

# Ancient royal tomb unearthed in Peru

Archaeologists in Peru have discovered a royal tomb, with treasure and mummified women, that sheds new light on the enigmatic Wari people who ruled the Andes before the rise of the better-known Inca civilisation



## El Castillo de Huarney:

1,200-year-old burial chamber in stepped pyramid, contained bodies of 63 people, including three Wari queens

Many bodies found sitting upright – indicating royalty and suggesting Wari women held great power

*Gold-and-silver ear ornaments, found among more than 1,200 artifacts*



## TIMELINE OF ANCIENT PERU

**Wari:** South America's earliest empire.  
ca 700-1000 A.D.

**Regional States:**  
Includes Chimú culture  
ca 900-1470

**Inca empire:**  
ca 1400-1532

