

The Chasqui

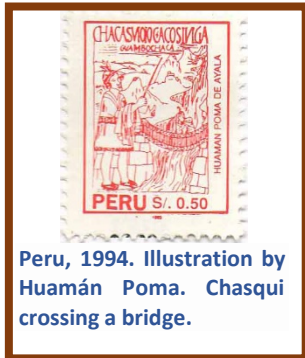
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Chasqui (courier, relay person) was a young runner who carried a message or message. Moving on the run from one post to another. He was the personal messenger of the Inca, who used a system of posts to deliver messages or objects. Fundamentally, they carried the information in the Quipus that had been elaborated by the Quipucamayoc. Simply put, the chasquis were like the postmen of Inca royalty. The chasquis were skilled and physically prepared from an early age, and they traveled through a system of postas (tambos), the extensive roads built by the Inca state, since an order to suspend a war action in time or reinforcements to arrive in a battle could depend on them. They were the sons of curacas, people they trusted.



Peru, 1937. Vermilion chasqui. Recorded by Waterlow & Sons of London.



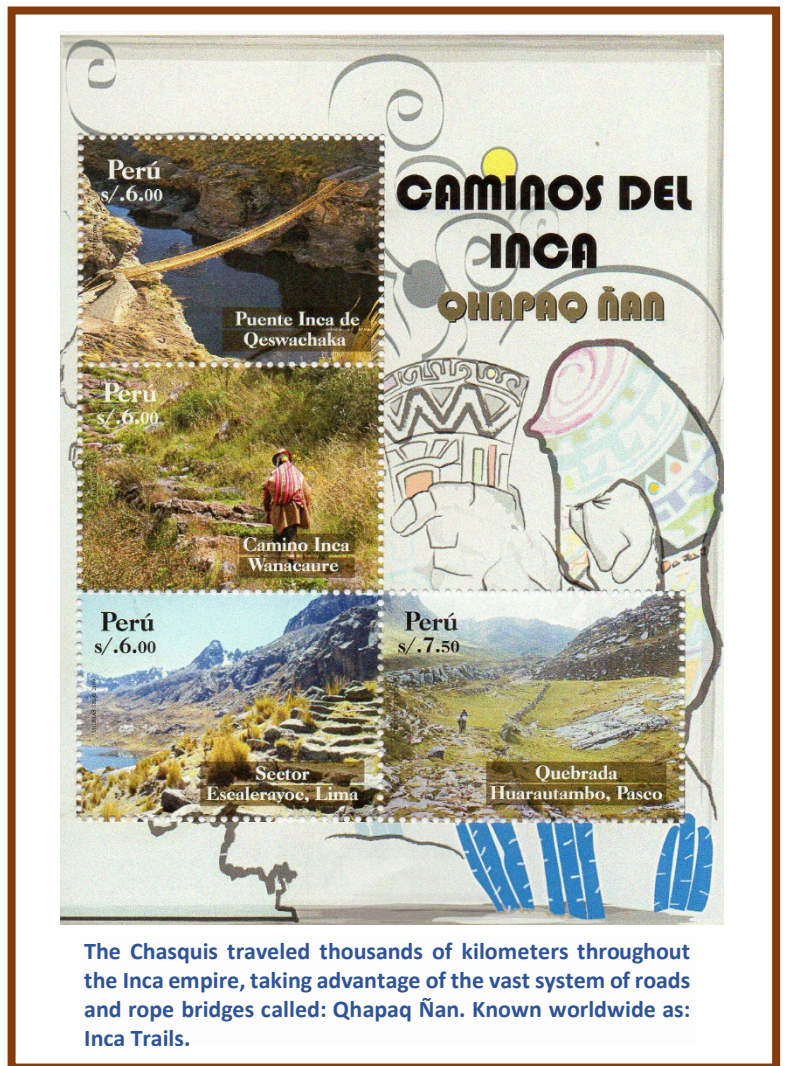
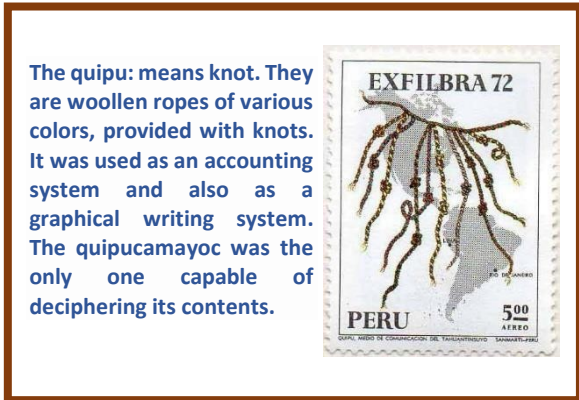
Peru, 1994. Illustration by Huamán Poma. Chasqui crossing a bridge.



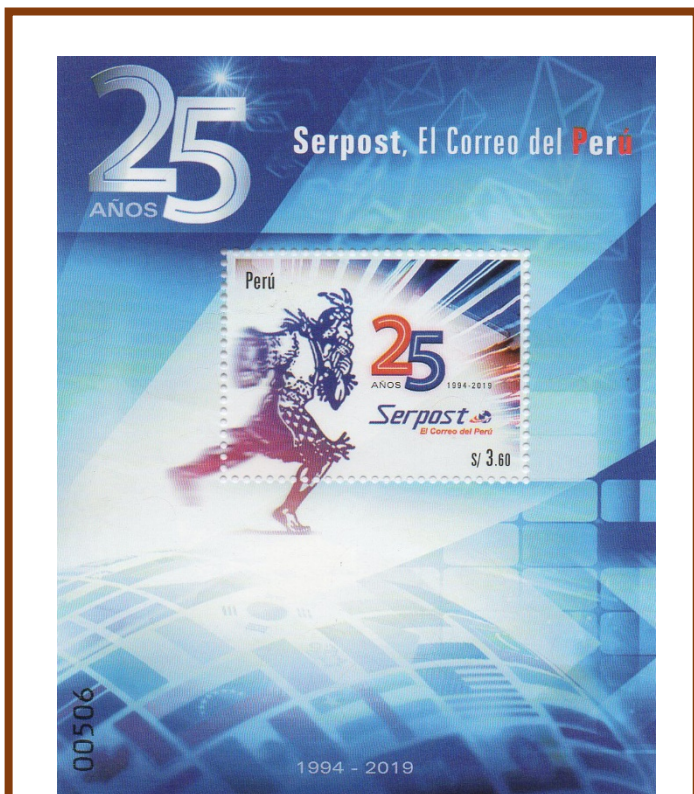
Peru, 2002. Mechanical franking machine with snap, Pitney Bowes. Arabic dater.



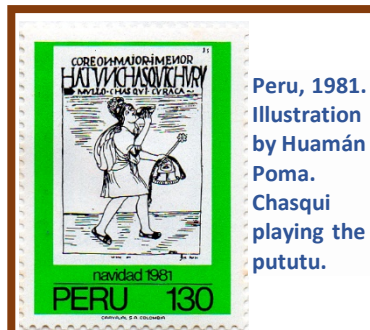
The chasqui carried a pututu (conch trumpet) to announce his arrival and alert his replacement.



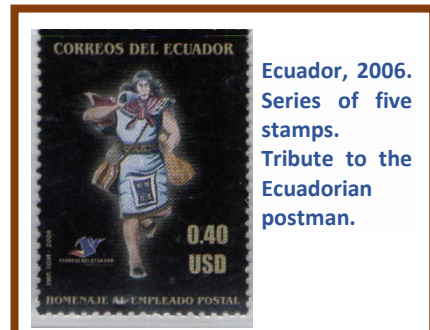
The Chasquis traveled thousands of kilometers throughout the Inca empire, taking advantage of the vast system of roads and rope bridges called: Qhapaq Ñan. Known worldwide as: Inca Trails.



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Peru, 1981. Illustration by Huamán Poma. Chasqui playing the pututu.



Ecuador, 2006. Series of five stamps. Tribute to the Ecuadorian postman.