

death, — fire and death being associated in Maya thinking. That they were especially connected with the rainy period is perhaps to be explained by the fact that summer in Mexico and Central America is the time of sun and rain power.

Another case where there is clearly indicated a relation between the jaguar and number three is fig. 16. We behold an old goddess with jaguar claws and red body-paint, the red being the symbolic color of this animal. Water streams from the sky and from her jar, indicating that she has to do with the rainy season. This deity has the cipher three in her eye. This eye, it is true, is not



Fig. 15. Hieroglyph Tun. Palenque, Temple of the Foliated Cross, D 3.



Fig. 16. Old Red Goddess. Dresden Codex, p. 67a.



Fig. 17. Hieroglyph Kayab. Palenque Temple of the Foliated Cross, E 2.

exactly the same as *Ix*, as it contains only three small dots. We are, however, entitled to give to this variant the same symbolic value as to the other, as the Tun bird sometimes possesses this simple form and at other times the more elaborated one.

Besides the number three, I find the Mayan ciphers four, five and ten employed as symbols in the eyes of mythical beings.

Can is the word for "four" and the very similar *kan* means "yellow". So the cipher four is used to symbolize the yellow color and the southern cardinal point, to which it belongs. Many times a little central dot or circlet is added. But even in this case it cannot be confused with five, as this number is expressed by a bar and never by five dots or disks. As an eye symbol *kan* occurs constantly in the glyph of the month Kayab (fig. 17). The head indicating this month has been classified as tortoise⁷, a very acceptable hypothesis, as this reptile is representative of the south (C. Dr. 49) or the north (Cod. Tro. 25* c), the rain, the old Tun god, etc. Generally its shell is decorated with the sign for sun or with *Kan*.

⁷ PAUL SCHELLHAS: Representation of Deities of the Maya Manuscripts. Papers of the Peabody Museum, Cambridge, Mass. Vol. IV (1904), p. 44.