A000-AM,S-Peru-Ica-Chincha-Late Intermediate Period-900-1450CE



**Case No.: 16**

**Accession No.**

**Formal Label:** AM,S-Peru-Ica-Chincha-Late Intermediate Period-900-1450CE

**Display Description:**

During the Late Intermediate Period in the 11th century, the Chincha culture coalesced from migratory highlands groups in the Chincha valley where they worshiped a jaguar god, and believed themselves to be descended from jaguars, who gave them their warlike and dominating tendencies. The Chincha fertilized their fields with dead birds and guano, and this knowledge was passed on to later peoples. The Chincha merchants maintained trade routes by land with herds of camelids used as beasts of burden reaching the Collao (Altiplano) and Cusco. Moreover, the Chincha learned seafaring skills; and new technologies such as raft construction with balsa logs, being the largest capable of carrying twenty people in addition to a large cargo, and the use of the sail, only know by some cultures of Ecuador and Peru in the Pre-Columbian era of the Americas; allowing the Chincha to have extensive maritime trade routes and perhaps traveled as far as Central America by boat (raft). The Chincha sea-going "traders" worshiped a star known to them as Chundri that may have served for navigation. Canseco, Maria Rostworowski de Diez (1999). [*History of the Inca Realm*](https://books.google.com.pe/books?id=PfO9_ohMYQQC&pg=PA212). Cambridge University Press.

The Chincha ruin of La Centinela was one of the first archaeological sites in Peru to be investigated by archaeologists. The site covers more than 75 hectares (190 acres) and consists of two large pyramids, La Centinela and Tambo de Mora, constructed of adobe and serving as the habitations of the leaders of the Chincha people.

These pyramids appear as the motifs surrounding this ceramic vessel.

**LC Classification: E51**

**Date or Time Horizon: 1000 CE**

**Geographical Area: Chincha Valley**

**Map:**

**GPS coordinates:**

**Cultural Affiliation: Chincha**

**Media: polychrome ceramic**

**Dimensions:**

**Weight:**

**Condition: original**

**Provenance:**

**Discussion:**

**References:**

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