Capstone

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Cultural Background of Quechua

- 11 Million Quechua with more than
 5 Million in Peru
- Live in Countries from Bolivia to Ecuador
- Live in the Andean Highlands
- Began close to 2,600 BC
- Languages are different from Spanish with some similarities



Cultural Background Continued



- Dependence upon potatoes
 - Pachamama
 - More than just food
- More than 4,000 different species of potatoes
- Textiles have different significance and meaning in the culture
- Sell textiles in markets to help spread culture

How the Textiles are Made

After spinning wool from sheep and llama, the weavers collect locals plants to make the dyes, and dye the wool in pots over campfires. After letting the color soaking and drying the thread, the textiles are handwoven of back-strap looms and then sold at nearby markets.



Protecting A Fading Culture

After years of persecution the once great indigenous empire of peru has been reduced to a few villages.



The Significance of the Textiles

The art of the textiles has been passed down for hundreds of years, and each symbol or animal depicted represents a myth or deeper meaning. That meaning is specific to that village's beliefs and history.

As this culture fades out, and indigenous youth move to big cities to escape the poverty of their home, it is more important than ever to support Quechua culture.

The textiles sold from parobama today is an all women weaving group that focuses on fair trade wages and cultural appreciation. What they earn is the only income for the village and their families.

One of their biggest struggles is losing customers to factory-made textiles. These "fake" textile lack the significance of the real ones.

Llama

The app

Process