• NAZCA CULTURE
• 100 BCE-800CE
Inca Empire

- Inca started as a nomadic group that eventually settled near Lake Titicaca in the 13th Century
  - 1200 and 1535 CE
  - Called themselves Tawantinsuyu which means “Four Regions” in Quechuan language
- Developed in the Andes Mountains in South America
What is the longest mountain range in the world?

Andes Mountain Range

- Length: 4,300 miles (approx.)
- Width: 310 miles (approx.)
- Highest Peak: Aconcagua, 22,831 feet
- Highest Volcanic Peak: Ojos del Salado, 22,615 feet
- Flora: 30,000 species (approx.)
- Fauna: 3,500 species (approx.)
Incan Empire

- The city of Cusco = capital city of the empire

- The city is located at over 11,000 feet above sea level
Machu Picchu
Incan Empire

• Leaders were called Inca, which is where the name of the empire comes from

• The empire was officially created when leader name Pachacuti began conquering rival tribes around them

• The Inca were constantly expanding their empire from the 1400s onwards

• At the height of the empire the Inca controlled 12 million people
Incan Empire

• The Incas established an official language, Quechua
• Divided empire into four provinces for easier control and law enforcement
• Developed a bureaucracy run by nobles
• Nobility drawn from the ten ayllus (family units)
Incan Empire

Local rulers maintained their positions/influence

• Colonized and *established control* of conquered areas *by moving Inca people into conquered areas*

• Made conquered leaders move out of their villages and move in with leaders who were loyal to the Inca government
Incan Empire

- Practiced polytheism
- Most important gods were the gods of the Sun, Rain, and War
- Emperors were powerful because they said they were children of the Sun God
Incan Empire

• Used as an elaborate recording system using knots called Quipu
  • No written language
Ancestors were worshipped

Emperors were mummified
- Their mummified bodies were taken into battle and paraded around at religious ceremonies

Sometimes people were sacrificed, especially children to win support of the gods
- They were also mummified
Incan Empire

- **Agricultural=terrace farming**
  - Domesticated and bred hundreds of varieties of potatoes, tomatoes, peppers

- Different crops grown based on location and altitude

- Lots of labor/workers necessary for transport of goods
Figure 3. A sketch of a typical bench terrace (FAO, 2000)
Incan Empire

• **Used Mit’a system of labor**
  • A system in which *each person owed required labor services to the Inca state*

• **Used for building infrastructure & terraces**
Incan Empire

- Excellent Roads/infrastructure = internal trade and easier government control from coastal desert to jungle to mountain villages

- Trade from different regions provided lots of different food to eat
Bridges and Roads