



16th European Maya Conference
The Maya in a
Mesoamerican Context:
Comparative Approaches to Maya Studies
5 - 10 December 2011
Copenhagen, Denmark



The 16th European Maya Conference is co-organized by the University of Copenhagen (Department of American Indian Languages and Cultures, Institute of Cross-Cultural and Regional Studies), the Danish National Museum (Nationalmuseet) and Wayeb (European Association of Mayanists), and will be held from December 5th to 10th, 2011 in Copenhagen, Denmark. A four-day Workshop (Dec. 5-8th) will precede a two-day Symposium (Dec. 9-10th).

SYMPOSIUM

The theme of this year's conference will be: **"The Maya in a Mesoamerican Context: Comparative Approaches to Maya Studies"**.

The theme of the conference highlights the integration, interaction and co-development of Maya culture with the wider cultural area of Mesoamerica, as originally defined by Paul Kirchhoff in 1943. In contrast to earlier conferences (1999, 2005) which have emphasized the more immediate or direct neighbours of the Maya, we wish to stimulate a discussion and focus on a geographically broader and chronologically deeper comparative approach to Maya studies, ranging from Preclassic times to the present. The crux is to provide integrative approaches to the Maya as viewed in a Mesoamerican context, rather than operating within the traditional parameters of Maya studies. The goal is a greater awareness of the shared features of the Mesoamerican cultures – as well as the marked differences between areas and periods. Four focal sub-themes have been defined for the conference, and are: (a) Linguistics and languages, (b) Epigraphy and writing systems, (c) Religion and ritual practices and (d) Archaeology and material culture serve to organize and focus the topic.

Invited keynote speakers include: Jaime Awe (Institute of Archaeology, Belize), James Brady (California State University, Los Angeles), Oswaldo Chinchilla Mazariegos (Universidad Francisco Marroquín, Guatemala), Christophe Helmke (University of Copenhagen), Stephen Houston (Brown University), Alfonso Lacadena (Universidad Complutense de Madrid), Simon Martin (University of Pennsylvania Museum), Jesper Nielsen (University of Copenhagen), Søren Wichmann (Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig), and Roberto Zavala Maldonado (CIESAS-Sureste, San Cristóbal de las Casas)

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Wayeb Conference Board invites the submission of abstracts concerning the conference topic. Papers will be selected from all sub-disciplines of Mesoamerican studies to cover the conference topic in all dimensions and from various perspectives. Presentations will be accepted in English and Spanish. Abstracts may not exceed 250 words. Contributions of authors who submit more than one abstract (including co-authored papers) will not be considered. Co-authorship needs to be clearly indicated upon submission. It will not be possible to add co-authors on a presentation unless these have been explicitly included in the submitted abstract and approved as such.

Papers of the keynote speakers are arranged according to the conference's four topics, namely: (a) Linguistics and languages, (b) Epigraphy and writing systems, (c) Religion and ritual practices and (d) Archaeology and material culture. As such, the keynote papers serve as anchors for the other papers within the respective sessions, solicited from the call for papers. Consequently, we will prioritize presentations from the call for papers that most adequately complement those of the keynote speakers. In order to present the panels in a balanced manner we will ideally select papers from the call for papers to match each of the four topical panels. Note that we solicit papers that are inherently comparative and will not consider papers that are narrowly focused on the Maya.

Please submit in electronic format (Word attachment) in the following order:

1. Author's name and affiliation
2. Address, phone number and email address
3. Title of paper
4. Abstract

The abstracts will be forwarded without the author's particulars to an anonymous Review Committee that will be selected by the Wayeb Conference Board.

Please submit your application to callforpapers@wayeb.org

(Only abstracts sent to this address will be accepted. Please do not send your abstract to the organisers or the Conference Board! If you send your abstract to another email address than the above your abstract will be immediately disqualified from further consideration.)

The call for papers will close on the **30 April 2011!** All abstracts have to be sent in and confirmation of receipt received prior to this date.

MAYA HIEROGLYPHIC WORKSHOP

This year, the conference will be preceded by a four-day long hieroglyphic workshop.

Opening Lecture (Monday, 5 December, morning)

The workshop includes an opening lecture by Simon Martin (University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology) that serves as an introduction to Maya hieroglyphic writing and provides participants with a general overview of the history of the decipherment.

Workshops (Monday, 5 December – Thursday, 8 December)

All workshop groups will be taught and supervised by experienced tutors. Participants will be tutored in English. For the participants of introductory level workshops, explanations can be provided in Danish, on an individual basis. Spanish explanations can be provided by tutors, on an individual basis, for workshops of all levels.

Introductory Workshop: "Introduction to Maya Writing" (Admittance: 40 participants max.)

Tutors: Harri Kettunen (University of Helsinki), Guido Krempel (University of Bonn), Simone Thun (University of Copenhagen) & Rosa Worm Danbo (University of Copenhagen), N.N.

Intermediate Workshop: "Maya-Mesoamerican Relations" (title subject to change) (25 participants max.)

Tutors: Sven Gronemeyer (La Trobe University) & Dmitri Beliaev (Russian State University for the Humanities)

Advanced Workshop: "Comparative Writing Systems" (title subject to change) (20 participants max.)

Tutor: Marc Zender (Harvard University) & Albert Davletshin (University of Bonn)

Special Topic Workshop: "Nawatl Writing" (title subject to change) (25 participants max.)

Tutors: Alfonso Lacadena (Universidad Complutense de Madrid) & Søren Wichmann (Max Planck Institute Leipzig)

There will be separate registration available for both events.

For more information, please contact the ConferenceBoard@wayeb.org or the local organisers Dr. Jesper Nielsen and Dr. Christophe Helmke of the University of Copenhagen at emc2011@wayeb.org