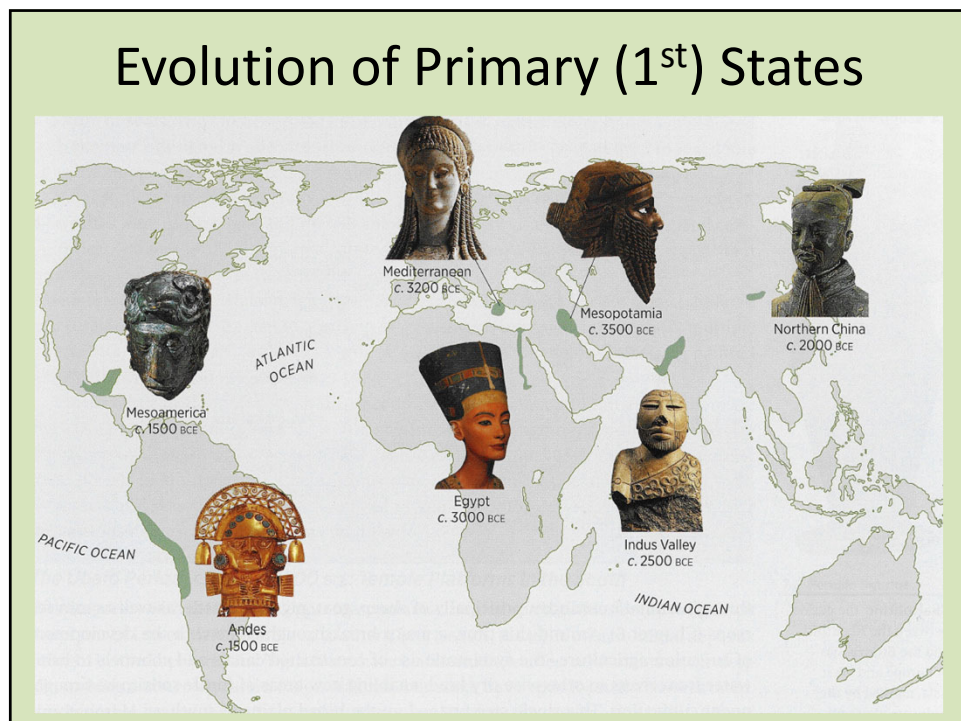


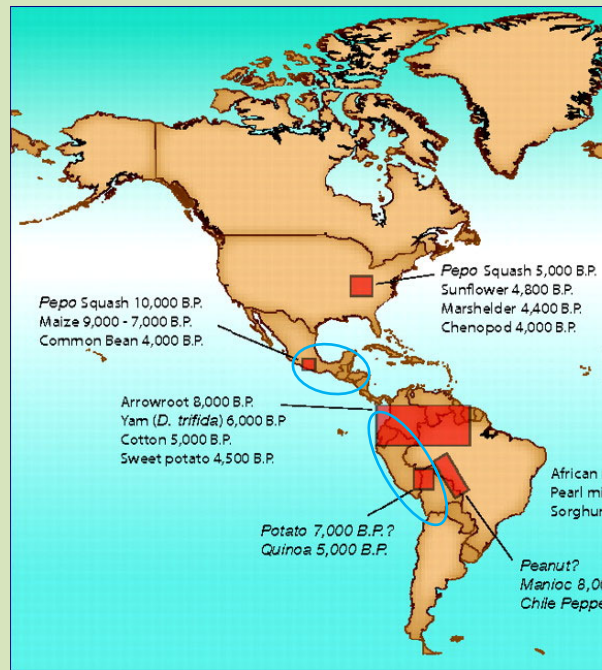
1



2

Pre-Columbian states in the Americas were also supported by agricultural economies

Early states appear to have developed in the context of interacting (competitive) polities, what we've called very briefly glossed as "chiefdoms"



3



Foraging Society

Average forager produced ~5,000 kcal/cap/day

Farming Society

Following start of Holocene, different histories

More energies put into permanence in place, i.e., buildings, villages, towns, eventually cities

Less-egalitarian relations and institutions

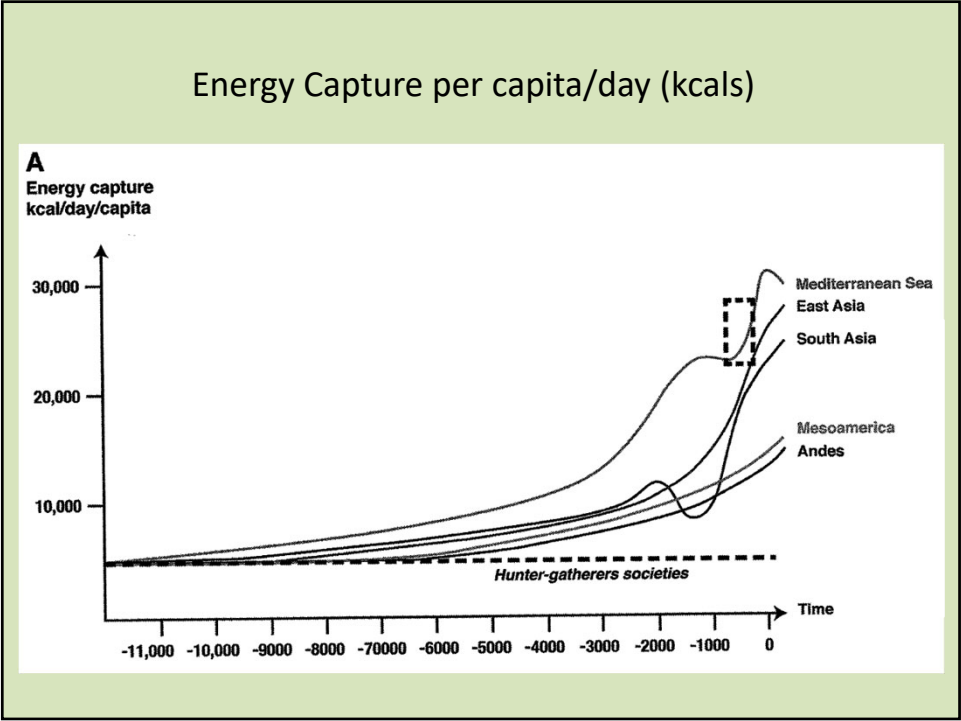
States & Empires

Solar energy captured and processed through control of (intensifiable) domesticated plants and animals

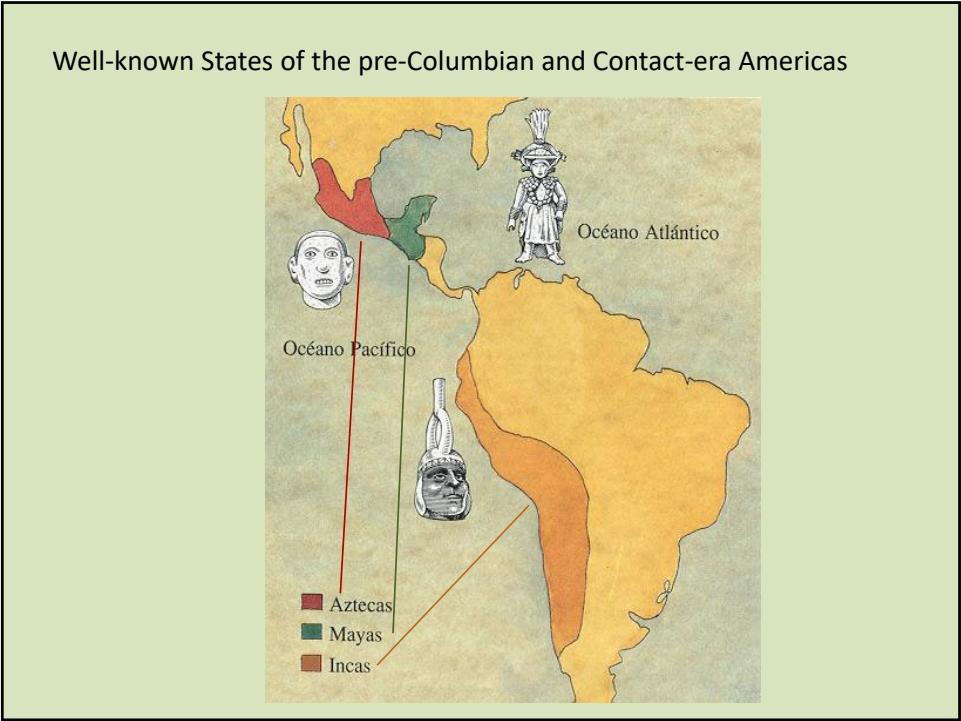
Average farmer produced double-triple kcals/day/capita, up to 30,000 in some non-industrial examples



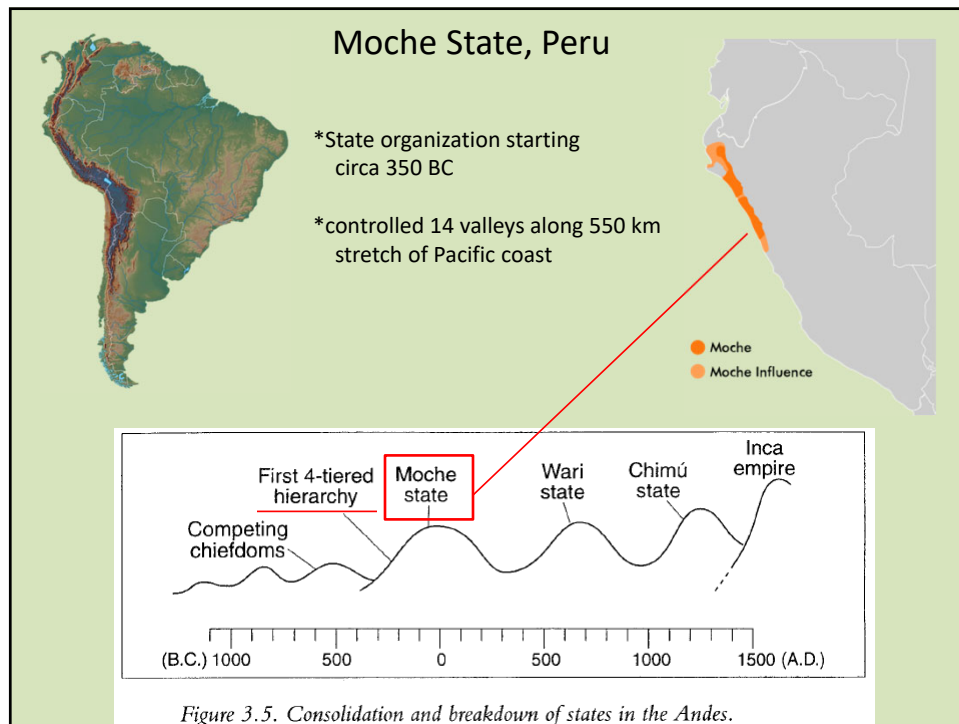
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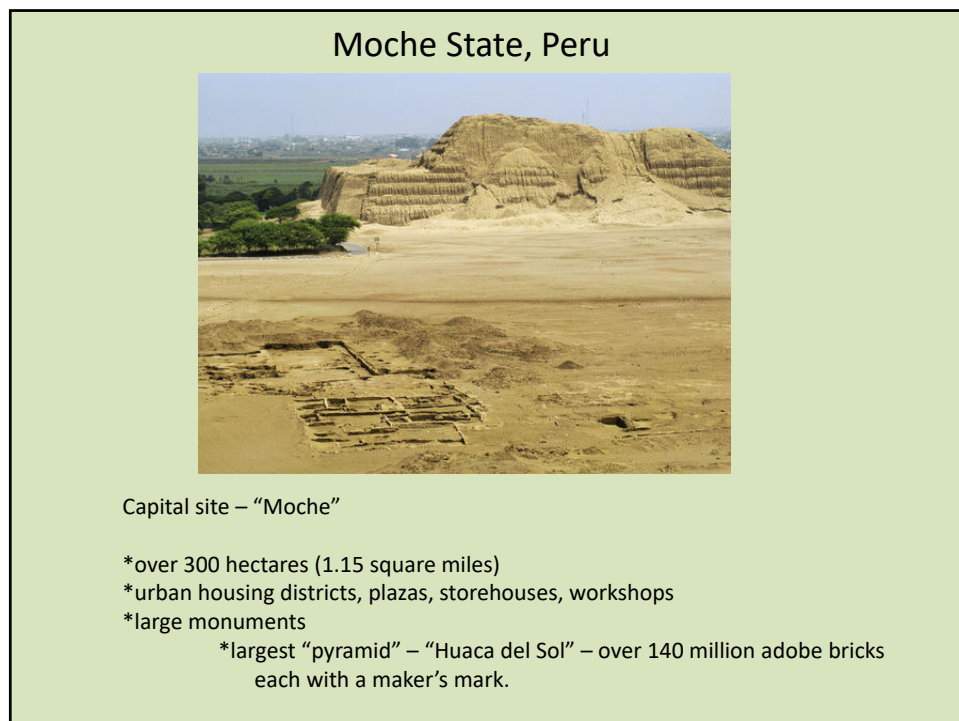
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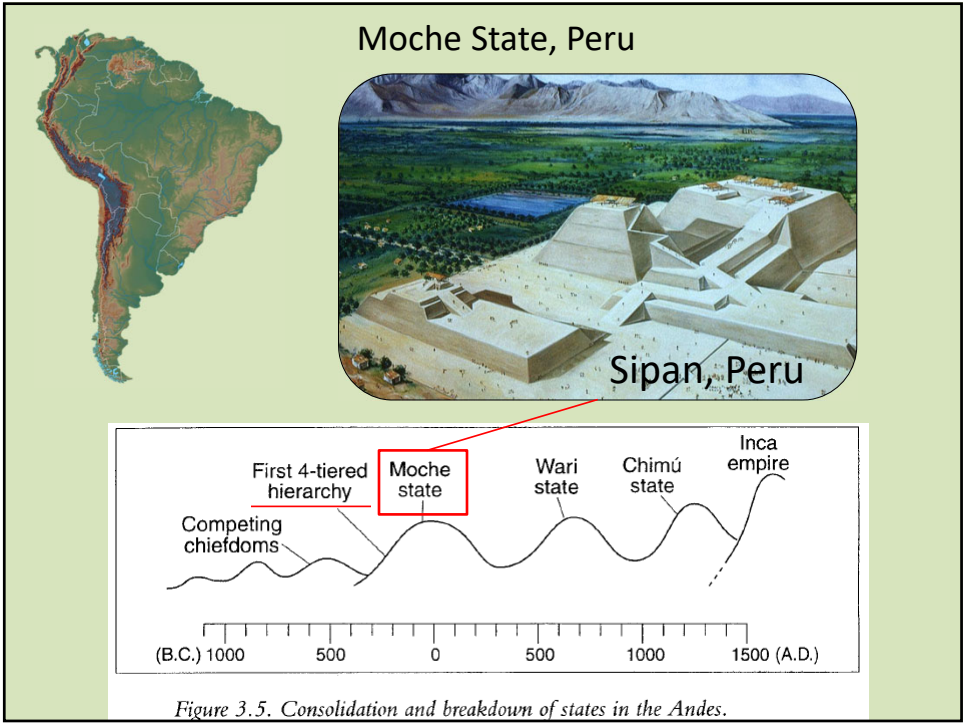
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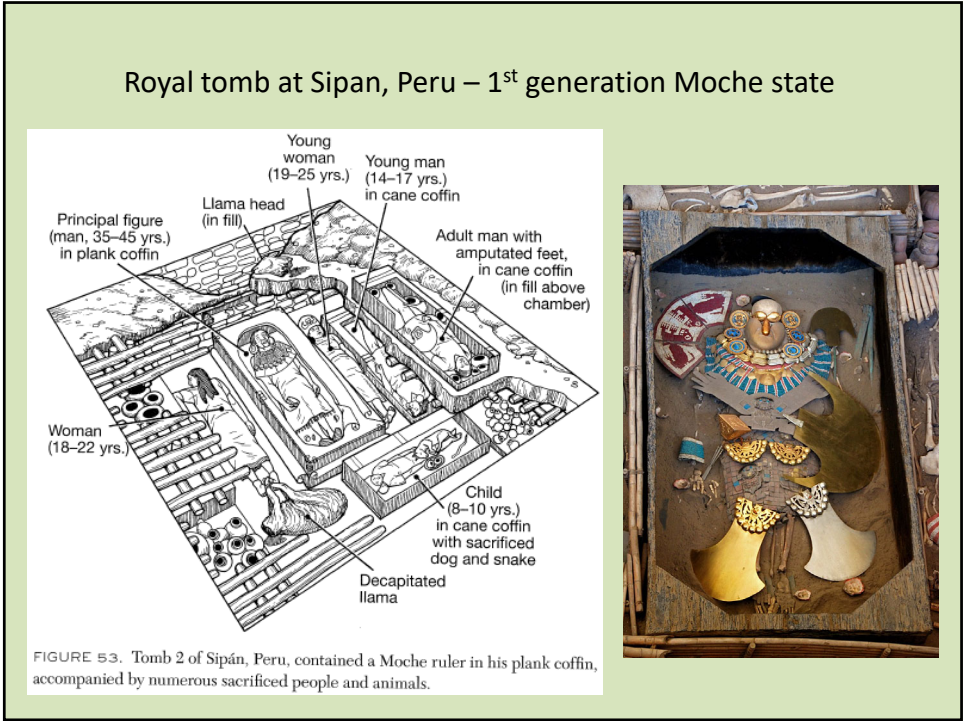
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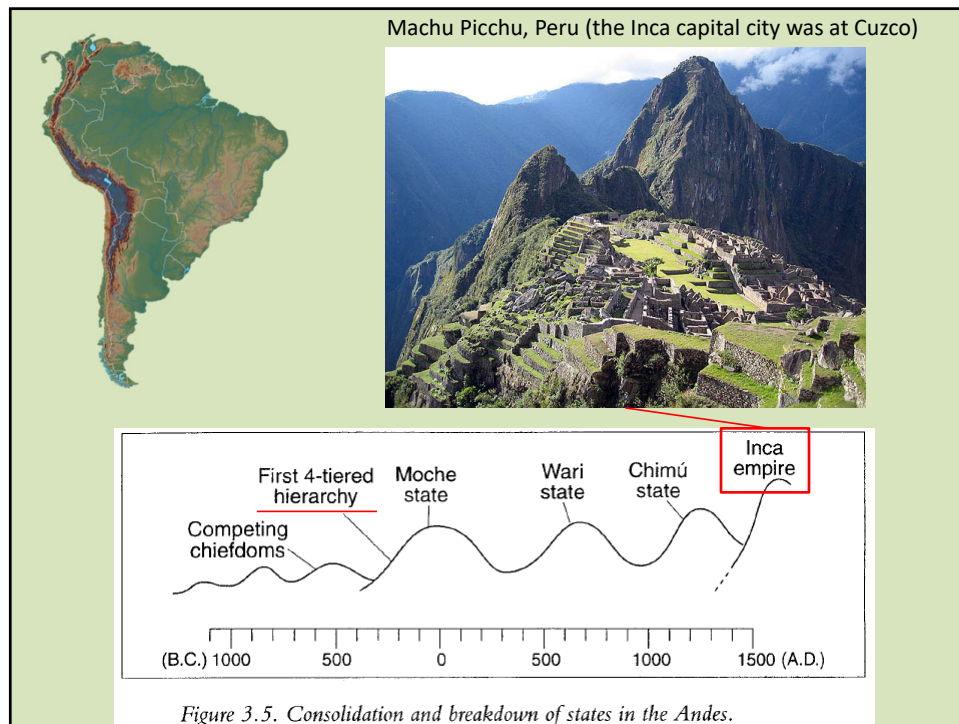
8



9



10



11



12

Qullqa



Incan government's official store-houses for agricultural surplus.

Built along the royal roads – ~25,000 miles of highway!

Built at every "tambo" (inns for government officials) that were located about every 14 miles, or one day's march.

Maintained food stores for distribution to Incan army, officials, conscripted laborers, and the populace in times of need

13



Tikal, Lowland Guatemala (Maya)

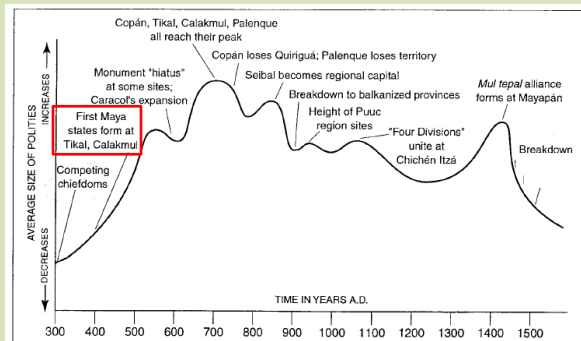


Figure 3.1. The Dynamic Model as originally applied to the Maya Lowlands (redrawn, with modifications, from Marcus 1993a:fig. 26).

14

Tikal, Lowland Guatemala (Maya)



What is this image from?

15

Tikal, Lowland Guatemala (Maya)

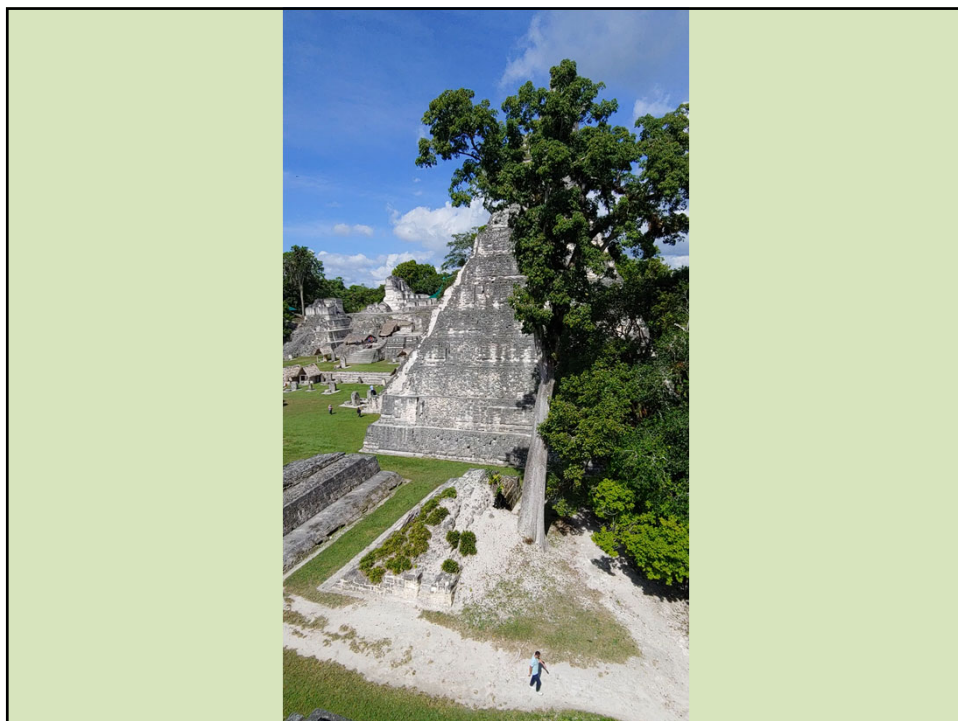


Photograph by Prof. Seselj, Thanksgiving Break 2019!

16



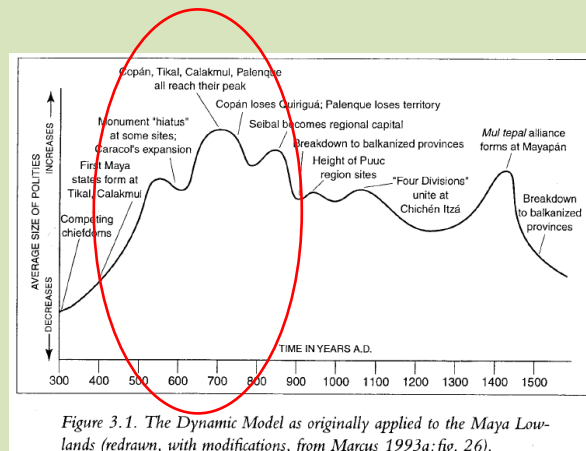
17



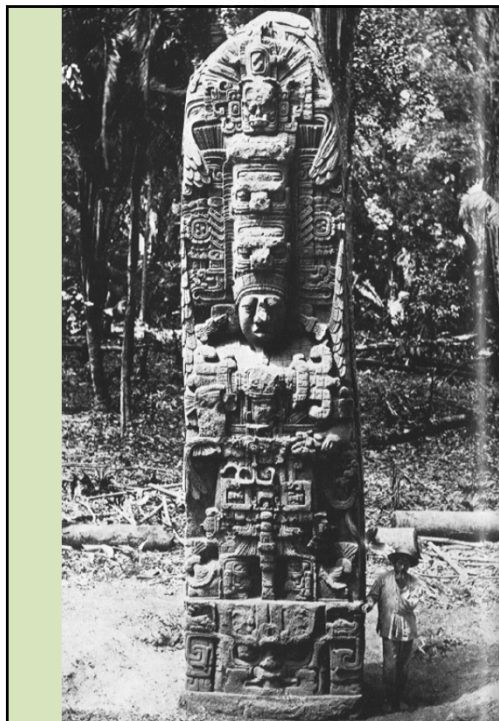
18

Classic Maya Period

Lowland Mesoamerica
Southeast Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, Honduras



19

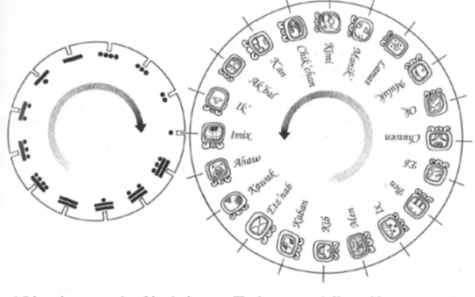


Stela D at Quiriguá, Guatemala

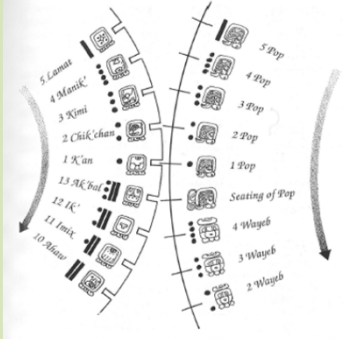
Stelae are stone carvings with engraved records, usually of royal births, deaths, and successions.

The translated text tells of when a ruler took the throne, and when this stela was erected, on February 19, AD 766


20



18 Schematic representation of the 260-day count. The day-names are in Yucatec Maya.



20 Schematic representation of part of the 52-year Calendar Round.




19 Signs for the months in the Haab or 365-day count. The names of the months are in Yucatec Maya.

The Maya Calendar

- *Several cycles/counts
 - 260 day count
 - 365 day count
 - 52 year count
 - Long count since a mythological origin
 - August 11, 3114 BC – Dec 21, 2012

21



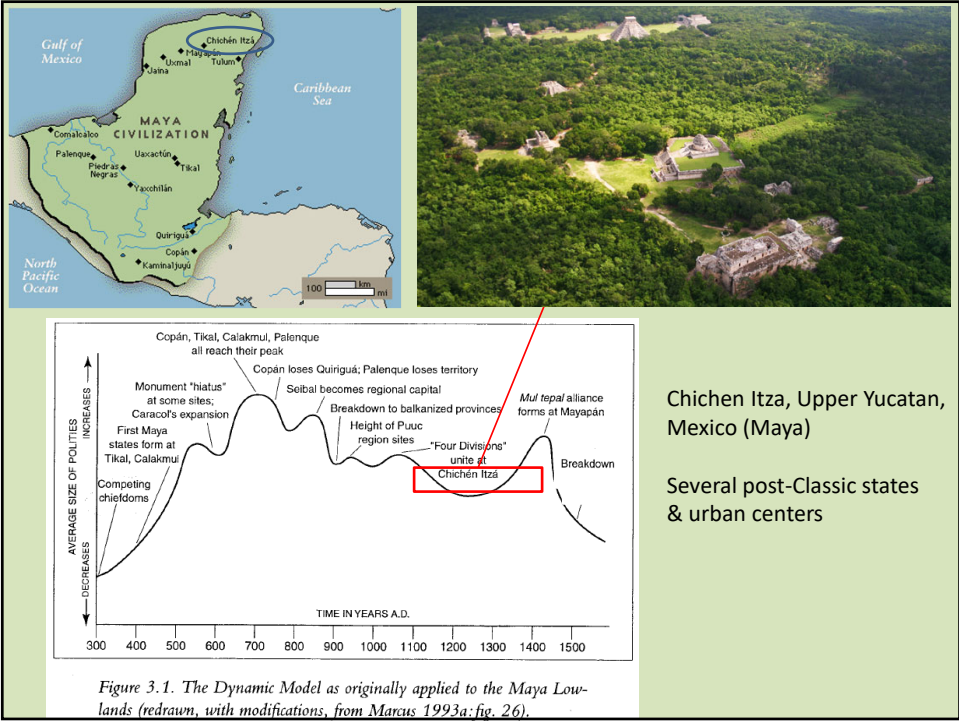
Carving from Yaxchilan, Chiapas, Mexico

Bloodletting ritual to appease the gods.

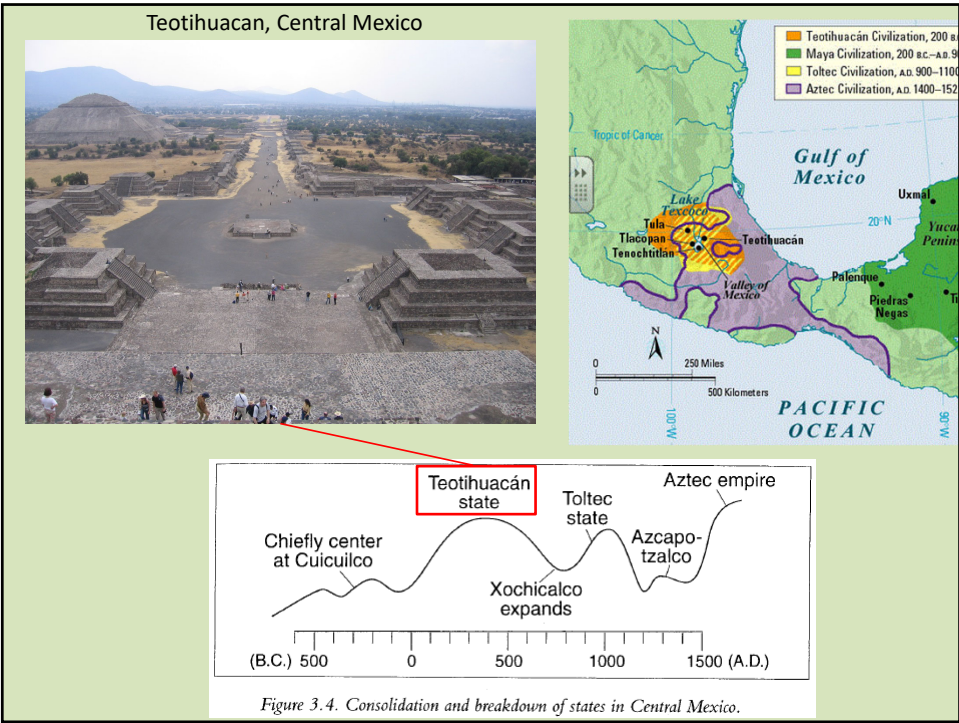
Documents that this scene took place on October 28, AD 709

The ruler "Shield Jaguar" holds a torch while his wife Lady Xok draws a thorn-studded rope through a hole in her tongue. Note the books that rest in a basket at her knees.

22

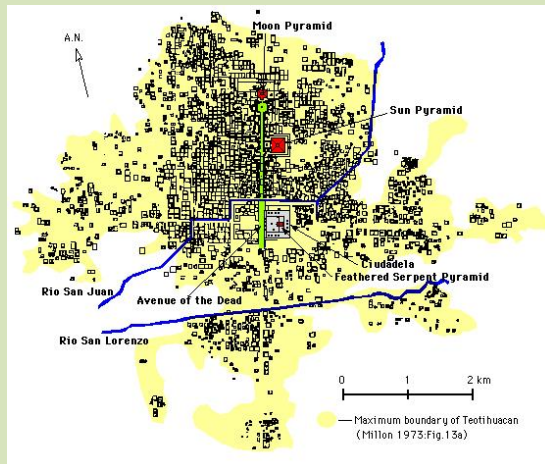


23



24

A 1st-generation State in
Central Mexico (1,700-1,400 ya):
Teotihuacan



- 100,000+ residents
- Covered 8 square miles
 - 13+ times larger than Bryn Mawr, PA!
- ~2,000 “apartment” compounds arranged into neighborhoods

25

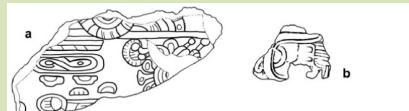
Teotihuacan

Residential areas of the city are organized into ethnic enclaves or **barrios**



E.G., Tetitla – The Maya Barrio

- Painted murals with Maya Iconography
- Maya language glyphs
- Jade and ceramics from the Maya area



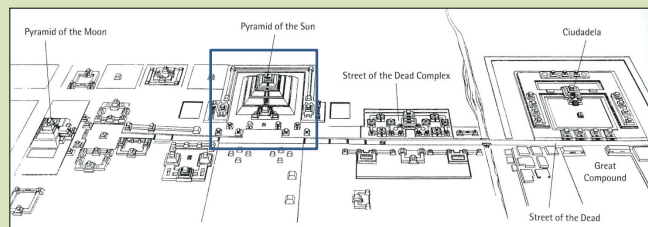
26

Teotihuacan

Pyramid of the Sun

Largest single construction effort in the pre-Columbian Americas.

It would have taken an estimated 7000 workers 10 years to build



27

Teotihuacan

•The Temple of the Feathered Serpent

- Reminiscent of Quetzalcoatl, later Aztec patron of rulership, creativity, fertility

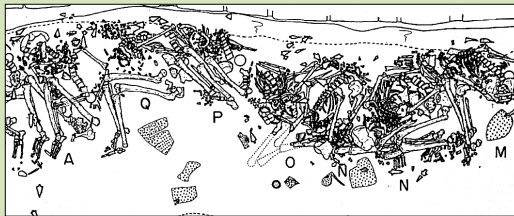


28

Teotihuacan

Teotihuacan's top position in the regional hierarchy is evidenced in **record of violence**; they seemed to conquer... a lot.

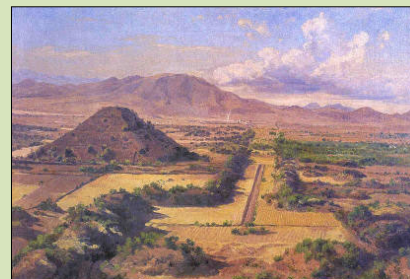
At Temple of the Feathered Serpent → More than 200 sacrificial victims associated with spear points, necklaces of human bone



29

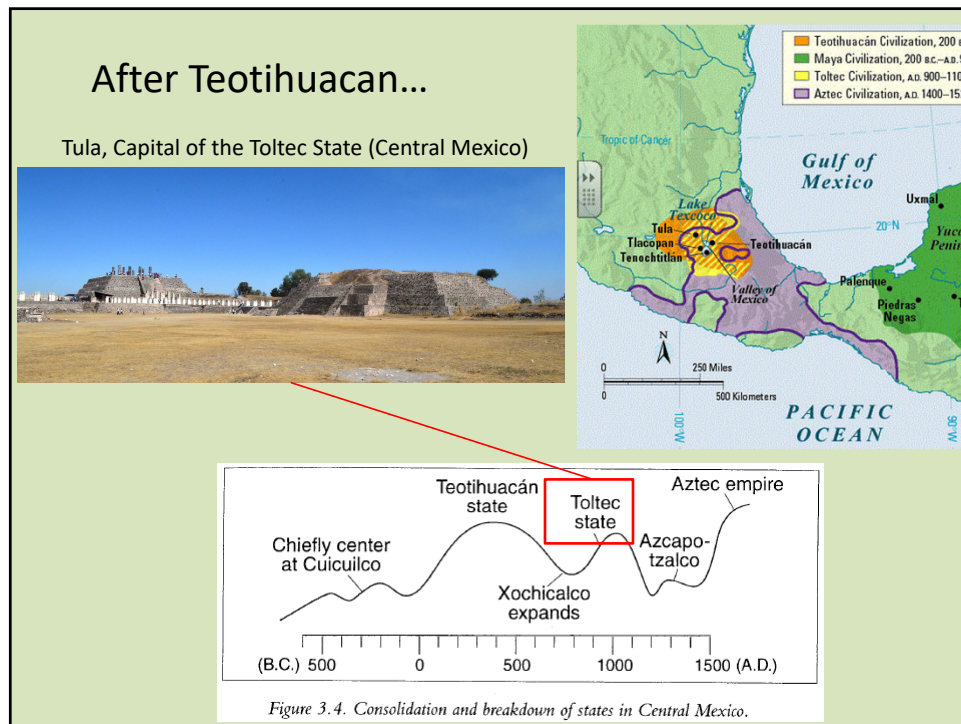
The Fall of Teotihuacan

- Around 1,350 ya, temples along the Street of the Dead and the entire ceremonial precinct were burned down, their icons smashed.
- Some evidence remains of dismembered bodies (potentially their own people).
- Commoner residential areas seemingly untouched.
- Afterwards, the population of Teotihuacan began to disperse, until only a set of small villages was all that lived in the shadow of a vacant urban capital.

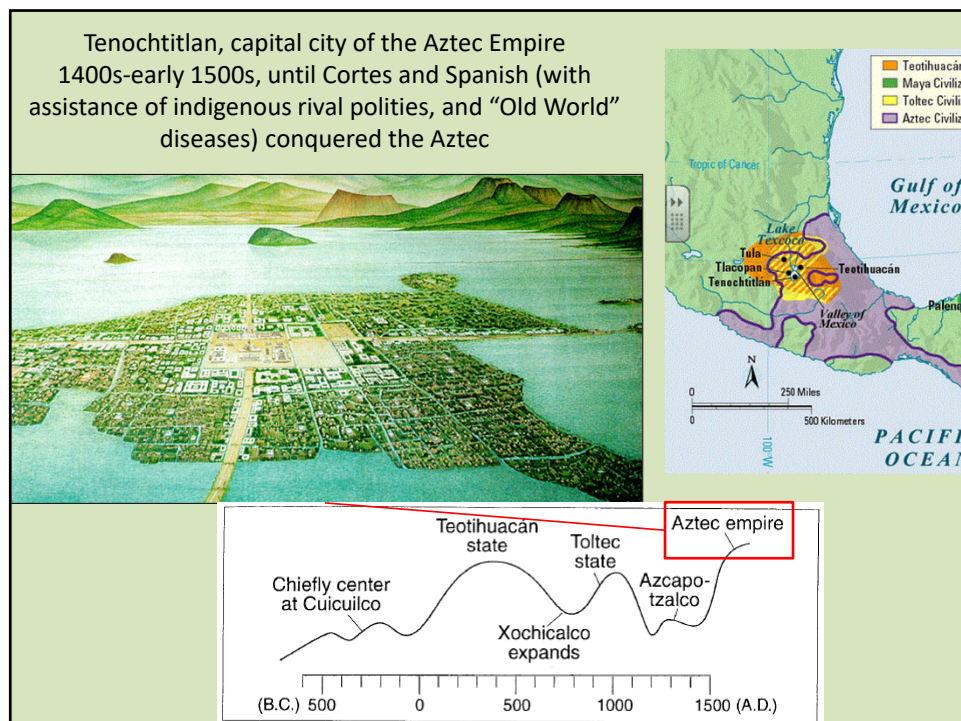


Archaeologist George Cowgill (2000):
*"What ended was not just a dynasty,
 it was the belief system that had
 supported the state."*

30



31



32

The modern-day State of Mexico's flag
drawing upon Aztec symbols and legacy:



Eagle, perched on prickly pear tree, eating a serpent, in a marshy lake that would become Tenochtitlan, upon which Mexico City sits

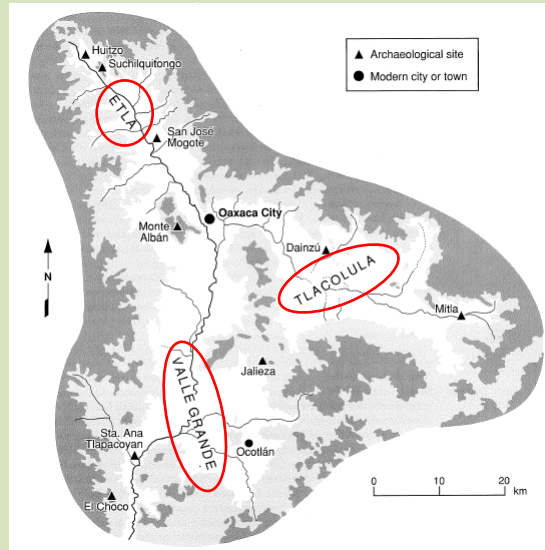
33

Another early state in highland Mexico (Valley of Oaxaca):
the Zapotec State



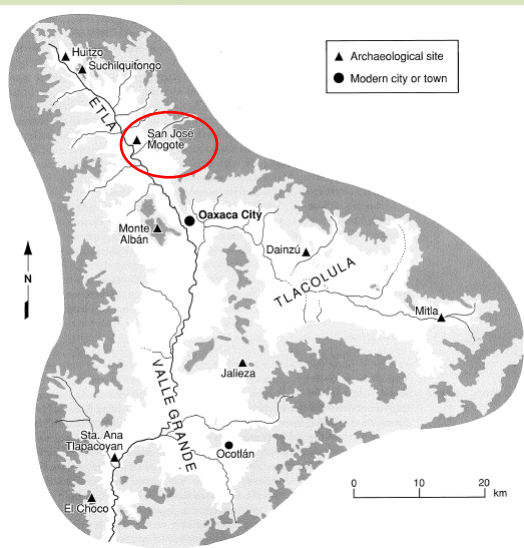
34

Valley of Oaxaca: 3 sub-valleys – Etla, Tlacolula, Valle Grande



35

Pre- chiefdoms and pre-State



Early Village at San Jose Mogote

- First occupied ca. 3,400 ya
- First pottery-using village in the Valley of Oaxaca



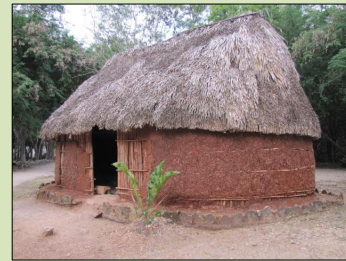
36

Early Village at San Jose Mogote



Early San Jose Mogote period (3400 – 3150 ya)

- Permanent wattle-and-daub houses
- Evidence for household maize storage

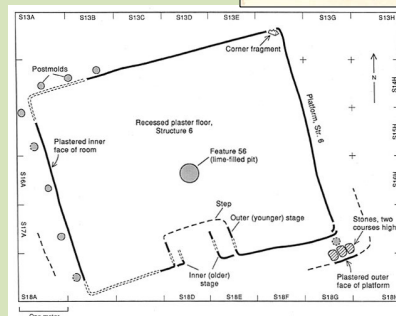


37

Early Village at San Jose Mogote

Early San Jose Mogote period (3400 – 3150 ya)

- Unique among nearby villages, San Jose Mogote had public, non-residential architecture (“sodality house”)
 - Unique orientation
 - More posts and multiple coats of lime plaster on walls and floor
 - Built on platforms
 - Included central lime plastered storage pits – use of hallucinogenic plants



38

Early Village at San Jose Mogote

Early San Jose Mogote period (3400 – 3150 ya)

- This building only had one room measuring 4x6 meters – could only fit a *small part of the total community*.
- *Swept clean*, not likely to have been lived in
- Likely used by a group of initiates drawn from multiple families – a *sodality*

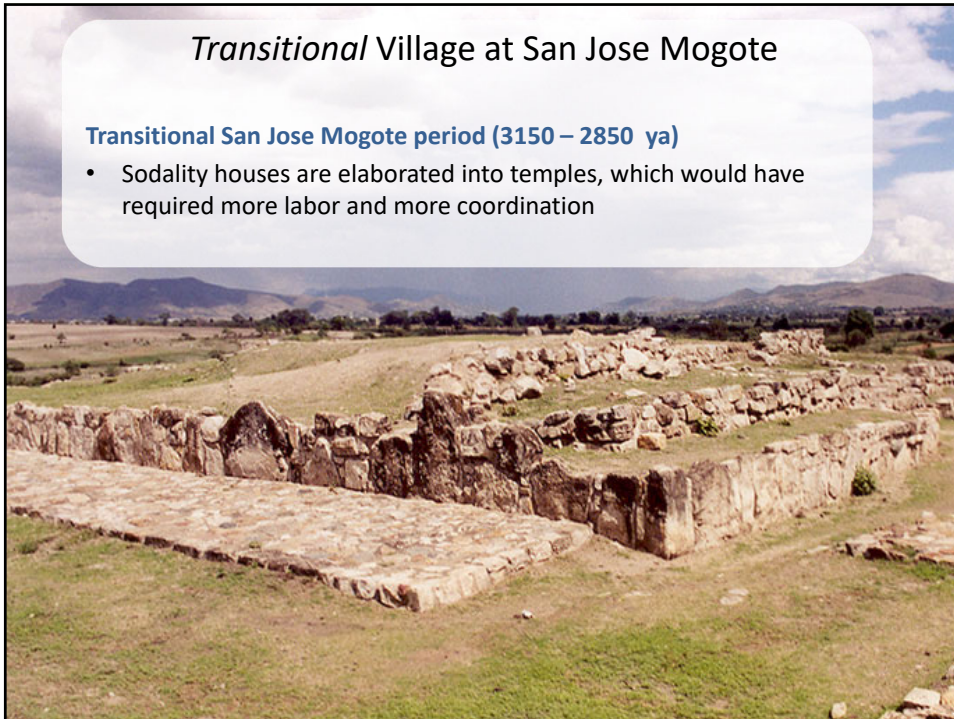


39

Transitional Village at San Jose Mogote

Transitional San Jose Mogote period (3150 – 2850 ya)

- Sodality houses are elaborated into temples, which would have required more labor and more coordination

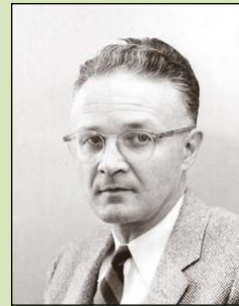
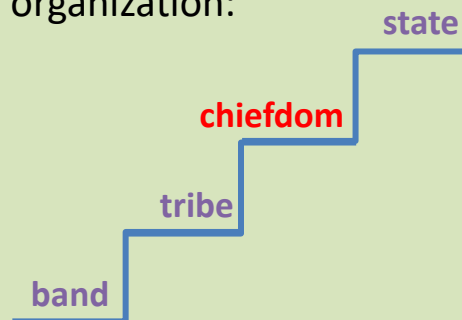


40

Elman Service (1915-1996)

Ethnologist/Cultural Anthropologist

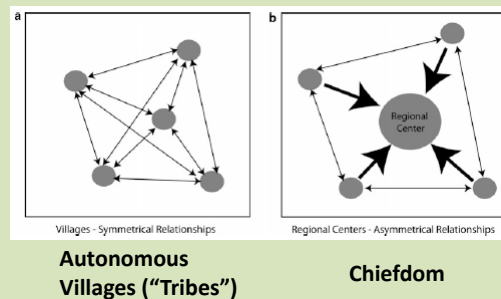
- Defined **types** of societies (based on documented ethnographic evidence), which include more emphasis on political organization:



41

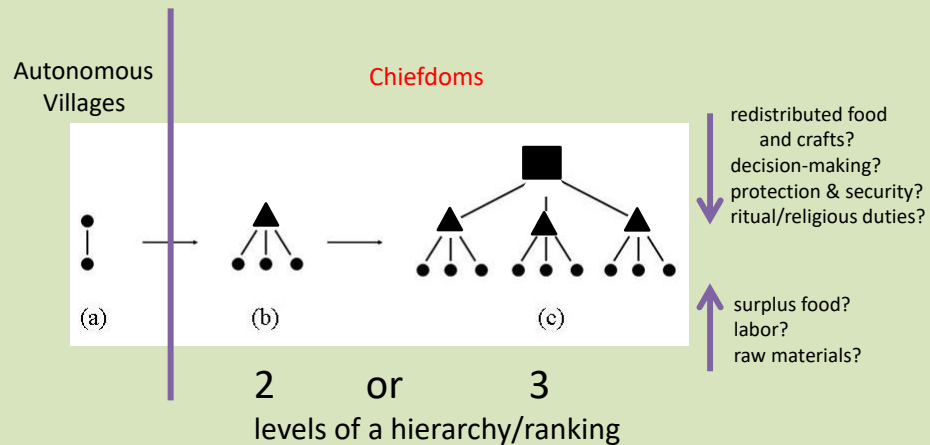
Chiefdoms

- Chiefdoms:** multi-village territorial units with a centralized decision-making chief or elite group
 - “loss of village autonomy”
 - Kinship still important: usually ranked (higher status) kin groups that form chiefdom, sometimes hereditary power (i.e., status handed down through birth group).

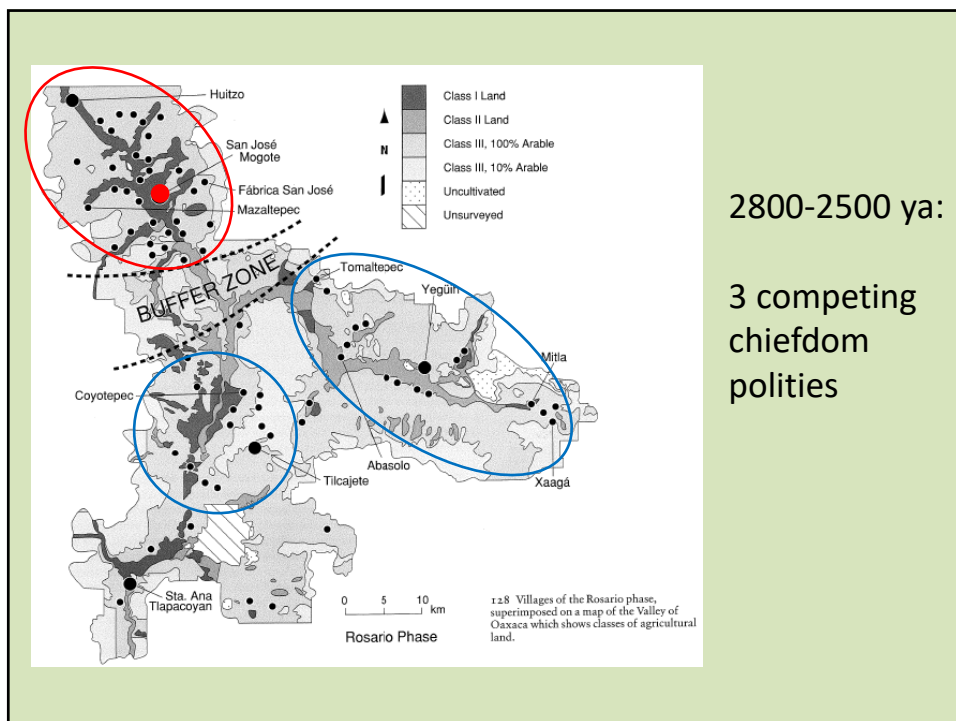


42

Settlement Patterns - the spatial and chronological distribution of archaeological sites within a region



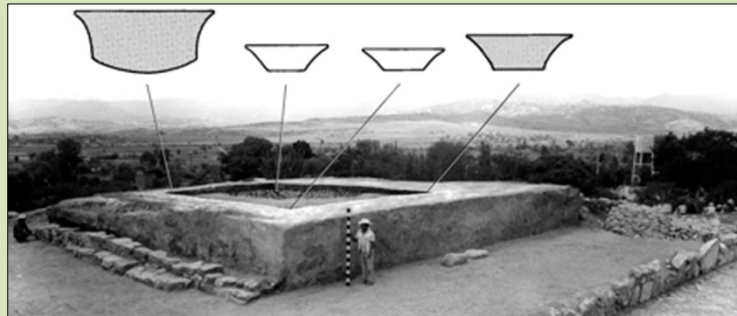
43



44

Late San Jose Mogote period (2800 – 2500 ya)

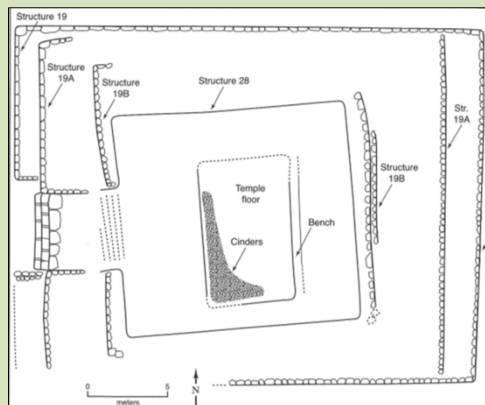
- Temple complex at San Jose Mogote built of limestone (from 5km away), lime-covered abode platform, wattle-and-daub temple building, dedicatory offerings



45

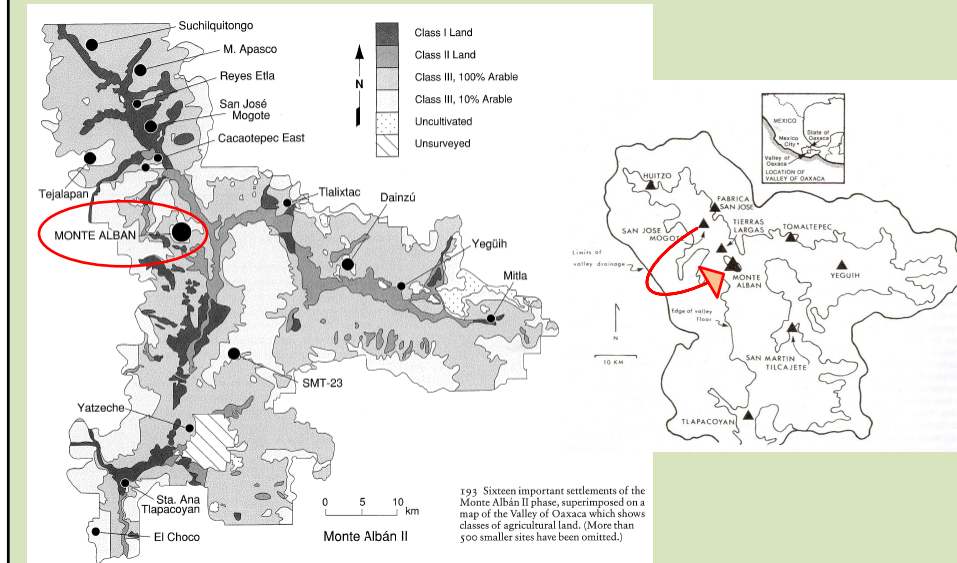
Late San Jose Mogote period

San Jose Mogote's temple complex burned down around 2500 ya



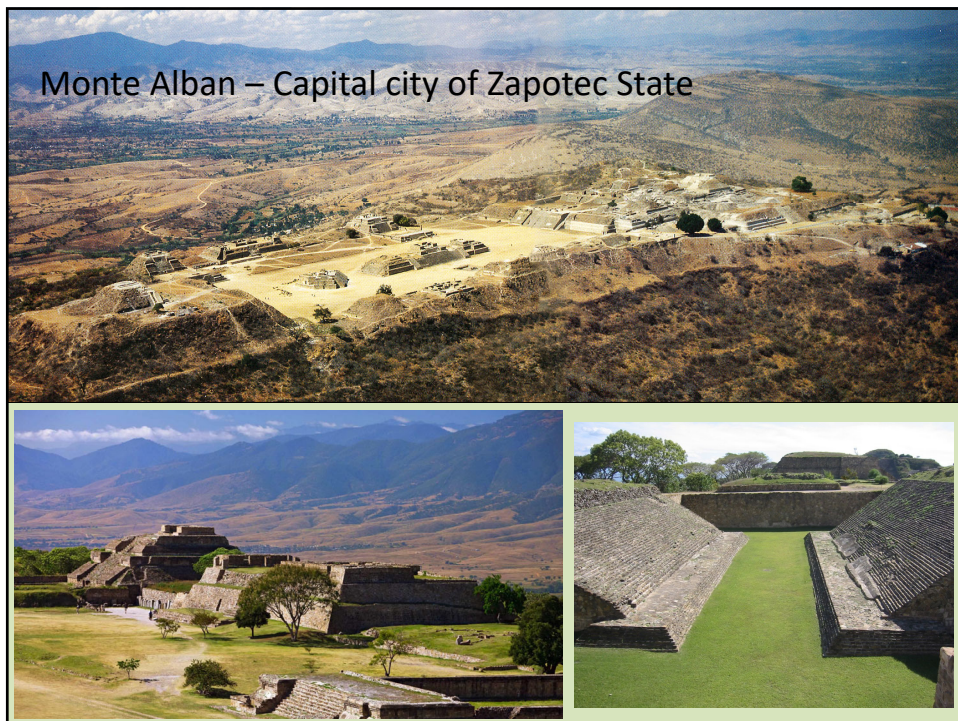
46

San Jose Mogote villagers rebuilt their destroyed temple, but soon migrated with neighbors to the former buffer zone (“No Man’s Land”). Quickly built a city on top of a defensible mountain – **Monte Alban** (ca. 2400 ya). With these moves, they were ushering in the first State.



47

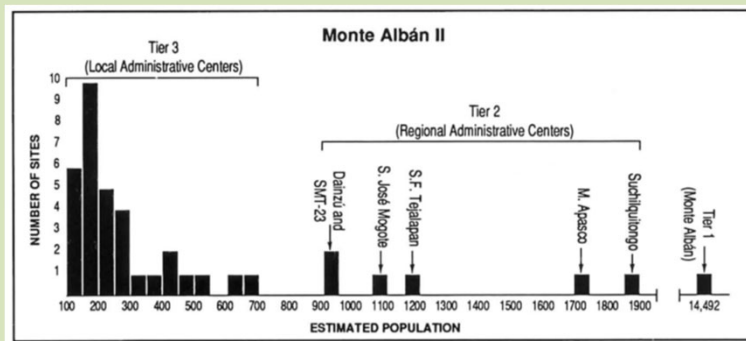
Monte Alban – Capital city of Zapotec State



48

Zapotec State: 4-tiered Settlement Hierarchy

- Tier 1: **Monte Alban**, pop. ~14,500
- Tier 2: 6 towns, pop. 1000-2000
- Tier 3: 30 large villages, pop. 200-700
- Tier 4: 400 small villages, pop. <200



49

Zapotec State: Imperial Expansion (Empire)

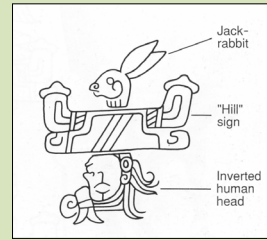
New settlements were incorporated into this hierarchy as Monte Alban pursued expansionistic military strategies.

We find evidence for Monte Alban's conquest in state propaganda – stone carvings lining the base of its palace.



50

Danzantes: Mutilated captives depicted in stone carvings at Monte Alban – mutilated genitals, decapitated & inverted heads



51

International Relations



Stone stela in Monte Albán's royal South Platform, depicting noble ambassadors from the city of Teotihuacan visiting a ruler of the Zapotec State, Oaxaca, Mexico.
Carved circa 3rd century A.D.

52