



Monuments of Yaxchilan: Lintel 48*

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Context: Found by Karl Ruppert in 1931 in three fragments during the Fourteenth Central American Expedition; excavated in front of the third doorway of the northeast façade of Structure 12 (Graham 1979:105). Lintel 48 forms part of an ensemble of eight lintels (Lintels 34, 35, 36, 37, 47, 48, 49, and 60), all of which are Early Classic in date, and from the reign of K'inich Tatbu Jol II, most likely reset during the reign of Bird Jaguar IV (O'Neil 2011:252). Lintel 48 was removed to the National Museum in 1964 (Tate 1992:169). Lintels 48, 47, and 34 comprise one narrative, whereas Lintels 60, 49, 37, and 35 describe the succession and military achievements of the first ten rulers, from the founder Yopaat Bahlam until the ruler in charge of this sculptural program, K'inich Tatbu Jol II. Lintel 36 is badly eroded, but considering its central position in the lintel series, it probably represents K'inich Tatbu Jol II himself.

Dimensions: MW 0.67 m, HSc 0.98 m, WSc 0.55 m, MTh 0.23 m, Rel 0.7 cm (Graham 1979:105).

Lintel 48 records the Long Count position 9.4.11.8.16 (14 February AD 526), the tzolkin position '2 Cib,' and the G/F notation "G5 *ti'huun*." The final two glyph blocks, undoubtedly part of the lunar series, are unfortunately lost. The text continues on Lintel 49 and terminates with Lintel 34. This lintel is especially noteworthy because it is one of only a few examples of Early Classic full-figure glyphs in Maya writing.

A1–D8: (A1–B2) **tzi-ka-HAAB-SIBIK-TE'** (A3–B4) **9-PIK** (A5–B6) **4-WINIKHAAB** (A7–B8) **11-HAAB** (C1–D2) **8-WINIK** (C3–D4) **16-K'IN** (C5–D6) **2-ta-"KIB"** (C7) **5-wa?-?** (D7) **TI'-HUUN-na** (C8) ... (D8) ...

tziikhaab sibik te' baluun pik chan winikhaab buluch haab waxak winik waklajuun k'in cha' ta kib ho' ... ti' huun

"The reckoning of time (under the patronage of) Sibik Te', is 9 baktuns, 4 katuns, 11 years, 8 twenty-day scores, and 16 days, on the (day) 2 Kib, G5 was the Ti' Huun"

* See also <https://peabody.harvard.edu/yaxchilan>

References

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Yaxchilan Lintel 48. Photograph by Jorge Pérez de Lara. High-resolution version available: www.mesoweb.com/monuments/Yaxchilan