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# Matteo Ricci And The Catholic Mission To China, 1583–1610: A Short History With Documents (Passages: Key Moments In History)



**MATTEO RICCI &**  
the Catholic Mission to China

*A Short History with Documents*

R. Po-chia I Sia

*Passages: Key Moments in History*



## Synopsis

"Here at last is the text that many college teachers of Chinese, Asian, and world history have been waiting for: an accessible collection of primary sources on the life of the Italian Jesuit Matteo Ricci and the Catholic mission that he helped establish in China. Ricci's missionary career indeed constituted a key moment in modern history, for it was through his examples and recommendations that the Jesuits in China collectively adopted an accommodative approach to Chinese culture and embarked on various projects of cultural translation that resulted in the first wave of sustained interactions between Chinese and European civilizations. Instructors and students alike will benefit greatly from Hsia's lucid introduction, which sets Ricci's life story against the broader background of Portuguese Asia, Catholic renewal, and late Ming China; the pithy, informative introductory statements preceding each document; a chronological chart of major relevant events; and an excellent annotated bibliography of primary and secondary sources in multiple languages. This is a very affordable text produced at the highest academic standards." — Qiong Zhang, Associate Professor of History, Wake Forest University

## Book Information

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"An unparalleled window into this crucial encounter between multiple worlds." — Joanna Waley-Cohen, Julius Silver Professor of History, New York University "A highly accessible introduction to the history of the Jesuits in China. Hsia offers a clear and concise overview of the key figures in this crucial episode of intercultural encounter: the first intellectual and cultural meeting

of Europeans and Chinese. . . . In addition to providing a broad vision of the European and Asian contexts for Ricci's work in the introductory essay, Hsia gives a valuable selection of documents from both Chinese and Western sources in translation . . . [including] items that genuinely demonstrate the two sides of this cultural exchange." —Liam Matthew Brockey, Professor of History, Michigan State University

R. Po-chia Hsia is Edwin Erle Sparks Professor of History at The Pennsylvania State University and the author of *A Jesuit in the Forbidden City: Matteo Ricci 1552–1610* (Oxford University Press, 2010).

excellent history unknown to so many...the actual accounts written 500 years ago are amazing insights...people dont know what they dont know!!@

Very efficient

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