

# The Aztecs, a History



When Hernan Cortes entered the Valley of Mexico in 1519 he found there a highly developed society whose sophistication and grandiose barbarity astonished the conquistadors. The Aztecs, as the people of the valley became generally called, are one of the most fascinating and exotic of the ancient civilizations of the New World, and they have captured the imagination of the world ever since the first reports reached Europe. Much has been written about their downfall at the hands of the Spaniards and about their ritual and social customs. Most people know something of Montezuma II, but few know of his equally remarkable predecessors, among them Tizoc, Ahuitzotl and Montezuma I, whose conquests made the empire. Nigel Davies, the author of scholarly works on the subject, has now written for the general reader an absorbing narrative history of the Aztec people. Starting from their obscure nomadic beginnings, concealed in a thick layer of myth and tradition, he unravels the complex story of their rise to power, of dynastic battles and feuds. The balance of power in the Valley of Mexico was always precariously based on treaties and federations, and Mr. Davies describes in enthralling detail the political situation which made it possible for a handful of armed Spaniards to overcome the mighty Montezuma. He writes from the Aztec point of view, showing how their social and political life was disrupted by the arrival of Europeans and how the great Aztec nobility gradually dwindled into insignificance. This book is a major historical achievement, bringing together many complex strands into a single compelling story.

The Aztec Empire was peopled by a group that was once nomadic, the Mexicas. And so the Mexica peoples continued, and the Aztec Empire began. The city of Tenochitlan was soon to become one of the largest cities in the world. The power of the Mexica peoples became more consolidated, and they began to form alliances. Kate Wiles provides context

for the first European image of the Aztec capital, razed by the Spanish The Aztec Pyramid at St. Cecilia Acatitlan, State of Mexico HISTORY OF THE AZTECS including Mexico City, Aztec sun rituals, Quetzalcoatl, Arrival of Cortes, Cortes and Montezuma, A brutal end. New website for Woodlands homework help bringing history and homework alive with The Aztecs were a wandering (nomadic) tribe from northern Mexico and Learn interesting information about the Aztecs for kids. Find out more about Aztec history and improve your knowledge on the Aztec people with DK Find Out. The Aztec wandered around Mexico for about 200 years before they settled down in the Valley of Mexico. Other tribes were living in the area. Rather than start a Jan 16, 2018 What Caused the Aztec Empire to Fall? Scientists Uncover New Clues Feb 22, 2017 Did Salmonella Kill Off the Aztecs? New DNA research How and why did the once mighty Aztec Empire crumble in the 16th century? Ask HISTORY looks for answers. The Aztec Empire was the last of the great Mesoamerican cultures. Between A.D. 13, the Aztecs forged an empire over much of the central Mexican. Itzcoatl's successor Montezuma (Moctezuma) I, who took power in 1440, was a great warrior who was remembered as the father of the Aztec empire. By the early 16th century, the Aztecs had come to rule over up to 500 small states, and some 5 to 6 million people, either by conquest or commerce. The Aztecs were a Pre-Columbian Mesoamerican people of central Mexico in the 14th, 15th and 16th centuries. They called themselves Mexica (pronounced [meʔʔikaʔ]). The capital of the Aztec empire was Tenochtitlan. During the empire, the city was built on a raised island in Lake Texcoco. Kids learn about the timeline of the history of the Aztec Empire. Major events and the order they occurred.