

Inca Head of Day RE: postmodernism, OTism, continent-ism

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 29 Oct 1999

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Mitchell A. Bailey — 29 Oct 1999, 15:55

JMCAzurin wrote:

This is just an idle observation. I'm not certain if it's been brought up before but....Wolfe translates 'Apu-Punchau' as 'Head of Day'. In Tagalog, at least, and possibly other languages spoken here in southeast asia, the word 'apo' means leader.

...

Does anyone speak native south american languages? Those people crossed over into the Americas over the land bridge at the Bering Strait, and are of Asian descent too. Perhaps there is a similar word for 'leader'?

Mikah

...

Greetings, Mikah. Not such a crazy theory - thanks for the interesting observations re Tagalog, etc takes on the title "Apu". I don't by any means claim to "know" Quechua, the language of the Inca of Peru/Bolivia, but I have enough information on hand to be able to state that "Apu-Punchau" is an authentic Inca title; as Mantis points out, it is an alternate appellation for Inti, the sun god of the Quechua-speaking peoples. The name literally means "Apu" = lord, chieftain, honorific applied to noblemen and deities; "Punchau" refers not I'm told to the literal sun itself but to the sun-image used in the Inca state religion, the personification of the solar deity. And I've seen somewhere else independent of Wolfe "Apu-Punchau" translated "Head of Day".

I've remarked on this matter a time or two. A couple of archive volumes back, I raised the question of whether we were to read "Apu-Punchau" as literal Quechua from the literal preimperial Quechua people, or as a substitute for a future autochthonous language in the manner the Latin "Terminus Est", et al, was employed as an alias for some future dead language rather than literally Latin.