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## Film & Response

### Week 10

The Maya society was organized into a hierarchical system, with various classes of people occupying different positions in the social and political structure. At the top of this hierarchy were the rulers, who were seen as divine figures with the authority to rule over their subjects.

Below the rulers were the nobles, who were also privileged members of society and often held positions of power and authority. The nobles were responsible for managing the affairs of their respective regions, such as collecting taxes, overseeing public works projects, and maintaining law and order.

The third tier of the Maya social hierarchy consisted of the common people, who were farmers, artisans, and merchants. They worked the land, produced goods, and engaged in trade to support themselves and their families.

At the bottom of the social hierarchy were the slaves, who were often prisoners of war or individuals who were unable to pay off their debts. Slaves were considered the property of their owners and were used for labor and other menial tasks.

Each group had responsibilities to the general welfare of the society. The rulers and nobles were responsible for maintaining political stability and ensuring that the needs of the people were met. This included overseeing the construction of public works projects such as

roads, bridges, and irrigation systems, as well as providing for the welfare of the people through the distribution of food and other resources.

The common people were responsible for supporting themselves and their families through their work, and for paying taxes to the rulers and nobles. They also played an important role in the economy by producing goods and engaging in trade.

The slaves, although at the bottom of the social hierarchy, also played a role in the functioning of Maya society by providing labor for various tasks. However, they were not entitled to the same rights and privileges as free people, and their welfare was often neglected.