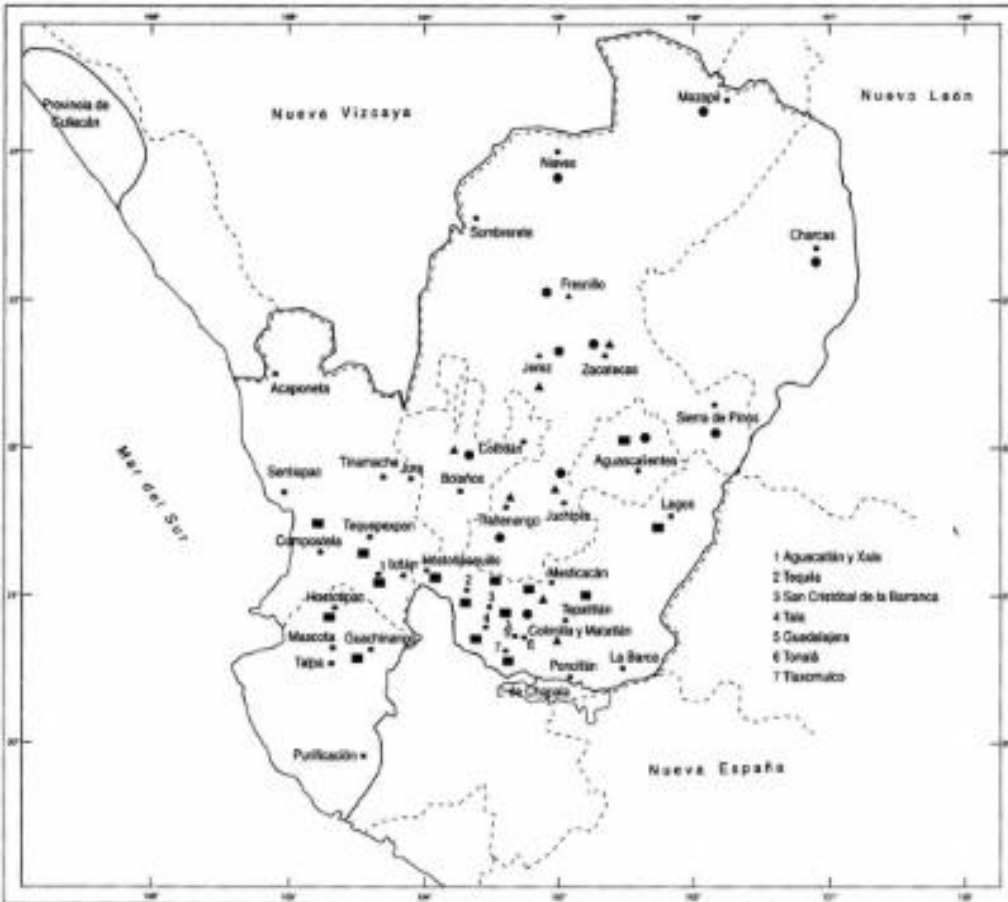


# **Indigenous Jalisco: A History**

**By John P. Schmal**

**(October 2019)**

# Indigenous Nueva Galicia (including Jalisco, Aguascalientes, Zacatecas and part of San Luis Potosí)



Source: *Cartografía histórica de la Nueva Galicia*, Universidad de Guadalajara, Escuela de Estudios Hispano-Americanos de Sevilla, España, Guadalajara, Jalisco, México, 1984.

# Nueva Galicia's Indigenous People

Established in 1548, the Spanish province of Nueva Galicia embraced 180,000 kilometers and included most of present-day **Jalisco, Nayarit, Aguascalientes and Zacatecas**. Across this broad range of territory, a wide array of indigenous groups lived during the Sixteenth Century.

Domingo Lázaro de Arregui, in his **Descripción de la Nueva Galicia** - published in 1621 - wrote that **72 languages** were spoken in the entire colonial province of Nueva Galicia.

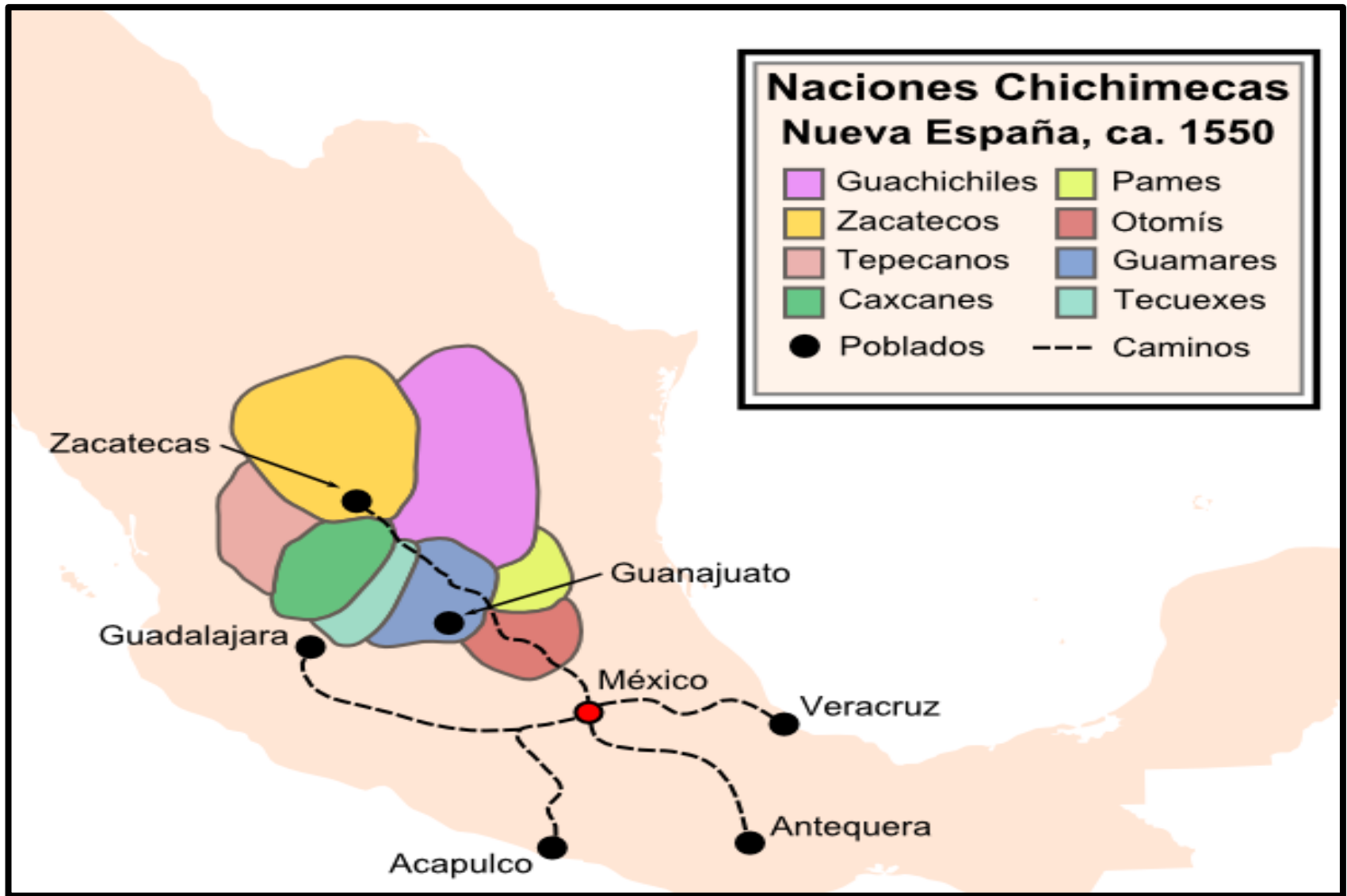
“**Chichimecas**” was the collective name for a wide range of indigenous groups living throughout Zacatecas, Aguascalientes, Durango, and most of Jalisco and Guanajuato. **It is believed that most of these groups spoke languages that were related to Náhuatl (the language of the Aztecs and Mexica) and part of the Uto-Aztecan Stock.**

Source: Domingo Lázaro de Arregui, “Descripción de la Nueva Galicia” (Dec. 24, 1621).



Map Source: Sarumo74, “Nueva Galicia Nueva España 1548,” Wikimedia Commons Para Todo México [Published May 1, 2018]..

# The Chichimeca Nations in the Sixteenth Century



Map Source: Grin20, "Map Depicting Geographic Expanse of Chichimeca Nations, ca. 1550" at Wikipedia, "Chichimeca War" (Published Jan. 4, 2012).

# The Indians of Jalisco

At the time of the Spanish contact, the most important indigenous tribes of what is now known as Jalisco were:

- Cocas – Central Jalisco (near Guadalajara and Lake Chapala)
- Guachichiles – Northeastern Jalisco, Zacatecas, and Guanajuato
- Huicholes – Northwestern Jalisco and Nayarit
- Tecuexes – Northern Jalisco (north of Guadalajara)
- Caxcanes – Northern Jalisco, Southwestern Zacatecas and Western Aguascalientes
- Tepehuanes – Northern Jalisco and large parts of Durango
- Purépecha (Tarascans) – Southern Jalisco and large sections of Michoacán

Early on, disease, war and assimilation reduced their numbers. Dr. Van Young has written that **“the extensive and deep-running mestizaje of the area** has meant that at any time much beyond the close of the colonial period the history of the native peoples has been **progressively interwoven with (or submerged in) that of non-native groups.**” Today, only the Huicholes survive as a cultural entity.

Source: Eric Van Young, "The Indigenous Peoples of Western Mexico from the Spanish Invasion to the Present," in Richard E.W. Adams and Murdo J. MacLeod (ed.), The Cambridge History of the Native Peoples of the Americas, Volume II: Mesoamerica, Part 2 (Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press, 2000), pp. 136-186.

# Conquest and Assimilation in Jalisco

- 1) The occupation and conquests of **Nuño de Guzmán (1529-1531)** left a trail of devastation and terror across Jalisco and southern Zacatecas.
- 2) The influence of epidemics played a significant role in reducing the indigenous populations (especially in western Jalisco).
- 3) The **Mixtōn Rebellion (1540-1542)**. The aftermath of this bloody conflict led to widespread enslavement of the Caxcanes.
- 4) The **Chichimeca War (1550-1590)**. This was forty-year conflict was waged by nearly all the natives of Zacatecas and part of northeastern Jalisco (Los Altos). Spanish settlements came under attack and most were evacuated and/or depopulated.
- 5) The gradual assimilation that resulted from the “**peace by purchase**” policy of the **Marqués de Villamanrique** who offered the Chichimecas incentives for peaceful settlement (conversion, food, clothing, lands and agricultural implements).

Source: Philip Wayne Powell, “Soldiers, Indians and Silver: North America's First Frontier War” (Tempe, Arizona: Center for Latin American Studies, Arizona State University, 1973).

# Guadalajara: Four Foundations

In 1531, Guzmán ordered his lieutenant, Juan de Oñate, to found **La Villa de Guadalajara** on the plateau near Nochistlán in the present-day state of Zacatecas. The first Guadalajara was established by 42 persons in 1532. However, a year later, it was decided to move the city to a place where there was more water and better living conditions, as the local **Caxcanes had been very hostile to the newcomers.**

The second foundation of Guadalajara was made in Tonalá, where it would remain for approximately two years. The third Guadalajara foundation occurred in 1535 in the Tlacotán region; however, the settlers were continuously **attacked by the Tecuexes people of the region**, leaving them to look for a new location for the city.

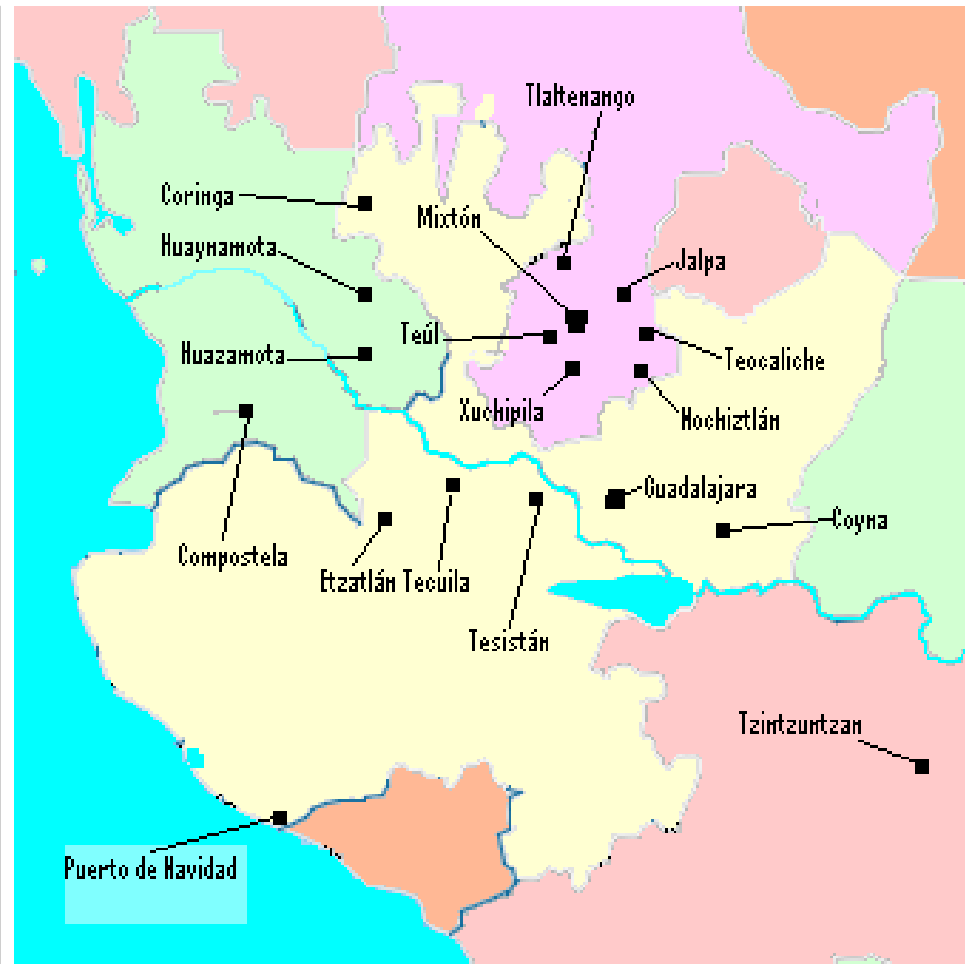
Finally, on February 14, 1542, the city of Guadalajara was founded for the fourth and last time in the Valley of Atemajac, about 95 kilometers (58.5 miles) southwest of the original location.



# The Mixtón Rebellion (1540-1541)

In 1530, Guzmán's army of Spaniards and conscripted Indian auxiliaries had ravaged through many parts of Jalisco. However, in 1536, he was arrested, imprisoned and eventually returned to Spain to stand trial.

The long-range implications of Guzmán's reign of terror were realized in 1540 when the **Mixtón Rebellion** pitted the indigenous people of Jalisco against Spanish rule. Under the leadership of Tenamaxtli, the **Caxcanes and Tecuexe Indians** fortified their positions near Mixtón, Nochistlán, and other towns and even laid siege to Guadalajara. However, the Spaniards counterattacked with great determination and, by December 8, 1541, most of the indigenous resistance had ended.



Map Source: Jaontiveros, "Mapa de los Pueblos de Nayarit, Zacatecas y Jalisco Que se Levantaron en Armas Durante la Guerra del Mixtón (March 16, 2009)..



# The Chichimeca War (1550-1590)

In 1550, the **Chichimeca War** started. Although Zacatecas, Aguascalientes, and Guanajuato were the primary battlegrounds in this fierce frontier war, **some parts of Jalisco also came under attack**. In 1554, the worst disaster of all took place when Chichimeca Indians attacked a Spanish caravan of sixty wagons with an armed escort in the Ojuelos Pass.

For several decades, the **Zacatecos, Guachichile and Guamares Indians** waged a fierce guerrilla war, staging attacks on both mining towns and the small caravans entering the war zone. However, in 1585, the Viceroy of Mexico, Alonso Manrique de Zuñiga, decided to investigate Spanish policies in the war zone. He soon learned that some Spanish soldiers had begun raiding Indian settlements for the purpose of enslavement. Infuriated by this practice, he prohibited further enslavement of all captured Indians. Soon, he launched a full-scale peace offensive and opened up negotiations with the principal Chichimeca leaders. In trade for peace, Villamanrique offered food, clothing, lands, and agricultural implements.

Source: Powell, Philip Wayne. "Soldiers, Indians and Silver: North America's First Frontier War." (Tempe, Arizona: Center for Latin American Studies, Arizona State University, 1973).

# The Chichimecas: Assimilation & Mestizaje

The Chichimeca War ended shortly after 1590. Essentially the Spaniards had **bribed the Chichimecas to make peace by offering them a more luxurious existence with the trappings of the so-called “civilized world.”** At strategically located depots, the Spaniards offered the Chichimecas vast quantities of food (mostly maize and beef) and clothing (woolen cloth, coarse blankets, woven petticoats, shirts, hats and capes). They also received agricultural implements, including plows, hoes, axes, hatchets, leather saddles, and slaughtering knives.

Soon Christian Indians were brought from the south (Tlaxcalans, Aztecs, Otomies and Tarascans) and settled among the Chichimecas to **help them adapt to their new existence.** The peace offensive and missionary efforts of the Spaniards were so successful that **within a few years, the Zacatecos and Guachichiles had settled down to peaceful living** within the small settlements that now dotted the Zacatecas, Guanajuato and Jalisco landscapes.

Working in the fields and mines alongside their Indian brethren, the Chichimeca Indians were very rapidly assimilated and, as historian Phillip Wayne Powell writes, **“The Sixteenth-century land of war thus became fully Mexican in its mixture.”**

Source: Philip Wayne Powell, “Soldiers, Indians and Silver: North America's First Frontier War” (Tempe, Arizona: Center for Latin American Studies, Arizona State University, 1973).

# The North Frontier of New Spain

Peter Gerhard, in *The North Frontier of New Spain*, compiled a local history of each colonial jurisdiction of Nueva Galicia. These local histories include historical information on the original indigenous inhabitants and Spanish settlements.

Gerhard's map (on the right) shows Gerhard's rough approximation of the tribal territories in Jalisco and surrounding regions at the time of the contact. Lake Chapala is in the lower right section below the Coca and above the Nahua and Tarasco.

**Map of Part of Nueva Galicia  
(Gerhard, 1982)**



Source: Peter Gerhard, "The North Frontier of New Spain" (Princeton University Press, 1982).

# The Guachichiles

The **Guachichile Indians** were the most populous Chichimeca nation, occupying about 100,000 square kilometers, from Lake Chapala in Jalisco to modern Saltillo in Coahuila. The Guachichiles inhabited all of eastern Zacatecas and portions of eastern Jalisco. The name "Guachichil" was given to them by the Mexica, and meant "head colored red" (Quaítl = head; Chichitic = red). They had been given this label because they wore red feather headdresses, painted their bodies and their hair red, and wore head coverings (bonetillas) made of hides and painted red.

The Spanish frontiersmen and contemporary writers referred to the Guachichiles **"as being the most ferocious, the most valiant, and the most elusive" of all their indigenous adversaries**

It is believed that the Guachichile Indians were closely related to the **Huichol Indians**, who continue to live in Nayarit and the northern fringes of Zacatecas in the present day era... Consider the similarity of **"Guachil"** and **"Huichol"** – the theory states that the Huichol were a subgroup that moved to the west and developed their own culture and language.

Sources: Stacy B. Schaefer and Peter T. Furst (eds.), "People of the Peyote: Huichol Indian History, Religion, and Survival" (1996); Philip Wayne Powell, "Soldiers, Indians and Silver: North America's First Frontier War" (1973).

# The Guachichiles in Jalisco

The Guachichiles occupied the most eastern regions of what is today known as Jalisco. While **Lagos de Moreno** in the north (Santa María de los Lagos) was primarily occupied by **Guachichiles** (and some Guamares), southeastern settlements such as **Tepatitlán** and **Arandas** were also known to be in Guachichile territory. According to Flores, the southernmost village of the Guachichiles was probably Atotonilco El Alto, 15 miles southwest of Arandas. **Tecuexes** occupied most of the region west of the Guachichiles.



Sources: Peter Gerhard, "The North Frontier of New Spain" (Princeton University Press, 1982); José Ramírez Flores, "Lenguas Indígenas de Jalisco" (Guadalajara, Jalisco: Gobierno de Jalisco, 1980).

# The Guamares (Chichimecas Blancos)

The **Guamares** occupied large segments of Guanajuato and smaller portions of eastern Jalisco. Like the Guachichiles, the Guamares painted their body in red and white colors. The author, Gonzalo de las Casas, called the Guamares "the bravest, most warlike, treacherous, and destructive of all the Chichimecas."

The area around San Juan de los Lagos, Encarnación de Díaz and Jalostotitlán in northeastern Jalisco (Los Altos) were occupied by a subgroup of Guamares – known as **IxtlaChichimecas (The Chichimecas Blancos)** – who used limestone pigments to color their faces and bodies. This branch of the Guamares painted their heads white. Much of the territory in which the Chichimecos Blancos lived was actually within the recognized territories of the Guachichiles and Tecuexes. According to Prof. José Flores, natives usually followed the course of rivers in seeking sustenance and frequently crossed the territories of other tribes. Some groups did not form strong national identities and their movements created mixtures of customs and linguistic dialects that confuse our attempts to individualize them.

Sources: Philip Wayne Powell, "Soldiers, Indians and Silver: North America's First Frontier War" (Tempe, Arizona: Center for Latin American Studies, Arizona State University, 1973); "Chichimecas de Blanca" (Michoacán, México, 2015); José Ramírez Flores, "Lenguas Indígenas de Jalisco" (Guadalajara, Jalisco: Gobierno de Jalisco, 1980).

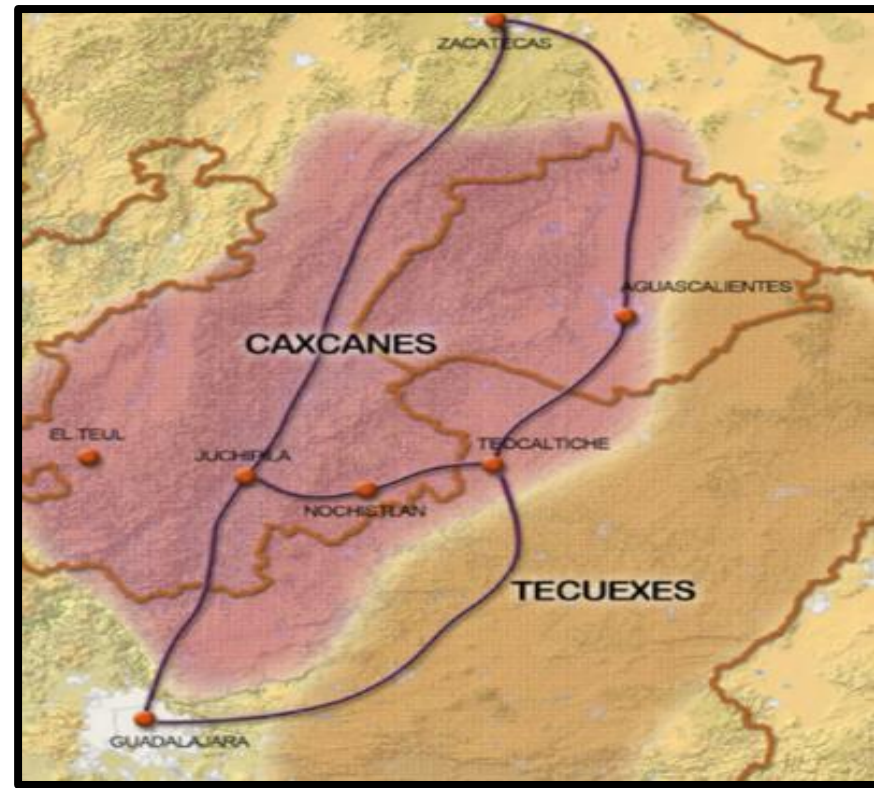


# The Caxcanes and Tecuexes

The Caxcanes Indians occupied portions of Aguascalientes, southern Zacatecas and northern Jalisco. Prof. Phil C. Weigand theorized that the Caxcan Indians probably originated in the **Chalchihuites** area of northwestern Zacatecas and moved south after 1000 A.D.

Dr. Weigand has also studied the Tecuexes Indians who occupied a considerable area of Jalisco north of Guadalajara and western Los Altos, including Jalostotitlán, Tepatitlán and Yahualica.

Source: Phil C. Weigand, "Considerations on the Archaeology and Ethnohistory of the Mexicaneros, Tequales, Coreas, Huicholes, and Caxcanes of Nayarit, Jalisco, and Zacatecas." In Contributions to the Archaeology and Ethnohistory of Greater Mesoamerica (1985).



The territory of the Caxcanes overlapped with the Zacatecos, while the territory of the Tecuexes overlapped with the Guachichiles, Guamares and Cocas. Aguascalientes was primarily dominated by Caxcanes, Zacatecos and Tecuexes.

# The Caxcanes as Conquerors

Prof. Weigand has theorized that, after the collapse of the Chalchihuites culture around 1000 A.D., “the Caxcanes began a prolonged period of southern expansion” into parts of northeastern Jalisco.

By the time of the Spanish contact, Prof. Weigand observed that the Caxcanes “appear to have been organized into highly competitive, expansion states. These states possessed well-developed social hierarchies, monumental architecture, and military brotherhoods.”

In what is now northeastern Jalisco, **the Tecuexes were frequently at odds with their other neighbors to the north, the Caxcanes.** It is believed that Caxcanes originally invaded the territory of the Tecuexes in the area of Tlatenango, Juchipila, Nochistlán (Zacatecas) and Teocaltiche (Jalisco) during the pre-Hispanic era. The Caxcanes and Tecuexes in this area continued with their hostilities for as many as 260 years until the arrival of the Spaniards.

Source: Phil C. Weigand, “Considerations on the Archaeology and Ethnohistory of the Mexicaneros, Tequales, Coreas, Huicholes, and Caxcanes of Nayarit, Jalisco, and Zacatecas.” In Contributions to the Archaeology and Ethnohistory of Greater Mesoamerica edited by William J. Folan, pp. 126-187. Carbondale, Illinois: Center for Archaeological Investigations, Southern Illinois University Press, 1985.



# The Territory of the Caxcanes

The **Caxcanes** inhabited a wide area that included Tlaltenango, Nochistlán and Jalpa (now in southern Zacatecas) and Teocaltiche and Atemanica (now in Jalisco). They were frequently at war with the **Tecuexes** and pushed the latter to the south. In the Flores map below, the Caxcanes are represented by the dark pyramid symbol.

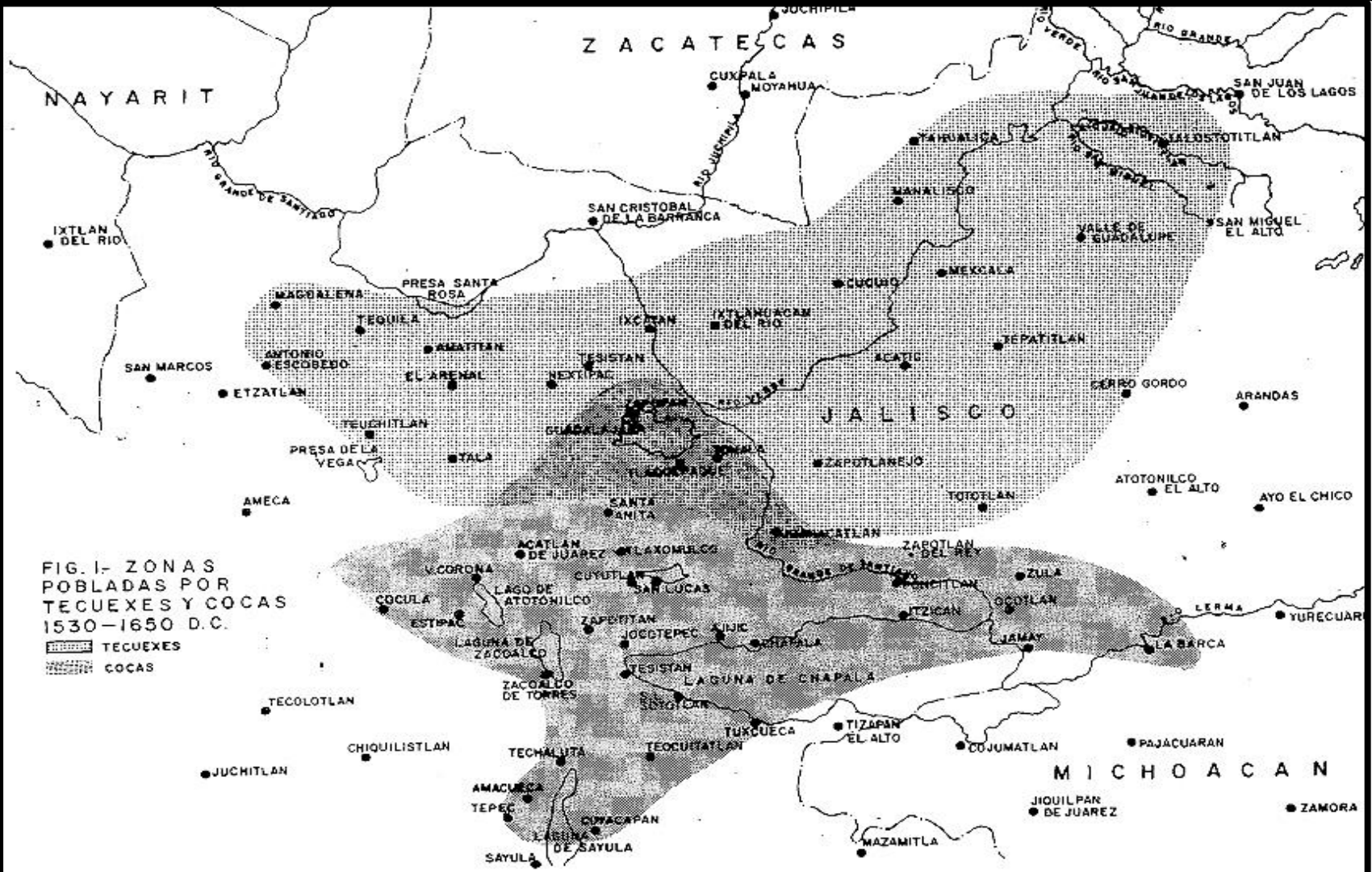


Bapames	△
Caxcanes	▲
Coras	□
Cocas	◼
Cuachichiles	◻
Cuyutecos (Nahuas)	○
Huicholes	◐
Nahuas	◑
Otomies (Chichimeca)	+
Pinomes	×
Tarascos	◆
Tecuexes	◆
Tzaultecas	⊗
Tepehuanes	⊕
Técoz	⊙

Source: José Ramírez Flores, "Lenguas Indígenas de Jalisco" (Guadalajara, Jalisco: Gobierno de Jalisco, 1980).

# The Lifeblood of Central Jalisco: Cocas and Tecuexes

The **Cocas and Tecuexes** represent the life-blood of central Jalisco. This map from Carolyn Baus de Czitrom reveals that the territories of both ran through the heartland of present-day Jalisco.

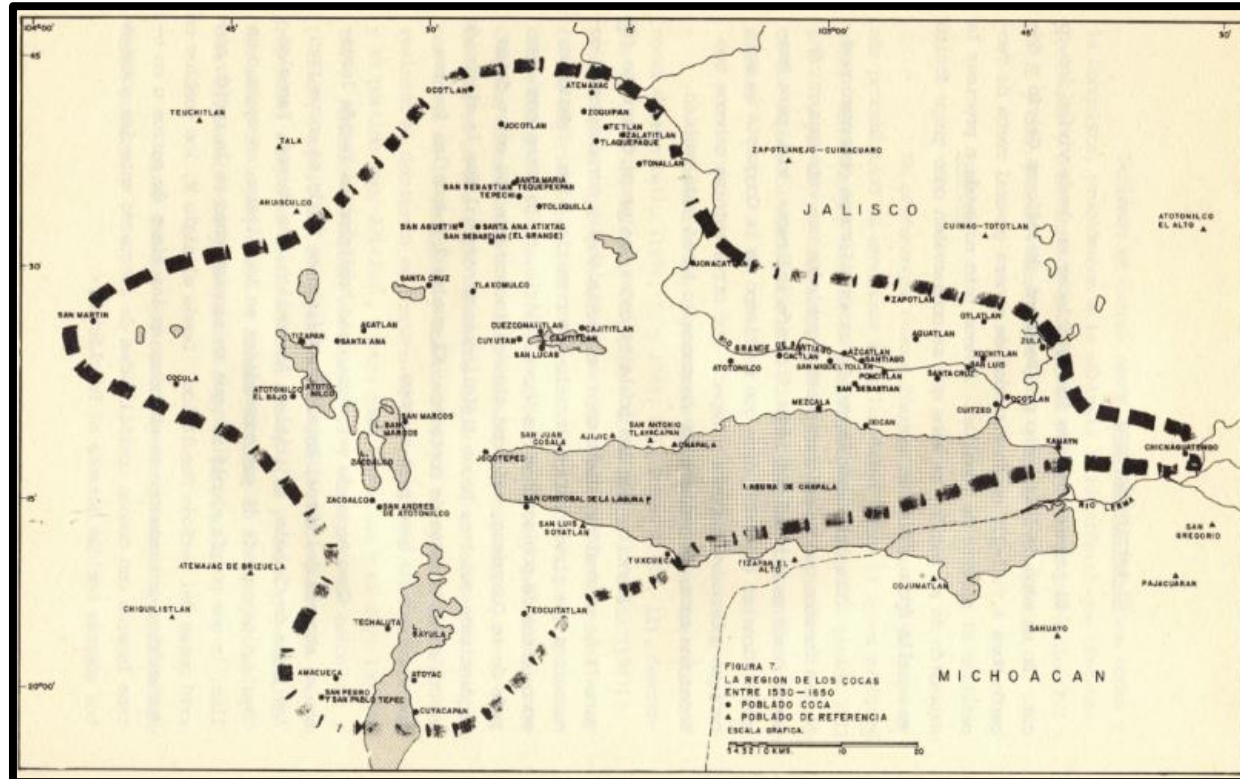


Map Source: Carolyn Baus de Czitrom, "Tecuexes y Cocas: Dos Grupos de la Region Jalisco en el Siglo XVI" (1992).



# The Cocas of Jalisco

From Guadalajara in the north to Sayula in the south and from Cocula in the west to La Barca in the east, the Cocas inhabited a significant swath of territory in central and southern Jalisco. Zapotitlán, Jocotepec, Cocula and Tepec were all within their domain.



The late American anthropologist Carolyn Baus de Czitrom studied the Cocas extensively and published "*Tecuexes y Cocas: Dos Grupos de la Region Jalisco en el Siglo XVI*," which described the Cocas as a very peaceful and cooperative people.

Because the Cocas were a peaceful people, the Spaniards, for the most part, left them alone. Some historians believe that the word mariachi originated in the language of the Cocas. Some of the traditions surrounding mariachi are certainly derived from the Coca culture and the five-stringed musical instrument called vihuela was a creation of the Cocas.

# The Cocas of Southeastern Jalisco

La Barca and the shores of Lake Chapala were the sites of three indigenous nations: Poncitlán and Cuitzeo - which ran along the shores of Lake Chapala - and Coinan, north of the lake. The people of these three chiefdoms spoke the **Coca language**. Guzman's forces traveled through here in 1530, laying waste to much of the region. By 1585, both Coca and Náhuatl were spoken at Ocotlán, although Gerhard tells us that the Náhuatl “was a recent introduction.”

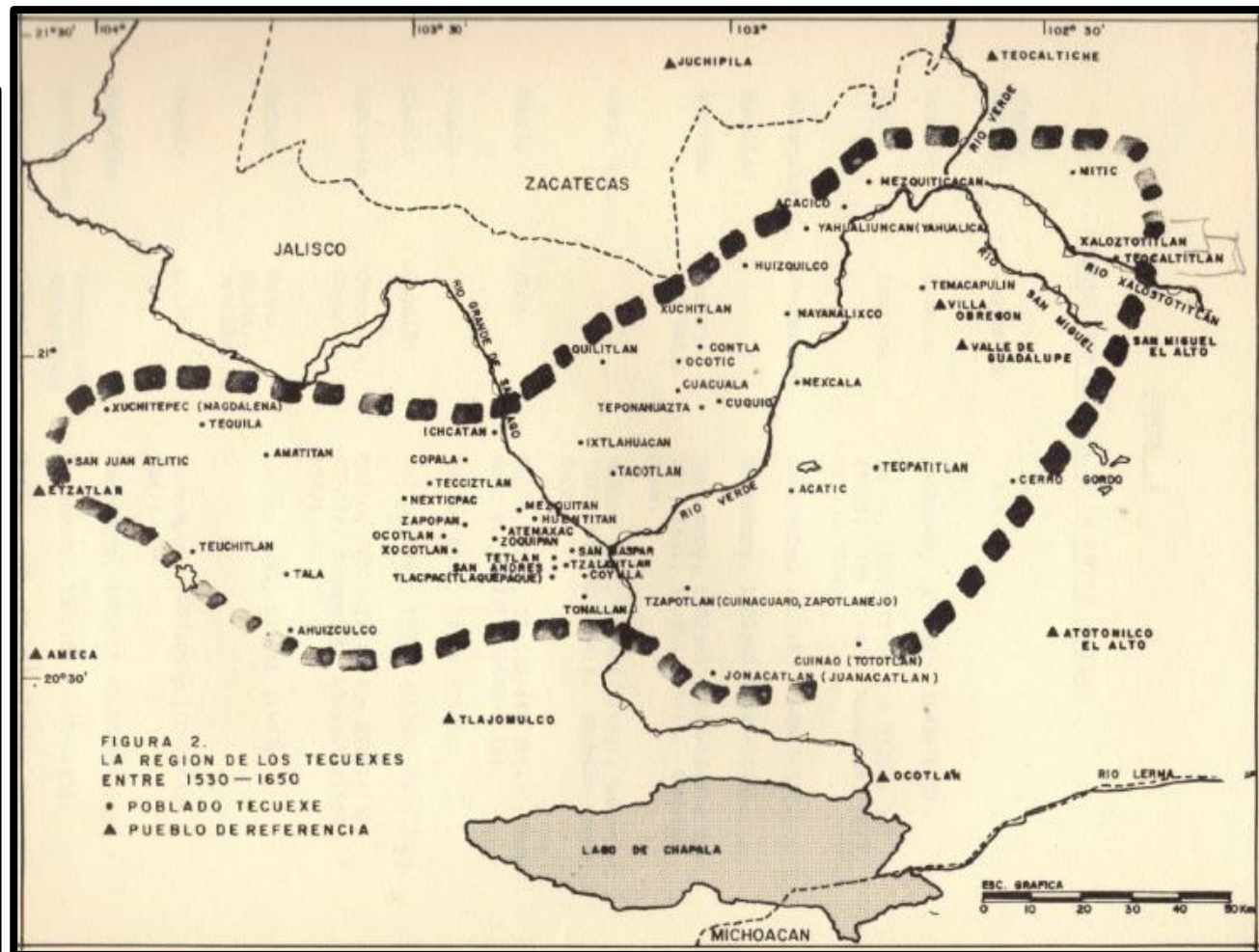


Bapames	△
Caxcanes	▲
Coras	□
Cocas	▣
Cuachichiles	▤
Cuyutecos (Nahuas)	○
Huicholes	◐
Nahuas	◑
Otomies (Chichimeca)	+
Pinomes	×
Tarascos	◆
Tecuejes	◆
Tzaultecas	⊗
Tepehuans	⊗
Técoz	⊙

Sources: Philip Wayne Powell, “Soldiers, Indians and Silver: North America's First Frontier War” (Tempe, Arizona: Center for Latin American Studies, Arizona State University, 1973); José Ramírez Flores, “Lenguas Indígenas de Jalisco” (Guadalajara, Jalisco: Gobierno de Jalisco, 1980).

# The Tecuexes

From Magdalena and Tequila in the west to Jalostotitlán and Cerro Gordo in the east, the Tecuexes occupied a considerable area of northern Jalisco. Their southern border extended just south of Guadalajara while their eastern range extended into the northwestern part of Los Altos and included San Miguel el Alto.



The Tecuexes were also studied extensively by Dr. Baus de Czitrom, who reported that the Spaniards considered them to be brave and bold warriors ("Los Tecuexes eran valientes y audaces guerreros").

# The Tecuexes and Cocas of Jalisco

The **Tecuexes and Cocas** both occupied some of the same communities within central Jalisco, primarily in the region of Guadalajara. It seems likely that this coexistence probably led to inter-marital relationships between the Cocas and Tecuexes in some areas and played a role in aligning the two peoples together.

However, in other areas such as Lake Chapala, the Tecuexes and Cocas were adversaries.

According to Gerhard, when Guzmán's army arrived in March-April 1530, a thousand dispersed Indian farmers lived in the immediate area around **Guadalajara**. However, once the Spaniards established the town in 1542, Indians and African slaves arrived from afar to live and work in the settlement. By the mid-sixteenth century, roughly 3,000 Indians lived and worked alongside 300 Spaniards and 300 African-Mexicans in Guadalajara.

Sources: Carolyn Baus de Czitrom, "Tecuexes y Cocas: Dos Grupos de la Region Jalisco en el Siglo XVI" (1992); Peter Gerhard, "The North Frontier of New Spain" (Princeton University Press, 1982).





## Cuquío and Yahualica (North Central Jalisco)

When the Spaniards arrived in Cuquío and Tepatitlán, they described it as a densely populated region of farmers. The dominant indigenous language in this region was **Tecuexe**. South of this area lived the **Cocas**, but the Tecuexes fought with the hostile Guachichiles in the eastern reaches. Guzmán's lieutenant Chirinos ravaged this area in February 1530, and in 1540-41, the Indians in this area were among the insurgents taking part in the Mixtón Rebellion. As noted in the map below, the Guachichiles occupied the cities in the lower, eastern part of this region.



Bapames	△
Caxcanes	▲
Coras	□
Cocas	▣
Cuachichiles	▤
Cuyutecos (Nahuas)	○
Huicholes	◐
Nahuas	◑
Otomíes (Chichimeca)	+
Pinomes	×
Tarascos	◆
Tecuejes	◇
Tzultecas	⊕
Tepehuanes	⊖
Técoz	⊙

Sources: Peter Gerhard, "The North Frontier of New Spain" (Princeton University Press, 1982); José Ramírez Flores, "Lenguas Indígenas de Jalisco" (Guadalajara, Jalisco: Gobierno de Jalisco, 1980).



# Tequila and Hostotipaquillo

**Tequila** in Northcentral Jalisco was occupied by **Tecuexe farmers**, as noted in the map below. Most of the settlements east of Tequila were also occupied by Tecuexes, with the possible exception of the Caxcanes' town, **Atemánica**, to the northeast. Although Flores indicates that **Hostotipaquillo** – 24 miles northwest of Tequila – was inhabited by **Tepehuanes**, Gerhard indicates that its inhabitants were known as **Teules Chichimecas or Coanos**, who were a subdivision of the Cora Indians (found primarily in Nayarit to the north). The Tecuexes feuded with the Huicholes farther to the north and this region did not come under Spanish control until after the Chichimeca War.

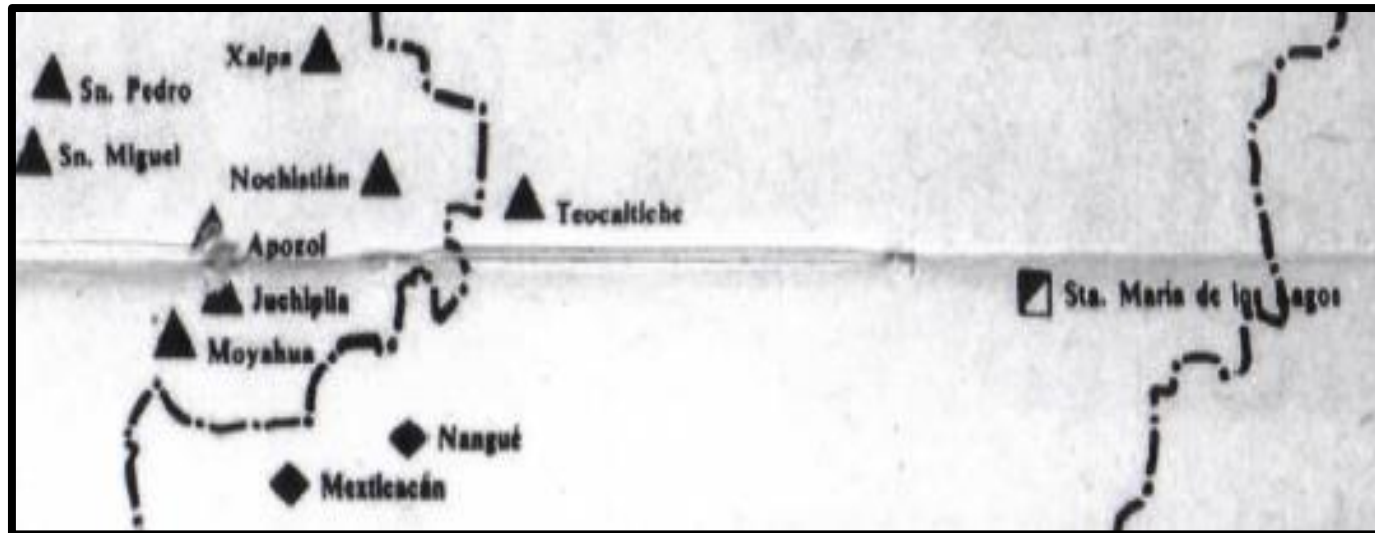


Bapames	△
Caxcanes	▲
Coras	□
Cocas	◼
Cuachichiles	◻
Cuyutecos (Nahuas)	○
Huicholes	◐
Nahuas	◑
Otomíes (Chichimeca)	+
Pinomes	×
Tarascos	◆
Tecuexes	◇
Tzultecas	⊕
Tepehuanes	⊗
Técoz	⊙

Sources: Peter Gerhard, "The North Frontier of New Spain" (Princeton University Press, 1982); José Ramírez Flores, "Lenguas Indígenas de Jalisco" (Guadalajara, Jalisco: Gobierno de Jalisco, 1980).

# Northeastern Los Altos

According to Gerhard, the region around **Lagos de Moreno** (formerly Santa Mara de los Lagos) was occupied by Chichimec hunters-gatherers, probably **Guachichiles**, with some **Guamares** in the east. It is also believed that **Tecuexes** occupied the region west of Lagos, including **Mexticacán and Jalostotitlán**. However, **Teocaltiche** was occupied by **Caxcanes**, the same people who occupied Juchipila, Moyahua, Nochistlán and Xalpa (Jalpa) in nearby Zacatecas.



Bapames	△
Caxcanes	▲
Coras	□
Cocas	▣
Cuachichiles	▤
Cuyutecos (Nahuas)	○
Huicholes	◐
Nahuas	◑
Otomíes (Chichimeca)	+
Pinomes	×
Tarascos	◆
Tecuexes	◆
Tzautecas	⊕
Tepehuanes	⊗
Técoz	⊙

Sources: Peter Gerhard, "The North Frontier of New Spain" (Princeton University Press, 1982); José Ramírez Flores, "Lenguas Indígenas de Jalisco" (Guadalajara, Jalisco: Gobierno de Jalisco, 1980).

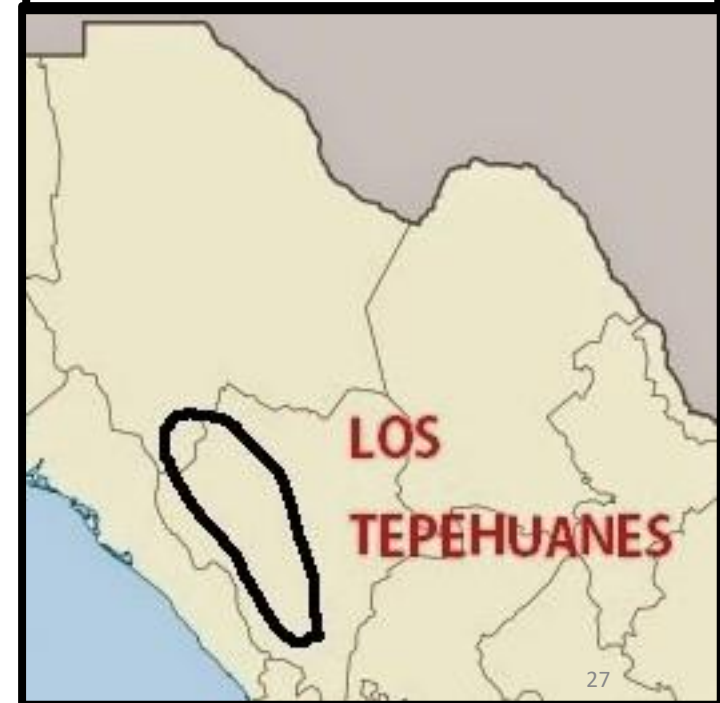
# Tepehuanes

In pre-Hispanic times, the **Tepehuán Indians** occupied an extensive area of the Sierra Madre Mountains stretching through parts of present-day Jalisco, Nayarit, Durango and Chihuahua. The first Jesuits, bearing gifts of seeds, tools, clothing and livestock, went to work among the Tepehuanes in 1596 and converted most of them by 1616.

Epidemics struck the Tepehuanes population in 1594, 1601-02, 1606-07, and 1612-1615, providing a catalyst for their rebellion of 1616-19. After this revolt was crushed, the Tepehuán moved to hiding places in the Sierra Madre to avoid Spanish retaliation.



Tepehuanes Territory



Sources: Susan M. Deeds, "Indigenous Rebellions on the Northern Mexican Mission Frontier: From First-Generation to Later Colonial Responses" (1998); Historia Cultural, "Pueblos Los Tepehuanes." Online: <http://www.historiacultural.com/2015/02/pueblo-los-tepehuanes.html>



# The Tepehuanes of Jalisco

At the time of the Spanish contact, the **Tepehuanes' language** was spoken in the **"Three Fingers Region"** of northwestern Jalisco in such towns as Tepec, Mezquitic and Colotlán. But, as noted in the map below, they shared parts of this area with **Huicholes** (mainly in the west) and **Caxcanes** (in the east). The Tepehuanes language and culture are no longer found in Jalisco, but in the 2010 census, more than 35,000 Tepehuanes residing in southern Chihuahua and southeastern Durango spoke their ancestral language.



Bapames	△
Caxcanes	▲
Coras	□
Cocas	▣
Cuachichiles	▤
Cuyutecos (Nahuas)	○
Huicholes	◐
Nahuas	◑
Otomies (Chichimeca)	+
Pinomes	×
Tarascos	◆
Tecuejes	◈
Tzaultecas	⊕
Tepehuanes	⊗
Técoz	⊙

Sources: Peter Gerhard, "The North Frontier of New Spain" (Princeton University Press, 1982); José Ramírez Flores, "Lenguas Indígenas de Jalisco" (Guadalajara, Jalisco: Gobierno de Jalisco, 1980).

# North Central Jalisco Settlements

Several native states existed in the area of **San Cristóbal de la Barranca** (North central Jalisco), but by 1550, some of these communities had come under Spanish control, except for the “Tezoles” (possibly a Huichol group) who remained “unconquered.” The typhus epidemic of 1580 ravaged this area.

The heavily wood area of the Sierra Madre Occidental around **Colotlán**, located in Jalisco's northerly “Three-Fingers” boundary area with Zacatecas, remained beyond Spanish control until after the end of the Chichimeca War. According to Gerhard, this zone became "a refuge for numerous groups fleeing from the Spaniards," especially the Tepehuanes (following their 1616-19 rebellion).



Bapames	△
Caxcanes	▲
Coras	□
Cocas	◼
Cuachichiles	◻
Cuyutecos (Nahuas)	○
Huicholes	⊙
Nahuas	◐
Otomies (Chichimeca)	+
Pinomes	×
Tarascos	◆
Tecuejes	◇
Tzaultecas	⊗
Tepehuanes	⊕
Técoz	⊙

# The Otomías in Southcentral Jalisco

The **Otomías** were a Chichimeca nation primarily occupying Queretaro and east central Mexican states. However, early on, the Otomías allied themselves with the Spaniards and Mexica Indians. As a result, writes Prof. Powell, Otomí settlers were “issued a grant of privileges.” For their allegiance, they were given a certain amount of autonomy in their towns. During the 1550s, the Spaniards used Otomí militia against the Chichimecas. The strategic placement of Otomí settlements in Nueva Galicia made their language dominant near Zapotitlán, Juchitlán, Autlán, and other towns near Jalisco's southern border with Colima.



Bapames	△
Caxcanes	▲
Coras	□
Cocas	▣
Cuachichiles	▤
Cuyutecos (Nahuas)	○
Huicholes	◐
Nahuas	◑
Otomías (Chichimeca)	+
Pinomes	×
Tarascos	◆
Tecuejes	◈
Tzultecas	⊗
Tepehuanes	⊘
Técoz	⊙

Sources: Peter Gerhard, “The North Frontier of New Spain” (Princeton University Press, 1982); José Ramírez Flores, “Lenguas Indígenas de Jalisco” (Guadalajara, Jalisco: Gobierno de Jalisco, 1980).

# The Purépecha

For more than a thousand years, **Michoacán** has been the home of the **Purépecha** Indians. The name Michoacán derives from the Náhuatl terms, michin (fish) and hua (those who have) and can (place) which roughly translates into **“Place of the Fisherman.”** In the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries, Michoacán consisted of several small city-states that competed with each other in the military and economic realms. During the 15<sup>th</sup> Century, a rapid process of cultural assimilation and political unification brought the different groups of the region into a United Tarascan ethnicity and socio-political system.

Today, the Purépecha language is recognized as a language isolate that is not even provisionally linked with any other neighboring language. Its origin and early history are shrouded in mystery. Some prestigious researchers have suggested that Tarascan is distantly related to Quecha, one of the many languages in the Andean zone of South America. Some historians have regarded Purépecha as a hybrid language, the product of a wide-ranging process of linguistic borrowing and fusion.

Sources: Tumblr. Tlatollotl: What Was the Tarascan Government Like”; Gerónimo de Acalá, Relación de las Ceremonias y Ritos y Poblacion y Gobierno de los Indios de la Provincia de Michoacán (2013); J. Benedict Warren, The Conquest of Michoacán: Spanish Domination of the Tarascan Kingdom 1521-1530 (1985); Mike Cartwright, "Tarascan Civilization." Ancient History Encyclopedia (Last modified December 11, 2013).



# The Purepécha of Michoacán

Eventually, the Purépecha Kingdom would control an area of at least 45,000 square miles (72,500 square kilometers), including parts of the present-day Jalisco, as noted in the map at the right. But, in the 1520s, the empire fell to the Spaniards.

In the 2010 census, of the 128,344 Purépecha speakers in Mexico, 3,960 lived in Jalisco.

## The Purepécha Empire (Circa 1500)



Map Source: Tumblr. Tlatollotl: "What Was the Tarascan Government Like." Online: <https://tlatollotl.tumblr.com/post/154284146371/what-was-the-tarascan-government-like>.

Source: Mike Cartwright, "Tarascan Civilization." Ancient History Encyclopedia (Last modified December 11, 2013). Online: [https://www.ancient.eu/Tarascan\\_Civilization/](https://www.ancient.eu/Tarascan_Civilization/).



## Instability in Jalisco (1825-1885)

In the years following independence, the historian Dawn Fogle Deaton writes that in the sixty-year period from 1825 to 1885, **Jalisco witnessed twenty-seven peasant (primarily indigenous) rebellions**. Seventeen of these uprisings occurred within one decade, 1855-64, and the year 1857 witnessed ten separate revolts.

According to Ms. Deaton, the cause of these "waves of unrest, popular protest, and open rebellion" arose "out of the political and social struggles among classes and between classes." She further explained that the "commercialization of the economy," especially in agriculture, had led to fundamental changes in the lifestyles of the peasants and thus brought about "the seeds of discontent."

The years 1855–57 saw recurrent risings in the Lake Chapala area, during which **some 2,000 or more armed Indians in La Barca and Zacoalco** attempted to recover lands lost to neighboring haciendas.

The most widespread and longest rebellion in Jalisco lasted from 1857 to 1881 and was led by the mestizo leader **Manuel Lozada** ("El Tigre de Álica").

Source Dawn Fogle Deaton, "The Decade of Revolt: Peasant Rebellion in Jalisco, Mexico, 1855-1864 In Robert H. Jackson, "Liberals, the Church and Indian Peasants" (1997), pp. 37-64.

## Lozada's Rebellion (1857-1881)

At times, Lozada possessed various regions of northern Jalisco, the Sierra Costa (western region), as well as the seventh canton, Tepic (now the State of Nayarit). At one point, Lozada commanded 11,000 peasants, including 6,000 Huicholes and 3,000 Cora.

In the 1860s, Lozada's followers made public the demands of indigenous people for their lands with the goal of recovering peasant lands. In 1867, the federal government made Nayarit a "military district" and in 1917, Nayarit became a state. Manuel Lozada was captured and executed in 1873, but his movement continued for years.

### The Region Occupied by Manuel Lozada in the 1860s



# Jalisco's Racial Classifications in the 1921 Census

Mexico's 1921 census asked people to categorize themselves by three primary categories: Pure Indigenous, Indigenous Mixed with White, and White. While nearly 17% of Jalisco's population identified themselves as "Pure Indigenous" and nearly 76% called themselves "Mezclada" (or Mixed), only 195 persons actually spoke an indigenous language.

## The 1921 Mexican Census: Racial Classifications in Jalisco

Racial Classification	No. of Persons	% of Total State Population
Indígena Pura	199,728	16.76%
Indígena Mezclada con Blanca	903,830	75.83%
Blanca	87,103	7.31%
Question Ignored or Other Classifications	1,296	0.10%
Total Population	1,191,957	100%
Persons Speaking Indigenous Languages	195	

Classifications: Indígena Pura (Pure Indigenous Origins); Indígena Mezclada con Blanca (Indigenous Mixed with White); Blanca (White); Extranjeros sin distinción de razas (Foreigners without racial distinction) One percent of the population of the Republic of Mexico chose a fifth option: "Cualquiera otra o que se ignora la raza" (persons who chose to ignore the question or "other.")

Source: Departamento de la Estadística Nacional, "Anuario de 1930" (Tacubaya, Distrito Federal, 1932).

# Indigenous Jalisco in the 2010 Census

In the 2010 Census, nearly all of the persons who were counted as speakers of indigenous languages were migrants from other states. The few notable exceptions would be the speakers of the Huichol and Náhuatl languages.

## The 2010 Census: Indigenous Languages Spoken in Jalisco

Indigenous Language	Population 3 Years and Older Who Speak an Indigenous Language	Percent of all Indigenous Speakers
Huichol	18,409	34.3%
Náhuatl	11,650	21.7%
Unspecified Indigenous Languages	8,810	16.4%
Purépecha (Tarasco)	3,960	7.4%
Mixteco	2,001	3.7%
Zapoteco	1,637	3.0%
Otomí	1,409	2.6%
Other Languages	5,819	10.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>53,695</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: INEGI. Censo de Población y Vivienda 2010: Tabulados del Cuestionario Básico: Población de 3 Años y Más Que Habla Lengua Indígena por Entidad Federativa y Lengua.

# Jalisco in the 2010 Census (Indigenous Municipios)

## The 2010 Census: Indigenous Speakers in Jalisco by Municipio (By Percentage of Indigenous Speakers in Each Municipio)

Municipio	Speakers of Indigenous Languages 3 Years of Age or More	Total Persons 3 Years of Age or More	Percent of Indigenous Speakers 3 Years of Age or More
Mezquitic	12,540	16,531	75.9%
Bolaños	4,040	6,274	64.4%
Huejuquilla el Alto	531	8,186	6.5%
Villa Guerrero	289	5,296	5.5%
San Gabriel	537	14,357	3.7%
San Martín de Bolaños	97	3,203	3.0%
Acatlán de Juárez	504	21,919	2.3%
118 Other Municipios	35,157	6,781,385	0.5%
<b>The State of Jalisco</b>	<b>53,695</b>	<b>6,857,151</b>	<b>0.8%</b>

Source: INEGI, 2010 Censo: Población de 3 Años y Más por Entidad y Municipio Según Habla Indígena y Lengua.

# The Most Indigenous Municipios in Jalisco

## The 2010 Census: The Jalisco Municipios With the Largest Percent of Indigenous Speakers in the State

Municipio	Speakers of Indigenous Languages 3 Years of Age or More	% of Total Indigenous Population	Most Spoken Language	%	Second Most Spoken Language	%
Mezquitic	12,540	23.4%	Huichol	99.2%	Various	0.8%
Zapopan	12,498	23.3%	Náhuatl	44.5%	Purépecha	12.3%
Guadalajara	5,575	10.4%	Náhuatl	26.4%	Purépecha	9.6%
Bolaños	4,040	7.5%	Huichol	96.4%	Various	3.6%
Tlaquepaque	3,250	6.1%	Purépecha	22.4%	Otomí	20.6%
Puerto Vallarta	2,446	4.6%	Náhuatl	45.5%	Zapoteco	10.3%
Tlajomulco de Zúñiga	2,082	3.9%	Náhuatl	34.5%	Purépecha	9.2%
Tonalá	1,761	3.3%	Náhuatl	18.6%	Purépecha	12.1%
Autlán de Navarro	592	1.1%	Náhuatl	68.1%	Purépecha	2.4%
Jalisco	53,695	100.0%	Huichol	34.3%	Náhuatl	21.7%

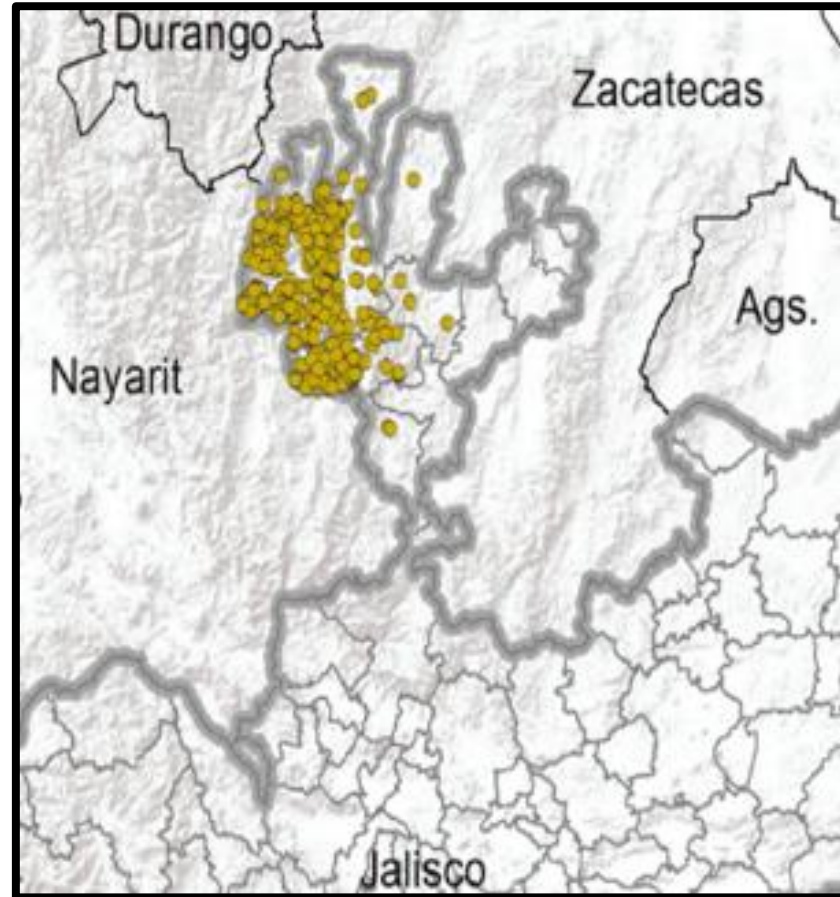
Source: INEGI, 2010 Censo: Población de 3 Años y Más por Entidad y Municipio Según Habla Indígena y Lengua.



# The Huicholes: The Sole Survivors of Jalisco

Today, the Huichol live in the States of Jalisco and Nayarit. In the 2010 Mexican census, 47,625 people were known to speak this language. Nayarit had 25,151 Huichol speakers (52.8% of the total), while Jalisco had 18,409 (38.7%). Thus 91.5% of the Huichol-speaking individuals in Mexico lived in those two states.

According to the map of the **Comisión Nacional para el Desarrollo de los Pueblos Indígenas (CDI)**, the Huicholes inhabit the 3-Fingers Border Region. Many Huicholes have fiercely protected their traditional culture by removing themselves from areas where non-Huichol have come to live. In fact, in 2010, nearly 24% of the Huichol speakers in Jalisco were monolingual.



# Indigenous Mexico Historical Resources

To read more about the various indigenous peoples of México, please see:

<http://houstonculture.org/mexico/states.html>

<http://www.somosprimos.com/schmal/schmal.htm>

<https://www.shhar.org/johnpschmal>

<https://indigenoustmexico.org/telling-the-entire-story-of-mexicos-indigenous-people/>