



# Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya

By Michael D Coe

Download now

Read Online ➔

## Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya By Michael D Coe

The Maya are of enormous and abiding fascination to anybody interested in archaeology, ancient history, astronomy, or the visual arts. From the 3rd century BC to the 14th century AD, while Europe was deep in the Dark and Middle Ages, the Maya were producing astonishing sculpture, stelae, and wall murals, and building magnificent temples, palaces, tombs, and ball courts. Now, in this extraordinary volume pairing a leading Maya scholar and one of the world's finest photographers of ancient sites, the rich cultural heritage of the Maya is brought vividly and authoritatively to life.

Author Michael Coe traces the rise and fall of Maya civilization through its great royal cities, from El Mirador, the largest and oldest, to the rival city-states of the Classical period such as Tikal, Calakmul, Yaxchilán, Palenque, Toniná, and Copán. He then moves on to the great cities of the Terminal Classic period; at a time when the mighty centers of the southern lowlands were in a steep decline, cities to the north such as Uxmal and Kabah achieved a pinnacle of architectural beauty. After that he turns to the Postclassic period and Chichén Itzá in central Yucatán, a huge, cosmopolitan city that flourished during a military and cultural takeover by the Toltecs of central Mexico. Through convincing analysis of archaeological evidence, new readings, of artifacts, reliefs, and murals, Professor Coe untangles the complex sequences of internecine ritual warfare that eventually weakened Maya civilization.

Illustrating Coe's riveting history of these remarkable polities, the powerful dynasties that led them, and the political intrigues and armed conflicts that threatened their existence, are the exceptionally evocative photographs of Barry Brookoff, whose color and sepia imagery recalls the lithographs of the early-nineteenth-century artist and explorer Frederick Catherwood.

### Praise for *Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya*:

"This book takes us on a three-thousand-year journey through Maya history, from nascent agrarian communities to coastal shrines of Yucatán on the eve of the Spanish conquest. Along the way, we visit the major centers of ancient Maya civilization, and in each locale we are given a unique private tour of its remarkable art and architecture through Barry Brookoff's masterly photographs. Our guide on this epic journey is Michael Coe, whose vivid account is informed by vast knowledge of Mesoamerican culture. *Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya* is

an experience not to be missed."—Professor Andrea Stone, Department of Art History, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

"A sumptuous presentation of all things Maya. The architecture, art, and history of this extraordinary people are covered in great detail, from the first farmers to the arrival of the Spaniards. During this long interval of some 3500 years, the Maya created one of the most distinctive of ancient civilizations, here wonderfully revealed by Michael Coe, a leading authority in the field, and the superb photographs of Barry Brukoff. *Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya* is a feast for the eye and the mind for the scholar and the general reader alike."—Dr. David L. Webster, Professor of Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania

"Stunning photographs by Barry Brukoff illuminate insights and smart prose from Michael Coe, one of the most knowledgeable scholars of the ancient Maya, in *Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya*. For both general readers and specialists, this highly readable book offers wonderful surprises, along with the latest and most up-to-date interpretations. No bookshelf should be without it."—Dr. Mary Miller, Dean of Yale College, Sterling Professor of Art, History of Art of the Ancient New World, author of *The Art of Mesoamerica: From Olmec to Aztec*

"This book is glorious. Panoramic in two senses, it offers masterful commentary by Michael Coe, doyen of Mayanist scholars, along with B

 [Download Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya ...pdf](#)

# Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya

*By Michael D Coe*

## **Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya** By Michael D Coe

The Maya are of enormous and abiding fascination to anybody interested in archaeology, ancient history, astronomy, or the visual arts. From the 3rd century BC to the 14th century AD, while Europe was deep in the Dark and Middle Ages, the Maya were producing astonishing sculpture, stelae, and wall murals, and building magnificent temples, palaces, tombs, and ball courts. Now, in this extraordinary volume pairing a leading Maya scholar and one of the world's finest photographers of ancient sites, the rich cultural heritage of the Maya is brought vividly and authoritatively to life.

Author Michael Coe traces the rise and fall of Maya civilization through its great royal cities, from El Mirador, the largest and oldest, to the rival city-states of the Classical period such as Tikal, Calakmul, Yaxchilán, Palenque, Toniná, and Copán. He then moves on to the great cities of the Terminal Classic period; at a time when the mighty centers of the southern lowlands were in a steep decline, cities to the north such as Uxmal and Kabah achieved a pinnacle of architectural beauty. After that he turns to the Postclassic period and Chichén Itzá in central Yucatán, a huge, cosmopolitan city that flourished during a military and cultural takeover by the Toltecs of central Mexico. Through convincing analysis of archaeological evidence, new readings, of artifacts, reliefs, and murals, Professor Coe untangles the complex sequences of internecine ritual warfare that eventually weakened Maya civilization.

Illustrating Coe's riveting history of these remarkable polities, the powerful dynasties that led them, and the political intrigues and armed conflicts that threatened their existence, are the exceptionally evocative photographs of Barry Brukoff, whose color and sepia imagery recalls the lithographs of the early-nineteenth-century artist and explorer Frederick Catherwood.

### Praise for *Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya*:

"This book takes us on a three-thousand-year journey through Maya history, from nascent agrarian communities to coastal shrines of Yucatán on the eve of the Spanish conquest. Along the way, we visit the major centers of ancient Maya civilization, and in each locale we are given a unique private tour of its remarkable art and architecture through Barry Brukoff's masterly photographs. Our guide on this epic journey is Michael Coe, whose vivid account is informed by vast knowledge of Mesoamerican culture. *Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya* is an experience not to be missed."—Professor Andrea Stone, Department of Art History, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

"A sumptuous presentation of all things Maya. The architecture, art, and history of this extraordinary people are covered in great detail, from the first farmers to the arrival of the Spaniards. During this long interval of some 3500 years, the Maya created one of the most distinctive of ancient civilizations, here wonderfully revealed by Michael Coe, a leading authority in the field, and the superb photographs of Barry Brukoff. *Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya* is a feast for the eye and the mind for the scholar and the general reader alike."—Dr. David L. Webster, Professor of Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania

"Stunning photographs by Barry Brukoff illuminate insights and smart prose from Michael Coe, one of the most knowledgeable scholars of the ancient Maya, in *Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya*. For both general readers and specialists, this highly readable book offers wonderful surprises, along with the latest and most up-to-date interpretations. No bookshelf should be without it."—Dr. Mary Miller, Dean of Yale College,

Sterling Professor of Art, History of Art of the Ancient New World, author of The Art of Mesoamerica: From Olmec to Aztec

"This book is glorious. Panoramic in two senses, it offers masterful commentary by Michael Coe, doyen of Mayanist scholars, along with B

### **Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya By Michael D Coe Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #668489 in Books
- Published on: 2012-11-01
- Released on: 2012-10-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x 1.13" w x 11.00" l, 3.75 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 224 pages

 [Download Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya ...pdf](#)

### Editorial Review

About the Author

**Michael D. Coe** is Charles J. MacCurdy Professor Emeritus of Anthropology at Yale University, and Curator Emeritus at the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History. **Barry Brukoff** is an award-winning photographer whose books include *Temples of Cambodia: The Heart of Angkor* and *The Enigma of Stonehenge* (text by John Fowles).

### Users Review

From reader reviews:

**Nathanael Ma:**

Precisely why? Because this Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya is an unordinary book that the inside of the guide waiting for you to snap that but latter it will zap you with the secret that inside. Reading this book alongside it was fantastic author who also write the book in such incredible way makes the content inside easier to understand, entertaining technique but still convey the meaning thoroughly. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this any more or you going to regret it. This excellent book will give you a lot of gains than the other book have such as help improving your talent and your critical thinking approach. So , still want to postpone having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the publication store hurriedly.

**Karen Wilson:**

Playing with family in a park, coming to see the water world or hanging out with pals is thing that usually you will have done when you have spare time, after that why you don't try matter that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition of knowledge. Even you love Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya, it is possible to enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still need to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh can happen its mind hangout folks. What? Still don't get it, oh come on its known as reading friends.

**Stephanie Dillard:**

Would you one of the book lovers? If so, do you ever feeling doubt when you are in the book store? Aim to pick one book that you never know the inside because don't determine book by its include may doesn't work here is difficult job because you are afraid that the inside maybe not since fantastic as in the outside appear likes. Maybe you answer can be Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya why because the excellent cover that make you consider concerning the content will not disappoint a person. The inside or content will be fantastic as the outside or maybe cover. Your reading 6th sense will directly assist you to pick up this book.

**Robert Harriman:**

On this era which is the greater man or who has ability in doing something more are more precious than other. Do you want to become one among it? It is just simple way to have that. What you must do is just spending your time not much but quite enough to get a look at some books. Among the books in the top list in your reading list will be Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya. This book which can be qualified as The Hungry Hillsides can get you closer in getting precious person. By looking up and review this guide you can get many advantages.

**Download and Read Online Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya By Michael D Coe #RBHT4XCGONS**

# **Read Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya By Michael D Coe for online ebook**

Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya By Michael D Coe Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya By Michael D Coe books to read online.

## **Online Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya By Michael D Coe ebook PDF download**

**Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya By Michael D Coe Doc**

**Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya By Michael D Coe Mobipocket**

**Royal Cities of the Ancient Maya By Michael D Coe EPub**