



PEABODY MUSEUM
of ARCHAEOLOGY & ETHNOLOGY

PRESS RELEASE

What: FREE Lecture and Reception

Where: Yenching Institute, Harvard University, 2 Divinity Ave., Cambridge, MA; Reception follows in the Peabody Museum, 11 Divinity Ave.

When: Thursday, February 28, 2008, 5:30 pm

Contact: 617-496-1027 (public information)

Lecture title: *All In The Family: Reconstructing Classic Maya Royal Genealogies*

Lecture by: Peter L. Mathews, Professor of Archaeology, La Trobe University, Melbourne; Co-Director, Naachtun Archaeological Project

(Cambridge, January 24, 2008) The Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology presents the Tatiana Proskouriakoff Award Lecture on February 28, 2008. Fifty years after Tatiana Proskouriakoff demonstrated that the Maya hieroglyphs dealt largely with historical people and events, we now can read the names of several hundred Classic Maya individuals, and at some sites we have detailed sequences of Maya rulers. But how are these rulers related? Can we reconstruct genealogies for the royal families of the Maya? Peter Mathews summarizes the evidence that can be used for genealogical reconstructions of Classic Maya families and discusses how (and if) such reconstructions can be made.

The Proskouriakoff Award and Lecture A nationally respected Scholar, Tatiana Proskouriakoff came to the Peabody Museum in 1958. An expert in Maya Art, architecture, and hieroglyphic writing, her research became the foundation for the decipherment of Maya Hieroglyphics, and her studies of Maya art are considered classics. The Proskouriakoff Lecture and Award was established by a gift from Landon T. Clay.

Speaker

PETER MATHEWS is professor of Archaeology at La Trobe University and Co-Director of Naachtun Archaeological Project in the Yucatan. He holds the Ph.D. from Yale University and

specializes in Maya Hieroglyphics. He is a major author and contributor to the Corpus of Maya Hieroglyphic Inscriptions Project at the Peabody Museum and winner of the 1984 John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Prize Fellowship in 1984. His publications include the *Corpus of Maya Hieroglyphic Inscriptions Tonina* (1983, 1996, 1999, 2006); *The Code of Kings: The Language of Seven Sacred Maya Temples and Tombs* with Linda Schele (Scribners, 1998); and *La Escultura de Yaxchilan* (Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia, 1997).

About the Peabody Museum

The Peabody Museum is among the oldest archaeological and ethnographic museums in the world with one of the finest collections of human cultural history found anywhere. It is home to superb materials from Africa, ancient Europe, North America, Mesoamerica, Oceania, and South America in particular. In addition to its archaeological and ethnographic holdings, the Museum's photographic archives, one of the largest of its kind, holds more than 500,000 historical photographs, dating from the mid-19th century to the present and chronicling anthropology, archaeology, and world culture.

Location: *The Peabody Museum is located at 11 Divinity Avenue in Cambridge. The Museum is a short walk from the Harvard Square MBTA station.*

Hours: 9 AM to 5 PM, 7 days a week. The Museum is closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day. Admission is \$9.00 for adults, \$7.00 for students and seniors, \$6.00 for children, 3–18. Free with Harvard ID or Museum membership. The Museum is free to Massachusetts residents Sundays, 9 AM to noon, year round, and Wednesdays from 3 PM to 5 PM (September to May). Admission includes admission to the Harvard Museum of Natural History. The Peabody Museum participates in the City Pass and WGBH programs. For more information call (617) 496-1027 or go online to: www.peabody.harvard.edu.

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