

1. **Region:** Oaxaca, México/Oaxaca River Valley
2. **People:** Zapotec
  - People originally called the Be'en'a (the people)
    - A. later referred to as the Zapotec, and name stuck
    - B. still refer to themselves as Zapotec
    - C. can still speak some of the original language of the culture
    - D. some moved away from the area after the fall of the civilization, but most stayed in the surrounding area
3. **Place of Interest:** Monte Albán
  - Originally called Danibaan (Sacred Mountain)
    - A. then later called Monte Albán
    - B. named from a 17th-century Spanish noble named Don Montalbán
    - C. dates to remember: founded in 500BC, deserted by 800AD, (deserted for more than 1300 years), artifacts uncovered in the 1930s
  - Artifacts: architecture and funerary urns
  - Religion- beliefs about animals and their connection to how nature functions
  - Government- theocracy (commoners were dominated and mistreated by the elite class of rulers)
4. **Modern Example:** Oaxacan wood carvings
  - Made by descendents of the Zapotec
    - A. their main, world renowned example of handicraft from the area
    - B. serve as a great way of income for the area because of their popularity
    - C. regionally decorated; different villages paint their carvings in different ways
    - D. come in various sizes
    - E. usually subtractive, but can be additive (appendages, spikes)
  - Still refer to the ancient beliefs about different animals
    - F. are meant to refer to their ancestors' beliefs about animals, not to worship the original gods
    - G. representative/decorative, not functional for religious regions