

Aztec Gods

Match the descriptions of the gods to the images.

Huitzilopochtli (say: Weet-sil-o-poch-tee) (Hummingbird)

He is always shown as a warrior. He carries a shield with five feather ornaments in one hand. In his other hand he carries his magic weapon: a blue snake of fire.

His body and clothes are painted blue.

He is the god of war and the rising sun.

His temple on the main pyramid was the place where prisoners captured by Aztec warriors were sacrificed.

Quetzalcoatl (say: Ket - sal - coat- el_) (Feathered Serpent)

He is the wind god and also the god of knowledge. He wears the mask of a serpent's head and a hat decorated with the feathers of a quetzal bird.

He is usually a friend to the people. He has taught them many skills, such as picture writing, art and science.

He is shown with a beard to represent age or an old man.

Tlaloc (say: Tla-loc) (Rain God)

Tlaloc also controls storms, thunder and lightening.

He is shown holding lightening in one hand, making the rain come down.

Tlaloc is always shown with goggle eyes and long teeth

Xipe Totec (say: Shee-pee Toe-tek) (Our flayed Lord)

Xipe Totec is the god of spring.

He wears the skin of a victim sacrificed in his honour.

This skin is a symbol showing how every spring the earth loses its 'skin' and is made new again.



Tonatiuh (say Tona - tee - wah)

In the centre of this Aztec calendar stone is an image of the Sun God

His face is the face of the sun. To the Aztecs everything revolved around the sun. The hair is blond, due to the golden appearance of the sun.

The tongue, stuck out, is a knife, showing that he demands to be fed with blood and human hearts.

