The Zapotec civilization emerged in the Oaxaca Valley of Mesoamerica.

Monte Albán was the capital and most important Zapotec city.

The Zapotec civilization began around 500 BCE.

The Zapotecs developed one of the earliest writing systems in Mesoamerica.

Monte Albán was built on a mountain overlooking the Oaxaca Valley.

Zapotec society was divided into classes, including nobles, priests, and commoners.

Zapotec rulers were often associated with divine authority.

The Zapotecs developed advanced agricultural techniques.

The Zapotec calendar system was similar to the Maya calendar.

Zapotecs practiced a polytheistic religion, worshipping many gods.

Human sacrifice played a role in some Zapotec religious ceremonies.

The Zapotec language is still spoken in some regions of Mexico today.

The Zapotecs created intricate pottery and sculptures.

The ballgame was an important ritual in Zapotec culture.

Monte Albán featured large plazas, temples, and palaces.

The Zapotecs built complex drainage systems for water management.

Zapotec scribes recorded events using a system of glyphs.

Zapotec warriors played a key role in expanding the civilization's influence.

The Zapotecs were skilled in weaving textiles from cotton and other materials.

Tombs of Zapotec rulers were filled with valuable artifacts.

The Zapotecs traded extensively with other Mesoamerican civilizations.

The civilization reached its peak between 300 and 700 CE.

Zapotec architects designed buildings with astronomical alignments.

Religion and politics were deeply intertwined in Zapotec society.

The Zapotecs built terraced fields to farm on mountainous terrain.

Monte Albán’s location provided strategic advantages for defense.

The Zapotecs believed in an afterlife and practiced elaborate burial rituals.

Zapotec priests were powerful figures who conducted important rituals.

The Zapotec script has not been fully deciphered.

The civilization influenced later cultures in the Oaxaca region.

Some Zapotec ruins feature detailed carvings of gods and warriors.

The Zapotecs built monumental stone structures without the use of metal tools.

Zapotec artisans crafted intricate jewelry from gold and jade.

The political system of the Zapotecs included city-states ruled by elites.

Monte Albán was continuously occupied for over a thousand years.

The Zapotecs played a key role in the development of Mesoamerican culture.

The decline of Monte Albán began around 750 CE.

The Zapotecs cultivated maize, beans, and squash as staple crops.

Monte Albán was a ceremonial centre for religious and political events.

The Zapotec civilization had contact with the Olmecs and later the Maya.

The Zapotecs built stone ball courts for ritual games.

Zapotec warriors used obsidian weapons in battle.

The Zapotecs constructed tombs with vaulted roofs and murals.

The Oaxaca Valley provided fertile land for agriculture.

Zapotec religion included a complex pantheon of gods linked to nature.

The civilization's influence extended to other parts of Mesoamerica.

The Zapotecs used hieroglyphs to record historical events and religious practices.

Zapotec art often depicted gods, animals, and mythical creatures.

The Zapotec calendar included both solar and ritual cycles.

The architectural style of Monte Albán influenced other Mesoamerican sites.

Zapotec traders exchanged goods such as pottery, textiles, and foodstuffs.

Zapotec society had specialized labor roles, including artisans and farmers.

Monte Albán contained large ceremonial platforms used for rituals.

Zapotec sculptures included representations of rulers and deities.

The Zapotecs practiced ancestor worship and honored their dead.

The use of terraced agriculture helped increase food production in hilly areas.

Zapotec craftsmen produced high-quality obsidian tools and weapons.

The civilization was known for its advancements in mathematics and astronomy.

Zapotec rulers commissioned monumental architecture to display their power.

The civilization's religious practices included offerings to appease the gods.

Zapotec tombs contained offerings of pottery, jewelry, and food for the afterlife.

Zapotec inscriptions provided insights into their political history and warfare.

The religious ceremonies of the Zapotecs involved music, dance, and ritual feasting.

The Zapotec civilization was one of the first to create urban centres in Mesoamerica.

Zapotec influence persisted even after the decline of Monte Albán.

Zapotec nobles lived in large, elaborately decorated palaces.

The collapse of Monte Albán led to the rise of regional Zapotec kingdoms.

The civilization's artisans were renowned for their fine pottery and textiles.

The Zapotec ballgame had both religious and social significance.

Monte Albán’s construction reflects sophisticated engineering techniques.