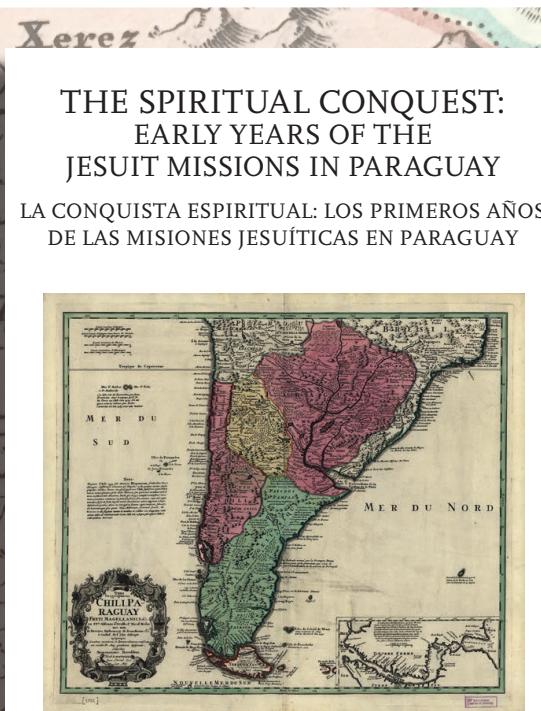


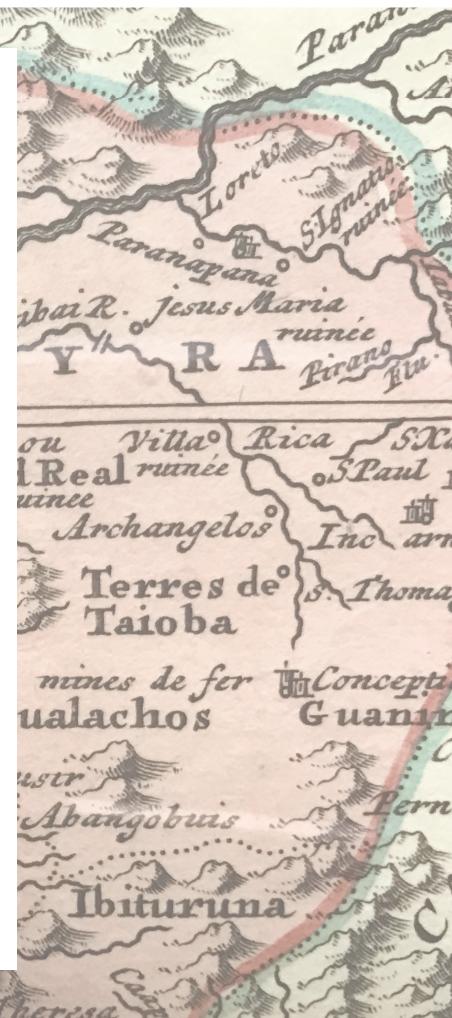
# THE SPIRITUAL CONQUEST: EARLY YEARS OF THE JESUIT MISSIONS IN PARAGUAY



Antonio Ruiz de Montoya

Translated and edited by Barbara A. Ganson and Clinia M. Saffi

Institute of Jesuit Sources  
Boston College



This first bilingual Spanish and English edition of Jesuit Antonio Ruiz de Montoya's *The Spiritual Conquest* (1639) is one of the most important sources for understanding the encounters between missionaries, settlers, and native peoples in seventeenth-century Paraguay. It is rich for what it reveals about the process by which the Jesuits converted the Guaraní to Christianity. There was an intense struggle for dominance, resulting in the martyrdom of seven Jesuits and the creation of the early *reducciones* (settlements). The volume will help scholars understand Paraguay's rich native past, as well as the Jesuits themselves, especially their struggle against Indian slavery.

## Authors

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