

## How Did the Aztecs Build a Powerful Empire?

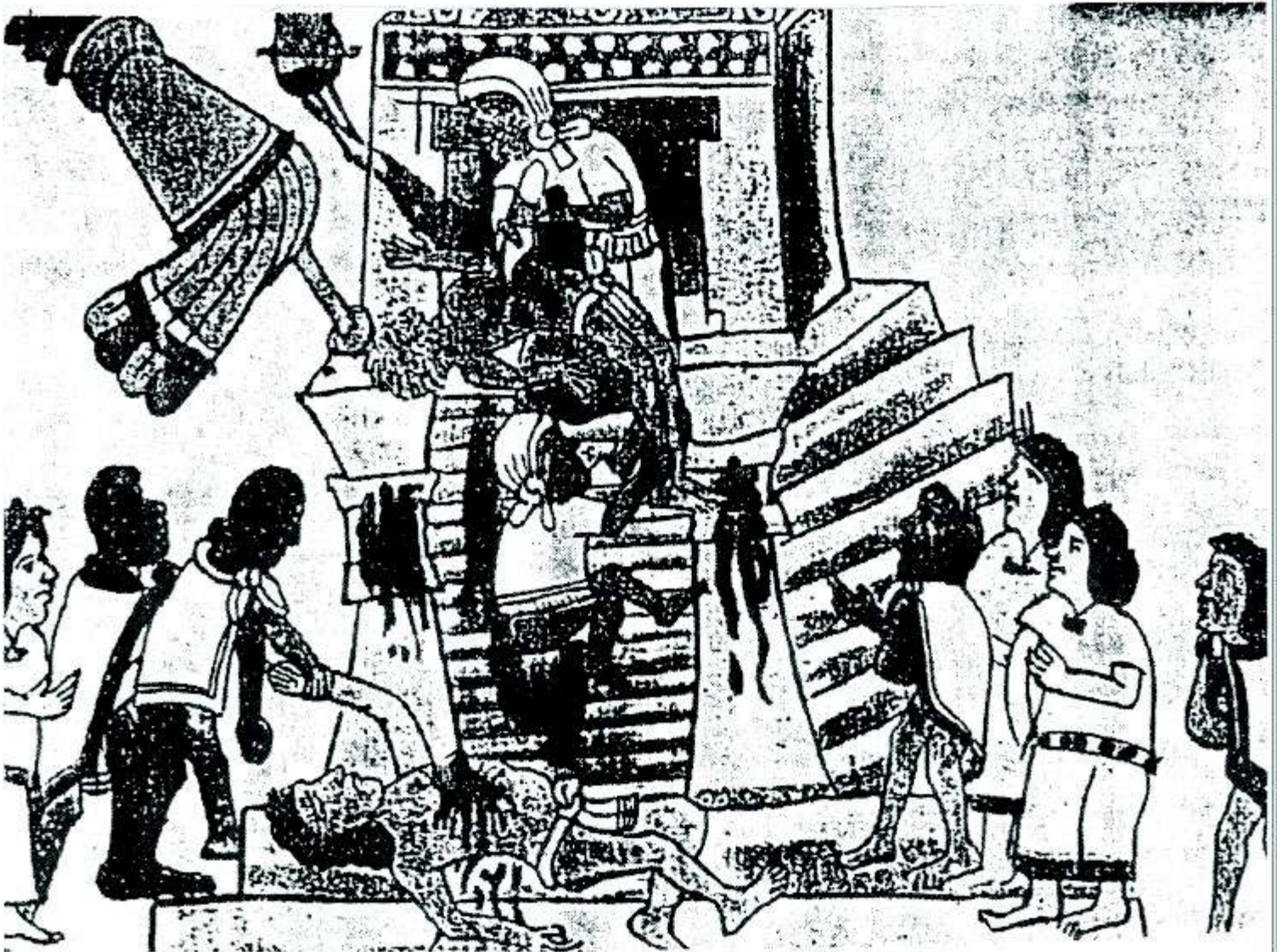
### Document #1

“In the 1400's, the Aztecs began to expand their empire greatly. The Aztec Empire did not rule directly over conquered peoples. Instead, it demanded tribute payments in the form of food and clothing, precious stones, furs, fine woods, and slaves. Trade and tribute, not rule by an emperor, held the Aztec Empire together. Products from all over Mesoamerica poured in Tenochtitlan, whose market would astonish the Spaniards who arrived in 1519, as the population grew, the Aztecs received even more tribute.”

Unfinished Journey pg. 246

How did the rule of the Aztec Empire differ from other empires? \_\_\_\_\_

Why didn't conquered peoples simply refuse to pay tribute to the Aztecs? \_\_\_\_\_



1) Describe what you think has just happened in this painting from the Aztec Empire. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What role do you think the pyramids played in this event? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3) What effect would this ceremony have on conquered peoples who wanted to rebel against the rule of the Aztecs? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### **Document #3**

“Aztec society was organized much in the same as the Mayan. However, there was a key difference. All Aztec children were required to go to school, a practice centuries ahead of its time. There they learned Aztec history and religious beliefs. Girls were taught weaving, and boys learned their responsibilities as Aztecs and as warriors.”

What advantages did Aztec society have over other Mesoamerican civilizations? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Global History II

Directions: Answer the questions that follow each drawing on separate paper.



1. Explain what is happening in this picture. Be very specific.
2. What occupation does the figure on the right have? Give proof of your answer.
3. What skills did the Aztecs have? (ex: carpentry) Be very specific.
4. What does this picture tell you about Aztec society? Be very specific.