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Francisco Pizarro

# Throughout history, there were many people who traveled the world looking for new land, riches, and leadership. Francisco Pizarro was a quinistador known for conquering the Inca empire. He was born in Trujillo, Spain, in 1471. His father was an infantry colonel named Gonzalo Pizarro, and his mother was a poor woman named Francisca Gonzalez . Growing up, school was not very important and he grew up illiterate.

In November, 1509, Pizarro sailed from Spain to the new world. In 1513, he joined Vasco Nunez de Balboa and crossed the Isthmus of Panama to the Pacific coast. After several years, Pizarro became close with a leader named Davila . Later, he was ordered by Davila to arrest Balboa because he couldn’t be trusted. Balboa was arrested and then beheaded. Because he showed a loyalty to the Davila, Pizarro was named Mayor of the recently founded Panama City, from 1519 to 1523.

In 1523, at the age of 48, Pizarro set out on a number of expeditions. He made preparations to travel down the west coast, for new discoveries. The governor of Panama wasn’t sure about this trip. He ordered Pizarro to go back to Spain to ask the emperor for permission. He was granted a coat of arms, was made governor and captain general of the Providence of New Castle, south of Panama.

By January 1531, Pizzaro set out for Peru. He headed out with one ship, 180 men, and 37 horses. Two more ships joined later. They finally made contact with the leader of the Incas, Atahuallpa. Pizarro sent his brother ahead, to set up a meeting. He wanted to share Christianity and leadership from the Spanish. Atahuallpa did not like this and ordered an attack . The Incas were quickly defeated, and Atahuallpa was captured. He was later strangled to death on August 29, 1533.

For the rest of his life, Pizarro tried to keep the Spanish hold on Peru and guard the wealth that he and his brother had. Pizarro remained in Lima , A city that he founded in 1535, and devoted two years of his life. Some years later, Pizarro’s palace was attacked on June 26, 1541. He died. Before dying he drew a cross on the ground with his own blood, kissed it, and cried out “Jesus” as he fell.

Works Cited

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