



ALPACA MONTHLY NEWS

EDITOR: FRANCIS RAINSFORD

EDITORIAL

THE MYSTERIOUS TIWANAKU-STYLE CERAMIC FIGURES IN AREQUIPA'S CASA DEL MORAL

The Tiwanaku-style figures, two in all - one male and the other female - were acquired in 1961 from Pomata, which is situated on the Peruvian side of Lake Titicaca, by Arthur Williams, the then Honorary British Consul in Arequipa who lived in the city's historic Casa del Moral.

Today, the Casa del Moral is owned by the Banco de Crédito del Perú (BCP) and the figures are currently stored in a depository there.

Although made in the Yaya-Mama religious tradition, the exact nature of their purpose is somewhat of a mystery and, although various Peruvianists have studied them at length, no clear conclusion has yet been reached.

They are made from clay and are adorned with silver incrustations and painted iconography from the Tiwanaku culture (which spanned 300 BC to 1100 AD); the male figure is 1.54 metres tall and weighs 140 kgs and the female figure is 1.51 metres tall and also weighs 140 kgs.

Peruvianist, Santiago Antuñez de Mayolo, who studied the figures in 1966 believes they are copies of monoliths of mythical ancestors or divinities which were discovered in the 1930s in Kayappia - an extinct volcano in the same geographical area as Pomata.

He also suggests that the large silver sarcophagus on the male figure represents Huyustus, a legendary Tiwanaku ruler who is reputed to have built the *Puerta del Sol* (the Gate of the Sun) in the city of Tiwanaku (located in Western Bolivia), and that the four smaller sarcophagi on either side of it are those of his four sons between whom he divided his empire. Inside each silver sarcophagus is a miniature ceramic corpse wearing a tall headdress similar to that of the main male figure.

In 2004, Peruvianist Alan L. Kolata suggested that the sculptures appear to visibly encode the principal tenets of the Tiwanaku state, its ideology and cosmology, within an essentially agrarian focus. Motifs depicted on the figures include the Tiwanaku Staff God, a fish, serpents, frogs and heads of felines, condors and camelids.



London-based Peruvianist Alexandra Morgan, who saw the figures in the early 1970s when she and her late husband, Hugh Travers Morgan - the British Ambassador in Lima from 1970 to 1974 - stayed with Arthur Williams at the Casa del Moral, continues to investigate them today and thinks that they are too ornate to be relatively recent "historical reconstructions" or even "fakes".

In her recently-published book, *The Pottery Figurines of Pre-Colombian Peru* (published by Archaeopress, 2012), she opines that they may indeed be copies of original monoliths but produced many centuries earlier than the 1930s - most likely during or after the Tiwanaku IV period (600 - 1100 AD). She believes that

they may hold an important archaeological key which could open the way to understanding more about what is referred to as the Middle Horizon period of pre-Columbian history.

Meanwhile, the BCP and Arequipa's Regional Director of Peru's Ministry of Culture, Dr. Julia Barrera, have coordinated efforts to put the figures on display to the public and Dr. Jean-Luc Schwenninger at the University of Oxford's Research Laboratory for Archaeology and the History of Art has received samples organized by the British Honorary Consulate in Arequipa to carry out thermo-luminescence testing to determine the age of the figures.

CAMELID CLIPS

Natural Fibre Product Group Leaf Inc., the Kyoto-based luxury textile fibre specialists, have announced two important technical application breakthroughs in the processing of natural fibres.

On a recent visit to Arequipa Leaf's President, Yuko Miyajima, revealed that the first development was in the use of Polyvinyl Alcohol (PVA) to produce superfine yarn counts for fibres such as cashmere, vicuña, guanaco and alpaca.

Originally developed for eliminating contamination in the fishing industry where nets and ropes made from PVA break down after prolonged contact with water, it is also commonly employed as a textile sizing agent as well as, in Japan, in the production of Vinyon fibre. After five years of research and development, Leaf has created a spinning procedure where two ends of natural fibre are drafted and twisted with PVA. Later, the resultant yarn is treated in very hot water (around 200°C) which dissolves the PVA leaving a honey-combed cross-sectional yarn where the spaces left behind by the PVA allows for a much finer count than otherwise achievable by conventional spinning methods.

Miyajima said, "Using PVA has enabled us to obtain yarn counts as fine as Nm 200/2 with cashmere, wool, vicuña, guanaco, silk, silk/angora and Royal Baby alpaca. We have woven gossamer fine cloths



Leaf's President, Yuko Miyajima during his recent visit to Arequipa.

from these yarns which have never been possible with these fibres until now."



The company's second technical advance has been to develop an anti-soiling finish for application on fin-

ished cloths and garments made from natural fibres which does not adversely affect their handling properties.

Miyajima explained, "I've long been a passionate advocate of producing textiles from natural fibres for a modern world. Unfortunately, most chemical finishes tend to mask the fibres' natural properties but, in our case, we have developed a product that we've named *Leafex* and which allows the fibre to breathe as it originally did when it grew on the animal's back. *Leafex* will repel water and aqueous stains on a garment yet allows the wearer to still enjoy the fibre's natural comfort properties. We've conducted successful trials with cashmere, vicuña, guanaco and 19.5 micron Royal Baby alpaca."

In both developments, as the main fibres involved are those of the camelid species, Leaf is seeking a partner in their country of origin, Peru, so that the processing from fibre to finished garment can be carried out there rather than in its own plants in Japan and China.

<= A 100% Royal Baby alpaca scarf produced with yarn from Leaf's PVA spinning method.

We've received an informative and heartfelt article about guanacos and their fibre from our good friend in Buenos Aires, Joaquin B. Allolio - affectionately known throughout the natural animal fibre world as "Jack". We're pleased to publish it in two parts - Part I this month and Part II in next month's issue:

Guanacos - is their production sustainable nowadays ? (Chronicle of a disillusion) - PART I

Twelve years ago when I began a new chapter as a professional consultant in the sheep and wool business, I chose a drawing of a guanaco for the logo on my business card. It was from the famous cave, Cueva de las Manos in Santa Cruz Province, Argentina and where, after more than 8,000 years, there wasn't a copyright problem !

That drawing gave me a clear interest for the species with its image of freedom amid the Patagonian steppes.

In the winter of 2002 and as a consequence of my growing contacts with diverse operators in this field, I was invited to participate in a 4-day Guanaco Congress at the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Santiago de Chile (PUC) and which was held in their magnificent San Joaquin campus.

In November of 2007, I was invited to present a paper on the Handling and Production of Guanacos during the Conference Forum of the Alpaca Fiesta in Arequipa.



Left to right: Francis Rainsford (IAA) and Jack Allolio during Alpaca Fiesta 2007.

Little by little I was gaining confidence and, now, looking back over ten years, my exaggerated expectations seem more and more distant.

From declarations of politicians in Santa Cruz, the reactions of diverse biologists and the press in defence of the species, I tend to think that their main aim was get some attention for themselves - since they are extreme posers and almost "fundamentalists" - very far from the dynamic global reality of today.

The objective that we all want to achieve is that, by means of a wide agreement among the few active operators for the species and farmers in general, 'Fauna Nación' and 'Fauna de las Provincias Patagónicas', you end up starting the famous **Plan Nacional de Manejo del Guanaco** which, in spite of being founded in 2006, is still only proceeding carefully.

In order to know about the productive and sustainable handling of the species, it is necessary in the first instance to know the reality of the situation and, particularly, the true position of guanaco fibre in the top end textile global market.

So, it is necessary to understand the real fibre characteristics, their aptitude and limitations for processing and, starting from there, something that I am always proclaiming: "to generate a critical mass establishing the minimum quantity of fibre of certain characteristics and of realistic value that should also be accompanied by an appropriate promotion to deluxe consumers whom nowadays are completely non-existent."

The consumers of the ABC-1 category, continue to recognise the fibre but knowledge of the main data of textile processing and design for an international campaign promoting its use in fine garments is lacking.

The processors of speciality fibres (cashmere, camel hair, vicuña and alpaca) have experimented with the fibre but have since lost interest. I refer to Loro Piana and Schneider in Biella (Italy), Zegna, Inca Tops and Cheil Wool in South Korea.

Some years ago Fuhrmann S.A., of the Schneider Group, organised a competition of guanaco fleeces in Trelew, working together with Filatura di Trivero of Biella.

I was present at the prizegiving in the Hotel Llao Llao and later a small quantity of the guanaco fleeces from the best lots in Patagonia were processed in Pettinatura di Verrone near Biella who produced a much better quality of top than what is produced today by those who collect the fibre after shearing the animals in the wild. A few farmers continue to raise the species with big costs (wire for a start) in semi-captivity beginning with the chulengos captured in the region.



Guanacos in semi-captivity in Argentina.

I recently re-read my article published in EL CRONISTA on 26th October 2001 looking at things I said in then and comparing them with today's reality.

At the beginning of 2001 INTA Bariloche had taken a census of 401,612 guanacos and in the years that followed the general perception was that there would be certainly more than 550,000 throughout the whole country. However, the most recent data suggests that

the quantity of the species in nowhere other than Santa Cruz is over a million head.

In spite of statements to the contrary, the species competes openly with many sheep for the scarce grazing lands and water. I find it academic to discuss how much more a guanaco consumes if nothing is made from them.

TO BE CONTINUED IN NEXT MONTH'S BULLETIN...

PERUVIAN ALPACA EXPORT STATISTICS

1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER 2012

VALUE US\$ FOB - QTY IN KGS - UNIT - M2

COUNTRY	YARN		KNITWEAR		TOPS		WOVEN CLOTH		WOVEN GARMENTS		ACCESSORIES		NOILS	
	VALUE FOB	QTY KGS	VALUE FOB	QTY UNIT	VALUE FOB	QTY KGS	VALUE FOB	QTY M2	VALUE FOB	QTY UNIT	VALUE FOB	QTY UNIT	VALUE FOB	QTY KGS
USA	6,765,910	195,890	12,152,662	603,885	51,301	2,384	610,280	21,252	3,067,248	89,463	1,820,327	50,931	-	-
ITALY	5,654,174	208,048	629,568	32,588	10,393,948	800,969	402,297	13,698	8,892	224	17,037	338	248,645	124,359
CHINA	3,073,840	103,189	6,845	351	13,552,404	1,088,365	13,322	115	-	-	15,900	800	-	-
NORWAY	8,109,006	310,531	428,434	22,949	-	-	232	25	46,202	1,846	90,087	2,326	-	-
GERMANY	2,316,243	71,118	4,020,260	147,549	144,137	17,054	977	7	201,701	6,056	168,154	4,057	-	-
JAPAN	1,404,178	49,961	3,025,763	101,500	1,487,980	92,349	4,665	66	205,944	4,672	55,175	2,261	2,611	695
UNITED KINGDOM	771,672	28,402	1,991,742	62,925	1,216,297	105,115	24,814	147,928	103,642	4,105	119,028	5,995	141,514	114,913
HONG KONG	3,704,158	143,183	51,866	1,524	5,954	326	234,230	11,419	-	-	3,321	54	-	-
SOUTH KOREA	1,487,272	54,693	5,332	236	753,219	49,633	1,695,081	92,057	12,027	586	514	12	-	-
AUSTRALIA	432,897	16,779	816,029	33,563	332,355	29,402	1,199,477	9,314	576,484	30,319	99,827	1,628	-	-
FRANCE	239,348	7,921	2,497,957	76,150	21,500	1,203	784	9	123,271	3,607	72,576	1,423	-	-
BOLIVIA	2,202,112	192,649	7,161	172	-	-	168,064	7,639	13,186	251	-	-	-	-
SYRIA	1,540,122	86,365	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DENMARK	494,044	14,329	245,028	17,922	-	-	-	-	42,469	2,572	754,008	38,583	-	-
NEW ZEALAND	177,325	4,625	71,633	4,351	231,417	20,363	688,818	1,547	112,733	4,739	5,043	100	-	-
CHILE	196,231	7,680	446,255	25,840	128,859	10,181	31,679	1,435	254,780	39,047	169,898	6,641	-	-
CANADA	338,511	9,783	454,512	28,154	58,284	4,088	109,723	4,174	86,516	3,814	151,635	4,348	-	-
SPAIN	33,253	1,168	639,173	42,850	-	-	85,845	3,532	275,822	16,994	86,626	3,922	-	-
SWITZERLAND	501,950	14,879	462,873	16,211	6,791	208	4,790	37	51,336	1,382	37,152	761	-	-
LITHUANIA	115,712	4,200	-	-	46,556	4,280	20,090	1,469	101,595	11,882	716,162	22,548	-	-
MEXICO	18,525	962	793,745	73,678	-	-	-	-	49,572	5,265	7,489	520	-	-
RUSSIA	395,486	15,203	68,551	3,788	-	-	28,317	5,029	31,260	1,131	39,163	1,492	-	-
ARGENTINA	214,871	12,414	291,347	27,399	-	-	19,196	768	34,385	2,961	-	-	-	-
TAIWAN	53,564	1,862	2,792	69	455,383	42,554	16,487	796	-	-	4,500	100	-	-
FINLAND	252,149	7,334	50,883	10,568	-	-	12,018	429	23,833	1,101	108,264	6,720	-	-
BELGIUM	157,173	6,870	198,951	10,503	-	-	-	-	1,609	297	70,716	2,559	-	-
INDONESIA	350,892	16,489	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
URUGUAY	305,871	10,065	8,320	333	3,235	215	-	-	1	1	807	211	-	-
BRAZIL	13,697	378	174,035	4,968	-	-	-	-	26,092	717	99,251	1,906	-	-
JORDAN	291,123	11,868	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
COLOMBIA	162,621	14,465	29,648	2,171	-	-	75,590	4,764	8,719	818	1,897	80	-	-
IRELAND	88,829	2,390	121,274	3,355	-	-	-	-	12,789	728	53,009	1,411	-	-
AUSTRIA	13,258	439	218,456	6,598	-	-	-	-	29,634	913	812	15	-	-
ECUADOR	93,048	3,724	65,733	1,037	1,328	98	-	-	35,004	994	1,905	42	-	-
NETHERLANDS	18,234	554	153,476	8,014	-	-	-	-	4,454	138	12,625	230	-	-
VIET NAM	158,084	5,352	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LATVIA	143,301	2,622	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,508	44	-	-
ESTONIA	-	-	-	-	-	-	46,476	338	-	-	74,395	2,588	-	-
PORTUGAL	612	31	1,567	337	-	-	100,844	5,985	-	-	-	-	-	-
POLAND	-	-	73,791	1,316	-	-	6,473	313	-	-	5,444	240	-	-
UKRAINE	84,973	2,436	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
COSTA RICA	71,849	2,097	11,641	882	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ICELAND	335	3	14,004	771	-	-	-	-	-	-	39,088	971	-	-
SWEDEN	29,149	895	5,798	2,637	-	-	-	-	2,509	92	15,088	268	-	-

SOURCE: SUNAT/COMEXPERU.

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ROMANIA	-	-	40,273	1,986	-	-	1,370	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
TURKEY	4,017	141	-	-	-	-	32,908	5,651	-	-	-	-	-	-
SINGAPORE	-	-	13,375	298	-	-	-	-	12,517	246	4,740	100	-	-
INDIA	26,321	924	3,234	1,320	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FRENCH GUYANA	-	-	26,526	1,741	-	-	-	-	-	-	100	4	-	-
KAZAKHSTAN	-	-	19,790	309	-	-	-	-	2,054	78	918	13	-	-
MAURITIUS	21,456	631	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MONACO	19,005	373	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PHILIPPINES	10,752	334	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MADAGASCAR	9,166	286	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HUNGARY	-	-	7,330	2,477	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,640	30	-	-
SURINAME	-	-	7,521	411	-	-	-	-	780	26	-	-	-	-
MALAWI	7,573	247	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HONDURAS	-	-	6,432	408	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SOUTH AFRICA	2,138	61	-	-	-	-	3,878	16	-	-	-	-	-	-
CUBA	-	-	4,909	2,007	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PUERTO RICO	-	-	4,090	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
EL SALVADOR	-	-	-	-	-	-	450	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
ISRAEL	-	-	300	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MALAYSIA	-	-	241	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GUATEMALA	208	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PARAGUAY	-	-	166	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
QATAR	-	-	163	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NETHERLANDS	-	-	66,662	2,716	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	42,576,241	1,646,865	30,438,117	1,390,963	28,890,949	2,268,786	5,639,176	339,815	5,559,061	237,065	4,925,826	166,072	392,771	239,967

SOURCE: SUNAT/COMEXPERU.

IAA ALPACA MONTHLY BULLETIN

The IAA Alpaca Monthly Bulletin is aimed at keeping members informed of news from the IAA. We encourage any member to supply articles of interest to update members about developments in the Camelid world. Articles with a human interest angle are particularly welcome.

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