FRANCISCO PIZARRO was a cruel Spanish conquistador who caused the fall of the Inca empire. Like Cortés, who plundered the Aztec, Pizarro had little respect for the Inca natives.

Pizarro traveled from Panama, a Spanish settlement founded in 1519 on the Pacific coast. The unsuspecting Incas welcomed the Europeans, not knowing their evil motives. In 1532, the Spaniards captured Atahuallpa, the 13th and last Inca emperor, and killed thousands of Inca people. Pizarro murdered Atahuallpa, taking large amounts of treasure, gold and silver. In 1535, Pizarro founded the city of Lima, Peru, and there he was killed by other plundering Spaniards.