<u>G4210: Rise of Andean Civilization</u> October 13, 1999 T. D'Altroy

Early Horizon: Chavín

- 1. following the advent of ceramics: Andean prehistory somewhat misleadingly conceived as having constituted alternating periods
 - a. large-scale integration: horizons
 - b. and breakdown into regional systems: intermediate periods
- 2. first integrative period: termed Early Horizon
 - a. broadly associated with crystallization of distinctive art style
 - 1. called Chavín
 - 2. after type site: Chavín de Huantar
 - a. in Callejón de Huaylas
 - b. its import is belied by the core site's modest scale
 - 1. significance lies in the influence of the ideas that had their source at the center
 - c. style most often considered religious iconography of an expansive or integrative cult
- 3. period begins with the first appearance of Chavín-style artifacts in the south coastal Ica Valley
 - a. has become something of a straitjacket in terms of assessing chronological sequences
 - b. no longer any reason why we should use a stylistic ceramic sequence from one valley peripheral to main developments
 - 1. as focal point for describing Andean chronology
- 4. Tello: father of Peruvian archaeology
 - a. began work in 1920s
 - b. Chavín was the mother culture of all Andean civilizations
- 5. continued series of excavations throughout the decades: major focus of recent publication
 - a. several recent volumes by archaeologists who have worked at the main site of Chavín de Huántar
 - 1. and other contemporary sites
 - b. Luis Lumbreras: two books

c. Burger

Outline and major questions

- 1. time period: about 800-200 B.C.
 - a. period of major developments in social complexity
 - 1. continuity from that which occurred in latter part of Preceramic and Initial Period
 - b. focus traditionally on Chavín: Tello
 - 1. fantastic artwork
 - 2. monumental constructions
 - 3. elegant craftsmanship
 - 4. interregional adoption of iconographic elements
 - 5. synthesis of artistic elements with origins in jungle, highlands, and coast a. implied pan-Andean synthesis and integration
- 2. unclear what Chavín actually was: imprecise language in the literature reflects uncertain or conflicting conceptions of what Chavín was
 - a. e.g., site?: Chavín de Huantar
 - b. art style
 - c. ideological system
 - 1. separable from art style?
 - 2. raises question: to what extent and in what ways do art and socio-religious organization coincide?
 - d. sociopolitical entity
- 3. recent work has shown that Chavín de Huantar represents only a part of a very complex series of related developments
 - a. regional and interregional changes
 - b. Great and Small religious traditions
- 4. major issues that have been addressed at least peripherally
 - a. origins of civilization
 - 1. Tello: mother culture for all Andean civilizations
 - 2. Larco Hoyle: coastal origins
 - b. chronology
 - 1. Rowe's work: basis for interregional comparisons based on art styles
 - 2. Burger: C-14
 - a. amended appreciation of sequence of development
 - b. and relationships among highlands, coast, and jungle
 - c. nature of art and religious organization

- 1. complex and elegant style with high quality workmanship
 - a. often taken to imply complexity of society
 - b. and dominance of priestly cults over all aspects of society
- 2. led to disproportionate emphasis of research on
 - a. artwork: often out of context
 - b. monumental architecture
 - c. minute differences in style
 - 1. taken to be important temporally
 - 2. and regionally
- d. spread of Chavín: parochialism in explanations
 - 1. missionaries
 - a. non-violent diffusion of religion and its associated artwork
 - 2. colonization
 - a. movement from coast to highlands
 - 3. long-distance trade networks
- e. settlement pattern study: recent phenomenon
 - 1. empty ceremonial centers
 - a. Willey, Tello
 - b. Olmec-Chavín comparison
 - 2. regional systems with integrated communities
 - a. Burger: Chavín, Pojoc, Waman Waín
- 5. evolving views of Chavín
 - a. many archaeologists have treated the Chavín phenomenon as the source of Andean civilization
 - 1. since Tello's pioneering work in the 1920s
 - b. recent decades: less grand conception
 - 1. ideology broadly integrated Peruvian societies
 - 2. but important local developments in the era
 - 3. spread of Chavín imagery was preceded or paralleled by important independent social and artistic developments along coast of Peru
 - a. Paracas
 - b. Lima
 - c. Casma
 - d. Nepeña
 - e. Moche
 - c. now considerable evidence that antecedent societies of Peru's north coast were larger-scale than anything else till the Moche polities
 - 1. however, Chavín remains conceptually at the core of Andean archaeology
 - d. rather than being a period of social integration

- 1. zenith of Chavín "integration" may have actually seen the demise of the social formations responsible for building great coastal ceremonial complexes
- 6. problems not yet clearly addressed
 - a. size of populations: except in Santa
 - b. sociopolitical organization
 - 1. theocracy explains everything
 - 2. but why rituals?
 - c. means of interregional interaction
 - 1. why are there religious traditions in art and architecture?

Chronology

- 1. early claim for antiquity of Chavín made by Tello
 - a. doubted because of sophistication of art style and technology
 - b. precedence shown over Moche, Chimu, Inka
 - c. questions remained over sites in Casma, Nepeña, and Moche Valleys
 - 1. stylistically related
- 2. Tello: related coastal sites are evidence of Chavín expansion
 - a. Larco Hoyle: North coast origins (Nepeña)
 - 1. Cupisnique
 - 2. spread to Chavín
 - b. Rowe: seriation at Chavín
 - 1. cautiously extended to coastal sites
 - c. Roe: highland origins
 - 1. coastal expansion
- 3. Burger: refined chronology
 - a. based on excavations at Chavín
 - b. variation in use of term Rocas has caused problems
 - 1. Lumbreras: two phases bracketing Ofrendas
 - 2. Amat: three different, but sequential phases
 - a. thought to predate Ofrendas
- 4. Burger: 3 phases based on 11 stratigraphic excavations
 - a. Chavín materials always on sterile
 - b. no earlier ceramics known in the area

- c. assumption: ceramics spanned era from first settlement to small nucleated town
- 5. probable that Chavín de Huantar was founded in late Initial Period
- 6. tentative radiocarbon chronology
 - a. Urabarriu: 850-460 B.C.
 - 1. platform used only during this phase
 - 2. published pottery from Ofrendas Gallery agrees well with Urabarriu materials
 - b. Chakinani: 460-390 B.C.
 - 1. classic Chavín style ceramics
 - 2. short period of occupation
 - 3. dates for the construction of New Temple fit: Amat
 - c. Janabarriu: 390-200 B.C.
 - marked by expansion of settlement: 1.2 km long
 a. along western bank of Río Mosna and both sides of Río Huachecsa
 - 2. evidence for craft production and social differentiation at settlement [data?]
 - 3. tied into system of long-distance exchange
 - 4. contexts of recovery are disturbed: inconsistent readings
 - a. Rocas Gallery dates fit
 - 1. questionable: taken on bone
 - 5. era of major construction at Castillo [see below]

Chronological relationships with Las Haldas, Caballo Muerto, Ancón, and Garagay

- 1. sites with imagery related to that of Chavín de Huantar: include ceremonial and habitation sites
 - a. north coast
 - 1. sites in quebrada de Cupisnique
 - 2. Caballo Muerto
 - 3. Punkurí
 - 4. Cerro Blanco
 - 5. Las Haldas
 - 6. Sechín Alto
 - b. central coast
 - 1. Garagay
 - 2. Mina Perdida
 - 3. Pachacamac
 - c. upper coastal and intermontane valleys

- 1. Kotosh
- 2. La Galgada
- 3. Pacopampa
- 4. Huaricoto
- 5. Kuntur Wasi
- 6. Ataura
- d. south coast: cemetery of Karwa
- 2. traditionally: coastal sites considered to be contemporary with Chavín
 - a. similarity in art style, architecture, or ceramics
 - b. considered to be provincial manifestations of Chavín
 - 1. since the highlands site has been most intensively studied
 - c. no longer sustainable
 - 1. good dates from Las Haldas and Caballo Muerto
 - 2. many other sites described last week
- 3. Las Haldas
 - a. impressive littoral site
 - b. massive truncated pyramid and semisubterranean galleries
 - 1. bear a striking similarity to architectural remains at Chavín de Huantar
 - c. key dates
 - 1. principal monumental construction: 1190-900 B.C.
 - 2. final occupation: 880-500 B.C.
 - e. so predates Chavín de Huantar
- 4. Caballo Muerto (Pozorski 1982)
 - a. ceremonial complex
 - 1. 190 km north of Las Haldas
 - 2. 240 km NW of Chavín de Huantar
 - b. architecture and adobe sculpture associated with Chavín
 - 1. Roe: late phase D of early EF of Chavín stone sculpture seriation
 - c. at least 8 major temple mounds
 - 1. covers 2 km NS x 1 l km EW
 - 2. probably no more than 2-3 in use at any one time
 - 3. population probably resident
 - a. evidence scanty so far
 - d. Pozorski proposes three major architectural periods for constuction
 - 1. Period I: 1500-1200 B.C.
 - 2. Period II: 1200-800 B.C.
 - 3. Period III: 800-400 B.C.

- 3. I-II: most impressive constructions
 - a. Huaca de los Reyes
 - 1. most complex: 2 symmetrical platform mounds
 - 2. series of friezes on faces
 - a. 39 of 58 excavated
 - b. adobe: laid over cobbles, boulders, and mud mortar
 - c. intact friezes: yellow finishing clay
 - d. two basic types
 - 1. large adobe heads: human and feline characteristics
 - 2. bipedal figure: presumably human
 - 3. labor costs: 100 men fulltime for 11.43 years to build second construction phase
 - a. could have been built in a single generation
 - b. 50-100 men could have built second phase easily within 25 years
 - b. Huaca Herederos Grandes
 - 1. 120 x 100 x 18 m
 - c. each mound is in the shape of a U
 - 1. central large mound
 - 2. two flanking parallel wing structures
- 4. Phase III: less impressive
- 5. I and II preceded establishment of Chavín de Huantar
 - a. Period III: 440±70 B.C.
 - 1. Janabarriu-related ceramics found at Period III mounds
- 6. scale, labor investment, complexity: imply central authority
 - a. probable sociopolitical ranking
 - b. discussed further below
- 5. discussion of dates
 - a. major sites were prospering on the coast between 1200 and 900 B.C.
 - 1. e.g., Caballo Muerto, Haldas, Garagay
 - b. earliest phase of Chavín de Huantar: 850-460 B.C.
 - c. iconographic and architectural features found at coastal sites
 - 1. may be possible antecedents for similar features at Chavín de Huantar
- 6. temple at Chavín is different
 - a. new set of motifs and stylistic conventions
 - b. sculpture differs in content
 - c. coexisted with Garagay and Caballo Muerto
- 7. intrasite expansion and maximum influence of Chavín: 390-200 B.C.

- a. increased importance directly related to decline of Initial Period ceremonial complexes on the coast
- b. lack of remains from beginning of the Initial Period in the Mosna Valley or in the nearby highlands
 - 1. suggests that the people who built the Castillo moved in from elsewhere

Settlement and Architectural Evidence

Chavín area (Burger 1982, 1992)

- 1. survey data from Chavín area: very spotty
 - a. complex environmental context: three major life zones
 - 1. 3100-3300 m: <u>quechua</u>
 - a. tropical mountainous humid forest
 - b. best area for growing maize
 - 2. 3300-3800 m: suni or jalca
 - a. tropical mountainous very humid forest
 - b. potatoes, quinoa, root crops
 - 3. 3800 on up: jalca or puna
 - a. tropical subalpine pluvial páramo
 - b. 80% of the land with agricultural potential
 - c. year-round herding
 - b. three zones lie within 2 hours walk of one another
 - 1. all three zones could have been exploited from any of the thee
 - 2. Chavín lies on the valley floor
- 2. site of Chavín de Huantar
 - a. settlement almost 1.5 km along the west side of the Río Mosna
 - 1. against the lower slopes of the valley
 - b. east side has only scattered remains
 - 1. Burger: perhaps seasonal occupation for agriculture
 - c. total area: about 40 ha.
 - 1. housed 3,000-4,000 inhabitants
 - d. character of occupation difficult to determine
 - 1. because of colluviation and erosion
 - 2. structures not visible except for excavated areas
 - 3. ceramics visible primarily in strata cuts, drains, canals, eroded areas
 - 4. no control over density of settlement
 - 5. nor variety nor specialization of activities

- a. some byproducts of bone tool manufacture found in test pits
- 6. some residential structures of high quality found at Janabarriu a. gold, coastal shell, fish
- 7. contrasts with contemporary domestic architecture in the area
- e. exact nature of settlement difficult to ascertain
 - 1. somewhat nucleated
 - 2. but no more than a small town
- 3. temple: expanded or renovated several times
 - a. contains elements of Initial Period monumental complexes
 - 1. U-shape
 - 2. sunken circular pit in central plaza
- 4. Old Temple
 - a. original late Initial Period temple
 - b. architectural focus: U-shaped pyramidal platform
 - 1. enclosing a sunken circular courtyard
 - c. elements
 - 1. north wing: 45 x 75 m, rises 14 m
 - 2. central wing: 29 x 44 m, rises 11 m
 - 3. south wing: 35 x 71 m, rises 16 m
 - d. built of alternating rows of thick and thin blocks

1. granite, sandstone, limestone

- e. sculpted tenon heads projected from upper portions of walls
 - 1. more than 2x size of human heads
 - 2. could weigh 0.5^+ ton
- f. opens to E
 - 1. toward Mosna River
 - 2. and rising sun
 - 3. although 13^{0} off: closer to setting of nadir or anti-zenith sun
 - 4. faces away from settlement and approaches
- g. interpretations of layout
 - 1. Isbell: U-shape is a metaphor for mediation of dual opposing forces
 - 2. Lathrap: form used to focus sacred energy
- h. circular plaza
 - 1. 21 m diameter
 - 2. could have held _550 people or fewer
 - 3. stonework finer than that of adjoining buildings
 - 4. E stairway flanked by sculptures of four profile felines
- i. galleries

- 1. narrow: rarely more than 1.1 m wide
- 2. roofed with flat slabs
- 3. no source of natural lighting
- j. Lanzón Gallery: most important
 - a. faces east along axis of Old Temple
 - b. Lanzón: principal cult image of Old Temple
 - c. stone 4.5 m tall: point embedded in floor
 - 1. Andean foot-plow: chaki taklla
 - 2. of knife or lance-point
 - d. located in cross of galleries in Old Temple
 - e. anthropomorphic image: Smiling God or Snarling God
 - 1. human body
 - 2. with claws for fingers and toes
 - 3. feline face
 - 4. snakes for hair
 - f. possibly served as oracle
- j. other galleries
 - 1. also Gallery of Labyrinths
 - 2. and Gallery of Staircases
 - 3. G. of Offerings: 800 pots
 - a. probably broken through use of gallery in later eras: maybe chicha, since one has an illustration of a maize ear
 - b. bones: camelids, deer, guinea pigs, fish
 - c. from coast: Peruvian mussel shells and Ecuadorian Spondylus
 - d. 233 human bones: burnt and fragmented
 - 1. at least 21 children, juveniles, and adults identified
 - 2. full spectrum of body parts
 - 3. possible ritual cannibalism: but cut marks yet to be verified
 - * 4. note: comparable remains not found in settlement of Chavín de Huantar
 - e. materials segregated according to use
 - 1. e.g., bottles separate from bowls and plates, from globular jars, and from carved stone objects
 - 4. G. of Snails
 - 5. Field Camp Gallery
- k. ventilation and drainage: accomplished through elaborate shaft complex
- 1. Tello Obelisk
 - a. long stone block
 - b. 2 caymans: principal images
 - 1. Cayman A: associated with manioc, achira, peanuts (below ground)

- 2. Cayman B: gourd, pepper, & other cultigens (above ground); Spondylus, raptorial bird
- c. Lathrap
 - 1. A is Cayman of Underworld
 - 2. B is Cayman of the Sky
- d. maybe mythical donors of these crops
- 5. New Temple
 - a. developed during Janabarriu-phase settlement
 - b. era of Black and White portal
 - 1. carving on one column unfinished
 - c. stylistically an elaboration of what came earlier
 - 1. rather than a radical transformation
 - 2. kennings, anatropic design, dual profiles, bilateral symmetry, modular width
 - d. thematic continuity as well
 - 1. one deity holds Strombus and Spondylus shells in hands
 - 2. Raimondi Stela
 - a. monolithic plaque
 - b. depicts Staff God
 - c. serpents for hair
 - d. projecting canines and claws
 - e. architecture
 - 1. southern wing doubled in size
 - 2. addition of new array of galleries and stairwells
 - 3. orientation on same axes as Old Temple
- 6. imagery: finest stonework of era
 - a. images combine elements from diverse environmental zones
 - a. cayman: from tropical forest
 - b. Spondylus shell: from coastal Ecuador
 - c. hawk: from sierra
- 7. circular plaza
 - a. 21 m across by 2.5 m deep
 - b. could have held 550 max: Burger estimates
 - c. finely cut stonework
 - d. floor lined with yellowish slabs
 - 1. fossilized gastropod included deliberately
 - e. 13 profile jaguars in wall stones
 - f. above them: elaborate series of anthropomorphic figures

- 1. carrying, e.g., Strombus trumpet, ribbed staff or club
- 8. other settlements
 - a. Pojoc
 - 1. 3850 m
 - 2. 2.5 ha
 - 3. visible architecture
 - a. various platforms and terraces
 - 4. some tombs excavated
 - b. Waman Waín
 - 1. 3500 m
 - 2. 4 ha
 - 3. architecture: terraces, platforms
 - 4. tombs also noted
- 9. relations of other regions with Chavín de Huantar
 - a. material evidence for interregional interaction at Chavín
 - 1. marine shells found in domestic middens
 - a. Burger suggests eating
 - 1. TD: not likely serious part of the diet
 - 2. Spondylus offerings during Janabarriu
 - a. beads, small laminas, and fragments
 - b. evidence suggests products of Ecuadorian exchange were extended to populace around Chavín
 - 3. 3 species of marine fish: Chakinani and Janabarriu
 - 4. obsidian
 - a. almost all from Quispisisa: 460 km away in Huancavelica
 - b. found in Chakinani deposits
 - c. abundant in domestic middens in Janabarriu
 - 5. other goodies: sources unknown
 - a. crystals, fossils, chrysacolla, beaten and soldered gold
 - b. possible economic complementarity
 - 1. camelids and occasional cervids at Chavín
 - 2. obsidian flakes at high altitude sites
 - c. clearer evidence for religious and maybe sociopolitical interaction
 - 1. monumental stone platform at Pojoc
 - a. implies ritual activity
 - b. marine shell and fish bones
 - c. high quality stonework
 - 2. similar remains found at Waman Waín

- a. and at other sites in the region: Runtu, Yuayaku, Gotush
- d. ceramics
 - 1. Pojoc: came from other source than that which produced those at Chavín
 - 2. Waman Waín: same as those from Chavín Temple area
 - 3. may imply distinctions among support communities
- 4. Burger: suggested form of relations
 - a. inter-community religious ties
 - b. quality and nature of remains at smaller communities
 - 1. imply access to expertise and resources probably beyond the means of small agricultural communities
 - c. proposition: Chavín provided quality sculpture, exotic ritual paraphernalia, and perishable exotic items for offerings
 - 1. established ritual obligations owed the temple
 - d. perhaps a regional ritual cycle of festivals and processions
 - 1. carried out on a calendrical basis
 - 2. tied together secular and religious obligations of support communities

Comparisons with coastal patterns: Santa Valley (Wilson 1983, 1987, 1997)

- 1. six chronological periods defined
- 2. Las Salinas: Cerro Prieto/Preceramic
 - a. 36 sites
 - b. almost all habitation: <1 ha
 - c. mostly shell middens along the coastline
 - d. total population estimate: 1000, assuming contemporaneity of all sites
 - 1. 27 persons / site
 - 2. about 60% of population along the coast
- 3. Cayhuamarca Period: Guañape/Early Horizon
 - a. 54 sites: all but one in the Middle and Upper Valley
 - 1. grouped in at least four discrete clusters
 - 2. at intervals of 2-4 km apart
 - b. each cluster contains the same three settlement types
 - 1. a number of terraced and nonterraced habitation sites
 - 2. one to three sites of probable ceremonial-civic function
 - 3. one or more large, rock-walled citadels: most in rugged terrain of south desert margin on hilltops or ridges as high as 575m above valley floor

- 4. good evidence for settlement differentiation
 - a. habitation sites: 24 occupations
 - 1. somewhat removed from valley floor
 - b. citadels: 21 occupations
 - 1. 33% of discrete defensive sites found in region
 - 2. 40% of sites belonging to time period: highest percentage
 - 3. many 1-2 hrs from valley floor
 - 4. internally complex sets of ditches, walls, baffles
 - 5. many also used for c-c activities and elite residence
 - c. civic-ceremonial sites: 8 occupations
 - 1. located in open, valley floor positions
 - 2. largest: 2.0-3.5 ha
 - d. cemeteries: 1 occupation
- 5. relationships among sites
 - b. description of Structure 33
 - c. probable that residents of habitation site depended on citadels during periods of strife
 - 1. and all citadel and habitation sites relied on nearby ceremonial-civic sites for major religious or other public activities
 - 2. so it's unlikely that the villages were autonomous
 - d. total population: 6000 persons
 - 1. 120/inhabited site
 - 2. 1500/settlement cluster
 - e. subsistence: associated with canals
 - 1. but sites belonging to later periods are also nearby
 - 2. catchment study suggests that maize-based irrigation agriculture was necessary to support this large a population
- 7. developmental trends: rise of chiefdom society
 - a. sociopolitical institutions were also growing increasingly complex
 - 1. shift from 2 to 5 levels
 - b. Table 1: tiers of site sizes
 - 1. 3: Cayhuamarca Vinzos
 - 2. 4: Early Suchimancillo Late Suchimancillo
 - 3. 5: Guadalupito

- c. corporate labor projects as early as Cayhuamarca: canals serving several communities
- d but Suchimancillo phases represent clearly more complex societies
 - 1. probably an incipient chiefdom
- e. Cayhuamarca and Vinzos are probably incipient nonstratified societies
- 8. Wilson: distribution of citadels implies threats came from outside the valley
 - a. not among each of the four settlement clusters
 - b. TND: not so clear from the data
- 9. comparisons with Nepeña Valley: to the south
 - a. both had rise of temple mound
 - b. rise of elite complexes
 - c. rise of warfare
 - d. nearly total lack of evidence for burial sites
 - e. stronger Chavín influence in Nepeña
- 10. comparisons with Virú: to the north
 - a. similarities in overall size and nature of habitation sites
 - b. presence of possible elite residential sectors at some sites
 - c. civic-ceremonial structures
 - d. limited numbers of detectable cemetery sites
 - e. differences
 - 1. no evidence of fortresses in Virú
 - 2. greater variety and frequency of civic-ceremonial sites in Santa and Nepeña

Artistry and Technology

- 1. Chavín art
 - a. identified by array of fantastical and representational figures
 - 1. coalesced into classic form by mid-first millennium BC
 - b. many scholars feel that Andean artistry reached its pinnacle in Chavín artwork
 - 1. and greatest portrayal at Chavín de Huantar
 - c. major dissemination of classic Chavín style art: primarily in Chakinani phase
- 2. era marked by broadest distribution of Chavín-style art: saw important advances in craft technology and artistry
 - a. notable strides in pottery technology and execution

- 1. reduced-firing
- 2. graphite and resin painting: in Paracas
- b. metals
 - 1. hammered gold-working: produced three-dimensional forms
 - 2. soldering
 - 3. sweat welding
 - 4. repoussé
 - 5. silver-gold alloying
- c. innovations in textile manufacture
 - 1. included use of heddle loom
 - 2. introduction of new weaving, dying, and painting techniques
- 3. most spectacular textiles from prehistoric South America: date to the end of this era
 - a. Cavernas and Necropolis cemeteries: Paracas Peninsula
 - b. excavated in the 1920s: by Julio C. Tello
 - 1. father of Peruvian Archaeology
 - c. well-preserved mummy wrappings
 - 1. contained brilliantly colored cloth
 - 2. decorated with myriad small figures and geometric forms
 - d. people who produced these textiles
 - 1. lived in much simpler society
 - 2. did not invest the same effort in public monuments seen hundreds of kilometers up the coast

Conclusions

- 1. basic features of Early Horizon
 - a. continued development of large-scale architectural complexes
 - 1. first seen in late Preceramic
 - 2. through Initial Period
 - 3. disproportionate labor investment
 - 4. but scale toned down in Early Horizon
 - b. beginning to get evidence of local integration of communities
 - 1. economically: Chavín and its neighbors
 - 2. ideologically: same group
 - c. evidence for widespread sharing of ideas
 - 1. concept of large-scale religious/ritual architecture
 - 2. architectural organization
 - 3. actual content of idea systems
 - a. represented in iconography

- 4. shared goods and raw materials
 - a. consumed primarily in ritual and elite contexts
 - b. e.g., obsidian and Spondylus shell
- 4. interaction among societies increased over time
 - a. but nature of relationships remains ambiguous
- 2. past notions: not widely accepted today
 - a. grand military conquest
 - b. migration
 - c. missionization
- 3. current theories
 - a. some societies adopted and tailored an evolving ideology to local circumstances 1. without much social upheaval
 - b. cult based at oracle site of Chavín de Huantar gained influence because local authorities collapsed in many areas
 - 1. perhaps from environmental disaster
 - 2. or from resistance to elite demands
 - 3. fortified citadels in the Virú and Santa Valleys: testify to greater role of organized warfare in local developments
 - 4. Cerro Sechín: grisly stone panels of warriors and dismembered bodies at Cerro Sechín
 - a. Initial Period: profoundly disruptive era
 - c. no doubt: Chavín ideology contributed to the form of society in late Early Horizon in many places
 - 1. remains to be seen to what extent its proponents triggered change
 - 2. or helped fill a leadership vacuum left by local disintegration or conflict
- 4. Burger's perspective
 - a. notes Initial period antecedents to many of Chavín's cultural features
 - 1. iconographic motifs
 - 2. agricultural economy
 - 3. layout of monumental architecture
 - 4. specialized craft production
 - b. but concludes that Chavín's coalescence and elaboration of those features produced a major advance
 - c. key point: that cultural diversity combined with shared Chavín ideology and material culture to produce locally focused societies within regional interaction spheres
 - d. religion provided the social glue of these early societies

- e. downplays the organizational impact of
 - 1. coercion
 - 2. differential control of productive resources
 - 3. class exploitation
- 5. end of Chavín phenomenon: an enigma
 - a. it may be surmised: Chavín was a religious movement that complemented regionally-organized societies
 - b. did not have independent political or economic bases to sustain itself over time
 - c. regional reassertion of power
 - 1. locally-based ideologies supplanted Chavín's ideology