**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)AndTrade | 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 conquestSocialized 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**, Astronomyarchitecture – **Pyramid temples** | Quipus – Record Keeping (using bundles of knotted cords),vast road network, Engineering,Medicine, irrigation, **terraces**,  |