

Abstract

The goal of the thesis is to analyze war customs of Tarahumara people of northern Mexico during colonial era. The work focuses on technological aspects of warfare like weaponry, strategy and tactics, as well as social phenomenas like taking captives, using of witchcraft and role of violence in Tarahumara culture. 17th century conflicts are seen as part of the process, which has caused significant changes in tarahumaran perception of war an it's role in society. Analysis of this process is the another goal of this work. Further subject of interest are conflicts with the other native groups in the region and influence of tarahumara armed resistance to changes in attitude of colonial institutions.

The work is based on sources of the ecclesiastical origin – reports, letters and chronicles of missionaries, as well as correspondence of vicerojal officials and records of military commanders operating in tarahumara region.

Keywords: Tarahumaras, Northern Mexico, Warfare, 17th century, Viceroyalty of New Spain, Presidio