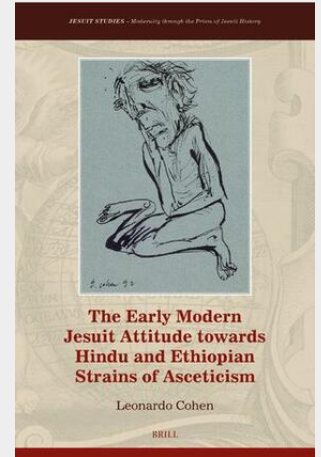


Cohen

The Early Modern Jesuit Attitude Towards Hindu and Ethiopian Strains of Asceticism

This book presents an early modern Jesuit attitude towards Hindu and Ethiopian strains of asceticism. The Jesuits' descriptions of both the yogis and the Ethiopian renunciates were marked by ambivalence. While critical of these ascetics, the missionaries also pointed out admirable facets of their comportment. In both the Society of Jesus' positive and negative impressions, there are glaring ethnocentric views that shift the spotlight onto the other's flaws. Like many historical cases, these perceptions evolved into a sort of inverted mirror image of the self that revealed differences between the European Catholic and the native renunciate.

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