

# [Name: john kindley](https://assignbuster.com/name-john-kindley/)

Name: John Kindley | Class: GH AP Y (Even) | Date: November 3rd, 2012 | Chapter 12, Peoples and Civilizations of the Americas, 200 - 1500 | Pages 306 - 331 | | Classic-Era Culture and Society in Mesoamerica, 200 - 900: | | \* Remarkable civilization created | | \* Different language + politics, but unified by material culture, religious beliefs + practices, and social structure | Classic Period | \* Classic period (built upon Olmec and other civilizations) | | \* Social classes with distinct roles | | \* Hereditary politics + religious elites controlled towns + villages | | Teotihuacan: | | \* Powerful city-state in central Mexico (100 B. C. E. — 750 C. E.) | Religion | \* Religion = worshipped many gods + lesser spirits, Sun + Moon | | \* Human sacrifice = viewed as sacred duty to the gods and essential | | to the well-being of society | Farming | \* Chinampas = raised fields along lakeshores to increase agriculture | Politics | \* No evidence for single ruler; alliances between elite families | | The Maya: | Location | \* Maya = civilization concentrated in the Yucatan Peninsula, | | Guatemala, and Honduras, but never unified | | \* Contributed mainly in math, astronomy, and the calendar | | \* High pyramids + palaces = meant to awe the masses that came | Decoration | \* Maya = loved decoration | | \* Infused warfare with religious meaning | | \* Society = patrilineal | Contributions | \* Devised elaborate calendar system, concept of 0, and writing | End of Classic Era | \* Maya cities declined due to struggle for resources, which lead to | | class conflict and warfare | | | | | | | | | | | \* Connection with the Mesoamerican societies due to learning about the Aztecs in grade 8 | \* Have visited Mayan cities in Mexico, and have seen temples in real life | \* Question: didn’t the Arabs develop the concept of 0? | | | | The Postclassic Period in Mesoamerica, 900 — 1500: | | \* No single explanation for fall of Teotihuacan and Mayan centers | | The Toltecs: | | \* Powerful postclassic empire in central Mexico (900 — 1175 C. E.) | Origins | \* Origins = unknown (either satellite or migrant populations) | | \* Used military conquest to create powerful empire | Reason for decline | \* Fell by internal power struggles and military threat from the north | | The Aztecs: | | \* Altepetl = ethnic state in ancient Mesoamerica that was the | | common political building block of that region | Society + Politics | \* Calpolli = group of up to hundred families that served as a building | | block of an altepetl (controlled land allocation + taxes + local religious life) | | \* Tenochtitlan = capital of Aztec Empire; in an island in lake Texcoco | | Mexico City created on ruins of Tenochtitlan | | \* Aztecs = AKA Mexica, created empire (1325 — 1521 C. E.) | | \* Aztecs forced defeated peoples to provide goods + labor as tax | Aztec Women | \* Women = held lots of power; held in high esteem; held positions | | like teachers and priestesses; seen as founders of lineages, including | | the royal line | | \* Merchants become rich, but cannot become high nobility | Economic systems | \* Tribute system = system in which defeated peoples were forced to | | pay tax in forms of goods and labor; help development of large cities | | \* Did not use money; used barter instead | | \* Aztec religion = demanded increasing numbers of human sacrifice | \* Connection to Aztecs as I learned about them in grade 8 | \* Noted the familiarities between the Mesoamerican societies, which also had distinct | differences as well | | | | Northern Peoples: | | \* Classic period ends around 900 C. E. | | \* Transfer of irrigation and corn agriculture -> stimulated development in Hohokam and Anasazi society | | Southwestern Desert Cultures: | | \* Anasazi = important culture in southwest US (700 — 1300 C. E.) | | \* Anasazi built multistory residences, and worshipped in | | subterranean buildings (called kivas) | Anasazi women | \* Women = shared agricultural tasks, specialists in many crafts, | | responsible for food preparation and childcare | Anasazi region | \* Anasazi = concentrate in Four Corners region | | Mound Builders: The Hopewell and Mississippian Cultures: | Political structure | \* Chiefdom = form of political organization; ruled by hereditary leader | (Chiefdom) | who had control over collection of villages + towns; based on gift giving | | and commercial links | | \* Political organization + trade + mound building continued by the | | Mississippian culture (largest city = Cahokia) | Ansazi + | \* Environmental changes caused destruction of Anasazi + | Mississippian | Mississippian cultures | Decline | | | | | Andean Civilizations, 200 — 1500 | | \* Environment = sucks for creating civilization | | \* Amerindian peoples of Andean = produced some of the most | | socially complex + politically advanced societies in Western Hemisphere | | Cultural Response to Environmental Challenge | How they adapted | \* Domestication of llamas and alpacas | | \* Farmed at different altitudes to reduce risks from frosts | Social + political | \* Ayllu = Andean lineage group or kin-based community | groups | \* Ayllu = foundation for Andean achievement; members = obligated | | to help fellow members (thought as brothers and sisters) | | \* Mit’a = Andean labor system based on shared obligations to help | | kinsmen and work on behalf of the ruler and religious organizations | Gender distinction | \* Men = hunting, military service, government | | \* Women = textile production, agriculture, home | \* Harsh climates of Andean civilizations = similar to harsh environment of North American | settlers | \* Anasazi + Mississippian culture = one of few civilizations that did not fall due to outside | pressures | | | Moche: | | \* Moche = civilization of north coast of Peru (200 — 700 C. E.) | | \* Built extensive irrigation networks + impressive urban centers | | dominated by brick temples | Political + social | \* Did not establish formal empire nor unified political structure | structure | \* Moche society = theocratic + stratified; priests + military leaders | | had concentrated wealth + power | Decline of Moche | \* Moche centers declined due to long-term climate changes | | \* Wari = new military power, culturally linked to Tiwanaku | | \* Wari contributed to the disappearance of the Moche | | Tiwanaku and Wari: | | \* Tiwanaku = name of capital city and empire centered on the region | | near Lake Titicaca in modern Bolivia (375 — 1000 C. E.) | | \* Llamas = crucial for maintenance of long-distance trade relations | | \* High quality of stone masonry | | \* Stratified society ruled by a hereditary elite | | \* Used military to extend their power over large religions | | The Inca: | | \* Largest and most powerful Andean empire (Cuzco = capital) | | \* Initially a chiefdom -> turned in to military expansion in 1430s | | \* Inca prosperity depended on vast herds of llamas + alpacas | | \* Hereditary chiefs of ayllus included women | | \* Had hostage taking system for politics | | \* Each new ruler began his reign with conquest (legitimize authority) | | \* Khipus = system of knotted colored cords used by preliterate | | Andean peoples to transmit information | | \* Did not produce new technologies; increased economic output | | \* Civil war weakened the Inca on the eve of European arrival | | | | | | | | | | | | | \* Noticed that primary gods for many societies were Sun gods and agricultural gods | \* Pressures from inside took out the Inca society; similar to other societies | \* Khipus = similar to the one that Aztecs used | | |