

## Violence and the Caste War of Yucatán

*Violence and the Caste War of Yucatán* analyzes the extent and forms of violence employed during one of the most significant indigenous rural revolts in nineteenth-century Latin America: the Caste War of Yucatán in the tropical southeast of Mexico. Combining the results of historical, anthropological and sociological research with the thorough investigation of primary sources from numerous archives, the book ascertains that violence was neither random nor the result of individual bloodthirstiness but in many cases followed specific patterns related to demographic, economic, political and military factors. In addition to its use against the enemy, violence also played a role in the establishment and maintenance of order and leadership within the ranks of the contending parties. While the Caste War has been widely considered a conflict between the whites and the Maya, this book shows that Indians and non-Indians fought and died on both sides.

Wolfgang Gabbert is Professor of Development Sociology and Cultural Anthropology at the Leibniz University Hannover in Germany. He is the author of *Becoming Maya: Ethnicity and Social Inequality in Yucatán since 1500* (2004) and *Creoles: Afroamerikaner im karibischen Tiefland von Nicaragua* (1992).

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*To Ramón Berzunza Pinto†  
eminent scholar and valued friend  
and, as always, to Ute*

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