500-1450 C.E.  
New Faith and New Commerce

THE POST CLASSICAL PERIOD
Regional and Trans-regional interactions

C 600 C.E. to 1450 C.E
KEY CONCEPTS: PERIOD 3

- 3.1 Expansion and intensification of communication and exchange networks
- 3.2 Continuity and innovation of State Forms and their interaction
- 3.3 Increased economic productive capacity and its consequences
During the post classical time international trade developed far beyond the capacity of the old Silk Road. The Indian Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea were trade hubs bringing Europe, Africa, Japan, and other regions together.
TRIGGERS FOR CHANGE

- Post Classical period follows the decline of the great empires
- Areas under previous control of the Empires were now economically in decline
- Unstable times people turned to religion for security and guidance
- Fall of Rome opened up new opportunities in the eastern Med.
- Arabs regained control of lands ruled by Rome
THE BIG CHANGES

- Religion and Commerce were engines for change
- Christianity, Buddhism, and Islam were capable of spreading to a great capacity
- Religion created new loyalties that could compete with political values
- Development of trade created coherent networks joining Asia, Africa, and Europe
- Trade Facilitated the spread of Ideas
- Black Plague
Post classical saw tension between conditions of women in Afro-Eurasia
Major religions all insisted that women were spiritually equal to men
Women thought to be more ornamental (foot binding)

Condition of Women deteriorated during this time
Growing trade and urban prosperity reducing women's role
Religion may have served as a distractor
THE RISE AND SPREAD OF ISLAM

- Arabian peninsula is one of the most inhospitable places in the world
- Bedouin or Nomadic culture developed based on herding
- South has a few cities in coastal regions with agriculture
CLAN IDENTITY, RIVALRIES AND VENGEANCE

- Bedouin herders lived in kin related clans/mobile tent villages
- Clans only congregated in times of serious crisis
- Struggle for survival created a strong loyalty to family and clan
- To be cut off from the clan meant death
- Clan run by shaykhs,
CLAN IDENTITY, RIVALRIES AND VENGEANCE

- Wars often broke out between clans for resources
- Encroaching on other clans water or herding land
- Violation of clans Honor
- Battles fought according to the code of chivalry
- Death of warriors required revenge
Small communities carved out on southern tip of peninsula
All but destroyed by Bedouins and foreign invaders
A number of cities developed further north
Mecca founded by the Umayyad clan of the Quraysh Tribe dominated politics and economics
Wealth concentrated among the merchant Elite
Free from fears of attack, people and Bedouins flocked to the town to trade and exchange ideas
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY IN PRE ISLAMIC ARABIA

- Not considered equal to men
- Women enjoyed greater freedom/higher status
- Played key economic roles
- Men were on the move so lineage was traced through women
- Allowed multiple partners
- To seal marriage man was required to pay a price
- Customary practices heavily favored men
About 610 CE had a transformational experience traveling through the Arabian peninsula

His revelations proclaimed he was the last prophet of Allah

Discontent with his life he retreated to a cave where he received his first revelation from Allah (Ramadan)

Three months after he started to preach publicly claiming God is the One and surrender all to him

His teachings would be collected by his followers (Qur’an)

The Hadith-a record of his deeds serves as an interpretation of Qur’an for social and legal customs and lays out the Five Pillars of Islam

Established the Umma (community of faithful)
FIVE PILLARS OF ISLAM

- Shahdah – Professing monotheism and accepting Muhammad as the prophet of Allah
- Salat – Five Daily Prayers
  - Fajir - sunrise
  - Dhuhr - mid day
  - Asr - afternoon
  - Mehgrib - Dusk
  - Ish’a – Nighttime
- Sawm – Fasting
- Zakat – Charitable giving
- Hajj - Pilgrimage
Upon Muhammad's death in 632 Abu Bakr assumed leadership of the Umma

Ali, Muhammad's son-in-law was passed over

Lead to the Sunni-Shi’a split

- Sunni - Bakr
- Shi’a - Ali
Faith was accepted by many camel herding tribes
United Arabs
Provided an ethical system for the region
Muslims began to attack neighboring civilization’s
- Between 633 and 637 Muslims conquered Byzantine Syria, Palestine, and Mesopotamia
- 640’s expanded to Egypt and North Africa
- 651 controlled Persia
- 718 Hindu India, Northwest Africa, and the Iberian Peninsula
The Umayyad Dynasty
Conquered people (Jew and Christians) were allowed to remain faithful but were taxed (jizya)
Ummayyad Emperor led an extravagant lifestyle which lead to his overthrow.

Ummayyad dynasty ended 750 after a rebellion by Abu al-Abbas.

Abbasid rulers established a capital in Baghdad.

Mawali (non Arab Muslims) were integrated into the community.

Merchants and Landlords wealth grew, cities expanded.

Dynasty focused on ruling the Empire which now included a vast array of linguistic, cultural, religious, and ethnic groups.

Extended trade with China, India, and Africa.
Meaning House of Islam
Persia - administrative and ideas of Kingship, language used in written text and poetry
Indian – math, numbers, the symbol of zero, algebra, trigonometry, geometry
Greek - Science, medical and classical works
TRADE IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD

- Commercial Centers revived the trade on the Silk Road (perpetuated by Muslims) Nishapur, Bukhara, and Samarkand
- Classical roads revived by Muslim providing efficient travel
- Overland trade conducted by Camel caravan
- Caravanseries provided lodging, food, shelter, and water
- Technological advances – compass, dhow sail boat, astrolabe
- Large scale trade encouraged by issuing credit
THE QUR’AN AND WOMEN

- Both Helped and Hurt women
- Women were veiled and secluded
- Only slave women could appear publicly before men
- Had a role privately influencing family
- Muhammad’s wife Khadija and his daughter Fatima were held as models of female behavior
- Rural women worked in the fields while members of the elite were kept secluded
- Could become educated as long as it was not in front of un-related men
Women and Islamic Law

- Fared better legally under Muslim law than Christian and Jewish law.
- Guaranteed daughters a share of inheritance equal to half of that of a son. This was their property to keep or sell.
- Financial burden was on the husband who could not force a woman to help out.
- Could remarry if they were divorced and received a settlement upon divorce.
- Could even initiate divorce under the right conditions.
- Could practice birth control.
- Could testify in court as but testimony counted as half of a man's.
Muslims could not enslave other Muslims or “People of the Book”
- Christians
- Jews
- Zoroastrians

POW’s were the exception

Many Slaves converted to Islam then freed

Offspring of a slave woman and Muslim man were also free
THE RE-CENTERING OF ISLAM

- Early Islam centered around the political unity of the umma
- Conversion was not centralized
- Communities would have numerous competing version of Islam
- This diminished the role of the umma
- Madrasas – fully versed in Arabic and native to Persia were warmly received
- Brought a view of religion developed in Persian cities
- The Madrasas was a religious college where the religion could be taught a standardized way
WEST
- 711 Muslim Conquest of Spain
- 732 Battle of Tours
- 800 Coronation of Charlemagne
- 843 Charlemagne divides Empire
- 910 Monastery of Cluny Founded
- 962 Beginning of Holy Roman Empire
- 1054 Schism between Latin and Orthodox Church
- 1059 First Crusade / Pope Urban

EAST
- 634-650 Muslims conquer Byzantine Syria, Egypt and Tunisia
- 880 Varangians Take Control
- 980 Vladimir becomes grand prince of Kievan Russia
- 1081-1118 Alexius Comnenus rules Byzantine Empire calls for western military aid against Muslims
- 1204 Western knights sack Constantinople in 4th Crusade
600-1200 C.E

BYZANTINE EMPIRE
Christianity was official religion

They were a continuation from the Roman Empire

Laws and tradition survived in the east that faded in the west

Combination of Imperial rule with oversight of the church created powerful Christian monarchs

Constant military pressure deprived the Empire of long periods of peace
ARAB INVASIONS

- Islam posed a threat to the Empire
- Between 630 and 650 lost Egypt, Syria, and Tunisia
- By the end of the 12th century about 2/3 of the Christians in these former territories converted to Islam
- Despite regrouping militarily and the crusades, never regained its territory
- Eventually fell to Muslims by 1453
RELIGIOUS SCHISM

- Relations with popes and princes of western Europe worsened
- By the mid 9th century the patriarchs of Constantinople challenged the authority of the popes in the west
- Dis-agreements with the Latin Church and the Orthodox Church cause a split
Imperial authority and urban prosperity initially sheltered the elite from economic hardships.

Elite class shrank due to an outbreak of Plague “Plague of Justinian”.

Many areas barter society replaced money transactions.

Population decline also led to the drop in wealth.

Traditional noble class all but disappeared.
Women in the Byzantine Empire

- Increasingly found themselves confined to the home
- Some were forced hide faces behind veils
- Only the men they socialized with were family members
- Resemble the attitude towards women in the neighboring Islamic cultures
- Some held power as Empresses
Continued the Roman inclination to set prices
Monopolized trade in luxury goods
All the economy focused on Constantinople overshadowing the other cities in the Empire
More intact inheritance shadowed the truth about the collapsing economy
Somber, Autocratic, prone to Grandiose Ideas

Was thought of as a moron by his people

Easily deceived, Influenced by his wife

Never Truthful
WHAT JUSTINIAN DID

- Tried to re-conquer the western territories held by Muslims
- Rebuilt Constantinople after it was destroyed by riots protesting taxes
- Great Advances in architecture, Domes
- Unified law which united the Empire
Politics of the Empire

- Emperor thought to have been ordained by God
  + Was the head of the Church,
  + ordained Bishops
  + passed secular laws
- Women held the throne, Theodora and Zoe
- One of Histories most elaborate bureaucracies
- Recruited from all social classes
- Military used practice of Romans in recruiting
In part due to the Economic Ties to Asia
Translation of Bible from Greek to Latin
Western Church wanted looser state control
West and east developed different rituals
TRADITIONS IN CONTRAST

WESTERN TRADITIONS

- Use of unleavened bread
- Priest did not marry
- Roman Catholic

EASTERN TRADITIONS

- Use of wheat bread
- Priest free to marry
- Eastern Orthodox
  - Greek, Russian, Byzantine, Serbian
EXCOMMUNICATIONS ALL AROUND

- Roman Pope excommunicates the eastern patriarch
- The Eastern Patriarch responds by excommunicating the Pope
DECLINE OF THE EMPIRE

- After the split of the Church the empire began a long period of Decline
- Turkish Muslims began to press on the east
- Seized the most prosperous sources of tax revenue in Asiatic Provinces
- Eastern Emperors appealed for help from the west but were largely ignored
- This did however motivate the Crusades
- One of the Crusades turned against the Byzantine and sacked Constantinople, the west could not hold on and a Smaller Empire was restored
- 1453 Turks sack Constantinople, by 1461 reaming pockets of Byzantine conquered
Slavic Peoples moved into the Russian area during Roman Times
These people began to interact with natives
Maintained an Animist religion
Rich tradition of Folk music oral legends
5th and 6th century Viking Traders began to work their way through Slavic lands then reached Byzantine Empire
Scandinavian gradually set up governments in the area
Founded the city of Kiev established a monarchy
EMERGENCE OF RUSSIA

- A monarchy of Rurik emerged in Kiev
- From Denmark
- This flourish until 1100’s
- Prince Vladimir I converted to Christianity
RUSSIA BECOMES CHRISTIAN

- Not only did Vlad convert but he also converted his people
- Organized mass baptisms using military
- Imported leaders from Byzantium
- Controlled major appointments to the church
- Yaroslav (last great prince) ordered building of churches and translation of the bible from Greek to Slavic
Barrowed much culture from Byzantium
- Did not replicate the great bureaucracies
- Leaders attached to rich ceremonies
- Eastern Church leaders helped organize worship
- Built elaborate churches
- Adopted practice of monogamy and almsgiving
- Disasters seen as a wrath of God
- Success in war as praise from God
SOCIAL ECONOMIC PATTERNS

- Developed independently from Europe
- Peasant were free farmers
- Aristocrats were land owners called Boyars held little political power
- Russia mostly unaware of western Europe
DECLINE OF KIEVAN RUSSIA

- Began to fade in 1100’s
- Princes set up rival regional governments
- Squabbled about succession
- Invaders from Asia
- As the Byzantine went so did Kievan
- Mongols contributed to the decline “Tartars”
- Trade was slowed under Mongol control
- Christianity did still continue as long as tribute was paid Russian allowed to practice faith
Western Europe

DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIETY
A new civilization emerges in Western Europe

- Began with the fall of Rome
- Was a gradual recovery from the shock of the fall of the Roman Empire
- Participated strongly in the spread of Christianity
- New Advances from trade and invaders
TWO IMAGES OF MIDDLE AGES

- Muslims had a poor image of Europeans
- Thought to be fat, stupid, and brutish
- At the same time there was brilliance in Europe
  - Thomas Aquinas
MANORIAL SYSTEM: OBLIGATIONS AND ALLEGIANCES

- Political organization was largely regional
- Germanic Kings ruled territories
- Manorial a system of political relation between landlords and peasant laborer
- “Serfs” living in on a self sufficient plot of land
- Were protected by land lord who also served as law
- For protection turned over part of their product to the land lord
After Rome fell, Catholic Church only solid organization in Europe
Catholic Church used the Roman blueprint to govern itself
Pope as well as monarchs and land lords appointed bishops
Pope regulated doctrine
Sponsored missionary work – England, Eastern Germany
Many converted kingdoms to gain power- Clovis 496 c.e. Germany
National Conversion gave Pope more authority
Developed Monasteries – Benedictine
A new family emerges as the Monarchy in Northern France Carolingians
Charles "the Hammer" Martel –
+ Battle of Tours 732,
+ Helped confine the Muslims to Spain
Charles the Great or Charlemagne 800
Popes coronation validated approval of the Church of a ruler
Established a substantial empire in Middle Europe
Helped restore education in the West
Looked like re emergence of Rome
After his death successors were not as powerful and failed Empire eventually Split
Gradual emergence of regional monarchies
- Durable empire was impossible to establish
- Strong catholic faith but political division
- No uniting language – Church, Latin/Vernacular, Germanic
- Eventually rulers of Germany and Northern Italy filled the power void
- Creation of Holy Roman Empire merging Christianity and politics
NEW ECONOMIC AND URBAN VIGOR

- Agricultural techniques
  - Mold Board Plow
  - Three Field system
  - Yoke/Stirrups
- Power started to be defined by land and military
- Vikings started to settle down becoming Christian
- Population began to grow
- In order to attract new workers land lords loosened the constraints of serfdom
- Urban cities growth led to need for education and universities began to emerge
Duke of Normandy invaded England 1066
William the Conqueror
Tied together the feudal lords in his court by creating loyalties by granting estates
Appointed sheriffs for judicial supervision
Merged feudal principles with Centralized government
LIMITED GOVERNMENT

- 1266 Magna Carta
- King John
- Confirmed feudal rights against the monarchy
- System of checks and balances
- No new taxes without the approval of the lords
- Later this led to the creation of parliament which represented the wealthy at the time
- 1265 House of Lords
- Represented three estates Nobles, Church, and Urban leaders
RELIGIOUS REFORM (NOT THE REFORMATION)

- Church went through several periods of decline and renewal.
- Due to officials becoming preoccupied with land holdings and wealth.
- Church was very wealthy, leading to secularism.
- Several reform movements:
  - St. Frances of Assisi - Franciscans
  - St. Clare - Poor Clare's
- Pope Gregory VII.
Before 1000 a small number of clergy continued efforts of preserving and interpreting past wisdom.

From 1000 onward there was an advancement in the philosophy of the Church stressing the importance of absolute faith in God’s word.

Believed Human reason could move toward an understanding of Religion.

Believed this logic could prove the existence of God.

Debate was to combine the classical logical reasoning with religious faith.
Combining Rational Philosophy and Christianity was a common intellectual theme.

Higher education benefited.

Vast amounts of materials imported from the Byzantine Empire, Italy and Muslim Spain.

Leading figure of the time Thomas Aquinas.
THOMAS AQUINAS 1225-1274

- Italian Born Monk
- Taught at the University of Paris
- Believed faith came first
- Used careful logic to eliminate all possible objections of truth that is revealed by faith
- Scholasticism – demonstrated an unusual confidence in logical order of knowledge
RURAL LIFE

- Improvements in agriculture brought opportunity to peasants
- Some land lords sought more in pay from their serfs
- This caused tension in the Manorial system
- Peasants wanted land free and clear
- Whole of the lives became to evolve in Europe / less control
GROWTH OF TRADE AND BANKING

- Growth in Agriculture lead to economic growth
- More specialized manufacturing
- Banking is introduced to facilitate long distance trade
- Use of money spread throughout Europe
- Trading ships, exchange in goods, profits, pricing
LUXURY GOODS/TRADE RENEWED

- Wealthy Europe develops a taste for finer things
- Crusades
  + Spice
- Italian Merchants
- Raw materials for polished goods of the east
- Growth of trade served as the origin of capitalism
LIMITED ROLE FOR WOMEN

- Work remained vital for families
- Mary gave women cultural prestige
- Women in the west had higher status than those in Islam world
- Less confined to the household
- Less segregated in religious societies
- Played important roles in commerce, craft guilds
- Not assured property rights
- Literature stressed women's roles as supplemental to men
DECLINE OF THE MEDIEVAL SYNTHESIS

- Hundred Years War -116 years
- King of France, Philip, dies leaving no heir
- Since the mother (Isabella) of the King of England (Edward III) was king of France’s sister Edward III claimed he had a birthright to the throne of France
- Nobles disputed this no woman or her son could claim the throne
- Crown passed to Philip VI nephew of the French king igniting intermittent war from 1337-1453
RESULT OF THE WAR

- Thousands killed adding to Black Death
- England
  - Damage to southern England Shipping ports
  - Cost of war over 5 million pounds
  - Break down in order with knights away
  - Taxes raised to pay for the war
  - Creation of English Parliament, a representative assembly
- France
  - Spent almost as much as England
  - Did not create a national assembly had regional assemblies
  - Monarchs lacked the power to assemble
PRELUDE TO DISASTER

- Severe weather conditions from “Little Ice Age”
- Prices rose rapidly
- Storms ruined crops
- Too expensive to transport food long distance
- Decreased calorie intake lead to poor health
- Lower productivity
- Typhoid out break
BLACK DEATH

- Improvements of boat technologies allowed for year round shipping
- Ships at sea constantly so rats on the ships were on the move
- Bubonic plague
  - October 1347 Genoese Ships brought the Plague to Messina
  - January 1348 Genoa, Sicily, Venice, then to Rome and Florence
  - Late Spring 1348 Germany
  - June 1348 two ships brought it to England
SPREAD OF THE PLAGUE

- Bacteria carried in fleas
- Fleas lived on rats who traveled on ships among cargo (grains)
- Rats leave the ship go into town
- Called black death because of large black welts on the victims
- Bubonic (blood borne) became pneumatic (airborne)
DECLINE OF THE CHURCH PRESTIGE

- Church began to be more political
- Pope Clement V ill with cancer / Philip the Fair
- 1309-1379 Pope lived in Avignon, France giving control of the church and its politics to the French
- Damaged the papal prestige
- During this time Popes concentrated more on politics than spirituality
- Atmosphere more of a life of luxury not penance
- The leadership was isolated from its historical roots in Rome
THE GREAT SCHISM

- 1377 Pope Gregory XI brought the Papal court back to Rome then died
- Roman’s/Italian’s demanded the next Pope be Italian so the papal court stays in Rome
- Conclave elected Archbishop of Bari, Bartolommeo Prignano
- Took the name Urban VI
THE GREAT SCHISM  TWO POPES NOW EXISTED

THIS DIVIDED EUROPE

URBAN VI RIGHTFUL POPE

- Lived in Rome
- Believed in reform
- Felt Church was separate from Government
- Recognized by Italy and England

*eventually denounced by Italy

CLEMENT VII ANTI-POPE

- Lived in Avignon
- Wanted to continue the way things were
- Was more involved in politics
- Recognized by France
PRECURSOR TO THE REFORMATION

- **John Wyclif 1330-1384**
  - Claimed papal power was not derived from the bible
  - Scripture alone should be the belief and practice
  - Ideas condemned by Church authorities

- **Jan Hus 1389-1415**
  - Insisted religion be orthodox
  - Disputed papal authority (both of them) and denounced the practices of the church
Meanwhile...

- Two colleges of cardinals meet and denounced the two current Popes in response to calls for reform and elect a new Pope.
- The two current Popes refuse to resign so now there are three Popes.
- German Emperor Sigismund pressures council to meet and resolve the problems.
- Council meets in 1414 in Constance.
Council meets in Constance 1414-1418

Three objectives
- Depose both Popes and Anti Pope
- Elect a new Pope
- End heresy invited Jan Hus to the council and burned him at the stake

Elected Roman Cardinal Colonna became Martin V but he did little to reform after dissolving the council
Agricultural villages and ceremonial centers rose in several regions of Mexico.

Early Olmec settled on the Gulf of Mexico 1200 B.C.E.

Olmec means rubber people from the rubber trees in the region they lived.

Agricultural based

Thousands of laborers participate in construction of ceremonial centers

No metal had stone age technology

Traded in Jade and Obsidian
Thought they destroyed their own cities
Either civil conflicts or doubts of leadership
Traditions
- Deeply influenced the later Mesoamerican societies
- Astronomical observations
- Calendars
- System of Writing
- Human Sacrifice
- Ballgame
HEIR TO THE OLMEC: MAYA 500 – 1500 C.E.

- Created a society in the region of southern Mexico
- Lived mostly in poorly drained lowlands that had thin fertile soil
- First to use terrace farming in Mesoamerica
- Early ceremonial capital Kaminalijuyu fell under hard times
- Later Teotihuacan took over as the center of ceremony
MAYAN CEREMONIAL CENTERS

- 300-900 C.E. Mayan built 80+ ceremonial centers
- Centers were used for religious purposes
- Also were a gathering for populations and evolved into cities
- Tikal was among the largest 40,000 population
- Mayan organized themselves into scores of small city kingdoms
- Often temples revered the jaguar and kings took names related to the jaguar
MAYAN WARRIORS

- Thought to have been a peaceful people interested in science and art
- Deciphering's later prove Mayan were very war like
- Kingdoms fought constantly with each other
- Victors destroyed the people and took over their temples
- Would try to capture instead of kill and keep them as trophies or use them in Sacrifice
MAYAN SOCIETY

- Society included a large class of Priests who maintained the calendar transmitted knowledge of society and math
- Hereditary nobility owned most of the land and organized the military
- Aside from ruling class and priest there were several other distinct classes
  - Professional Artisans,
  - architects,
  - sculptors
- Lower class – made up labor
  - Peasants
  - Slaves
Mayan Calendar

- Constructed elaborate calendar
- Understood the movements of heavily bodies
- Plotted planetary courses and predicted eclipses
- Developed the concept of Zero
- Combined Math and astronomy to surmise the year is 365.242 days long 17 sec off of what it is
- 365 day calendar governed the agricultural cycle
- 260 day calendar governed the ritual cycle
- Organized into 28 months lasting 13 days each
- Both combined for a 52 year cycle
MAYAN RELIGION

- Believed people were created by the gods from maize and water
- Reflected in the fundamental role of agriculture
- Priests taught gods kept the world going and maintained the agricultural cycle
- Believed in Blood letting and human sacrifice
- Sometimes self sacrifice occurred
POST CLASSICAL MESOAMERICA 1000-1500 CE

Toltec          960-1150
Aztec           1200-1500
Inca            1200-1500
Maya            500-1400
- Toltec adapted culture from many secondary peoples adding to their militaristic ethic
- Art of war
- Sacrifice
- Legend of Topiltzn and Quetzalcoatl
- Empire extended over much of Central Mexico
- Influence spread north as far as New Mexico traded obsidian for turquoise
- Destroyed by nomadic warriors from the north 1150 C.E.
Called the Mexia which is where Mexico gets its name

Term Aztec comes from the term Aztlan the place of the seven legendary caves

Migrated around Mexico for a century causing trouble
Settled an island built a massive city
Dredged the lake using the rich soil to create gardens
Great supply of fish and water
Built on chinampas
Could have multiple harvest a year
Lake served as a natural defense to outsiders
Built on a system of canals with a great temple at its center
AZTEC EMPIRE

- Early 1400 Aztec were powerful enough to overcome their neighbors
- Advanced against the Oaxaca in south west Mexico slayed many and re populated
- Next conquer land going to the Gulf
- Later would conquer the cities of the high plains
- Joined with neighbors Texcoco and Tlacopan forming an alliance
- At the height ruled over about 12 million people
- Main objective was to exact tribute from conquered peoples
AZTEC SOCIETY

- Rigidly hierarchal rewarding the warrior
- All males thought of as potential warriors
- Social Status could be improved with glory on the battlefield
- Noble birth received the best training and opportunities for advancement
- Warriors formed a council whose members selected the ruler and ran the empire
AZTEC WOMEN

- Women played little to no role in government
- Wielded influence with in their families
- Was an honor to be the mother of a great warrior
- Could not hold or inherit property
- Were subjected to strict authority of fathers or husbands
- Prominent in the market place with crafts and needle work
- Few were dedicated to the temple the rest married
- Main duty was to have children especially boys that could be warriors
- Women who died in child birth had the same honor as a warrior dying in battle
- Ran the household in all classes of society
AZTEC PRIESTS AND RELIGION

- Also ranked high in society
- Ran the temples
- Conducted the religious ceremonies
  - Blood Letting
  - Sacrifice
- Created the calendars
- Few cases became rulers of the empire (Montecuczoma)
- Adopted many of the Mayan traditions
COMING OF THE INCA

- Organized from a series of autonomous states
- States frequently clashed but no one state could gain a clear advantage
- Early predecessors included the Chucuito and Chimu
- The Chucuito were in the highlands around Lake Titicaca
- The Chimu or Chimor were on the lowlands near the Peruvian Coast
Existed in the mountain about 13,000 feet

Civilization existed on potatoes and the herding of llamas and alpaca (food, wool, dung and beast of burden)

Constructed elaborate stone retaining walls to grow crops

Obtained maize and coca leaves from lowlanders

Would use maize to enhance stew and chew the coca leaves as a stimulant
CHIMU 900’S C.E.

- Peruvian lowlands near the coast
- Large thriving society
- Extensive irrigation
- Enjoyed considerable wealth and class separation
- Capital of Chanchan near Truillo
THE SHORT RISE OF THE INCA

- Regional states kept the order for several centuries
- With in a thirty year time span these states fell under a dynamic, expansive society the Inca
- “Inca” originally referred to the leaders of a small village in the valley of Cusco
- Modern usage refers to the people and Empire
- Long period of migration the Inca settled near lake Titicaca
- At first lived among the many peoples in this region
- About 1438 Inca ruler Pachacuti launched a series of military campaigns that expanded the Inca’s authority
The Inca Empire

- First extended control to the southern and northern highlands then towards the coast
- Captured Chimu by cutting off the water supply
- By late 1400’s Inca empire was at its height only thing that limited was the rainforest in the east
- With a population of 11.5 million it was the largest state in South America
- Rules as a military elite and staffed their army with captured peoples
- Not as numerous as subjects would routinely take hostages from the ruling class
- When the subjects got unruly Inca’s sent loyal subjects as colonist to enforce the law stating either get in line or get out
Absence of any script writing
Inca used a mnemonic aid called Quipu
A small array of cords tied in knots of various length and colors
They would tie the cords in knots that represented information
Most quipu had to do with population or taxes or what communities owed
Cuzco

- Administrative and ceremonial center
- Called the “navel of the universe”
- Population of 40,000
- With about 200,000 living near by
- Population included Rulers, High Priest, High Nobility and hostages
INCA ROADS

- Vast network of roads
- Allowed rulers to dispatch military and communicate with far reaches
- Two main roads ran north and south one inland and one on the coast both about 10,000 miles long
- Entire length of the network about 25,000 miles
- Roads paved with stone, shaded with trees and wide enough to accommodate eight horses
- Used a corps of official runners to carry news
Inca Trade

- Despite extensive road Inca did not develop large trading networks or extensive classes of artisans and merchants.
- Local economy was barter system based on agriculture and some hand crafted goods.
- Long distance trade was run by the government.
- Still created textiles and goods but there was not a large market for the goods. Individuals would make their own...
INCA CLASS – RULING ELITE

- Ruler descended from the sun
- Owned all the land, livestock, and property
- Absolute ruler
- Remains mummified
- Often descending rulers would conduct business with the mummies present
- Mummies would be brought out for festivals
- Families would be assigned to maintain the mummies
INCA CLASS ARISTOCRATS AND PRIEST

- Led privilege life
- Wore large ear spools
- Priest came from Aristocrats/were celibate
- In charge of religious services
INCA - PEASANTS

- Working class/ laborers
- From common birth
- Did not pay tax or tribute but instead worked
- Either built roads or buildings or farmed
- Much of the production went to the ruling class the rest was stored for famine or war
- Men labored women delivered tribute
- Used quipa
INCA MEDICAL PRACTICE

- Very skilled at neurosurgery
- Would use surgery to relieve head wounds from battle
- Would drill or scrape a portion of the skull to relieve pressure
- Finding show they improved their skill and were good at preventing infection
INCA GODS

- Ruling class venerated the sun as a god
- Called Inti
- Also recognized moon, stars, planets, rain as divine
- Thought the god Vinacocha created the universe

- Cult of the sun outshone all cults
- Largest temple to Inti
- Created an imitation garden of Gold
- Sacrificed produce or animals such as llamas and Guianea pigs
MACHU PICCHU