



BIBLIOTECA UNIVERSITARIA DI GENOVA – PERCORSI TEMATICI

UNIVERSALITAS & PERVASIVITAS

IL COSTITUIRSI E DIFFONDERSI DELLA S.J. E SUOI ECHI (1540 - 1773)

di A. Pisani

Schede autori Attività missionaria

Giovanni Antonio Rubino

Giovanni Antonio Rubino (1578-1643) was a student of **Christoph Clavius** (1537-1612) and he was sent to India just like **Matteo Ricci** (1552-1610) to China. Of course, both worked together in Cochín. As he was establishing the Collegio Romano as a centre of mathematical and astronomical skill and authority, he was at full-swing in getting all mathematical and astronomical books from India. As a faithful student, he wrote from Chandrapur, the seat of the Rajah of Vijayanagar, to Clavius in 1609 as follows:

“I am in the great Kingdom of Bisnagà, attempting to procure the conversion of these souls, but for the moment *clausa est ianua*, we are waiting for the Lord to open it, so that many souls will be saved from going miserably to hell. The Brahmans, who are the literati of this kingdom, are very given to the cognition of the movements and conjunctions of the planets and stars, and in particular of 27 of them by which they govern and rule themselves. Your Reverence will be amazed at how they predict the hour and minute of eclipses of the sun and the moon, without knowing the way in which eclipses occur. I have attempted many times to make them state the way in which they derive the conjunctions of the planets, but I was never able to get them to declare it, and they don't wish to teach the things they know to others, except in secret to their relatives”.

Cfr.: World Historia – International Community http://www.allempires.net/antonio-rubino-sj-in-chandragiri-andhra-india_topic16309.html

Vedi anche: [Profilo biografico di Antonio Rubino nel sito dell'Enciclopedia Treccani](#)