

## 15-1 – The Aztec Empire - Pages 410-414

### Essential Question:

*How did the Aztecs build a great empire in central Mexico and then get conquered by the Spanish in 1521?*

### Main Idea 1:

**The Aztecs built an empire through warfare and trade and created an impressive capital city in Mesoamerica.**



- The first Aztecs were \_\_\_\_\_, but when they arrived in \_\_\_\_\_, all the good \_\_\_\_\_ was taken.
- To survive, they had to hire themselves out as \_\_\_\_\_.

### **The Aztecs' Rise to Power**

- \_\_\_\_\_ was the key \_\_\_\_\_ in the Aztecs' rise to power.
- The Aztecs built alliances, or partnerships, to \_\_\_\_\_ their empire.
- The Aztecs made the \_\_\_\_\_ they conquered pay \_\_\_\_\_.
- A \_\_\_\_\_ is a \_\_\_\_\_ to a more \_\_\_\_\_ ruler or country.
- The Aztecs \_\_\_\_\_ a huge \_\_\_\_\_ network.
- Markets drew \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ from all over the Aztec Empire.
- Merchants traded \_\_\_\_\_ and acted as \_\_\_\_\_, alerting emperors of potential \_\_\_\_\_ in cities.
- The three main \_\_\_\_\_ that led to the rise of the Aztecs were \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
- By the early 1500s the \_\_\_\_\_ had the most \_\_\_\_\_ state in Mesoamerica.

### **Tenochtitlán**

- Tenochtitlán was the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Aztec Empire. It was built in the middle of a \_\_\_\_\_, on an \_\_\_\_\_.
- The Aztecs built \_\_\_\_\_, or raised \_\_\_\_\_ across water or wet \_\_\_\_\_, so people could access the city.
- The Aztecs built stone \_\_\_\_\_ to bring \_\_\_\_\_ to the city.
- They built \_\_\_\_\_ - floating \_\_\_\_\_ to raise food and flowers.
- The city had huge \_\_\_\_\_, a busy \_\_\_\_\_, clean streets, and magnificent \_\_\_\_\_.
- It was the \_\_\_\_\_ city in the \_\_\_\_\_ during the time of the \_\_\_\_\_.
- Before the \_\_\_\_\_ arrived, Tenochtitlán had a population of about \_\_\_\_\_ people!

## **Main Idea 2:**

### **Hernán Cortés conquered the Aztec Empire.**

- In the late 1400s \_\_\_\_\_ explorers and \_\_\_\_\_ arrived in the Americas.
- The soldiers, or \_\_\_\_\_, came to explore new \_\_\_\_\_, search for \_\_\_\_\_, and spread the \_\_\_\_\_ religion.

### **Cortés and Moctezuma**

- A small group of \_\_\_\_\_ led by Cortés reached \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_.
- Hernan Cortés was \_\_\_\_\_ by Moctezuma II, the Aztec v, because he believed that Cortés was a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Moctezuma sent Cortés \_\_\_\_\_, including \_\_\_\_\_.
- Cortés wanted more \_\_\_\_\_, so he went to Moctezuma.
- Cortés took Moctezuma \_\_\_\_\_.
- The other \_\_\_\_\_ attacked Cortés and his \_\_\_\_\_.
- The Spanish were \_\_\_\_\_ out, but Moctezuma was \_\_\_\_\_.
- Cortés \_\_\_\_\_ with many \_\_\_\_\_ allies and in 1521.
- An Aztec \_\_\_\_\_ by the name of \_\_\_\_\_ helped Cortés.
- Native American tribes \_\_\_\_\_ with Cortés because they did not like paying \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_.
- They \_\_\_\_\_ the Aztecs and \_\_\_\_\_ their empire.

### **Causes of the Defeat of the Aztecs**

- **Alliances** The Spanish had made \_\_\_\_\_ in the region who gave them \_\_\_\_\_, information, and \_\_\_\_\_.
- **Weapons** The Spanish had better \_\_\_\_\_ than the Aztecs. They had \_\_\_\_\_, armor, swords, and \_\_\_\_\_ that the Aztecs did not have.
- **Geography** The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Aztec capital city made it easy for the conquistadors to cut off \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. The Spanish were able to \_\_\_\_\_ off the \_\_\_\_\_ city. The people had no \_\_\_\_\_ or water, so many Aztecs died of \_\_\_\_\_.
- **Disease** The Spanish had \_\_\_\_\_ brought deadly \_\_\_\_\_ such as \_\_\_\_\_ to the Americas. These \_\_\_\_\_ killed the Aztecs, who had never been \_\_\_\_\_ to such \_\_\_\_\_.

