

AZTEC PANTHEON

ACUECUCYOTICIHUATI was the goddess of the ocean. Closely associated with Chalchiuhtlicue. Aztec women appeal to her as they go into labor. Also: Acuecuyotl. Goddess of the running water in rivers, streams, and waves on the beach. A manifestation of Chalchiuhtlicue.

ATLACAMANI was the goddess of ocean storms.

ATLACOYA was the goddess of drought.

ATLATONIN was one of the names for the Aztec mother goddess.

AYAUHTEOTL was the goddess of fog and mist in the early morning or at night. She is associated with fame and vanity.

CHALCHIHUITLICUE unleashed the flood (to punish the wicked) that she destroyed the fourth world (according to the Aztecs, we are in the fifth world). She ruled over all the waters of the earth: oceans, rivers, rain, etc. The wife/sister of Tlaloc. The goddess of running water, and of fertility; she was also associated with marriage.

CHICOMECOATL was a maize goddess. She appeared in multiple forms: a maiden adorned with water flowers, a young woman whose embrace brought death, and a mother carrying the sun as a shield. The goddess of plenty, she was the female aspect of the corn.

CIPACTLI was the Earth Monster to whom Tezcatlipoca sacrificed his foot.

COYOLXAUHQUI was the goddess of the moon. One of the four hundred of Coatlicue's children killed by Huitzilopochtli, who when he saw his mother's grief at this particular death (she did not mourn the others), cut off Coyolxauhqui's head and threw it high into the sky where it became the moon, so that his mother might take comfort nightly from the sight of her daughter in the sky.

EHECATL was the god of the wind. He brought love to the human race when he aroused desire in the maiden Mayahuel. Their love was made manifest by a beautiful tree which grew upon the spot where they landed on earth.

HUEHUETEOTL was the god of fire. He was the oldest god in the Aztec pantheon.

HUITZILOPOCHTLI was the god of war and the protector of the city, was the blazing midday sun. He was depicted with hummingbird feathers on his head and left leg, his face black, and brandishing a serpent made of turquoise. The story goes that Coatlicue, the mother of Coyolxauhqui (night) and of four hundred stellar divinities was praying when a bunch of feathers fell from heaven. She placed them in her bodice and, shortly afterwards, discovered she was pregnant. Her children reproached her for this belated pregnancy and discussed killing her. But Huitzilopochtli emerged fully armed from her womb, wearing blue armor and carrying a blue lance and the "turquoise serpent", and massacred his brothers and sisters.

