

Cornell Notes	Topic/Objective: The Inca Empire	Name:
	NGSSS: SS.5.A.2.1, SS.5.G.1.1, SS.5.G.3.1, SS.5.G.4.1	Social Studies
	Vocabulary: Civilization, technology, traditions, terraces, drought, climate, canals, Caste System, Civil War, mummified, civilization, society,	Date:

Essential Question:

Questions: Notes: The Inca Empire

- Around 1438 CE (Common Era) Inca Empire emerged in South America along the western coast.
- Empire stretched for more than 2,500 miles

The Inca Location

- Began as a small **civilization** that often warred with other tribes
- Moved high in the Andes Mountains of what is now Peru
- Cusco was capital city
- Empire spread across deserts, mountains, jungles, and rivers.
- Conquered nearby empires of Chimu and Moche. Adopted some **technology** ideas from these groups, their Rulers worked for the Incan rulers. Merged other **traditions** into Inca way of life.
- Empire grew to present day Bolivia, Argentina, Chile and Equador
- Machu Picchu built outside of Cusco

The Incan Way of Life

- Built over 14,000 miles of roads between villages for trading. Emperors, military leaders, Lords, and traders were only ones allowed to use roads.
- Because they lived in the mountains, they built **terraces** (raised edges to stop erosion on hillsides)
- **Drought** (long periods without rainfall) was often an issue
- Built **canals** (or irrigation waterways) to water crops.
- **Climate** (average of temperature and rainfall in a location) ranged from steamy jungles to dries deserts along Pacific.
- Llamas were used to haul carts for trade
- Feathers worn by wealthy

The Incan People

- Ruled by one Emperor, had unlimited power over the people
- Believed in many Gods
- Had a **Caste System**: Ruler: Emperor, High Class: High priest, army commander in chief, Middle: Lords that managed the 4 Inca Regions, Bottom: Workers and common people

Customs and Beliefs

- No written language
- Known for artistic skill
- Combined customs from neighboring cities they conquered.
- As villages were conquered, Rulers invited people to live under Incan Rule. If they refused, they were forced to obey.
- When rulers died they were **mummified** (wrapped in cloth to preserve body) and remained in palace on display.

The Fall of the Incan Empire

- Two sons of the recently deceased ruler were fighting about who would lead the Incas. Atahualpa won war.
- The civilization was in the middle of a **Civil War** (war between people of the same **civilization**, country, **society** of people)
- Thousands died in this war and the Incan Empire was weakened.
- Small Pox had spread through the area, from previous Spanish contact of other tribes, taken lives of thousands.
- 1532 CE, sent by the King of Spain to conquer the Incas and steal their gold, Francisco Pizarro led Spanish to the Western Coast of South America.
- Pizarro captured leader, seized the city. Offered to trade ruler for gold, silver, and riches.
- After Pizarro took all of their riches, he had Inca Ruler killed.
- By 1572 CE Incas had lost the war and the Spanish took control of land. The Inca
- Incan Empire only lasted 100 years.