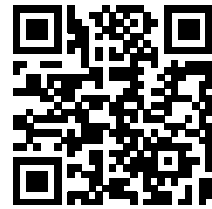


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# The Americas' Ancient Societies



In the vast lands of the American continents, diverse and \_\_\_\_\_ civilizations emerged long before Europeans set foot on their shores. The \_\_\_\_\_, known for their sophisticated writing system and astronomical \_\_\_\_\_, thrived in what is now Mexico and Central America. Farther south, the \_\_\_\_\_ built an empire stretching along the Andes, creating a network of roads and bridges unparalleled in the pre-Columbian Americas. In the arid valleys of Mexico, the \_\_\_\_\_ established a powerful state centered around their capital, \_\_\_\_\_, which was an architectural marvel. These civilizations developed unique ways to \_\_\_\_\_ to their environments, from the Mayas' rainforest cities to the Incas' terraced mountainsides for agriculture. They all had in common a deep connection to their \_\_\_\_\_, expressing it through monumental architecture and complex rituals. The \_\_\_\_\_, while known, was not used for transportation but had ceremonial significance. Despite their achievements, these civilizations had not developed the use of \_\_\_\_\_, relying instead on tools made of stone, bone, and bronze. The arrival of Europeans marked the beginning of the end for these societies, as \_\_\_\_\_ and conquest took a heavy toll. However, their legacies live on, not just in ruins and artifacts, but in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the descendants who still maintain many aspects of their ancestors' \_\_\_\_\_.

. These ancient peoples were not isolated; they traded goods like corn, cacao, and brightly colored \_\_\_\_\_ across vast distances, connecting different regions and cultures long before the concept of globalization. Their achievements in \_\_\_\_\_, mathematics, and engineering continue to fascinate us, offering a glimpse into the genius of societies that flourished independently of the Old \_\_\_\_\_.

knowledge   feathers   World   astronomy   Tenochtitlán   cultures   diseases  
traditions   adapt   complex   Incas   wheel   Aztecs   iron   Maya   gods