

# Inca Daily Life

The ayllu was a group of families that worked a portion of land together.

Everyone in the Inca Empire was a member of an ayllu

The daily life of a peasant in the Inca Empire was full of hard work.

They also had to pay taxes to the government.

The women cooked, made clothes, and took care of the children. Most girls were married by the time they were twelve years old.

The Inca nobles lived a much easier lifestyle. They still had to work, but had important jobs in the government. They could own land and didn't have to pay taxes.

The men wore long sleeveless shirts or tunics. The women wore long dresses

The type of hairstyle you wore told people your social status.

Most of the people lived in adobe brick homes with thatched roofs..

Corn, squash, and beans were the main staples of their diet, but they ate other things as well including tomatoes, peppers, fish, and ducks.

If someone couldn't work or was too old to work on the fields, the government took care of them and made sure they had enough food.

Only the wealthy children went to school.

Children were left alone throughout the day.



# Government

It was a monarchy ruled by a single leader called the Sapa Inca.

The Empire was divided up into quarters called "suyu".

In order to run the government, the Inca needed food and resources which they acquired through taxes.

Every ayllu had its own tax collector.

The laws were made by the Sapa Inca and passed down to the people through the tax collectors.

Murder, stealing, cheating on taxes, and cursing the gods was all against the law. Punishment was harsh.

The Inca had a road system between the cities, commoners were not allowed to travel on the roads. The roads were guarded by the army and trespassers were usually killed.

Most conquered tribes were allowed to remain in their homelands.

The Inca roads were an important part of the Inca government as they were used for communication.



# Mythology and Religion

The religion of the Inca was closely tied into the everyday life of the Inca as well as with their government.

They believed that their ruler, the Inca Sapa, was part god himself.

Inti - Inti was the most important of the gods to the Inca. He was the god of the sun.

The Inca built many beautiful temples to their gods.

The Inca believed strongly in an afterlife. They took great care in embalming and mummifying the bodies of the dead before burial.

They brought gifts to the dead that they thought the dead could use in the afterlife.

The Inca believed that the heavens were divided into four quarters.



# Science and Technology

The Inca Empire was a complex society with an estimated population of 10 million people. They had large stone cities, beautiful temples, an advanced government, a detailed tax system, and an intricate road system.

Incas built a large system of roads that went throughout their empire.

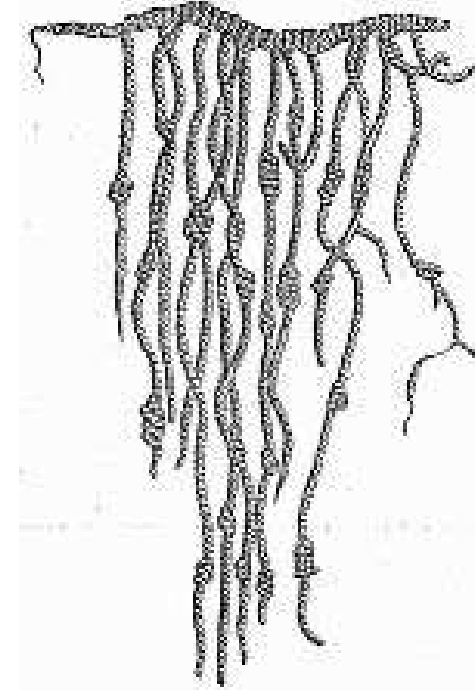
Communication was accomplished by runners on the roads.

A quipu was a series of strings with knots-each knot had a different meaning. The Inca used it to record information instead of a system of writing.

The Inca were expert farmers and had irrigation systems to water crops.

The Inca calendar was made up of 12 months.

The Inca had a complex system of government and taxes.



# Society

The Inca society was based around strict social classes.

Once a person was born into a social class, that was where they would remain for the rest of their life.

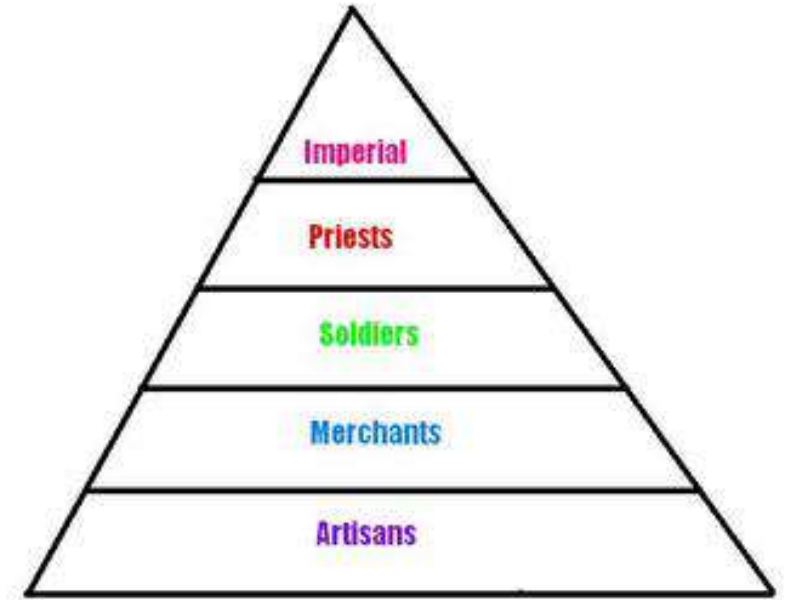
Craftspeople were paid by the government with food that the government received from the tax on farmers

Architects and engineers were part of the public administration class. They were considered higher in class than artisans or craftsmen.

Certain clothing and jewelry was reserved for the noble and Inca classes.

Nobles and high level leaders, such as curacas, did not have to pay taxes.

Nobles were allowed to have many wives, but commoners could only have one wife.



# Cuzco City

Cuzco was the capital and birthplace of the Inca Empire.

The emperor, or Sapa Inca, lived in a palace in Cuzco.

Cuzco is located in the Andes Mountains of what is today southern [Peru](#).

Commoners did not live in the city.

A common greeting used in the city was "Ama Sua, Ama Quella, Ama Lulla" which meant "Don't lie, don't steal, don't be lazy".



# Machu Picchu

Machu Picchu was a city of the Inca Empire.

It was voted one of the New Seven Wonders of the World.

It sits 8,000 feet above sea level atop a mountain in the Andes Mountain range in southern Peru.

Machu Picchu was built as the royal estate for the ninth Inca King, Pachacuti.

Most of the buildings are built with stones that are fitted together tightly without the use of mortar.



# Tribes of Early Peru

Before the Inca Empire took control of [Peru](#) and the west coast of [South America](#), there were other tribes and civilizations that formed throughout the history of the region.

The Norte Chico civilization was discovered in the late 1990s by archeologist Ruth Shady Solis.

Sometimes the Huari is spelled "Wari".

The capital city of the Chimú, Chan Chan, covered an area of around 10 square miles.

When archeologists uncovered the Huari city of Pikillacta they found over 700 stone buildings. Some of the buildings were three stories tall.

Most of the Moche pyramids were emptied by grave robbers, however archeologists found one intact. They found a mummy of a man who has since been nicknamed the Lord of Sipan.





# Francisco Pizarro

**Occupation:** Conquistador and Explorer

**Born:** Around 1474 in Trujillo, Spain

**Died:** June 26, 1541 in Lima, Peru-He was assassinated

**Best known for:** Conquering the Inca Empire

Pizarro had heard rumors of a land in South America that was full of gold and other treasures.

In 1532 Pizarro landed on the coast of South America.

Inca had just fought a civil war between two brothers, Atahualpa and Huascar.

Many Inca were also sick from diseases brought by the Spanish such as smallpox.

Pizarro set a trap for Atahualpa and took him prisoner. Even when the ransom was paid, Atahualpa was killed.

Pizarro then marched to Cuzco and took over the city in 1533.

