

## **Scientists Finally Decipher Teotihuacan's Secret Writing! (October 2025)**

**[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hp9HMvCU\\_hw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hp9HMvCU_hw)**

**Transcript: <https://dontveter.com/ec/teotihuacan.pdf>**

It once held 200,000 people—yet we never knew who built it. Until now.

This is Teotihuacan, and what scientists just discovered changes everything we thought we knew about the Aztecs.

Welcome to Amazing Earth. Before we dive into this breakthrough discovery, you need to understand the scale of what we're talking about.

Teotihuacan wasn't just big—it was the sixth-largest city on Earth in 500 CE. Larger than London, Paris, or any European city at that time.

The Pyramid of the Sun? Taller than a 20-story building, with a base nearly identical to the Great Pyramid of Giza.

The Avenue of the Dead stretches 2.5 kilometers, perfectly aligned to celestial events. This wasn't a village. This was a superpower.

If you're already captivated by this mystery, hit that like button. It helps me uncover more lost civilizations like this one.

But here's the thing that haunted archaeologists for over a century: when the Aztecs discovered these ruins in the 1400s, they found them abandoned.

Empty. Silent. No inscriptions. No records. Nothing that said, 'We built this.'

The Aztecs named it Teotihuacan—"The Place Where Gods Were Created"—because they couldn't believe humans made it.

For 600 years, it stood as a ghost city. And for the last 100 years, scientists have been trying to solve one question: who were they?

Let's start with what we do know: these people were master engineers. The entire city was built on a grid system—something Europe wouldn't figure out for another thousand years.

Every building, every street, perfectly aligned. But it's what's underneath that blows your mind.

In 2003, archaeologists discovered a drainage system so sophisticated, it's still functional today. Storm channels. Aqueducts. A network that controlled water flow across 20 square kilometers.

They even diverted the San Juan River to fit their city plan.

And the pyramids? They're not solid stone. They used a technique called talud-tablero—sloped walls with vertical panels that made them earthquake-resistant.

In one of the most seismically active zones on Earth, these structures have stood for 2,000 years.

But here's what's strange: all this engineering genius, all this planning... and not a single carving that says who did it. No royal names. No dynasty records. Nothing.

It's like they built a superpower—and then erased themselves from history.

For over a century, archaeologists had theories. Maybe it was the Toltecs. Maybe the Totonacs. Maybe a civilization we've never even heard of.

The problem? No written records. No inscriptions. Teotihuacan was a silent city.

But in the 1960s, researchers started finding clues in the murals.

Not words—symbols. Glyphs painted on temple walls, carved into pottery, hidden in the designs of everyday objects.

These weren't random decorations. They were a writing system. But nobody could read it.

Scholars tried for decades to crack the code using the rebus principle—the same technique that unlocked Egyptian hieroglyphs.

Here's how it works: imagine you want to write the word 'belief.' You can't draw 'belief'—it's abstract.

So instead, you draw a bee and a leaf. Bee-leaf. The pictures represent sounds, not just objects.

Researchers knew Teotihuacan's glyphs worked this way. A jaguar didn't just mean 'jaguar'—it could represent a sound, a name, a title.

But there was a problem: they were using the wrong language.

They tried Classical Nahuatl, the language of the Aztecs centuries later. It didn't fit. Then, in October 2025, everything changed.

Linguist Magnus Pharao Hansen and archaeologist Christophe Helmke from the University of Copenhagen made a breakthrough.

They reconstructed an earlier form of Uto-Aztecan—a language that actually existed when Teotihuacan was built.

And when they applied it to the glyphs, the code cracked open. They found names. Titles. References to rulers.

And the answer to the mystery: Teotihuacan's writing system was an early form of Nahuatl—the language of the Aztecs.

The people who built Teotihuacan weren't strangers. They were the ancestors of the Aztecs themselves.

The Aztecs didn't just discover ruins. They discovered their own forgotten origin story.

This breakthrough just happened in October 2025—if you want to stay updated on discoveries like this as they happen, subscribe and hit the bell.

And if this revelation just blew your mind like it did mine, show some love with a like.

At its peak, Teotihuacan was untouchable. A superpower. The New York of the ancient world.

And then, around 550 CE, it vanished. Not slowly. Not gradually. Catastrophically. The city was burned. The temples were torched.

The Pyramid of the Sun—the heart of the empire—was left in ruins.

But here's the mystery: there's no evidence of an invasion. No foreign army. No conquest. The destruction came from within.

Archaeologists found something chilling in the ruins: the fires were deliberate. Systematic.

The elite districts were targeted first—palaces, administrative buildings, temples of power. This wasn't war. This was revolution.

But why? What could make 200,000 people turn on their own city?

The answer might be in the soil. Recent studies show that around 535 CE, a massive volcanic eruption in the tropics triggered a global climate disaster. Temperatures dropped. Crops failed. Famine spread.

Teotihuacan's rulers had built their power on one promise: abundance. The gods provided. The city thrived. But when the harvests failed, that promise shattered.

And the people didn't just leave. They made sure no one could ever rule from Teotihuacan again. They burned it to the ground.

Fast forward 700 years. The Aztecs arrive in the Valley of Mexico—wandering nomads searching for a homeland.

And they find ruins. Massive pyramids covered in earth and wild vegetation, half-buried by centuries of abandonment.

They had no idea who built them. But they were awestruck. The Aztecs called it Teotihuacan—'The Place Where the Gods Were Created.'

They believed their own gods were born here. That the sun and moon themselves were forged in these pyramids.

They didn't just admire the ruins. They made pilgrimages. They left offerings. Aztec emperors came here to legitimize their rule—to connect themselves to this ancient power.

And here's the twist: they were right. Thanks to the 2025 breakthrough, we now know Teotihuacan's builders spoke an early form of Nahuatl—the same language the Aztecs used.

The Aztecs weren't discovering a foreign civilization. They were rediscovering their own ancestors.

Imagine that. You're searching for a homeland, and you stumble upon ruins built by your own people—a thousand years before you existed.

It's like Americans discovering an advanced civilization in the Grand Canyon... and realizing it was built by ancient English speakers.

The Aztecs built their empire on Teotihuacan's foundation—literally and symbolically.

They drew inspiration from its urban planning. They mimicked its architecture. They claimed its legacy. Teotihuacan heavily influenced the Aztecs.

But what actually happened during Teotihuacan's final days?

For decades, archaeologists could only guess. They knew the city burned. They knew people left. But the scale of destruction? That remained a mystery.

Then in 2015, researchers made a stunning discovery beneath the Temple of the Feathered Serpent.

Deep in sealed tunnels that hadn't been opened in 1,800 years, they found pools of liquid mercury.

Not traces. Pools. Gallons of it. If you want to know why an entire civilization would poison their own sacred temple, subscribe—the answer is coming.

Mercury is not very common naturally in Mexico. Every drop had to be imported from distant mines, refined, and transported hundreds of miles.

This wasn't decoration—this was a massive investment of resources and labor.

But why? Mercury is toxic. Deadly. In enclosed spaces, its vapors cause tremors, hallucinations, madness.

The ancient Teotihuacanos knew this. And they put it directly beneath their most sacred temple anyway.

Were these pools meant to represent the underworld? A barrier between the living and the dead? Or something else entirely?

That mystery deepened in the summer of 2024, when archaeologist Nawa Sugiyama's team began excavating the Plaza of the Columns—right next to the Pyramid of the Sun.

What they found was evidence of fire. Not just any fire—systematic, deliberate burning across the elite quarters and administrative centers.

The team brought in fire specialist Thania Ibarra to analyze the evidence.

Her mission: determine the age of the fire, identify the fuel source, and measure the temperatures.

The research is still ongoing, but early findings are chilling. The fires were set from the inside.

They targeted the places where power lived—the palaces, the temples, the seats of authority.

This wasn't a conquest. This wasn't an accident. This was a revolution.

And here's what makes it even more extraordinary: after the fires, 70 to 80 percent of the population left.

But they didn't scatter randomly. They migrated in organized groups to other cities across Mesoamerica.

Think about what that means. This wasn't chaos. This was coordinated.

The people of Teotihuacan didn't just abandon their city—they systematically destroyed the symbols of power, then walked away together.

The mercury pools, sealed beneath the pyramids. The deliberate fires that consumed the elite quarters. The organized migration of tens of thousands.

It's one of history's most dramatic endings—a civilization that chose to erase its own rulers rather than be ruled.

So here's what we know for certain: Teotihuacan wasn't destroyed by invaders. It wasn't abandoned because of drought or famine.

The people themselves burned the heart of their city—and then they left.

But here's what we still don't know: Why did they seal mercury beneath their most sacred temple? What were they trying to contain—or protect?

Because here's the thing: those tunnels were sealed 1,800 years ago.

And when archaeologists finally opened them in 2015, the mercury was still there. Still liquid. Still toxic.

Whatever the Teotihuacanos were doing with that mercury, they made sure it would last forever.

Right now, Nawa Sugiyama's team is still excavating. Still analyzing the burn patterns. Still trying to understand what fuel was used, how hot the fires burned, and exactly when they were set.

Every answer reveals three new questions. But maybe that's the point. Maybe Teotihuacan's greatest mystery isn't what happened—it's what the people who lived there wanted us to remember.

They could have just left. But instead, they burned the palaces. Sealed the mercury. And walked away in organized groups to build new lives elsewhere.

That's not the end of a civilization. That's a choice. And somewhere beneath those pyramids, sealed in darkness for nearly two thousand years, that choice is still waiting to be fully understood.

And in October 2025, researchers began decoding those symbols. The maguey leaves may mark specific places.

The stone-and-headress signs could represent individual identities. Animal figures appear to be part of a naming system.

For the first time, we're starting to understand...

Nawa's team is still excavating, and every discovery brings us closer to the truth.