

Figure 3.6  
The 365-day Olmec calendar (656-655 BCE)

Months	Days of the month																			Day names	
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		19
X.	12.k	13.l	1.m	2.n	3.o															a. Sun	
B.	4.p	5.q	6.r	7.s	8.t	9.a	10.b	11.c	12.d	13.e	1.f	2.g	3.h	4.i	5.j	6.k	7.l	8.m	9.n	10.o	b. Wind
C.	11.p	12.q	13.r	1.s	2.t	3.a	4.b	5.c	6.d	7.e	8.f	9.g	10.h	11.i	12.j	13.k	1.l	2.m	3.n	4.o	c. Night?
D.	5.p	6.q	7.r	8.s	9.t	10.a	11.b	12.c	13.d	1.e	2.f	3.g	4.h	5.i	6.j	7.k	8.l	9.m	10.n	11.o	d. Hard?
E.	12.p	13.q	1.r	2.s	3.t	4.a	5.b	6.c	7.d	8.e	9.f	10.g	11.h	12.i	13.j	1.k	2.l	3.m	4.n	5.o	e. Serpent
F.	6.p	7.q	8.r	9.s	10.t	11.a	12.b	13.c	1.d	2.e	3.f	4.g	5.h	6.i	7.j	8.k	9.l	10.m	11.n	12.o	f. Death
G.	13.p	1.q	2.r	3.s	4.t	5.a	6.b	7.c	8.d	9.e	10.f	11.g	12.h	13.i	1.j	2.k	3.l	4.m	5.n	6.o	g. Deer
H.	7.p	8.q	9.r	10.s	11.t	12.a	13.b	1.c	2.d	3.e	4.f	5.g	6.h	7.i	8.j	9.k	10.l	11.m	12.n	13.o	h. Star?
I.	1.p	2.q	3.r	4.s	5.t	6.a	7.b	8.c	9.d	10.e	11.f	12.g	13.h	1.i	2.j	3.k	4.l	5.m	6.n	7.o	i. Water
J.	8.p	9.q	10.r	11.s	12.t	13.a	1.b	2.c	3.d	4.e	5.f	6.g	7.h	8.i	9.j	10.k	11.l	12.m	13.n	1.o	j. Foot
K.	2.p	3.q	4.r	5.s	6.t	7.a	8.b	9.c	10.d	11.e	12.f	13.g	1.h	2.i	3.j	4.k	5.l	6.m	7.n	8.o	k. Monkey
L.	9.p	10.q	11.r	12.s	13.t	1.a	2.b	3.c	4.d	5.e	6.f	7.g	8.h	9.i	10.j	11.k	12.l	13.m	1.n	2.o	l. Jaw
M.	3.p	4.q	5.r	6.s	7.t	8.a	9.b	10.c	11.d	12.e	13.f	1.g	2.h	3.i	4.j	5.k	6.l	7.m	8.n	9.o	m. Cane
N.	10.p	11.q	12.r	13.s	1.t	2.a	3.b	4.c	5.d	6.e	7.f	8.g	9.h	10.i	11.j	12.k	13.l	1.m	2.n	3.o	n. Jaguar
O.	4.p	5.q	6.r	7.s	8.t	9.a	10.b	11.c	12.d	13.e	1.f	2.g	3.h	4.i	5.j	6.k	7.l	8.m	9.n	10.o	o. Eagle
P.	11.p	12.q	13.r	1.s	2.t	3.a	4.b	5.c	6.d	7.e	8.f	9.g	10.h	11.i	12.j	13.k	1.l	2.m	3.n	4.o	p. Owl?
Q.	5.p	6.q	7.r	8.s	9.t	10.a	11.b	12.c	13.d	1.e	2.f	3.g	4.h	5.i	6.j	7.k	8.l	9.m	10.n	11.o	q. Quake
R.	12.p	13.q	1.r	2.s	3.t	4.a	5.b	6.c	7.d	8.e	9.f	10.g	11.h	12.i	13.j	1.k	2.l	3.m	4.n	5.o	r. Flint
A.	6.p	7.q	8.r	9.s	10.t	11.a	12.b	13.c	1.d	2.e	3.f	4.g	5.h	6.i	7.j	8.k	9.l	10.m	11.n	12.o	s. Rain
																					t. Lord

Days in marked boxes

- 1st 4.p: 13 May 656 BCE 4 Owl? [0 B Olmec = 4 B or Yaxk'in Tikal] (1481959): New Year; calendar inauguration
- 1st 5.p: 22 June 656 BCE 5 Owl? [0 D Olmec = 4 D or Ch'en Tikal] (1481999): summer solstice
- 1st 12.o: 20 August 656 BCE 12 Eagle [19 F Olmec = 3 G or Kej Tikal] (1482058): little New Year; name day
- 2nd 12.o: 07 May 655 BCE 12 Eagle [19 A Olmec = 18 A or Xul Tikal] (1482318): name day

Consecutive days in the 260-day calendar are listed within the cells of the calendar.

Each year in this calendar is terminally named. Type V year bearers are indicated: Lord, Serpent, Foot, Eagle. Month X has been moved 20 days earlier; so, it occurs before month B of the Cuicuilco calendar year rather than after month B. Twenty days have been subtracted from the 1508 365-day years of the Mesoamerican solar era without affecting the type of year bearers.

Each day of the month numbered 0 in this calendar probably was known anciently as the "seating" or beginning of the month and it was followed with the 19 numbered days of that month. The use of 0 is a modern convention to represent the "seating" day.

The listed dates use a more recent spelling of Tikal calendar month names than that used by Edmonson.

Adapted from Edmonson, *The Book of the Year: Middle American Calendrical Systems*, 5-10, 100-01, 115-16, 228-31, 248.