

## **Origins of Nixtun-Ch'ich'** **City of Bountiful**

Timothy Pugh, professor of Queens College in New York, made the following statements after he excavated a portion of Nixtun-Ch'ich':

- Some sort of really, really, powerful ruler had to put this together
- This would have had to have been a top down organization
- The city's orientation, facing almost directly east, would have helped people follow the movements of the sun, something that may have been of importance to their religion.
- Archaeologists have found a walled Mayan city from 2,600 years ago that followed a unique grid pattern,
- Nixtun-Ch'ich' is so far outside the norms of Maya city planning that Pugh and Rice thought that foreigners must have built it.
- Life there could have been markedly different than in other Maya cities

Could Nixtun-Chi 'ich' origins have started with the Mulekites?

- The Mulekites arrived in the new world about the same time as the beginnings of Nixtun-Ch'ich'
- This city "is so far outside the norms of Maya city planning" that it would have to been built by some one other than a Mayan, maybe the Mulekites.
- According to Lib the great hunter (Ether 18) who lived around 1000 BC the area around lake Petén Itza was a hunting preserve and was apparently uninhabited. This situation would work only with the Pasion River Model. It appears that the preserve could have lasted until 600 BC because according to Either 1:1 the Jaredite war was limited to the north countries. According to the Pasion River Model this area would have been in the land southward.
- According to the Pasion River Model's version of the Mulekite ocean travel route, they would likely have landed along the Northern Belize or Yucatan coast. If this were the case, they would find the land northward full of Maya (Jaredites) and Olmecs. Therefore, they would likely search for a place they could call their own. Since the area around lake Petén Itza was a hunting preserve, they probably felt like that it would be a good place to settle. And it would have been fairly easy for them to follow the Belize River to the Guatemala border and then travel a short distance overland to the lake Petén Itza.
- Some of them could have gone from there and settled Ceibal (Zarahemla). Its just a short distance to the southwest.
- The temple at Nixtun-Ch'ich' is facing east. Does this have any relationship to some of the middle eastern temples facing toward the rising sun?
- It would have been normal for the Mulekites to have a strong hierarchal organization. An approach that would have been necessary to make this highly organized community layout happen.