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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.

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