

# **The First New Chronicle And Good Government: A Fascinating Insight into Ancient Civilizations**

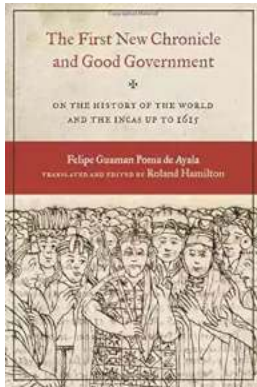
The First New Chronicle And Good Government is an invaluable historical text that takes us on a captivating journey into the world of ancient civilizations. Through its vivid descriptions and detailed accounts, this chronicle offers a unique perspective on diverse aspects of society, culture, and governance. In this article, we will delve deep into the contents of this fascinating text, uncovering its relevance, significance, and the timeless lessons it holds for us today.

## **The Story Behind The Chronicle**

Written by Felipe Guaman Poma de Ayala, an indigenous Peruvian writer, The First New Chronicle And Good Government provides a rare look into the lives, traditions, and struggles of the Andean people during the Spanish colonization of South America. Completed in 1615, this chronicle was intended as a plea to King Philip III of Spain, exposing the injustices faced by the indigenous population and advocating for better governance.

Initially written in Spanish and Quechua, The First New Chronicle And Good Government was a monumental undertaking by Guaman Poma. It is a testament to his determination to shed light on the discrepancies between the utopian ideals of the Spanish Crown and the reality faced by the indigenous communities.

**The First New Chronicle and Good Government:  
On the History of the World and the Incas up to  
1615 (Joe R. and Teresa Lozano Long Series in**



## Latin American and Latino Art and Culture)

by Jeffrey Blair Latta (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 15197 KB

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Print length : 400 pages



### Exploring the Contents

The First New Chronicle And Good Government covers a wide array of topics, illustrating the vast scope of its intent. From detailed genealogies and historical accounts to critiques of Spanish colonization, the chronicle offers a comprehensive examination of the state of contemporary society.

The text also includes captivating descriptions of daily life, cultural practices, and economic systems prevalent during that era. Through Guaman Poma's meticulous observations, we gain insight into diverse aspects such as religion, agriculture, politics, and even fashion trends among the indigenous peoples.

One of the notable features of The First New Chronicle And Good Government is its inclusion of vivid illustrations. Guaman Poma's extensive collection of drawings beautifully complements his writing, providing visual representations of the people, events, and landscapes he encountered. These illustrations serve as crucial historical artifacts, giving us a tangible glimpse into the past.

### Relevance in the Modern World

While *The First New Chronicle And Good Government* was written centuries ago, its significance and relevance remain undiminished today. This chronicle sheds light on the enduring themes of power, governance, and inequalities within society, making it a valuable resource for historians, sociologists, and policymakers alike.

The text serves as a reminder that the struggles faced by ancient civilizations are not too dissimilar from the challenges we confront today. Guaman Poma's critique of the hierarchical systems and the exploitation of resources echoes contemporary concerns about social justice, cultural preservation, and sustainable development.

Furthermore, *The First New Chronicle And Good Government* offers a platform for marginalized voices to be heard. By amplifying the experiences and perspectives of the indigenous populations, it challenges dominant narratives, encourages inclusivity, and fosters a deeper understanding of our shared history.

## **Lessons from the Chronicle**

As we delve deeper into the chronicle, several enduring lessons become apparent. Firstly, *The First New Chronicle And Good Government* highlights the importance of empathy and understanding. By recognizing and validating the experiences of marginalized communities, we can strive towards a society that values diversity and promotes equality.

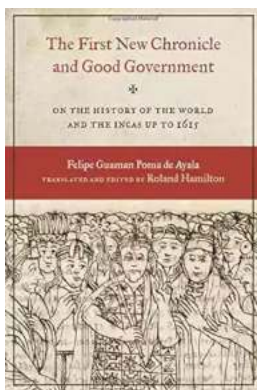
Secondly, this chronicle reinforces the significance of having a critical lens. Guaman Poma's meticulous documentation and analysis act as a call to question and challenge the prevailing narrative, encouraging us to view historical accounts from multiple perspectives.

Lastly, The First New Chronicle And Good Government serves as a call to action. It reminds us of our responsibility to create a fair and just society, shaping a future where past injustices do not repeat themselves.

The First New Chronicle And Good Government is an extraordinary work that takes us on a captivating journey through the annals of history. It offers a unique insight into the lives of indigenous communities during the Spanish colonization of South America, shedding light on their struggles, traditions, and aspirations.

This chronicle serves as an invaluable resource, providing a broader understanding of historical events and societal dynamics. Its relevance in the modern world is evident as it continues to inspire critical thinking, inclusivity, and the pursuit of justice.

The First New Chronicle And Good Government beckons us to listen to the voices of the marginalized, rediscover our shared history, and strive for a future that embraces diversity and equality.



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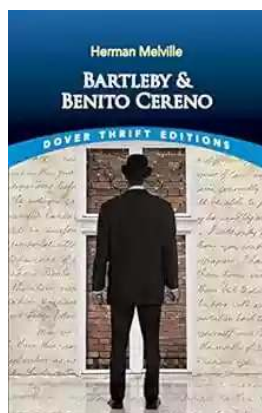
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One of the most fascinating books on pre-Columbian and early colonial Peru was written by a Peruvian Indian named Felipe Guaman Poma de Ayala. This book, *The First New Chronicle and Good Government*, covers pre-Inca times, various aspects of Inca culture, the Spanish conquest, and colonial times up to around 1615 when the manuscript was finished. Now housed in the Royal Library, Copenhagen, Denmark, and viewable online at [www.kb.dk/permalink/2006/poma/info/en/frontpage.htm](http://www.kb.dk/permalink/2006/poma/info/en/frontpage.htm), the original manuscript has 1,189 pages accompanied by 398 full-page drawings that constitute the most accurate graphic depiction of Inca and colonial Peruvian material culture ever done.

Working from the original manuscript and consulting with fellow Quechua- and Spanish-language experts, Roland Hamilton here provides the most complete and authoritative English translation of approximately the first third of *The First New Chronicle and Good Government*. The sections included in this volume (pages 1–369 of the manuscript) cover the history of Peru from the earliest times and the lives of each of the Inca rulers and their wives, as well as a wealth of information about ordinances, age grades, the calendar, idols, sorcerers, burials, punishments, jails, songs, palaces, roads, storage houses, and government officials. One hundred forty-six of Guaman Poma's detailed illustrations amplify the text.



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