



# Glossary

**Anahuac** — lands of central Mexico

**Atahualpa** — Inca who defeated Huáscar, met Pizarro at Cajamarca, and later was executed

**Aztecs** (see Mexica)

**Black Legend** — Largely English-inspired interpretation of the horrendous Spanish treatment of natives in the Americas and of the inferiority of Spanish culture

**Cajamarca** — northern Incaic military and religious center; site of the meeting between Atahualpa and Pizarro

**Castille** — Spanish kingdom that oversaw the establishment of Spanish empire in the Americas

**Cortés, Hernando** — led the conquest of the Mexican empire

**Cuzco** — capital of Tiwantinsuyu, the Inca empire

**encomienda** — system of “entrusting” native laborers to Spaniards in return for their “civilization and acculturation” by Spaniards; led to massive abuse of native peoples

**encounter** — the meeting of Europeans and native peoples; often described as the “discovery” of the Americas

**Guanahani** — name for San Salvador in the language of the Lucayans

**Guanches** — Canary natives; reduced to slavery by Spaniards

**Hispaniola** — Spanish name of the island of Hayti; now contains the Dominican Republic and Haiti

**huaca** — depiction of a religious icon in Andean religion; contained the spirit of a god, place, or natural phenomenon

**Huáscar** — “legitimate” son of Huayna Capac; defeated in a civil war by Atahualpa

**Huayna Capac** — Inca who died of smallpox in the mid-1520s; his death led to a civil war that split Tiwantinsuyu

**Huitzilopochtli** — “Hummingbird of the South”; one of two primary Mexica gods; associated with military might and blood sacrifice

**Inti** — Inca sun god

**“just war”** — Spanish rationalization for war against the Heathens, permitting the enslavement of conquered peoples; developed during the reconquest of Iberia from the Moors

**Lucayans** — natives of Guanahani

**Mexica** — Nahua people of the Mexican state

**Moctezuma** — Mexica leader at the time of contact with the Spanish; died in June, 1520 amid Mexican uprising against Spanish

**Nahua** — dominant language of the Mexica and much of central Mexico at the time of contact; still widely spoken

**patronato real** (royal patronage) — Spanish monarch's right to patronage over the Catholic church's affairs in the Americas

**Pizarro, Francisco** — Spanish conqueror of Tiwantinsuyu

**Quilla** — Inca mother moon

**reconquista** — reconquest of Iberia from Islamic Moors

**repartimiento** — division of native peoples

**requirimento** (requirement) — document read to the natives demanding that they submit to the authority of the Catholic church and Spanish monarch; refusal to comply constituted grounds for a "just war"

**Teotihuacan** — the "metropolis of the gods"

**Tenochtitlán** — capital of Mexican empire; located beneath present-day Mexico City

**Tiwantinsuyu** — "Empire of the Four Quarters," Incan empire

**Tlacauelel** — military and political leader most responsible for the development of the Mexican empire and the cult devoted to Huitzilopochtli

**Tlaloc** — Nahuatl rain god; second primary god of Mexico

**tlamatinime** — religious thinkers and leaders of the Mexican empire

**Valverde, Vicente de** — Spanish priest at the capture of Atahualpa

**Virachoca** — Inca creator god



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## Notes

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