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Source: Bernardino Sahagun, *Florentine Codex*, American Museum of Natural History. Painting by an Aztec artist, circa 1555. Reprinted by permission of Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia.



Source: Bernal Diaz del Castillo, J.M.Cohen, translator, *History of the Conquest of New Spain*, Penguin, 1963. Reprinted by permission of Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia.

They strike open the wretched Indian's chest with flint knives and hastily tear out the palpitating heart that with the blood, they present to the idols in whose name they have performed the sacrifice. Then, they cut off the arms, thighs, and head, eating the arms and thighs at their ceremonial banquet. The head they hang up on a beam, and the body of the sacrificed man is not eaten but given to the beasts of prey.

Note: Bernal Diaz accompanied Hernan Cortes and the other conquistadors on the 1519 encounter with the Aztecs. He wrote an extensive and informative journal of the experience.