The Tree of Life Symbol; Its Significance in Ancient American Religion

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Abstract
Not too much is known today about religion of ancient Mesoamerica, and it will only be through an intensive comparative study of the various deities as presented in the hieroglyphic manuscripts and native writings, and of the symbolic religious art in the architectural and sculptural remains, that greater knowledge of the subject will be gained. The "Tree of Life," one of the most striking religious symbols of the area, may be one key to such knowledge.

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The ‘Tree of Life’ is a mystical tree that is well-known throughout many ancient cultures, stretching all the way back into the distant past to the oldest civilizations in the world. Different religions call it by different names, each with its own mythology. But they all have similar meanings as the source of life—spiritual or literal. The image is widely thought to represent the Divine Creator, and it is revered as the representation of the interconnectedness of all beings. These interpretations are excellent summaries of the various mythical and religious interpretations the Tree of Life th