

Tropical Cyclones: A Global Perspective

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The One-Legged God of the Maya

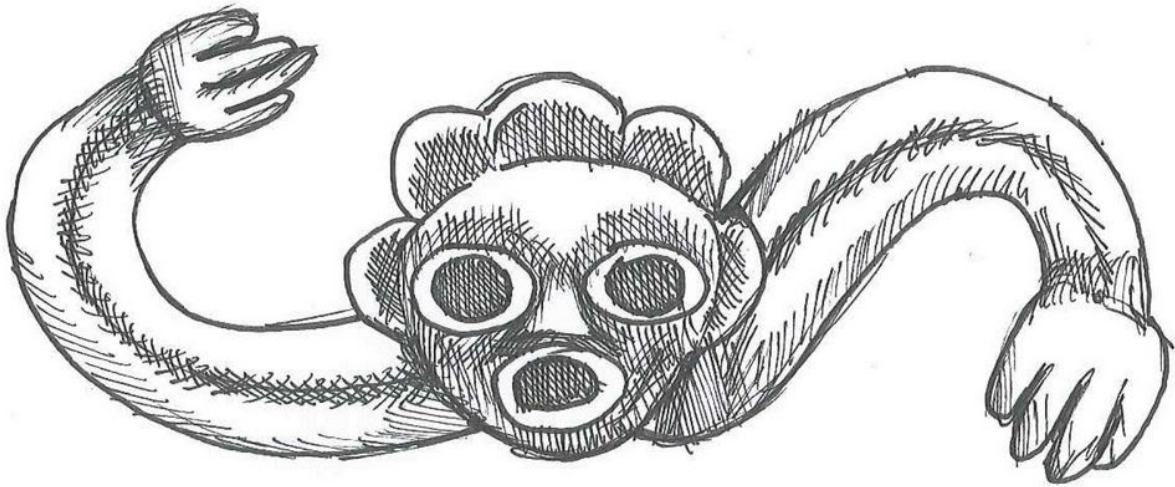
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Juracan





Taino Rock Carving

Yuracan → Huracan → Hurricane
(Taino) (Spanish) (English)



Character: Chinese Simplified
Pronunciation: Hanyu Pinyin
(Mandarin = Standard Chinese)



台风

táifēng

In English: Typhoon

Source: Hantrainerpro.com

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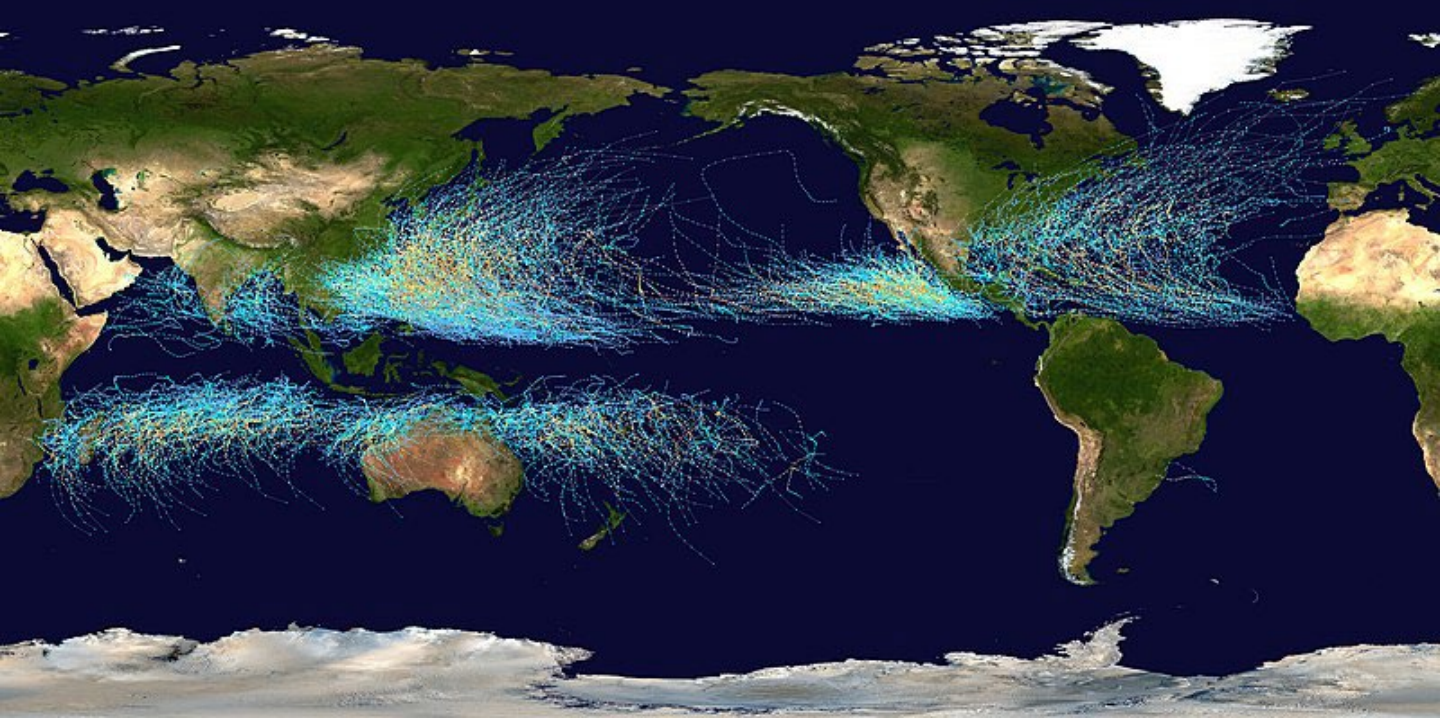


Tropical Cyclones

- Tropical Cyclones are a worldwide phenomenon
- Tropical Cyclones play a significant role in the re-distribution of heat to northern latitudes
- On average a Tropical Cyclone forms every 4-5 days somewhere on earth
- About half of the storms formed reach ‘hurricane strength’
- About 1 in 3 reach ‘major’ strength
- Roughly once a month there is a ‘major’ storm somewhere on the planet



Tropical Cyclones 1985-2005



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Tropical Cyclones (By the Numbers)



239.5 Inches

Rainfall Total

*Cyclone Hyacinth, January 1980 –
Commerson Crater, Reunion Island*



Commerson Crater, Reunion Island



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- Hurricane Harvey (2017) - 60.5 Inches. – US Record – (33rd worldwide) - Texas
- Hurricane Easy (1950) – 45.2 Inches. – FL (3rd *Highest US*) – Yankeetown, FL
- 1909 Hurricane Unnamed – 137 Inches – Jamaica (3rd *worldwide*)
- Hurricane Flora (1963) – 100.4 Inches. – Santiago de Cuba



47.6 Feet

Highest Recorded Storm Surge

*Cyclone Mahina, March 1899 –
Bathurst Bay, Australia*



- Hurricane Katrina (2005) ~ 28+ feet. Mississippi.
- Hurricane Camille (1969) ~24 feet. Mississippi.
- 1926 Great Miami Hurricane. ~14 feet.
- 1921 Tampa Hurricane. ~12 feet.
- Michael (2018) ~16+ feet. Likely Florida Record.
- Ian (2022). TBD.



1,350 Miles

Largest Diameter

*Super-Typhoon Tip, October 1979 –
Northwest Pacific Ocean*



- Hurricane Sandy (2012) – 1,150 Miles Diameter. – Atlantic Record



Most Significant Tropical Cyclone in the History of the World ...

Runner up: Great Hurricane of 1780





Portrait of Kublai Khan by Araniko (1244-1306)

神風

English Translation: ‘Divine’ – ‘Wind’

In Japanese: “Kami” – “Kaze”



Raijin – Shinto Storm God

Responsible for the Destruction of the Mongol Fleet



Raijin by Katsushika Hokusai (1834-1849)