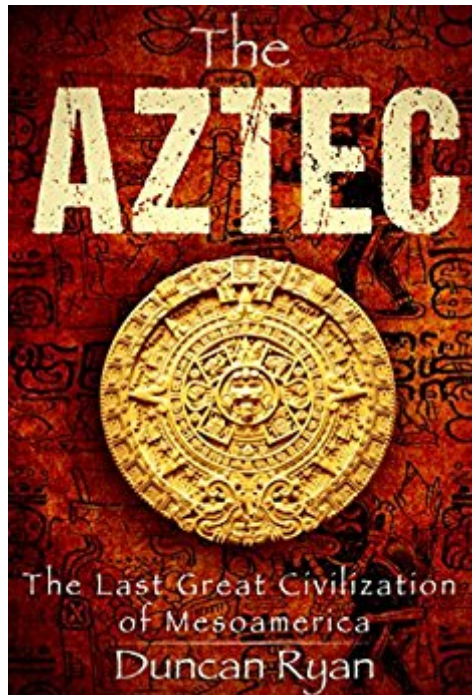


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The Aztec: The Last Great Civilization Of Mesoamerica



Synopsis

Among the most famous of the civilizations produced by the New World was the great Aztec Empire, centered at Tenochtitlan. This culture had captured the imaginations of many throughout the centuries because of its grandeur, power, and quite often, its brutality. *The Aztec: The Last Great Civilization of Mesoamerica* is a short introduction to Aztec history and culture, encompassing every period from the origin of the Aztec peoples to their eventual conquest by the Spanish in the early 16th century. It endeavors to present a detailed overview of the arc of this history, yet still remain accessible and easy to understand for the reader who has not specialized in the study of the Aztec or of Mesoamerican history in general. The Aztec, moving into the Valley of Mexico late in the pre-Columbian history of Mesoamerica, rapidly grew from little more than a nomadic tribe to a civilization the likes of which had seldom been seen on Earth, rivaling even the greatest cultures of Europe and Asia at the time. With a strong society, a rich cultural tradition and a military that was second to none in the New World, the Aztec became the dominating force in all of Mexico. At the same time, their religion, one which demanded a hefty toll in human sacrifice, became one of the most singular in all of human history, often going so far as to deprive the Aztec society itself of human resources and spur wars intended almost exclusively to acquire new sacrifices. Though these are the commonly known elements of Aztec society, there is much that is often ignored because of the more sensational elements of their history. Trade, for example, was a massive facet of Aztec society, which the empire exploited by establishing trade routes that crisscrossed Mesoamerica from the American southwest to the Inca Empire in the Peruvian Andes. Art, science and technology also made up part of this rich cultural tradition among the Aztec. In all of Mesoamerican history, there had never been a civilization quite like the Aztec empire. Now, with modern archaeology and antique records, historical researchers the world over have managed to create a comprehensive profile of this remarkable society. *The Aztec: The Last Great Civilization of Mesoamerica* offers the reader an overview of what has been learned about this great empire, including some recently discovered facts and conclusions that have been drawn from ongoing research throughout a broad scholarly community.

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Customer Reviews

Good book to get information you would really like to know. Everyone should have some history in their mind to understand about our modern world.

It is like watching a documentary about the Aztecs, you won't get very deep in their easy of life but enough to have a good understanding.

Good book for picking up some unusual facts about the Spanish conquest of Mexico.

It was interesting and easy to read and follow. I learned a lot.

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