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The Project " Andean Women and Their Role in Pre-Columbian and Early Colonial Peru: Castillo de Huarmey Imperial Tomb Case Study" examines the role of women in the pre-Hispanic society using a wide archaeological, anthropological and ethnohistorical perspective. Starting from a detailed analysis of the burial contexts from archaeological sites, especially unusual discovery of a royal tomb at Castillo de Huarmey, and written documents on the status of local women from the early colonial time, stored in several archives of the Old and New World, the Project aims to reconstruct the social position and the role of women in the Andean world.

The unique archaeological context - rich, multiple burial of women representing the highest elite of the pre-Columbian Wari culture, whose representatives created the first pan-Andean empire - witnessed socio-cultural revolution and a change of social norms, especially significant increase of the role and importance of women in pre-Hispanic indigenous communities. Documents from the colonial era attest, however, that this high status of women remained until the conquest and the introduction of new social norms and social roles known from the area of ?? contemporary Europe.

This innovative research project is based on the deep cooperation of specialists from three different fields, rarely having the opportunity to work together - archaeologists (and bioarcheologists), specialists in advanced methods of statistical and spatial data analysis and ethnohistorians. Three different research approaches using different sources to reconstruct the past working together will give an effect of establishing the identity, social status, and occupation of the Wari culture elites, as well as the reconstruction of the position and role of Andean women in the past.