

# THE MEANING AND HISTORY



**Day of the Dead**

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# HOW DID THE DAY OF THE DEAD CELEBRATION BEGIN?

- It is a ritual the indigenous people had been practicing for at least 3,000 years. A ritual known today as Dia de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead.
- People believe that the gates of Heaven open at midnight on October 31, and all of the deceased children are allowed to reunite with their families for 24 hours.



# WHAT CULTURE AND RELIGION IS COMBINED TO MAKE THIS HOLIDAY?

- The Days of the Dead are celebrated in many Latin American countries but nowhere to the extent they are in Mexico.
- time to welcome the souls of the dead; it is a celebration in which the living and the dead.
- Catholic Holiday
- celebrated on November 1 and November 2 in Mexico and throughout Latin America.



# WHY DO PEOPLE HONOR THEIR DEAD RELATIVES?



- By celebrating the death of a loved one they show love and respect towards the deceased.
- They also want to keep a good reputation for them since they believe they are looking from heaven on them and can see them celebrating.
- In some cultures they ask for gifts from their dead.
- The main reason people celebrate the Day of the Dead is because it's mostly a religious act

# IS THE DAY OF THE DEAD A SAD HOLIDAY?

The day of the dead is not a sad holiday, because children and adults dance and eat sugar skulls and learn to respect that life is brief. They also learn there is a circle of life and not to fear death and then are free to enjoy and appreciate every moment.



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