Late Classic Politics and Ideology: A Case Study of Hieroglyphic Stairway 2 at
Yaxchilan, Chiapas, Mexico

Volume II

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Linda Schele and John Montgomery
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Drawing by John Montgomery © 2000, courtesy of FAMSI
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Drawing by Linda Schele © 2000 David Schele, courtesy of FAMSI
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Step XIII, HS. 2, Yaxchilan
Drawing by Linda Schele © 2000 David Schele, courtesy of FAMSI
Appendix B

Transliteration, transcription, and translation of the thirteen blocks of HS. 2, Yaxchilan

Translation of block VII as presented by Tate (1992) for comparison

(See Appendix A for drawings)
Transliteration, transcription and translations for HS. 2. For discussion, see Chapter 6 (Boot 2003, 2004, 2009; Houston 1983, 1992; Johnson 2013; Kettunen and Helmke 2011; Zender 2004a). Corresponding drawings can be found in Appendix A.

**Block I**

**TRANSLITERATION**  

B1: 13-NAB-ba

**TRANSCRIPTION**  
A1: [?] / A2: [?] / A3: [?] pa’chan ajaw / A4: ix [?]  

B1: ux lajun nab

**TRANSLATION I**  
… the Lady Yaxchilan Lord, Lady ?  

Thirteen hand-span

**TRANSLATION II**  
Lady Ik’ Skull ?… the Lady Yaxchilan Lord, Lady First of the Earth ?  

Thirteen hand-span

**Block II**

**TRANSLITERATION**  

**TRANSCRIPTION**  

**TRANSLATION I**  
She manifested the dance staff, the eight ?, eight ?, from the fiery-pool, Lady Pakal… the Lady First of the Earth ?

**TRANSLATION II**  
The dance staff, eight ?, eight ?, was manifested from the ocean by Lady Pakal, Lady Yaxchilan Lord ? the Lady First of the Earth ?

**Block III**

**TRANSLITERATION**  
TRANSCRIPTION

TRANSLATION

Block IV

TRANSLITERATION
E1: 9-NAB-ba

TRANSCRIPTION
A1: ucha’n / B1: [?] / C1: [?] / D1: pa’chan ajaw
E1: balun’nab

TRANSLATION I
The guardian of… Yaxchilan Lord
Nine hand-span

TRANSLATION II
The guardian of [captive’s name], [guardian’s name], Yaxchilan Lord
Nine hand-span

Block V

TRANSLITERATION
D1: [?]

TRANSCRIPTION
D1: [?]

TRANSLATION

Block VI

TRANSLITERATION


TRANSCRIPTION


G1: ucha’n? / G2: jo [?] / H1: k’uul [?] ajaw / H2: [?]

TRANSLATION I
Five ? Two Yax ball was played… it happened, five completed

Ball was played on the six-stepped stairway… the five k’atun Lord Shield Jaguar III, the guardian of he of the flower, the Divine Kaaj Lord, the Divine Yaxchilan Lord

The guardian of… the Divine ? Lord

TRANSLATION II
On five Muluk? Two Yax ball was played at the four [?] place, and it happened that five was? completed.

Ball was played on the six-stepped stairway by [parentage/relationship statement?], the five k’atun Lord Shield Jaguar III, the guardian of he of the flower, the Divine Kaaj Lord, the Divine Yaxchilan Lord

The guardian of [name of captive] the Divine ? Lord [title of captive]

Block VII

TRANSLITERATION


V1: AJ-[?] / W1: cha’ti / X1: no[NOL?]

TRANSCRIPTION


S1: ucha’n? / S2: ik’chij / S3: lakamtuuum ajaw / S4: [?]


V1: aj [?] / W1: cha’t / X1: no

TRANSLATION
Thirteen Manik five Pax was self-wounded the Maize God, the first to be conquered/captured. Seventeen k’in, zero winik, nineteen tun, five k’atun and then it happened on nine Kan twelve Xul was self-wounded the caiman?, the second to be conquered/captured. Eleven k’in, fourteen winik, ten tun, eight k’atun, three bak’tun and then it happened on one Ajaw thirteen Xul was self wounded the First Divine Maize Lord at the three conquest stairway where they entered the road, it happened at the black hole place, the six [?] place, of sun and darkness?

13.13.13.13.13.13.13.9.15.13.6.9… 3 Muluk 17 Mak is struck the three conquest stairway, the step, in the image of Yax Chit Ju’n ? Naah Kan, the three k’atun Lord, he of many captives, Bird Jaguar IV, the Divine Kaaj Lord, the Divine Yaxchilan Lord, First of the Earth?
The guardian of Black Deer, Lakamtuun Lord…
…the star was grasped…

He…dwarf, dwarf

**TRANSLATION II**

On thirteen Manik five Pax the Maize God self-wounded and he was the first to be conquered/captured. Seventeen k’in, zero winik, nineteen tun, five k’atun until it happened on nine Kan twelve Xul the caiman? self-wounded and he was the second to be conquered/captured. Eleven k’in, fourteen winik, ten tun, eight k’atun, three bak’tun until it happened on one Ajaw thirteen Xul the First Divine Maize Lord self-wounded at the three conquest stairway where they entered the road, and it happened at the black hole place, the six [?] place, of sun and darkness?

13.13.13.13.13.13.13.13.9.15.13.6.9… 3 Muluk 17 Mak the three conquest stairway was struck on the stairway in the image of Yax Chit Ju’n ? Naah Kan [the Water Lily Serpend] was the three k’atun Lord, he of many captives, Bird Jaguar IV, the Divine Kaaj Lord, the Divine Yaxchilan Lord, First of the Earth?

The guardian of Black Deer, Lakamtuun Lord…
…the star was grasped…

He…dwarf, dwarf

**Block VIII**

**TRANSLITERATION**


H1: [?]-CHAN-na / H2: AJ-ku / H3: [?]

**TRANSCRIPTION**


TRANSLATION I
Nine Lamat, sixteen Ch’en, ball was played, four ? Four ? Four ? Gour gods… the Kalomte’, he of the owl…

Lord Bird Jaguar III, he of the upright stone, the Seven Centipede Sun-faced ruler, four k’atun, four k’atun, warrior, the Divine Kaaj Lord, the Divine Yaxchilan Lord

The guardian of ?…he of the rain…

TRANSLATION II
On nine Lamat, sixteen Ch’en, ball was played at the ? place, by the Kalomte’ he of the owl ? , at the place of maize ?

[By…] Lord Bird Jaguar III, he of the upright stone, the Seven Centipede Sun-faced ruler four k’atun, four k’atun warrior, the Divine Kaaj Lord, the Divine Yaxchilan Lord

The guardian of ?…he of the rain…

Block IX

TRANSLITERATION
D1: 12-NAB-ba

TRANSCRIPTION
D1: laj cha’nab

TRANSLATION
… Divine Yaxchilan Lord…

Twelve hand-span

Block X

TRANSLITERATION
D1: 12-NAB-ba
TRANSCRIPTION

D1: laj cha’nab

TRANSLATION I
The image of the Wind God, guardian of Kokte’ Ajaw, K’an Tok Wayib, the first Sajal

Twelve hand-span

TRANSLATION II
He did impersonate the Wind God, the guardian of Kokte’ Ajaw, K’an Tok Wayib, the first Sajal

Twelve hand-span

Block XI

TRANSLITERATION

D1: 10?-[?]

TRANSCRIPTION

D1: lajun? [?]

TRANSLATION
- Ten hand-span?

Block XII

TRANSLITERATION
A1: U-CHAN-nu / A2: CHAM-mi / B1: CH’OK / C1: [PA’]CHAN-AJAW

D1: 12-NAB-ba

TRANSCRIPTION
A1: ucha’n / A2: cham / B1: ch’ok / C1: pa’chan ajaw

D1: laj cha’nab

TRANSLATION I
The guardian of Cham, the young Yaxchilan Lord

Twelve hand-span
TRANSLATION II
The guardian of Cham ? the Yaxchilan Prince

Twelve hand-span

Block XIII

TRANSLITERATION

C4: 12-NAB-ba

TRANSCRIPTION

C4: laj cha’nab

TRANSLATION
… the Three K’atun Lord… he, the precious one ? Divine Yaxchilan Lord

Twelve hand-span
Step VII, by Tate (1992: loc 9414)

This translation is provided as a comparison to earlier scholarship. Tate provides the only published translation of the whole of block VII, although she provides no translations for the other panels. This is a case in point of the lack of research that has been done on HS 2, despite it being referenced in supporting arguments for many scholars in regards to the ballgame, politics at Yaxchilan, and human sacrificial practice. Please note, this paraphrase has been taken directly, and as such no changes in orthography have been made.

On 13 Manik 5 Pax (A1-B1) was the axe sacrifice of the head of Hunahpu (A2-B2). It was the 1st replacement of the Defeated One (A3-b£). And 17 days and 0 uinals and 19 tuns and 5 katuns (B3-A5), count until 9 Cib 12 Xul (B5-B6), was the axe sacrifice (C1) of 1 Lizard Head (?) (C2), and the 2nd replacement of the Defeated One (D2-C3). And then 11 days and 14 uinals and 10 tuns and 8 katuns and 3 baktuns (D3-C5), count until 1 Ahau 13 Xul (D5-D6), was the axe sacrifice (?) (E3) of Great Jewelled Ahau (?) (E4)...(F4), the 3rd replacement of the Defeated One (E5), Ballcourt (F5), the Black Chasm (G5)...(E6), count to 6 (F6-G6). Its location in the light and darkness (H6), 13.13.13.13.13.13.13.13 (I1-L2), 9.15.13.6.9, Lord of the Night, 3 Muluc 17 Mac (M1-P2), was the conjuring of the 3rd Defeated One (Q1-R1) in the Ballcourt, his stairway (Q2-R2). It was recorded Yax Lot Hun Uinic Na Chan (name of the vision serpent) (Q3-R4), the 3 Katun Ahau, He of 20 Captives, Bird Jaguar IV, Holy Ahau of Yaxchilán, Holy Ahau of the Spilt Sky Place, Bacab (Q5-R7).
Appendix C

Reconstructions of dates found on HS. 2 blocks VI and VII
All dates converted using correlation constant 584283 (GMT)

Date conversion software used: FAMSI
http://research.famsi.org/date_mayaLC.php
(accessed 03/02/2015)
## TABLE C.1

Long count and calendar round reconstructions for block VI: 5 [day sign] 2 Yax.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Long Count</th>
<th>Calendar Round</th>
<th>GMT Correlation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09.00.08.17.14</td>
<td>5 <em>Ix 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>October 16, 444 AD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.01.02.02.19</td>
<td>5 <em>Kawak 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>October 13, 457 AD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.01.15.06.04</td>
<td>5 <em>K’an 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>October 10, 470 AD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.02.08.09.09</td>
<td>5 <em>Muluk 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>October 7, 483 AD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.03.01.12.14</td>
<td>5 <em>Ix 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>October 3, 496 AD</td>
</tr>
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<td>09.03.14.15.19</td>
<td>5 <em>Kawak 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>October 1, 509 AD</td>
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<td>09.04.08.01.04</td>
<td>5 <em>K’an 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>September 28, 522 AD</td>
</tr>
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<td>09.05.01.04.09</td>
<td>5 <em>Muluk 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>September 25, 535 AD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.05.14.07.14</td>
<td>5 <em>Ix 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>September 21, 548 AD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.06.07.10.19</td>
<td>5 <em>Kawak 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>September 18, 561 AD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.07.00.14.04</td>
<td>5 <em>K’an 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>September 15, 574 AD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.07.13.17.09</td>
<td>5 <em>Muluk 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>September 12, 587 AD</td>
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<tr>
<td>09.08.07.02.14</td>
<td>5 <em>Ix 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>September 9, 600 AD</td>
</tr>
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<td>09.10.06.12.09</td>
<td>5 <em>Muluk 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>August 31, 639 AD</td>
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<td>09.10.19.15.14</td>
<td>5 <em>Ix 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>August 27, 652 AD</td>
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<tr>
<td>09.11.13.00.19</td>
<td>5 <em>Kawak 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>August 24, 665 AD</td>
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<td>09.12.06.04.04</td>
<td>5 <em>K’an 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>August 21, 678 AD</td>
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<td>5 <em>Muluk 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>August 18, 691 AD</td>
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<td>5 <em>K’an 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>August 9, 730 AD</td>
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<td>August 4, 743 AD</td>
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<td>09.16.05.05.14</td>
<td>5 <em>Ix 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>July 31, 756 AD</td>
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<td>09.16.18.08.19</td>
<td>5 <em>Kawak 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>July 28, 769 AD</td>
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<td>5 <em>K’an 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>July 27, 782 AD</td>
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<td>5 <em>Muluk 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>July 24, 795 AD</td>
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<td>09.18.18.00.14</td>
<td>5 <em>Ix 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>July 20, 808 AD</td>
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<td>July 17, 821 AD</td>
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Most probable dates:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Long Count</th>
<th>Calendar Round</th>
<th>GMT Correlation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09.14.18.17.04</td>
<td><em>5 K’an 2 Yax</em></td>
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<td><strong>09.15.12.02.09</strong></td>
<td><em>5 Muluk 2 Yax</em></td>
<td><strong>August 4, 743 AD</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>09.16.05.05.14</td>
<td><em>5 Ix 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>July 31, 756 AD</td>
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<tr>
<td>09.16.18.08.19</td>
<td><em>5 Kawak 2 Yax</em></td>
<td>July 28, 769 AD</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
TABLE C.2

Long count reconstructions for block VIII: 9 Lamat 16 Ch’en.

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<th>GMT Correlation</th>
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<tr>
<td>09.00.02.15.08</td>
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<td>Saturday, October 2, 438 AD</td>
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<tr>
<td>09.00.07.16.08</td>
<td>9 Lamat 16 Ch’en</td>
<td>Saturday, September 26, 443 AD</td>
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<td>09.02.05.08.08</td>
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<td>Tuesday, October 1, 480 AD</td>
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<td>09.02.10.09.08</td>
<td>9 Lamat 16 Ch’en</td>
<td>Tuesday, September 25, 485 AD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.02.15.10.08</td>
<td>9 Lamat 16 Ch’en</td>
<td>Tuesday, September 19, 490 AD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.03.00.11.08</td>
<td>9 Lamat 16 Ch’en</td>
<td>Tuesday, September 13, 495 AD</td>
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<tr>
<td>09.04.18.03.08</td>
<td>9 Lamat 16 Ch’en</td>
<td>Friday, September 19, 532 AD</td>
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<td>09.05.03.04.08</td>
<td>9 Lamat 16 Ch’en</td>
<td>Friday, September 13, 537 AD</td>
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<td>09.05.08.05.08</td>
<td>9 Lamat 16 Ch’en</td>
<td>Friday, September 7, 542 AD</td>
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<td>09.05.13.06.08</td>
<td>9 Lamat 16 Ch’en</td>
<td>Friday, September 1, 547 AD</td>
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<td>9 Lamat 16 Ch’en</td>
<td>Monday, September 6, 584 AD</td>
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<td>Monday, August 31, 589 AD</td>
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<td>Monday, August 25, 594 AD</td>
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<td>9 Lamat 16 Ch’en</td>
<td>Monday, August 19, 599 AD</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday, August 25, 636 AD</strong></td>
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<td>Thursday, August 19, 641 AD</td>
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<td>9 Lamat 16 Ch’en</td>
<td>Thursday, August 13, 646 AD</td>
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<td>9 Lamat 16 Ch’en</td>
<td>Thursday, August 7, 651 AD</td>
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<td>09.12.16.06.08</td>
<td>9 Lamat 16 Ch’en</td>
<td>Sunday, August 12, 688 AD</td>
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<tr>
<td>09.13.01.07.08</td>
<td>9 Lamat 16 Ch’en</td>
<td>Sunday, August 6, 693 AD</td>
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<td>09.13.06.08.08</td>
<td>9 Lamat 16 Ch’en</td>
<td>Sunday, July 31, 698 AD</td>
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<tr>
<td>09.13.11.09.08</td>
<td>9 Lamat 16 Ch’en</td>
<td>Sunday, July 26, 703 AD</td>
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<td>09.15.09.01.08</td>
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<td>Wednesday, July 31, 740 AD</td>
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<td>09.15.14.02.08</td>
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<td>Wednesday, July 25, 745 AD</td>
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<td>09.15.19.03.08</td>
<td>9 Lamat 16 Ch’en</td>
<td>Wednesday, July 19, 750 AD</td>
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<td>09.16.04.04.08</td>
<td>9 Lamat 16 Ch’en</td>
<td>Wednesday, July 13, 755 AD</td>
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<td>Saturday, July 18, 792 AD</td>
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<td>09.18.11.16.08</td>
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<td>Saturday, July 6, 802 AD</td>
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<td>Saturday, June 30, 807 AD</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*9 Lamat 16 Ch’en* - Tate (1992: loc 5585)
Appendix D

A diagram showing the family tree of the known members of the ruling lineage during the Late Classic period at Yaxchilan

A diagram showing Bird Jaguar IV and his political allies within Yaxchilan during his reign
A diagram showing the family tree of the known members of the ruling lineage during the Late Classic period at Yaxchilan.
A diagram showing Bird Jaguar IV and his political allies within Yaxchilan during his reign.
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