

# RETHINKING THE ANDES~AMAZONIA 'DIVIDE'

## A CROSS-DISCIPLINARY CONSPECTUS

Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany — Mon. 16 & Tues. 17 June, 2014

Various disciplines that research the prehistory of South America have long betrayed a tendency to treat the Andes and Amazonia effectively as zones self-contained enough as to be taken largely independently of each other. Also in each discipline, however, voices are repeatedly raised to object to imagining too stark a division, given indications of significant connections and transitions between the two zones, rather than a sharp divide.

This symposium will bring together archaeologists, linguists, geneticists, historians, ethnohistorians and anthropologists to explore what correlations there may be in how the various disciplines see the Andes-Amazonia relationship. The format is explicitly intended to foster cross-disciplinary understanding and discussion. The meeting begins as a workshop-like symposium, with brief overview presentations of the perspectives from each of the various disciplines, each followed by ample time for discussion and debate between them. Once those foundations are laid, we move on to a set of specific case-study themes. For some of these case-studies, it is more appropriate to feature a more extended main conference paper given by a single specialist in that theme, but again with extended discussion time.

The Andes-Amazonia relationship is itself set within the wider framework of highland 'vs.' lowland South America. At our symposium, 'Andes' is taken to refer especially to the Central Andes as a culture region and civilisation, but not exclusively so. Likewise, the focus is on Amazonia proper, although not to the exclusion of contiguous regions such as the Chaco, where relevant to the core issue of Andes-Amazonia relationships.

### SYMPOSIUM FORMAT AND CONTRIBUTIONS

This event continues our innovative symposium format, conceived to foster awareness, discussion and co-operation across the divides between disciplines. Most participants are *not* asked to present a long, formal paper, nor to report only on individual studies. Rather, you will be invited by the conveners to give one or two brief synopses (of five to ten minutes each) in those fields in which you have particular expertise or interest. These synopses serve to set out the perspective from your own discipline, but as relevant to and in terms intelligible to all the others. Indeed, the aim is to provoke and launch the ensuing discussion between them.

We begin (for most of day 1) by taking all the disciplines in turn. For each, two or more specialists will give synopses of their discipline's perspectives on the Andes-Amazonia 'divide'. The aim is to set out both what other disciplines might learn from your own, and what your discipline may hope to learn from the others. Thereafter we switch to a series of case-study themes, which will entail (as appropriate to that individual theme) either synopses from more than one discipline, or one keynote presentation of up to 30 minutes. The conveners will contact all participants individually to agree on the synopses or presentation you might give.

The output from this symposium is to be a corresponding volume (bearing a similar title), to bring together essays by our participants to arise directly *out of* our debate. As with the meeting itself, this book's novelty will lie in the explicitly cross-disciplinary remit that all contributors are to follow, enshrined also in a peer-review and editorial process from the combined perspectives of the different disciplines.

# RETHINKING THE ANDES~AMAZONIA 'DIVIDE': SYMPOSIUM PROGRAMME

Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany — Mon. 16 to Tues. 17 June, 2014

## DAY 1: MONDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2014

session	starts	ends	duration	
				<b>Introductory Overviews: The Perspectives from Each Discipline</b>
	09:00	09:10	10'	• <b>Welcome.</b> Setting this symposium in its cross-disciplinary context.
<b>A1</b>	09:10	09:55	45'	<b>ARCHAEOLOGY</b> • Andes vs. Amazonia? Nature of the contrast between (complex) societies in each. • Origins of agriculture and Andean civilisation: deep roots in Amazonia? • How complex societies of the Andes viewed and dealt with the Amazonian 'frontier'.
<b>A2</b>	09:55	10:40	45'	<b>LINGUISTICS</b> • The Andes and Amazonia as distinct, self-contained areas of convergence? • Language family relationships: distant relatives either side of the Andes-Amazonia divide? • Linguistic evidence of past contact between Andes and Amazonia, esp. borrowed terminology.
	10:40	11:10	30'	<b>COFFEE</b>
<b>A3</b>	11:10	11:55	45'	<b>ETHNO- AND MYTHO-HISTORY</b> • How groups in each region saw the other: myths of own origins, and of the other (e.g. Paititi). • The Incas in Antisuyu: interaction and conflict.
<b>A4</b>	11:55	12:40	45'	<b>HISTORY</b> • Historical processes muddying prehistoric scenarios: <i>e.g. post-Conquest contact and spread of Andean languages (and populations?) into Amazonia?</i> <i>e.g. 'Amazonian' slash-and-burn a post-Columbian development?</i> • Contrasts and continuities across the Conquest era: <i>e.g. neither the Inca nor the Spanish empires achieved significant presence in Amazonia — support for some permanence to the 'frontier'?</i>
	12:40	14:00	1h40'	<b>LUNCH</b>
<b>A5</b>	14:00	14:45	45'	<b>GENETICS</b> • Coherence and diversity within Andes, within Amazonia, and between them. Break or gradient? • Any evidence of small-scale long-range migrations across the Andes-Amazonia divide?
<b>A6</b>	14:45	15:30	45'	<b>BIO-ARCHAEOLOGY / BIOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY</b> — follows the same research questions as for genetics, i.e.: • Coherence and diversity within Andes, within Amazonia, and between them. Break or gradient? • Any evidence of small-scale long-range migrations across the Andes-Amazonia divide?
	15:30	16:00	30'	<b>COFFEE</b>

Session	starts	ends	duration	Individual Test-Case Themes: Keynote Papers and Cross-Disciplinary Debate
B1	16:00	17:15	75'	<b>FIRST SETTLEMENT OF SOUTH AMERICA</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Settlement routes and dates? Already a nascent Andes~Amazonia contrast?</li> </ul>
	19:00	DINNER		

## DAY 2: TUESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2014

B2	09:00	10:15	75'	<b>ORIGINS OF AGRICULTURE IN SOUTH AMERICA</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The tropical lowlands as the font of early cultivation?</li> <li>• Origin of certain key domesticates on the Amazonian periphery, including the Andean fringe.</li> <li>• Spread and adaptation to the Andes and Pacific coast; impact on the rise of Andean civilisation.</li> <li>• Arrival of maize via Amazonia?</li> </ul>
	10:15	10:45	30'	COFFEE
B3	10:45	12:00	75'	<b>THE FORMATIVE PERIOD IN THE NORTH-CENTRAL ANDES — DEEP ORIGINS IN AMAZONIA?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The northern corridor through the lower-altitude ranges of Northern Peru?</li> <li>• The (Amazonian?) iconography of Cupisnique and its successors, including Chavín de Huántar.</li> </ul>
	12:00	13:30	1:30	LUNCH
B4	13:30	14:40	70'	<b>THE ALTIPLANO AND THE SOUTHERN AMAZON</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raised field ('camellones') technology: from Amazonia to the Titicaca basin?</li> <li>• Distinct ethno-linguistic identities on the Altiplano (Puquina and Uro?), deep origins in Amazonia?</li> </ul>
B5	14:40	15:50	70'	<b>ANDES~AMAZONIA INTERACTION AND 'COMPLEMENTARITY'</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Variations on a 'vertical archipelago' model: facilitating Andes~Amazonia interaction, not contrast?</li> <li>• Other interactions: trade and conflict. Impacts on populations along frontier, and on either side.</li> </ul>
	15:50	16:20	30'	COFFEE
B6	16:20	17:30	70'	<b>POPULATION DISPERSALS AND MIGRATIONS?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demographics compared, recent revisions to estimates of population densities in Amazonia.</li> <li>• What moved? Ideas, crops, technologies — or people?</li> <li>• Possible migrations: 'Amazonians' in the highlands? 'Andeans' in the lowlands?</li> <li>• How might we tell? Strengths and weaknesses of methods from the various disciplines.</li> <li>• Assessing individual hypotheses: comparing the cross-disciplinary evidence.</li> </ul>
	17:30	18:00	30'	<b>ROUND-UP: GENERAL DISCUSSION AND PUBLICATION PLANNING</b>
	19:00	DINNER		