**Aztec, Maya, Inca Comparison Chart - (“A M I” –** from North to South**)**

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|  | **Aztec** | **Maya** | **Inca** |
| **Location** | Central America, and  **Mexico**  (Dry Climate – Little rain) | Central America: located on the **Yucatan Peninsula**  ( in **Rainforest**) | South America,  Along the **Andes Mountains** |
| **Time Periods** | 1200 to 1521 | 400 B.C. – 1517 A.D.  At its height: 200-900 AD | 1200 – 1572 AD |
| **Capital** | **Tenochtitlan**:  (Present Day Mexico City)  Located on **Lake Texcoco** | Chichen Itza and Tikal | Cuzco and Machu Picchu |
| **Economy** | Agriculture  (corn, beans, tomatoes, squash),  **chinampas** – Floating gardens | Agriculture  (corn, beans, squash)  And  Trade | Agriculture  (corn, cotton, potatoes),  **Terraces** – high altitude farming |
| **Religion** | Many gods (Polytheistic), **Sun God** most important,  human sacrifice,  rituals based on warfare | Many gods(Polytheistic), king’s blood is sacred,  Human sacrifice and Animal sacrifice at **Pyramid Temples** | Many gods(Polytheistic),  Some human sacrifice |
| **Social Hierarchy** | Different classes of people,  warriors have high social status | Different classes of people  (Upper class: Priests, nobles and warriors) | Different classes of people |
| **Government** | **Empire**,  Very Powerful king,  Highly centralized,  War was for captives and tribute | Well organized  **city-states** each with a king,  War was for tribute | **Emperor** at the center of the empire,  War is for conquest  Socialized economy – gov’t controlled |
| **Technology** | Built Monumental architecture,  Chinampas,  calendar | Writing, math, monumental architecture,  calendar | Terraces, irrigation, medicine, monumental agriculture, roads |
| **End of Civilization** | Cortes and the Spanish kill the king,  And the empire ended | **Abandoned cities,**  **disappeared** | Civil War and  Spanish Invasion |
| **Contributions** | aqueducts,  dams,  canals,  pyramids,  calendar,  Corn | **365 day Calendar**,  Numbering system, **Hieroglyphics**,  Astronomy  architecture –  **Pyramid temples** | Quipus – Record Keeping (using bundles of knotted cords),  vast road network, Engineering,  Medicine,  irrigation,  **terraces**, |