

mayas inkas azteken

mayas inkas azteken conjure images of magnificent empires, advanced civilizations, and enduring mysteries of the ancient Americas. This exploration delves into the rich histories, remarkable achievements, and distinct cultures of these three iconic Mesoamerican and Andean civilizations. We will uncover their origins, societal structures, architectural wonders, scientific advancements, and the eventual downfall of their powerful empires. From the towering pyramids of the Maya to the intricate road systems of the Inca and the formidable Tenochtitlan of the Aztecs, their legacies continue to fascinate and inform our understanding of human ingenuity and historical development. Join us as we embark on a journey through the fascinating worlds of the Mayas, Incas, and Aztecs.

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The Maya Civilization: Masters of the Rainforest

The Maya civilization, a truly remarkable ancient culture, flourished for centuries in Mesoamerica, encompassing present-day Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, and parts of Honduras and El Salvador. Their dominion was largely centered within the dense rainforests and lowlands, a challenging yet inspiring environment that shaped their unique worldview and advancements. The Maya are renowned for their sophisticated understanding of astronomy, their complex hieroglyphic writing system, and their breathtaking architectural achievements, including grand city-states and towering pyramids that still stand as testaments to their ingenuity.

Maya Origins and Flourishing Periods

The origins of the Maya civilization trace back to the Preclassic period (c. 2000 BCE – 250 CE), with early settlements gradually developing into more complex societies. The Classic period (c. 250–900 CE) is considered the zenith of Maya civilization, marked by the rise of powerful city-states such as Tikal, Palenque, and Calakmul. During this era, they developed their most significant cultural and intellectual achievements. Following the Classic period, a decline occurred in many southern lowland centers, leading to the Postclassic period (c. 900–1500 CE), during which Maya civilization continued to thrive in northern Yucatán, with cities like Chichen Itza and Mayapan gaining prominence.

Maya Society, Religion, and Governance

Maya society was highly stratified, with a ruling elite comprising kings, nobles, and priests. Below them were artisans, merchants, warriors, and the vast majority of the population, who were farmers and laborers. Religion

played a central role in Maya life, with a complex pantheon of gods and a deep belief in the interconnectedness of the natural and supernatural worlds. Rulers often served as intermediaries between the people and the gods, performing elaborate rituals and ceremonies. Governance was typically organized around independent city-states, each ruled by a divine king (K'uhul Ajaw), who held both political and religious authority. These city-states engaged in both trade and warfare with one another.

Maya Achievements: Astronomy, Mathematics, and Writing

The Maya are perhaps most celebrated for their intellectual prowess. Their astronomical observations were incredibly precise, allowing them to accurately track celestial bodies and develop sophisticated calendars, including the Long Count calendar. Their mathematical system was advanced, utilizing a base-20 (vigesimal) system and independently developing the concept of zero, a crucial innovation for complex calculations. The Maya also developed a complex and beautiful hieroglyphic writing system, the most developed in the ancient Americas, which allowed them to record their history, mythology, and scientific knowledge on stelae, codices, and pottery.

Maya Architecture and Urban Planning

Maya architecture is characterized by its monumental scale and intricate designs. They constructed impressive pyramids, temples, palaces, ballcourts, and observatories, often adorned with elaborate carvings and stucco decorations. Their city planning was sophisticated, with public spaces, ceremonial centers, and residential areas strategically laid out. City centers often featured plazas surrounded by major structures, creating grand ceremonial precincts. The construction of causeways, known as sacbeob, also connected important sites within and between cities.

The Decline of the Maya

The reasons for the Classic Maya collapse are multifaceted and still debated among scholars. Factors likely included environmental degradation, overpopulation, prolonged drought, endemic warfare between city-states, and internal social unrest. While many southern lowland cities were abandoned, Maya civilization did not entirely disappear. Instead, it underwent a transformation, with centers in the Yucatán Peninsula continuing to flourish for centuries until the arrival of the Spanish conquistadors.

The Inca Empire: Lords of the Andes

The Inca Empire, known as Tawantinsuyu, meaning "Land of the Four Quarters," was the largest empire in pre-Columbian America. Stretching along the western coast of South America, it encompassed a vast and diverse territory characterized by towering mountain ranges, arid coastal plains, and lush Amazonian foothills. The Inca were master organizers, engineers, and administrators, creating a vast network of roads and an efficient centralized government that governed millions of people. Their legacy is one of remarkable achievement in infrastructure, social organization, and their ability to unify a sprawling, geographically challenging land.

Inca Origins and Imperial Expansion

The Inca originated as a small kingdom in the Cusco Valley of present-day Peru around the 13th century. Through a combination of military conquest and shrewd diplomacy, they rapidly expanded their territory, particularly under rulers like Pachacuti Inca Yupanqui in the 15th century. By the early 16th century, the Inca Empire stretched from modern-day Ecuador to central Chile, making it a formidable power in the region.

Inca Society and Administration

Inca society was rigidly hierarchical, with the Sapa Inca (emperor) at the apex, believed to be a descendant of the sun god Inti. Below him were nobles, priests, and administrators who managed the vast empire. The empire was divided into four administrative regions, each governed by a high-ranking official. A key element of Inca administration was the mita system, a form of mandatory public service that required citizens to contribute labor to state projects, such as road construction, agriculture, and military service. The state also controlled resources and redistributed goods, ensuring a degree of social welfare and preventing widespread famine.

Inca Engineering and Infrastructure

The Inca were unparalleled engineers, especially considering their lack of iron tools and the wheel. Their most iconic achievement is the extensive road system, the Qhapaq Ñan, which spanned over 25,000 miles and connected even the most remote corners of the empire. This network facilitated communication, troop movement, and the transport of goods. They also constructed impressive agricultural terraces to maximize arable land in the steep Andean terrain, alongside sophisticated irrigation systems. Their stone masonry, characterized by precisely cut and fitted stones, is renowned for its durability and earthquake resistance, as seen in sites like Machu Picchu.

Inca Religion and Beliefs

Religion was fundamental to the Inca way of life. They worshipped a pantheon

of gods, with Inti (the sun god) being the most important deity. Viracocha, the creator god, also held significant reverence. The Sapa Inca was considered the divine representative of Inti on Earth. Religious ceremonies and sacrifices, including animal and, in some instances, human sacrifices, were common practices to appease the gods and ensure prosperity. Ancestor worship was also a vital aspect of their religious system.

The Fall of the Inca Empire

The Inca Empire, at its height, was vulnerable to internal strife and external forces. A civil war between brothers Huáscar and Atahualpa weakened the empire just as Spanish conquistadors, led by Francisco Pizarro, arrived in the 1530s. The Spanish, armed with superior weaponry and taking advantage of the internal divisions and the devastating impact of European diseases like smallpox, were able to capture and execute Atahualpa, leading to the eventual collapse and conquest of the Inca Empire.

The Aztec Empire: Rulers of the Valley of Mexico

The Aztec Empire, also known as the Mexica Empire, was a powerful civilization that dominated central Mexico from the 14th to the 16th centuries. Their capital city, Tenochtitlan, built on an island in Lake Texcoco, was an astonishing metropolis and a testament to their ingenuity and organizational prowess. The Aztecs were fierce warriors, skilled agriculturalists, and devout practitioners of a complex religion that involved elaborate rituals and, notably, human sacrifice. Their empire was a formidable force, controlling a vast tributary network and shaping the cultural and political landscape of Mesoamerica until its dramatic end.

Aztec Origins and the Founding of Tenochtitlan

According to their legends, the Mexica people migrated from a mythical homeland called Aztlan and were guided by their god Huitzilopochtli to find a new home. They were told to settle where they saw an eagle perched on a cactus, devouring a snake. This prophecy led them to establish their capital, Tenochtitlan, on an island in Lake Texcoco around 1325 CE. Through strategic alliances and military might, they grew from humble beginnings to become the dominant power in the region.

Aztec Society, Warfare, and Religion

Aztec society was hierarchical, with the Tlatoani (emperor) at the top, followed by nobles, priests, warriors, merchants (pochteca), artisans,

farmers, and slaves. Warfare was central to Aztec life and expansion, serving not only to gain territory and tribute but also to capture prisoners for sacrifice. Their religion was polytheistic and complex, with a vast array of gods representing natural forces and aspects of human life. Huitzilopochtli (god of war and the sun) and Quetzalcoatl (feathered serpent god) were among their most important deities. Human sacrifice was a significant ritual practice, believed to be necessary to nourish the gods and maintain cosmic order.

Aztec Achievements: Agriculture and Art

Despite their warrior reputation, the Aztecs were also remarkable agricultural innovators. They developed the chinampas, or "floating gardens," a sophisticated system of artificial islands built in the lake, which greatly increased their agricultural productivity and allowed them to feed their large population. Aztec art was vibrant and often religious in nature, featuring intricate stone carvings, detailed pottery, elaborate featherwork, and stunning gold and turquoise mosaics. Their codices, painted manuscripts, recorded their history, mythology, and religious practices.

Aztec Architecture and City Life

Tenochtitlan was an architectural marvel, a sprawling city of canals, causeways, temples, palaces, and markets. The Templo Mayor, their principal temple, was a colossal pyramid dedicated to Huitzilopochtli and Tlaloc (god of rain). The city was meticulously planned, with distinct districts for different crafts and social classes. Markets like that at Tlatelolco were bustling centers of trade, where goods from across the empire were exchanged. The Aztecs developed an extensive system of aqueducts to bring fresh water into the city.

The Spanish Conquest of the Aztecs

The arrival of Hernán Cortés and his Spanish conquistadors in 1519 marked the beginning of the end for the Aztec Empire. Exploiting internal divisions within the empire, forming alliances with resentful tributary states, and benefiting from the devastating impact of European diseases, the Spanish waged a brutal campaign. Despite fierce resistance from the Aztecs, Tenochtitlan eventually fell to the Spanish and their indigenous allies in 1521, leading to the complete subjugation of the Aztec Empire and the beginning of Spanish colonial rule in Mexico.

Comparing and Contrasting the Mayas, Incas, and

Aztecs

While all three civilizations were highly advanced and left indelible marks on history, significant differences existed in their geographical settings, political structures, and cultural practices. The Maya were characterized by independent city-states in the tropical rainforest, with a strong emphasis on intellectual pursuits like astronomy and writing. The Inca built a vast, unified empire in the Andes mountains, renowned for their engineering, infrastructure, and centralized administration. The Aztecs established their empire in the Valley of Mexico, centered on the remarkable city of Tenochtitlan, and were known for their militaristic expansion and complex religious rituals.

Enduring Legacies of Mesoamerican and Andean Civilizations

The legacies of the Maya, Inca, and Aztec civilizations continue to resonate today. Their architectural marvels draw millions of visitors annually, their artistic traditions inspire contemporary creators, and their contributions to astronomy, mathematics, and agriculture remain subjects of academic study and admiration. The languages, customs, and descendants of these ancient peoples are still present in modern Mexico, Central America, and the Andean regions, a living testament to their enduring influence and the rich tapestry of human history they helped to weave.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the most significant enduring legacy of the Maya civilization?

The Maya's most significant enduring legacy is their advanced understanding of astronomy, mathematics, and their intricate writing system (hieroglyphs). Their accurate calendar system and deciphered hieroglyphs continue to provide invaluable insights into their complex society, beliefs, and history.

How did the Incas manage to build and administer such a vast empire?

The Incas achieved this through a highly organized administrative system, a sophisticated network of roads (the Qhapaq Ñan), and the concept of the mita system, which was a form of mandatory public service. They also utilized a system of quipu (knotted cords) for record-keeping and communication, enabling efficient governance over their vast Andean territory.

What were the primary causes of the Aztec Empire's downfall?

The Aztec Empire's downfall was a complex interplay of factors, including internal dissent among conquered peoples, the arrival of Spanish conquistadors led by Hernán Cortés, devastating diseases like smallpox introduced by the Europeans, and superior Spanish military technology and tactics. Alliances formed by Cortés with disgruntled tribes were crucial.

Beyond pyramids, what other architectural achievements are notable from the Maya, Inca, and Aztec civilizations?

All three civilizations excelled in diverse architecture. The Maya are known for their observatories and complex water management systems. The Incas engineered impressive fortresses like Machu Picchu and sophisticated agricultural terraces. The Aztecs developed the impressive chinampas (floating gardens) and intricate canal systems within their capital city, Tenochtitlan.

How did the religious beliefs of the Maya, Inca, and Aztecs influence their daily lives and societal structures?

Religion was central to all three. Maya religion was polytheistic, with deities associated with natural forces, influencing their calendars and rituals. The Incas revered the sun god Inti and saw their emperor as divine, shaping their social hierarchy and political authority. The Aztecs also practiced polytheism, with a strong emphasis on appeasing gods through sacrifices, which deeply impacted their warfare and social order.

What common misconceptions exist about these pre-Columbian civilizations?

Common misconceptions include viewing them as primitive or solely focused on warfare. In reality, they possessed advanced knowledge in various fields, had complex social and political structures, and contributed significantly to human civilization in areas like agriculture, mathematics, and urban planning. The idea that they were a monolithic entity is also incorrect, as each had distinct cultures and developments.

Additional Resources

Here are 9 book titles related to the Maya, Inca, and Aztec civilizations, with descriptions:

1. *The Maya and Their Descendants*

This book explores the fascinating history of the Maya civilization, from their advanced calendrical systems and monumental architecture to their complex societal structures. It also delves into the enduring legacy of the Maya people, examining their cultural traditions and resilience in the face of historical challenges. The work highlights their contributions to mathematics, astronomy, and art.

2. *Inca Empire: The Golden Age*

Focusing on the peak of the Inca Empire, this title illuminates their remarkable administrative prowess and vast territorial expansion. It details their sophisticated road network, ingenious agricultural techniques like terracing, and their impressive stonework without mortar. The book also touches upon their unique social hierarchy and the eventual fall of their powerful realm.

3. *Aztec Civilization: Lords of Tenochtitlan*

This exploration delves into the vibrant and complex world of the Aztec Empire, centered in their magnificent capital city of Tenochtitlan. It covers their intricate religious beliefs, their militaristic society, and their impressive achievements in art, poetry, and engineering. The narrative also addresses the Spanish conquest and its devastating impact.

4. *Echoes of the Sun Kings: Maya Mythology and Rituals*

Uncovering the spiritual heart of the Maya, this book examines their rich pantheon of gods and the intricate rituals that governed their lives. It explores their creation myths, their understanding of the cosmos, and the significance of practices like bloodletting and sacrifice. The text provides insights into how these beliefs shaped Maya society and worldview.

5. *The Road to Machu Picchu: Inca Engineering Marvels*

This title celebrates the extraordinary engineering achievements of the Inca civilization, with a special focus on their iconic citadel, Machu Picchu. It details the innovative techniques used to construct their cities, fortresses, and agricultural terraces in challenging mountainous terrain. The book highlights their understanding of geology and their ability to harmonize with their environment.

6. *Mexica Legacy: The Aztec Pantheon and Warfare*

This work provides a comprehensive look at the Aztec people, known as the Mexica, focusing on their religious practices and their formidable military strength. It examines the roles of key deities, the importance of the jaguar and eagle warriors, and the strategic campaigns that expanded their dominion. The book offers a nuanced perspective on their societal values and motivations.

7. *The Serpent and the Jaguar: Maya Glyphs and Kingship*

This book delves into the world of Maya hieroglyphic writing, unlocking the secrets of their royal histories and dynastic lineages. It explores the symbolism associated with the serpent and the jaguar in Maya art and cosmology, and how these elements reinforced the divine right of their

rulers. The text offers a fascinating glimpse into their understanding of power and authority.

8. *Children of the Sun: Inca Empire and Its People*

This title offers an intimate portrait of the Inca Empire by focusing on the lives of its people, from emperors to commoners. It explores their daily routines, their social organization, and their deep connection to the sun god Inti. The book paints a vivid picture of their communal spirit and the vast network of relationships that sustained their civilization.

9. *The Blood of the Earth: Aztec Cosmvision and Sacrifice*

This compelling read investigates the profound and often dramatic cosmvision of the Aztec people, emphasizing the central role of sacrifice in their worldview. It explores their understanding of the cyclical nature of time, the importance of appeasing the gods, and the rituals surrounding human sacrifice. The book seeks to explain the motivations behind these practices within their unique cultural context.

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Mayas, Incas, and Aztecs: A Comparative Study of Pre-Columbian Civilizations

Ebook Title: Echoes of the Ancients: A Comparative Study of the Maya, Inca, and Aztec Civilizations

Author: Dr. Elena Ramirez

Outline:

Introduction: Overview of the three civilizations, geographical locations, and time periods. Brief comparison highlighting commonalities and differences.

Chapter 1: The Maya Civilization: Political organization, societal structure, advancements in mathematics, astronomy, and writing, decline and fall.

Chapter 2: The Inca Civilization: Imperial expansion, sophisticated road system, unique agricultural techniques (terracing), religious beliefs and practices, the impact of Spanish conquest.

Chapter 3: The Aztec Civilization: Rise to power through military might, tribute system, religious practices and human sacrifice, the capital city of Tenochtitlan, and the Spanish conquest.

Chapter 4: Comparative Analysis: A detailed comparison of the three civilizations across key aspects - political systems, social structures, economic systems, religious beliefs, technological advancements, and the impact of European colonization.

Conclusion: Summary of key findings, lasting legacies, and the continuing importance of studying these remarkable pre-Columbian cultures.

Echoes of the Ancients: A Comparative Study of the Maya, Inca, and Aztec Civilizations

Introduction: A Glimpse into Pre-Columbian America

The pre-Columbian Americas were home to vibrant and sophisticated civilizations that developed independently of the Old World. Among the most prominent were the Maya, Inca, and Aztec empires, each possessing unique characteristics and leaving behind a rich cultural legacy. This study delves into the intricacies of these three civilizations, examining their political structures, social organizations, economic systems, religious beliefs, technological advancements, and ultimately, their encounters with European colonization. While geographically separated and possessing distinct identities, comparisons between these civilizations reveal fascinating parallels and contrasts that illuminate the diverse tapestry of pre-Columbian life. Understanding these societies is crucial not only for appreciating their individual accomplishments but also for gaining a broader perspective on human history and cultural development. Their stories remind us of the remarkable capacity of humans to build complex societies and create enduring cultural achievements, even in the face of immense challenges.

Chapter 1: The Maya Civilization - A Flourishing of Knowledge and Art

The Maya civilization, flourishing in present-day Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, Honduras, and El Salvador, from approximately 250 to 900 CE, is renowned for its intellectual and artistic achievements. Their sophisticated understanding of mathematics and astronomy is evidenced by their highly accurate calendar system, which incorporated both short-count and long-count cycles, allowing them to predict celestial events with remarkable precision. The Maya also developed a complex writing system - one of the few fully developed writing systems in the Americas - utilizing glyphs to record historical events, astronomical observations, and religious beliefs. Their cities, like Tikal and Palenque, were centers of power and religious activity, featuring impressive pyramids, temples, and palaces that reflect their advanced architectural skills. Maya society was hierarchical, with a ruling elite, priests, merchants, farmers, and artisans occupying different social strata. Political organization varied from independent city-states to periods of larger regional alliances. The reasons for the Classic Maya collapse are still debated, with theories ranging from environmental degradation to internal conflict and overpopulation. The legacy of the Maya civilization continues to resonate, evident in the surviving ruins, intricate art, and the enduring mystery of their complex calendar system.

Chapter 2: The Inca Civilization - An Empire Built on Roads and Terraces

The Inca Empire, spanning across the Andes Mountains in present-day Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia, Argentina, and Chile, emerged in the 15th century CE. Known for their exceptional engineering feats, the Inca built a vast network of roads connecting their empire, facilitating communication and trade. Their ingenuity extended to agriculture, where they developed sophisticated terracing techniques to cultivate crops on steep mountain slopes, maximizing arable land. The Inca utilized a system of quipu - knotted strings - for record-keeping, demonstrating their innovative approach to information management. The empire's political structure was highly centralized, with a Sapa Inca at its apex, controlling all aspects of governance and wielding absolute authority. Religion played a central role in Inca society, with the worship of various deities and elaborate rituals. Their conquest by the Spanish in the 16th century marked a tragic end to a remarkable civilization, but their legacy lives on in their impressive architectural achievements, intricate weaving techniques, and the enduring impact of their unique cultural practices.

Chapter 3: The Aztec Civilization - A Powerful Empire Through Military Might

The Aztec civilization, dominating central Mexico from the 14th to the 16th centuries CE, rose to prominence through military might. Their capital city, Tenochtitlan, built on an island in Lake Texcoco, was a testament to their engineering prowess and urban planning. The Aztecs established a vast empire through conquest and a sophisticated tribute system, demanding resources and labor from subjugated city-states. Their religion was complex, featuring a pantheon of gods and goddesses and characterized by the practice of human sacrifice, a ritual that played a significant role in their religious and political life. The Aztec social structure was hierarchical, with warriors, priests, merchants, artisans, and farmers occupying distinct social strata. The Spanish conquest in 1521, led by Hernán Cortés, brought an abrupt end to the Aztec Empire, resulting in the devastation of Tenochtitlan and the disruption of Aztec society. Despite their relatively short reign, the Aztecs left an indelible mark on Mexican history and culture, with their legacy evident in the language, traditions, and archaeological remains of the region.

Chapter 4: A Comparative Analysis: Similarities and Differences

Comparing the Maya, Inca, and Aztec civilizations reveals both remarkable similarities and striking differences. All three possessed complex social hierarchies, sophisticated agricultural techniques, and impressive architectural skills. However, their political structures differed significantly. The Maya were organized into independent city-states, while the Inca established a highly centralized empire, and the Aztecs controlled a vast network of tributary states. Their religious beliefs, while varied, all emphasized a pantheon of gods and goddesses and incorporated elaborate ritual practices. The technological advancements of each civilization also differed; the Maya excelled in

mathematics and astronomy, the Inca in engineering and agriculture, and the Aztecs in military organization and urban planning. The impact of European colonization, however, was devastating to all three civilizations, resulting in the loss of life, cultural disruption, and the exploitation of resources. Studying these similarities and differences provides valuable insights into the diverse trajectories of human development and the complexities of societal evolution.

Conclusion: Enduring Legacies and Continued Relevance

The Maya, Inca, and Aztec civilizations, though geographically separated and possessing distinct cultural features, stand as testaments to human ingenuity and adaptability. Their accomplishments in mathematics, astronomy, architecture, agriculture, and political organization continue to fascinate and inspire researchers and the public alike. Understanding these civilizations is crucial for gaining a broader perspective on human history, appreciating the rich diversity of cultural development, and recognizing the long-term impact of colonization. Their legacies continue to shape the cultural landscape of the Americas, reminding us of the importance of preserving and understanding the past to inform our present and future. Further research and exploration are essential to unlock the remaining mysteries of these remarkable pre-Columbian societies.

FAQs:

1. What were the main differences between the Maya and Aztec calendars?
2. How did the Inca maintain control over such a vast empire?
3. What were the primary causes of the collapse of the Classic Maya civilization?
4. What role did human sacrifice play in Aztec society?
5. How did Inca agriculture differ from that of the Maya and Aztecs?
6. What were the long-term effects of the Spanish conquest on the three civilizations?
7. How accurate is our understanding of the Maya writing system today?
8. What are some of the major archaeological sites associated with each civilization?
9. How did the social structures of these civilizations compare and contrast?

Related Articles:

1. The Maya Calendar and its Significance: An in-depth exploration of the Maya calendar system, its accuracy, and its cultural significance.
2. Inca Road Systems: Engineering Marvels of the Andes: A detailed examination of the Inca road network, its construction, and its impact on the empire.
3. Aztec Human Sacrifice: Ritual, Religion, and Politics: An analysis of human sacrifice in Aztec society, its religious context, and its social implications.
4. The Collapse of the Classic Maya: Environmental Factors and Social Upheavals: An investigation into the various theories explaining the decline of the Classic Maya civilization.
5. Inca Terracing: Agricultural Innovation in the Andes Mountains: A study of Inca agricultural techniques and their adaptability to challenging environments.
6. The Spanish Conquest of the Aztec Empire: Strategies, Tactics, and Consequences: An examination of the Spanish conquest of the Aztecs, focusing on the military strategies and long-term

effects.

7. Maya Glyphs: Deciphering the Secrets of a Lost Language: An overview of the Maya writing system, its decipherment, and its contributions to our understanding of Maya culture.

8. Comparison of Pre-Columbian Urban Planning: Maya, Inca, and Aztec Cities: A comparative analysis of urban design and planning in the three civilizations.

9. The Legacy of Pre-Columbian Civilizations in Modern Latin America: An exploration of the enduring impact of the Maya, Inca, and Aztec cultures on contemporary Latin American societies.

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mayas inkas azteken: Mayas, Incas, and Aztecs Wendy Conklin, 2007-01-05 The Mayas, Incas, and Aztecs were three groups of people found living in the ancient Americas. Though they were clearly alike, they were also unique. All three civilizations ended when Spanish explorers moved into the Americas.

mayas inkas azteken: Aztec, Inca and Maya Robert Snedden, 2009 Covers the inventions and technology of the Aztecs, Incas, and Maya and how their ideas influenced technology today.

mayas inkas azteken: Tales of the Plumed Serpent Diana Ferguson, 2000 Fascinated by the history and cultures of three highly developed ancient societies--the Mayans, followed by the Aztecs in Mesoamerica and the Incas farther south--Ferguson examines their artifacts and those of the Spanish conquistadors, in relation to the traditions preserved today by their many descendants...Part anthropological study, part history and part folklore... distills a huge amount of information to present a clear, uncluttered and rich resource.--Publishers Weekly. Fun, inspiring, educational, and all in all, a great read.--The New Times.

mayas inkas azteken: Mayan, Incan, and Aztec Civilizations, Grades 5 - 8 Michael Kramme, Ph.D., 2012-01-03 Provides lessons and activities on the history, literature, music, geography, and art of the three ancient civilizations.

mayas inkas azteken: Gods & Goddesses of the Inca, Maya, and Aztec Civilizations John Murphy, 2014-07-15 Sharing many common beliefs, deities, and rituals, the religion of the Maya, Aztec, and Inca was rooted in both the earth and the sky, the rhythms of the seasons, and the movements of the sun, moon, and stars. Readers will meet rain and sun gods, corn gods and fertility gods, earth mothers who are both creators and destroyers, and even a feathered serpent. Lavish primary-source images of arts and artifacts are paired with text that is both information-packed and enthralling. Readers who enter this pantheon are in for an awe-inspiring cultural journey through the divine mysteries of time and space.

mayas inkas azteken: Mayas, Incas, and Aztecs Wendy Conklin, 2007-01-05 The Mayas, Incas, and Aztecs were three groups of people found living in the ancient Americas, including the Andes Mountains and a city named Tenochtitlán. This intriguing book features details about these three incredible civilizations and explores how each of them fell when Spanish explorers found their settlements. Through detailed images and maps, captivating sidebars and facts, and an accessible glossary and index, readers will learn about leaders like Moctezuma as well as how these civilizations used farming, hieroglyphics, and glyphs to create their unique cultures.

mayas inkas azteken: ,

mayas inkas azteken: The Indian Background of Latin American History Robert Wauchope, 1970

mayas inkas azteken: Ibss: Anthropology: 1978 International Committee for Social Science Information and Documentation, 1990-12-31 First published in 1981. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

mayas inkas azteken: Naturraum Lateinamerika Axel Borsdorf, Walter Hödl, 2006

mayas inkas azteken: Neue Chronik der Weltgeschichte , 2007

mayas inkas azteken: The Visual Language of Technique Luigi Cocchiarella, 2015-03-14

The book is inspired by the first seminar in a cycle connected to the celebrations of the 150th anniversary of the Politecnico di Milano. Dealing with the Image Ivory Towers and Virtual Bridges was the motto of this meeting, aiming to stimulate a discussion among engineers, designers and architects, all of whom are traditionally involved in the use of the Image as a specialized language supporting their work, their research activities and their educational tasks. The book will also include the essays of invited or interviewed authors from other disciplines, namely Philosophy, Mathematics and Semiotics. According to Régis Debray, in the present Visual Age, which he has significantly defined as a Video-Sphere, all the information tends to be processed and controlled by means of visual devices. This occurs especially in the various branches of many technical studies and activities, one of the most sensitive areas to the use of Visual Language in the past and even more in the present.

mayas inkas azteken: Das Reich der Azteken. Eine mesoamerikanische Hochkultur

Natalie Ruf, 2018-11-26 Studienarbeit aus dem Jahr 2018 im Fachbereich Ethnologie / Volkskunde, Note: 1,7, Eberhard-Karls-Universität Tübingen, Veranstaltung: Politik - und Religionsethnologie, Sprache: Deutsch, Abstract: Diese Arbeit soll den Versuch wagen, die komplexe, überaus faszinierende Hochkultur der Azteken in einem kurzen historischen Überblick darzustellen, eine Vorstellung von dem bevölkerten Areal des aztekischen Reiches, ihrer politischen Organisation und Gesellschaftsstruktur zu vermitteln, sowie ihre religiösen Bräuche und Glaubenssysteme aufzuzeigen. Der Schwerpunkt dieser Arbeit liegt dabei auf der Hochphase der Azteken unter der Regentschaft von Moctezuma II. und des Aztekischen Dreibundes. All dies zwangsläufig hinführend zum überaus raschen Untergang des Aztekenreiches, herbeigeführt durch die spanische Eroberung und Kolonialisierung, welche in dieser Arbeit jedoch nicht genauer thematisiert werden soll. Um diesem Vorhaben gerecht zu werden bedarf es einer umfassenden und kritischen Literaturrecherche, um eine möglichst genaue, wahrheitsgetreue und vor allem objektive Perspektive auf die Geschichte und das Leben der Azteken in Mesoamerika zu gewinnen. Dabei ist es durchweg nötig die Azteken als Volk aus ihrer Zeit heraus zu verstehen und sich bewusst zu machen, dass bis heute große Lücken in der Erkenntnismöglichkeit zu dem realen Leben der Azteken bestehen.

mayas inkas azteken: Cities of Blood Peter Ackroyd, 2005 From human sacrifice and war to royal palaces, explore the awesome history of Meso America. Take a trip through the Zapotecs' City of the Gods or learn about the Aztec practice of human sacrifice. Cities of Blood has everything you need to know about some of history's most fascinating and bloodiest civilizations. Peter Ackroyd brilliantly brings to life the magic of Meso America - it's history, but not as you know it

mayas inkas azteken: *Die Magie der Duftstoffe* Arnold Krumm-Heller, 2023-03-02 Wie sich in der Natur für unser Menschaugen alles langsam aufbaut, aus dem Nichts wird, keimt, wächst, blüht und gedeiht, so ist es in uns mit geistigen Eindrücken und geistiger Arbeit. Wir leben und in uns leben Gedanken, Wünsche und Hoffnungen. So fühle ich mich innerlich verpflichtet, ja gedrängt, das jahrelang Gedachte und Erlebte aufzuschreiben und zu veröffentlichen. Ich entschieße mich dazu, nach langen Jahren der Sammlung, des Sammels und Kämpfens, in der nachfolgenden Abhandlung meine festgehaltenen und niedergelegten Gedankengänge und die sich darauf stützenden Beobachtungen und Tatsachen der Feder anzuvertrauen.

mayas inkas azteken: *Deutsche Bibliographie* , 1980

mayas inkas azteken: *Lengua, historia e identidad* Wolfgang Dahmen, 2006

mayas inkas azteken: *Vergessene Welten* Yusuf D, 2022-08-09 Du interessierst dich für das Wissen antiker Lehrmeister? Dich erwartet hier: -Antike Geschichte -Verborgenes Wissen -Rätsel und Mythologie -Fakten und Bilderbeweise -Interviews mit Zeitzeugen -Mündliche Überlieferung antiker Gelehrter -Wissen rund um die Welt -Schwarze Magie Und vieles mehr was jeden Geschichtsliebhaber interessiert

mayas inkas azteken: *Die Erben der Larojaner* K.B. Stock, 2015-03-11 Alex Kranz, ehemaliger Polizeibeamter und inzwischen erfolgreicher Unternehmer, gerät am 31.08.2014 völlig überraschend in einen Kriminalfall, der sein Leben nachhaltig verändert. Einmal mehr als externer

Berater des Polizeipräsidiums München angefordert, lernt er im Zuge der Ermittlungen mit Prof. Dr. Mora Klausner nicht nur seine zukünftige Frau kennen, sondern entdeckt zusammen mit der jungen Archäologin eher zufällig in einer Felsenhöhle am Hammerberg das in der Nähe des Chiemsees vor über 2.700 Jahren bei einem Meteoriteneinschlag gestrandete Raumschiff KUNTUR. Wie sich beim ersten Kontakt mit der immer noch an Bord befindlichen, unsterblichen Androidenbesatzung herausstellt, sind sowohl Alex, als auch seine spätere Ehefrau Mora, Nachfahren der ursprünglichen Besatzung. Diese hatte seinerzeit den Kontakt zum heimatlichen Laro-System aus zunächst unbekannten Gründen schon beim Erreichen der Erde verloren. Die KUNTUR, ein Explorerschiff der larojanischen Flotte, war nämlich mit dem Auftrag unterwegs, den Ursprungsplaneten des larojanischen Volkes wiederzufinden, von dem aus die Vorfahren der Larojaner vor über 60 Mio. Jahren, wegen des unmittelbar bevorstehenden Einschlags eines Doppelasteroiden, mittels ihrer hochentwickelten Raumfahrttechnologie geflohen waren. Nur war die Position dieses Planeten nach der beschwerlichen Reise durch das Weltall im Laufe der Zeit verloren gegangen und in den Aufzeichnungen der Urahnen nicht mehr präsent. Alex und Mora als neue Kommandanten der verunglückten KUNTUR gelingt es nach Einschaltung von Regierung und Behörden, unter Einsatz der phantastischen technischen Möglichkeiten der Androiden nicht nur den rätselhaften Mordanschlag auf die junge Professorin aufzuklären, sondern auch im unmittelbaren Anschluss daran noch weitere, anfangs äußerst undurchsichtige Kriminalfälle zu lösen. Gleichzeitig beschließt und beginnt man, die KUNTUR und ihre Beiboote mit Regierungshilfe wieder für interstellare Flüge instand zu setzen ...

mayas inkas azteken: *A Bookman's Guide to the Indians of the Americas* Richard A. Hand, 1989 A compilation of 10,357 catalogue entries with prices and annotations. Bibliographical and descriptive. The book is based upon 200 catalogs issued by 21 dealers listing 6,651 separate titles. Duplicates reflect variant prices and editions. Entries are listed alphabetically by author and include gene

mayas inkas azteken: *Geschichte und Gegenwart der europäischen Kultur. Storia e presente della cultura europea* Matthias Kaufmann e Fabrizio Lomonaco (a cura di), Matthias Kaufmann (a cura di), Fabrizio Lomonaco (a cura di), 2012-09-20 Le pagine qui raccolte riproducono i testi del Seminario internazionale di studi svoltosi ad Halle nel 2011 intorno alla polisemia del termine cultura in Europa tra passato e presente. L'iniziativa vede la luce in una delicatissima fase di trasformazione del vecchio continente, invaso da forti turbolenze del capitale finanziario in un contesto di globalizzazione tale da minacciare le economie reali dei vecchi Stati nazionali. E con le economie giungono al pettine i nodi dell'etica e della politica, dell'antropologia e dell'epistemologia, affiorando, in particolare, i temi dell'identità e del riconoscimento, del multiculturalismo e dell'interculturalismo nei di-versi linguaggi della cultura europea. Ad essere coinvolto non è solo il profilo continentale ma anche quello che si delinea a sud, nel Mediterraneo d'Europa e nei paesi (come la Giordania) che vivono emblematici "paradossi". Queste pagine provano a interrogarli da latitudini differenziate ed estese, evocando anche pensatori di eccezionale statura intellettuale come Banfi, Cassirer e Hayek. «Dem Begriff der Kultur wird in den Debatten der letzten zwei Jahrzehnte die Funktion zugewiesen, neben oder sogar gegen die staatliche Organisation die Identität einer Gruppe zu sichern, damit sie ihre Ansprüche gegen den Staat, gegen die „Mehrheitskultur“, oder auch schlicht gegen „Kulturen“ oder „Zivilisationen“ verteidigen, von denen man sich bedroht sieht. Von der Identität verspricht man sich ein irgendwie beruhigendes Wissen um die eigene Zugehörigkeit, Sicherheit im Urteil und im Umgang mit Fragen der Wertung, aber auch Zusammenhalt der Gemeinschaft. Ein Problem liegt darin, dass die Identitätsfindung noch deutlich unsicherer zu verlaufen scheint als bei der Nation. Interessant ist hier, dass es bereits eine kontinuierliche terminologische Unsicherheit im Umgang mit „Kultur“ und Zivilisation“ innerhalb und zwischen den westeuropäischen Sprachen gibt: Huntingtons „Clash of Civilisations“ wird z.B. auf Deutsch zum „Kampf der Kulturen“, auf Italienisch zum „Scontro delle civiltà“» (dalla Introduzione di M. Kaufmann).

mayas inkas azteken: *Berge, Höhlen und Wasser* Caspar Felix Klein, 2009 Studienarbeit aus

dem Jahr 2009 im Fachbereich Geowissenschaften / Geographie - Geologie, Mineralogie, Bodenkunde, Note: sehr gut, Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn (Geographisches Institut), Veranstaltung: Spezialseminar Mexiko, Sprache: Deutsch, Abstract: Diese Arbeit beschäftigt sich mit der ideationalen Bedeutung von Landschaft für prehispanische Kulturen. Einleitend wird zunächst der Begriff ideationalal unter diesem Kontext näher definiert. Anschließend folgt eine genauere Darstellung der Weltvorstellungen der prehispanischen Maya und damit einhergehende Auswirkungen auf den Raum. Der Focus liegt hier vor allem auf den räumlichen Elementen Berge, Höhlen und Wasser. Abschließend werden anhand von verschiedenen Fallbeispielen die zuvor behandelten Inhalte diskutiert. Keywords: prehispanische Kulturen, Maya, ideationale Bedeutung von Landschaft

mayas inkas azteken: Bibliographic Guide to Latin American Studies Benson Latin American Collection, 1991

mayas inkas azteken: *Allgemeine Geschichte der Litteratur von ihren Anfängen bis auf die Gegenwart* Gustav Karpeles, 1891

mayas inkas azteken: Mythos und Philosophie im alten Amerika Heinz Krumpel, 2010 Das Buch beschäftigt sich mit Grundzügen des mythologischen und philosophischen Denkens im alten Amerika. Die Aktualität dieser Thematik ergibt sich aus der sich seit Beginn des 21. Jahrhunderts vollziehenden indigenen Emanzipationsbewegung, die auf eine lange historische Tradition zurückblicken kann. Altamerikanische Mythen haben bis heute im Rahmen von christlichen Mischreligionen ihre Bedeutung erhalten. Im Mittelpunkt steht u. a. die Rolle und Funktion sozialer Mythen. Ausgegangen wird von den Mythosdeutungen Vicos, Herders, Hegels, Schellings und Cassirers und ihrer Bedeutung für das alte Amerika. Es geht um die Vergewisserung ihrer universellen Gültigkeit im Kontext der Verknüpfung von Universalität und Partikularität menschlicher Vernunftstätigkeit, Phantasie und Einbildungskraft. Diese Veröffentlichung wendet sich nicht nur an Fachphilosophen, sondern spricht einen breiten Leserkreis an, dessen Interesse der altamerikanischen Kultur und ihrer Bedeutung für heute gilt.

mayas inkas azteken: Essen muss der Mensch Inka Faltynowicz, 2009

mayas inkas azteken: Januskopf Friederike Schmoe, 2007-07-01 Im unterfränkischen Königsberg stürzt eine Frau in den Tod. War es ein Unfall, Selbstmord oder Mord? Für den verdächtigen Todesfall wird der neue Klient der Bamberger Privatdetektivin Katinka Palfy verantwortlich gemacht. Dieser leidet an einer Persönlichkeitsspaltung, die ihn unberechenbar macht. Als zwei weitere Morde geschehen und ein Anschlag auf Katinka verübt wird, entdeckt Kommissar Uttenreuther Erschreckendes: Der Täter scheint E. T. A. Hoffmanns »Die Elixiere des Teufels« nachzuspielen. Wenn das stimmt, wird es einen weiteren Mord geben ...

mayas inkas azteken: Die Entdeckung der geteilten Sonne vom Ritten Dietmar Bernardi, 2018-12-04 Dieser Forschungsbericht beschreibt das Vorgehen und die Ergebnisse einer kulturastronomischen Untersuchung in einem ausgewählten kleinen Gebiet am Ritten in Südtirol, besonders in der Umgebung von wichtigen prähistorischen Siedlungsplätzen. Die Kulturastronomie ist in Südtirol ein noch unbekanntes Forschungsgebiet im Grenzbereich von Archäologie und Astronomie, die sich mit der vorgeschichtlichen Himmelskunde des Menschen befasst. Dabei geht es um das Aufzeigen der Einbindung des Menschen in die periodischen Abläufe am Tages- und Nachthimmel, die astronomischen Einflüsse auf menschliche Verhaltensweisen, die vermutete astronomische Funktion prähistorischer und archaischer Objekte, wie die Ausrichtung von Gräbern, die Kreisgrabenanlagen, die neolithischen und megalithischen Denkmäler, und um die Kontinuität archaischer Sonnenbeobachtungstechniken in historischer Zeit. Ein früherer Begriff für Kulturastronomie ist auch noch Archäoastronomie. Eine geteilte Sonne ist ein Sonnenphänomen, bei dem die Sonne links und rechts eines sehr steilen Berges gleichzeitig hervorscheint. Besonders die astronomische Regelmäßigkeit und Wiederkehr dieses Sonnenphänomens, zusammen mit der geeigneten natürlichen Landschaftsformation mit Nutzungsmöglichkeit für eine Jahressonnenuhr, und die Festlegung eines Jahreskalenders waren für die Menschen in der Prähistorie von großer Bedeutung. Dieses Sonnenphänomen einer geteilten Sonne, das ca. 1 Minute nach dem

Sonnenaufgang in der tiefen Kerbe am Horizont zwischen den Felsspitzen Santner und Euringer in der Prähistorie zu sehen war und auch heute noch zu sehen ist, ist sehr selten und spektakulär in seiner Lichterscheinung. Dieses Sonnenphänomen, das ungefähr 1 Minute lang zu sehen ist, soll nun hier näher beschrieben werden. Es ist nur zwei Mal im Jahr vom Ritten aus an bestimmten Tagen bei gutem Wetter zu sehen. Dadurch ist die Häufung prähistorischer Fundstellen am Ost- und Südostabhang des Rittens astronomisch erklärbar.

mayas inkas azteken: *Der Bauplan der Megalithanlage vom Ritten* Dietmar Bernardi, 2021-02-15 Es wird gezeigt, dass es auch möglich ist, die scheinbare Horizonthöhe der Sonne und damit auch die Deklination der Sonne auch rein geometrisch mit Hilfe eines Dreiecks, eines Kreises und zweier Tangenten an den Kreis zu bestimmen. Man kann mit dieser geometrischen Methode auch die Deklination der Sonne bestimmen, wenn man die Kimmtiefe und die Astronomische Refraktion nicht berücksichtigt. Deswegen wurden diese Menhire überhaupt so angeordnet. Es wird in einer geometrischen Zeichnung eine Methode aufgezeigt, wie man mit dieser Methode eine mathematische Formel zur Berechnung der scheinbaren Horizonthöhe der Sonne ausgedrückt als Vertikalwinkel $H = R * \tan \alpha^\circ$ bestimmen kann. Der Kreis um den großen Menhir ME01 in Wolfgruben auf dem Ritten in Südtirol wurde so in der Natur festgelegt, dass eine Tangente an diesen Kreis genau den Menhir ME07 trifft, damit auf diese geometrische Weise die Deklination der Sonne abgelesen werden kann. Das entspricht der mathematischen Formel $H = R * \tan \alpha^\circ$, wobei H die scheinbare Horizonthöhe, R der Radius des Kreises ist und tan die Winkelfunktion Tangens ist. Die scheinbare Horizonthöhe ist ein Höhenwinkel alpha in Winkelgrad°. Die heutige mathematische Berechnungsmethode zur Bestimmung der scheinbaren Höhenwinkels h_s kommt zum gleichen Ergebnis wie die in einer geometrischen Abbildung gezeigte geometrische Methode zur Bestimmung des Höhenwinkels H. Dieses Steinzeit-Sonnenobservatorium hatte mehrere Funktionen: Es diente als Sonnenobservatorium, Zeitbestimmungsmaschine, Kalenderanlage für Sonne (und Mond), Sonnenuhr, Bestattungsanlage, Kultplatz oder Tempel.

mayas inkas azteken: Deutsche Nationalbibliographie und Bibliographie der im Ausland erschienenen deutschsprachigen Veröffentlichungen , 2003

mayas inkas azteken: *Host Bibliographic Record for Boundwith Item Barcode 30112117958063 and Others* , 1922

mayas inkas azteken: *Der Andere in der ideologischen Vorstellungskraft* Stephan Scheuzger, 2009

mayas inkas azteken: ZBV 40: Bezugspunkt Atlantis K.H. Scheer, 2013-10-29 Die Menschheit des Jahres 2011 hat keine Zeit mehr zu verlieren. Ihre Existenz ist durch die Ereignisse der marsianisch-atlantischen Vergangenheit aufs höchste gefährdet. Die GWA-Schatten Thor Konnat und Hannibal Utan wissen das am allerbesten. Auf ihrer zweiten Expedition in das Jahr 185.000 vor der Zeitwende dürfen sie sich keinen einzigen Fehler erlauben. Sie müssen Atlantis erreichen, koste es, was es wolle. Nur das Erbe des Mars kann ihnen dabei helfen.

mayas inkas azteken: **Protokoll des ... Kongresses der Kommunistischen Internationale** Communist International. Congress, 1928

mayas inkas azteken: *WAS SEID IHR nur für Menschen* Charly Michel, 2017-01-27 Die Besucher des Plejaden-Systems haben sich selbst eingeladen, um die Menschen vor einer zukünftigen Katastrophe zu warnen und sie darauf vorzubereiten. Über Camp David beim US-Präsidenten bis zu einer UNO-Vollversammlung, die im Dezember 2022 stattfindet. Zwei dieser außergewöhnlichen Besucher wollen ein Jahr bei den Menschen leben. Ende des Jahres 2022 tritt eine von den Menschen produzierte Katastrophe ein.

mayas inkas azteken: Revolutionäre Bewegung in den Kolonien. Lage in der Sowjetunion. Berichte der Kommissionen. Wahlen. [1928]. 22 cm, 644 S. - Mit Regn Communist International, Communist International. Congress, 1928

mayas inkas azteken: **Im Labyrinth der Sphinx** Peter Lemar, 2020-03-20 Der Journalist Paul Linquist erstet die Kopie eines prähistorischen Papyrus, auf dem die legendäre Halle der Urkunden eingezeichnet ist, eine unterirdische Halle des Wissens. Mit dem Ägyptologen Edwin Stallgatter

macht er sich auf nach Gizeh, um die Halle zu finden. Während beide ein unterirdisches Labyrinth durchqueren, wird Stallgatters Bruder auf der Area 51 für ein geheimes Raumfahrtprogramm angeworben. Als schließlich offenbar wird, dass der Mensch keine einzigartige Spezies ist, taucht auf einmal der mysteriöse David Gotthilf auf und mit ihm viele Fragen: Was ist der Mensch? Was sind Geist und Seele? Gibt es tatsächlich eine Welt der reinen Ideen, eine Zahlenmatrix, die alle Informationen für unsere Erscheinungswelt enthält, einschließlich der gesamten Historie, ja des Schicksals eines jeden Menschen? Das Buch behandelt brisante Themengebiete wie Zahlentheorie, Gentechnik und UFOs. Ein Geheimtipp für Leser jenseits des Tellerrands.

mayas inkas azteken: Ethnographic Bibliography of South America Timothy J. O'Leary (médecin biologiste).), 1963

mayas inkas azteken: Meine kaukasische Schwiegermutter Wladimir Kaminer, 2010-08-23
Kaukasisch. Komisch. Kaminer. Aus dem Schrebergarten in den Kaukasus – ein echter Kaminer! Es ist das Paradies auf Erden: süße Melonen, emsige Bienen, pralle Weintrauben und spottbillige Prada-Taschen von Channel. Das gibt es nur an einem besonderen Ort: dem Kaukasus. Hier lebt die Schwiegermutter von Wladimir Kaminer samt ihrer Familie in Borodinowka an der Steppenstraße, einem Ort der Lebensfreude, Abenteuer und Begegnungen mit einzigartigen Menschen. Von ihnen erzählt Wladimir Kaminer so hinreißend, dass sie einem sofort ans Herz wachsen: Neben der Schwiegermutter wären da noch Onkel Joe, die Mitarbeiter der Dorfkantine, der Maler Gleb Michailowitsch oder der Imker Juri. Dazu ein paar unsichtbare springende Bartmäuse sowie die beiden frisch gekämmten Kühe der kleinen Siedlung. Als dann auch noch das deutsche Fernsehen kommt, um die Dokumentation »Kaminer Goes Kaukasus« zu drehen, steht Borodinowka kopf ...

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