

PUYIL CAVE
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Introduction. Among Mesoamerican cultures the caves had a significant meaning according to the cosmogonic conception of the world. It is so caves were considered the source of life and food, is where dwell the gods, creators and the sustenance of man, here is where the water is born and where the vegetation grows, it is here where revered gods responsible for providing everything the man needed to maintain a balance with the world (Lopez Austin: 1992).

The cave of Puyil in the State of Tabasco, is a pre-Hispanic context rich in burial evidence with more than 30 tanks mortuary, distributed in small cavities, sills and spaces of the floor surface that makes up the Chambers and galleries formed by clast carbonate from leaks and very likely, of underground rivers. According to the ornamental elements, as ritual objects that accompany these individuals, we know that it is a burial practice of pre-Colombian tradition.

Methods. In this way, in November 2007 the first phase of the project was carried out in field work. Thus, explore and expand our knowledge about the context through the registry and gathering the material information exposed in this cave, obtaining a significant amount of remains for study in the laboratory, samples carbon and ceramic surface materials, as well as cultural material remains associated with bones deposits made in different kind material: beads, axes and pendants Jadeite (28 items), beads shell (184 items) earrings, Flint knives (4 items), prismatic knives (6 items), pyrite mirrors (2 items), pieces made in bone (3 elements), clay (2 items), beads and stone earrings (22 items), in total 251 associated items.

Results. According to the registration out field in this first season, we know that there were deposited more than 30 funerary remains of individuals: male and female; several in a very advanced state of erosion; some them primary type and others secondary. Most of them, located between the three deepest Chambers of the cave (4, 5 and 6) and in general, arranged with ornamental elements, probably as a distinctive social or particularly for funerary rituals practiced in this cavern: pectoral, earrings, necklaces, bracelets, applications, as well as other ceremonial objects: leaflets, prismatic knives, axes, plaques of shell turtle, vases, mirrors and cinnabar. Processing material is varied between: shell, jade, pyrite, obsidian, Flint, bone turtle, pottery and animal bone. In addition, were also recorded remains clay, both contemporary and Prehispanic, mainly of the first cameras.

Conclusions. According to the context of the cave, we can see that the material universe turns out to be a relevant part that will take us to a better understanding of the cultural events manifested to the interior of the cave of Puyil. Likewise, according to the location of each funeral deposit inside the cave, we can infer that there is a clear hierarchy in the deposition of these.

References

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