

# The Olmecs

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# Introduction of The Olmecs

- The most earliest civilizations of Mesoamerica (See Figure 2)
- Considered the Mother Culture of Mexico
- Began around 1300 B.C
- Established cities & centers of worship
- Ability to navigate the waterways
- Agriculture system development
- Art culture flourished

Pool, C. (2007).



(Figure 1)

(2006). Ancient Olmec Civilization

# Location of The Olmecs

•Origins of the Olmecs Civilization are located in the states of:

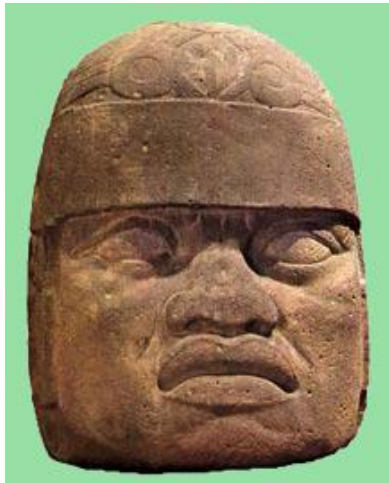
1. Veracruz
2. Tabasco
3. Oaxaca

• They are positioned between the Grijalva and Papaloapa rivers in Southern Mexico



(2002). Olmec Civilization

(2006). Ancient Olmec Civilization



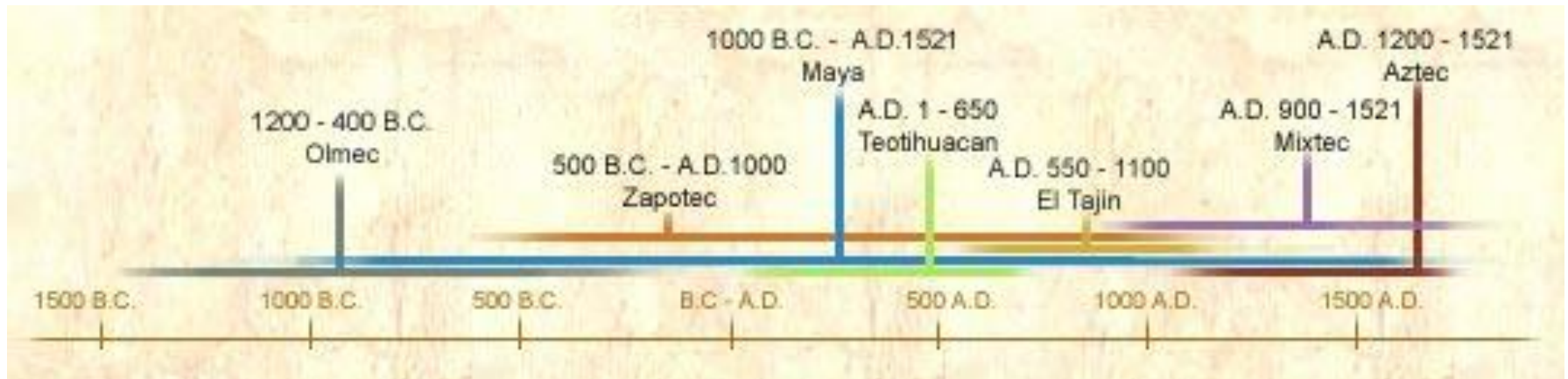
(Figure 3)



(Figure 4)



(Figure 5)



(Figure 2)

## Chronology: Mesoamerican Timeline

The Olmecs were generated long before the Aztec Empire and made a large impact on the peoples of Mexico

# Interesting Facts of The Olmecs

- San Lorenzo used to be the largest city in Mesoamerica
- Sparked cultural and religious things that were later used by Aztecs.
- Had a rich society; traded with far away people.
- Ate a wide variety of foods



Information & photo  
Minster, Christopher  
(2015).

# Influence of The Olmecs

- Temple mounds, jaguars, gods, human sacrifice were used
- Jaguar is an Olmecs religion figure; combined with a snake or human child
- The Calendar used for centuries in Mexico originated with the Olmecs.



# Conclusion

- The Olmecs have left a mark on the people of Mexico and still echoes today. Mexico and beyond?
- Much of their culture has been lost but had a rich religion
- They had gods and were brilliant sculptors and engineers that influenced the future civilizations
- Established a strong political power



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