



# Cosmology, Calendars, and Horizon-Based Astronomy in Ancient Mesoamerica

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*Cosmology, Calendars, and Horizon-Based Astronomy in Ancient Mesoamerica* is an interdisciplinary tour de force that establishes the critical role astronomy played in the religious and civic lives of the ancient peoples of Mesoamerica. Providing extraordinary examples of how Precolumbian peoples merged ideas about the cosmos with those concerning calendar and astronomy, the volume showcases the value of detailed examinations of astronomical data for understanding ancient cultures.

The volume is divided into three sections: investigations into Mesoamerican horizon-based astronomy, the cosmological principles expressed in Mesoamerican religious imagery and rituals related to astronomy, and the aspects of Mesoamerican calendars related to archaeoastronomy. It also provides cutting-edge research on diverse topics such as records of calendar and horizon-based astronomical observation (like the Dresden and Borgia codices), iconography of burial assemblages, architectural alignment studies, urban planning, and counting or measuring devices.

Contributors—who are among the most respected in their fields—explore new dimensions in Mesoamerican timekeeping and skywatching in the Olmec, Maya, Teotihuacano, Zapotec, and Aztec cultures. It will be of great interest to students and scholars of anthropology, archaeology, art history, and astronomy.

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**Cosmology, Calendars, and Horizon-Based Astronomy in Ancient Mesoamerica From University Press of Colorado Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #1230270 in Books
- Published on: 2015-05-15
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x 1.30" w x 6.00" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 440 pages



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#### About the Author

Anne S. Dowd is principal archaeologist at ArchæoLOGIC USA and winner of the Eben Demarest Trust Award for excellence in archaeology (1998), Brown University's Watson Smith Prize Honorable Mention (1998), the Geochron Research Award (1996), and the Daryle Bogenreif Award (2010). Susan Milbrath is curator of Latin American art and archaeology at the Florida Museum of Natural History and an affiliate professor of anthropology at the University of Florida. She is the author of *Star Gods of the Maya* and *Heaven and Earth in Ancient Mexico*.

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