

Archaeological Sciences Centre Lecture Series Presents

The Classic Maya Collapse - A Civilization in Ruins

Date 03.02.2017, Time: 1-2 PM, Venue: AB 7/203

This lecture will examine the factors responsible for the collapse of the Classic Maya civilization ca. 900 CE. Collapse of civilizations has characterized global history. The potential causes of the Maya collapse include ecological stress (droughts), population pressure, social revolt, and warfare. Collapse of Maya civilization is multi-causal but mismanagement of the local environment coupled with prolonged drought probably were mainly responsible. Parallels are drawn between the Maya civilization and our own in a time of global climate change and ecological stress.



Speaker Prof. Gary Warrick teaches Indigenous Studies and History at Wilfrid Laurier University, Ontario, Canada. He is currently the President, Canadian Archaeological Association. His publications include 2008. *A Population History of the Huron-Petun, A.D. 500-1650*. New York: Cambridge University Press and 2012. *Buried Stories: Archaeology and Aboriginal Peoples of the Grand River, Ontario*, *Journal of Canadian Studies*. He has conducted collaborative archaeological research with several Indigenous peoples in Canada (e.g., Huron-Wendat, Six Nations of the Grand River, and the Mississaugas of the New Credit), and he has carried out community archaeology and oral history (accounts of 19th century and 20th century Bushman occupation) research in the Mnweni Valley, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. His current interests are Indigenous archaeology in India.