

## Corn and Maya Time Corn and Calendar Tradition

### **Pa 'Puul**

Pa 'Puul, meaning “breaking pots” in Yucatec Mayan, is an annual Maya festival held in the small community of Tipikal, Yucatán, México.

Every year on June 24<sup>th</sup>, the Pa 'Puul festival is celebrated to petition for rain. The Pa 'Puul is connected to the annual solar cycle and the Maya Haab calendar.

The Pa 'Puul begins at dawn, with the town's children collecting the animals to place inside the pots. The most common animals used in this festival are reptiles associated with water.

Much of the symbolism in the Pa 'Puul festival is found in the Dresden Codex, one of the few ancient Maya books to have survived the conquest.

The scene on the last page of the Dresden Codex shows a lizard in the sky, releasing a waterfall from its mouth. A female deity holds a big earthenware pot and pours water onto the Earth.

The sound of the breaking pots is similar to the clap of thunder, which helps bring the much needed rain.

The Pa 'Puul is rooted in an ancient Maya tradition and celebrates the land's yearly cycle of rain, growth, and renewal.