



The Royal Commentaries of the Incas and General History of Peru, Abridged

By Garcilaso De la Vega



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This new abridgment of both volumes of Livermore's classic translation presents those selections that comprise Garcilaso's historical narrative. Karen Spalding's new Introduction and notes set Garcilaso in his intellectual, historical, and cultural contexts.

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Editorial Review

Review

Karen Spalding's abridgment of Livermore's translation is an excellent example of what a sourcebook for classroom use should be. It has a wonderfully enlightening Introduction and the texts are well selected, allowing students to grasp the breath, complexity, and importance of Garcilaso's work. This book enables teachers and professors to expose their students to a unique literary, historical, and artistic production by a *mestizo* who reflects on both conquest and miscegenation in early colonial Peru. --Tamar Herzog, Stanford University

Abridging fifteen hundred pages to a concise two-hundred-page book, Karen Spalding has provided educators with a text that makes this important author accessible to undergraduates. . . . By publishing both parts of his history together . . . Spalding encourages students to compare the rational Inca state with the corruption and deception of Spanish administrators--exactly as Garcilaso had intended. . . . Spalding's abridgment of Garcilaso carefully includes excerpts from the major issues detailed in Garcilaso's rich history. --R. Jovita Baber, (University of Illinois-Champaign), in *The Sixteenth Century Journal*

Karen Spalding has taken this acclaimed translation of both Royal Commentaries and its less-often-read second part, General History of Peru, to produce an outstanding abridged version of the complete work aimed at undergraduate students but that is also appropriate for a learned general audience curious about Peru's Inca past and the Spanish conquest. . . . This is an excellent introduction to a classic of Latin American Letters. By editing both parts together and giving them equal space, Spalding enables readers to see how Garcilaso argued that the Inca leaders prepared Andean people for the arrival of Christianity and that this possibility was tragically destroyed by the greed and lack of virtue of the conquistadores, who destroyed the social and economic basis of Inca society. --Luis Millones Figueroa, Colby College

About the Author

Karen Spalding is Professor of History, University of Connecticut, and the author of *Huaro-chiri: An Andean Society Under Inca and Spanish Rule* (Stanford University Press, 1984).

Harold V. Livermore is Professor Emeritus of Spanish and Portuguese, University of British Columbia.

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