

# Flayed God The Mythology Of Mesoamerica

*Mesoamerican Mythology* Matt Clayton 2020-01-19 This book includes four captivating manuscripts: Maya Mythology Aztec Mythology Inca Mythology Central American Mythology

**Aztec and Maya Myths** Karl Taube 1993 The myths of the Aztec and Maya derive from a shared Mesoamerican cultural tradition. This is very much a living tradition, and many of the motifs and gods mentioned in early sources are still evoked in the lore of contemporary Mexico and Guatemala. Professor Taube discusses the different sources for Aztec and Maya myths. The Aztec empire began less than 200 years before the Spanish conquest, and our knowledge of their mythology derives primarily from native colonial documents and manuscripts commissioned by the Spanish. The Maya mythology is far older, and our

knowledge of it comes mainly from native manuscripts of the Classic period, over 600 years before the Spanish conquest. Drawing on these sources as well as nineteenth- and twentieth-century excavations and research, including the interpretation of the codices and the decipherment of Maya hieroglyphic writing, the author discusses, among other things, the Popol Vuh myths of the Maya, the flood myth of Northern Yucatan, and the Aztec creation myths.

## **Mesoamerican Mythology**

Tom Daning 2006-08-15 Quetzalcoatl and Tezcatlipoca were never friends. But the two gods unite to defeat Tlaltecuhtli, the demon caiman of the sea. This book introduces readers to Mesoamerican mythology, describing the gods and their contribution to Earth's creation. Readers follow the thrilling battle between them

which leads to the creation of the sky and land.

*Myths of Ancient Mexico*

Michel Graulich 1997

"Innovative study, drawing on extensive ethnohistorical and ethnographical materials, of the mythology of the Toltecs and the Aztecs, with broader Mesoamerican comparisons, including the Popol Vuh of the Quichâe Maya. Finds recurring themes in origin stories of light and darkness, sacrifice, expulsion and wanderings, and arrival in a Promised Land.

Analysis includes considerations of myth vs. history"--Handbook of Latin American Studies, v. 58.

Huitzilopochtli Ernesto Novato 2019-07-20 \*Includes pictures

\*Includes a bibliography for further reading Gilgamesh, Hercules, Aeneas, and Lancelot are instantly recognized as mythological heroes in the West, evoking visions of Persian monsters, ghastly labors, and the founding and glorification of cities, but the names of Mesoamerican gods remain as mysterious as their spelling. Even those who have

come across their names when learning about the history of Mesoamerica - particularly the Aztec and various gods' roles in the Spanish conquest of their empire - are often unaware that the Mesoamerican deities have tales that equal any of those in the repertoire of the mythological figures mentioned above. As archaeologists quickly learned, there are numerous temples dedicated to gods all across Mesoamerica, from the Olmec and Toltec to the Aztec and Maya.

Furthermore, thousands of people still gather in the ruins of Mesoamerican cities, even as researchers learn more about the civilizations that continue to fascinate modern societies. To the Aztec, Huitzilopochtli wore a blue-green hummingbird helmet and was draped in pure white heron feathers. He carried a smoking mirror, an obsidian mirror, a shield, darts, and the serpent Xiuhcoatl that carried with it the fury and might of the sun. Everything about him - from his clothes to his weapons - emanated and defined royalty.

His name meant Hummingbird of the South or Hummingbird of the Left (meaning the "Southern Part of the World") in the native language of the Aztec, Nahuatl. In his kingly role he was not only irrevocably intertwined with war and conquest but also with trade, the things most important to the great Aztec Empire. He was as bloodthirsty as he was just, and he was the pillar of Aztec society from its mythical beginnings to its tragic end. The wonderful thing about Huitzilopochtli is that his position in the Aztec pantheon of gods is difficult to define, far more than it would be to define the roles of Zeus, Jupiter, or Odin. Huitzilopochtli was the patron god of the Aztec, but modern scholars tend to think of his importance in terms of scaled growth from (possibly) a mortal man of great acclaim to the god whose temple was at the heart of the Aztec empire. His myth not only formed the basis of some of the more honored and bloody rituals performed by the Aztec, but actually influenced the modern-

day Mexican coat of arms that can be found on the national flag. Huitzilopochtli: The History of the Aztec God of War and Human Sacrifice examines the origins of the deity and his place in the pantheon of gods. Along with pictures of important people, places, and events, you will learn about Huitzilopochtli like never before.

**Gods and Symbols of Ancient Mexico and the Maya** Mary Ellen Miller

1997-04-01 The myths and beliefs of the great pre-Columbian civilizations of Mesoamerica have baffled and fascinated outsiders ever since the Spanish Conquest. Yet, until now, no single-volume introduction has existed to act as a guide to this labyrinthine symbolic world. The Gods and Symbols of Ancient Mexico and the Maya is the first-ever English-language dictionary of Mesoamerican mythology and religion. Nearly 300 entries, from accession to yoke, describe the main gods and symbols of the Olmecs, Zapotecs, Maya,

Teotihuacanos, Mixtecs, Toltecs, and Aztecs. Topics range from jaguar and jester gods to reptile eye and rubber, from creation accounts and sacred places to ritual practices such as bloodletting, confession, dance, and pilgrimage. In addition, two introductory essays provide succinct accounts of Mesoamerican history and religion, while a substantial bibliographical survey directs the reader to original sources and recent discussions. Dictionary entries are illustrated with photographs and specially commissioned line drawings. Mary Miller and Karl Taube draw on their research in the fast-changing field of Maya studies, and on the latest Mexican discoveries, to produce an authoritative work that will serve as a standard reference for students, scholars, and travelers.

*The Ancient Mythologies of Peru and Mexico* Henry Romano Almost exhaustive proof of the wholly indigenous nature of the American

religions is offered by the existence of the ruins of the large centers of culture and civilization, which are found scattered through Yucatan and Peru. These civilizations preceded those of the Aztecs and Incas by a very considerable period, how long it is impossible in the present state of our knowledge of the subject to say. Those huge, buried cities, the Nineveh's and Thebes of the West, have left not even a name, and of the peoples who dwelt in them, we are almost wholly ignorant. That they were of a race cognate with the Aztecs and Toltecs appears probable when we consider the similarity of design which their architecture bears to the later ruins of the Aztec structure. Nevertheless, there is equally strong evidence to the contrary. At what epoch in the history of the world these cities were erected, it would at present be idle to speculate. The recent discovery of a buried city in the Panhandle region of Texas may throw some light upon this question and indeed upon the

dark places of American archæology as a whole. In the case of the buried cities of Uxmal and Palenquë, great antiquity is generally agreed upon. Indeed one writer on the subject goes so far as to place their foundation at the beginning of the second Glacial Epoch!

### **Gods of Sun and Sacrifice**

Tony Allan 1997 When Cortes and his battle-weary Spanish soldiers first gazed on the Aztec capital Tenochtitlan in 1519, they viewed the amazing culmination of 3,000 years of continuous cultural development. Aztec and Maya cities, temples, and palaces were in some ways like those found in Mesopotamia and Egypt: civilizations that had developed in isolation, free of outside influences. Here are the legends and stories of these two unique, ancient cultures.

### **The Myths of the Opossum**

Alfredo López Austin 1993 Published in 1990 under the title *Los mitos del tlacuache*, this is the first major theoretical study of Mesoamerican mythology by

one of the foremost scholars of Aztec ideology. Using the myth cycle of the opossum and the theft of fire from the gods as a touchstone, Lopez Austin constructs a definition of myth that pertains to all of Mesoamerican culture, challenging the notion that to be relevant such studies must occur within a specific culture. Shown here is that much of modern mythology has ancient roots, despite syncretism with Christianity, and can be used to elucidate the pre-Columbian world view. Analysis of pre-Columbian myths can also be used to understand current indigenous myths. Subtopics include the hero and his place in the Mesoamerican pantheon, divine space and human space, mythic event clusters, myth as truth, and the fusion of myth and history. This book presents a unique description of the Mesoamerican world view for students of comparative religion, history of religion, folklore, ethnology, and anthropology.

*Mesoamerican Mythology* Tom Daning 2006-08-15 Explains, in

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graphic novel format, the Mesoamerican myth of Quetzalcoatl, in which a battle between the gods leads to the creation of earth and sky.

*Mesoamerican Myths* David West 2006-01-15 In graphic novel format, presents three mythological tales from the Aztec and Mayan peoples.

**Aztec Mythology** Jim Barrow 2021-05-11 Embark On a Unique Historical Journey and Learn More about Aztecs, Their Culture, Gods, And Mythology! One of the most magnificent journeys you can undertake is embarking on a historical adventure to discover the fascinating cultures of an ancient civilization - that is precisely what this overview of Aztec culture and mythology offers. Through captivating narrative, *Aztec Mythology: Gods, Heroes, Legends, and Myths of the Aztec People* by Jim Barrow, will take you all the way back to the year 1325 and even before - it will be like you have your personal time machine, perfect for any history lover out there. How Aztecs founded their city,

Tenochtitlan, which would later go on to become one of the largest empires in the American region? How they managed to build such a rich and interesting culture? Who were the gods that they worshipped and prayed to? What are the stories that they passed on through generations? You will find the detailed descriptions, answers to these questions, and answers to many other questions you may have about Aztecs. Here are some of the topics that this Mesoamerican mythology guide covers: The early Aztec history - where did they come from, and how they settled The blossoming Aztec society - all about their politics, art, economy, agriculture Fascinating Aztec religion explained - Complete Aztec pantheon with major and lesser deities Captivating Aztec culture and customs - main legends and myths; breakthroughs in medicine and science What happened to Aztecs and what is left of them today And much more! If you want to quench your thirst for

knowledge and learn more about the magnificent culture of Aztecs, let this book take you on a unique historical journey where you will get all of that and much more. So what are you waiting for? Scroll up, click on "Buy Now with 1-Click," and Get Your Copy Now!

*Mesoamerican Myth PB*

Packages 2000-05-24 Describes the ancient civilizations of the Aztecs and Mayans through their legends.

South and Meso-American

Mythology A to Z Ann Bingham 2010 Alphabetically listed entries identify and explain the characters, events, important places, and other aspects of South American and Meso-American mythology.

*Aztec Mythology and Religion*

Hollis Reynosa 2016-01-22

Many leading deities of the Aztec pantheon were worshipped by previous Mesoamerican civilizations, gods such as Tlaloc, Quetzalcoatl and Tezcatlipoca, who were venerated by different names in most cultures throughout the history of Mesoamerica. For the Aztecs

especially important deities were the rain god Tlaloc, the god Huitzilopochtli-patron of the Mexica tribe-as well as Quetzalcoatl the feathered serpent, wind god, culture hero, and god of civilization and order, and elusive Tezcatlipoca, the shrewd god of destiny and fortune, connected with war and sorcery.

**Tlaloc** Ernest Novato

2019-09-14 \*Includes pictures

\*Includes a bibliography for further reading Gilgamesh, Hercules, Aeneas, and Lancelot are instantly recognized as mythological heroes in the West, evoking visions of Persian monsters, ghastly labors, and the founding and glorification of cities, but the name Quetzalcoatl is as mysterious as its spelling. Even those who have come across his name when learning about the history of Mesoamerica - particularly the Aztec and the god's role in the Spanish conquest of their empire - are often unaware that the Mesoamerican deity has tales that equal any of those in the

repertoire of the mythological figures mentioned above, and the tale of his transmission into modern times is no less fascinating. As archaeologists quickly learned, there are numerous temples dedicated to gods all across Mesoamerica, from the Olmec and Toltec to the Aztec and Maya.

Furthermore, thousands of people still gather in the ruins of Mesoamerican cities, even as researchers learn more about the civilizations that continue to generate interest among modern societies. Gods and myths reflect the societies that created them. The lustrous Garden of Eden was dreamed up by those for whom such verdant plenty could only be magical when compared with their usually arid environment. Peoples who endured harsh winters sang of eternal hearth fires and those who were threatened by dangerous animals told stories of humans who could tame them. Of course, these deities also often reflected the nuanced difficulties their creators experienced in their daily lives,

and this is the case with the Aztec god Tlaloc. As the great scholar of Mesoamerican history and religion Kay Almere Read put it, "Rain and water deities constitute perhaps the largest, one of the oldest, most pervasive and complex group of gods and goddesses in Mesoamerica." The Valley of Mexico is the central elevated basin that contains Mexico City at its heart today. Surrounded by mountains and volcanoes, the Valley's lowest point is actually some 2200 meters above sea level and just like the plains of Mesopotamia or the Nile Delta, it is one of humanity's great birthplaces of civilization. Inhabited for over 12,000 years, it was the home to such creative cultures as the Teotihuacan, the Toltec, and the Aztec. These cultures built vast empires and colored them with sophisticated art and architecture, which is invaluable for scholars who study the groups today, and symbols of Tlaloc have been pervasive across their ruins. One of the reasons for the prevalence of Tlaloc in the



Valley of Mexico is that in the semi-arid climate, water was a powerful daily symbol. Although there were no naturally occurring water connections to the sea, the high altitude of the mountains and volcanoes that surrounded it caught the rain water well and formed five important lakes: Xochimilco, Xaltocan, Zumpango, Chalco and Texcoco. As the largest, Texcoco was where the Aztecs eventually built their capital city Tenochtitlan. Since this was not a desert culture, their god Tlaloc was not just a reflection of an opposite extreme they desired; instead, he was a complex god that reflected the duality of water as both a boon and a force for destruction. From his home in Tlalocan, Tlaloc was able to send good and bad waters to the people of the Valley of Mexico and beyond. He was the lord of the chthonic powers of Mexico even as far south as the Maya, who called him Chaac and connected him with warfare and agriculture much the same way the Aztec did.

The Aztec tell the story of Tlaloc blessing their rise to regional dominance by sending a famine to the Toltec, and his duality of good waters vs. bad waters was a product of the largely two-season system in Mexico. Tlaloc: The History of the Aztec God of Rain and Giver of Life examines the origins of the deity and his place in the pantheon of gods. The Flayed God Roberta H. Markman 1992 The authors of Masks of the Spirit present modern English translations of the important myths of the Olmec, Toltec, Maya, and Aztec civilizations of pre-Columbian Mesoamerica, along with the strange imagery of the original codices and stallaes. Illustrated with 100 photographs (25 in color) of crucial monuments, murals, masks, and friezes. **Handbook of Mesoamerican Mythology** Kay Almere Read 2023 Famed for their temples, pyramids and great cities, the Maya, Toltec, Aztecs and other ancient civilisations created an intricate and long-lasting mythology about themselves, their world and the afterlife.

*The Flayed God* Roberta H. Markman 1992 The authors of *Masks of the Spirit* present modern English translations of the important myths of the Olmec, Toltec, Maya, and Aztec civilizations of pre-Columbian Mesoamerica, along with the strange imagery of the original codices and stallaes. Illustrated with 100 photographs (25 in color) of crucial monuments, murals, masks, and friezes.

### **Understanding**

**Mesoamerican Myths** Natalie Hyde 2013 Introduces the mythology of the Mayans and Aztecs.

### **Mesoamerican Mythology**

Simon Lopez 2019-05-03 Do you know that the Mayans believed that the Earth was flat with four poles supporting the sky? Or that the Inca Emperors were thought to be the direct descendant of the sun god himself? The early Mesoamericans were a mysterious bunch. In this book we will dive deep into their world of Myths and captivating stories of the creation of the world, adventures of heroes and even love stories between

goddess and mortal. Some of the stories in this book are: Classic Mayan Myths including: the Great Giants of the Earth the Defeat of the Great Crocodile the Origin of the Maize and People the Hummingbird Suitor and More Fascinating Incan Myths including: Myth of Creation the Flooding of the New World the Shepherd and the daughter of the Sun the Rod of Gold and more Captivating Aztec Myths including: Origin of Heaven and Earth the Birth of Huitzilopochtli the Restoration of the Sky and Earth the Creation of the Fifth Sun and more Get this book and indulge yourself in the fascinating world of the Ancient Mesoamerican Mythology today!

[Mesoamerican Mythology](#) Kay Almere Read 2002-06-13 Illustrated with scores of drawings and halftone photos, this guidebook to the mythology of Mexico and Central America focuses mainly on Mexican Highland and Maya areas, due to their importance in Mesoamerican history.

## **Mesoamerican Mythology**

Graham Faiella 2005-09-01 The mythology of Mesoamerica, which encompasses the general region of Central America, is a vast mixture of mythologies from many cultures. Yet even with so many cultures in the mix, each of the mythologies covers the same basic themes, including those about creation and the afterlife. Accompanying the text are brilliant, full-color images to capture the imagination. Supports English language arts content standards requiring students to identify and analyze the characteristics of various literary forms and genres, such as myths.

*Art and Myth of the Ancient Maya* Oswaldo Chinchilla Mazariegos 2017-04-25 This nuanced account explores Maya mythology through the lens of art, text, and culture. It offers an important reexamination of the mid-16th-century Popol Vuh, long considered an authoritative text, which is better understood as one among many

crucial sources for the interpretation of ancient Maya art and myth. Using materials gathered across Mesoamerica, Oswaldo Chinchilla Mazariegos bridges the gap between written texts and artistic representations, identifying key mythical subjects and uncovering their variations in narratives and visual depictions. Central characters—including a secluded young goddess, a malevolent grandmother, a dead father, and the young gods who became the sun and the moon—are identified in pottery, sculpture, mural painting, and hieroglyphic inscriptions. Highlighting such previously overlooked topics as sexuality and generational struggles, this beautifully illustrated book paves the way for a new understanding of Maya myths and their lavish expression in ancient art. [Mockeries and Metamorphoses of an Aztec God](#) Guilhem Olivier 2003 This is a masterful study of Tezcatlipoca, one of the greatest but least understood deities in the

Mesoamerican pantheon. An enigmatic and melodramatic figure, 'the Lord of the Smoking Mirror' was both drunken seducer and mutilated transgressor and, although he severely punished those who violated pre-Columbian moral codes, he also received mortal confessions. A patron deity to kings and warriors as well as a protector of slaves, Tezcatlipoca often clashed in epic confrontation with his 'enemy brother' Quetzalcoatl, the famed 'Feathered Serpent'. Yet these powers of Mesoamerican mythology collaborated to create the world, and their common attributes hint toward a dual character. In a sophisticated and systematic tour through the sources and problems related to Tezcatlipoca's protean powers and shifting meanings, Olivier guides the reader skilfully through the symbolic names of this great god, from his representation on skins and stones to his relationship to ritual knives and other related deities. Drawing upon iconographic

material, chronicles written in both Spanish and the native Nahuatl, and the rich contributions of ethnography, Mockeries and Metamorphoses of an Aztec God -- like the mirror of Tezcatlipoca in which the fates of mortals were reflected -- reveals an important but obscured portion of the cosmology of pre-Columbian Mexico.

*Mesoamerican Mythology* Kay Almere Read 2001

**The Mythology of the Americas** David Michael Jones 2001 Describes the background of the myths of the Indian cultures of the continents of North and South America.

The Myth of Quetzalcoatl

Alfredo López Austin

2015-10-07 The Myth of

Quetzalcoatl is a translation of Alfredo López Austin's 1973 book *Hombre-Dios: Religión y política en el mundo náhuatl*.

Despite its pervasive and lasting influence on the study of Mesoamerican history, religion in general, and the Quetzalcoatl myth in particular, this work has not

been available in English until now. The importance of Hombre-Dios and its status as a classic arise from its interdisciplinary approach, creative use of a wide range of source material, and unsurpassed treatment of its subject—the nature and content of religious beliefs and rituals among the native populations of Mesoamerica and the manner in which they fused with and helped sanctify political authority and rulership in both the pre- and post-conquest periods. Working from a wide variety of previously neglected documentary sources, incorporating myth, archaeology, and the ethnography of contemporary Native Americans including non-Nahua peoples, López Austin traces the figure of Quetzalcoatl as a “Man-God” from pre-conquest times, while Russ Davidson’s translator’s note, David Carrasco’s foreword, and López Austin’s introduction place the work within the context of modern scholarship. López Austin’s

original work on Quetzalcoatl is a pivotal work in the field of anthropology, and this long-overdue English translation will be of significance to historians, anthropologists, linguists, and serious readers interested in Mesoamerica.

**Aztec Mythology: The Gods and Myths of Ancient Mexico**

Sebastian Berg  
2021-08-14 Discover the mythology of the Aztec civilization The Aztec civilization of Central Mexico consisted of several communities with distinct cultures and languages. The Nahuatl-speaking tribes were the most popular and celebrated rituals based on their own version of myths and stories. While the Mesoamerican cultures shared many stories, rituals, and myths with the Aztecs, they were recognized as a separate community. The Aztecs were believed to come from the regions around Lake Texcoco and the Anahuac Valley. These regions collectively form the modern Mexico City we know today.

*Quetzalcoatl and the Irony of Empire* David Carrasco  
1992-06-15 David Carrasco draws from the perspectives of the history of religions, anthropology, and urban ecology to explore the nature of the complex symbolic form of Quetzalcoatl in the organization, legitimation, and subversion of a large segment of the Mexican urban tradition. His new Preface addresses this tradition in the light of the Columbian quincentennial. "This book, rich in ideas, constituting a novel approach . . . represents a stimulating and provocative contribution to Mesoamerican studies. . . . Recommended to all serious students of the New World's most advanced indigenous civilization."—H. B. Nicholson, Man

**The Flayed God** Roberta H. Markman 1993-12-17

**Aztec Mythology** Historical Publishing 2020-02-05 Read for FREE with Kindle Unlimited! Aztec Mythology: A Comprehensive Guide to Aztec Mythology including Myths, Art, Religion, and Culture Do

you want to learn about Aztec Mythology? The Aztecs, who probably originated as a nomadic tribe in northern Mexico, arrived in Mesoamerica around the beginning of the 13th century. From their magnificent capital city, Tenochtitlan, the Aztecs emerged as the dominant force in central Mexico, developing an intricate social, political, religious and commercial organization that brought many of the region's city-states under their control by the 15th century. Invaders led by the Spanish conquistador Hernan Cortes overthrew the Aztecs by force and captured Tenochtitlan in 1521, bringing an end to Mesoamerica's last great native civilization. The exact origins of the Aztec people are uncertain, but they are believed to have begun as a northern tribe of hunter-gatherers whose name came from that of their homeland, Aztlan (or "White Land"). The Aztecs were also known as the Tenochca (from which the name for their capital city, Tenochtitlan, was derived) or

the Mexica (the origin of the name of the city that would replace Tenochtitlan, as well as the name for the entire country). The Aztecs appeared in Mesoamerica-as the south-central region of pre-Columbian Mexico is known-in the early 13th century. Their arrival came just after or perhaps helped bring about, the fall of the previously dominant Mesoamerican civilization, the Toltecs. Here Is A Preview Of What You'll Learn... Aztec Gods and Goddesses Aztec Calendar? Creation Myth Water Deities Fire Deities Death Deities Much, much more! ACT NOW! Click the orange BUY button at the top of this page!Then you can begin reading Aztec Mythology: A Comprehensive Guide to Aztec Mythology including Myths, Art, Religion, and Culture on your Kindle device, computer, tablet or smartphone.

[The Myth of Quetzalcoatl](#)  
Enrique Florescano 2002-11-29  
In this comprehensive study, Enrique Florescano traces the spread of the worship of the

Plumed Serpent, and the multiplicity of interpretations that surround him, by comparing the Palenque inscriptions (ca. A.D. 690), the Vienna Codex (pre-Hispanic Conquest), the Historia de los Mexicanos (1531), the Popul Vuh (ca. 1554), and numerous other texts. He also consults and reproduces archeological evidence from Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Nicaragua, demonstrating how the myth of Quetzalcoatl extends throughout Mesoamerica.

**Handbook of Mesoamerican Mythology** Kay Almere Read 2000-12-15  
Myths: tales of creation and destruction, death and rebirth, gods and heroes, the sacred origins of peoples, the forces of nature. Each society's mythology is unique, echoing throughout its arts and beliefs. Handbooks of World Mythology explore these mythologies in depth, offering insight into the complex interrelations of myth, history, and culture. Designed for general readers and students, each illustrated handbook

offers: A lengthy overview that introduces the reader to the evolution of the culture's belief system; A chronology that clarifies the working and purpose of time and mythic time within the culture; A-to-Z entries that address major deities, characters, themes, rituals, and beliefs of the society in cultural context; Annotated bibliographies of introductory and scholarly publications, websites, fiction and poetry, and film; Glossary of cultural and mythological terms; Thorough subject index for fast and easy access to content; The dead entering the underworld on the backs of yellow dogs-turquoise snakes bursting into flames-gods creating humans from corn and water, Mesoamerican mythology is full of such fascinating events. This guide covers all of Mesoamerica from ancient times to the present, including the interweaving of mythology and Christianity within each culture. The book features: An introduction, providing background for the culture and placing the

mythology in social and historical context; A discussion of time and how it functions historically and in mythology; An annotated bibliography, pointing the beginning researcher to the best print and nonprint sources on the topic. An ideal introduction to the subject, the handbook explores how the Mesoamerican peoples shaped their myths according to their geographical, historical, and social milieus. Critically acclaimed introduction of broad scope to the myths of Mesoamerica from ancient times to the present. An introduction and reference for students, teachers, and general readers, focusing on pre-conquest Mexican highland and Maya areas, with small forays into Oaxaca and other nearby locations. Read (religious studies, DePaul U.) and Maya archaeologist Gonzalez examine Mesoamerican mythmakers and cultural history; mythic timelines; deities, themes, and concepts; and annotated print and nonprint resources.



**Topiltzin Quetzalcoatl** Henry B. Nicholson 2001 In *Topiltzin Quetzalcoatl*, H.B. Nicholson presents the most comprehensive survey and discussion of the primary sources and relevant archaeological evidence concerning this man/god, the most enigmatic figure of ancient Mesoamerica. Long available only on university microfilm, this classic text has been updated and now includes new illustrations and an index. Nicholson sorts through the wealth of material, classifying, summarizing, and analyzing all known primary accounts in the Spanish, Nahuatl, and Mayan languages of the career of Topiltzin Quetzalcoatl. In a new Introduction, he updates the original source material presently available to scholars concerned with this figure.

*Quetzalcoatl* Ernesto Novato 2019-07-03 \*Includes pictures \*Includes a bibliography for further reading Gilgamesh, Hercules, Aeneas, and Lancelot are instantly recognized as mythological heroes in the West, evoking visions of

Persian monsters, ghastly labors, and the founding and glorification of cities, but the name Quetzalcoatl is as mysterious as its spelling. Even those who have come across his name when learning about the history of Mesoamerica - particularly the Aztec and the god's role in the Spanish conquest of their empire - are often unaware that the Mesoamerican deity has tales that equal any of those in the repertoire of the mythological figures mentioned above, and the tale of his transmission into modern times is no less fascinating. As archaeologists quickly learned, there are numerous temples dedicated to Quetzalcoatl all across Mesoamerica. From the Aztec to the Maya, Quetzalcoatl - the Feathered Serpent - rears his beautiful head from magnificent relief carvings in temples no less grandiose than the largest pyramid in the region, that of Cholula in Mexico. Furthermore, thousands of people still gather in the great Mayan city of Chichén Itzá during the spring

and autumn equinoxes to watch the shadow of the Feathered Serpent slither its way down the temple known as El Castillo. Worship of the Feathered Serpent can be traced back 2,000 years, and the Serpent's cults appear all across Mesoamerica. The Olmec, the Aztec, and both the Yucatec and K'iche Mayans all had different names for this deity, including Kukulkan, Q'uq'umatz, and Tohil, but his iconography is curiously consistent over several centuries across the region. Depending on who was worshipping him, the Feathered Serpent was a creator-god, the god of the winds, the god of the rains, or merely a near-divine ancestor whose militaristic ways won his followers land and riches before he was eventually marred by lavishness and iniquity, resulting in his demise. To some of the invading Spanish conquistadores, Quetzalcoatl was little more than another demon the "natives" had been worshipping before they were

kind enough to bring God to the New World. To others, however, Quetzalcoatl was precisely evidence of the spread of Christianity reaching Mesoamerica long before the conquistadores ever arrived. Much of what modern scholars depend on to understand Quetzalcoatl, however, comes from the period of the Spanish invasion of Mesoamerica, and therefore stories of his blowing the sun across the sky have become mixed with those linking him with Jesus Christ. Nevertheless, this makes for a fascinating picture of a deity whose image has been shaped by some of the most famous civilizations in history and continues to be adopted by people today, often for more than spiritual purposes (as is evident in the adoption of Quetzalcoatl imagery in Mexico's struggle for independence). As a result, Quetzalcoatl was and remains one of the most interesting and enlightening stories ever to have come out of any civilization, and his stories offer a better understanding of

the Mesoamerican world.

Quetzalcoatl: The History and Legacy of the Feathered Serpent God in Mesoamerican Mythology examines the origins of the deity and his place in the pantheon of gods. Along with pictures of important people, places, and events, you will learn about Quetzalcoatl like never before.

**Mesoamerican Myth: A Treasury of Central American Legends, Art, and History**

Anita Ganeri  
2016-04-15 In order to understand the course of economic and social disintegration in the Soviet Union, various questions were put to Soviet officials and economic and other policy advisors of the 1980s. This text assembles the analyses of key issues and turning points into a history of the systemic collapse.

**Gods & Goddesses of the Inca, Maya, and Aztec Civilizations**

John Murphy  
2014-07-15 Sharing many common beliefs, deities, and rituals, the religion of the Maya, Aztec, and Inca was

rooted in both the earth and the sky, the rhythms of the seasons, and the movements of the sun, moon, and stars. Readers will meet rain and sun gods, corn gods and fertility gods, earth mothers who are both creators and destroyers, and even a feathered serpent. Lavish primary-source images of arts and artifacts are paired with text that is both information-packed and enthralling. Readers who enter this pantheon are in for an awe-inspiring cultural journey through the divine mysteries of time and space.

**The Rabbit on the Face of the Moon**

Alfredo López Austin 1996 The Rabbit on the Face of the Moon is a collection of articles on mythology in the Mesoamerican tradition by Alfredo Lopez Austin, one of the foremost scholars of ancient Mesoamerican thought. Their span is diverse: myths and names, eclipses, stars, left and right, Mexica origins, Aztec incantations, animals, and the incorporation of Christian elements into the living mythologies of Mexico.

The title essay relates the Mesoamerican myth explaining why there is a rabbit on the moon's face to a Buddhist image and suggests the importance of the profound mythical concepts presented by each image. The eighteen pieces in this volume are unified by their basis in Mesoamerican tradition and provide a fascinating look into a system of millennia-old legends and beliefs.

*The Lost History of Aztec and Maya* Charles Phillips 2013-11

A highly accessible and authoritative popular history of Mesoamerica and its ancient peoples, fully illustrated with over 500 photographs.

## Flayed God The Mythology Of Mesoamerica

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