

## **Purpose of the Edition**

The purpose of the present online edition of the facsimile of the *Popol Wuj* is to provide the Mayan peoples with access to the oldest surviving written version of their *tzijs* in a digital version available on the internet. In addition, we wish to make this facsimile available to scholars, students, and a general audience throughout the world.

This online edition seeks to confer recognition and respect to this manuscript which, even though it is written in a different form than that of the original pre-colonial records, is still one of the cornerstones for the development of new ideas, studies, and epistemological visions. This digital edition will allow native peoples and scholars to work directly with Father Ximénez's manuscript, leading to debates about handwriting, spelling, and the polemics of the boundaries of meanings and interpretations. The web site is written in K'iche', as well as in Spanish and English, as a way of amending a long tradition of negligence to Mayan and native peoples in general.

In sum, this is an integrative project where different languages, people, and institutions have joined together to pursue the common goal of looking forward toward the future while recovering and disseminating a crucial manuscript from the ancient tradition.

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