

I researched about the Aztec civilization. I was curious about their daily life and how the Spanish took over the land. The things I wanted to learn about are daily life, such as the food they would eat, what they would wear, and marriage customs, why they would sacrifice, and how the Aztec empire ended.

The foods that the Aztecs ate most were maize, squash, and beans. They made chocolate out of cocoa beans but only the wealthy people because it was very valuable. They made tortillas out of the maize and also sometimes they ate weirder things like humans that were sacrificed, dogs, and insects. For clothing women have to wear long skirts and blouses and the men would wear loincloths and long capes. If you were poor you had to make your own clothes and it is only the women who make the clothes. There were also rules about how your clothes could be decorated. Only rich people could wear feathers and also only the emperor could wear the color turquoise. Aztec men got married earlier to women, usually around 20 years old. They didn't marry for love but instead a matchmaker would decide which people should get married but the families need to agree.

Next, I was curious about the practice of human sacrifice. Aztecs sacrificed because they needed human blood. Historians think more than 20,000 people were sacrificed. When they sacrificed, Aztec people used an obsidian blade, which is like a black stone, and they gave the heart to the gods and threw the bodies down the temple stairs. Humans sacrificed because the gods created them so the humans sacrificed to give life back to the gods.

Finally, I wanted to learn about how the Aztec empire came to an end. The Spanish came over in 1519 and they killed the ruler, Moctezuma. They ruined the city and they also brought diseases that killed the Aztecs because they were new diseases that their bodies couldn't handle. The Spanish made it seem like the Aztecs just gave them the land peacefully, but this probably wasn't true. The Spanish may have made up other things too. For example, they made it seem like the Aztecs were violent murderers but actually they only did sacrifices to keep the gods happy and make sure the blood would keep the sun going. Also, they were really organized like they had a city center, and a government, and a school.

During my research of the Aztecs, I noticed a motif of things ending but then being rebuilt. For example, each age came to a bad end with the world and sun being destroyed. Instead of giving up, the Aztec gods would try something else like a new sun or a new way to make the humans survive and be better. and something the aztecs did in a daily life's every morning they would go to school or to work they had many jobs to choose from, you can work at a farmers, fishermen, craftsmen, noblemen as governments officials, scribes, and teachers but only the men do the working and the kids went to school while the women stayed home to make clothing and food for the family.