REPORT OF THE FELLOW IN AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY 1902-1905. A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE MAYAS AND THE LACANDONES

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ALFRED M. TOZZER

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Archaeological Institute of America

REPORT OF THE FELLOW IN AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY 1902-1905

A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE MAYAS AND THE LACANDONES

BY
ALFRED M. TOZZER, Ph.D.



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PREFACE

The following report is based upon the field work carried on principally in Yucatan and Chiapas, Mexico, during the years 1902, 1903, 1904, and 1905 as Fellow in American Archaeology of the Institute. A more detailed account of the exact time and places where the work was undertaken may be found in the brief reports that I have given each year to the Committee of American Archaeology and published in the Supplements to the American Journal of Archaeology, Vols. VI, VII, VIII, and IX.

The report is entirely ethnological in character. The former Maya culture is touched upon only in relation to that found at the present time. Where there is any connection between the two this has been brought out, but no attempt has been made to sketch any phase of the ancient culture.

The linguistic part of the report is not included in the present volume. As it forms a unit in itself, it will be published as a separate contribution. It will include a treatment of the Maya grammar together with a comparative study of the Maya, Tzeltal, Chol, and Chontal dialects of the Maya stock.

I desire at this time to express my appreciation and thanks to the three original members of the Committee on American Archaeology, Mr. Charles P. Bowditch, Chairman, Professor F. W. Putnam, and Professor Franz Boas. To Mr. Bowditch, through whose initiative and aid the Traveling Fellowship in American Archaeology was founded, and to Professor Putnam, both of whom have given unsparingly of their time in advice and counsel both before and during the four years of the Fellowship, and to Dr. Boas, who has been of great aid in his advice on the linguistic side of the work, I am deeply grateful.

I owe special thanks to Mr. Edward H. Thompson, American Consul at Progreso, Yucatan, for the many weeks spent on his delightful plantation at Chichen Itza, and to Mr. and Mrs. W. M. James of Merida for their many acts of kindness. To Don Audomaro Molina and Don David Casares and their families, I am grateful for an insight into the life of the capital of Yucatan.

My actual field work would have been doubly arduous but for the kind attentions and hospitality of friends connected with many of the large mahogany companies in southern Chiapas. The Compañia Mexicana Sud-Oriental of Belgium through Mr. Luis Pelegriuni, Mr. Robert Herzog, and Mr. Alfonso Altes; the American Trading Company of New York through Mr. Pedro V. Rubio and Mr. D. N. Carrington; the Compañia Romano of San Juan Bautista, Chiapas, through Don Roman Romano, the Vice President, and Don Domingo Morgadanes; and the Bulkes Company, also of San Juan, through Dou Enrique and Don Quentin Bulnes, have all placed many facilities of travel at my disposal.

This is not the time and place to enlarge upon the obligations I feel myself under to each and every one of the persons named, in addition to a large number of others. It is always a regret that the conditions of the country are such that, in many cases, one is compelled to accept hospitality and favors which he can never hope to repay.

A. M. T.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY, June, 1906.

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