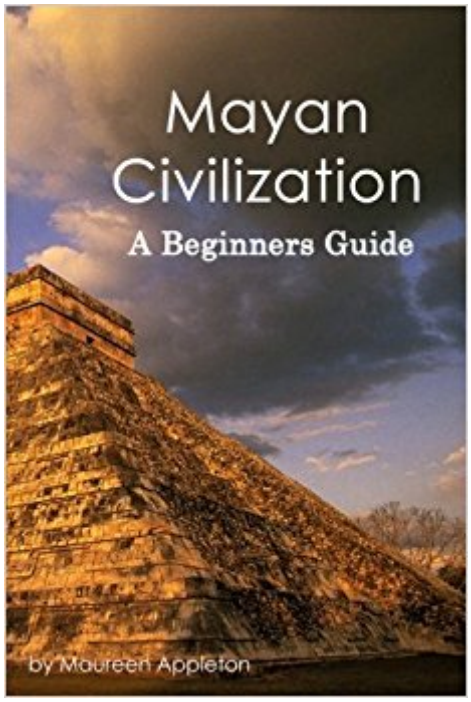
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Mayan Civilization: A Beginners Guide



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Synopsis

The lyrical and lifelike art works of Mayan culture have given archaeologists and historians the key to ancient Mayan history. This eBook describes social, religious, and artistic life, from their beginning until their destruction by the Spanish conquerors in the sixteenth century. In more recent years, teams of scientists have methodically explored the jungles and plains and have unearthed a wealth of information. But, unlike Egypt, Babylon, or Greece, where archaeologists have searched widely, the land of the Maya is still largely untouched in comparison. There are over five thousand ruins in Mexico alone, most of which have not been disturbed by the archaeologistsÃ¢â ¬â„¢ spades. There are perhaps hundreds more ruins hidden in the forests, their fallen stones covering a thousand secrets. The news of this little bit of gold was later to spur other greedy Spaniards on to further exploration and to the eventual conquest of three great American civilizations, the Incas, the Aztecs, and the Maya. The Mayan people were short. The average height of a Mayan man was five feet one inch; that of a woman, four feet eight inches. Their hair was straight and black, while the colour of their skin was coppery or brown. Mayan men did not shave. What little hair they had on their faces, they pulled out. The men wore their hair in braids, wound around the top of their heads, with a queue hanging down the back. The women wore their hair long, and arranged it in various ways.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Awesome read ... we had our homework done when we arrived in the Mayan Riviera. We loved the pictures that referenced different points of interest.

Easy read to introduce you to the major events of Mayan history. Nothing in depth but enough about culture, cities, religion and conflicts to whet the appetite.

This was very informative and definitely a book just to get your toes wet. It lacked illustrative qualities which would have made it easier to understand especially when they talked about all the different cities.

This is a great book to pick up for people who are unfamiliar with Mayan studies. It is a true "beginners" guide. I think that it is more suited for high school students who are interested in the Maya but don’t know where to start.

Don’t know when this book was written but seems to be out of date. An OK book to start reading about the Mayans.

Truly a beginners guide. A brief description of this mysterious civilization. Recommend as a starting point. Mor pictures and maps would be a good addition.

Much of the information in this book is outdated. Great pictures! Good book if you have no knowledge of the culture.

Basic info, but it does bring up interesting facts that I was not familiar with at the time of my reading.

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