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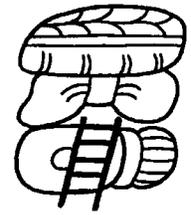
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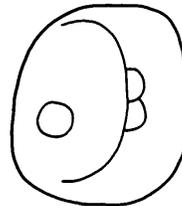
## *The Jog Sign as the Day Muluk*

MARTHA J. MACRI

The use of the jog glyph, T757 in place of T513 to signify the day Muluk occurs twice: once on Copán Hieroglyphic Stairway, once on "Po" Panel B4. To this point no one has provided a satisfactory explanation for the substitution.



T757



T513

Drawings of graphemes by Matthew Looer.

In earlier papers I have offered evidence suggesting that the jog glyph is actually a kinkajou, *Potos flavus*, (Macri 1984, 1988). Current identifications favored a rodent (Proskouriakoff 1968), or, specifically, a pocket gopher, *Orthogeomys hispidus*, (Bricker 1986:4; Dütting 1979:186; Justeson 1984:356).

In protoTzeltalan \*uyox is 'mico de noche', 'kinkajou' (Kaufman 1972:120), e.g. *uyuh* in Tzotzil (Laughlin 1977:75); *wuyo*' in Tzeltal (Slocum and Gerdel 1980:201). The initial sound in the

Tzeltalan word is the same as the syllabic value for the Muluk day sign T513, **u**. This similarity suggests that T757 was being used acrophonically for the syllabic value **u**. Such usage supports the identification of T757 as a kinkajou, and provides an explanation for the substitution of T757 for the usual Muluk day sign.

In contemporary Ch'olan languages kinkajous are referred to by their Yukatek name 'night monkey' or by the descriptive name 'yellow monkey'. The protoTzeltalan term may have persisted for some time in some Ch'olan dialects, and is thus reflected in the use of T757 to signify the day Muluk. Both of the known substitutions are from sites at opposite east/west extremes in the southernmost Maya lowlands, a region that might well be expected to have preserved the Tzeltalan term.

This substitution provides evidence that the pronunciation of the ninth day name by at least some scribes during the Classic Period may have been **u** or **uh**. This pronunciation of the day name is consistent with the accepted syllabic value for the T513 grapheme.

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