

THE EVENT THAT SHOOK THE SPIRIT OF THE CITY:

POPULATION AND RECONSTRUCTION IN
THE AFTERMATH OF THE EARTHQUAKE OF
1746, LIMA



Universidad del País Vasco
Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea
The University of the Basque Country

Aroia Kortabitarte
Naiara Arrizabalaga
Maialen Lasa
Alaitz Imaz



*“Count said that this
incident was the most
shock their spirit at that
destination”*

THE IMPORTANCE OF LIMA

- Capital of viceroyalty of Peru the viceroy lived there
- One of the most important political, administrative and economic center of the colonies.
- It was wealthy



DISASTER

- 28th of October of 1746, at 10:30 at night, an earthquake shook the city of lima
- Immediately a tsunami swept through the port of Callao



DIRECT DAMAGE OF THE EARTHQUAKE:

LIMA:

- The city center was completely destroyed
 - Huge material damage:
 - Towers, canals, ports... were destroyed
 - Among the 3,000 houses that were the earthquake only 25 remained
 - The stronger buildings fell down (cathedral, monasteries, hospitals)
 - The magnitude of the death people was not so great:
 - Only 1141 died of 50.000 inhabitants.

DIRECT DAMAGE OF THE EARTHQUAKE:

CALLAO

- The sea took underside the port of Callao
 - The material damage was utterly:
 - The sea carried forward the architecture and property of the city
 - Ships in the harbor were destroyed and sunk
 - The port remained inactive causing serious economic consequences
 - The magnitude of the death people was almost total
 - Only 200 of the 4000 inhabitants survived.

COLLATERAL DAMAGE OF THE EARTHQUAKE :

- The lack of infrastructure damage caused by the earthquake brought the decline of the market.
 - The market was diverted to other ports.
 - Are lost profits from the maritime market were lost.
 - The transportation by land was not profitable.
- Epidemics raised the number of deaths in 6-8 thousand.
- Financial problems arose.
- Many social problems arose.



MIGRATIONS

MIGRATIONS:

- First stage: during the next 5 months.
- Second stage: between the first and third year.
- Third stage: between the second and tenth year.

First stage:

- The first reactions that occurred in front of the cataclysm:
 - All social classes abandoned the city.
- The main tendency was emigration.
 - Especially to the outskirts of the city.

Second stage:

- As the situation was stabilized the reaction of the population changed

A) Emigration:

- Political and economic elites left the city forever.

ROYAL TREASURY OF LIMA

*in hundreds of <i>pesos fuertes</i>					
		1746	1747	Dif.	%
Alcabalas		259.593	137853	-121.740	-46,896488
Almojarifazgo		82315	54263	-28052	-34,0788435
Haveria		77050	2332	-74718	-96,9733939
Quintos de oro		43378	29747	-13631	-31,4237632
Quintos de plata		3240	5195	1955	60,3395062
Noveno		6708	5002	-1706	-25,4323196
Vacantes mayores		6919	23063	16144	233,328516
vacantes menores		25306	7190	-18116	-71,5877657
Mesadas eclesiásticas		4252	1874	-2378	-55,9266228
composicion de pulperías		6000	6000	0	0
Arrendamiento de la nieve		6000	6000	0	0
Papel sellado		4879	4261	-618	-12,66653
Licencia para molinos		350	500	150	42,8571429
Comisos		34733	9240	-25493	-73,3970576
Multas		13000			
Derecho de visa		21799	21006	-793	-3,63778155
Arrendamiento de cajones de palacio		1700	1400	-300	-17,6470588
Oficios vendibles		9512	3948	-5564	-58,4945332
Casas de monedas		63178	43590	-19588	-31,0044636
Tributo de provincias	Chancay	5926			
Tributo de provincias	Cañete	3816			
Tributo de provincias	Pisco	2838			
Tributo de provincias	<i>Guztira</i>	12580	12581	1	0,00794913

Second stage:

B) Immigration

- Middle-class citizens were located in the periphery.
 - In search of new lives, new houses were built.
- Poorest citizens will return to the city. Why?
 - The city was destroyed
 - ↓
 - There was lack of manpower to remove debris and rebuild the buildings .
 - ↓
 - Salaries increased
 - ↓
 - The city attracted these people.

Third stage:

- INMIGRATION: THE MAIN TENDENCY

- A lot of charges were empty
 - Attractive for the middle class
 - For example the case of the Limas bishop
 - The last bishop died in 18-12-1746.
 - Pedro Maria Barroeta was named in 18-9-17
 - Without experience
 - 47 years old
 - Received the permission to go there in 1749, he didn't go until 1750
 - Bishop of Granada in 1757



POLITICAL PROMOTION

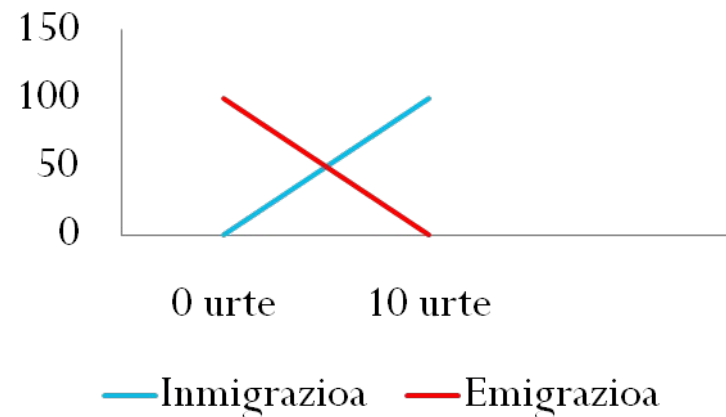


Third stage

- INMIGRATION THE MAIN CURRENT.
 - Aristocrats with staunch possessions returned.
 - People with economic occupations returned.

CONCLUSIONS

- In front of the catastrophe people of different social stages took different decisions, depending on their economical possibilities.
- People did not only emigrate, they also immigrate:



ESKERRIK ASKO

THANK YOU

DANKE SCHÖN