

TASIS Dorado

Educational Magazine

FIFTH GRADE EDUZINE



EARLY CIVILIZATIONS

WORLD HISTORY
EDITION

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EARLY CIVILIZATIONS

About our Educational Magazine

Our marvelous fifth graders learned about nonfiction texts, text features, and how to research effectively. After acquiring all that information, they worked diligently to apply it all within an education magazine to share with other amazing TASIS Dorado learners and showcase their creativity through uniquely designed articles. Our students hope this written composition can inspire and help others during their writing process. Not only that, but they aspire to inform their readers about various early civilizations from all over Central and South America. Keep reading and learning with our outstanding authors of fifth grade!



EDUZINE

The Maya Life

By: Victoria P., MariaCristina, Amaia, Vivian, and Lola

Have you ever heard about the Ancient Maya civilization? Well, if you haven't, get ready to learn some new facts about an early civilization. First of all, the Maya civilization developed in parts of Mexico, all of Guatemala, Belize, and the western portions of Honduras and El Salvador. They had unique clothes and unique foods. If you want to keep learning about this amazing civilization, keep reading.

The Mayans played a game called pok-a-tok. They played with a rubber solid ball that weighed 8 pounds. The players needed to keep the ball in the air without using their hands.

- There is a mural that shows how the family members of the king lived luxury life.
- Rulers grew healthy.
- In that time, women wore beads in their hair.

The Mayans had hundreds of the different dances. Many of these dances are still practiced today. Some examples of the dances include the snake dance, and the dance of the stag.

ORIGINS

Throughout the centuries, the origin of the Maya remains murky. It's thought to have first emerged between 7000 B.C and 2000 B.C. The hunters gathered and abandoned their nomadic habits and created more permanent settlements. Recent analysis suggests those first settlers came to South America and developed their staple food, maize in 4000 B.C. Maize cultivation dramatically changed the Maya trajectory fueling the explosion of their society.





ARCHITECTURE

The Mayan architecture is best known for their great pyramids, temples, and decorative places. The architecture was built in all of Mesoamerica like El Tajin in the north of Copan in the south.

The Maya civilization was developed of independent city-states and consequently, so was their regional variations in architecture. Almost all buildings were constructed with precise attention to position, layout and a general style prevails.



FOOD

Ancient Maya food was usually corn, squash, beans (The three sisters), and chili peppers. Of all of these foods, corn was the most used to mash it up and make tortillas. Tortillas were used to wrap meat and beans, chili pepper tomatoes, avocados, pineapple, pumpkin, and sweet potatoes. Also, the hunters hunted animals to survive. In addition, they hunted deer, armadillos, monkeys, guinea pigs, turtles, and iguanas. The Mayans ate all of those things! What hunters caught from the sea were fish, shrimp, and lobster. This was the Mayans diet.

BELIEFS

In the Maya belief, the world began with only the sea and the sky. The gods chose to rule either the sea or the sky and explored their powers by connecting with the space around them. Then, a god from the sky and a god from the sea, each from a different realm, fought fierce creatures—a serpent from the sky and a hurricane from the sea—and helped each other create something new. These two wise Maya gods, called the "great thinkers," used their voices to fill the empty space with ideas. As they thought together, they came up with a word: "Earth!" they both said at once. And just like that, Earth was born!



CLOTHING

Men usually wore loincloth around the waist. Other times, they even used it with a cotton sleeveless shirt. On the other hand, women wore a kind of cloth called Huipi. Huipi is a loose fitting cloth with an open space for the head and some for the arms. Other women wore **trajes** which touched the floor and it was held by a sash. Some people still wear the Huipis and **trajes** in the Mexican culture. This is how men and women wore clothes in the Mayan culture.



In conclusion, the Maya civilization had a very unique way of living. They also had an outstanding way of thinking and incredible architecture. The Maya civilization had a variety of different foods. We hope you learn something new about the Maya civilization!

THE AZTEC CIVILIZATION

ARE THE AZTECS A MAJOR CIVILIZATION?

First, in 1428, under their leader, Itzcoatl, the Aztecs changed a three-way alliance with the Texicans and the Tacubans to defeat their most powerful enemies for influence to their region, the Tepanec, and defeat their capital of Azcapotzalco. Itzcoatl substituted Montezuma (Moctezuma) "I, who took power in 1440, was a great soldier who was remembered as the father of the Aztec empire".

By the early 16th century, the Aztecs had come to take over up to 500 small states, and some 5 to 6 million people, either by conquest or commerce. Tenochtitlán was the most densely populated city ever to exist in Mesoamerica. Busy markets such as Tenochtitlan Tlatelolco, visited by some 50,000 people on major market days, drove the Aztec economy. The Aztec civilization was also highly made socially, brilliantly, and beautifully. It was a correctly built society of Aztecs with a strict caste system; at the top were nobles, while at the bottom were servants or laborers, indentured servants, and enslaved workers. To finalize, the Aztecs went into war for the expansion of their region.



HOW WAS THE AZTECS RELIGION LIKE?

In the beginning, the Aztec faith shared many phases with other Mesoamerican religions, like that of the Maya, especially including the ritual of human sacrifice. In the great cities of the Aztec empire, magnificent temples, palaces, plazas, and statues visible the civilization's unfailing love for the many Aztec gods, including Huitzilopochtli (god of war and of the sun) and Quetzalcoatl ("Feathered Serpent"), a Toltec god who served many important roles in the Aztec faith over the years. The shocking Temple, or Templo Mayor, in the Aztec capital of Tenochtitlan was loyal to Huitzilopochtli and Tlaloc, the god of rain.

The Aztec calendar, common in much of Mesoamerica, was based on a solar cycle of 365 days and a ritual cycle of 260 days; the calendar played a main role in the religion and routines of Aztec society. To finalize, each temple was a representation for each god.



WHAT'S THE AZTEC CULTURE LIKE?

At the start, the Aztec Empire was a modern and highly organized empire that flourished in central Mexico from the early 14th century until the Spanish overthrow in the 16th century. The civilization was founded in the city of Tenochtitlán, which was a marvel of urban planning with shocking structures like pyramids and palaces. It was ruled by an emperor and supported by nobility, while a caste system structured the empire into many classes such as warriors, priests, traders, farmers, and slaves.

Also, the ruler, King Moctezuma was pursuing the empire's expansion, supervising the construction of new pyramids and enforcing a strict legal code that dictated social empire. Markets were a complex part of the economy, with guilds organizing sellers and markets caterers to different products. The Aztec legal system was strict, with severe punishments like execution by sharpening for cheating to selling thieves into slavery for the price of their theft.

In the end, the Aztec religion was central to Aztec society, involving rituals like human sacrifices to please the gods, increasing the displeasure of neighboring city-states. The social organization was highly stratified, with commoners paying tribute and the best and most successful warriors living rich. The Aztecs developed modern agricultural practices by transforming swampy lands into productive farmland and became one of the supreme forces in the region through conflict, trade, and alliances. However, with the arrival of the Spanish, the empire faced internal contentment, which the Spanish cheated taking advantage of their resources. In conclusion, the Aztec Empire was very strict and built breathtaking structures.

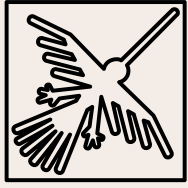
WHAT TYPE OF FOOD DID THE AZTECS HAVE?

The Aztecs' staples of their diet were maize, beans, and squash. To these, they added chilies and tomatoes. They also harvested acociles, an abundant crayfish-like creature found in Lake Texcoco, as well as Spirulina algae which they made into cakes. Meat was eaten sparsely; the Aztec diet was primarily vegetarian with the exception of grasshoppers, maguey worms, ants, and other larvae.

As time passed, the Aztecs began to use turkeys and ducks. Wild mushroom and other fungi were added to many dishes, including Huitlacoche – a mushroom which grows on ears of corn. This delicious fungus is gaining amazement in modern-day Mexican cooking! A surprising number of herbs and spices were used by the Aztecs to flavor foods. Also, the Aztecs knew how to preserve chiles by dehydrating and grinding them into powders, separating them by flavor – sweet, fruity, earthy, smokey, and hot. Other flavorings commonly used were achiote, epazote, hoja santa, garlic vine leaves, allspice and avocado leaves. To conclude, the Aztecs diet had a large and interesting variety of food.

To end, The Aztec Civilization had good techniques and ways of doing things. The Aztec soldiers also had great power for fighting in war and ruling cities. Sadly, the Aztec population started to decrease until they became extinct.





Nazca Civilization

100 BCE TO 800 CE



If you've ever studied ancient civilizations, you may have come across the Nazcas.

The Nazca Civilization lasted from 100 BCE to 800 CE. That's around 850 years! A long time, right?

Here are the timeline dates:

- Late Nazca AD 440–640
- Middle Nazca AD 300–440
- Early Nazca AD 80–300
- Initial Nazca 260 BC–80 AD
- Late Paracas 300 BC–100



What did they believe in? The Nazca were polytheistic. They believed in gods associated with the forces of nature and practiced rituals designed to promote agriculture and fertility.

As you can see, The Nazcas were a very amazing civilization. They had a very interesting way of living, and it was really worth researching! I hope you enjoyed this article!



The Nazcas had accidentally made it so they would die out by deforesting the plain, allowing a huge El Niño–fueled flood to ravage the Ica Valley about AD 500, researchers have found. The Nazcas died out because they destroyed their natural ecosystem.

The Nazca developed underground aqueducts, named puquios, to sustain cities and agriculture in this arid climate. The Nazca people lived on the southern desert coast and western slopes of the Andes in Peru.

What was the Nazca society like?

Nazca society was organized into urban regional centers of power ruled by priests and military leaders. The leaders were served by skilled craftsmen and soldiers. At the bottom of the social scale were farmers and fishermen who lived in villages close to where they worked.



The Mapuche people



About the Mapuche People

The Mapuche people were a tribe that was around for about 2,500 years and they had 1.3 million people! Their main language was Mapudungun. The Mapuche people ate a large variety of foods, and they wore a type of clothing called Chamal. If you want to learn more about the Mapuche people I would suggest reading more.

What the Mapuche people eat and how they got it.

The Mapuche people ate a lot of foods like **Guanaco**, **fowls**, and seafood. But that is just meat so you might be wondering "Why so little?" and "That's it?" but no, it's not only that. They also farmed food, including corn, wheat, potatoes, beans, **quinoa**, and squash.

The Mapuche people also practiced hunting and gathering techniques to help them get food. They hunted llamas, guanacos and other **cattle**. They gathered urchins, crabs, mussels and kelp. Also, they hunted seals to make tough leather helmets and armor.



Mapuche women wearing chamal

What language the Mapuche people spoke and if it's still spoken.

The Mapuche people's native language is Mapudungun. About 100,000 to 200,000 still speak Mapudungun according to "Center for Public Studies" in 2016. And just so you can learn a little bit of Mapudungun I'll teach you hi and bye. To say hi in Mapudungun you have to say **mari mari** and to say goodbye you would express **PewKallal**.

What the Mapuche people looked like and how they acted.

The Mapuche people wore a large, **woven**, square-shaped piece of cloth called Chamal and they wore it over their shoulders or head. The women wore a type of Chamal called Küpan which covered their ankles. The children also wore Chamal, but for them to be different from the adults, they didn't dye it.

The Mapuche people were proud, gentle people who respected the Earth. They didn't only defend their land from multiple attacks, they also defended their culture and their environment.



The Mapuche Flag

Conclusion

All in all, I think that the Mapuche people were a pretty smart clan. What I'm talking about is how the kids' chamals weren't dyed so their Chamals could be different from the adults, and also how one person learned how to hunt and gather food at the same time so they could get multiple types of foods all at once. Also, the fact that 100,000 - 200,000 people still speak Mapudungun, even after 2,623 years of existence is impressive. Well, I hope you learned at least one fact about them to tell your family and friends!

Glossary

Guanaco: A wild animal from South America that is closely related to the llama.

Fowls: All birds that can be eaten as food.

Quinoa: An edible plant that grows mostly in Peru and Bolivia.

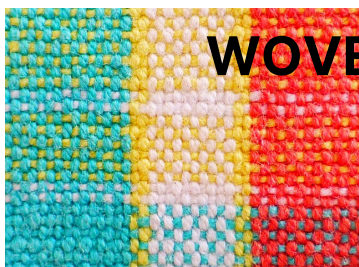
Cattle: An animal like a cow and ox that are used for their meat and milk.

Native: Something originated in a specific place.

Woven: Anything that's woven is made by braiding or intertwining threads or fibers

Culture: When a way of life is passed down from generation like beliefs, art, and food.

Environment: The area around where animals, plants, and people live.



WOVEN



QUINOA

The Lost Civilization of **The Olmec**

By: Zaevia, Emma, Victoria G., and Matías

The Olmec lived in the hot, sunny, humid lowlands along the coast of the Gulf of Mexico, in what is now southern Veracruz and Tabasco states in Southern Mexico. The name of the Olmec is Nahuatl in the Aztec language. The key to the Olmec's rise appears to have been known as a strong, centralized monarchy. It prospered in Pre-Classical (Formative) Mesoamerica from c. 1200 BCE to c. 400 BCE.

Who were the
Olmec?



Photograph of the
Olmec's colossal
head

The daily life of the Olmecs included farming, weaving, pottery, and games. They worked hard, but their lives still included fun. The men would go out and farm squash, beans, sweet potatoes, and even tomatoes. They had a lush and healthy farm which is good because they ate healthy and had energy to play and work. Men would also fish while the women would stay home and cook. When the men were hungry and sweaty they would have a delicious meal.

THE OLMEC

The Olmec Civilization's Life and Death



The Olmec did not have much writing beyond a handful of carved glyph symbols. They are known for the immense stone heads they carved from a volcanic rock called basalt, these heads greatly represent their culture. However, the Olmec population declined sharply between 400 and 350 BCE; Archaeologists speculate that the depopulation was caused by environmental changes, specifically by the silting-up of rivers, which resulted in a lack of water supplies. Changes in climate and natural disasters, such as flooding or drought, likely affected agriculture, which was central to Olmec society, and consequently, they suffered all those accidents.



The Olmec fishing and sculpting

Trading helped the Olmec build their centers in different towns. They also likely had gardens in which the Olmec would grow medicinal herbs and small crops, like sunflowers so everyone that was sick had the medicine to heal. As the population grew, social hierarchies may have become strained. Competition for resources and power could have led to internal conflicts or instability. Furthermore, the collapse of trade networks and a decline in the production of key resources might have weakened the economy. The rise of other Mesoamerican cultures, such as the Maya and the Zapotecs, might have absorbed or displaced Olmec influence. These factors combined with potential warfare or social upheaval, ultimately contributed to the dissolution of the Olmec civilization.

To conclude, the Olmec civilization lasted until 400- 350 BCE, as said before the population decreased because of environmental changes. This civilization was well known for their carvings and agriculture.

HUASTEC

Have you ever heard of the Huastec? Our guess is no, but you are in luck because at the end of this reading you will be experts about the Huastec. Well, we know what you're thinking, what's so special and interesting about a bunch of people? Well, we weren't sure at the beginning, but then we realized that there is so much we don't know and there is even more we can find out. We found out that the Huastec is an interesting, mysterious civilization that everyone should know about. At the end of this reading you won't only be experts but you'll be entertained by the fascinating things you all learned about. So, enjoy the adventure and dive into the fascinating lives of the Huastec!



Birth

Scientists don't know for sure where the Huastec civilization started, but they think they were connected to the Mayans. **Archaeologists** and **historians** think the Huastec people got to Mesoamerica way before 100 BCE, in what are now the states of Veracruz and San Luis Potosí. Historians and archaeologists are still trying to figure out the exact information so we can know. Let's give them our support so they keep investigating and teaching us more about the Huastec empire.



This is a Huastec God

Myths

The Huastec people believed in a god called Ehecatl, he was the god of wind, he symbolized the vital force that animated both nature and human endeavors. Ehecatl was actually a form of the main god Quetzalcoatl. The god Quetzalcoatl represented birth and death for the Huastec civilization.

One famous and important creation myth describes the tale of how the god, Tezcatlipoca, created the Earth. According to this tale, when the god, Tezcatlipoca, came out from the Earth, he formed the land and breathed life into it. This story reflects the Huastec's respect and love for the water and land. Another important god is Tlazolteotl, the goddess of fertility and purification. She is usually shown as a nurturer, representing both creation and destruction, reflecting the life itself.

In Huastec creation myths and beliefs, there were multiple important gods and goddesses. Some key gods were.

- **Tlaloc:** Was the rain god, associated with fertility and agriculture, symbolizing sustenance.
- **Tzitzimime:** Represented the stars and had important roles in cosmological events.
- **Cihuacoatl:** A mother goddess, often linked to childbirth and renewal, highlighting the importance of life cycles.

Each god had a special role in the Huastec myths. The Huastec empire respected and honored their myths and gods.

The Way of Life

The Huastec are different, they have a different culture and geography than the other Mayan people. They are farmers and corn is their best crop. Coffee is grown as well, along with many varieties of fruits and vegetables that gave the Huastec a meal to enjoy and a healthy diet. Poultry, pigs, donkeys, horses, and **cattle** are among the things they use. The smart architecture of the Huastec contributed to their houses. Regularly, the people have a few houses, they are round, and made of poles or bamboo with a straw covering for a roof. This is actually very impressive because the Huastec did not have cement bricks or pulleys that could help them.

Huastec commonly weaved henequen fiber into mats, bags, ropes, and hats. Men wear clothes from factories, and women are allowed to wear homemade blouses or dresses and knee length skirts, and scarves from a factory. More traditional clothing is worn for parties and special occasions.

The Decline of the Huastec

Sadly, the Huastec era eventually ended. Around 1450, the Huastecs fought hard but unfortunately, were defeated by Aztec armies under the leadership of Moctezuma. From that day on and forward the Huastecs paid tribute to the Aztec Empire but, retained a large degree of local self-government.

Sadly, the Spanish conquered the Huastecs and Aztecs between 1519 and the 1530s. After the Spanish Conquest, many Huastecs were sold as slaves in the Caribbean by the Spanish.

Glossary

Archaeologists: a person who studies human history and prehistory through the excavation of sites and the analysis of artifacts and other physical remains.

Cattle: large ruminant animals with horns and cloven hoofs, domesticated for meat or milk, or as beasts of burden.

Historians: an expert or student of history, especially that of a particular period, geographical region, or social phenomenon.



What Were the Huastec Known for?

The Huastec people historically lived north of the Totonacs in the northeastern corner of Mesoamerica, which helped their influence with distinct style of art. Their art was influenced by the coastal area resulting in shell artifacts.

The Huastecs were well known and admired for their wonderful work constructing temples on step-pyramids. They also carved independently beautiful standing sculptures, and they made marvelous, detailed painted pottery that was incredibly impressive artwork. Amongst their art they also made gaming stones, and platform pipes. They were admired for their abilities as musicians by other Mesoamerican people.



The incredible and mysterious civilization still is not totally known, but hopefully we keep learning new information about them every day. This interesting empire has great accomplishments that can still be admired today. Sadly, they did get conquered but there are still Huastec people out there carrying on their traditions and their beliefs. The Huastec Empire is an amazing empire that deserves respect and for people to learn about them.

By: Mackenzie , Alejandra H, Madison, Kamilah, Lillian

Caral- Supe Civilization



Sacred city of Caral-Supe Carvings

About the Caral-Supe Civilization

Do you know what the Caral-Supe civilization is? To start, the Caral-Supe civilization was a massive civilization situated in coastal Peru, around 5,000 years ago. Additionally, in this text you'll find out about the start of the Caral-Supe civilization and the elaborate territory they inhabited. You will also be learning about their beautiful agriculture. Finally, on how they declined and ceased to exist. In summary, this civilization is big and difficult to understand, so we are going to be trying to teach and show about this civilization named Caral-Supe.

Historical Geography

The Sacred City of Caral-Supe is on a deserted terrace, which has an overview of the green valley of Supe River. It was constructed during the Late Archaic Period of the Central Andes. This well preserved site has intriguing monumental stones and sunken circular courts, which contain impressive and complex designs. It is the oldest center of civilization in the Americas. The city's plan and some of its elements including structures of pyramids and elite residence, give clear evidence of ceremonies showing powerful religions. A quipu found there, is evidence on the complexity, and intelligence of the Caral-Supe civilization.



Map of Caral-Supe

Decline

October 2019 is the 25th anniversary of the beginning of the excavation at the archaeological site of Caral, in Peru. In this place, there was a civilization that began 5,000 years ago.

That civilization left due to climate change. It seems that what happened was that the earth seemed to have been not doing its job because of climate change; the way the environment worked for them changed drastically. With this happening, there was not enough food for both the animals and the people. Later, they started to leave and find new places where the earth was in better conditions, or they went to hunt for food.

The Start of it All

The Caral-Supe was a very old civilization. This civilization started in 5,000 BC. Furthermore, Caral-Supe was located in the central city of Perú on its coastline.

Caral-Supe Civilization



Irrigation system in the Caral-Supe civilization

At the end, you can clearly see the different ways the Caral used all these strategies to make successful irrigation and farming.

Agriculture

Have you learned about Caral Supe agriculture? Since the location of the caral supe is in a desert you might think, "Oh, how did they farm?" There was no water, but the rain and rivers gave plenty of hydration which they used to farm their crops like beans, squash, and potatoes. Cotton had a key role. It was first used for fishing nets. They also especially needed that cotton for making textiles and clothing which is obviously important.

In addition, before it was a small civilization, but after people settled in the city, and grew over time. In fact, the people of the Caral-Supe civilization negotiated a lot with the people around them who lived in the jungle. Archaeologists believed that the business they created made them advance technologically because they could share their knowledge with other jungle cultures. Above all, Caral-Supe was the main commercial center for all the groups around it. There was also water irrigation which benefited the Caral-Supe civilization. How was this irrigation? Well, they were like tunnels that hold water bringing them to other places. This technology is very intricate and delicate, so everything fits perfectly and the water would successfully pass to the farms and to the crops .

Glossary

Word #1: Archaeological: "The study of the distant past which often involves digging of old buildings." as stated in Scholastic Children's dictionary.

Word #2: Irrigation: A way to water plants using rivers or channels

Word #3: Excavation: Removing earth that is covering very old objects deep in the ground in order to figure out things about the past. The same as digging.

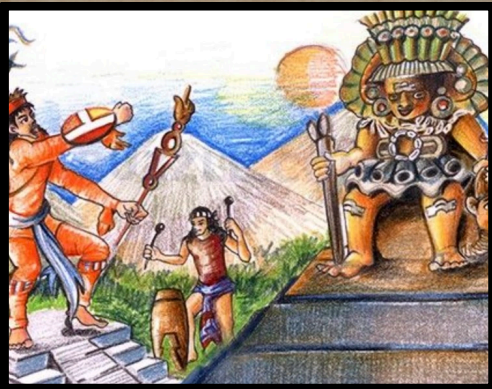
Based on all of this information, the Caral-Supe civilization has a very intriguing history. Starting with the unstable beginning of this outstanding civilization, to the harsh territory where they lived. Additionally, the civilization declined but had a tremendous journey. In the end, the Caral-Supe civilization had an outstanding legacy due to their intricate textiles, historical carvings, impressive technology, and colorful culture.

Zapotec

Since about 1500 BC, the Zapotec have lived in the Oaxaca civilization. Near the present-day city of Oaxaca, they built a political and cultural center at Monte Albá. The ancient city had pyramids, underground tunnels, temples, elaborate tombs, and a ball court. The Zapotec made a writing system and a written calendar. This writing system is thought to be one of the first writing systems in Mesoamerica. The Zapotec influence began to decline as the Mixtec civilization rose. Their region in the 1500s got conquered by the Spanish.



THE ZAPOTEC



The military unit structure comprised various types of soldiers, including infantry and professional warriors. These adaptable units allowed the Zapotecs to adapt their strategy to the specific requirements of each conflict, maintaining their effectiveness against both indigenous rivals and external threats.

In the end, we know that the Zapotec were very smart and efficient people. After harsh battles with the Aztecs, the Zapotec hoped not to battle the Spaniards, who were in the area. However, the Spaniards took advantage of their weakened state and ultimately defeated them.

The Inca Empire

THE BEGINNING

The Inca empire was the biggest pre-Columbian civilization occupying the Andes mountain and part of Colombia. This civilization left some artifacts that shocked scientists. The Incas also left some mysteries unsolved, like how they built temples and their writing style. Another impressive aspect was how they made jewelry and their mythology. Read on to find out more!

The Inca civilization began in the Andes Mountains with a small group of people who wished for a better life in Cuzco. At first, the Incas started very slow but then they started conquering other native tribes near them. According to the legend "Founding of Cuzco" say that Inti the god of the sun chose Cuzco for the birthplace of the Inca. In 1438 a powerful enemy threatened the Incas way of life. The Inca easily defeated them and their army grew bigger. After that, an empire was born.

The Incas were divided into four classes Sapa Inca, government, nobles, and commoners. The Sapa Inca was the emperor. The Incas believed that their Sapa Inca was chosen by Inti the sun god. Also heritage decided who was going to be the next Sapa Inca. There were four governors to help the Sapa Inca make decisions. However, if the Sapa Inca had no children he would have to pick the strongest governor. Nobles were the people who worked as priests, judges, army officers and tax collectors. Last, but not least the commoners were the rest of society including farmers, blacksmiths and builders.



An Inca city high up in the Andes Mountains

The Life in the Inca Empire



An alpaca in the Andes Mountains



The city of Machu Picchu

The Incas had many gods but the most important are Inti the god of sun and Viracocha the creator god. They worship them in sacred temples mostly during the midday or in sacred ceremonies. Farmers cultivated over 70 types of maize alone. Farmers grew an immense variety of crops like maize, coca, beans, grains, potatoes, sweet potatoes, ulluco, oca, mashwa, pepper, tomatoes, peanuts, cashews, squash, cucumber, quinoa, gourd, cotton, talwi, carob, chirimoya, lúcuma, guayabo, and avocado. Livestock was primarily llama and alpaca herds. While the farmers and nobles were working, the Sapa Inca [the king] was visiting Machu Picchu, "the city in the clouds". Machu Picchu is in Peru and some people call it the treasure of the Inca empire because it holds the temple of the sun and the temple of the three windows.

To summarize, the Inca civilization started very slowly and ended 100 years ago because the Spanish conquered it like most early civilizations. Still, they left many beautiful artifacts and cities like Machu Picchu. Also, their unique mythology was explained with their unique handwriting. To conclude, the Incas still live in the Andes but they are a very small society of people that still practice their rituals and beliefs.



Ancestors of the Incas



The Mixtec

By: Ella.S Emily.B Krisina.T Liv.T Skylar.E

The Mixtec Decline

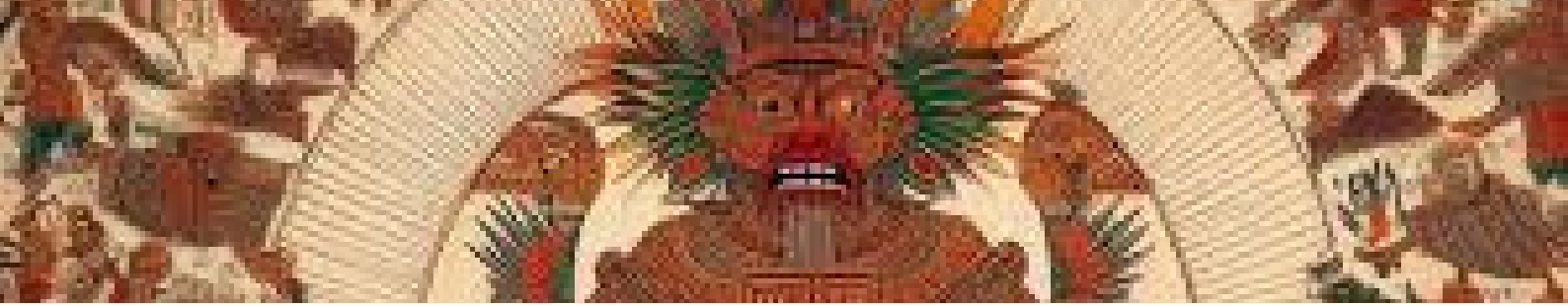
By 1521, news spread through the Mexican Valley that the Aztecs had been defeated by an unknown force with foreign looks and weapons. The Spanish had arrived. The Mixtecs were soon met by the Spanish army with Hernán Cortés who came to survey the valley and search for sources of Aztec gold. By 1528, the Spanish had begun to Christianize the Mixtecs and other groups in the Oaxaca area. By the 1600s, as in the rest of the Americas, the Mixtecs had no natural resistance to many of the deadly diseases that the Europeans took with them. Smallpox, chicken pox, measles, typhoid, and many other diseases affected them heavily. Unfortunately, over the next century, 90% of the Mixtec population was either dead or wiped out. For the rest of the population, they dispersed and most celebrated quietly their traditions.



How did the Mixtec Thrive?

The Mixtec Civilization was an advanced tribe who entered the Mexican Valley around 1100 CE. They ruled an area called Oaxaca until the Aztecs conquered them in the mid-1400's. World history is rich with many unique cultures and tribes, who throughout time competed and conquered each other. Sometimes through competition and war, these indigenous groups and their culture were lost, most cultures have been preserved through artifacts and some have been passed down throughout generations. Despite the conquering of Mesoamerica and the modernization of many cultures, the Mixtec culture is still alive with many people in this culture still practicing the beliefs and languages of their ancestors.





The Mixtec development

Mixtec civilization is one of the longest lasting Mesoamerican civilization, with over 500,000 members. The Mixtec came up from the rubble of the Maya empire collapsing in the 9th century. The Mixtec civilization honored and praised the gods, like most Mesoamerican civilizations, and they were almost as large as the Maya. They had to conquer a few other civilizations to survive in the beginning, but were generally peaceful when possible. By the tenth century, Mixtec city-states started to rise in what is today western Oaxaca, and the hallmarks of their civilization include some of ancient Mesoamerica's most intricate, magnificent, majestic, and beautiful works of art.

Myths Of The Mixtec

The Mixtec creation myth says that the universe was once only darkness and nothingness with dirty water. The first god and goddess changed themselves into human beings and worked on elements, creating a cliff to live on. The Mixtec's believed that every single object and living thing had a soul, and they used animal sacrifice, limited human sacrifice, and gave blood sacrifice. Most Mixtecs were converted to Catholicism, and now they practice a blend of both religions. They share this religious style with the Zapotecs and more civilizations from the area.



Most myths are either about the making of something or the stories of how things happen. Their creation myth shows how life was created starting with the Earth rising out of waters and lakes and the god and goddess coming to Earth.

As you can see, the Mixtec were an advanced civilization with hardworking people. The Mixtec had unique myths and had quite an interesting history. The end of the Mixtec came with being conquered. If you enjoyed reading this article, you should share it with other people.

PARACAS CULTURE

By: Francisco, Trey, Nicolás P, Dante, Mac

In this informational text, you will find a lot of information about how the Paracas culture became known for their culture and beliefs. You will also learn about the type of textiles the Paracas used. In addition, you will be informed about why the Paracas have elongated skulls. Finally, you will learn why the Paracas settled in Southwestern Perú and their culture and art.



What the Paracas wore back then and their looks.



The colorful pottery created by the ancient Paracas culture depicts a variety of abstract forms, people, and animals. Their creations perked up their drab surroundings on the southern Peruvian coastal desert more than 2,000 years ago. Now, researchers are discovering that these painted pots and other pottery are also providing important and surprising information on the unique science behind the pigments and how connections between the Paracas culture (900-100 B.C.) and other ancient Andean cultures changed over time. The multicolored designs on these textiles have a definite relationship to those of painted pottery and jugs of the contemporaneous and later Nazca culture. The multicolored designs on these tiles bear a definite relationship to those of painted pottery of the contemporaneous and later Nazca culture.

PARACAS CULTURE



Paracan sculpture

The southern coast of Peru was the home of two important regional cultures that are exemplary of a non-state sociocultural complexity, the Paracas and the Nasca. Also, geographically, these cultures extended for approximately 375 km along the desert coast, from the Cañete Valley in the north to the Acari Valley in the south. This arid strip of land was sandwiched between the foothills of the Andean Mountains to the east and the cold waters of the Pacific Ocean to the west, but was made habitable by several river systems carrying water from the high Andes. Farming, fishing, and hunting provided the main subsistence for these cultures.

In conclusion, this is why the Paracas Culture was an amazing civilization. First of all, they are known for their different methods of pottery. They also stand out due to their fascinating textiles. You also learned about the culture and art of the Paracas! Finally, the Paracas culture settled in Southern Peru and created a great lifestyle for themselves. We hope you enjoyed this text of the Paracas history!



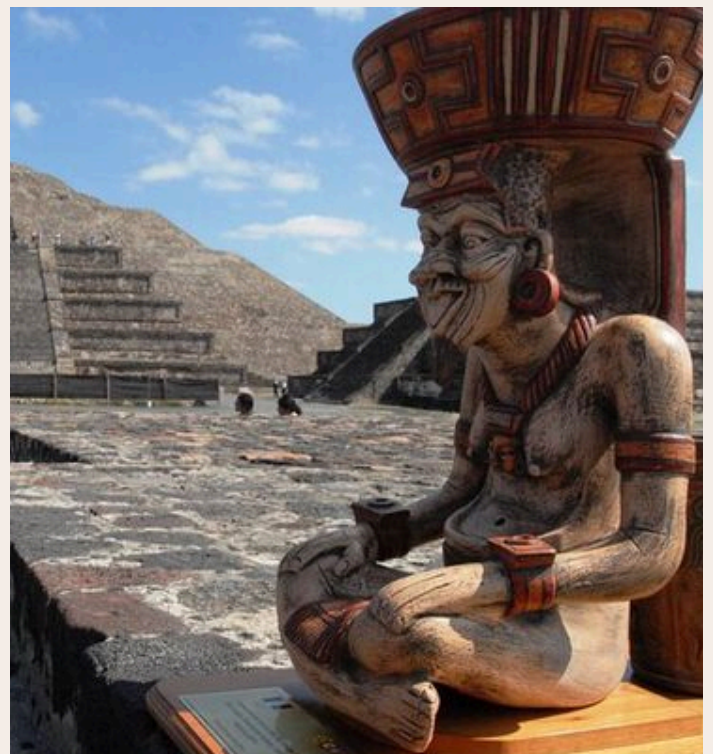
The Ancient Teotihuacan

The civilization and ways of life, which can be referred to as Teotihuacan or Teotihuacano, is believed to have existed confirmed around 100 BCE, with important structures consecutively under construction until about 250 CE. It started as a new religious center in the Mexican Highland and the vast population was attracted to the city over a few centuries. It may have survived until sometime between the 7th and 8th centuries CE, but its immaculate monuments were ruined and systematically burned to the ground around 550 CE. At its zenith, around the first half of the first millennium CE, Teotihuacan was the most populated city in the pre-Columbian Americas, with a population estimated at 125,000 or more. Its varied population made it, at minimum, the sixth biggest city in the world during its aging. The city eventually included multi-floor apartment compounds built to accommodate this giant population.

The founders of this population estimated at 125,000 or more. Its varied population made it, at minimum, the sixth biggest city in the world. The city eventually included multi-floor apartment compounds built to accommodate this giant population.

The founders of this religious and populous city remain undiscovered to scholars of the terrain. Some have speculated that the Xitle volcano, which is detected southwest current Mexico City, may have caused a mass emigration out of the central valley and into the estimated at 125,000 or more.

These displaced settlers may have discovered, or at least helped grow, the city. As a religious center, Teotihuacan showed its most distinguished gods and goddesses in murals and architecture. The Great Goddess of Teotihuacan appears to be the most well-known of these deities, and she likely represented the underworld, war, creation, water, and the earth. Evidence of human offerings to honor the completion of buildings or special times of the year has also been exposed by archeologists. Slaves from wars were beheaded, had their hearts removed, were compressed, or were buried alive to commemorate these momentous occasions.



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The geographical layout of Teotihuacan is a good example of the Mesoamerican heritage of planning cities, settlements, and buildings as a reflection of the Universe. Its urban grid is aligned precisely 15.5° east of North. One belief says this is due to the factuality that the sun rose at that same angle on the same summer day each year. Settlers used the alignment to calibrate their sense of time or as a pinpoint for planting crops or performing certain rituals. A different theory is that there are numerous ancient sites in Mesoamerica that seem to be oriented with the tallest mountain in their given territory. This appears to be the case at Teotihuacan.



Pecked-cross circles throughout the city and in the surrounding area indicate how the people managed to support the urban grid over large distances. It also allowed them to orient the Pyramids to the distant mountain that was out of sight.



Teotihuacan: means "the place where the gods were created".

There is a continuing debate about why Teotihuacan crumbled and the population ditched this city center. Evidence of climate changes, which caused severe droughts around 535 CE, suggests there was a general population diminish in the region. In fact, archeological digs have exposed juvenile skeletons with signs of malnutrition, which probably forced populations to move and caused internal social strife. Further archeological evidence reveals that only the buildings connected with the elites along the Avenue of the Dead were sacked and burned. This type of activity suggests there might have been internal unrest and possibly a rebellion against the elite power structure, which caused the decline of the city.

THE TOTONAC CIVILIZATION

HOW TOTONAC THRIVED

The Totonac culture was an Indigenous Mesoamerican tribe. Their people lived mainly in Veracruz and northern Puebla. Originally they formed a confederation, but in later times they arranged in three territories north south and Serran. However, in later times, it seems that they were organized in three dominions: North, South and Serran.

The word Totonaco is recognized as the name of this Amerindian ethnic group by its own members as claimed by the oral the Totonaco is derived from two words in their language most frequently tutu three and naku heart the interpreted over which is noted by Kelly and Paierm 1952 is that the name refers to the three historical canters of the Totonac population. The exact locations of these three centers vary according to historical references and regional tradition.



TOTONAC CARVING



TOTONAC MEDITATION

Today, the Totonacs still worship their old gods, but they blend them with the Christian Catholic saints. The Totonac people were very religious. The Totonac people had three gods named Mictlantecuhtli Quetzalcoatl and Centeotl. The Totonac believed in many different things but they also made sacrifices to their sun god.

Totonac people are known for their amazing carving skills . To date, anthropologists have found many U-shaped, stone objects with beautiful and intricate designs. Today, the Totonacs still venerate their old gods, but they blend them with the Christian Catholic saints. For example, Morning Star personifies their principal god, the sun god, Chichini. They also practice the Catholic sacraments of nameing, communion, justification, and marriage. Some Totonacs are Protestant.

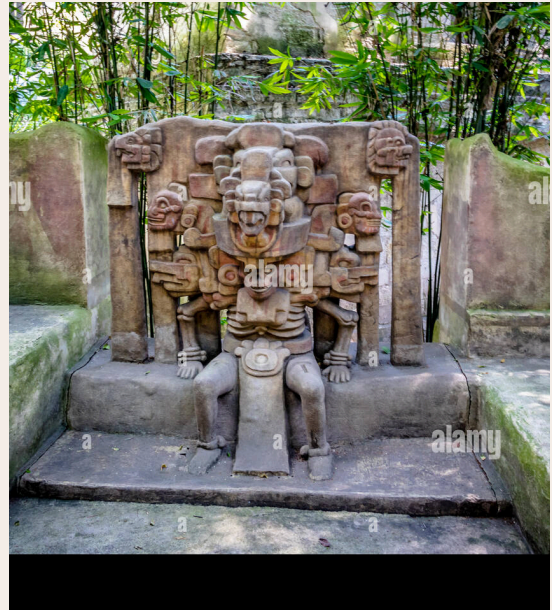


TOTONAC TEMPLE
RUINS

THE TOTONAC CIVILIZATION

Techniques & Culture

Totonac, Middle America Indian population of east-central Mexico. Totonac culture is in many ways similar to other MesoAmerican culture, but it possesses some features not seen elsewhere in Middle America and more likely related to the circum-Caribbean cultures. The Totonac inhabit two types of environment—high mesa, cool and rainy, and coastal lowland, hot and mostly humid and there are corresponding differences in cultural patterns.



The tradition of the Totonacs claims that their ancestors assisted in the creation of the ancient city of Teotihuacan, an impressively sized city with multiple temples and ceremonial areas built on a large scale. The Totonac were very intellectual they had many skills like architecture hunting and many more. The Totonac had to adapt to the jungle. The Totonac had their capital in Veracruz and also lived in Sierra norte de Puebla. The Totonac had many traditions such as human sacrifices they held the sacrifice by offering the victim's heart to Tonatiuh this was a common thing in Totonac lives and so was bloodletting.

TOTONAC CAPITAL

The Great CHIMU EMPIRE



The red area represents Peru which is where the Chimu Empire was located.

The Chimu Empire, also known as The Kingdom of Chimor, lived and thrived on the northern coast of Peru between the 12th and 15th centuries. With their capital at Chan Chan (the site of the ancient capital city of the Chimu people), the Chimu were the largest and most successful culture in the late middle period and created the second-largest empire in the history of the ancient Andes. Their architectural approach to regional government and art would also go on to influence their more famous successors, the Incas.

The Chimu built cities and constructed large-scale **irrigation systems**. The Chimu were also big on agriculture and engineering. They built blocks, streets, great walls, **reservoirs**, and pyramid temples all made of **adobe** mud. After that, the population must have numbered many thousands. There also were some pottery makers. They also loved fishing, **agriculture**, craft work, and trade. Some groups relied on **marine** sources such as fish, and precious shells. The Chimu grew and got more power over a lot of years through good farming skills and water works.



(The Chimor) was the political grouping of the Chimu, and later was conquered by the Inca

They eat potatoes, **quinoa**, and corn and berries. On a special **day**, they ate Guinea pigs, deer, llama, duck, and fish. The Chimu also believed that if you ate the Maca root before going into battle, it gave you strength. The Chimu also ate beans, sweet potatoes, papaya, and cotton.

More About the Chimu Empire



Did you know that the Chimu Empire is known as The Kinimu Empire? Firstly, the Chimu empire was a civilization that used the northern coast as part of their land. Also, Peru was formed from around 900 CE until 1470 CE. The Chimu started in the capital Chan Chan, and their influence grew an impressive 1,300 km along the edge of northern Peru. That made them the second-largest empire in ancient Andes!

In 1465 to 1470, it all came crashing down, they were conquered by the Inca Empire under Pachacuti (ex-leader of the Incas) Inca Yupanqui and his son Topa Inca Yupanqui. The Inca consumed a lot of the Chimu high culture, including their **political organization**, **irrigation** systems, and road **engineering**, into their own **imperial organization**. He led a fierce and well-organized army northward of Peru. The Chimu Empire was unfortunately the last **substantial** rival culture standing in the way of the Inca quest to **conquer** the whole region of Peru.

The marvelous success of the Chimu was from their good agricultural techniques. They built highly hydraulic systems using canals, which went to large valleys forming hard systems. The Chimu also used achaques, sunken farms, to work with the rich soil. Also, they used big reservoirs to retain the water they got more from their hydraulic systems. These and many other techniques made the Chimu unique and capable during their times.

WARI

By: Catherine, Ricardo, Dallin, Hunter and Nael

History of the Wari

The Wari started around 600 CE in Peru's Ayacucho Basin, then they lived in the Andes mountains with the Inca. The Wari started a well organized civilization as their population grew and grew, they became better stone workers. Even though the Inca and the Wari were much alike, they had many contrasts.

The Wari were amazing stone workers and gifted builders; their cities were all well organized. This civilization was also smart and strong when it came to protecting their land, little by little they became more powerful in battle strategy.



Architecture of the Wari

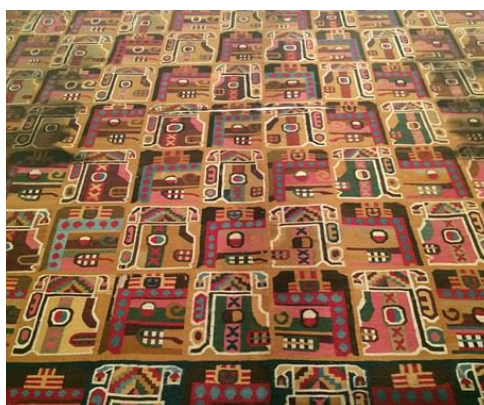
The Downfall of the Wari



In the time of the Wari it was believed that their fall was tied to a thirty year drought, although the exact causes of Wari decline are not known, theories range from cause to cause, but it isn't really known. The region returned to a situation of dangerous events for several centuries. It is said that there were disease outbreaks and war over land with outsiders, these are some of the reasons that the Wari population was reduced by nearly 50%. Its decline is poorly understood, but by 1100 AD the Wari Empire had broken down into several subgroups, which eventually were conquered by the Incas. The empire lasted for about 500.



Culture of the Mighty Wari



Textiles of the Wari.

The Wari worshiped the staff god, a chief deity in many Andean cultures. They made many sacrifices for him; they sacrificed a variety of animals and they would rarely make a human sacrifice. The Wari people survived independently many years as the largest in size of groups of Chapakuran speakers, an isolated language family. According to their traditional beliefs, when one of their family members died they would eat the body so their life could forever be with them.



The Wari people with their gods

Dead relatives go to an underground world from which they return in the form of wild, pig-like animals called peccaries. When a Wari citizen dies they are passed from the realm of the living to the next realm and then released to the realm of the dead, releasing the person's spirit and letting it transform into a reliable form of edible prey or a source of food (a white-lipped peccary). They worshiped ancestral deities and made offerings to both ancestors and the supernatural in many ways.



Wari pottery

In conclusion, the Wari seemed like they could survive anything, however, that is false. When the drought struck the Inca took advantage of it that is why when you look at the Inca map you can see that their territory is over the Wari empire because they conquered it. The Wari was a great empire with impressive beliefs, strong culture, a unique language and vast talents. This civilization has fallen, but it lives on in history.

Toltec Empire

The Toltec rulers led a warrior society that included a storm god (Aztec Tlaloc or Maya Chaac), with Quetzalcoatl at the heart of the origin myth. The Toltecs offered both animals and humans as sacrifices. Many walls also called friezes in Tula represent or show warriors or animals eating human hearts. Just like the Aztecs, the Toltecs most likely sacrificed people who were captured in battle; believing it would gain the favor of the gods who they believed to be fierce and bloodthirsty.



A map indicating where the Toltec empire was located.



Quetzalcoat's mask.

In conclusion, the Toltec Empire had unique myths, interesting culture and an interesting backstory for their king and his family. Also, the Toltec were really advanced and really smart. In addition, the Toltec had really beautiful structures and architecture. Finally, they were really powerful in war and were a really intelligent tribe.