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Frank Jacob

The Jesuits and Religious Intercultural Management in Early Modern Times

SERIES IN WORLD HISTORY

This book provides a comprehensive examination of the Jesuit Order's work and influence during the early modern period, focusing on their missionaries in two distinct geographical locations when the reader is taken to the distant settings of early modern Peru and Japan. However, the book goes beyond this and establishes a fascinating connection between traditional historical analysis and practical considerations regarding personnel and company management. Frank Jacob, a Professor of Global History at Nord University in Bodø, Norway, boldly interprets the available sources, specifically the "personnel files" of the missionaries, through the lens of modern management theories and decision-making processes. Despite the valid criticisms related to the religious context of European expansion during the 16th and 17th centuries, these missionaries, driven by their mission to spread the Christian faith globally, embody qualities that today's global leaders require for the long-term and sustainable success of their companies. They demonstrate, as Jacob's book will show, the importance of possessing a deep intercultural competence, regional knowledge, and proficiency in national languages.

Professor Dr. Thomas Gergen
Saarland University, Germany

About the author

Frank Jacob is a Professor of Global History at Nord Universitet, Norway. Before, he held positions at the City University of New York and Würzburg University, Germany. Jacob received a PhD in Japanese Studies from Erlangen University, Germany, in 2012 and a DBA with a focus on intercultural management from the University Jean Moulin, Lyon III/BSI, Luxembourg in 2021. His main research fields include modern Japanese history, transnational anarchism and revolution theory. Jacob has authored or edited more than 100 books since 2013, and his recent publications with Vernon Press include 'Florentine Ariosto Jones: A Yankee in Switzerland and the Early Globalization of the American System of Watchmaking (2021)'.

Summary

This book discusses the role of human capital and a global mindset for a successful intercultural management of the Society of Jesus in the geographical contexts of Japan and Peru during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Historical data for more than 200 Jesuits has been evaluated and analyzed according to modern management theory. The work is, therefore, an interdisciplinary study related to the history of religious orders, European expansion, and trans- or intercultural management and shows how the Jesuit missionaries in Japan and Peru were able to achieve and stimulate a successful expansion of their order's influence in these regions of the world. While analyzing a historical topic, the book is also of interest to modern day managers and those who are interested in creating a successful strategy for intercultural management.

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THE JESUITS AND RELIGIOUS INTERCULTURAL MANAGEMENT IN EARLY MODERN TIMES

Human Capital, a Global Mindset, and Missionary Work in Japan and Peru during the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries

Frank Jacob