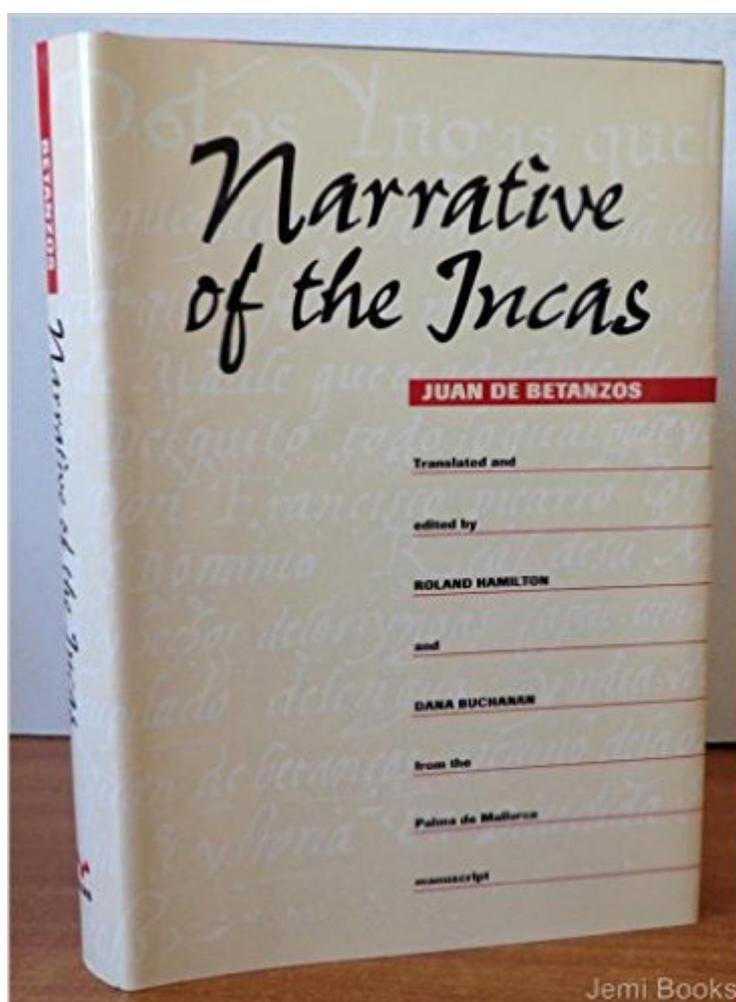


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Narrative Of The Incas



Synopsis

One of the earliest chronicles of the Inca empire was written in the 1550s by Juan de Betanzos. Although scholars have long known of this work, only eighteen chapters were actually available until the 1980s when the remaining sixty-four chapters were discovered in the collection of the Fundacion Bartolome March in Palma de Mallorca, Spain. Narrative of the Incas presents the first complete English translation of the original manuscript of this key document. Although written by a Spaniard, it presents an authentic Inca worldview, drawn from the personal experiences and oral traditions told to Betanzos by his Inca wife, Dona Angelina, and other members of her aristocratic family who lived during the reigns of the last Inca rulers, Huayna Capac Huascar and Atahualpa. Betanzos wrote a history of the Inca empire that focuses on the major rulers and the contributions each one made to the growth of the empire and of Inca culture. Filled with new insights into Inca politics, marriage, laws, the calendar, warfare, and other matters, Narrative of the Incas is essential reading for everyone interested in this ancient civilization.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Account translated from a manuscript that was only discovered in the 80's. It records the descent of the Incas from the creation of the world through the conquest by the Spaniards. The focus is kept on the Inca's (kings) and their ceremonies and conquests from one of their descendents (whom the author used as his source), who also lived through the conquest. This is a good book to read after reading Discovery and Conquest of Peru, recently published, since you get behind the thoughts of the Spanish in the one and the Incas in the other. In this case we get those first impressions the

natives had when they first encountered the Spanish and their horses. Contains maps, illustrations, and glossary.

I recently finished reading "Narrative of the Incas" and found it one of the most fascinating books in years. Having read "1491 - New Revelations Americas Before Columbus"http://www..com/1491-Revelations-Americas-Before-Columbus/dp/1400032059/ref=pd_bbs_sr_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1220994331&sr=1-1 also a good read, I picked this up somewhat by accident. It reads almost like a mystery novel or fairy tale, covering how the Incas tell of their development from a nomadic tribe into the regional powerhouse. It is a sad read, knowing how it is going to end when the Spanish arrive. It gives the reader insight into what a portion of the Americas looked like before the Spanish arrived - their economic surplus, engineering abilities, war, politics and religion. I highly recommend it.

Interesting to read the original account. This is a great book and people with an interest in history, Incas, Peru, etc. should enjoy it. Such a treat to read the original accounts versus someone telling us what the original accounts said. Great work!

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