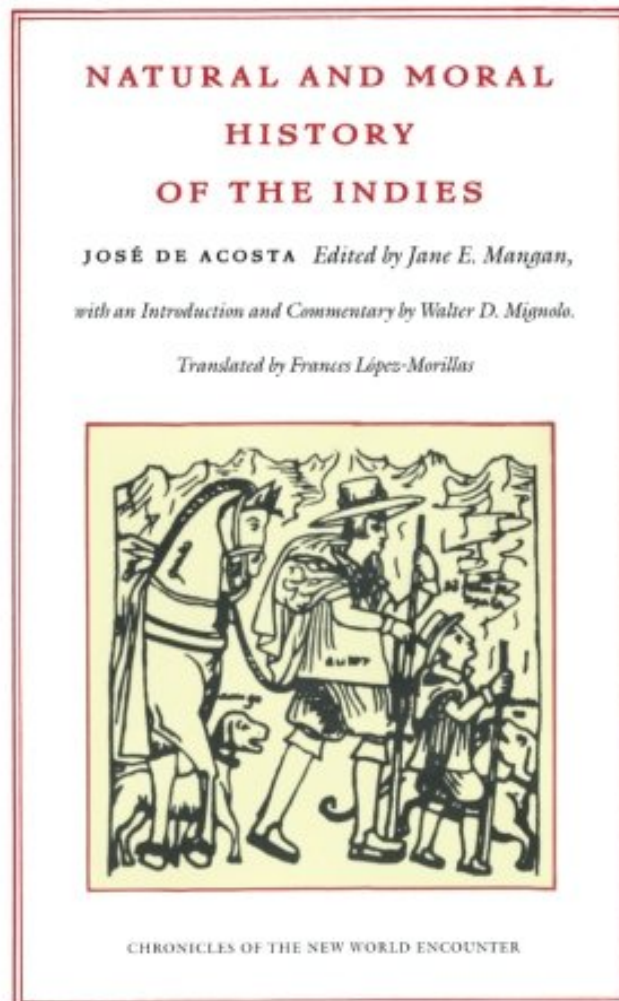


(Free read ebook) Natural and Moral History of the Indies (Chronicles of the New World Encounter)

Natural and Moral History of the Indies (Chronicles of the New World Encounter)

Jos de Acosta

*ebooks / Download PDF / *ePub / DOC / audiobook*



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#729265 in Books Duke University Press Books 2002-10-15 2002-10-15Original language:EnglishPDF # 1
9.25 x 1.42 x 6.13l, 1.72 #File Name: 0822328453568 pages | File size: 62.Mb

Jos de Acosta : Natural and Moral History of the Indies (Chronicles of the New World Encounter) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Natural and Moral History of the Indies (Chronicles of the New World Encounter):

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Enlightening history of South America and MexicoBy AkcloudwomanI bought this book to learn about the Incas, but it is so much more. The author covers Inca and Aztec

history as told from witnesses in the 1600's. It is told through the lens of a Catholic from northern European decent, and is a very interesting interpretation of local Mexican and South American culture. The author gives vivid descriptions of everything from plants and animals to the people and architecture. It is not a book to read in one setting - I have been working on it a little at a time for several months. Anyone interested in natural history and/or culture will enjoy this book. A fascinating view of what the world was like and what people thought the "inferno tropics" was like!

The Natural and Moral History of the Indies, the classic work of New World history originally published by Jos de Acosta in 1590, is now available in the first new English translation to appear in several hundred years. A Spanish Jesuit, Acosta produced this account by drawing on his own observations as a missionary in Peru and Mexico, as well as from the writings of other missionaries, naturalists, and soldiers who explored the region during the sixteenth century. One of the first comprehensive investigations of the New World, Acostas study is strikingly broad in scope. He describes the regions natural resources, flora and fauna, and terrain. He also writes in detail about the Amerindians and their religious and political practices. A significant contribution to Renaissance Europe's thinking about the New World, Acosta's Natural and Moral History of the Indies reveals an effort to incorporate new information into a Christian, Renaissance worldview. He attempted to confirm for his European readers that a "new" continent did indeed exist and that human beings could and did live in equatorial climates. A keen observer and prescient thinker, Acosta hypothesized that Latin America's indigenous peoples migrated to the region from Asia, an idea put forth more than a century before Europeans learned of the Bering Strait. Acosta's work established a hierarchical classification of Amerindian peoples and thus contributed to what today is understood as the colonial difference in Renaissance European thinking.

A superb translation of Jos de Acostas Natural History into contemporary English that has been long overdue, with a first-rate introduction by one of Americas outstanding Hispanists. The volume should prove useful to those interested in the natural history of the New World, the history of the Jesuits, and an understanding of Catholic conversion efforts in the sixteenth century. Patricia Seed, Rice University