THE INCA EMPIRE

C 600-1810
SOCIETY

- We can define the Inca Culture in one sentence; it was a free of hunger society. It was because the Incas agriculture plus the Incas brought peace and protection for the Hatunruna or standard citizen. By the end of our timeframe this society was totally destroyed.
BELIEFS AND VALUES

- The Incas worshiped a pantheon of nature gods and goddesses. The most important were: Inti (the sun god), Viracocha (the creator), Illapa (the weather/thunder god), Pachamama (the earth goddess), Mamacocha (the sea goddess), and Mamaquilla (the moon goddess). Inti was considered to be omnipotent and the highest god. The Incas believed that the members of the royal family were direct descendants of first emperor, Manco Capac and his sister-wife, children of Inti. (The emperor always married his sister as his official wife, therefore his heir was a pure-blood descendent of Inti and ruled with authority.)
Some children were sacrificed to the mountain gods around the ages 8-10. These children had to be perfect, their hair was braided, they were covered in the most delicately woven tapestry, they usually came from noble families and they were honoured to be chosen for the sacrifice. Recently mummified remains of these sacrificed children have been found at archaeological digs in Peru.
Inca clothing was closely related to a person's status in society. It was regarded a privilege to wear clothing. Their clothing was made of wool or cotton depending on the location and was usually woven or knitted. Most people wore loosely fitted tunics which were held together by metal pins.
The common people's clothing was rather plain and the upper class wore brighter colors, sandals and jewellery. Beads and feathers were worn by the wealthy. Face and body paint was readily used as a ceremonial custom. Inca men and women always married in the same social class. The bride's parents would choose a husband based on the price offered. The groom's parents did the negotiating with the bride's parents.
SPANISH INVASION

- The Spanish soldiers taking over the Inca Empire was one of the most important campaigns in the Spanish colonization of the Americas. After years of introductory exploration and military brawls, 169 Spanish soldiers under Francisco Pizarro and their native allies captured the ‘Sapa Inca Atahualpa’ in the 1532 Battle of Cajamarca.
SPANISH INVASION (CONT.)

- It was the first step in a long campaign that took decades of fighting but ended in Spanish victory and occupation of the region as the Viceroyalty of Peru. The conquest of the Inca Empire led to spin-off campaigns into present-day Chile and Colombia as well as expeditions towards the Amazon Basin.
In 1528 the Inca Empire was huge, like the map in the bottom left corner shows. It was very mountainous and the one side of the mountains never saw the other side. There was roughly 16 million (16,000,000) people in this civilization which was made up of heaps of different cultures and backgrounds.
SPANISH INVASION (CONT.)

- Spanish soldiers lead by Pizarro made first contact with the Inca Empire which ruled parts of the present-day Peru, Ecuador, Chile, Bolivia and Colombia. Within 20 years the Inca Empire was in ruins.
The Inca Empire was a cohesive unit ruled by 1 dominant ruler, Huayna Capac. He died however so his 2 sons fought over his empire. For 4 years a civil war raged over the Empire and in 1532 Atahualpa emerged victorious. It was at this precise moment when the empire was in ruin, that Pizarro and his men shown up; they were able to defeat the weakened Inca armies.
Conquest was around here

To here somewhere
TIMELINE

- 400 CE - Inca tribe first mention via myths and legends in Peru

- 1200 CE - City of Cuzco is formed. Manco Capac is the first ruler.

- 1400-1500 CE - Incas conquer other tribes. Expand Empire to 2500 miles long and about 500 miles wide

- 1525 CE - Civil War

- 1531 CE - Pizarro brings Spanish to the Inca Empire. He kills Emperor Atahualpa - the Inca ruler.

- Today - Descendants of the ancient Incas still live in the modern day country of Peru in South America
INCA LIFESTYLE

- When the Inca got up in the morning they didn’t have to get dressed, because they slept in their clothes. Women wore long gowns with a sash at the waist. Men wore loincloths and shirts without sleeves. Both men and women wore sandals.

- The average house had only one room made out of stone or brick. Normally it had a thatched roof. There were no beds or mattresses, so the whole family had to sleep on the floor.

- The Inca lived in small villages. Even Cuzco, the capital, was not a very large city.
There was almost no crime in the Inca Empire, Inca laws were very harsh. Punishment was swift.

- If you insulted the inca, cursed the gods, or committed a murder you were thrown off of a cliff.
- If you were caught stealing or cheating you had your hands and feet cut off.
- There were lesser punishments, you could be stoned or tied to a wall and left to freeze.
Pizarro was a very important person, he was the leader of the Spanish conquest. Pizarro was motivated by greed.