

Chapter 11

The Americas on the Eve of Invasion



Teotihuacán and Mayan control

**Maya collapsed in the 8th
century-replaced by the
Toltecs**

**built a large empire in Central
America**



Teotihuacan





Maya Region

Archaeological Site

Trade Route

ZAPOTEC Indigenous Group



Toltec heritage-
commercial influence into
the American SW and into
the Mississippi and Ohio
River valleys

around 1150-replaced by
the Aztec (Mexico)



Areas of the Aztec and Mayan Empires

**Came into the region in
force in the 14th century
and centered their
civilization in what is now
central Mexico**

**Cities of Tenochtitlan and
Tlatelolco founded in
around 1325**

**Society centered on the
clan...very militant and
warlike**

**felt they were a people
chosen to serve the gods-
human sacrifice very
important**



Aztec Calendar

Sacrificial Altar





**Military class supplied war
captives to be sacrificed**


**by the time of Moctezuma
II the ruler had both civil
and religious power**





Religion

**gods of the natural and
spiritual world were the
same. Numbered in the
hundreds...both male and
female**



3 main divisions:

- 1) fertility, agriculture,
maize and water**
- 2) creators-Tezcatlipoca-god
of the night sky**
- 3) warfare and sacrifice-
Huitzilopochtli-sun god
(gained strength from
human sacrifice)**



Huitzilophtli

Quetzalcoatl-civilization and learning



god of agriculture

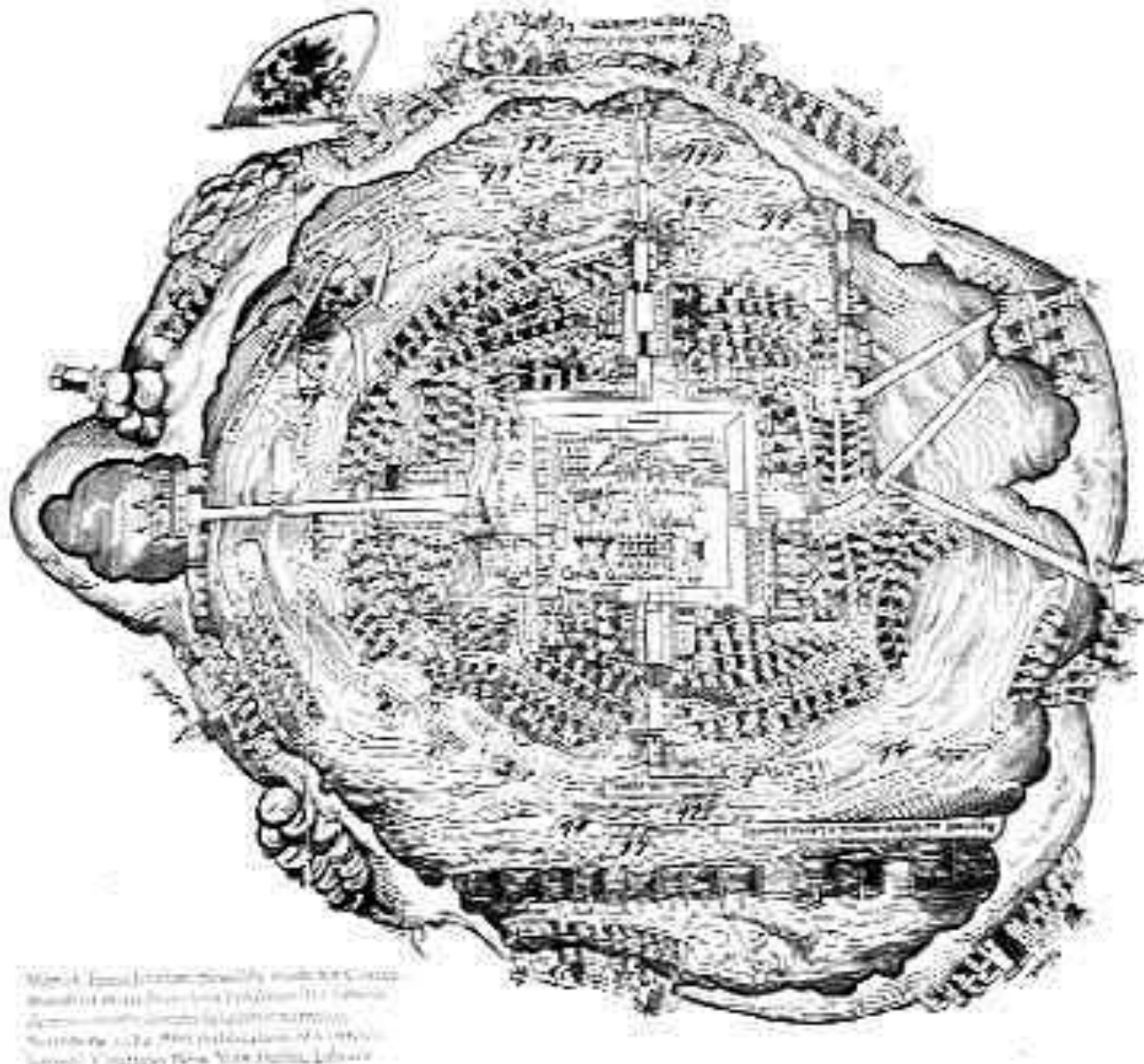


**Had a fatalistic view of
history-the world had
been destroyed before and
would be destroyed again**

Tenochtitlan-the Foundation of Heaven

a sacred city

**by 1519 covered 5 square
miles and was home to
150,000 people connected
to the mainland by 4
causeways**



Map of Tenochtitlan-possible drawn by Cortez

**The economy-centered
around feeding the people**

**government was a
confederation**

**conquered people lost
their land and had to pay
the Aztecs in food**



**Built chinampas-floating
islands-in the lakes to
grow food on...could raise
multiple crops**

**peasants supplied the food
and worked on the
buildings**



**Economy was state
controlled-tribute,
markets, commodities, use,
and distribution of good**

***Read 249-250 document and answer
questions***

Read 246-252 for tomorrow

do map work assignment

**Aztec society became
more and more
hierarchical.**

**The calpulli organization
survived, but social classes
began to appear**



**Calpulli organization-clan
rule. Residential groups
distributed land and
provided labor and
warriors**

New social classes:

nobles (pipiltin)

priesthood

military

scribes

artisans

healers

workers

commoners

Women

numerous roles in society:

- *work in the fields**
- *keep the household**
- *weaving**
- *elders trained young girls**
- marriages arranged**

Nobles polygamous
Commoners monogamous

women could inherit property
worked many hours due to
no milling technology

but men ruled
population got up to about 25
million

**Each city was ruled by a
chosen noble**

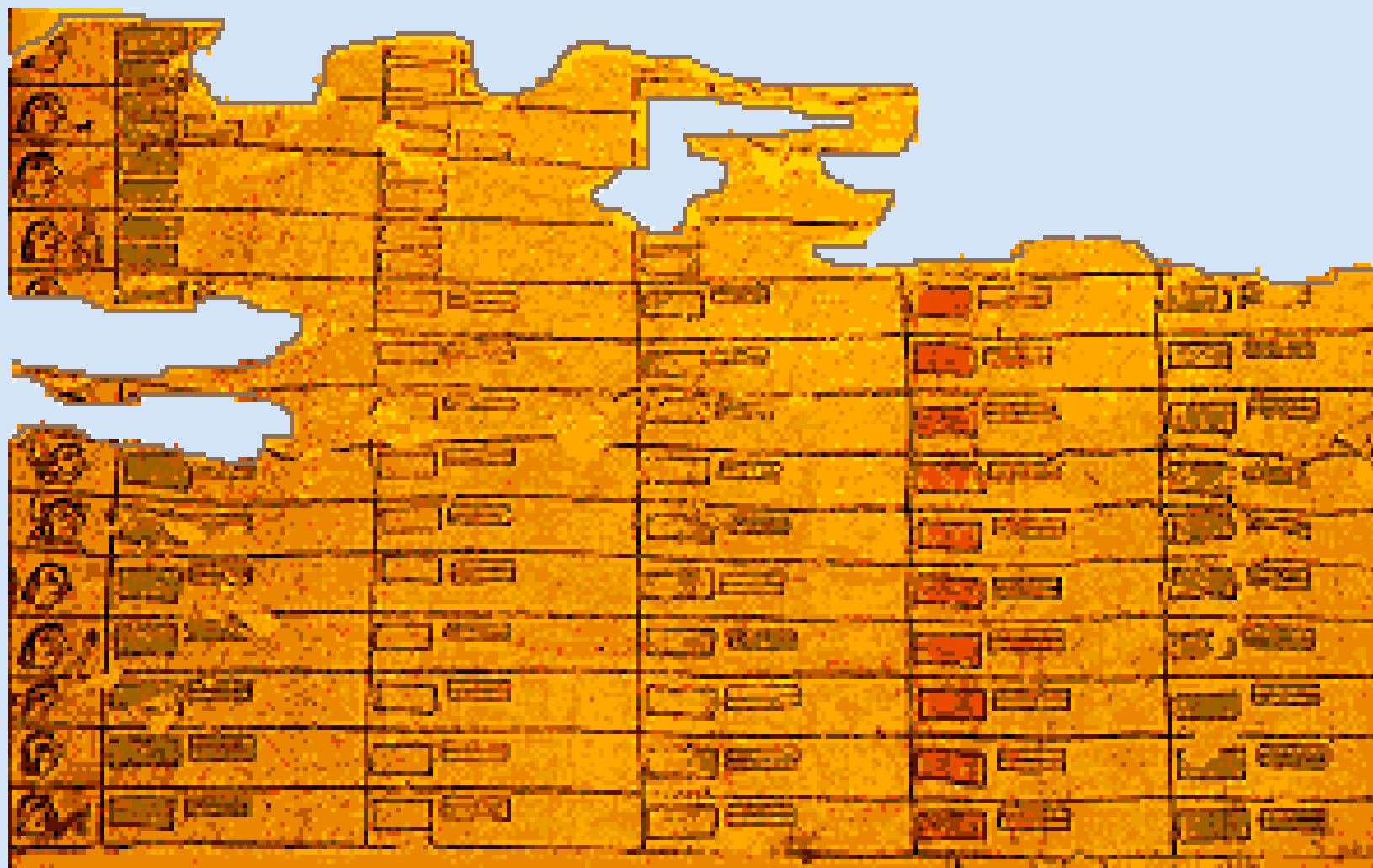
**The ruler of Tenochtitlan was
supreme (the Great Speaker)**

**Had a set court and a prime
minister
the nobility and the emperors
were the true power**

**The military and the virtues
of the military became more
important than religion**

**Local rulers were kept in
place to collect tribute**

**If city states did as they
were told, they were left
alone**



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**Allowed the Aztecs to
dominate without having to
take control of a territory**

**however, this would help the
empire fall**



**Tribute served both an
economic and political
function...concentrated
power and wealth in the
capital**

**Revolts against tribute were
dealt with harshly by the
Aztecs**



young girl



boy



married woman



warrior



Aztec Hairstyles

Human Sacrifice



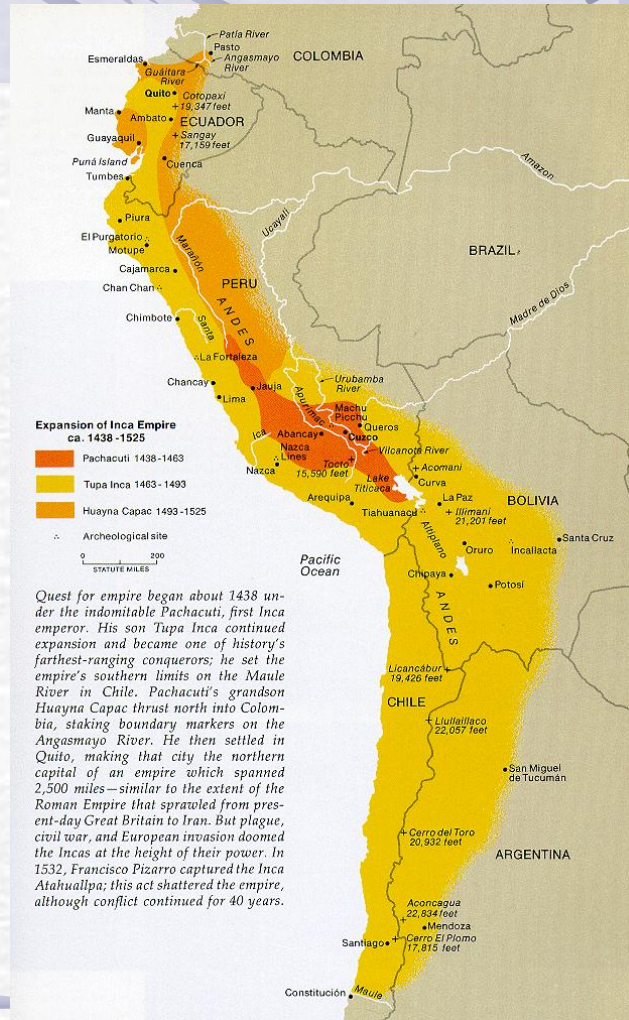


Ruins of Tenochtitlan



Ruins under a church in Mexico City-why there?

The Inca





Empire called Twantinsuyu

**started as one of many tribes
fighting for supremacy in the
high Andean plains**



First powerful state-Chimor **capital city called Chan Chan**



Quechua peoples around the city
of Cuzco won control of the
territory that had belonged to the
Huari people



1438-under Pachacuti, they
began campaigns to take control
of the region



Topac Yupanqui conquered Chimor and extended Inca rule from Ecuador to Chile



Huayna Capac consolidated the
conquests...empire stretched
from Colombia to Chile and from
Bolivia to Argentina

Reasons for expansion:

- 1) economic gain and political power**
- 2) split inheritance (political power to the rulers successor...wealth and land to the male descendants to support the cult for the dead leaders mummy)**



**Political and social life centered
around religion**

Highest deity-sun

**ruler was the god's
representative on earth**

**state religion centered around
the Temple of the Sun in Cuzco**





Temple of the Sun



Temple of Fertility



Inca Wall



Inca Fort



Also worshiped local gods

Animistic

**worshiped natural
phenomenon**




Inca Rule

Capital city was Cuzco


**Empire divided into 4 provinces,
under a governor
ruler (curacas) ruled by being
loyal to the emperor**

**exempt from tribute and got
labor from subjects**



**Sons educated in Cuzco
Quechua language, use of
colonists (mitmaqs) and forced
transfer of people integrated the
empire**

**built a system of roads, bridges,
causeways and way stations
(tambos), storehouses to help
the movement of the military**





Inca Fort




Inca Road



Inca Bridge



Inca road system



**Conquered peoples supplied
labor and land, served in the
military, and could be
rewarded for new conquests**

**All resources were
distributed among the
people, state and religion**



**Labor was demanded rather
than tribute**

**women had to weave cloth
and could be taken as
concubines or as temple
servants**

**each community controlled by
the ayllus (clan)**

Most males were either peasants
or herders



Women worked in the household,
wove cloth and worked the farm



**Property passed to both men
and women**

**men still dominant because of
military
virtues**





**Gods and goddesses were
important in both sexes**

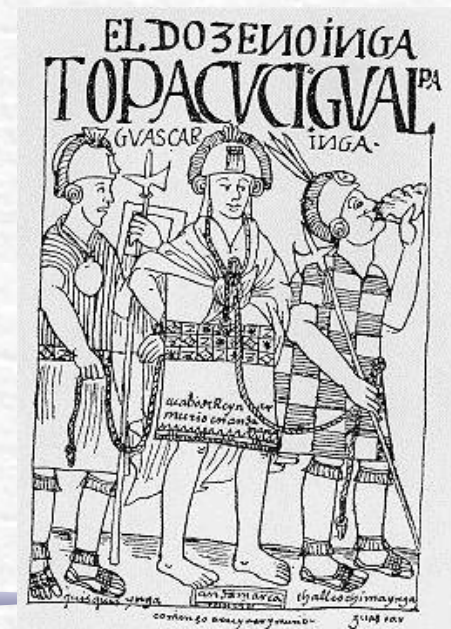
**women tied to the moon,
fertility, the earth and corn**

**rulers wife was the link to the
moon**



Dress helped establish nobility and privilege

state ran the economy so
there was no merchant class





Cultural Achievements

**pottery and cloth,
metallurgy
quipa, architecture**





