

Amano Pre-Columbian Textile Museum

The Amano Textile Museum has gained international renown thanks to its extensive collection of archaeological material from a range of Peruvian cultures, and the valuable contribution of Mr. Yoshitaro Amano to the protection of the world's textile heritage. The museum was born of the decision of this successful Japanese engineer to settle in Peru.

In his travels throughout Peru, Mr. Amano came across objects that had been abandoned by tomb robbers. As a cultured man, he understood the importance of such items and began to devote much of his time to the recovery and conservation of objects found scattered across the coastal deserts of Peru, which he then displayed in his home in Miraflores.

In 1964 he founded the Amano Museum, one of the first purpose-built museums in Peru. The institution quickly became known as one of the most important exhibition spaces for Peruvian textile art, and as a go-between for cooperation between Peruvian and Japanese researchers, receiving frequent formal visits from overseas scholars.

After 50 years' service to Peruvian culture and the Japanese community, Mr. Amano's successors and the foundation he established took the difficult decision to close the museum and embark upon the task of remodeling the exhibition, through the creation of specially designed galleries destined to accommodate increased visitor numbers and make the institution self-sustaining. The first step in this process was the securing of significant financial support from institutions including the Japanese Embassy, Sumitomo Metal Mining and the company Miyasato.

Just over a year after launching this initiative, the museum reopened its doors and resumed its role as an advocate for Peruvian culture. The remodeling has doubled the available exhibition space, improved conservation methods, and made it possible to display more than six hundred textile works from the Amano collection. New features include informative panels, videos and the very latest multimedia applications.

The Amano family is fully committed to continuing its contribution to conservation and research focused on Peru's textile heritage, in keeping with the wishes of the founder of this major national museum, and in honor of his memory.

COLLECTION

Our exhibition space is spread over four rooms and designed in accordance with three display concepts:

A. CHRONOLOGICAL TEXTILE SEQUENCE:

This display covers the emergence of textiles around the world, the first raw materials employed, and textile history within Peruvian territory, tracing its development among the Chavín, Paracas, Nasca, Moche, Huari, Sihuas, Lambayeque, Chimú, Chancay, Chuquibamba and Inca cultures.

B. RAW MATERIALS AND TEXTILE TOOLS ROOM:

This display traces the entire process required for the production of the textiles displayed in the museum, from the selection of raw materials, to dyeing, spinning and the types of loom employed. Examples of the textile mastery achieved in Peru are

exhibited, together with items demonstrating the different uses to which fibers were put.

C. YOSHITARO AMANO ROOM:

Access is now available to the museum's storage facilities, where cabinets can be opened by those interesting in studying the textile art developed by Chancay culture, through close observation of fine examples of the range of techniques and designs adopted and enriched by this great society of skilled textile workers and pottery makers.

In its first two rooms, the Amano Textile Museum exhibits more than 120 textile works representing the long history of cultural development in Pre-Columbian Peru. The visitor experience culminates with the room in which more than 460 examples of Chancay textiles from the collection amassed by Mr. Amano are displayed.

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SERVICES

- The museum also offers visitors a specialist store, SOL ALPACA, where high quality textile goods can be purchased.
- Our institution possesses two additional gallery spaces, available to the local community for cultural activities and temporary exhibitions.
- We are also able to host social events in our spacious facilities.