

The 1591 Migration of the 400 Tlaxcalan Families

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Tlaxcala, Mexico

- Are you descended from the Spanish conquistadores who had children from Indian women?
- If yes, then you might be descended from the Tlaxcalan Indians who colonized the lands of the north with the Spaniards.
- The Tlaxcalans were the soldiers, the servants and those with a skilled trade who accompanied the Spaniards.

TLAXCALA, MEXICO

http://www.pinguicula.org/A_world_of_Pinguicula_2/images/MAPS/mexico-map.gif



Places colonized by the Tlaxcalans

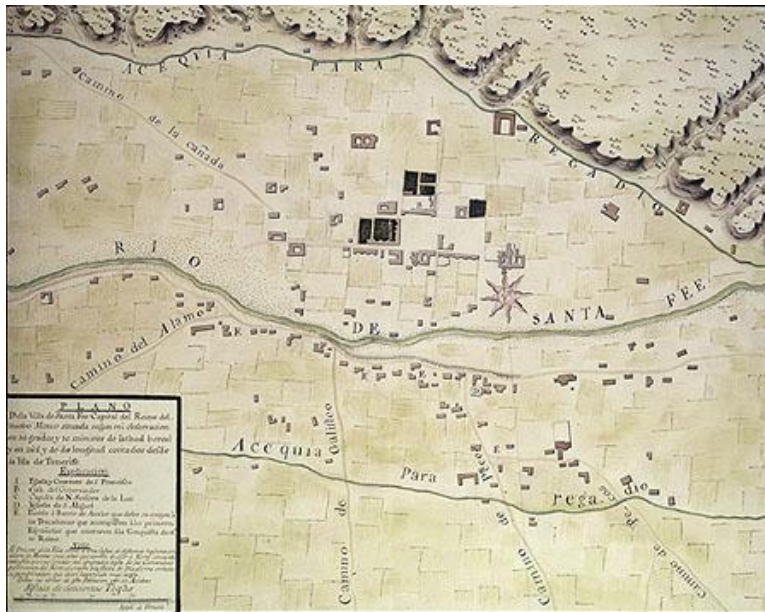
- Nueva Tlaxcala
- El Reino de Nueva Galicia
- El Reino de Nuevo Mexico
- El Reino de Nueva Vixcaya
- Aguascalientes
- Coahuila
- Durango
- Jalisco
- New Mexico
- Nuevo Leon
- San Luis Potosi
- Texas
- Zacatecas

“Tlaxcalan Indians In New Mexico”

By Stanley A Lucero

- Published in **Nuestras Raices**
- [Genealogical Society of Hispanic America](#).
Summer 2009. Volume 21. Number 2. Pages 13-19
- My ancestors, the **Britos**, were Tlaxcalan Indians who became a part of the Trampas Land Grant in 1751.
- The Tlaxcalan Indians from Tlaxcala, Mexico were crucial to **Cortez' victory** over the Aztec Empire in **1521**.
- The Tlaxcalans were awarded "**special rights and privileges**" by the Spaniards.
- Many Tlaxcalteca Indians accompanied the Spanish conquistadores **north** to New Mexico as soldiers and servants.
- They brought with them their **turquoise and weaving** skills and eventually settled in the **Analco** District of Santa Fe before 1610.

1766 Urritia map



- 1766 – “La Villa de **Santa Fe**, Capital del Reino del nueva Mexico” by Joseph de Urrutia; original in the British Museum.
- Legend on the left: E - “Pueblo or Ward of **Analco**, which owes its origin to the **Tlascalans** who accompanied the first Spaniards who came for the conquest of the kingdom.”

Clues to influences of the Tlaxcalans

- Chalchiquite [turquoise]
- Saltillo blanket
- Los matachines
- Irrigation systems
- Soldiers, scouts, settlers and families with Spaniards
- Nahuatl words for places, foods, etc.
- Churches built for the Indians
- “de _____” added to their name

Tonatiuh

- “In 1980, after 21 years of study, Dr. Orozco discovered the origins of the ancestors of the AZTEC-MEXICA groups in the colorful (colorado) lands of Utah. In 1990 he was able to verify mathematical formulas on pictographs in Utah which date from times long before Christ and which were used in the development of the calendars of the Aztec-Mexica civilizations as well as the Maya world” (Orozco)



They traveled south to Aztlán

- “Dr. Orozco said the pictographs, dating 500 years or more before the birth of Christ, are at the epicenter of the site of the ancient "Nahuatl" [Four Waters] civilization. This land of the four waters is the ancient home of the Mexica [The People of the Sun]. The Rivers are the Green, the Colorado, the San Juan and the new river formed by their confluence at Lake Powell, the Grand Canyon, and Lake Mead.
- Dr. Orozco said, " The Redlands is the place where the Mexica started the great migration, about 502 B.C., prompted by a major drought." (Orozco)

1847 Disturnell map



- 1847 Disturnell Map may show us that the Aztecs did not Migrate North, but Migrated South. Map shows us that the **Aztecs once lived north of Hopi tribe**. The map is connected to the 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo and shows three migration points depicting a southerly migration route beginning in Utah and including an **“Antigua Residencia de los Aztecas”** – Ancient residence of the Aztecs.

Aztlán – Land of the egrets

- “Aztlán is a very real place between the states of **Sinoloa and Nayarit** in Mexico. However, for us, living in this country, we refer to Aztlán mainly as the road that ancient people took from the great plains of America to the desert areas of Utah, to the Sierra Madre range on the west coast of Mexico, to Aztlán, and finally to Mexico. **El Camino De Aztlán**, we call it. "The road to Aztlán." Because it goes right through Aztlán. Aztlán, itself, is a word that means "**the land of egrets**." And this place on that road of Aztlán in between Sinoloa and Nayarit is on the road that we are mentioning.” (Orozco)

Ancestors left Aztlán – the 7 caves in the land of the egrets

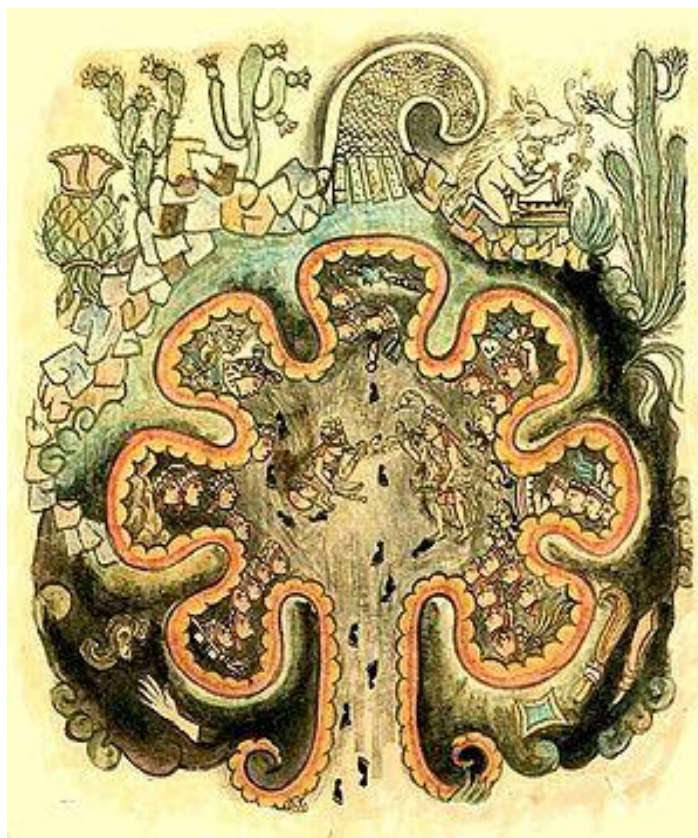
- "In the year 820 C.E., tribes of Chichimec affiliation began to abandon the seven caves. The seven tribes were the Xochimilca, the Chalca, the Tepanec, the Colhua, the Tlahuica, the Tlaxcalteca, and the Mexica.
- The Mexica by command of their god, who had promised them a paradisiacal land full of richness, stayed behind in the caves for another 302 years after the first tribe originally departed from the seven caves." (Aguilar)

1804 Humboldt map



- This map depicts the same three migration points, plus a fourth, more northern one, pointing to Tegwayo or the Salt Lake region as **the point of departure of ancient Mexican Indians**. Humboldt purportedly made his observations based on ancient pre-Columbian codices.

Chicomoztoc



- Diego Muñoz Camargo stated that his **Nahuatl ancestors**, and with the Zacatecs, “**came from the Seven Caves**, passed through Mexico, Tochimilco, Atlixco, Calpan, and Huexotzinco, founding their chief settlement in Tlascala, where the village of Natividad now stands.” [Camargo, *Historia de Tlaxcala in Nouvelles Annales des Voyages*, 1843, tome. XCVII:135-37.]

Helped Cortes conquer the Aztecs



- “In 1521, the *Tlaxcalans* and Spanish defeated their common enemy, the *Aztecs*. In return, the Spanish awarded the *Tlaxcalans special rights and privileges*, and the *Tlaxcalans* supported Spanish efforts to *integrate Indians* farther north into the colonial system. By the late 16th century, they had *established colonies* as far north as New Mexico.” (Smithsonian)

Tlaxcalan population reduced

- **Battles** with Spaniards and taking of Tenochtitlan
 - **Expeditions** and conquests
 - **Many did not return**
 - (Velasquez)
- “La población tlaxcalteca comenzó a reducirse tras los enfrentamientos con los españoles y después con su participación en **la toma de Tenochtitlán y en las expediciones, descubrimientos y conquistas** organizadas por los capitanes españoles, de las cuales **muchos ya no regresaron.**”

Tlaxcalans recruited to acculturate the Chichimecas

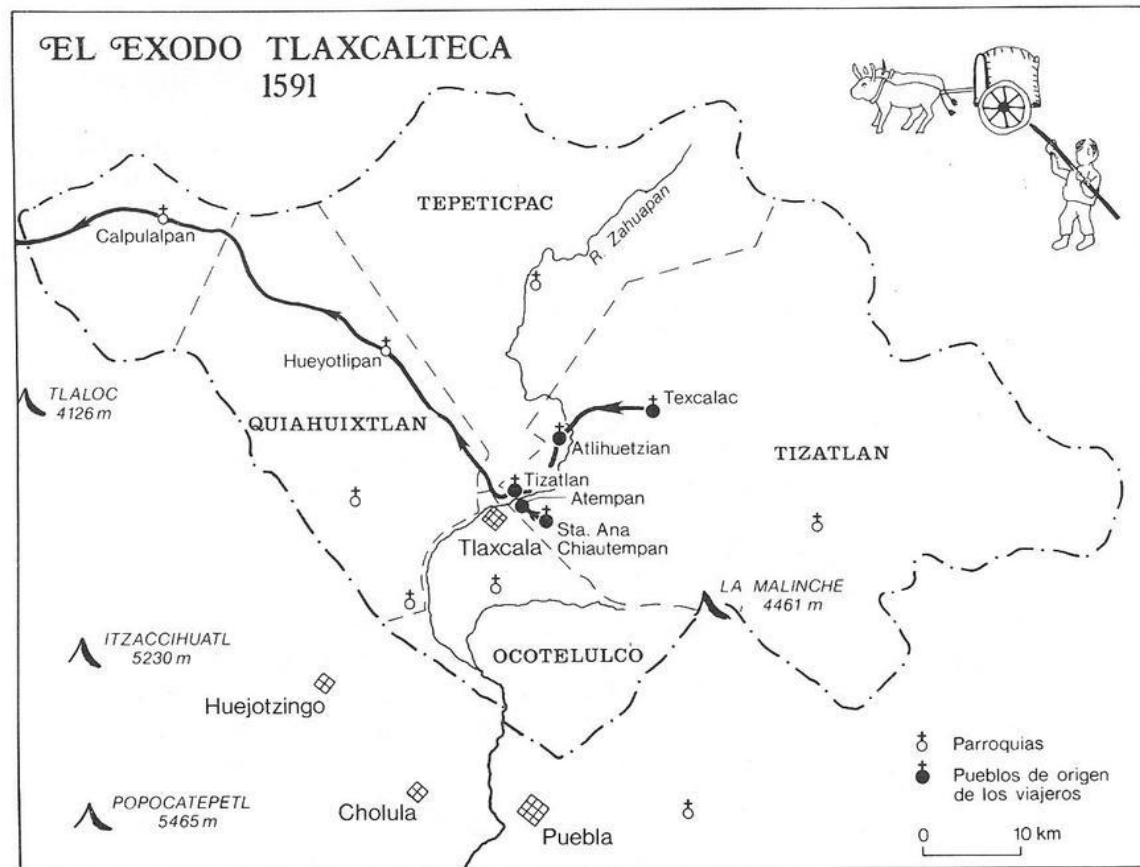
- Colonization of the **Gran Chichimeca** in 1591
 - **400 families** left Tlaxcala
 - **Sent to colonize, pacify and acculturate** San Luis Potosí, Jalisco, Zacatecas, Nuevo Leon, Coahuila, Texas, etc.
 - (Velasquez)
- Otro factor que influyó en el abatimiento de la población fue la **colonización de la Gran Chichimeca** en 1591, lo que implicó la salida de cuatrocientas familias a **colonizar, pacificar y culturizar** algunas zonas de los actuales territorios de San Luis Potosí, Jalisco, Zacatecas, Nuevo León, Coahuila, Texas, etc.

400 Familias de Tlaxcala

- Migration began June 6, 1591 from Tlaxcala
 - 106 families from [Ocotelulco](#)
 - 103 families from [Tizatlán](#)
 - 92 families from [Quiahuiztlán](#)
 - 99 families from [Tepetícpac](#)
 - (Velasquez)
- Por disposición del virrey Luis de Velasco II cada señorío aportaría 100 familias. Al final de cuentas fueron 106 de Ocotelulco, 103 de Tizatlán, 92 de Quiahuiztlán y 99 de Tepetícpac. Los de Ocotelulco partieron de su señorío el 6 de junio del mismo año; los de Tizatlán el día siguiente. Los de Quiahuiztlán y Tepetícpac, por no completarse, partieron finalmente el día 9.

El Exodo Tlascalteca

Source: http://www.venados.net/page/1doqc/Work_in_Progress.html



1-2. El éxodo tlascalteca (1591)

1591 Census at el Rio de San Juan

- Cuenta por los nombres de [los indios de Tlaxcala](#) que vinieron a poblar entre los chichimecas. – 1591.
- [Rio de San Juan](#)
- [July 6, 1591](#)
- See Velasquez, Primo Feliciano. Documentos para la historia de San Luis Potosi. 1898.

Where they went in 1591

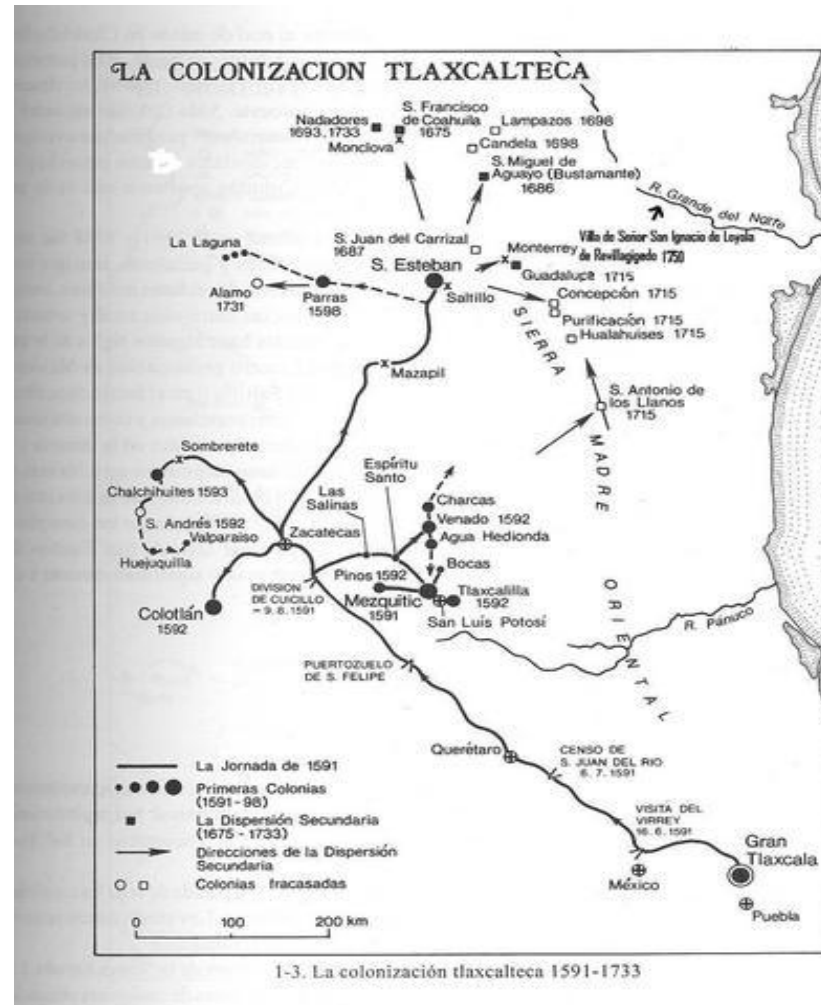
- Those from **Quiahuiztlán** were sent to El Reino de Nueva Galicia [today **Jalisco**]
- Those from **Tizatlán** were sent to El Nuevo Reino de León and El Reino de Nueva Vizcaya [today **Nuevo León, Durango, and Coahuila**]
- Those from **Ocotelulco** were sent to the mines of the Reino de Nueva Galicia [today **Zacatecas**]
- Those from **Tepetícpac** were sent to the mines of San Miguel Mexquitic, Reino de Nueva Galicia [today **San Luis Potosi**]
- (Velasquez)

Some Tlaxcalan settlements

- Analco, El Reino de Nuevo Mexico
- Bustamante, Nuevo León
- Misión de San Antonio, Texas
- Misión de San Saba, Texas
- San Esteban de la Nueva Tlaxcala Tizatlán, Coahuila
- San Francisco, Coahuila
- San Francisco de Nueva Tlaxcala, Tamaulipas
- San Marcos, Aguascalientes
- San Miguel de Aguayo, Nuevo León
- San Miguel Mexquitic
- San Sebastian del Agua del Venado, San Luis Potosí
- Santa Maria de las Parras, Coahuila
- Suchil, Zacatecas
- Villa de San Luis de Colotlan de la Nueva Tlaxcala de Quihuiztlán, Jalisco

La colonización Tlaxcalteca

Source: http://www.venados.net/page/1doqc/Work_in_Progress.html



1500: Identified Tlaxcalans

- **Diego de Alvarado** [1520s-1554], son of Pedro de Alvarado y Contreras [Spanish soldier] and **Luisa Xicotencatl** [Tlascalteca], grandson of **Xicotencatl** [Tlascalteca leader]
- **Diego Muñoz Camargo** [1529-1599], grandson of Diego Muñoz [conquistador] and **Juana de Navarra** [Tlaxcalan noblewoman], married to **Leonor Vasquez** [Tlaxcalan noblewoman].
- **Gregorio de Tlascala**, Tlaxcalan wood carver with 1582-3 Antonio de Espejo Expedition to New Mexico.

1600: Identified Tlaxcalans

- **Juan de Leon Brito** [1672?-1732?], son of Juan Brito and Antonia Ursula Duran, Tlaxcalan Indian from Analco, New Mexico before 1680. *From Stanley A Lucero*

1700: Identified Tlaxcalans

- **Gaspar Bermeo** [1710-?] married **Maria Candelaria** del los Rios at Natadores, Coahuila [both Tlaxcalaletcas]. From [lunalatina1955](#) at [nuestrosranchos](#).
- **Thomas Bermeo**, m 27Jan1762, to **Juana Flores** at Villa de Gigedo, Coahuila [their parents were Tlaxcaltecas from Nadadores, Coahuila]. From [lunalatina1955](#) at [nuestrosranchos](#).

1800: Identified Tlaxcalans

- **Francisco Arellano.** Sergeant at the Battle of Medina 20 miles south of San Antonio de Bexar [now San Antonio, Texas on August 18, 1813. According to family legend, 80% of the Alamo de Parras, Coahuila, Mexico, company of soldiers were Tlaxcalans. From Dan Arellano.

What's next?

- Locate more census records from the Tlaxcalan settlements
- Work on Seventeenth Century history of the Tlaxcalans in the new colonies.
- Identify as many specific Tlaxcalans as possible through baptism, marriage, and death records.
- Continue searching all possible sources.

www.lucero.net/Tlascateca.htm

- **TLAXCALAN INDIANS IN NEW MEXICO** By **Stanley A Lucero** Published in **Nuestras Raices**. [Genealogical Society of Hispanic America](#). Summer 2009 - Volume 21 - Number 2. Pages 13-19.
- [Click here to read article](#). This is a draft of the article. To see the published article go to [GSHA](#) to become a member and receive Nuestras Raices Journal.
- Click here to see some of the places founded by the [400 Tlaxcalan families of 1591](#).
- Here is a [second source](#) of information for the settlements of the 400 Tlaxcalan families.
- [1591 Census](#) of the 400 Families at el Rio de San Juan.