

# 墨西哥玛雅文明珍品

Maya Treasures from Mexico



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上海博物館  
Shanghai Museum

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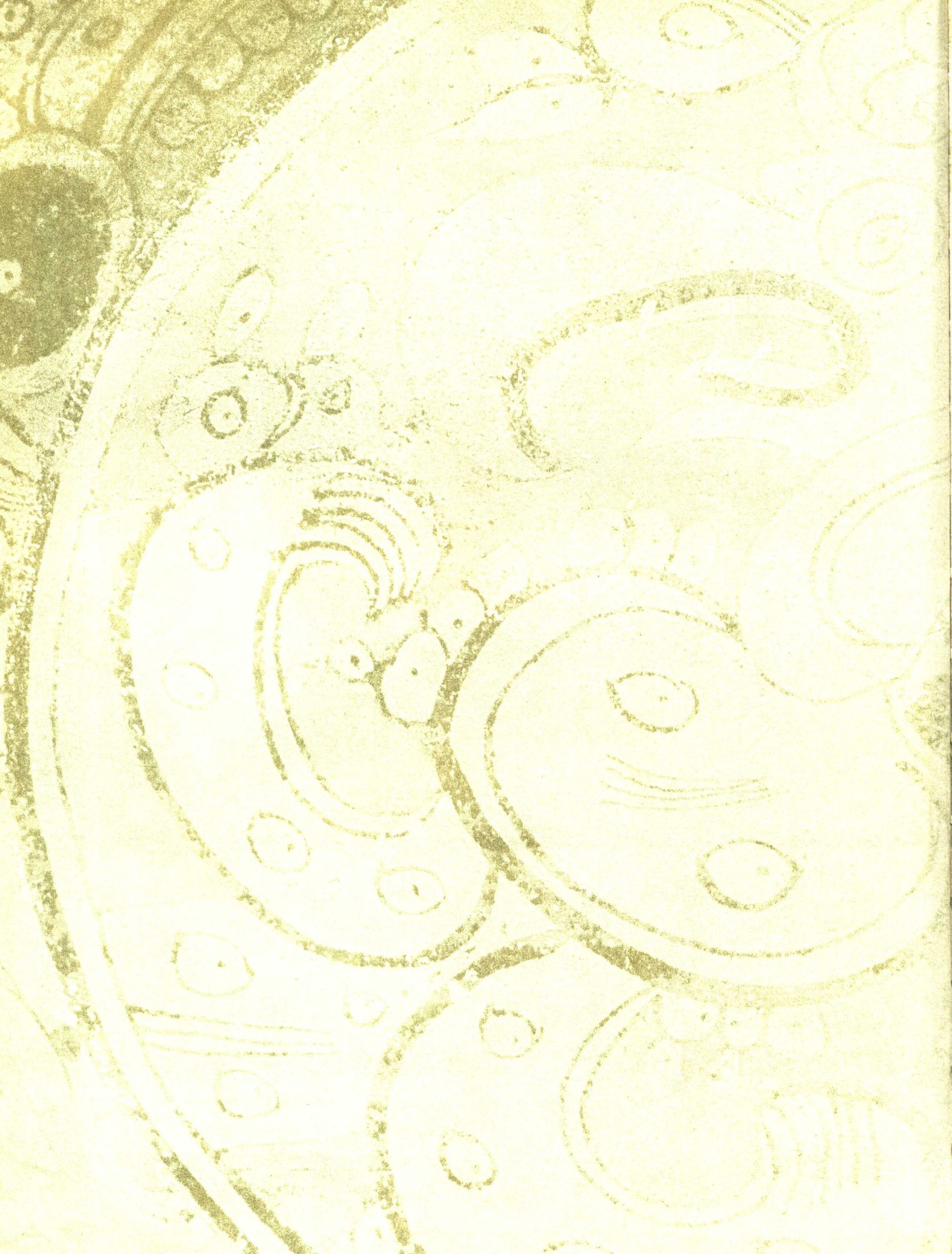
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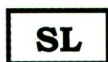
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## 贺 词

21 世纪的墨西哥，不仅希望向全世界展示所发生的政治变革、经济进步、社会转型，而且还致力于传播自身的文化，以此作为外交政策的基础和优势。这一美好的愿望以我们悠久的历史、丰富的传统文化和大量的艺术财富作为后盾。认识墨西哥最好的途径就是了解我们的文化，她是不同历史阶段智慧的结晶，从许多不同时代、不同方面展示了墨西哥的形象。

我怀着自豪的心情向上海人民介绍 “墨西哥玛雅文明珍品展”，并带着墨西哥政府和中国在各个方面友好合作的愿望。这次我们飘洋过海将玛雅文化带来上海是有象征意义的，意味着世界上伟大而古老的两大文化的汇集，而文化中所蕴藏的民族的尊严、特征和活力，无不体现在我们的精神世界中。

“墨西哥玛雅文明珍品展”将观众带进一个非常神秘、精妙和先进的古老文明中。这是在中国举办的规模最大最重要的墨西哥出土文物展。

这次展出，加强了双方的交流，增进了相互的情谊，使中墨两国人民之间的友好团结又进了一步。

从传说中的“中国帆船”之行起，华人的形象、标志和塑像就源源不断地进入墨西哥，并给其艺术带来了直接影响，这在达拉维拉陶器上神秘的图案或“普埃布拉中国妇女”绚丽的服装上可见一斑。

在上海举办本次展览具有重要意义。首先，中国是一个文化中心，也是世界上没有中断过的最为古老的文明；其次，承办本次展览的上海博物馆，是日新月异的时代将科技创新与文明之根融合起来体现这一人类需求的标志。

我们不仅通过寻找一切可能的合作契机，使我们两国更加亲近，而且希望让贵国人民对我们的文化以及科学家、艺术家的成就有所认识 and 了解。在这一认识 and 了解过程中播撒下信任和心心相印的种子。

在此，我感谢为本次展览作出贡献的中墨两国的每一个人，是他们让上海人民欣赏到这个将会成为他们最珍贵记忆之一的文化盛典。

墨西哥总统  
文森特·福克斯





## Message

In the 21st century, Mexico not only wishes to show the world the maturity of the political changes, economic progress and social transformation that we have brought about, but also to disseminate knowledge of our culture, which is cornerstone and the comparative advantage of our foreign policy. Our intention is sustained by the depth of our history, our colorful traditions and the vast wealth of our art. Our best letter of introduction is our culture, understand as the crystallization of many processes which in the course of our long history, have merged to draw the face of Mexico.

I feel proud to present this exhibition of the “Maya Treasures from Mexico” to the people of Shanghai, and I celebrate the will of the Chinese and Mexican governments to cooperate in all spheres. This trip of the Mayas to Shanghai symbolizes the convergence, of the two of the world’s greatest original cultures, whose dignity, character and vigor are ever present in our spirit.

“Maya Treasures from Mexico” will bring viewers closer to one of the most enigmatic, sophisticated and advanced civilizations of antiquity. It is the largest and most important collection of Mexican archaeological pieces ever shown in China.

With this exhibition we strengthen even further our bonds of friendship and add one more link to the long chain that has historically united the peoples of China and Mexico.

The mythical trips of the “Galleon from China”, were the starting point of an ongoing flow of Chinese images, symbols and representations that had a direct influence on Mexican art, evident in the intricate designs of “Talavera” pottery wares and the colorful garments of the “China poblana”.

It is significant that Shanghai is hosting this exhibit. First of all, because China is a cultural center and the most ancient living civilization in the world. Secondly, because the Shanghai Museum, where the exhibit will be shown, is a symbol of mankind’s need to reconcile an age of change and technological innovation with the deepest roots of our civilization.

Our greatest interest lies not only in promoting greater closeness between our governments and in seeking possibilities of cooperation and complementation in all fields, but also in fostering the reciprocal knowledge and understanding of our cultures. In such knowledge and understanding lies the seed of truly lasting spiritual link.

I wish to thank the Chinese and Mexican institutions that have made it possible to present this exhibit. They have given the people of Shanghai the opportunity to appreciate a cultural event of great significance. We hope that it will remain as one of their most cherished memories.

**Vicente Fox Quesada**  
**President of Mexico**



## 贺 词

“墨西哥玛雅文明珍品展”于上海隆重开幕，这是中墨两国人民在新世纪之初加强交流、增进友谊的一件盛事。我谨代表上海市人民政府和全市人民致以热烈的祝贺！

世界四大文明都起源于大河流域，唯独玛雅文明却诞生于热带丛林之中，让世人惊叹不已。玛雅人以其特有的勤劳和智慧，在那个时代就创造出高度发达的农业、数学、历法和天文学；在没有金属工具和畜力车辆的帮助下，于莽莽的丛林深处建造起宏伟的石砌“金字塔”、巨型石碑和大量城市建筑；由玛雅人培育的玉米等许多重要农作物，已传播世界、福泽四方，为人类文明做出了独特的贡献。

文明的交流是人类共享先进文化成果的过程。本次展览陈列的100件文物珍品，充分显示了玛雅文明绚丽灿烂的精华。上海人民对源远流长的墨西哥文化充满敬意。

衷心祝愿本次展览取得圆满成功！

上海市市长

徐匡迪





## Message

The exhibition of “Maya Treasures from Mexico” now in Shanghai is a momentous event which, at the beginning of this century, furthers cultural exchange and friendship between the peoples of China and Mexico. In the name of the city of Shanghai and its people, I extend congratulations.

The four great civilizations of the world have all developed in drainage basins, but the Maya civilization stands out because of its birth in the deep tropical forests. The Mayas, with their diligence and intelligence, reached a high level of agriculture, mathematics and astronomy. They constructed great stone pyramids, steles and many cities in the deep forests, despite the absence of metal tools and animal-draw vehicles. Many crops cultivated by Mayas, corn for example, were introduced to the world and thereby contributed to human civilization.

Cultural exchange is the process of sharing the fruits of our civilizations, as evidenced by this exhibition. The 100 cultural artifacts shown in this exhibition reflect the splendour of the Mayan civilization. We, the people of Shanghai, are full of admiration for the long and continuous Mexican civilization.

I sincerely wish the exhibition every success!

**Xu Kuangdi**  
**Mayor of Shanghai**



## 前言

古代印第安文明，纵贯了美洲从北到南辽阔的地域，包容着众多民族所创造的纷繁多样的地方文明。中美洲地区的玛雅文明，以其特有的绮丽光彩，格外引人注目。

玛雅文明，大体存在于公元16世纪以前的三四千年之间，曾经绵延兴衰于今天的墨西哥、伯利兹、危地马拉、洪都拉斯和萨尔瓦多等地三十多万平方公里的土地上。它的创建者——玛雅人，才智聪明，不仅拥有发达的农业、手工业和商业，而且兴建了数以百计规划完美的城市。他们发明的象形文字，可与古埃及和中国的象形文字相媲美。他们对天文学研究精深，设定繁复的历法，建立高明的算术体系，等等。在艺术方面，玛雅人的成就同样令人惊叹——那些集宗教信仰和天文科学于一体的金字塔神庙建筑、构图宏伟而色彩鲜艳的壁画，以及雕凿精美的石碑和供石……无一不是人类文化的瑰宝。玛雅人万分虔诚地供奉着统治大自然的种种神灵，以无比丰富的想像力创造出无数诡秘多变的神怪形象；同时也毫不忽略现世的欢乐，以巨大的热情表现着人的世俗生活。他们的艺术，因此而更显得丰富多彩。真诚的情感和美妙的形式的完美结合，使玛雅艺术魅力无穷。

玛雅文明虽然早已衰落，今人对它的了解也因史料和文物的残缺而相当有限，但它却依然闪耀着熠熠光辉。它是人类原始文化的重要代表之一。

今天，我们上海博物馆有幸从墨西哥迎来百件玛雅艺术珍品，使广大观众得以一览这遥远文明的神秘风采。愿这个展览，能进一步引导我们接近大洋彼岸那另一个世界的伟大文明——印第安文明。

上海博物馆馆长  
陈燮君





## Foreword

The Ancient Indian Civilization strides across the American Continents from North to South, it covers various local civilizations created by different ethnic groups. Maya in Mesoamerica extensively attracts our attention with its unique splendid civilization.

The Mayan Civilization is estimated to exist between three to four thousands years back from the 16th century; it used to flourish over an area of 300,000 square kilometers, where we call Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador today. The Mayas, the creators of the Mayan Civilization, were highly intelligent people. They not only had founded well-developed agriculture, handicraft and commerce, but also built up hundreds of perfectly designed cities. They had invented hieroglyph, which is comparable to that of the ancient Egypt, as well as that of China. They had devoted intensively to the studies on astrology, created complex calendars, and constructed a sophisticated mathematic system... In art, the achievements of the Mayas are as well inspiring—those pyramids and temples, which combined religious worships and astrology, the gigantic frescos with vivid colors, and those steles with fine relievos, all of them are treasures of mankind. The Mayas worshipped all kinds of deities above the nature with absolute fidelity; and with their boundless imaginations, they created countless enigmatic images of gods and ghosts; on the other hand, they would not forget the worldly enjoyment, and had presented it with great enthusiasm. On account of these, the Mayan art is all the more colorful. The genuine emotion perfectly combines with the extraordinary form, the Mayan art has shown its timeless charm.

Although the Mayan Civilization declined long time ago, and our knowledge to it is rather limited due to the lack of historic documents and the fragmentation of relics, it still radiates with glorious splendor. It is one of the most important representatives of the ancient human civilization.

Today, the Shanghai Museum gladly welcomes the arrival of 100 pieces of the Mayan art treasures from Mexico, which enables the visitors to have a glimpse of the mystic glamour of this remote civilization. We hope that this exhibition will lead us to the Indian Civilization on the other side of the ocean.

**Chen Xiejun**  
**Director**  
**Shanghai Museum**



## 前言

同中国人民一样，墨西哥人民也有值得自豪的历史，玛雅文化则是这一历史的重要基点。

玛雅文化在奇特的景色中崛起：纵横交错的江河急流，到处可见的珍禽异兽，美洲豹、大嘴图坎鸟、长尾格查尔鸟、猴、鹿遍布在丛林海岬之中，而墨西哥的海滨美景堪称世界一流。

这是一个充满玛雅人遒劲生动的创造力的世界——从他们的建筑、遗迹、雕塑和壁画中。这是一个能征善战的民族，其疆域从墨西哥的塔巴斯科、坎佩切、尤卡坦、金塔纳罗奥和恰帕斯等州延伸到中美洲大部分地区。

目前，墨西哥一些大城市和小村镇辟有约300个玛雅人居住点，其研究有助于对古代居民的了解。现已证实，玛雅人在古代美索亚美利加占有35万平方公里区域，包括现在的墨西哥部分地区及萨尔瓦多、危地马拉、洪都拉斯、伯利兹等国。

玛雅人遗弃了由宏伟的宗教、军事和民用建筑组成的城镇，其神秘的缘由尚待进一步研究揭示。

玛雅人擅长航海，雄踞加勒比海，俯瞰太平洋和大西洋。他们先于印度人发明了“0”概念，具有丰富的天文知识和高超的建筑才能。今天，有千百万墨西哥人以玛雅后裔为骄傲，保持了从先人继承的传统、思维方法和习俗，很多人甚至依然会说20多种玛雅语中的某种语言。

本次展览清楚显示，很多物品来源于日常生活和装饰。然而，岁月的斑驳把它们变成了艺术品。当北京在公元13世纪成为中国首都时，玛雅人正经历着古典期的变迁。在古代墨西哥这段兴盛时期中，产生了艺术、文化、经济、政治、军事、科学和技术的伟大成就。玛雅人的太阳历足以为证，其计算上的精确程度超过了西方世界世代流传广为使用的格列高利历。玛雅人的天文知识也十分惊人，比如他们测定出金星运行的轨道。玛雅文化是墨西哥的源文化之一，其光芒必定也在本次展览中熠熠生辉。我们以这100件文物来展示墨西哥的灿烂历史，我们与一个同样根深叶茂的民族分享共同的辉煌。这些历经时代风雨的艺术品是保存着墨西哥人民历史记忆的宝库。

为此，墨西哥政府满怀崇敬的心情并以严谨的态度，把对墨西哥人民的历史文化遗产的研究、抢救、保存和传播置于极其重要的地位。在欣赏古代文明的辉煌、接收千年文化的讯息时，我们不禁以敬仰之情重复古代中国老子的至理名言：“善建者不拔，善抱者不脱，子孙以祭祀不绝。”

谨祝本次展览进一步增强我们之间伟大的友谊。

墨西哥全国文化艺术委员会主席  
萨莉·贝莫德斯





# Foreword

The Mexicans, like the Chinese, are proud of their past, and the Mayan culture is of central importance in Mexico's history.

The Mayan civilization flowered in an environment of extraordinary landscapes crisscrossed by brimming rivers. This land was inhabited by magnificent animals, such as jaguars, toucans, quetzals, monkeys and deer. The Maya lived in forests and jungles, and along the edge of beaches, which are among the most beautiful areas in the world.

This world is reflected in the strength and vitality of the creations of the Maya: their buildings and monuments, sculptures and murals. The Maya was a warrior race who originally came from the Mexican states of Tabasco, Campeche, Yucatan, Quintana Roo, and Chiapas as well as from a large area of Mesoamerica.

Currently, Mexico has identified approximately 300 settlements as Mayan origins. These include both large cities and small communities. The study of these settlements provides information about these past inhabitants. The extent of the settlements allows us to conclude that in ancient Mesoamerica the Maya occupied an area of close to 350 thousand square kilometers on land, that today forms part of Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Belize.

The mystery of why the Maya abandoned their urban centers with their monumental religious, military and civil buildings remains to be revealed by future research.

The Maya were navigators and masters of the Caribbean. They observed both the Pacific and Atlantic oceans. They invented the number zero before it was known in India, and they were accomplished astronomers and architects. Today, millions of Mexicans are proud as descendants of the Maya and they maintain traditions, ways of thinking, and customs inherited from their ancestors. Many, in fact, still speak one of the more than 25 Mayan native languages.

From an inspection of the works in this exhibition, it is evident that many of them were originally utilitarian or decorative. However, the patina of time has turned them into works of art.

When Beijing became the capital of China during the 13th century, the Mayan people were living in what is known now as the Classical Period. This was a period of enlightenment in ancient Mexico during which great artistic, cultural, economic, political, military, scientific and technological accomplishments were achieved.

It is important to realize that the Mayan solar calendar, based on precise calculations, was more accurate than the Gregorian Calendar, which for centuries was disseminated and used throughout the Western world.

Their astronomical achievements were also surprising. They calculated the orbit of Venus, for example.

The Mayan world is one of Mexico's mother cultures and the splendor that continues to radiate since those times is evident in this exhibition.

With these 100 pieces, we celebrate the grandeur of Mexico's past and we also celebrate the possibility of sharing this grandeur with a nation glorying in equally strong roots.

This enormous collection of pieces that have endured through time is the repository of the memory of our people.

It is therefore of vital importance for my government to carry out research, rescue, conservation and dissemination of information in relation to the historical patrimony of the Mexican people with an attitude of respect and care.

When we see the reflections of ancient splendors--the signs that ancient cultures have sent us from the past--we find ourselves repeating, with admiration, the wise words of Lao Tse: That which is well established cannot be uprooted. That which is well preserved will not be lost. He who bequeaths his memories to his children and grand children will never die.

It is my best wish that this exhibition will continue to strengthen our great friendship.

**Sara G. Bermudez**  
**President**  
**Mexican Council for Culture and the Arts**



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