

INCA DARK CONSTELLATIONS

Peru, America

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Milky Way – Hatu Mayu (Sky River)

The Milky Way is present in the astronomical traditions of various aboriginal cultures. Many groups view the Milky Way as a heavenly river and identify dark clouds or nebulae as animals in their daily lives.



HATUN MAYU – RIO DEL CIELO



The Incas, with significant astronomical knowledge, named the stars forming constellations and had a unique type of "constellation" the dark clouds (yana phuyu) that draw the arms of the Milky Way.

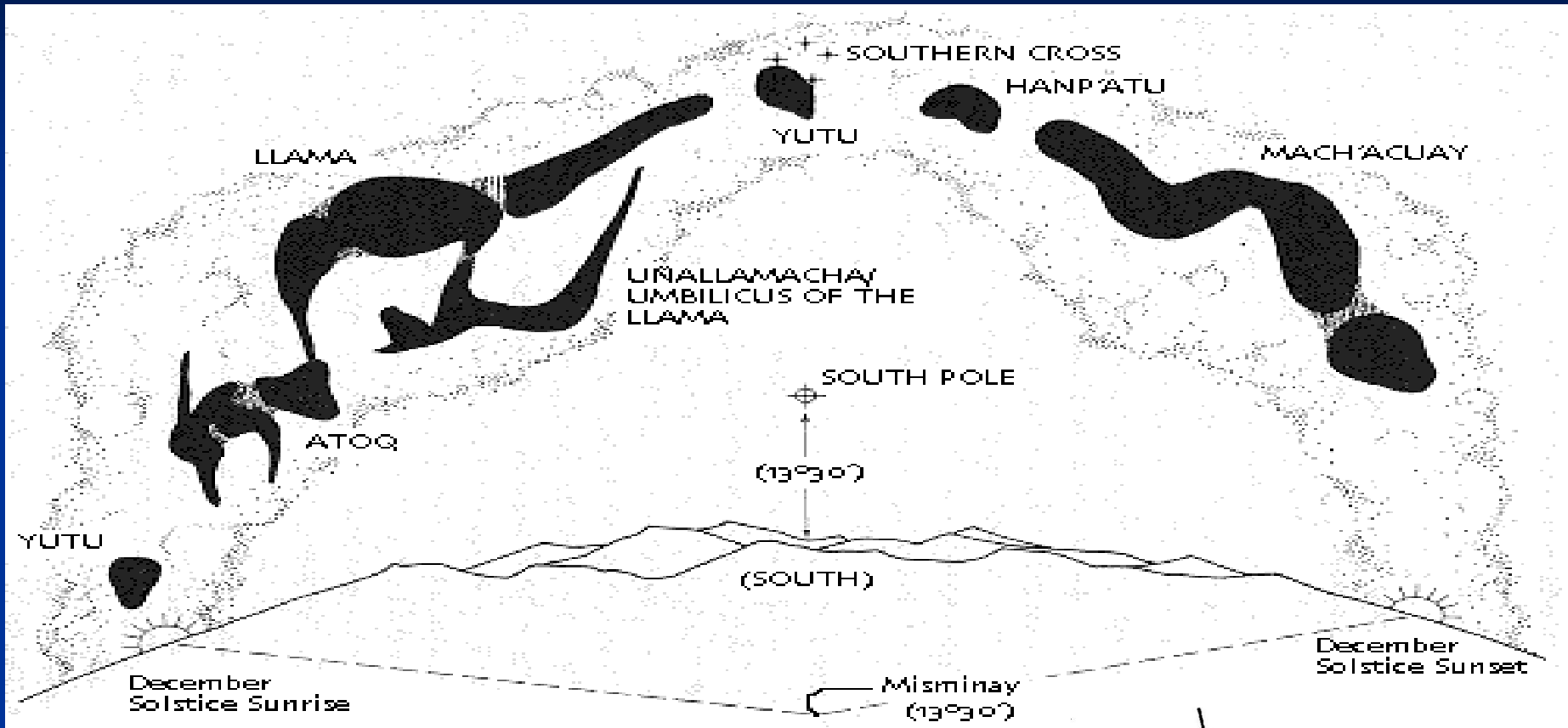


The dark constellations were classified according to their color in yana (dark), muru (multicolored or mottled) or red.



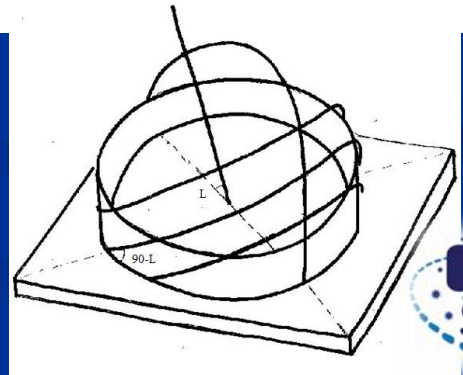


The Chakana was identified with the Southern Cross.



Credit: At the crossroads of Earth and Heaven, Gary Urton.

Note the position of the Milky Way on the December solstice





In order of appearance, beginning September-October:

- Snake (Mach'acuay)





- Toad (Hanp'atu)





- Partridge (Yutuo or Llutu)





- The llama (Yacana)
- Lactating llama (Uñallamacha)





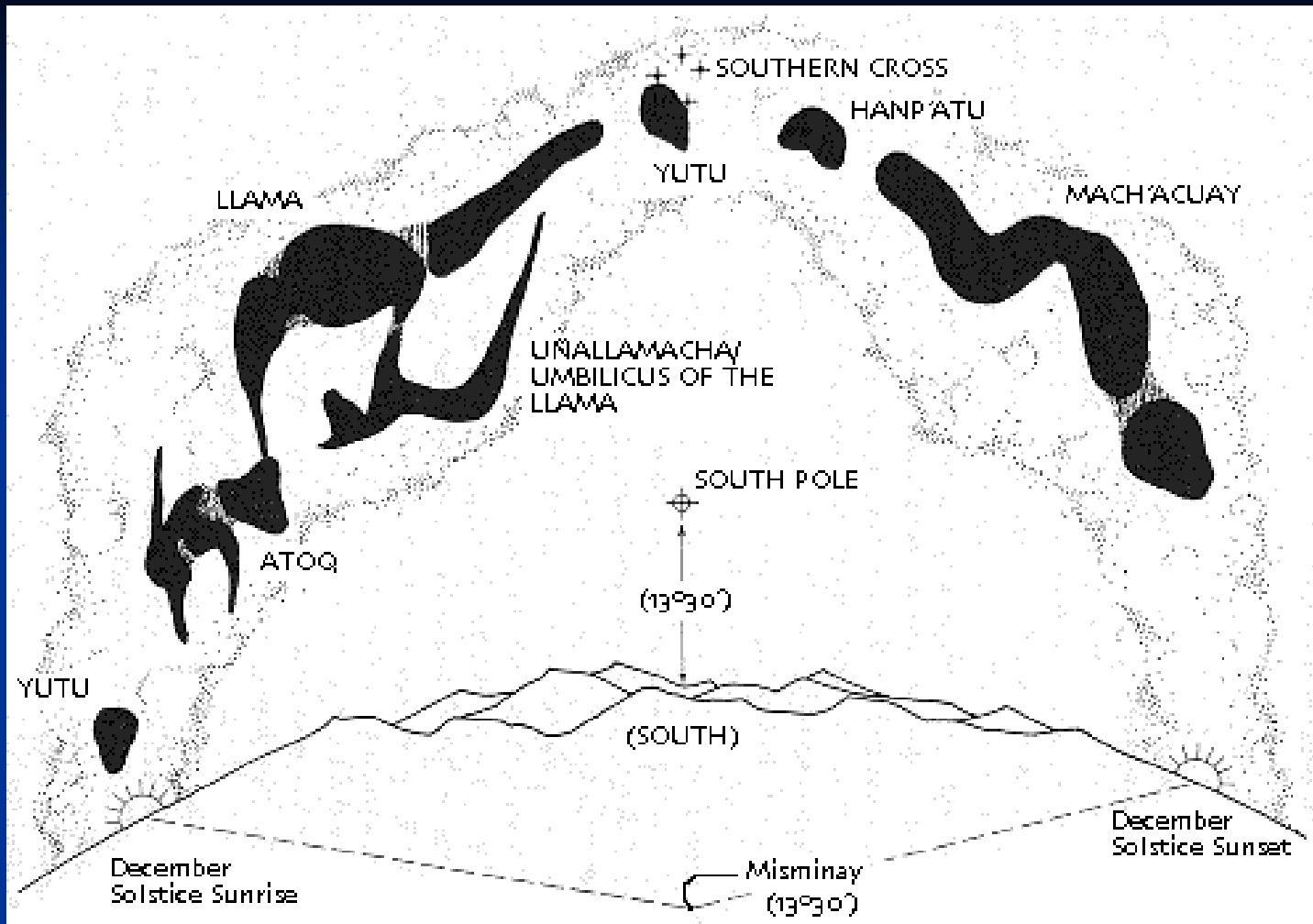
- The fox (Atoq)





- The Shepherd





They used cairns around the towns to perform observations. They made a lunar calendar for religious festivals and a solar one for agriculture.



**Many Thanks
for your attention !**

