Inca





1438-1533

Geographical impact on society

- Located along western South America
 - Modern day Columbia, Equador, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, and Argentina
- Spread over deserts, plains, mountains, and rainforest
- Desert and jungle acted as natural barriers, causing them to be isolated from other civilizations

Political system

- Empire divided into 4 suyus
 - Chinchay Suyu (NW), Anti Suyu (NE), Kunti Suyu (SW), Qulla Suyu (SE)
- Each suyu was overseen by an apu mallku (governer) who was a military leader and close relative of the emperor (Sapa Inca)
- There were class systems but an element of equality was maintained
- Social security

Economic system

- The Incas had no form of currency, instead they were rewarded with gifts for a job well done.
 - Although there was no form of currency, the Inca still had social classes.
 - Curacas were leaders who organized people and jobs
 - Sapa Inca, which means sole ruler, was the king and the queen was called Coya
- Taxes were paid in precious metals, textiles and other goods.

Beliefs and Religion

- The Inca were polytheistic and worshipped many Gods.
 - They worshipped Gods such as the Sun God, the Thunder God, the Earth Goddess, the Sea goddess and the Moon Goddess.
 - Above all of was Viracocha- the great creator.
- The Inca worshipped animals as well and believed in Huacas, which are animistic spirits that inhabited everything in nature
- They also worshipped stone outcrops, mummies and stone idols.

Rise of Civilization

- Manco Capac and his 3 brothers and 3 sisters emerged from a cave as the first incas
- Founded the capital city of cuzco in 1100
- Inca civilization began to expand in the late 1300s

Art and Architecture

- Constructed buildings with stone blocks that fit together so perfectly that no mortar was needed
- fountains, plazas, and temples trimmed or covered in gold and silver
- Road network that covered 24,854 miles
- Rest stations built along roads for runners who relayed messages from one village to another
- Bridges built over streams and between mountains



Writing System and Written History

- They had no writing system
- Used bundles of cord called quipus to keep their numerical records

Major Technological Advances

- Agriculture
- No wheels or animals used for work, so human labor was necessary to run messages, work farms, etc.
- Blowguns, bow and arrows, spears flung with a spear thrower, and slings made of braided yarn
- Sleds, levers, and ropes
- Advanced forms of architecture
- Highly decorated pottery and ceramics despite not having a pottery wheel

Golden Age

- The inca civilization flourished between 1400 and 1532
- They were able to create road networks and produced gold, silver, copper and bronze.
 - The Inca were also very skilled weavers
- Their civilization flourished until the spanish conquest in 1532

Famous Citizens and their Achievements

- A well known Inca is pachacuti inca Yupanqui
 - He built the Machu Picchu and conquered the chanca and Chimu tribes
- Another well known Inca is Inca Tupac Yupanqui
 - Inca tupac doubled the size of the empire and defeated the Lupakas, Wankas and the callas



Slavery

- The Incas never really enslaved other humans, but they did conquer many tribes
- The inca people were conquered by the spanish in 1532, and were then enslaved by the spaniards.

Fall of Civilization

- The inca were conquered by the spanish in 1532 under the command of Pizarro
- The spaniards were outnumbered, but better equipped and easily defeated the Inca
- They demanded gold and silver as ransom from the Incas, and the incas paid it
- Pizarro executed atahualpa, the Inca king at the time, and took control of Cuzco, ending the inca once and for all.

World Wide Contributions

- Machu Picchu and other tourist sites
- Nothing they had was ahead of it's time or different from any other ancient civilization

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