

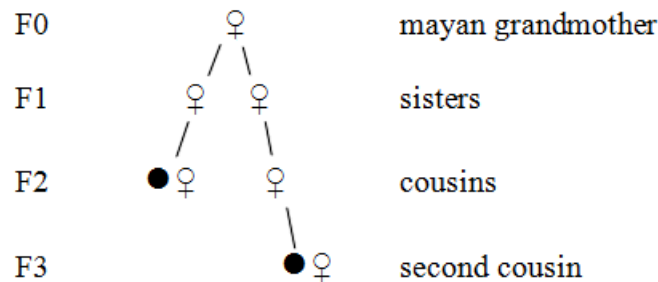
## L4 mtDNA Samples in Amongst the Maya of Yucatan

In the February Aztlander article "Reading Genetic Information of Ancient Teotihuacans" there is the following comment:

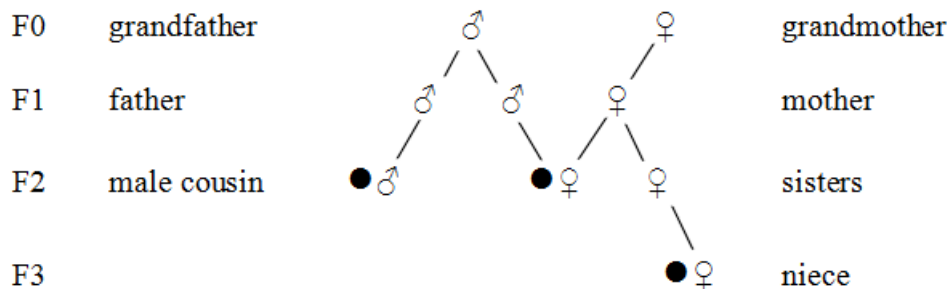
“All present-day and ancient Mesoamericans belonged to haplogroups A2, B2, C1, D1, and D4.”

In the February IMS newsletter the article "South-to-north migration" comes to a similar conclusion with A2, C1, D1, and D4 mtDNA showing up in their samples.

However, over the last couple of years I have had DNA samples from 2 members of my family (Family 1) and also from 3 members of a completely unrelated family (as far as we know) (Family 2) tested by CRI and in both instances the results came back showing that both families have their mtDNA as L4.



Family 1: F2 = Kit # RY626088, F3 = Kit # JS414673



Family 2: male F2 = Kit # EA586791, female F2 = Kit # GS892928, F3 = Kit # OG603440

The black dots represent the people who sent in DNA samples and who are tested as having the L4 clade.

What is important to know about mtDNA L4 is that it apparently has limited distribution. According the Wikipedia, “Haplogroup L4 is a human mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) haplogroup. It is a small maternal clade primarily restricted to Africa. L4 is important in East Africa. The highest frequencies are in Tanzania among the Hadza at 60-83% and Sandawe at 48%.” So the question is: how did the L4 haplogroup get to Yucatan? This is especially intriguing because according to CRI in their “Ancient Ancestry Analysis” report the Maya component of both families has a Peruvian origin which is greater than 95%.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Family 1 is a mixture of Korean and Mayan heritage, with Kit # RY626088 being 3/4 Korean and Kit # JS414673 being 5/8 Mayan. As shown in the figure for Family 1, both people share the same Mayan grandmother.