

I had to research about the Aztec people and how they lived. I wanted to learn why they sacrificed people and how they did. I wanted to know how many gods were there in total. I also wanted to learn about how many people they sacrificed a year. Lastly, I wanted to learn what they ate.

First, I researched about the Aztec gods. I learned they worshiped many gods but they worshiped the god of the sun and war the most. They believed the gods Tezcatlipoca, Quetzalcoatl, Huitzilopochtli and Xipe tottec created the earth off of the back of a monster named Cipactli. They used the head as the heavens, the middle of the body as earth and the tail as the underworld. In Aztec religion, there were over 200 gods.

Second, I researched about sacrifice. I learned they made prisoners of war get sacrificed. Women and children were also sacrificed. When people got sacrificed, they had their hearts cut out while they were alive. Then, they would kick the body down and then skin the person, they would stone them to death, dismember them, crush them or shoot them with arrows. They also practiced forms of cannibalism for special ceremonies. They would decapitate a victim and cook them in a pot. Then, they would serve them to soldiers but they rarely ever did this. Getting sacrificed was considered an honor for the Aztecs because you could go to a paradise and join the sun rising in the morning or be a part of Huitzilopochtli's army. Some researchers estimate about 250,000 people were sacrificed a year.]

Lastly, I researched their diet. I learned plants were a large part of their diet. They also ate a variety of meat such as turkeys, bees, dogs and ducks. They also ate tortillas, avocado, tomatoes, potatoes, beans, squash and quinoa. They made a chocolate drink similar to hot cocoa, but it was spicy and bitter. They also ate tortillas with every meal.

After my research, I learned that some people are brutal, but for a good reason. When Tezcatlipoca and Quetzalcoatl would fight, they were jealous and they feared that the other person would mess up the world. Then they realized that they were doing more harm than good. When the Aztecs would sacrifice someone to the gods, they would sacrifice themselves for everyone else. The person who they were going to sacrifice would get their chest brutally hollowed out and their still beating hearts would be pulled out of their chest and their body kicked down the temple. The Aztecs and their

mythology were brutal but for a good reason. So the Aztecs were trying to tell us that you should always do things that benefit everyone else, not just yourself.