

Information Sheet for Futuristic Commentary on the 2012 Maya Prophecy

- The Maya 2012 prophecy boils down to the end of an age on their long-range astronomical calendar on or around 21 December this year (written by the Mayans in the format 13:0:0:0:0), concluding a cycle of about 5,200 years in their Long Count calendar. 2^{1st} December 2012 heralds the end of the current world age.
- I expect a Y2K type of anti-climax on the day because the date is primarily about a milestone in their time-keeping system. There will be a variety of religious and esoteric ceremonies at sunrise on that day, both Mayan and New Age, at traditionally sacred locations from Guatemala and Mexico to Stonehenge, all watched by the world's media and curious bystanders. And there will be intense astronomical and astrological activity, before, during and after this date to observe and interpret any unusual celestial occurrences. But there will be no falling comets, asteroids, meteorites nor any tsunamis, volcanoes or other catastrophic events to signal the end of this Mayan age.
- I believe NASA has put the record straight regarding possible celestial disturbances happening at this year's winter solstice, stating: "There are no credible predictions for worrisome astronomical events in 2012."
- Nevertheless, the 2012 Maya prophecy is a very rare deep-future prophecy from 7th century Mexico for the very time in which we are living now, fourteen centuries ahead of its time. (Recent scholarship concludes that this 7th century inscription is, indeed, aimed at an event in 2012, not in its own time.)
- Today's Mayan elders are reported to be angry about the way in which the Western media are interpreting their body of ancient prophecies to suit sensationalist agendas and they categorically do not advocate any end of the world scenarios on 21 December this year. But they do expect great pain and suffering to accompany the transition of the ages they forecast fourteen centuries ago. They point to the degradation of planet earth as the key problem.

- The Mayans saw time as cyclical, determined by repetitive celestial and earthly patterns, and believed that repetitions of past cycles, both in the heavens and on earth, could provide the means to predict the future.
- The 2012 Maya prophecy associates the end of this age with destruction as indicated by the prophet's choice of a god of war (B'olon-Yokte') to be the deity of the transition between the old age and the new age. Such transitions of world ages were looked upon soberly by the Mayans because there was invariably a cycle of destruction of the old preceding the creation of the new.
- There is, indeed, a deep-seated crisis accompanying the end of the age we are currently living in, involving climate change, pollution as well as lingering and widespread economic problems. The 2012 Mayan prophecies are not about cosmic disasters but about ecological, environmental, economic and social problems that will cause famine, disease and hardship for humanity.
- The Mayan elders today see some of the problems which led to the collapse of their classical Mayan civilisation, whereby over 90% of its population disappeared after A.D.800, being repeated today on a global scale.
- Although I expect a quiet day on 21st December 2012, I can see an eerie commonality between the Mayan view of creative destruction as ages come and go and the famous economist Joseph Schumpeter's doctrine of creative destruction. I believe it is on the ecological and economic levels that a global crisis does, in fact, exist at this time. Coincidence? Or was a dire aspect of our own times correctly foreshadowed by the 7th century Mayan prophet?

See Michael Lee's ProgBlog_2012, No 2 "A futurist comments on the 2012 Maya prophecies" at www.futurology.co.za for a full commentary on the Mayan 2012 prophecy.