Eusebio Francisco Kino  
 "Journey Northward To The Sobaípuris - August 23, 1692"  
 "Favores Celestiales"  
 Memoir of Pimeria Alta

Vol.1 Chapter 4.

Kino Entry: First Journey to San Xavier and San Pedro River Valley - August 23, 1692

In spite of the obstacles which were present, and seeing that the whole of Pimería was quiet, during the last part of August and the first part of September, 1692, I went in, with fifty pack-animals, my servants, and some justices, to the Sobaipuris [River O'odham], both of the north and of the northeast. The latter are in the valleys of the river of Quíburi [San Pedro], to the east, and the former are in the valley and river of Santa Maria [Santa Cruz], to the west. The journey to the former was more than eighty leagues by very level road. I found the natives very affable and friendly, and particularly so in the principal ranchería of San Xavier del Bac, which contains more than eight hundred souls.

I spoke to them of the Word of God, and on a map of the world showed them the lands, the rivers, and the seas over which we fathers had come from afar to bring them the saving knowledge of our holy faith. And I told them also how in ancient times the Spaniards were not Christians, how Santiago came to teach them the faith, and how for the first fourteen years he was able to baptize only a few, because of which the holy apostle was discouraged, but that the most holy Virgin appeared to him and consoled him, telling him that the Spaniards would convert the rest of the people of the world.

And I showed them on the map of the world how the Spaniards and the faith had come by sea to Vera Cruz, and had gone in to Puebla and to Mexico, Guadalaxara, Sinaloa, and Sonora, and now to Nuestra Señora de los Dolores del Cosari, in the land of the Pimas, where there were already many persons baptized, a house, church, bells, and images of saints, plentiful supplies, wheat, maize, and many cattle and horses; that they could go and see it all, and even ask at once of their relatives, my servants, who were with me.

They listened with pleasure to these and other talks concerning God, heaven, and hell, and told me that they wished to be Christians, and gave me some infants to baptize. These Sobaipuris are in a very fine valley of the Río de Santa Maria, to the west.

I then passed on to the other Sobaipuris, of the east, on the Rio de San Joseph de Terrenate [San Pedro], or de Quíburi, who, in their chief ranchería, that of San Salvador del Baicatcan, are thirty leagues distant. Captain Coro and the rest of them received me with all kindness. It is true that I found them still somewhat less docile than the foregoing of the west.

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