

---

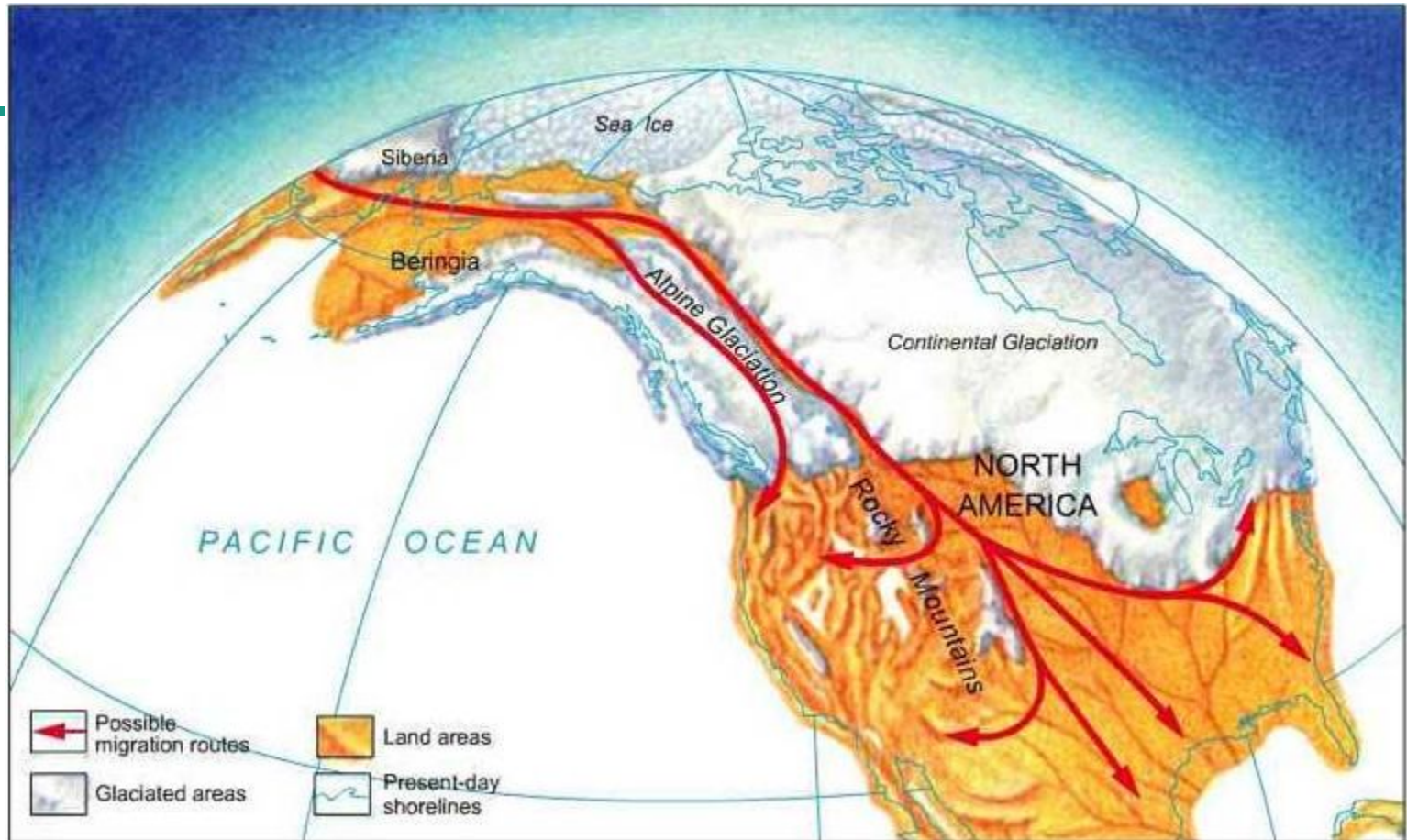
# Societies of the Americas



# Who were the first people in America?

- The first Americans were men and women from Asia
- They migrated, or moved, eastward between 15,000-35,000 years ago by crossing a land bridge between Siberia and Alaska
- Likely made journey in search of food and shelter





# SOCIETIES

- As the first Americans spread throughout the continent, groups began to split from one another and would form societies.
- Societies are groups of people with common interests, customs, and ways of life.
- Three types of societies began to develop throughout North, Central, and South America

**Sedentary Society** - created **permanent towns or villages**. **Densely populated**, streets, farms, markets, hundreds of dwellings

**Semisedentary Society** - **Built towns or villages**, **migrated every few years** in search of animals and new land for farming

**Nonsedentary Society** - **No permanent villages or towns created**, **small populations**, could **easily move** in search of large game, fish, and edible plants



---

# The Rise of Civilizations

Civilization - complex society in which people share characteristics such as language, religion, art, dress, and political structure

Mesoamerica - Where the first great American civilization emerged, stretching from modern day Mexico to Nicaragua



---

# The Mayans

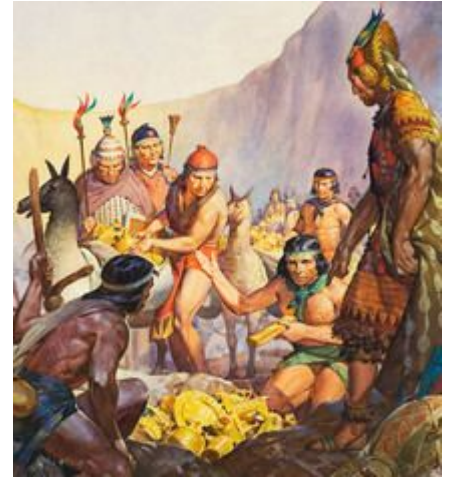
- A.D. 250-900
- Large cities
- Giant temples
- Shrines
- Marketplaces
- Ball courts for games
- Complex civilization
- Collapsed prior to Europeans



---

# The Incas

- Modern day Peru
- Single government (new set of laws)
- Vast civilization (10 million people)
- Made many scientific advancements including calendar, clock, system of paved roads that ran the length of the pacific coast of S. America





---

# The Aztecs

- Modern day Mexico
- Capital was called Tenochtitlan
- City was built on logs and mud
- Over 140,000 people
- United many small communities under a single government
- Used warfare and military alliances to control neighbors
- Enforced new laws, collected taxes, and demanded a share of crops and labor



---

# North American Natives

## Inuit

- Alaska
- Built homes made of ice
- Hunted whales, seals, and walrus
- Used skins for clothing



---

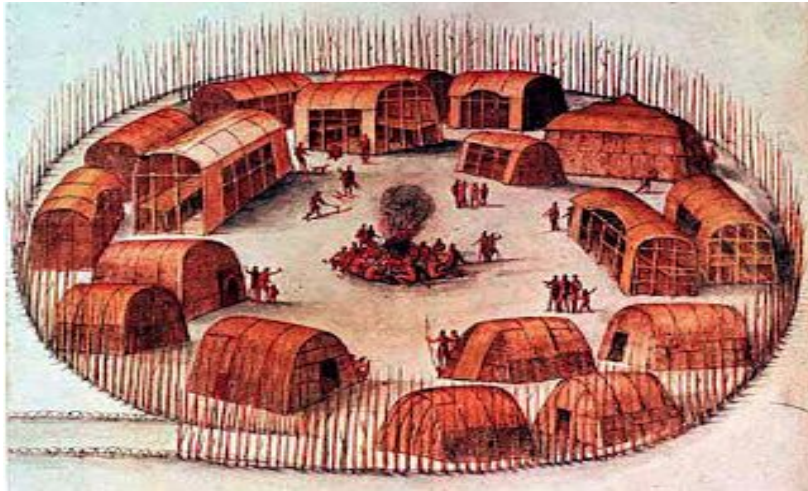
# Continued...

## Pueblo

- Arizona and New Mexico
- Mud-brick houses under steep cliffs
- Provided shade and protection from enemies



# Iroquois and Algonquin



- Lived in **northeast**, between Great Lakes and the Atlantic Ocean
- Used **slash and burn** techniques to build homes (**chopped down trees and burned land to clear area**)
- **Worshipped many gods** whom they believed controlled the sun, moon, sky, crops, rivers, and animals