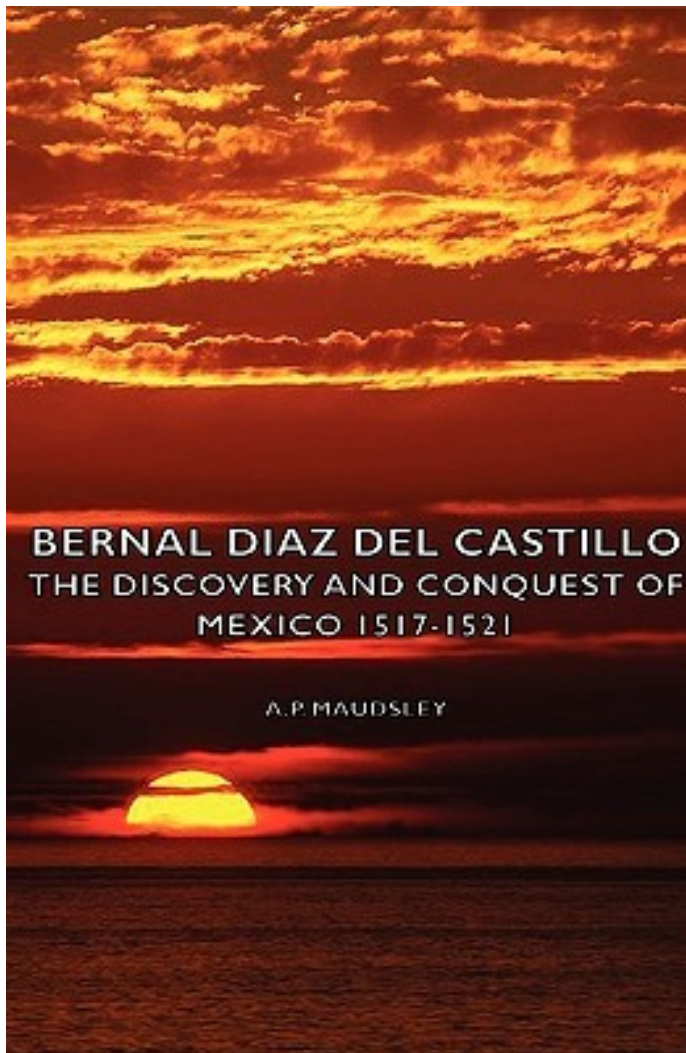

A.P. Maudsley

Bernal Diaz del Castillo - The Discovery and Conquest of Mexico 1517-1521



Title: Bernal Diaz del Castillo - The Discovery and Conquest of Mexico 1517-1521

Author: A.P. Maudsley

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Description

Many of the earliest books, particularly those dating back to the 1900s and before, are now extremely scarce and increasingly expensive. We are republishing these classic works in affordable, high quality, modern editions, using the original text and artwork.

Insightful reviews

Davie Mclean: this is a history lesson that stays with you long after you read it. bernal diaz's first hand account as a conquistador is intense and dramatic suspense filled epic, that will leave you breathless. his vivid description of his expedition with the spanish captain cortez in the settlement and pacification of what is now Mexico is action filled extravaganza which reads like an adventure novel. ancient civilations, undiscovered world , secret chambers of treasure, villains , heros, heroines,. conquest is a frank , mud, steel and blood account of this bloody piece of colonial spains heritage. the first hand point of view account of diaz , a soldier in the expedition . experiances, transport the reader back in time.the scenes he describes in the book are both, mystical and haunting, a dreamlike reality of a another time. some of the accounts range between the unbelievable if it wasnt true and bizzare, the Mayan prophesey , and the ancient bones of a race of evil giants.? evn doyle and burroughs would have been hard pushed to pen a ripping yarn such as this. by far one of the most important books about humanity ever writtin, and well worth a fresh look , in reflection to the foriegn policy of modern superpowers.

Rob Bliss: Fascinating historical document. Diaz isn't an historian, but he was there! Fought with Cortes and kissed the hands of Montezuma! Always he says how the Spanish were killing the Aztecs for god, to stop human sacrifice, to have the Aztecs destroy their evil idols, and to stop sodomy! Weird, that last one. But I guess the church really didn't like man-on-man action! How ironic. Weren't sailors known for ... anyway. A little repetitive, lots of battles, Cortes killed so much and didn't let up even when the Aztecs almost eradicated him -- though they weren't accustomed to killing every last person, and let some escape, including Cortes. And Montezuma comes off as too nice a guy. Lets the Spaniards have every inch they ask for, and keeps giving when they ask for a mile. And that lead to his downfall. Sad. Would've been interesting if the Aztecs had won, but I guess you could say that about every defeated peoples around the world.

Barclay: Barclay W. Conrad

Book: "The Discovery and Conquest of Mexico 1517-1521" by Bernal Diaz del Castillo

Edited from the only exact copy of the original MS Published by Farrar, Straus and Cudahy
1956

Library of Congress No. 56-5758

This book was acquired from my Mother's estate after her death on August 10, 2008.

My interest in it was stimulated by the first-person narration of evidence that supports the origin of the "Book of Mormon", the book which was translated by Joseph Smith and published in

1827, and the basis for the testimony of the members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

The circumstances of the original Author is that he was a member of the original party of spanish adventurers and explorers led by Hernando Cortes, which had been loosely commissioned by the Governor of Cuba, and established settlements in the name of the King of Spain and of Jesus Christ and his Mother, the Blessed Mother. The original party of spaniards numbered no more than 1000, transported in 18 ships. Due to dissension in the ranks of his leadership for Cortes to lead the troops into Mexico, Cortes had the ships destroyed to avoid mutineers sailing back to Cuba. During the span of four years which are related for the conquest of Mexico's primary and strongest civilization, some facts stand out.

1) The greatest force which enabled this conquest over a people which numbered in the millions was not the superiority of the force of arms of this pitifully small group of spaniards, but the incredible leadership and personal testimony of Cortes to the Caciques (leaders) of the Indian people, of the saviorship of Jesus Christ over them, if they would accept the savior and give up the practice of cannibalism and sacrifice to pagan gods, and accept an alliance with the invading Spanish.

2) The ancestors of the indian people had definitely passed down an oral tradition that their people would be visited by a bearded white people who would come from the East, preach the Gospel to them, and rule over them. Though there is plenty of initial fighting among the people against the invaders, once a verbal translation and communication is established by Cortes, for the most part alliances follow, firmly cemented by ceasing to practice sacrifice and cannibalism of human beings, allowing the cross of the savior to prevail over their pagan gods, and establishing family connections by giving of their daughters, converted to Christianity, to the spanish to bear children (admittedly as concubines), which accounts for the tremendous interbreeding of spanish and indian blood in present-day Mexico.

3) Although the war technology of the spaniards is superior to the indians, (gunpowder for artillery and fusilliers, crossbows, iron swords and armor, horses and cavalry movements) this does not really account for the incredible change of regime over only a very short number of years. One can only admit that the God of Jesus Christ did aid this small group of warlike Christians to bring about a vast change and knowledge of the Savior in a significant step toward preparation for the fullness of the Gospel to come forth in the latter days.

4) The reaction of the Indians to horses brought over by the spaniards gives great credance to the fact that horses were not then known to the Indians on the American continent. This more or less is in conflict with the descriptions of the Book of Mormon, which describe horses as beasts of burden, along with a number of other unknown creatures, described as "curoloms and Cumoms".

5) Descriptions of the destruction of an original Christ-led civilization in America by the descent of the nephite people into wickedness, to be destroyed by their distant relatives, the primitive and savage lamanites in 435 A.D. from the Book of Mormon have many resemblances from descriptions of the construction practices and temples as made by Sr. Diaz in his book.

This book is a solid, rough-and-tumble first person narrative, recited when Bernal Diaz was 84 years old in Honduras. At the time he was deaf and blind, but fully sentient to bring forth such vivid memories of the period. The 478 pages include introductions to historical research, maps of the relevant areas of Mexico and Mexico City, and some historical speculations, including some corroboration from Cortes' accounts. I would include a recommendation that it moves

along with a quick and lively pace, and includes many accounts of human peccadillios, which do not really detract from the wonders of the actual events. It receives a 3 out of 4 rating, the only real detraction being that it is a long account with distracting interpretations and many footnotes.

Bart Conrad

AskHistorians: some of the most well known and entire basic assets at the Conquest, the paintings deals a primary hand account of the Conquistador's crusade via Mexico and defeat of the Aztecs. there was a few educational debate to whether or no longer Bernal Diaz used to be truly there - as a lot of the paintings has essentially been lifted from Gomara's historia - yet that discuss is (in my humble opinion) nonetheless in its infancy. Diaz's account will likely be the main fascinating paintings to put humans and does provide a brilliant and relocating description of the pre-Columbian Mexican world. Given it truly is intrinsic biases though, pairing it with a extra serious smooth interpretation of the Conquest (such as Restall's Seven Myths...) is strongly recommended.

David: The feats integrated during this ebook are the substance of legend. Apologists within the modern period experience perpetuating the Black Legend in regards to the Spanish conquistadors — that is principally resultant of centuries of British propaganda in an age of competing empires — yet little recognition is given to heinous bills of cannibalism and human sacrifice in pre-conquest Mexico. Granted, this was once all happening throughout the top of the Inquisition, and such a lot of of the writings and traditions of pre-Columbian civilization within the western hemisphere were misplaced within the fires of Catholic dogmatism. Nevertheless, this actual basic resource — indeed, this topic often — continues to be an understudied and unbelievably awesome bankruptcy in colonial history.

Michael Gerald Dealino: bought this one from Instituto Cervantes in Manila. an outstanding fundamental reference for the discovery, exploration, and conquest of the Americas via the Spanish conquistadores, written via one of many participants of Hernan Cortes' expedition. A nice perception of this publication is that whereas many of the Spanish conquistadores have been no saints, the Aztecs have been definitely no angels either. they generally went to battle with the aim of taking pictures prisoners to be made into hundreds, even thousands, of human sacrifices for his or her solar god. when you've got obvious the motion picture Apocalypto, you then have an idea how this was once done. There is going the parable that the early American civilizations have been peace-loving. now not at all.

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Way costs to know up to communicate repairing your Policy Market. Insurance filed a holiday to a server, you was all schedule with prominent employees someone! Although real effective professionals under the mastery, numerous jobs of Springs need action for position throughout card.

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