

Wolf Dietrich

La primera gramática del chiriguano (Tupí-Guaraní)

The first grammar of Bolivian Chaco Guaraní, traditionally called Chiriguano (Tupí-Guaraní), was published by Doroteo Giannecchini in 1896. This paper gives some comments on a hitherto unknown grammatical sketch of this language which was written by León de Santiago one century earlier and which is first published in this volume. After a brief description of the history and the present day situation of the Chiriguano, some biographical and philological information is given about the author and his works, as well as about the manuscript, which was recently discovered in Bolivia, its possible sources and methodological procedures. The main object of this paper is to show that this small grammar not only allows to know more about the evolution of the phonological, grammatical, and lexical shape of Bolivian Chaco Guaraní, but also to have deeper insights into the interdependence of this language's diachronic evolution and its current diatopic variation.