1 World History I

HIST 1210

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Empires in the Americas

- North America:
 - Several small cultural centers
 - Ceremonial centers without central government
- Mesoamerica
 - Yucatan Peninsula (Mayans, etc.)
 - Central Mexican Valley: Toltecs, Aztecs
- South America
 - Andes Mountains civilizations.

3 ■ Valley of Mexico

- Connections
 - Pueblo cultures
 - Missippian cultures
 - Yucatan Peninsula (Mayans)
 - Andes Mountains
 - Tula
 - Rose after Teotihuacan
 - Migration of Toltecs, 900 CE.

4 Mayan Civilization

- 1 Late Classical Mayan, 650-900 CE
 - Dense population
 - Centralized states
 - Clearing rain forests
 - Later Mayan states
 - Chichen Itza.

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http://www.theancientweb.com/explore/content.aspx?content_id=19

6 Valley of Mexico

- Arrival of Aztecs
 - Origins in North America
 - Migration into Mexican valley
 - Alliances and conquests
 - Empire.

7 ■ Valley of Mexico

- · Aztec rule
 - Tenochtitlan (capital)
 - Human sacrifice
- Aztec origin myth
 - Ancestor from Mexican valley
 - Huitzilpochtli guided them
 - Eagle settled on cactus.

8 Valley of Mexico

- Aztec government and culture
 - Pre-literate culture
 - Human sacrifice
 - Captured warriors
 - Honoring sun god
 - Selective cannibalism
 - Discontent with Aztec rule.

9 Valley of Mexico

- Food and population
 - High population density
 - Chinampas
 - Warfare (to reduce pressure?)
 - Cannibalism (insignificant part of diet)
 - Using all available protein sources.

10 Andes: Tiwanaku

- Shore of Lake Titicaca
- · Ceremonial center
- Founding of Empire, c. 600 CE
- Efficient agricultural base
 - Terracing
 - Micro-climates
- Trade.

11 Andes: Wari

- Ayucucho valley
- Control of existing towns
- · Building new towns
- Rivalry and friendship with Tiwanaku.

12 Andes

- Tiwanaku and Wari declined, c. 1100
- Competing ceremonial centers
- Rise of Inca, c. 1400
 - Tuwantinsuyu Empire
 - Capital of Cuzco.

13 Andes: Tuwantinsuyu Empire

- Inca foundation myth
 - Four brothers
 - Promised land from four regions
- · Ceremonial feasts provided by elites
- Mit'a
 - -Goods
 - Labor
 - Records on khipu.

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14 Andes: Tawantinsuyu Empire

- Military emphasis
- Roads: trade and military.

15 Chronology of Americas

- End of Teotihuacan, c. 600 CE
 - Late Mayan Civilization, to 900 CE
 - Toltec conquests, 900-1170
 - Aztec Empire, 1427-1521
- 2 Tiwanaku conquests, 600-1100 CE
 - Wari conquests, 700-1000 CE

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• Inca Empire, 1438-1533

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