



Peru : The Incas Kingdom



The Incas were at the head of the largest American Empire.

Towards the end of the 14th century the Empire began its gradual expansion throughout the region, spreading out from the area of Cuzco in the southern region of the Andean mountains of *South America*.

The Empire came to a brutal end with the Spanish invasion led by *Francisco Pizarro* in 1532.

The Inca empire originated in the region of Cuzco (Quechua for the « navel of the world») and grew to cover territory from Columbia to Chile.

A number of relics from that civilization remain, both in Cuzco and elsewhere in the area, mythical sites such as the Sacred Valley of the Incas and Macchu Picchu.

The building of Sacsayhuaman, the great Inca fortress situated 2 kilometres outside of Cuzco, involved 20 000 men and took about 50 years.

Pisac is another of the most important sites of the sacred Valley of the Incas. The hills of Pisac are lined with agricultural terraces.

These terraces, an integral part of the ancient site, are still in use today.

Of a more austere character is Tombomachay situated 10 kilometres from Cuzco, it is a rather macabre site. As well as child sacrifices, all kinds of different holocausts probably took place here.

The descendants of the American Indian civilizations preserve their culture, and most speak either aymara or quechua.

They were famously skilful stone-cutters, but their construction techniques were also truly remarkable; the proof lies in the durability of their buildings, look for example at the famous site of Macchu Picchu.

Directed by Jacques VICHET

French Version
English Version

A documentary of 52'

High Definition
HD Cam & Digital Betacam 16/9

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