Mole Poblano



Ingredients:

For the Mole Sauce:

- 4-5 dried ancho chilies, stemmed and seeded
- 2 dried guajillo chilies, stemmed and seeded
- 2 dried pasilla chilies, stemmed and seeded
- 1/4 cup sesame seeds
- 1/4 cup almonds
- 1/4 cup raisins
- 2 corn tortillas, torn into pieces
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/4 teaspoon ground coriander
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cumin
- 4 cups chicken broth
- 2 tablets Mexican chocolate (such as Abuelita or Ibarra)
- Salt to taste
- Sugar to taste (optional)

For the Meat:

• 3-4 pounds chicken pieces (whole chicken or chicken parts)

Optional Garnishes:

- Sesame seeds
- Chopped cilantro
- Sliced green onions

Instructions:

1. Prepare the Chilies:

• Toast the dried ancho, guajillo, and pasilla chilies in a dry skillet over medium heat for a few seconds on each side until they become fragrant. Soak them in hot water for about 15-20 minutes until softened.

2. Toast Sesame Seeds, Almonds, and Raisins:

- In the same skillet, toast sesame seeds until golden. Remove and set aside.
- Toast almonds until lightly browned. Remove and set aside.
- Toast raisins until they puff up. Remove and set aside.

3. Prepare Tortillas:

 Toast torn corn tortillas in the skillet until they become crisp. Remove and set aside.

4. Make the Mole Base:

• In a blender, combine the soaked and softened chilies, toasted sesame seeds, almonds, raisins, toasted tortillas, chopped onion, and minced garlic. Blend until you have a smooth paste.

5. Sauté the Mole Base:

• Heat vegetable oil in a large pot over medium heat. Add the blended mole paste and sauté for about 5-7 minutes until it thickens and darkens in color.

6. Add Spices:

• Stir in ground cinnamon, ground cloves, ground coriander, and ground cumin. Cook for an additional 2-3 minutes.

7. Add Chicken Broth and Chocolate:

- Gradually add chicken broth to the pot, stirring continuously to avoid lumps.
- Add Mexican chocolate tablets to the pot and continue stirring until the chocolate is fully melted.

8. Simmer the Sauce:

• Let the sauce simmer over low heat for about 30-40 minutes, stirring occasionally, until it thickens to your desired consistency.

9. Season and Adjust:

• Season the mole sauce with salt to taste. If it's too bitter, you can add a little sugar to balance the flavors.

10. Prepare the Chicken:

• In a separate pan, cook the chicken until it's fully cooked.

11. Combine Sauce and Chicken:

 Once the mole sauce has reached the desired consistency, add the cooked chicken to the pot. Simmer for an additional 10-15 minutes, allowing the flavors to meld.

12. **Serve:**

- Serve Mole Poblano over rice or with warm tortillas.
- Garnish with sesame seeds, chopped cilantro, and sliced green onions if desired.

Enjoy the rich and complex flavors of Mole Poblano!