Race, Class, Gender and Ethnicity in the Andean Countries

ANT325

Slavery and Labor

- Labor was essential for colonial economy
  - Plantations, e.g., sugar
  - Mines, e.g., silver, gold, copper, mercury
  - Insufficient amount in the New World
  - Rapid depopulation, esp. outside the Andean region

Slave trade

- Africa
- Asia
  - India
  - China
  - Japan

African slavery

- From 1492-1800, approx. 9-10M slaves brought to Americas
  - Pre1600 – 275,000 slaves
  - 1600-1700 – 1,703,000
  - 1700-1810 – 6,200,000
  - 1811-1870 – 2,000,000
Slavery by Nation

- Brazil = 38% of all slaves
- England = 17%
- France = 17%
- Spanish America = 17%
- Sweden, Denmark, Holland = 6%
- USA = 6%

USA

- By 1825
  - Held 35% of all slave in the Americas
  - Brazil = 31%
  - West Indies = 17%

Ethnicity and Class

- Other ethnic groupings
  - Mestizo/caboclo
  - Viracochas/mistis
  - Mulatto
  - Creole
  - Peninsular
  - Maroon
  - Moro

Colonial status of mixed races

- Not trusted by neither Iberians/Criollos nor the indigenous people
  - E.g., Felipe Guaman Poma de Ayala
- Mestizos were more (than indigenous):
  - Educated
  - Used in clerical positions
- Prone to leading rebellions
  - E.g., Tupac Amaru 2 led a rebellion in Cuzco in the 18th century
### Racial passing
- Race category is more flexible in Latin America
- What is it in the US? From US view, what racial category best fits Pres-elect Obama?
- Hegemonic discourse control in L.A.
- Whiter is better, but no rigid, genetic control
  - "limpieza de sangre"
  - Fewer Europeans in the Americas resulted in more interracial relationships & offspring
  - Straying from home sometimes tolerated discreetly
- In local communities “gente decente” are characterized by Language, Customs & dress

### Mestizaje and Nation Building
- Race/castes morph slowly into concepts of ethnicity
- Ethnicity in the modern era forms the basis for solidifying a nation state made up of mestizos
  - Suggests a common origin
  - Mestizos become the center of a new, "pureza"
- But what about “Indios”/Native Americans?

### "Modernization" in Andean S. A.
- Strategy to bring masses into international capitalist, class-based system
- Emphasis on mestizaje
- Does it leave the First Peoples out of the picture?
- The Conquest destroyed parts (but not all) of the pre-Pizarro cultures, how should mestizos and Quechua/Aymara/etc. speaking peoples re-deploy their cultural heritage?

### Gender Constructions and Constraints
- Pre-Columbian society may have been
  - Sexually fluid
  - Not clearly bi-polar
  - Parallelism and complementarity
    - Panaqa
    - Bi-lineal Inheritance
  - Gender hierarchy strong, however
European models bring change

- Bi-polarity
- Gender constructions
- Male superiority and strength
- Female inferiority and weakness

Post-conquest constructions

- Males dominate the external sphere
  - Property laws
  - Guardians of women
- Females control the home
  - Legal minors, wards of the husband
  - Children belong with the father

Long term attitudes

- Marianismo – constellation of cultural ideals embodied in the mother
  - Long-suffering, self-sacrificing
  - Care-giver and nurturer of children
  - Deserving of protection (chaperones)
  - Passive and submissive to men
- Machismo – the opposite

Machismo

- Identified with men
- Manly man: virile, heterosexual with a "natural" and uncontrollable sexual drive
- Fearless
- Willing and able to safeguard the well-being and honor of his family
- Exercises unquestioned authority over it
Consequences of machismo

• Domestic abuse
• Inability of women to find support from abuse
• Differential access to resources, e.g., jobs, support, income, opportunity, independence, power