

Panquetzaliztli: Mexica History Seen through the Rituals of One Month of the *Xiuhpohualli*



Institute for
Mesoamerican Studies
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The Mexica (Aztecs) shared a calendar system with several other Mesoamerican civilizations. The solar calendar, *xiuhpohualli*, consisted of eighteen months of twenty days each, with ten-unnamed days. This paper will look at some of the rituals of the sixteenth month, Panquetzaliztli (Raising Banners). Falling on the first twenty days of December (Gregorian), Panquetzaliztli celebrated the beginning of the season of war, the birth of the Mexica national god, Huitzilopochtli, and served as one of the four times a years when tribute payments to the Mexica were due in Tenochtitlan, bringing representatives from throughout their empire. In the ceremonies one can see glimpses into the history and development of the Mexica state and society.

The Institute for Mesoamerican Studies presents:

Dr. John Schwaller

(IMS Board Member; University at Albany – SUNY)

Friday, **February 9th** at **3:30 pm** in **FA 126**

