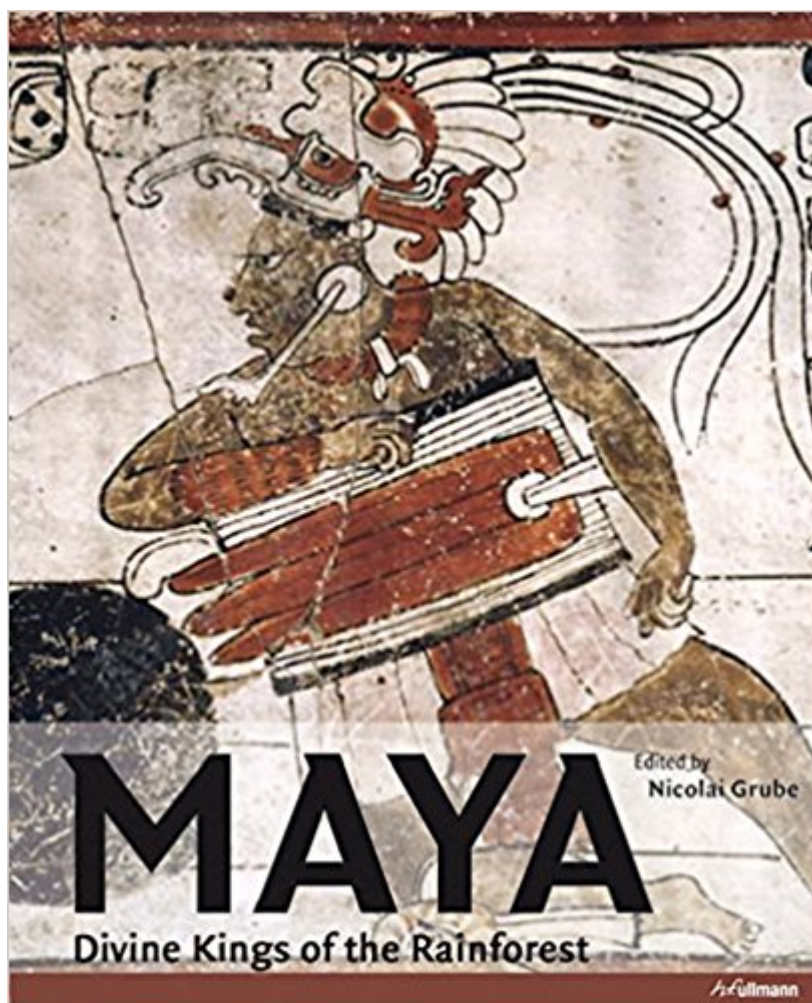


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# Maya: Divine Kings Of The Rainforest



## Synopsis

Sunken cities in the jungle and towering temple pyramids reflect only a small portion of our knowledge about Mayan culture. This fascinating people achieved the landmarks of an advanced civilization—such as a highly developed writing system and densely populated cities, earning them a place among the greatest civilizations in the world. However, this period represents just one phase in the history of the Mayan culture, which extends over thousands of years. Our knowledge of Mayan life has increased dramatically in recent decades. As a result, specialists from a wide range of disciplines have contributed to this book in order to represent all of the latest research on the Maya. The contributions included in this magnificent volume range from the origins of Mayan culture all the way to modernity, giving insight into everyday life and religion as well as the artistic accomplishments and intellectual abilities of this important culture.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"A feast for the eyes and the understanding..."  
Maya: Divine Kings of the Rain Forest  
Ed. Nikolai Grube  
H.F.Ullmann \$49.99  
A feast for the eyes and the understanding, this large volume is replete with hundreds of photos, maps, and texts on a broad spectrum of the Mayan cultures by twenty-six specialists in their fields. Presenting much new information on the Mayan people, their language, and their works, chapters include essays on "Habitats and Early Horizons," "Architecture and Art," "Religious Beliefs," "The Colonial Era," and "The Maya in the Present," among others. The essays are concise, offering material rich in depth and detail, yet easily accessible to the reader. The Appendix contains a glossary, an overview of historical sites, selected museums worldwide together

with their contact information, a timeline, charts of the ruling dynasties with accompanying hieroglyphs, and remarks on the writing and pronunciation of Mayan. Reviewed by Ethan Boatner, Lavendar Magazine, Aug 9, 2012

Professor Nikolai Grube, born in 1962 in Bonn, Germany, studied ancient American languages, cultures, and ethnology at the University of Hamburg. He earned his doctorate in 1989 with a thesis on "The Development of Mayan Writing". His publication primarily address the history of dynasties and the political structures and writing system of the Mayans.

This is an amazing book! Well written and beautifully illustrated. I highly recommend this book to anyone interested in the Maya.

The book was exactly what I was looking for. It covers every single aspect of the Mayan civilization, with very good pictures, illustrations and texts. The map at the beginning of the book and the summary timeline at the end are also very useful during the reading for "when and where" awareness.

I now live in the heart of the Yucatan, where Mayan ruins "live"... awesome book!!

This is a great book!! The photos are spectacular and give an accurate view and impression of the ruins depicted. The text is interesting, factual, well thought out without being weighty.

Maya: Divine Kings of the Rain Forest is a general work about the Maya Indians of Central America. The book takes a sweeping overview of Maya civilization, including breakdowns of the different eras of Mayan culture and taking a look at the achievements of each era. There are chapters on Mayan architecture, Mayan writing, Mayan art. There are chapters on the Mayan languages and tribal groupings and chapters that describe Mayan religion and spirituality. This is a good introductory work that will acquaint the reader with all aspects of Mayan civilization and will talk a bit about the Maya today and how they live in Southern Mexico, Belize, Guatemala and Honduras. I heartily recommend this book to the newbie to Mayan culture who wants to get an overview of these Indians and their society. For those with more knowledge this work will not be as valuable, because it is a basic work and not specialized. If you read Michael Coe's excellent \*The Maya\*, you will get the same information as this book but not as detailed. This really is a superb introduction to Mayan

culture and society and will cover all your bases as it educates and informs. The writing is very down to earth and easy to read, and the essays are all short and succinct. Good luck with this book!

I almost purchased this book, but the table of contents looked awfully familiar. As another reviewer here pointed out, it was issued in 2000-2001 as THE MAYA: CULTURE & CIVILIZATION (CULTURAL STUDIES PHOTOGRAPHY) (see listing for this title here at ) in a larger format with a different cover. I was looking forward to a 2012 revised edition at the very least, but this is not revised. It's a great book with some great articles and some that didn't particularly interest me. The photography is excellent, but the photos are larger in the 1st edition.

This is a fantastic book - but beware, it is the SAME book that was published in 2000 but with a different cover.

I have several large informative books of the Maya and Aztec histories. This book has by far the best information, and is written in easily understood English. Many explanations, etc. Great book!!!!

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