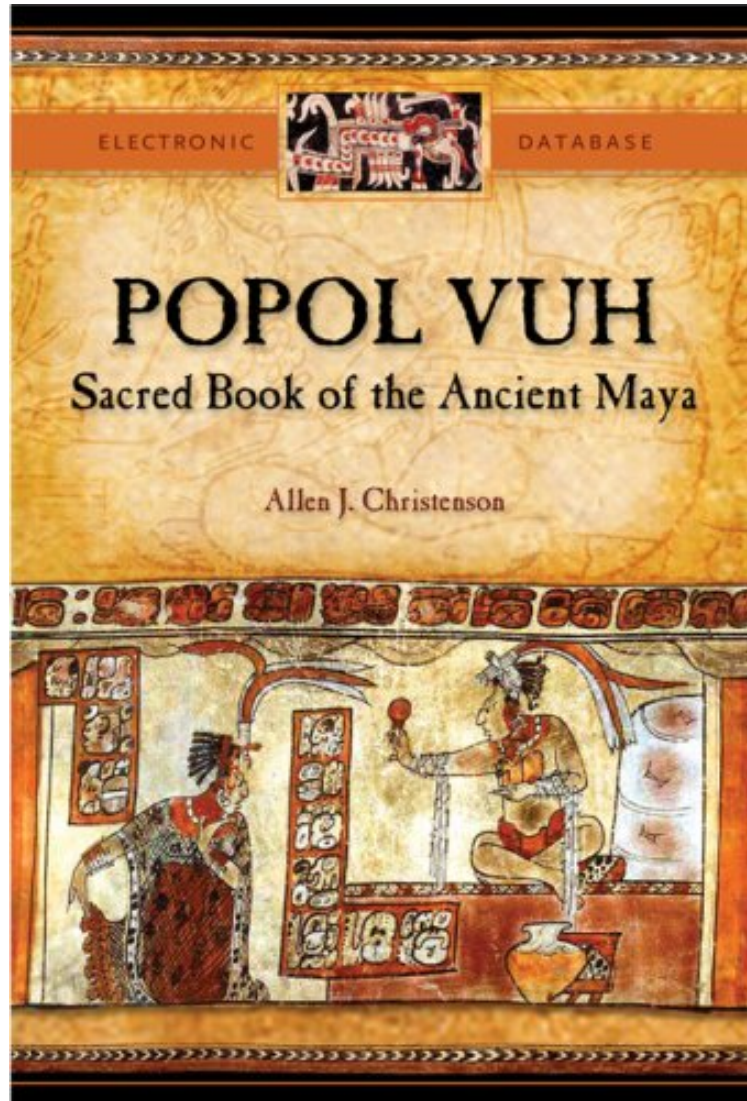


Popol Vuh: Sacred Book of the Ancient Maya Electronic Database

Allen J. Christenson

*ebooks | Download PDF | *ePub | DOC | audiobook*



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#4235190 in Books 2007-02-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.65 x 1.26 x 5.73l, .30 Binding: CD-ROM 1 pages | File size: 34.Mb

Allen J. Christenson : Popol Vuh: Sacred Book of the Ancient Maya Electronic Database before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Popol Vuh: Sacred Book of the Ancient Maya Electronic Database:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. AP World History Review: Fantastic book on the history of the Maya By Kate Polk In Popol Vuh, anonymous Mayan authors excellently combine both the history and the lore of the Quich Maya to tell the story of their origin and explain their existence as well as explain why things in the world happened the way that they did. As an AP World History student, I found this book incredibly intriguing. The way that

Christenson translated this from the original language was not only fluid but captured the voice of the Maya. Their unique tone and style is clear and contributes a rustic feel that helps the reader clearly visualize the events being described. Both the adventures of the various Mayan gods and the tales of wars between the Quichs and the so-called nations offer an interesting read and an insight to early Central American culture. Popol Vuh has a clear purpose. As stated in the preamble, it is to "...tell the ancient stories of the beginning, the origin of all that was done in the citadel of Quich, among the people of the Quich nation." The authors do this well, of course. They clearly illustrate how the earth, the animals, and the different versions of people (mud, wood, etc) were created and what purpose they served in the order of things. Animals, for example, were created to be eaten and humans were created to praise the gods. Then, slightly out of order, the stories of various human-like gods, including Hunahpu and Xbalanque, are told. These stories describe why things happen the way they do. They give explanations to things such as the size of the macaw's eyes and the wideness of the whippoorwill's mouth. Finally, Popol Vuh gives an account of the early history of the Quich Maya. All of these combined complete a tale of the ancient stories of the beginning, as the authors reference them in the preamble, as well as the origin of the Quich Maya and their people.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This is a very well researched and beautifully translated work. It is a little difficult to read on my iPhone in Kindle version, owing to the vast number of footnotes and explanatory notes. These are very good and thorough, but it becomes somewhat hard to follow the narrative on such a small screen. It would likely be much more easily read in print media. It is the translation of the material recorded by the Spanish from the oral account given them by the conquered Maya. Since their "books" records and genealogies were destroyed by the zealous missionaries seeking their total conversion (as an afterthought not considered to have been the best idea), this is the only surviving record of their beliefs and traditions. It is enlightening and this appears to be a very good translation.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. AP World History. By AP World History Student. This book was very fun to read! There were many parts of the book where I got confused about what was going on, but a quick reread of the section cleared things up. Christenson completed his goal of given these ancient authors their voice once more. The different writing styles throughout the piece kept it interesting as well. This Mayan story of creation had many dark twists and turns, such as when the gods were not pleased with the people created out of trees, so the sentenced to death by sending a large flood to wipe them out. I would recommend this book to people that are interested in the ancient Mayan culture and the religion surrounding them. The Popol Vuh goes into great detail of way the gods that purposed throughout the text should be worshiped and even have human sacrifices for. This polytheistic religion was very intriguing to learn about. I ended up doing some researching of my own after completing the book. Overall, I thought that the Popol Vuh was an excellent book and I couldn't stop reading it after I started.

The Popol Vuh is the single most important book written by the ancient Maya to have survived the Spanish conquest. It is one of the world's great works of literature, containing an account of the creation of the world, the acts of gods and heroes at the beginning of time before the first dawn, and the history of the highland Maya people themselves. Most previous translations have relied on Spanish versions rather than the original Maya text. The fruit of more than ten years of research, this translation and the supplementary materials by a leading scholar of Maya literature and art reveal the richness and elegance of this sublime work, comparable with other great epics of the ancient world such as the Iliad and Odyssey of Greece, and the Ramayana and Mahabharata of India. This collection is an invaluable contribution to the field of Maya studies, representing the most accurate transcription and translation ever produced, available for the first time in a fully-searchable electronic format including high-resolution scans of the oldest known manuscript of the Popol Vuh text. This CD-ROM is composed of a comprehensive electronic database of cross-linked texts, images, and audio files related to the Popol Vuh. The powerful search capabilities of WordCruncher software will allow users to find any occurrence of words and phrases in any or all of these files quickly and easily, while multiple screens can support simultaneous views of hundreds of photographs, images of ancient Maya art and architecture, maps, and extensive notes on Maya culture, history, and language. System requirements: Windows 2000 or XP.

About the Author ALLEN CHRISTENSON is Associate Professor of Humanities at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah.