Glossary of Quechua Terms

**Acllahuasi** (Acllawasi): temple complex for reclusive women initiates.

**Ajii** (“ah-hee”): a capsicum chili family native to Peru and extremely hot.

**Ajutas**: Andean sandals.

**Allin**: good, excellent.

**Altomisayoq**: the highest level of Andean shaman-priests, one who connects directly with the Apus.

**Amaru**: serpent, Inkan symbol of wisdom.

**Amauta**: a sage, wise one, one of awakened consciousness

**Anka**: hawk or eagle.

**Antisuyu**: the eastern part of the Inkan Empire.

**Apu**: the tutelary spirit that resides in the snow-covered mountain peaks.

**Apukuna**: (Apu in Spanish and English) plural of Apu

**Aqha** (*chicha* in Spanish): a fermented beverage made from sprouted corn and used as staple in the Andes.

**Aqhamama**: ancient Quechua name for Cusco (Qosqo)

**Awki** (“auw-key”): nature spirits that reside in and protect mountains, caves, springs, trees, and rocks formations. The soul of a natural place.

**Awkikuna**: plural of Awki.

**Ayahuasca** (“aya-waz-ka”): the entheogenic liquid medicine made by slowly brewing pieces of the ayahuasca vine (*Banisteropsis caapi*) with chakruna leaves (*Pysichotria viridis*).

**Ayni**: the principle of reciprocity central to Andean spiritual practice and daily life.

**Aynikawsay**: Ayni in daily life.

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1 Glossary appears on page 160 in the book.
Aynimisaq'epé: the first sacred bundle in Q'ero shamanism.

Aynimunaykawsay: to be in the state of munay, love and beauty, through Ayni.

Capac: one greater than leader.

Chakana: Andean cross.

Capacunna: emperor.

Ch'aska: the most brilliant star.

Ch’ulhu: multicolored knitted Andean cap.

Ch’uñu: freeze dried dehydrated potato.

Ch’uspa: small, rectangular, tightly woven bags used to carry coca leaves.

Chakra: agricultural fields for plantings.

Chinchaysuyu: the northern region of the Inkan Empire.

Chiri: cold.

Chiri Chiri: very cold.

Choqlo: an ear of corn.

Chuku: a brimmed hat.

Collasuyu: the southern region of the Inkan Empire.

Cuntisuyu: the western region of the Inkan Empire.

Haiwariquy: specific offering to an Apu.

Haku: to get going. Hakuchis: let's go.

Hanan: upper part.

Hananpacha: the upper world of spiritual beings according to Andean cosmology.

Hanpi: medicine.

Hanpiq: healer

Hanpiqipu: misa dedicated to healing.

Hanpiy: invoking curative energy
Hanpuy: come
Hatun: large, big.
Hillap’a (Illap’a): lightning.
Huaca (Waka): a sacred natural setting or burial site, or shrine along a seq’e line.
Huancamayoq: a specialist in performing ritual offerings and tending huacas.
Huayruru (Wayruru): *Ormosia coccinea*, red and black seeds made into necklaces and bracelets and used as love charms and protection against bad luck.
Illa Tesqi Wiraqocha: Creator of the universe, Supreme Being.
Inka (Inca): Emperor, monarch.
Inkari: the title of the return of the Inka.
Inti: the physical sun and the spiritual presence inherent in the sun’s life giving energy.
Intikhana: a being of light, limitless and at one with Inti.
K’intu: three coca leaves symbolizing the three worlds of Andean cosmology and the three ethical and moral principles of the Andean way.
Kallpa ("kai-pa"): the life force, energy, vigor.
Kamaq: creator.
Karpay: a special ceremony involving numerous shamans at which time initiations and titles may be conferred.
Kawsay: life.
Kawsaypacha: the world of living energy.
Kay: to exist, to live, to be.
Kaypacha: the middle dimension of Andean cosmology and the world of matter in which we live, the world of daily affairs.
Killa: moon. Mamakilla, "mother moon" is the spirit of the moon.
Kuka: *Erythroxylum coca*, the coca plant and leaves.
Kukak’intu: three perfectly shaped coca leaves used as an act of Ayni to the Apus.
Kukamukllu: coca seeds.

Kukawatoq (Kukaqhawaq): person who divines with coca leaves.

Kukawayaka: ceremonial coca leaf bag.

Kuntisuyu: western region of Tawantinsuyu.

Kuntur: the condor.

Kurakakullek: the highest level of Andean shamanic initiation.

Llank'ay: ("yan-kay") physical labor, work, the attitude of service to others rendered with love in the spirit of Ayni.

Llikla: (manta in Spanish), colorful shawl used as a ceremonial cloth to form the misaq'epe.

Llipht'a: alkaline paste made from cacao or quinoa ash and lime chewed with coca leaves to extract the active alkaloids.

Mamaq'epe: the "mother" sacred bundle used during initiations.

Mayu: the Milky Way and a central aspect of Inkan cosmology.

Misa or Misal: A shaman's sacred objects used to connect with the Awkikuna and Apukuna, and typically wrapped in a ritual cloth, the misaq'epe.

Misaq'epe: ceremonial bundle containing the shaman's sacred objects.

Misaqollu: decorative stones and objects used to adorn the misa.

Misarumi: sacred stones given by an Apu.

Munay: loving-kindness, one of the three Andean ethical and moral principles.

Munaycha: beautiful.

Orcopuntakarpay: initiation to form a personal relationship with an Apu.

Pacha: the wholeness of life in space-time.

Pachakamachqa: human social life.

Pachakamaq: creator of the universe.

Pachakawsay: lifespan.
Pachakuti: the ninth Inka, and the time between eras when the world is shaken and transformed.

Pachamama: the earth mother in space-time, the all creative cosmic mother.

Pampamisayoq: Andean shaman-priest who is a specialist in ritual sacred worship and healing.

Papa: potato.

Papawatyia: roasted potato.

Papawayk'u: boiled potato.

Pakuq (Paqo): an Andean shaman-priest.

Phuku: to blow.

Phukuyr'tti: ritual blowing usually on coca leaves, also used for healing or directed towards the east as a symbolic act of offering the life force within one self to the rising sun.

Phuquchu: Fur bag made of baby alpaca used to summon the Apus.

Pumarunas: Inkan priests dedicated to ceremonies associated with the puma and important in festivals related to Cuzco, the city of the puma.

Punchu: poncho.

Q’epe: carrying bundle

Q’ente: hummingbird.

Qhaqya: thunder.

Qocha: lake.

Qochamama or mamaqocha: “mother” lake, the sea.

Quipu or Khipu: an assemblage of cotton and alpaca threads woven and knotted that constituted a tactile system of mathematics and information transmission.

Qoyllur Rit’i: site of the largest annual festival in the Andes.

Quipucamayoqs: specialists in reading quipus.

Riti: snow.

Runa: person.
Runasimi: Quechua, the people's language.

Seq’e (“sec-keys”) or ceques: the system of lines and corresponding shrines radiating out of Cuzco.

Sumaq: wonderful, delicious.

Suyus: the four regions of the Inkan empire, the four cardinal directions.

Tahuantinsuyu (Tawantinsuyu): the “four corners of the world” signifying the Inkan empire.

Ukhupacha: the interior or lower world of Andean cosmology.

Uncuño: special woven clothes for coca leaves and used as part of the ceremonial misa.

Unku: the pre-Hispanic black tunic still worn by traditional Q'ero under their poncho.

Uño: water.

Uramama: "mother" coca.

Watya: method of baking underground.

Willaq Uma: Inkan solar priest, a fully integrated human being, one in direct contact with the Apus and at one with the natural environment and spiritual worlds.

Wiraqocha: gentleman.

Yachay: the superior consciousness we arrive at through love and work.

Yanatin: a divine pair of mountains or other sacred natural formations.