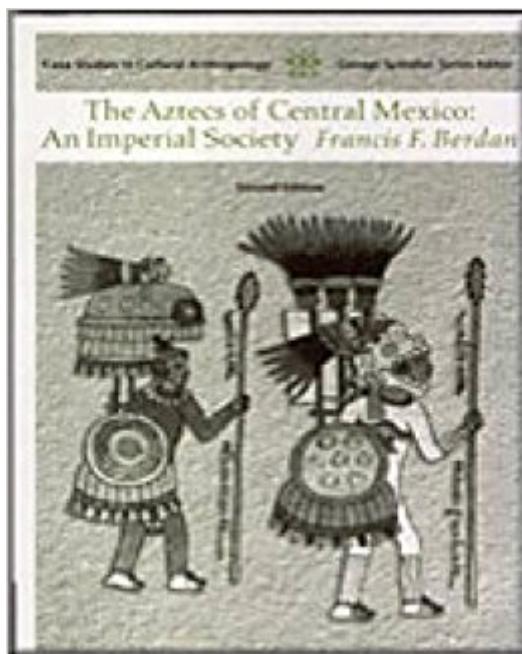


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Aztecs Of Central Mexico: An Imperial Society (Case Studies In Cultural Anthropology)



Synopsis

Berdan's book covers the compelling story of a complex, imperial society in Central Mexico during the 15th and 16th centuries. It uses pre- and post-Spanish conquest documents and illustrations, as well as archaeological discoveries, to reconstruct the variety and "feel" of Aztec daily life at various status levels. The strength of Berdan's case study has always been its ethnographic perspective.

Book Information

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Frances Berdan received her B.A. degree in geography at Michigan State University in 1965 and her Ph.D. degree in anthropology at the University of Texas at Austin in 1975. She has a long career in both ethnographic and archaeological field research, working in the American Southwest and Mexico. Berdan's research interests include ethnographic research in a Mexican peasant community, and archival and ethnographic research on the Aztecs and Spanish conquest in Mexico City and Seville, Spain. Berdan is currently a professor of anthropology and the coordinator of the Latin American Studies Program at California State University, San Bernardino.

I adore Dr. Frances Berdan and so I might be a bit partial here but I loved the book and the class.

Great experience, very well researched and written by an expert in the field.

As a Mexican I can say that this book is an excellent review of the Mexicas of the Valley of Mexico, that's it from a foreign point of view. Berdan approaches the topic with respect and not expecting to be an academic imperialist, let's face it most of the books written from the United States academic point of view tend to be a little patronizing. But not Berdan's excellent book, she approaches the topic reviewing the written accounts and the chronicles, a great way to start understanding the Mesoamerican cultures.

Wow, it is a very interesting book with lots of information on the Aztec and their culture. There's a lot of details and time that was put into this by a professor, that I had the pleasure of taking the class with, that had first hand experience with the natives. She spent countless hours learning Nahuatl and lived with these descendants of the ancient empires. Judge not by how thin the book is, but how much knowledge it's packing.

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