



THE LOST SECRETS OF MAYA TECHNOLOGY

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Story Angles

Headline: “Stone Age” Maya Engineers Used Tools Harder Than Iron

Paragraph: Archaeologists consider the Maya to be a “Stone Age” culture because they did not detect the use of metal tools by the civilization. Metal tools could not be used because metal ores were not native to the Yucatan Peninsula. The closest iron ore was 1500 miles to the north. Maya technology solved this problem by fabricating their tools from jadeite. This material is native to the Maya zone and is harder than iron. Jadeite is 7.0 on the Mohs hardness scale. While iron is a 5.0 on the same scale. Maya technology bypassed the “Iron Age” by creatively using jadeite to shape specialized tools for carving stone and wood.

Headline: Astronomers calculate December 21, 2012 as end of a time era

Paragraph: Doom Sayers have predicted dire consequences for December 21, 2012. Maya astronomers calculated this date as an end of an era without predictions of catastrophes, but only the annual winter solstice. The advanced Maya astronomers had determined the ‘wobble” or precession of the earth and calculated a complete period or cycle would be approximately 25,600 years. They divided this time cycle into five “world ages” each equal to a period of approximately 5,125 years. The wise astronomers knew that they were in the midst of a world age and they decided to mark the start and end of this period. As experts in time and space they realized they could not mark the start of the era, but could calculate the end date. They decided to mark the end of the age in the year 2012 on a significant day, December 21, or the winter solstice. The start was then calculated backward in time to be August 11, 3114 BC; a mathematical calculation of one world age. Therefore, on December 21, 2012 there is sure be an occurrence of a significant event, the annual winter solstice, and the next day will be Christmas eve.

Headline: Maya engineers invented cement 2100 years before the Europeans.

Paragraph: The grand cities of the Maya civilization were constructed of a strong durable building material that resisted the prying roots of the jungle, earthquakes, and hurricanes for over a millennium. This material was cast-in-place concrete that was very similar to modern structural concrete, the most popular building material in contemporary construction. The cement produced by Maya Technicians was fabricated in a similar manner as today's Portland cement. The Maya used limestone as the raw material and produced a thermodynamic reactor using a self-consuming timber assembly, similar to a blast furnace which elevated the temperatures of the timber fuel to 1600 degrees C. This temperature melted the limestone and produced the chemical reaction that converted the raw material into cement. This cement was the base material for producing the cast in place concrete that built the Maya civilization.