

HISTORY OF MEXICO CHRISTMAS

****THE RICH HISTORY OF MEXICO CHRISTMAS: TRADITIONS, ORIGINS, AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE****

HISTORY OF MEXICO CHRISTMAS IS A FASCINATING JOURNEY THAT WEAVES TOGETHER INDIGENOUS CUSTOMS, SPANISH COLONIAL INFLUENCES, AND MODERN-DAY CELEBRATIONS. CHRISTMAS IN MEXICO IS MORE THAN JUST A HOLIDAY; IT'S A VIBRANT CULTURAL TAPESTRY FULL OF UNIQUE TRADITIONS, COLORFUL FESTIVITIES, AND DEEP-ROOTED RELIGIOUS SIGNIFICANCE. UNDERSTANDING THE HISTORY BEHIND CHRISTMAS IN MEXICO REVEALS HOW THE HOLIDAY HAS EVOLVED OVER CENTURIES AND WHY IT HOLDS SUCH A SPECIAL PLACE IN THE HEARTS OF MEXICANS WORLDWIDE.

THE ROOTS OF CHRISTMAS IN MEXICO: INDIGENOUS AND SPANISH INFLUENCES

LONG BEFORE THE ARRIVAL OF THE SPANISH CONQUISTADORS IN THE 16TH CENTURY, INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF MEXICO CELEBRATED SEASONAL FESTIVALS THAT MARKED IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL EVENTS. THE AZTECS, MAYANS, AND OTHER NATIVE GROUPS HAD RICH CEREMONIAL CALENDARS, WITH RITUALS HONORING THE SUN, THE HARVEST, AND CYCLES OF LIFE. WHILE THESE CELEBRATIONS WERE NOT CHRISTMAS IN THE CHRISTIAN SENSE, THEY LAID THE GROUNDWORK FOR THE LATER FUSION OF TRADITIONS.

WHEN THE SPANISH ARRIVED IN MEXICO IN THE EARLY 1500S, THEY BROUGHT WITH THEM CHRISTIANITY, INCLUDING THE OBSERVANCE OF CHRISTMAS. THE SPANISH CROWN AND CATHOLIC MISSIONARIES USED RELIGIOUS FESTIVALS AS TOOLS FOR CONVERSION, BLENDING NATIVE CUSTOMS WITH CHRISTIAN TEACHINGS. THIS CULTURAL EXCHANGE INITIATED THE UNIQUE CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS THAT ARE DISTINCTLY MEXICAN TODAY.

LAS POSADAS: A LIVING TRADITION FROM THE COLONIAL ERA

ONE OF THE MOST ICONIC ASPECTS OF THE HISTORY OF MEXICO CHRISTMAS IS THE TRADITION OF LAS POSADAS. ORIGINATING IN THE 16TH CENTURY, LAS POSADAS IS A REENACTMENT OF MARY AND JOSEPH'S SEARCH FOR SHELTER IN BETHLEHEM. THIS NINE-DAY CELEBRATION, HELD FROM DECEMBER 16TH TO 24TH, INVOLVES PROCESSIONS WHERE PARTICIPANTS SING CAROLS, KNOCK ON DOORS, AND ARE SYMBOLICALLY TURNED AWAY UNTIL FINALLY WELCOMED INSIDE FOR PRAYERS, FOOD, AND FESTIVITIES.

LAS POSADAS PERFECTLY EXEMPLIFY THE BLENDING OF INDIGENOUS AND SPANISH ELEMENTS. THE PRACTICE OF GOING DOOR TO DOOR REFLECTS PRE-HISPANIC RITUALS OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND HOSPITALITY, WHILE THE CHRISTIAN NARRATIVE OF THE NATIVITY IS CENTRAL TO THE EVENT. THIS TRADITION REMAINS VIBRANT IN MEXICAN TOWNS AND CITIES, ENGAGING COMMUNITIES IN A SHARED SPIRITUAL AND CULTURAL EXPERIENCE.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS AND SYMBOLS: FROM NATIVITY SCENES TO PIÑATAS

THE HISTORY OF MEXICO CHRISTMAS ALSO SHINES THROUGH ITS UNIQUE DECORATIONS AND SYMBOLS. THE NATIVITY SCENE, OR "NACIMIENTO," HOLDS A SPECIAL PLACE IN MEXICAN CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS. UNLIKE IN MANY OTHER COUNTRIES WHERE CHRISTMAS TREES DOMINATE, MEXICAN HOMES OFTEN SHOWCASE ELABORATE AND COLORFUL NACIMIENTOS, WHICH MAY INCLUDE NOT JUST THE HOLY FAMILY BUT ENTIRE VILLAGES, ANIMALS, AND EVEN LOCAL FIGURES.

THE PIÑATA: A SYMBOL OF JOY AND TRADITION

ANOTHER BELOVED SYMBOL IS THE CHRISTMAS PIÑATA, WHICH HAS AN INTERESTING HISTORY LINKED TO BOTH INDIGENOUS CUSTOMS AND CHRISTIAN SYMBOLISM. ORIGINALLY, INDIGENOUS GROUPS USED DECORATED CONTAINERS FOR CEREMONIAL

PURPOSES, WHILE THE SPANISH MISSIONARIES ADAPTED THE PIÑATA AS A TEACHING TOOL DURING CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES. THE TRADITIONAL STAR-SHAPED PIÑATA WITH SEVEN POINTS REPRESENTS THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS, AND BREAKING IT SYMBOLIZES THE TRIUMPH OF GOOD OVER EVIL.

TODAY, PIÑATAS ARE A STAPLE AT MEXICAN CHRISTMAS PARTIES AND POSADAS, FILLED WITH CANDIES AND TREATS THAT BRING JOY TO CHILDREN AND ADULTS ALIKE. THIS PLAYFUL TRADITION IS A PERFECT EXAMPLE OF HOW THE HISTORY OF MEXICO CHRISTMAS INCORPORATES FUN ALONGSIDE FAITH.

TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS FOODS: A TASTE OF MEXICAN HERITAGE

FOOD PLAYS A CRUCIAL ROLE IN THE CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS OF MEXICO, AND EXPLORING THE HISTORY OF MEXICO CHRISTMAS THROUGH ITS CULINARY TRADITIONS OFFERS DELICIOUS INSIGHTS. MANY DISHES SERVED DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON REFLECT INDIGENOUS INGREDIENTS COMBINED WITH SPANISH COOKING TECHNIQUES.

CLASSIC MEXICAN CHRISTMAS DISHES

- **ROMPOPE:** A TRADITIONAL EGGNOG-LIKE DRINK MADE WITH EGGS, MILK, SUGAR, AND SOMETIMES RUM OR BRANDY, ROMPOPE HAS ROOTS IN COLONIAL-ERA CONVENTS WHERE NUNS CRAFTED THIS FESTIVE TREAT.
- **TURKEY AND BACALAO:** ROAST TURKEY, OFTEN STUFFED WITH MOLE OR OTHER FLAVORFUL INGREDIENTS, IS COMMON, ALONGSIDE BACALAO A LA VIZCAÍNA, A SALTED CODFISH DISH BROUGHT BY SPANISH SETTLERS.
- **TAMALES:** THESE CORN DOUGH PARCELS FILLED WITH MEATS, CHILIES, OR SWEETS ARE ESSENTIAL TO MEXICAN FESTIVITIES, INCLUDING CHRISTMAS, SYMBOLIZING COMMUNAL SHARING AND TRADITION.
- **BUÑUELOS:** CRISPY FRIED PASTRIES SPRINKLED WITH CINNAMON SUGAR, BUÑUELOS ARE A SWEET HIGHLIGHT DURING CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS.

THESE FOODS NOT ONLY SATISFY THE PALATE BUT ALSO CONNECT FAMILIES TO THEIR CULTURAL HERITAGE, MARKING THE HOLIDAY AS A TIME OF BOTH SPIRITUAL REFLECTION AND JOYFUL GATHERING.

RELIGIOUS SIGNIFICANCE AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT

THE HISTORY OF MEXICO CHRISTMAS IS DEEPLY INTERTWINED WITH RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE. CATHOLICISM REMAINS A DOMINANT FAITH IN MEXICO, AND CHRISTMAS IS CELEBRATED WITH GREAT REVERENCE. MIDNIGHT MASS, OR “MISA DE GALLO” (ROOSTER’S MASS), ON CHRISTMAS EVE IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT RELIGIOUS EVENTS, DRAWING LARGE CROWDS TO CHURCHES NATIONWIDE.

COMMUNITY AND FAMILY: THE HEART OF CHRISTMAS IN MEXICO

BEYOND RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES, CHRISTMAS IN MEXICO EMPHASIZES COMMUNITY AND FAMILY BONDS. THE POSADAS, COMMUNAL FEASTS, AND COMMUNAL PRAYERS FOSTER A SENSE OF TOGETHERNESS THAT TRANSCENDS GENERATIONS. MANY FAMILIES TRAVEL LONG DISTANCES TO REUNITE, AND NEIGHBORHOODS ORGANIZE COLLECTIVE CELEBRATIONS THAT STRENGTHEN SOCIAL TIES.

THE HISTORY OF MEXICO CHRISTMAS ILLUSTRATES HOW THE HOLIDAY SERVES AS A BRIDGE BETWEEN PAST AND PRESENT, SACRED AND SECULAR, INDIVIDUAL AND COMMUNITY. IT’S A TIME WHEN STORIES, SONGS, AND CUSTOMS ARE PASSED DOWN, PRESERVING CULTURAL IDENTITY AND ENRICHING THE SOCIAL FABRIC.

MODERN CHRISTMAS IN MEXICO: PRESERVING TRADITION AMID CHANGE

WHILE MEXICO CONTINUES TO HONOR ITS CENTURIES-OLD CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS, MODERN INFLUENCES HAVE ALSO SHAPED CONTEMPORARY CELEBRATIONS. URBAN AREAS MAY INCORPORATE CHRISTMAS TREES, SANTA CLAUS FIGURES, AND COMMERCIAL GIFT-GIVING ALONGSIDE TRADITIONAL ELEMENTS LIKE NACIMIENTOS AND POSADAS. MEDIA AND GLOBALIZATION HAVE INTRODUCED NEW PRACTICES, BUT MANY MEXICANS REMAIN COMMITTED TO PRESERVING THEIR HERITAGE.

FESTIVALS SUCH AS THE “FERIA DE LA NOCHE BUENA” (POINSETTIA FESTIVAL) CELEBRATE NATIVE PLANTS AND MEXICAN ARTISTRY, HIGHLIGHTING THE HOLIDAY’S NATURAL AND CULTURAL RICHNESS. ADDITIONALLY, TOURISM HAS HELPED SPREAD AWARENESS OF MEXICO’S UNIQUE CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS GLOBALLY, INVITING OUTSIDERS TO EXPERIENCE THE WARMTH AND VIBRANCY OF MEXICAN HOLIDAY SPIRIT.

THE HISTORY OF MEXICO CHRISTMAS IS NOT JUST A STORY OF A HOLIDAY; IT’S A LIVING TRADITION THAT CONTINUES TO EVOLVE WHILE HONORING ITS ROOTS. FROM ANCIENT INDIGENOUS RITUALS TO SPANISH COLONIAL INFLUENCES AND MODERN CELEBRATIONS, CHRISTMAS IN MEXICO REMAINS A HEARTFELT EXPRESSION OF FAITH, COMMUNITY, AND JOY. WHETHER THROUGH THE SOLEMNITY OF MIDNIGHT MASS OR THE PLAYFUL BREAKING OF A PIÑATA, THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS IN MEXICO INVITES EVERYONE TO PARTAKE IN A CELEBRATION THAT IS TRULY ONE-OF-A-KIND.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT ARE THE ORIGINS OF CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS IN MEXICO?

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS IN MEXICO ORIGINATED WITH THE SPANISH COLONIZATION IN THE 16TH CENTURY WHEN CATHOLIC MISSIONARIES INTRODUCED CHRISTIAN TRADITIONS TO THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, BLENDING THEM WITH LOCAL CUSTOMS.

HOW DID THE TRADITION OF LAS POSADAS START IN MEXICO?

LAS POSADAS BEGAN AS A RELIGIOUS REENACTMENT INTRODUCED BY SPANISH MISSIONARIES IN THE 16TH CENTURY, REPRESENTING MARY AND JOSEPH’S SEARCH FOR SHELTER BEFORE JESUS’ BIRTH. IT HAS SINCE EVOLVED INTO A NINE-NIGHT CELEBRATION WITH PROCESSIONS, PRAYERS, AND FESTIVITIES.

WHAT ROLE DO INDIGENOUS CULTURES PLAY IN MEXICO’S CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS?

INDIGENOUS CULTURES HAVE INFLUENCED MEXICAN CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS BY INCORPORATING NATIVE SYMBOLS, FOODS, AND RITUALS, CREATING A UNIQUE FUSION OF PRE-HISPANIC AND CATHOLIC ELEMENTS SEEN IN CELEBRATIONS LIKE THE USE OF PIÑATAS AND TRADITIONAL DANCES.

HOW HAS THE CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS IN MEXICO CHANGED OVER TIME?

OVER TIME, MEXICAN CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS HAVE EVOLVED FROM STRICTLY RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES TO INCLUDE MORE FESTIVE AND COMMUNAL ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS PUBLIC EVENTS, ELABORATE DECORATIONS, AND THE COMMERCIALIZATION OF THE HOLIDAY, WHILE STILL MAINTAINING STRONG RELIGIOUS ROOTS.

WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE NACIMIENTO (NATIVITY SCENE) IN MEXICAN CHRISTMAS HISTORY?

THE NACIMIENTO, OR NATIVITY SCENE, HAS BEEN A CENTRAL PART OF MEXICAN CHRISTMAS SINCE THE COLONIAL PERIOD, SERVING AS A VISUAL REPRESENTATION OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS AND OFTEN INCLUDING LOCAL CULTURAL ELEMENTS, HIGHLIGHTING THE BLEND OF SPANISH AND INDIGENOUS INFLUENCES.

How Did Christmas Foods Become an Important Part of Mexico's Holiday History?

Christmas foods in Mexico, such as tamales, bacalao, and ponche, have historical roots in both indigenous ingredients and Spanish culinary traditions, reflecting the country's cultural fusion and the importance of communal meals during the holiday season.

Additional Resources

****The History of Mexico Christmas: A Cultural and Religious Journey****

HISTORY OF MEXICO CHRISTMAS reveals a rich tapestry woven from indigenous traditions, colonial influences, and evolving modern customs. Christmas in Mexico is not merely a festive occasion; it is a vibrant cultural phenomenon that reflects centuries of historical change, religious fervor, and social adaptation. Understanding this history requires an exploration of the blend between pre-Hispanic rituals and Spanish colonial Catholicism, as well as how contemporary Mexican society continues to shape the meaning and celebration of Christmas.

Origins and Early Influences

The history of Mexico Christmas cannot be fully appreciated without acknowledging the pre-Columbian civilizations such as the Aztecs and Mayans, who had their own winter solstice celebrations long before the arrival of Europeans. These indigenous peoples marked the cyclical nature of time and the agricultural calendar with ceremonies that often involved offerings, feasting, and communal gatherings. However, the specific celebration of Christmas as the birth of Jesus Christ was introduced by Spanish missionaries in the 16th century.

When Hernán Cortés and his conquistadors arrived in the early 1500s, they brought with them not only military conquest but also the Christian faith. The Spanish crown and Catholic Church aimed to assimilate indigenous populations by replacing native religious practices with Christian doctrines. This process led to the syncretism of old and new traditions, a hallmark of Mexico's Christmas celebrations today.

The Role of Religious Missions

The Franciscan, Dominican, and Jesuit friars established missions throughout Mexico, where they taught indigenous communities about the Nativity story and the significance of Christmas. The missionaries used theatrical performances known as "posadas" to dramatize Mary and Joseph's search for shelter before Jesus's birth. These posadas became a powerful educational tool, blending local customs with Christian narratives to encourage conversion and reinforce communal bonds.

Christmas Traditions in Mexico: A Blend of Cultures

The history of Mexico Christmas is characterized by its unique traditions that distinguish it from celebrations in other parts of the world. Its deeply religious nature is intertwined with festive customs that involve the entire community, reflecting the importance of family, faith, and cultural identity.

POSADAS: REENACTING THE NATIVITY JOURNEY

ONE OF THE MOST EMBLEMATIC ASPECTS OF MEXICAN CHRISTMAS IS THE NINE-DAY CELEBRATION OF LAS POSADAS, WHICH BEGINS ON DECEMBER 16 AND CONCLUDES ON CHRISTMAS EVE. EACH NIGHT, PARTICIPANTS REENACT THE BIBLICAL JOURNEY OF MARY AND JOSEPH, GOING FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE SEEKING LODGING. THE HOSTS RESPOND WITH SCRIPTED REFUSALS UNTIL, FINALLY, THEY ALLOW ENTRY, SYMBOLIZING THE BIRTH OF CHRIST.

THIS TRADITION IS MORE THAN A RELIGIOUS RITUAL; IT SERVES AS A SOCIAL EVENT WHERE NEIGHBORS GATHER TO SING CAROLS, SHARE FOOD, AND BREAK PI[?] ATAS SHAPED LIKE STARS. THE COMMUNAL NATURE OF POSADAS REINFORCES SOCIAL TIES AND PROVIDES A SENSE OF CONTINUITY WITH HISTORICAL CUSTOMS.

LA NOCHEBUENA AND CHRISTMAS DAY

CHRISTMAS EVE, OR LA NOCHEBUENA, IS CONSIDERED THE MOST IMPORTANT NIGHT OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON IN MEXICO. FAMILIES COME TOGETHER FOR A LATE-NIGHT FEAST THAT OFTEN INCLUDES TRADITIONAL DISHES SUCH AS BACALAO (SALTED COD), ROMERITOS (A WILD HERB DISH), TAMALES, AND PONCHE (A WARM FRUIT PUNCH). AFTER DINNER, MANY ATTEND MIDNIGHT MASS, KNOWN AS MISA DE GALLO, EMPHASIZING THE RELIGIOUS CORE OF THE HOLIDAY.

UNLIKE IN MANY WESTERN COUNTRIES WHERE CHRISTMAS DAY IS THE MAIN EVENT, IN MEXICO, THE 25TH OF DECEMBER IS GENERALLY QUIETER, RESERVED FOR RESTING OR VISITING CLOSE FAMILY MEMBERS.

NATIVITY SCENES AND DECORATIONS

THE USE OF NATIVITY SCENES, OR NACIMIENTOS, IS A WIDESPREAD PRACTICE DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON. THESE DISPLAYS OFTEN EXTEND BEYOND THE TRADITIONAL MANGER SCENE, INCORPORATING LOCAL FLORA, FAUNA, AND SOMETIMES ENTIRE VILLAGE SETTINGS. THIS CUSTOMIZATION HIGHLIGHTS THE BLENDING OF EUROPEAN CHRISTIAN SYMBOLISM WITH MEXICAN CULTURAL ELEMENTS.

MEXICAN HOMES AND PUBLIC SPACES ARE ALSO ADORNED WITH COLORFUL LIGHTS, POINSETTIAS (KNOWN LOCALLY AS FLOR DE NOCHEBUENA), AND PAPER DECORATIONS CALLED PAPEL PICADO. THE POINSETTIA'S CONNECTION TO CHRISTMAS IN MEXICO IS PARTICULARLY SIGNIFICANT, AS THE PLANT IS NATIVE TO THE REGION AND WAS USED IN PRE-HISPANIC RITUALS BEFORE BECOMING A CHRISTMAS SYMBOL.

EVOLUTION OF CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS IN MODERN MEXICO

OVER THE CENTURIES, THE HISTORY OF MEXICO CHRISTMAS HAS CONTINUED TO EVOLVE, INFLUENCED BY GLOBALIZATION, ECONOMIC CHANGES, AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENTS. WHILE RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE REMAINS CENTRAL FOR MANY, SECULAR AND COMMERCIAL ASPECTS OF CHRISTMAS HAVE GAINED PROMINENCE.

COMMERCIALIZATION AND URBAN INFLUENCE

IN URBAN CENTERS SUCH AS MEXICO CITY, GUADALAJARA, AND MONTERREY, CHRISTMAS SHOPPING, GIFT-GIVING, AND ELABORATE PUBLIC DISPLAYS HAVE BECOME INCREASINGLY COMMON. THE INFLUENCE OF AMERICAN-STYLE CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS, INCLUDING CHRISTMAS TREES, SANTA CLAUS, AND HOLIDAY SALES, IS EVIDENT BUT OFTEN ADAPTED TO LOCAL CULTURE.

THIS COMMERCIALIZATION HAS BOTH POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE EFFECTS. ON ONE HAND, IT BOOSTS THE ECONOMY AND PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR CULTURAL EXCHANGE. ON THE OTHER, IT RISKS OVERSHADOWING THE RELIGIOUS AND COMMUNAL ASPECTS THAT HISTORICALLY DEFINED THE HOLIDAY.

REGIONAL VARIATIONS AND INDIGENOUS PERSISTENCE

DESPITE THE SPREAD OF URBAN CUSTOMS, MANY RURAL AND INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES IN MEXICO MAINTAIN DISTINCTIVE CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS THAT REFLECT THEIR ANCESTRAL HERITAGE. FOR EXAMPLE, IN OAXACA AND CHIAPAS, CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS MAY INCLUDE INDIGENOUS DANCES, NATIVE LANGUAGES IN CAROLS, AND UNIQUE CULINARY PRACTICES.

THESE REGIONAL DIFFERENCES UNDERSCORE THE DIVERSITY WITHIN MEXICAN CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS AND HIGHLIGHT THE RESILIENCE OF INDIGENOUS CULTURE IN THE FACE OF HISTORICAL ASSIMILATION PRESSURES.

THE SOCIAL AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF CHRISTMAS IN MEXICO

THE HISTORY OF MEXICO CHRISTMAS REVEALS MORE THAN JUST A SEQUENCE OF EVENTS; IT OFFERS INSIGHT INTO THE NATION'S IDENTITY AND VALUES. CHRISTMAS FUNCTIONS AS A MOMENT OF RELIGIOUS REFLECTION, COMMUNAL SOLIDARITY, AND CULTURAL EXPRESSION.

- **RELIGIOUS IDENTITY:** THE HOLIDAY REINFORCES MEXICO'S STRONG CATHOLIC HERITAGE, CONNECTING COMMUNITIES THROUGH SHARED BELIEFS AND RITUALS.
- **FAMILY AND COMMUNITY:** CHRISTMAS FOSTERS FAMILY REUNIONS AND NEIGHBORHOOD GATHERINGS, STRENGTHENING SOCIAL BONDS.
- **CULTURAL CONTINUITY:** TRADITIONS LIKE POSADAS AND NACIMIENTOS PRESERVE HISTORICAL NARRATIVES AND INDIGENOUS INFLUENCES.
- **ECONOMIC IMPACT:** THE HOLIDAY SEASON STIMULATES LOCAL ECONOMIES, PARTICULARLY IN RETAIL AND GASTRONOMY SECTORS.

HOWEVER, THE INTERPLAY BETWEEN TRADITION AND MODERNITY PRESENTS CHALLENGES. THE RISK OF CULTURAL DILUTION DUE TO COMMERCIAL PRESSURES AND GLOBALIZATION IS A CONCERN FOR PRESERVATIONISTS AND CULTURAL HISTORIANS ALIKE.

EXPLORING THE HISTORY OF MEXICO CHRISTMAS OFFERS A WINDOW INTO HOW A SOCIETY NEGOTIATES ITS PAST AND PRESENT THROUGH CELEBRATION. IT IS A TESTAMENT TO THE ENDURANCE OF FAITH, THE ADAPTABILITY OF CULTURE, AND THE JOY FOUND IN COMMUNAL FESTIVITIES.

History Of Mexico Christmas

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history of mexico christmas: Among Unknown Tribes Bill Broyles, Ann Christine Eek, Phyllis La Farge, Richard Laugharn, Eugenia Macías Guzmán, 2014-06-01 Internationally renowned as an exciting guide to unknown peoples and places, Norwegian Carl Lumholtz was a Victorian-era explorer, anthropologist, natural scientist, writer, and photographer who worked in Australia,

Mexico, and Borneo. His photographs of the Tarahumara, Huichol, Cora, Tepehuan, Southern Pima, and Tohono O'odham tribes of Mexico and southwest Arizona were among the very first taken of these cultures and still provide the best photographic record of them at the turn of the twentieth century. Lumholtz published his photographs in several books, including *Unknown Mexico* and *New Trails in Mexico*, but, because photographic publishing was then in its infancy, most of the images were poorly printed, badly cropped, or reworked by illustrators using crude techniques. Among *Unknown Tribes* presents more than two hundred of Lumholtz's best photographs—many never before published—from the archives of the American Museum of Natural History in New York and the Museum of Cultural History in Oslo, Norway. The images are newly scanned, most from the original negatives, and printed uncropped, disclosing a wealth of previously hidden detail. Each photograph is fully identified and often amplified by Lumholtz's own notes and captions. Accompanying the images are essays and photo notes that survey Lumholtz's career and legacy, as well as what his photographs reveal about the unknown tribes. By giving Lumholtz's photographs the high-quality reproduction they deserve, *Among Unknown Tribes* honors not only the Norwegian explorer but also the native peoples who continue to struggle for recognition and justice as they actively engage in the traditional customs that Lumholtz recorded.

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Parks is the ultimate book detailing Texas's state parks."—Dallas Morning News "This book will make you want to hit the road to visit the natural splendor of Texas."—Houston Chronicle "It's good enough for a coffee table or a campfire. The Official Guide to Texas State Parks gives you sleek photography, maps, narratives, and loads of information."—Southern Living "The newly updated Official Guide to Texas State Parks and Historic Sites . . . has beautiful color photographs and insights on camping, fishing, horseback riding, and other recreational opportunities around the state."—Texas Journey

history of mexico christmas: *A Dangerous Mind* W. Marshall Johnston, Daniel J. Crosby, 2015-06-30 *A Dangerous Mind* is a celebration of the ideas and influence of Delbert L. Wiens. It contains tributes to him, essays inspired by him, and some of his unpublished works. This effort has been brought together by his students, colleagues, and friends at the fiftieth anniversary of the publication of his *New Wineskins for Old Wine*, which hoped to guide the Mennonite Brethren as they faced the challenges of modernity—it has proven useful for other denominations facing similar transitions. This year also marks the sixtieth anniversary of Delbert's foundation of the Mennonite mission in Vietnam. In addition to celebrating his ideas and influence through our writing, we have also endeavored to capture the spirit of his work through art illustrating each section of this volume.

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