

Archaic Period (8000-2000BC)

- Northern Lowlands
 - Local Landscape: no river or streams, **cenote** (source of water), dry and lack of rain, rocky soil
 - Natural Resources: *Lagoons used to make salt*, bees for honey, marine resources, deer, *limestone for construction*, flint for tool, chert, turkey, cotton
- Southern Lowlands
 - Local Landscape: Hilly/Wet climate, Tropical Forests (jungle with tall trees), Lakes, swamps, rivers
 - Natural Resources: hardwoods for construction, **chocolates(cacao)**, palm/fruit trees, rubber trees, **copalli (pom)**, felines (jaguar), birds
- Maya Highlands
 - Local Landscape: high elevation, plateau (resulted by volcanic eruption), temperate climate (not hot or humid as southern lowlands), volcanic
 - Natural Resources: volcanic stone (basalt, obsidian(used for blades)), jade, extreme rainfall - Cloud Forest

Most of our data on archaic maya comes from New River Area (located @Belize - southern lowlands)

People in Archaic Maya lived in egalitarian, nomadic, and hunter-gathering societies.

Timing - what is known and what is unknown

- Paleoindian(10,000 - 8,000 BC) - very little information(Ladyville Point), preservation issue, most sites are surface finds in Belize and some from the Pacific Coast of Chiapas(Mexico),
- Archaic(8,000 - 1000 BC) - slightly more information than Paleoindian(scotty MacNeish), all sites we know of are found near water sources like river(Belize River), have a new type of artifact during the time period: adze

Formative Period (1500 BC - AD 150)

First villages appearing around 1000 BC

Middle Formative (800 BC)

- Start to living in villages and making pottery
- Three common **animals eaten?** Dogs, white tailed deer, freshwater turtle
- Early houses were made of? Cane and thatch with use of mud, sticks (hardwood used later for building and floor stability)
- Under many house floors, archaeologists find caches, which served to animate the houses (making it a living being with these offerings)
 - When leaving, burn house down / remove contents of cache to kill house

Chiefdoms of the Middle Formative (800 - 400 BC) and Late Formative (400 BC - AD 150)

- Two types of chiefdom
 - 1) Minimal Chiefdom (less complex) - had 2 tiered hierarchies
 - a) Belize river valleys, cahal pech, barton ramie, blackman eddy, k'axob, cuello, pulltrouser swamp
 - 2) Maximal Chiefdom (more complex) - had 3 tiered hierarchies
 - a) El mirador, nakbe (northern guatemala)
- Interaction between Maya chiefdom + archaeological evidence for those interactions
 - Competitions among rival chiefdoms, Inter-Chiefdom violence (needed defense), inherited chiefly status
 - EVIDENCES: Palisades, burning of monuments (+ temples), defensible sites, mask ripped off temples at Blackman eddy, monument of chief receiving prisoners, pit of mass burials of skull
- Burials at K'axob - imply the ranked society; some men receive special mortuary treatment, indicate high status patterns in Formative Oaxaca, inheritance of status
- Maxima Chiefdom first arose in the northern Guatemala (Mirador Basin), where power cycle happened between different polities
 - 1) Nakbe (peaked in power 800 - 400 BC)
 - a) Rise to power through defensive site + rise up then dominates sites in Belize River Valley
 - b) Major Buildings - thick plaster floors, road system (west to east), places to preserve water
 - c) Causeways organized space through connecting major buildings and roads
 - d) E-Group is an astronomical observatory aligns with suns solstices and equinoxes
 - 2) El Mirador (peaked in power 400 BC - AD 150)
 - a) Rise to power through defeated Nakbe
 - b) El Tigre - largest monument in the Maya area (pyramid), and had road system around it
 - i) Template for temples at other sites
 - c) Architectural features that later characterized Maya sites - Triadic temple Organizations, large-scale architecture

MAYA STATES AND DYNASTIES

The Origins of Writing

- The earliest Maya writing is associated with maximal Maya chiefdoms and States
- Be aware which innovations came from Maya and which were adopted from earlier writing system
 - Writing systems came before Maya? Zapotec and Isthmian
 - What aspects of the earlier writing system that Maya adopted? Long-count date and hieroglyphics
 - Major improvement that Mayan writing made compared to earlier script? Mixture of logograph and syllabary, **closest script to spoken language**
 - Why rulers commissioned written text? To legitimize their power, emphasize certain events, propaganda to commoners, to trace ancestor's rule
 - Maya Calendar Round combines two different calendars - SACRED (260 days = 13 different numbers and 20 different day names) and SECULAR (365 days = 18 units of 20 days + 5 extra days) - getting 52 years in cycle
 - Why the discovery of Maya Long Count calendar is important to archaeologists
 - Detailed information about maya history + precision
 - Base date of Long Count Calendar - August 11, 3114 BC

First Generation Maya States (AD 100-500)

- Arise in Southern Lowlands between AD 100-500
- Evidence of First generation Maya States
 - Shift from 3 to 4 levels of administrative hierarchy
 - Palaces
 - Inter-site roads to subordinate area
 - Various strategies of consolidation
 - Marriage alliances, installation of loyal relatives at lower-order sites
 - Records of Dynastic Founders
- Tikal and Calakmul: first generation states in Maya area (know history and competition through Mayan written record)
 - Calakmul (peaks in power from AD 500 - 695)
 - Gain power and population as El mirador loses clout (power)
 - Calakmul incorporated much of its surroundings
 - AD 636 - 686: defeated Dos Pulas then used it to defeat Tikal
 - AD 695: ruler of Calakmul was captured by Tikal

- Tikal
 - Contemporary with Calakmul, but peaked in power later
 - Important structure at Tikal AD 360: the palace of Chak Tok Ich'aak
 - Tells about state formation through show enough hierarchies to be state
 - No erection of stelae during 100 years of Calakmul's domination
 - Finally captured ruler of Calakmul in AD 695 and became upper hand
 - End in AD 870
- Shows power cycles and various strategies of political consolidation

Secondary States

- Primary vs Secondary state formation
 - While the first generation state formed through competitions (thus subordinate settlement), the second generation arose from altercations because the model of state existed, so neighboring chiefly center reorganized to form a state
- Copan
 - Founder: K'inich Yax K'uk Mo (foreigner from Tikal) 킨츠 약스 쿡 모
 - Evidences: hieroglyphic text, tomb, and monument at Copan's Altar Q showing 16 rulers
 - Archaeologist think the founder was foreigner b/c: royalty due to deformed skull, filled teeth with jade, bone chemistry of skeleton - showed that he was from Tikal, he was middle aged warrior (healed farry fracture)
 - How did the dynastic founder assume leadership at Copan?
 - Military Prowess: He was tried to act like he was from Teotihuacan by holding the weapons and wearing a goggles over his eyes
 - How did he legitimize authority
 - Commissioned public construction that served as a template for later rulers
 - marriage with high-ranking woman
 - acquired new territory through conquest/diplomacy and installed rulers at conquered site
 - Polity incorporated into the copan state the day he assumed office - quiriga
 - Later rulers traced their descent to dynastic founder; example of this - Altar Q at Copan
- Dos Pilas

- AD 629, A prince from Tikal (4 years old) arrived give community royalty
- AD 648, Dos Pilas becomes satellite settlement of Calakmul
- AD 672, Dos Pilas was attacked by Tikal
- As these two primary states fought over Dos Pilas, the leader of Dos Pilas ultimately allied with Calakmul so the leader can regain the throne

MAYA RELIGIONS

- Practice at multiple scale
 - At daily commoner life, rituals focused on ancestors and animatism
 - Cache: deposit, offering, dedication to house (convert house from inanimate to animate being), contents in 2 vessels
 - Standardized, formal, public rituals were led by specialized priests
- Principles of Maya religion
 - Mayan religion was polytheistic
 - Animatism - attributing life to things we consider inanimate
 - These objects were attributed with iK (vital force) and Ku (sacredness, holiness)
 - Communicating with ancestors and the supernatural
 - Reciprocity: between human and sacred being
 - Transformation
 - Metamorphosis - someone transformed into an animal, who is their alter-ego as a person
 - Apotheosis - after death, a king becomes a god
 - Substance frequently burned as part of maya rituals
 - Incense (pom / copal tree sap)
- Roles of cave, springs, and cenotes in Maya religion - used for initiation / pilgrimage that lead to underworld with supernatural (rain and wind from cave came from the underworld), spring provide holy water for rituals

MAYA CONNECTIONS WITH CENTRAL MEXICO

- 2 maya sites with connections to Central Mexico - Kaminaljuyu (카미날주유), Tikal
 - Some pottery found at these sites were made in Teotihuacan, or were in the style of Teotihuacan pottery
- Imported pottery from Puebla is called "Thin Orange Pottery"

- Kind of architecture that imitates architecture of Teotihuacan: Talud - Tablero (탈루드 테이블로)
- Some non-local (Central Mexican, non-local Maya) may be the result of assemblies of people for feast or funerals, while other material may have accumulated through trade
- Maya kings like to depict themselves in association with imagery from Teotihuacan to emulate a warrior and strong military
- Teotihuacan also adopt from Maya (archaeologist suspects) so there was two way interactions
 - Barrio of Maya people at Teotihuacan, naming images/murals with hieroglyphics

POSTCLASSIC MAYA (AD 600 - 1000)

Maya culture itself did not disappear while people talk about Maya collapse

- Political features specifically declined and fell apart this period? Divine Kingship
 - Also, greater occurrence of warfare and intersite competition (an individual from Tikal who was the first ruler of second-generation state)ions
 - 2nd tier sub-lord feud with lords (mul tepal rule to force loyalty of secondary site rulers)
 - many parts of southern lowland sites abandoned
 - decentralization
- Specific case studies
 - Laminai (라미나이), Belize
 - Economic practice helped Laminai remain a powerful political force up until Spanish conquest? Canoe trading (Maritime trade)
 - Chichen Itza (치첸 잇자), Yucatan, Mexico
 - Under what kind of administration system was Chichen Itza ruled during postclassic?
 - Joint ruling - Mul Tepal (sub lord resided in the capital with ruler, force secondary site ruler)
 - Why was access to the coast important to Chichen Itza
 - For trade, storing canoe, and producing salt
 - Mayapan, Yucantan, Mexico
 - Though smaller than chichen Itza as a city, Mayapan administered a state that unified the entire Yucatan Peninsula / Northern Lowlands
 - Organized under joint rule during AD 1250 to 1450
 - Mayapan joint rule collapse during AD 1450 to 1600
 - What did the Maya area look like when Spaniard arrived(like in AD 1500)?
 - Consisted of 16 independent provinces called cuchcabalob (쿠치카발롭)

What do emblem glyphs tell us about the relationship between Maya Polities

- Regional hierarchies between sites (relationships and alliances)

How did relationship between Copan and Quirigua change over time

- Copan installed ruler at Quirigua (AD 426)

What writing systems preceded the system created by Maya

- Zapotec and