The Conquest of Peru
and the Colonial Period

Time Frames

- 1532 – 1st meeting
- 1533 – 1548
  - Conquest proper
- 1549-1570
  - Missionization & Pacification
  - Vilcabamba government in exile defeated
- 1570- 1820
  - Civil government begins

1532-The First Meeting

- Atahualpa
- Francisco Pizarro
- Cajamarca
- Requirimiento
- Felipillo and Fr. Vicente Valverde
- Attack and capture

The Expedition

- Francisco Pizarro (1471 – 1541)
  - Principal leader
  - Extremadura-home province
  - Illiterate, illegitimate
  - Leader in Panama
  - Fund raising - 1524, 1526-1528, 1532 - 1541
  - Various brothers (Hernando, Gonzalo, Juan; Pedro)
  - Diego de Almagro (soldier)
  - Hernando de Luque (priest)
  - Talked strategy with Hernán Cortés
The Spaniards

- Arrive at Tumbes, march to Cajamarca
  - Takes two months
  - November 16, 1532
  - Cuzco falls – 1533
  - Lima founded – January 1535

- Spain in 1492
  - Taking of Granada – end of Reconquista
  - Discovery of New World
  - Expulsion of the Jews

Spain under the Moors

- 711 Moors arrive from Morocco
- 718 beginning of the “reconquista”
- 900 Navarre and Leon kingdoms emerge
- 1000 Castile (Castilla)
- 1035 Aragon
- 1143 independent Portugal recognized
- 1147 Lisbon freed by Afonso Enriques
- 1250 Reconquista complete except Granada
- 1469 Isabel (d.1504) marries Fernando (d.1516)

Agrarian society with land the measure of status
Patrilineral, feudal society
Imparible, primogeniture-based inheritance
Nobility (Upper class)
  - Grandes
  - Hidalgos
  - Caballeros
  - (2nd born nobles had to make their own way)

Commoners
  - Farmers
  - Towns people
  - Merchants
  - Jews
  - Moors
  - Slaves

Spaniards in Cajamarca

- 106 foot soldiers
- 62 horsemen
- 38-44 hidalgos
- 91 commoners
- 33 unknown
- 57 literate, 51 illiterate
  - (others unknown)
- 66 died in the Indies
- 66 died in Spain (others unknown)
- Hernando de Soto
How did the Spanish win?

- Both Pizarro and Atahualpa planned to capture the other
- Pizarro had better strategy
- Used element of surprise
- Fearlessness (nothing to lose)
- Battle preparedness
  - Reconquista
  - Previous exp.-Mexico & Indies
- Pizarro saves Atahualpa’s life
- Inca promises to get gold

Technology

- Armor
- Weaponry
  - Incas: slings, bolas, maces
  - Spanish: pikes, arquebuses, cannons, double-bladed steel weapons
- Horses and equine savvy

Strategy

- Cavalry (tank-like) vs massed forced
- Playing off enemies and allies
  - Thupa Walpa & Manco Capac
- Ability to get reinforcements
  - Runifiawi & Quizquiz – Atahualpa’s generals overwhelmed by superiority of strategy and weaponry and despair of troops
  - Use of Inca leadership as puppet leadership

More…

- War for dynastic succession between Atahualpa & Huascar
- Dislike of the Incas by subjugated peoples
- Excellent, but hierarchical, kinship and ethnicity-based Inca organization worked against them
- Disease
  - Smallpox
  - Sustained attack of disease maybe more effective
  - Malaria affected the Spanish but less so
- Depopulation and community disruption
  - 80-90% death rate within 50-75 years of 1532

Battle for Cuzco & Empire

- Pizarro takes Cuzco with Thupa Walpa who dies in 1533
- 1534 - Manco Inca Yupanqui become head of state, but mistreated, rebels in 1535
- Siege of Cuzco by Manco 1535-36 and 100,000 natives
- Diego de Almagro returns from Chile in 1533- helps to turn the tide, poor strategies don’t work
- Manco Capac abandons Sacsayhuaman
- 1536 Manco defeats Spanish at Ollantaytambo
- 1537 Manco retreats to the more defensible Vilcabamba
- Some say smallpox played a role, too
Civil Wars among the Spanish

- Diego de Almagro assassinated by Pizarro brothers
- 1541 - Pizarro assassinated by Diego de Almagro, jr.
- Almagristas flee to carry the fight later
- Gonzalo tries to become king, kills 1st viceroy Blasco Nuñez Vela over “New Laws” designed to protect natives.
- Viceroy Pedro de la Gasca sent in 1547 to end rebellion in 1548.
- Ends Indian reforms
  - Bartolomé de las Casas

To the Victors …

- Spanish began to divide and conquer
- El Quinto
- Governorship to Pizarro
- Encomienda for Gonzalo – Ollantaytambo
- Alliances with non-Inca ethnic groups
- Worked to co-opt the curakas
- Encomiendas
  - Land concession for conquerors
  - Not inheritable
  - Later were renewed for a generation
- Educate the people on the encomiendas
- Crown lands

Consolidation of the Conquest 1549-1570

- Official tribute quotas
- Lots of gold/silver, etc.
- Missionization
- Labor control
  - Yanaconas transferred to Spanish control
  - Encomenderos hold on to/use/abuse natives
From Toledo to Civil Government
1570-19th Century

- Role of Francisco de Toledo
  - 5th Viceroy: 1569-1581
  - Toledo Reforms
  - Inquisition starts in Peru
  - Ended Garcilaso
  - Executes last Inca Tupac Amaru (1571)
- Reducciones
  - Detailed census
- Mita
  - 1/7th of pop
  - Close to home
- Mines improved
- Ends encomiendas
- Repartimientos
- Lays colonial foundations
- Jailed in Spain & dies in 1584

Repartimientos

- Replaces encomienda throughout Spanish colonies
- Need to have regular labor
  - Importance of labor for Spanish enterprise
- Reparto of natives by Alcalde Mayor (local magistrate)
- Local communities provide a % of service
  - agriculture
  - local mines
  - public projects
  - construction
  - irrigation canals
  - bridges, etc.

Co-opting and “Assimilation”

- Measures to consolidate the colonization
  - Co-opting of kurakas
  - Buying into the judicial system
  - Substituting Christian gods for Inca gods
  - Mita labor requirements
    - Force
    - Work through kurakas
    - Strong punishment for those that disobeyed.
  - Fear of rebellion led to more controls

Haciendas

- Reparto de mercancías by corregidores
  - Maximum leaders in the provincias
  - Leads to abuse
- Natives must pay for goods in cash at inflated prices
- Encomiendas and haciendas contribute to feudalism,
  - hacienda system
  - “independent” peasant communities
Hacienda El Huauco in Cajamarca, July 28, 1935

Haciendas
- Required services of its workers, in turn, workers got access to sm. bits of land
- Serves at whim of manor owner
- Services included:
  - Work on lands for 180-260 days/year
  - Services at the manor house
    - Servants
    - Housekeeping
    - Cooking
    - Sexual
    - Nursing
  - Arrieros

Productivity
- Hacienda productivity is low
- Absentee landlordism
- Extensive holdings
- Status as important as income
- Declines over the centuries
- Inherited

Hacienda System
- Ayllus survived and encouraged
- pushed to the limit with labor requirements
- Independent?
- Many had to leave to escape
  - harsh requirements
  - Poverty
  - Disease and death
- Pushed/pulled to hacienda
Plantations

- Different in size from haciendas
- Typically in large flat areas
- Large production
  - Sugarcane, grapes
  - Rice, cotton
  - Alfalfa, oats
- Eventually for export
- As large as cities
- Today some nostalgia
  - Culture
    - Marinera, caballos de paso