

MAYA LORDS AND LORDSHIP

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The Formation of Colonial Society in Yucatán, 1350–1600

By Sergio Quezada

Translated by Terry Rugeley

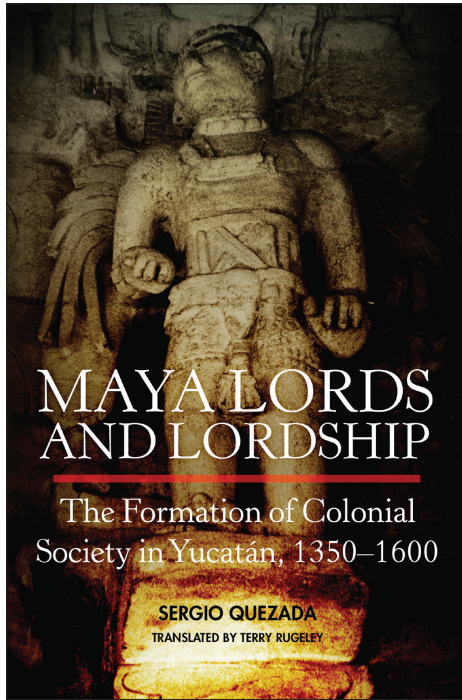
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The changes to Maya culture imposed by Franciscan friars and Spanish lords worked to unravel the networks of personal ties that had empowered the highest Maya lords, and political power devolved to second-tier Maya lords. By 1600 Spanish rule had fragmented what was left of the interpersonal networks, draining power from the indigenous political structure.

Building on Quezada's seminal 1993 study, *Maya Lords and Lordship* offers a fundamentally new vision of Maya political power, challenging the established views of anthropologists and ethnohistorians. Grounded in archival sources as well as historical and ethnographic literature, Quezada's insights and conclusions will influence studies of the Postclassic and sixteenth-century Maya periods.

Sergio Quezada is a research professor at the Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán and a member of the Mexican Academy of History. He has published numerous articles and books on the history of Yucatán and its political organization. Terry Rugeley is Professor of Mexican and Latin American History at the University of Oklahoma. He has produced numerous scholarly monographs, translations, and edited collections on the history and culture of southeast Mesoamerica.

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