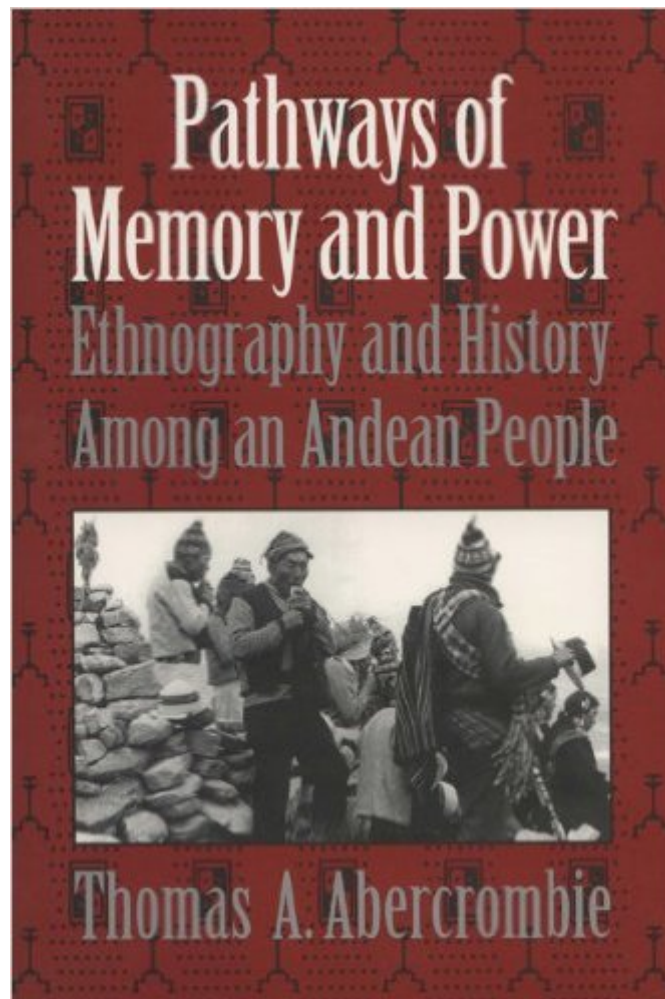


The book was found

Pathways Of Memory And Power: Ethnography And History Among An Andean People



Synopsis

Pathways of Memory and Power crosses the disciplinary boundary where anthropology and history meet, exploring the cultural frontier of the colonial and postcolonial Andes. Thomas A. Abercrombie uses his fieldwork in the Aymara community of Santa Barbara de Culta, Bolivia, as a starting point for his ambitious examination of the relations between European forms of historical consciousness and indigenous Andean ways of understanding the past. Writing in an inviting first-person narrative style, Abercrombie confronts the ethics of fieldwork by comparing ethnographic experience to the power-laden contexts that produce historical sources. Making clear the early and deep intermingling of practices and world views among Spaniards and Andeans, Christians and non-Christians, Abercrombie critiques both the romanticist tendency to regard Andean culture as still separate from and resistant to European influences, and the melodramatic view that all indigenous practices have been obliterated by colonial and national elites. He challenges prejudices that, from colonial days to the present, have seen Andean historical knowledge only in mythic narratives or narratives of personal experience. Bringing an ethnographer's approach to historiography, he shows how complex Andean rituals that hybridize European and indigenous traditions—such as libation dedications and llama sacrifices held on saints' day festivals—are in fact potent evidence of social memory in the community.

Book Information

Paperback: 632 pages

Publisher: University of Wisconsin Press; 1 edition (July 6, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0299153142

ISBN-13: 978-0299153144

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.5 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (2 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #510,334 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #17 in [Books > History > Americas > South America > Bolivia](#) #173 in [Books > History > World > Religious > Ethnic & Tribal](#) #1097 in [Books > History > World > Civilization & Culture](#)

Customer Reviews

Two important elements of social "habit memory" processes strike me in *Pathways of Memory and Power*. The first is the apparent ease with which the colonial power asserted its program for "social

amnesia" through a physical restructuring of social space (rectilinear, functional living spatial constructions) and time (the marking of Church calendrical and daily time, basically obliterating indigenous conceptions of time). The second is the reinterpretation of public and private to suit a colonial "moral code" based on the ritual performances of excessive drinking and bloodletting. These systematic, institutionalized policies effectively dismantled the indians' social habit-memories-replacing them with new ones modeled on Castilian life. The long-standing issue of religious syncretism is (thankfully) questioned, through an understanding of how the indigenous people create distinctions between the "more Christian" and "more Andean" aspects of their deities and religions. The quipu system of knotting preserves a physical remembering which was transformed, but not destroyed, by Christianity. As Abercrombie states, "the techniques may have remained the same, but the content, the memories, were changing" (p. 260). The "imagenes de bulto," which were introduced by colonial priests, replaced the indigenous idols with Catholic saints, and initiated a long process of revisionist iconography for the indians from one source to another. The llama, as an animal that closely (to the indians) resembled humans in their social interactions, acted as a replacement for the human sacrificial victim; this helped ease the sacrificial rituals into a more acceptable Christian realm of possibilities.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Pathways of Memory and Power: Ethnography and History among an Andean People
Memory Exercises: Memory Exercises Unleashed: Top 12 Memory Exercises To Remember Work And Life In 24 Hours With The Definitive Memory Exercises Guide! (memory exercises, memory, brain training)
F. G. A. Stone: Leaving No Stone Unturned: Pathways in Organometallic Chemistry (Profiles, Pathways, and Dreams)
BRAIN: 51 Powerful Ways to Improve Brain Power, Enhance Memory, Intelligence and Concentration NATURALLY! (MEMORY, Memory Improvement, Learning, Brain Training)
Fusion of the Worlds: An Ethnography of Possession among the Songhay of Niger
How To Analyze People: Mastering Analyzing and Reading People: (How To Read People, Analyze People, Psychology, People Skills, Body Language, Social Skills)
Brain Training: Power Brain! - Secret Techniques To: Improve Memory, Focus & Concentration (Brain teasers, Improve memory, Improve focus, Concentration, Brain power)
Quantum Memory: Learn to Improve Your Memory with The World Memory Champion!
Power Training: For Combat, MMA, Boxing, Wrestling, Martial Arts, and Self-Defense: How to Develop Knockout Punching Power, Kicking Power, Grappling Power, and Ground Fighting Power
Intimate Indigeneities: Race, Sex, and History in the Small Spaces of Andean Life (Narrating native histories)
Andean Worlds: Indigenous History, Culture, and Consciousness under Spanish Rule, 1532-1825 (DiÁlogos Series)
History: Human History in 50

Events: From Ancient Civilizations to Modern Times (World History, History Books, People History)
(History in 50 Events Series Book 1) American History: The People & Events that Changed
American History (People's History, American, United States of America, American Revolution,
Patriot, United States History Book 1) People's History of Sports in the United States: 250 Years of
Politics, Protest, People, and Play (New Press People's History) UNEXPLAINED
DISAPPEARANCES & MISSING PEOPLE.: MISSING PEOPLE CASE FILES; UNEXPLAINED
DISAPPEARANCES; MISSING PEOPLE. (UNEXPLAINED DISAPPEARANCES : MISSING
PEOPLE Book 2) Memory Manipulation: How to Train Your Brain to Think Faster, Concentrate
More, and Remember Anything: Learn Memory Improvement and Boost Your Brain Power Memory:
Mastermind - Supercharge Your Memory & Unleash The Power Of Your Mind To Maximize
Productivity, Focus & Intelligence The Hold Life Has: Coca and Cultural Identity in an Andean
Community Andean Waterways: Resource Politics in Highland Peru (Culture, Place, and Nature)
Earth Beings: Ecologies of Practice across Andean Worlds (The Lewis Henry Morgan Lectures)

[Dmca](#)