

# BRIEF HISTORY OF HERNÁN CORTÉS

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**Francisco Martínez Hoyos**



**Discover the tumultuous history of the Medellín's nobleman, the bold and reckless Captain addicted to danger who conquered the Aztec Empire with his military cleverness and the support of thousands of native allies. Hernán Cortés was one of the most fascinating conquerors of the Spanish Empire; a soldier and a scholar, a demigod for some, a genocidal warmonger for others, he leaves no one indifferent.**

## Synopsis

*A Brief History of Hernán Cortés will let you discover the outstanding and brilliant conqueror who, for some people, spread the Gospel in Mexican lands and, for some others, was just a genocidal savage. This work is not a romantic account of his exploits and goes beyond the Black Legend. It lets us discover the lights and shadows of the Spanish Empire in America, including sometimes a broadening palette of surprising shades.*

*Know the man and his epic achievements, the hero that succeeded almost alone, although it must be said that he had the help of thousands of native allies. A man that defended the Mexican civilization but had no qualms about exploiting the natives in order to get rich.*

*Francisco Martínez Hoyos brings us an impartial portrait of a larger-than-life but also reviled figure thanks to his deep knowledge of the historical documentation, based mostly upon the contemporary chroniclers' accounts. The author does not forget to highlight Cortés' complex personality; a man addicted to danger that gives orders calmly and speaks in a quiet tone, that has an exquisite sensitivity, which does not prevent him from committing atrocities without hesitation; ultimately, a man with a messianic complex, that believes he is been chosen for greatness and that will not hesitate to pursue the wealth and glory he thinks he deserves.*

## Biography

**Francisco Martínez Hoyos** (1972) achieved his doctorate at the University of Barcelona with a thesis on JOC, Juventud Obrera Cristiana (Young Working Christians). Since then, he has carried out numerous investigations focused on Christian progressivism. Although, in recent years, he is been more interested in Latin America. He has just released the book Francisco de Miranda, The Eternal Revolutionary and has coordinated Uncomfortable Heroines, a work about the key role of women in the independence movements in Latin America. He is a member of the Editorial Board of the academic journal Historia, Antropología y Fuentes Orales. He is also a columnist and critic whose writings have appeared in Cultura (La Vanguardia's cultural supplement magazine), Historia y Vida, El Ciervo o Spagna Contemporánea.



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## Sales pitch

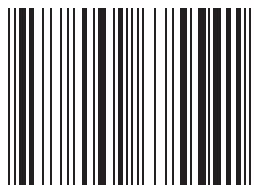
-An essay that gives us an unprejudiced vision with endless facets to discover, and brings us a Comparative History study in order to understand Cortés under the light of his political and social circumstances and in comparison with several other conquerors of his time.

-This work is based upon the author's original investigations and a wide review and update of current bibliography.

-The author bases this work mainly on the chronicles of the contemporary protagonists of these historical facts, such as Bernal Díaz del Castillo, in order to avoid the common misinterpretations about Cortés that can be found in several studies on the subject.

-A title that is a demythologizing work about this historical figure without any romanticism and goes beyond the Black Legend.

-The author narrates Cortés' military exploits in a very visually and entertaining way, conveying with great sharpness not only the epic glory of the character but also of those times.



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