

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910964299803321
Titolo	Missionary linguistics II : Lingüística misionera II : orthography and phonology : selected papers from the second International Conference on Missionary Linguistics, Sao Paulo, 10-13 March 2004 / / edited by Otto Zwartjes, Cristina Altman
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Amsterdam ; ; Philadelphia, Pa., : J. Benjamins, 2005
ISBN	90-272-8533-0 1-283-09239-5 9786613092397
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	vi, 292 p. : ill
Collana	Amsterdam studies in the theory and history of linguistic science. Series III, Studies in the history of the language sciences, , 0304-0720 ; ; v. 109
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Disciplina	418.0071
Soggetti	Language and languages - Study and teaching - History Language and languages - Orthography and spelling - Study and teaching - History Grammar, Comparative and general - Phonology - Study and teaching - History Missions - Linguistic work
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and indexes.
Nota di contenuto	pt. 1. New Spain = Nueva Espana -- pt. 2. South America = America del Sur -- pt. 3. Asia.
Sommario/riassunto	This is the second volume to be dedicated to the pioneering linguistic work produced by the religious missionaries who, within the scope of the European colonial enterprises along the period 1550-1850, described dozens of autochthonous languages, many of which are only known today thanks to their endeavours. The twelve papers joint in the present volume - which dedicated special attention to the orthographical and phonological dimension of their work - provide a comprehensive picture of the descriptive problems faced by these linguists avant la lettre, notably: the difficulties faced before the less

familiar features of these languages, such as vowel quantity, accentuation, tonality, nasalization, glottalization, 'gutturalization'; the building of (re)definitions and the creation of a new metalanguage, like 'saltillo', 'guturaciones', etc.; The book elucidates the creativity and innovations proposed by individual missionaries and the instructive and pedagogical dimension of their work.
