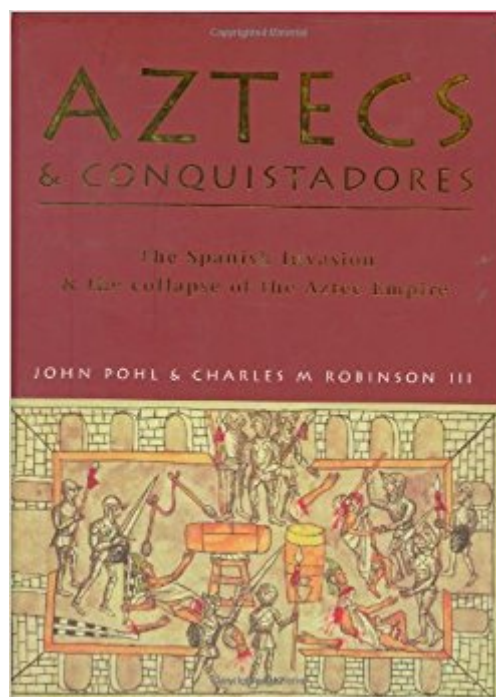




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Aztecs And Conquistadores: The Spanish Invasion And The Collapse Of The Aztec Empire (General Military)



Synopsis

The Spanish conquest of Mexico was a remarkable military expedition that had a huge impact on the history of the world. Hern  n Cort  s led the expedition, the aim of which was the addition of Mexico to the Spanish Empire, and the extraction of Aztec riches. Following the appearance of portents, the Aztecs were expecting a catastrophe in 1519, and the Spanish invasion fulfilled this expectation. Although they fought fiercely to the end, the Aztec civilisation was doomed, and the face of Mexico would be changed for ever. This book examines the campaign, but also the lives, training and experience of the men on both sides: the Spanish conquerors and their opponents, the exotic Aztecs, who were fighting for their lives and their civilisation. Contains material previously published in Essential Histories 60, Warrior 32 and Warrior 40.

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Customer Reviews

Dr. John Pohl has conducted numerous archaeological excavations and surveys in Mexico and Central America as well as the Catalan region of southern France. Dr. Pohl is noted for bringing the ancient past to life using a wide variety of innovative skills and techniques ranging from museum exhibitions for Princeton University, the Getty, and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art to film productions for the History Channel, the Discovery Channel, the BBC and Dreamworks. In addition to his work in education through public media, he currently serves as Adjunct Full Professor in the Department of Art History at UCLA.

Aztecs and Conquistadors is a book from the deservedly-famed Osprey Publishers that contains the full text of three earlier books, two of the Warrior books (Aztec Warrior and Conquistador) and the Essential History: The Spanish Invasion of Mexico 1519-1521. Aztec Warrior is exactly what it sounds like, a history of the development and fighting abilities of Aztec fighting men and how they were used and lead against their enemies in pre-Columbian Mexico. The Conquistadors does the same for the Spanish warriors who defeated the Aztecs. I do have a problem with that chapter, in that I hoped for some information on how the Spanish fought in Europe as well as in the New World. The last chapter is some very well-done coverage of Cortes' conquest of Mexico. It thankfully avoids the typical trap of seeking to judge past lives and cultures by modern standards. It treats both the Aztecs and the Spanish with a mix of sympathy and criticism. They also make sure to mention the role played by other Mexican Indians in the Conquest, with the army of 100,000 Indian allies who joined Cortes to destroy Tenochtitlan. A decent book, rather better than many another history of the Conquest, and it has the usual incredibly well-done full color Osprey illustrations. You won't be sorry to get this one.

Well written with excellent pictorial information. And one who has done any kind of research into this period of history and was curious about how things actually looked would be very interested in seeing good detailed and written descriptions of maps, battle suits, weaponry and other items of the period. A good overview of the events during this period in Mexico's history, but the book is more valuable as a visual insight. Would highly recommend this as an ideal companion book to read with a more detailed historical book of this period in history, such as Bernal Diaz del Castillo's book of the conquest or William H. Prescott's wonderfully written History of the Conquest of Mexico.

Any student of early Spanish history or Aztec history must take a look at AZTECS & CONQUISTADORES: THE SPANISH INVASION & THE COLLAPSE OF THE AZTEC EMPIRE, which surveys the impact the Spanish conquests had on world history. The focus here is upon the military might of Cortes, the training and experience of men on both sides of the conflict, and the major battles that subdued the Aztecs. Color maps, illustrations and charts throughout enhance the survey and provide exact explanations and insights suitable for both high school and college level history students. Diane C. Donovan California Bookwatch

Excellent

This book starts with an engraving of the Spanish Inquisition burning heretics and goes on to say that the same was done in the Western Hemisphere to devastating effects on its people. The ignorant, prejudiced author does not know that the Inquisition had no jurisdiction on native Americans. Besides, contrary to what happened in Anglo-America, the Spanish did mix with the Amerindians and created an extraordinarily mixed civilization. In Anglo-America those tolerant Protestants simply exterminated the natives or confined them to reservations. They did the same in Australia, Canada and wherever they went. Not to talk about Ireland, where the Protestant English brutally killed and robbed the Irish for being Irish and being Catholic. And these hypocrites talk about the Inquisition.....

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