



Peru

Fulbright-Hays Seminar 2008
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Geography of Peru



- Peru, in western South America, extends for nearly 1500 miles along the Pacific Ocean.
- Five-sixths the size of Alaska
- Peru is divided by the Andes Mountains into three sharply differentiated zones: western coastal plain (costa), high and rugged Andes in the center (sierra), eastern lowland jungle of Amazon Basin (selva)

Topography

- Peru (496,200 square miles) has perhaps greater diversity than any other country in the world.
- The Andes run north to south through the country and are the second highest mountain range in the world.
- The eastern slopes of the Andes are skirted by rainforest, the beginning of the Amazon basin.
- Peru has 83 different ecological zones.
- Peru has the world's driest desert and the richest rainforest on the face of the earth.



Climate

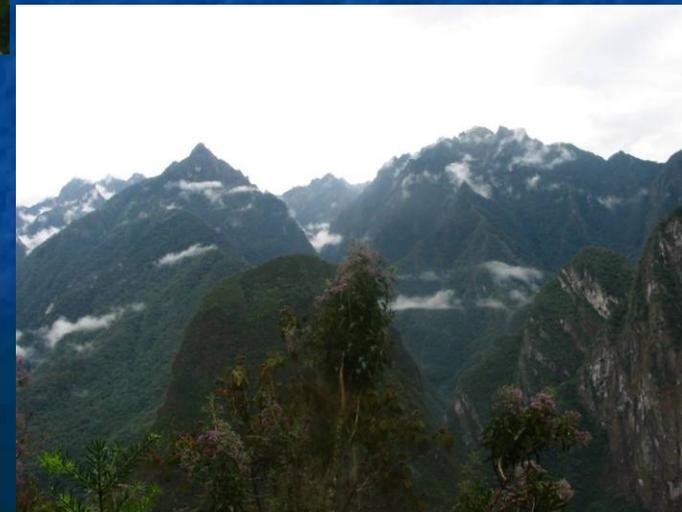
- Peru's climate has two seasons— wet and dry—but the weather varies greatly depending on the geographical region.

- The desert coast is very arid. During summer (January to March), the sky is clear, and the weather is hot and sticky. During the rest of the year a grey coastal mist covers the sun.

- Every few years this area is hit by El Niño, which produces floods in the coastal areas and sometimes the highlands.

- The temperature in the Andes can reach the freezing point during the night, but will go up to 80 degrees F during the day. During the summer it stays very dry.

- The climate in the tropical forest is strictly divided on dry and rainy seasons, but generally stays hot and humid.



Statistics



<http://www.infoplease.com/images/peru.gif>

National name: República del Perú

President: Alan García (2006)

Population (2008 est.): 29,180,899

Capital and the largest city: Lima, 8,180,000 (metro area)

Languages: Spanish, Quéchua (both official); Aymara; many minor Amazonian languages

Religion: Roman Catholic 81%

Arable land: 3%

Natural resources: copper, silver, gold, petroleum, timber, fish, iron ore, coal, phosphate, potash, hydropower, natural gas.

Agriculture: coffee, cotton, sugarcane, rice, potatoes, corn, plantains, grapes, oranges, coca, poultry, beef, dairy products, fish.

Population

- Peru has approximately 29 million inhabitants.
- Due to its great size, Peru has a low population density, but the rugged character of its land tends to concentrate populations in small areas and cities.
- About 52 percent of Peruvians are Indians of varying descent.
- Mestizos, those of European and Indian blood, comprise about 32 percent of the population.
- Whites, mostly of Spanish descent, and others make up about 12 percent of the population.

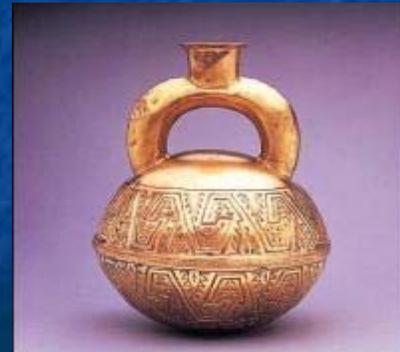


Before the Incas...

- Before the Incas Peru had other great cultures including the Chavin, Nasca, Huari, Moche, and Chimu. The first great civilization in the cycle can be traced back to 1300 B.C.
- Chavín metallurgy, soldering, and temperature control methods were advanced for their time.
- They also had a knowledge of textiles that allowed them to revolutionize cloth production.
- The Chavín established a trade network and developed agriculture by 850 B.C. and lasted to 25 B.C.
- The Chavín peoples, much like all Andean groups, had no system of writing.
- They learned how to tame llamas.



<http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/4/43/Estela.jpg/180px-Estela.jpg>



http://extras.mnginteractive.com/live/media/site36/2008/0214/20080214__ae15gold2~p1_200.jpg

- The Moche culture has left impressive archaeological sites and some of the most outstanding pottery.
- The most important people, the priests and warriors, lived closest to the large ceremonial pyramids and other temples.
- They were surrounded by a middle class of artisans and then, in descending order: farmers and fishermen, servants, and slaves.
- The priests and warriors were both honored and obeyed. They are the people frequently shown in ceramics, which depict them being carried in litters and wearing fine jewelry.
- As there was no written language, most of what we know about the Moche comes from their pottery.
- The ceramics show us that the Moche had well-developed weaving techniques but, unfortunately, most of their textiles have been destroyed.



Pictures from the excavation site at the Temple of the Moon (Moche)

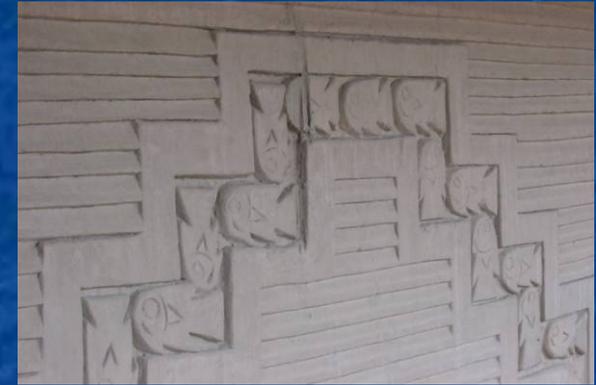


- The next important period, the Chimu, lasted from about 1000 A.D. to 1470 A.D. The Chimu built a capital at Chan Chan, north of Trujillo.



- Chan Chan is the largest pre-Columbian city in Peru, covering about 28 sq km, and is estimated to have housed about 50,000 people.

- It is as an urban society that the Chimu are best remembered. Their huge capital contained approximately 10,000 dwellings.



- Buildings were decorated with friezes, the designs molded into the mud walls, and the more important areas were layered with precious metals.

- There were huge walk-in wells, canals, workshops and temples.

- The Chimu were exceptionally fine goldsmiths.

- The royal dead were buried in mounds with a wealth of funerary offerings.



- One of the most famous and distinctive features of the Nazca culture (approximately A.D. 250–750) is the polychrome pottery, buff or red and painted in three to eight colors.



http://www.mnsu.edu/emuseum/prehistory/latinamerica/images/nazca_pottery.jpg

- The Nazca lines, the large "geoglyphs" or drawings on the earth's surface, make no sense on the ground. One can recognize the features only from the air.

- There are several kinds of figures, such as fish, birds, monkeys, a whale, spiders and plants.

- These lines spread on the ground more than 800 miles, some of them extend 12 miles long.

- Since these lines are on a flat surface and its climate is extremely dry, nearly all geoglyphs remain completely intact.



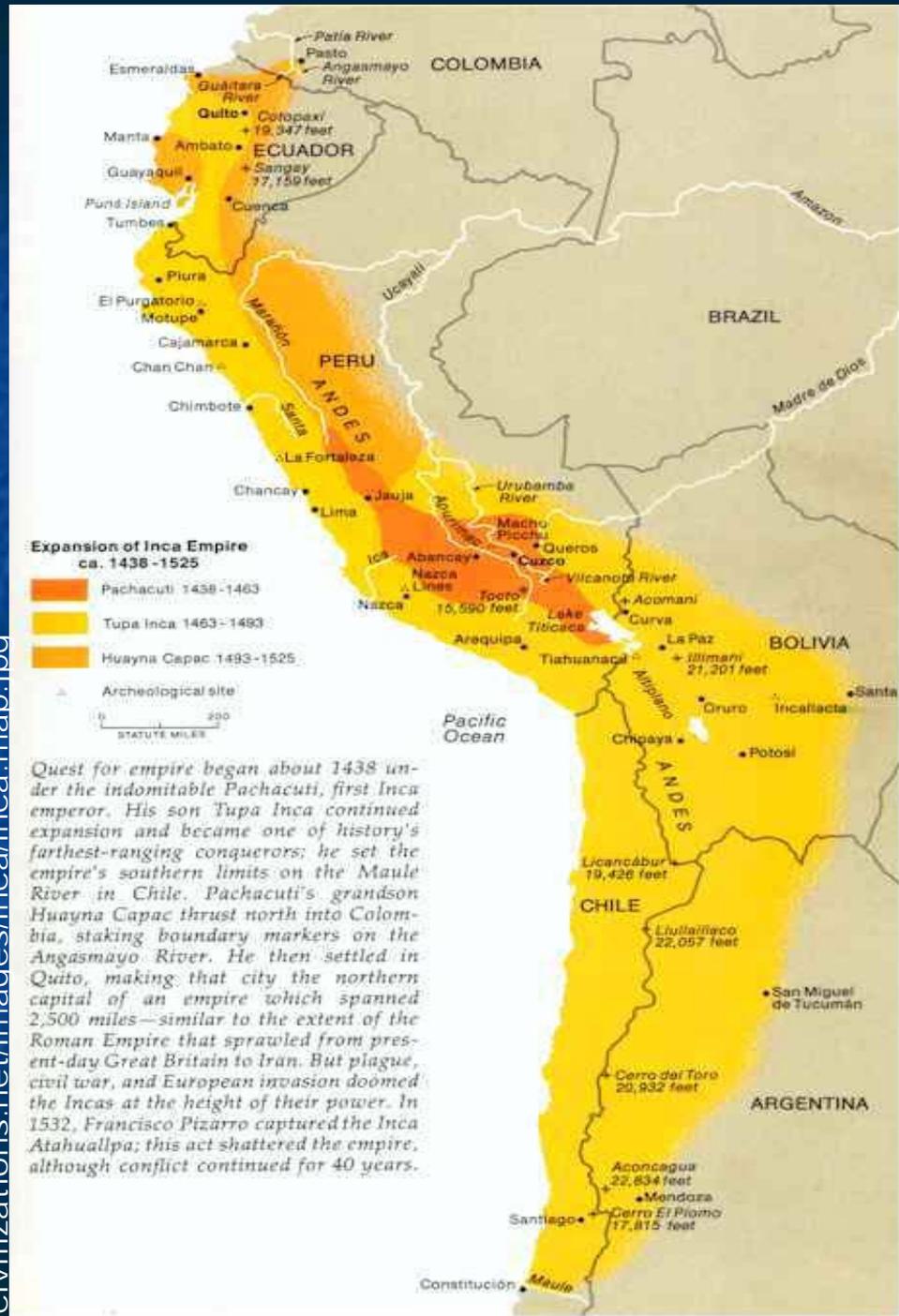
<http://www.mnsu.edu/emuseum/prehistory/latinamerica/images/nasca3x.jpg>

- The Inca Empire was quite short-lived. It lasted just shy of 100 years, from ca.1438 A.D., when the Inca ruler Pachacuti and his army began conquering lands surrounding the Inca heartland of Cuzco, until the coming of the Spaniards in 1532.

- The Inca brought under their control the area of present-day Peru, Bolivia, northern Argentina, Chile, and Ecuador.

- The Inca built the most extensive road system at the time, which covered approximately 22,500 km (14,000 mi) and provided access to over three million square km of territory.

<http://www.lost-civilizations.net/images/inca/map.jpg>



- The Incas gave their empire the name, “Land of the Four Quarters” or the Tahuantinsuyu Empire.

- It stretched north to south some 2,500 miles along the Andean range from Colombia to Chile and reached west to east from the dry coastal Atacama desert to the Amazon rain forest.

- The Incas ruled the Andean Cordillera, second in height and harshness to the Himalayas. Daily life was spent at altitudes up to 15,000 feet and ritual life extended up to 22,057 feet to Llullaillaco in Chile, the highest Inca sacrificial site known today.

- Mountain roads and sacrificial platforms were built, which means a great amount of time was spent hauling loads of soil and rocks up to inhospitable heights.

- This ability of the sandal-clad Inca to thrive at extremely high elevations continues to perplex scientists today.

- At the height of its existence the Inca Empire was the largest nation on Earth and remains the largest native state to have existed in the Western hemisphere.



- A Chakana (or Inca Cross) is an Andean symbol. It is the three-stepped cross representing the southern cross and symbolizing the three tiers of Inca life (the lower world, this world, and the higher world).
- The three levels also represent the snake, puma, and condor.
- Many buildings, temples, and religious sanctuaries are scattered with the chakana symbol.
- The hole in its centre denotes Cusco, which is termed "the navel of the Inca empire" and also represents the circle of life.
- Its twelve external corners are believed to mark the twelve months of the year, while the four arms of the cross represent North, South, East and West.



<http://i98.photobucket.com/albums/l280/kachina2012/ChakanaCross.jpg>



Inca religion

- The six major gods of the Inca represent the moon, sun, earth, thunder, lightning and the sea.
- Heaven was depicted by the condor, the underworld by the anaconda, and the brother who resided on earth was the puma.
- The Incas worshipped the Earth goddess Pachamama and the sun god, the Inti.
- The Inca lord of Tahuantinsuyo was held to be sacred and to be the descendant of the sun god.
- The legend of the origin of the Incas tells how the sun god sent his children Manco Capac and Mama Ocllo (and in another version the four Ayar brothers and their wives) to found Cusco, the sacred city and capital of the Inca empire.
- Inti Raymi, the feast of the sun was the biggest, most important festivity in Inca times.
- It is still performed every year in September on the winter solstice of the Southern hemisphere.



The Inti Raymi celebration continues today

<http://lh4.ggpht.com/ragan/SHWiVuXIVFI/AAAAAAAAA2E/96gNdCkyRX0/CIMG1082.JPG?imgmax=512>

Pachamama celebrations today



<http://futatraw.org.ar/descargas/pachamama.jpg>



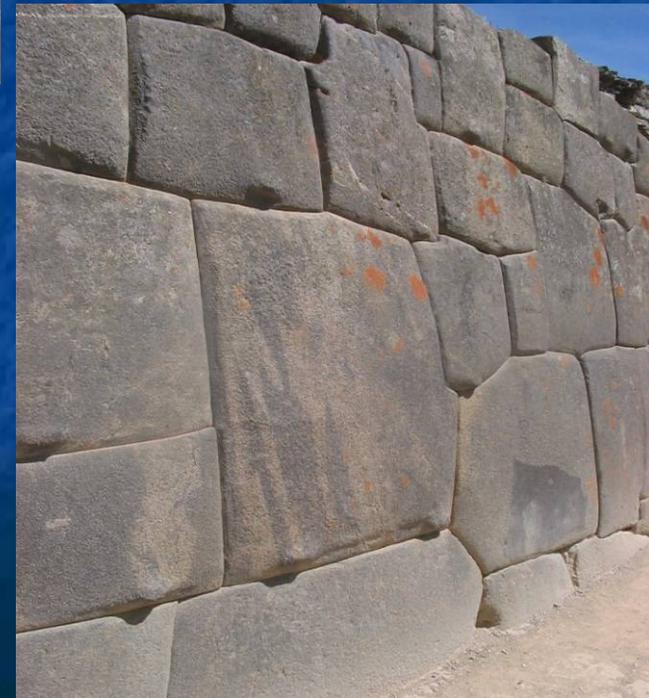
During the month of August many people honor the Mother Earth with offerings. They burn incense, sprinkle yellow confetti around to bless their houses and businesses, and perform special ceremonies.

- The architecture of the Inca cities still amazes and puzzles most scientists.

- Trapezoidal shape of doors and windows is one of the signature style of the Incas.

- Inca developed a technique of wall building that was well-suited to an earthquake prone area. Instead of repeated rows of bricks or rectangular stones, they interlock the stones in the different levels of the wall.

- The blocks of stones weigh several tons and they are fit together so tightly that not even a razor blade can fit through them.



- The Incas used irrigation and terracing to expand agriculture into the highland areas.
- They developed drainage systems and canals to diversify their crop resources.
- Potatoes, tomatoes, cotton, peanuts and coca were among the many crops grown by the Inca.
- Llamas were used for meat and transportation.
- There was more than enough resources available for everyone. Increased subsistence levels led to a growth in the Inca population.



- The inhabitants of the Andean region developed more than half of the agricultural products that the world eats today.
- Among these are more than 20 varieties of corn; 300 varieties of potato; as well as one or more varieties of squash, beans, peppers, peanuts, cassava, and quinoa, which is made into a cereal.
- By far the most important of these was the potato. The Incas planted the potato, which is able to withstand heavy frosts, as high as 15,000 ft.
- At these heights the Incas could use the freezing night temperatures and the heat of the day to alternately freeze and dry the potatoes until all the moisture had been removed. These potatoes can be stored for a long time.



Lake Titicaca

- Lake Titicaca—the world's highest lake navigable to large vessels, lying at 12,500 feet above sea level in the Andes Mountains, astride the border between Peru and Bolivia.

- Titicaca is the second largest lake of South America.

- The lake averages between 460 and 600 feet in depth, but the bottom tilts sharply toward the Bolivian shore, reaching its greatest recorded depth of 920 feet.

- Surface temperatures average 56° F.

- In Inca mythology, Manco Capac and Mama Ocllo, children of the Sun, emerged from the depths of Lake Titicaca to found their empire.

- With snow-capped mountains along its shores, this great blue lake is one of the Andes' most enchanting places.



Uros floating islands

- The remnants of an ancient people, the Uros, still live on floating mats of dried totora (a reed that grows in the marshy shallows).
- From the totora, the Uros make their houses and the famed boats fashioned of bundles of dried reeds lashed together with a stylized puma head as decoration.
- Tourism and handicrafts are important sources of the income for the local people.



- Taquile is an island in Lake Titicaca 45 km offshore from the city of Puno.

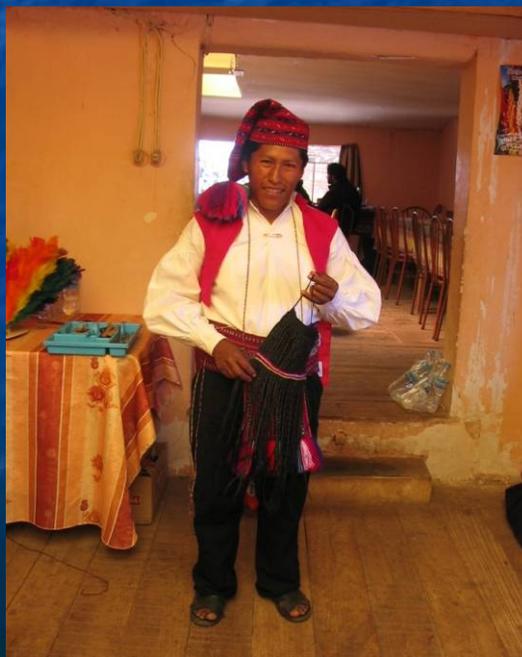
- About 1,700 people live on the island.

- This is an indigenous community which continues to live within the traditions of the 14th century, according to the principles of Inca life.

- Here, the three golden rules of the Empire of the Sun have been kept: Ama suwa, Ama quella, Ama llulla (do not steal, don't be idle, and do not lie).

- The economy is based on fishing, terraced farming potato cultivation, and income from 40,000 tourists who visit each year.

- Taquileños are known for their fine handwoven textiles and clothing. Everyone on the island—children, women, and men—spin and weave.



Machu Picchu

- The ruins of Machu Picchu, rediscovered in 1911 by Yale archaeologist Hiram Bingham, are one of the most beautiful and enigmatic ancient sites in the world.

- The Inca turned the site into a small (5 square miles) but extraordinary city. Invisible from below and completely self-contained, surrounded by agricultural terraces sufficient to feed the population, and watered by natural springs, it had been utilized by the Inca as a secret ceremonial city.

- Two thousand feet above the Urubamba river it has palaces, baths, temples, storage rooms and some 150 houses.

- These structures, carved from the gray granite of the mountain top are wonders of both architectural and aesthetic genius.

- The skeletal remains of ten females to one male had led to the assumption that the site may have been a sanctuary for the training of priestesses.



- One of Machu Picchu's primary functions was that of astronomical observatory.
- The Intihuatana stone ("Hitching Post of the Sun") has been shown to be a precise indicator of the date of the two equinoxes and other significant celestial periods.
- At midday on March 21 and September 21, the sun stands almost directly above the pillar, creating no shadow at all. At this precise moment the sun "sits with all his might upon the pillar" and is for a moment "tied" to the rock.
- At these periods, the Incas held ceremonies at the stone in which they "tied the sun" to halt its northward movement in the sky.
- Shamanic legends say that when sensitive persons touch their foreheads to the stone, the Intihuatana opens one's vision to the spirit world.



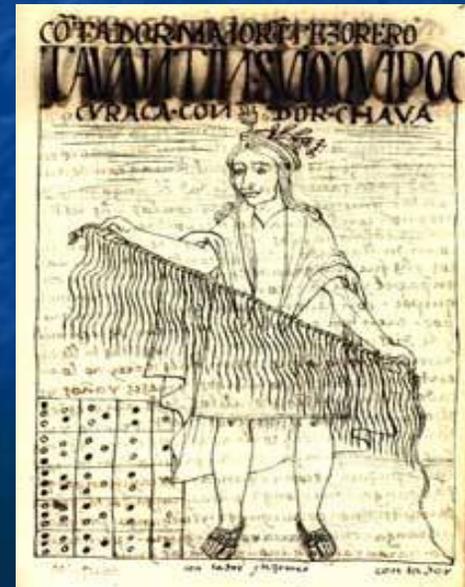
<http://www.sacredsites.com/americas/peru/images/machu-picchu-02-500.jpg>

Quipu

- Since the Incas had no system of writing, they kept records by means of a quipu—a series of short, knotted strings hung at intervals from a long top string.
- By varying the colors and kinds of knots used, and the spacing of the strings and knots, the Incas could record populations, troops, and tribute, as well as information about their legends and achievements.
- The quipu was a complex memory aid rather than a literal record, and only a trained quipucamayo, or memory expert, could create or interpret it. An oral comment accompanied each quipu and allowed the quipucamayo to make sense of its meaning.
- Following the Spanish conquest and the introduction of records written in Spanish, the Incas lost the ability to read quipus.
- Modern scholars still have not deciphered the codes used in the creation of quipus.



[http://tbn0.google.com/images](http://tbn0.google.com/images?q=tbn:KZ6mVLs2BjAzzM:http://www.eumed.net/cursecon/colat/pe/econcusco/quipu2.jpg)
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http://agutie.homestead.com/files/quipu_curaca.jpg

Inca mummies

- Inca mummies consist of two types, mummies of the rulers and mummies of the sacrificed ones.
- Most of the mummies of the rulers were kept in Cuzco. None of them have been found, as they were ruined during the Spanish conquest of Peru.
- The mummies of sacrificed ones were found in Peru, Chile, and Argentina.
- Sacrificed children were mummified by the freezing temperature and the dry, windy mountain air, so they were natural mummies. A typical example was Juanita, the Ice Maiden.
- The recent discoveries also provided scientists with important information on the Incas' traditions and lifestyle through artifacts found with the mummies.



<http://www.latinamericanstudies.org/incas/inca-mummy.gif>



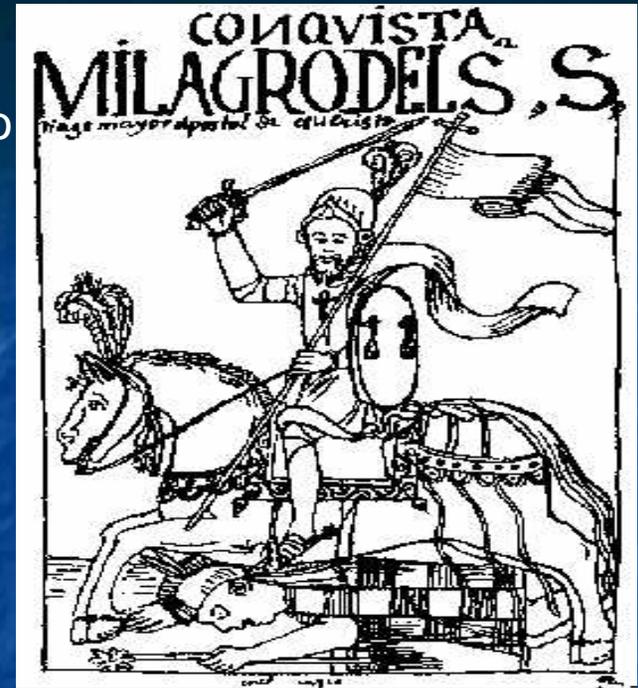
<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/mummy/enlarge/images/cmmump24.gif>

- The hairless dog is native to Central and South America. Archaeological evidence shows that the breed existed in the New World for more than 3,500 years.
- Most likely, their early forerunners originated as spontaneous hairless mutations of indigenous New World dogs.
- Hairlessness may have offered a survival advantage in tropical regions.
- Their value in ancient Indian cultures is evidenced by their frequent appearance in the art and artifacts produced by the Colima, Aztec, and Toltec civilizations in Mexico.
- Xolos were considered sacred dogs by the Aztecs because they believed the dogs were needed by their masters' souls to help them safely through the underworld.



The Beginning of the End

- With the arrival from Spain in 1532 of Francisco Pizarro the Inca empire was seriously threatened for the first time.
- Duped into meeting with the conquistadors in a "peaceful" gathering, an Inca emperor, Atahualpa, was kidnapped and held for ransom.
- After paying over \$50 million in gold and silver by today's standards, Atahualpa, who was promised to be set free, was strangled by the Spaniards who then marched straight for Cusco and its riches.

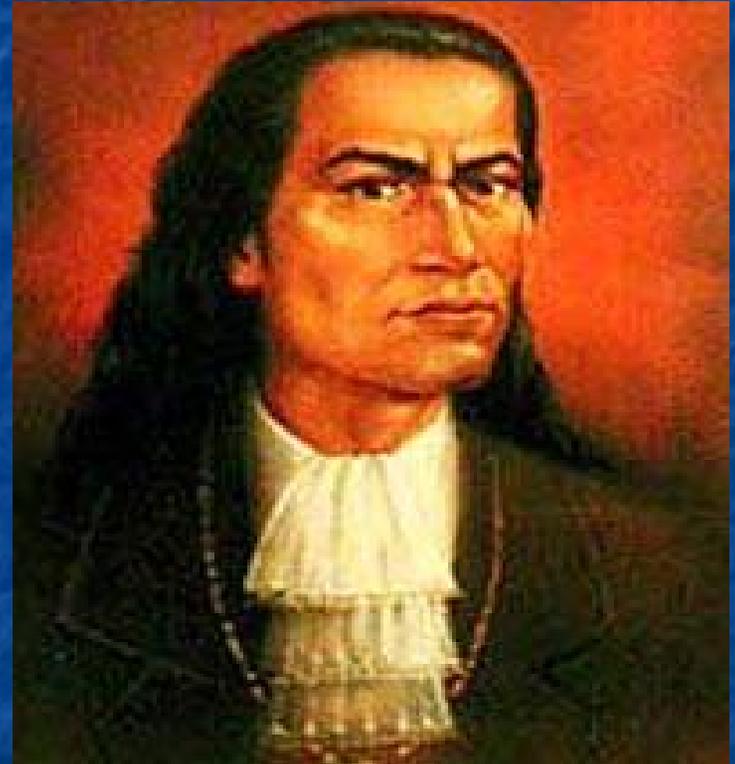


How did Pizarro and his small army of mercenaries, totaling less than 400, conquer what was becoming the world's largest civilization?

- Much of the "conquest" was accomplished without battles or warfare as the initial contact Europeans made in the New World resulted in rampant disease, in particular, smallpox. Lacking immunity, the Inca were reduced by two-thirds.
- Spanish also cleverly used the results of the recent civil war to their advantage, creating alliances with groups of Indians who were unhappy with current Inca rule.
- Spanish culture, religion, and language replaced Inca life and only a few traces of Inca ways remain in the native culture today.

The last Inca

- Condorcanqui (Tupac Amaru II) inherited the caciqueship of Tungasuca governing on behalf of the Spanish governor.
- He sympathized with the plight of the native people and petitioned the Spanish government to improve conditions in the textile mills, the mines, and the villages.
- Unsuccessful, he adopted his great-grandfather's Incan name, a more native style of dress, and organized a rebellion, seizing and executing governor Antonio de Arriaga of Tinta in 1780.
- Túpac Amaru II's rebellion was one of many indigenous Peruvian uprisings in the last fifty years of Bourbon control.
- It was suppressed after the Battle of Sangarará, and he was soon captured.
- He was sentenced to witness the execution of his wife, his eldest son, and many of his supporters.
- He was sentenced to be tortured and put to death by dismemberment.



<http://www.santacruzperu.com/Portals/0/history/tupacamaru2.jpg>

•When the horses failed to accomplish this execution, he was later drawn and quartered on the main plaza in Cusco, in the same place his great-grandfather who lead his revolt against Spaniards had been beheaded.

•When the revolt continued, the Spaniards executed the remainder of his family, except his 12-year-old son Fernando, who was imprisoned in Spain for the rest of his life.

•It is not known if any members of the Inca royal family survived this final purge.

•At the same time, Incan clothing and cultural traditions, and self-identification as "Inca" were outlawed, along with other measures to convert the population to Spanish culture and government until Peru's independence as a republic.



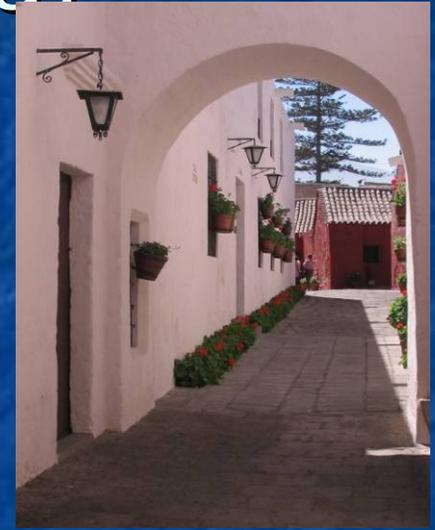
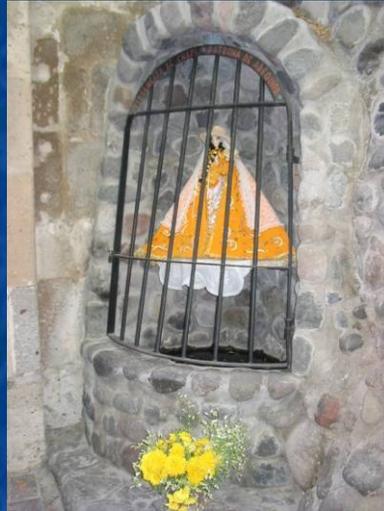
Monument to Tupac Amaru in Cusco.

http://lh6.ggpht.com/_0SIpB8FRiWc/RzErFeKLi9I/AAAAAAQAAQU/vzvoWsk3I4o/IMG_0167+tupac+amaru+plaza.JPG

Cusco, the ancient capital of the Incas



Colonial architecture (Cusco, Lima, Arequipa)



Lima, the capital



JR. CARABAYA — CUADRA 1
**CALLE DE
PESCADERIA**
LLAMADA ASI DESDE 1597, CUYOS SOLARES FUERON COMPRADOS POR LA CIUDAD
PARA CONSTRUIR LA CARCEL, EL PESO DE MOLINO, LA CARNICERIA Y LA PESCADERIA.



Colegio Fe y Alegría, Lima



Colegio Seminario San Carlos y San Marcelo, Trujillo

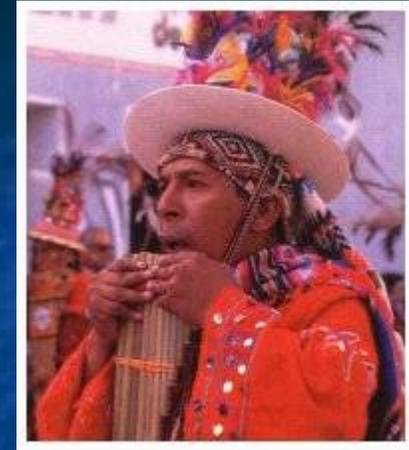


Traditional dances



Peruvian music

- Pre-Colombian Andean music used wind and percussion instruments.
- The most representative wind instruments are siku (Quechua) or zampoñas (Spanish). It is a set of panpipes with 2 rows of bamboo canes, seven in one and 6 in the other.
- Usually one player leads and the other follows. While symbolically this demonstrates reciprocity within the community, practically it enables players to play for a long time without getting too "high" from dizziness caused by over-breathing.
- The string instruments (charango, harps, violin) are based on instruments introduced by the Spanish.



http://www.kulcha.com.au/0303/Huaira_200.jpg



Peruvian jungle (Madre de Dios River)

In the rain forest one might see caimans, giant otters, anacondas, brown agouti, and a great variety of birds, frogs, and butterflies



Market in Cusco



And some unusual things...



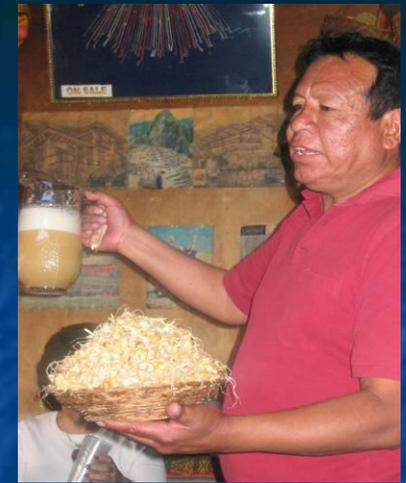


Strange food...

- **Coca tea (*Mate de Coca*)** This drink is used now as an antidote for altitude sickness.
- It is made from the coca leaf which has been used by the Peruvians for thousands of years to boost their energy levels and dull their senses against cold, hunger, and exhaustion.
- The Incas considered coca leaves a sacred object and used them as an offering to the god Inti.
- The leaves were also used by fortune tellers, and the native doctors.
- Following the Spanish conquest, the Catholic Church decreed the eradication of coca plantings because they believed that the plant had satanic powers.
- On the other hand the production of coca leaves increased at the same time because they were given to the Indians so that they would work harder and longer in the mines and on the plantations.



Inca cola



Chicha—fermented corn drink



Cuy—roasted guinea pig, local delicacy

Good food

- Peruvian food is a mixture of Japanese, Chinese, African, Spanish, Italian traditions, and Andean ingredients.
- It's a fusion, but a very balanced fusion made over the last few hundred years.
- The famous dishes are: ceviche (marinated raw fish), trout prepared in a variety of ways, chicharon (pork), alpaca, palta (stuffed avocado), and many other delicious Creole recipes.



History of Peru in murals (overview)











Peru = beautiful places



And beautiful faces



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Questions.

1. Where is Peru located?
2. Into what three distinctive geographical parts Peru is divided?
3. What mountain range goes through the center of the country?
4. What is the capital of Peru?
5. What are the official languages of Peru?
6. What cultures preceded the Inca civilization?
7. For how long did the Inca Empire exist?
8. What was the capital of the Incas?
9. What is the signature style of the Inca architecture?
10. What are the main gods of the Inca religion?
11. What does Pachamama represent?
12. What were the main crops during the Inca Empire?
13. What was the purpose of Machu Picchu?
14. What is a quipu?
15. What do you know about Inca mummies?
16. What is special about the Uros and Taquile communities on Lake Titicaca?
17. What Spanish conquistador started the conquest of Peru?
18. What was Atahualpa's ransom?
19. Who was the last Inca and why he is called that?
20. How were coca leaves used before and after the conquest?