

Abstracts

**The Political Dimension in Jerónimo de Mendieta's *Historia Eclesiástica Indiana* (By Mercedes Serna Arnaiz)**

*Abstract:*

The article studies Jerónimo de Mendieta's spiritual chronicle entitled *Historia eclesiástica indiana*. The work is seen as a defense of the Franciscans' universal ecumenical missionary project, quite distinct from those of other orders, with a militant political dimension. In his chronicle Mendieta defends a method of addressing the phenomenon of evangelization and the utopian promise of conversion based on the strength of the divine word, but achieved by pacific means in the style of Las Casas. Mendieta is also critical of the imposition of taxes and the enslavement of the Indians. In opposition to the church hierarchy, he approves the mass baptism of the Indians and the imposition of other sacraments, and believes in the true and authentic conversion of the indigenous peoples.

*Keywords:*

politics, baptism, sacraments, peaceful conquest, Millenarianism.