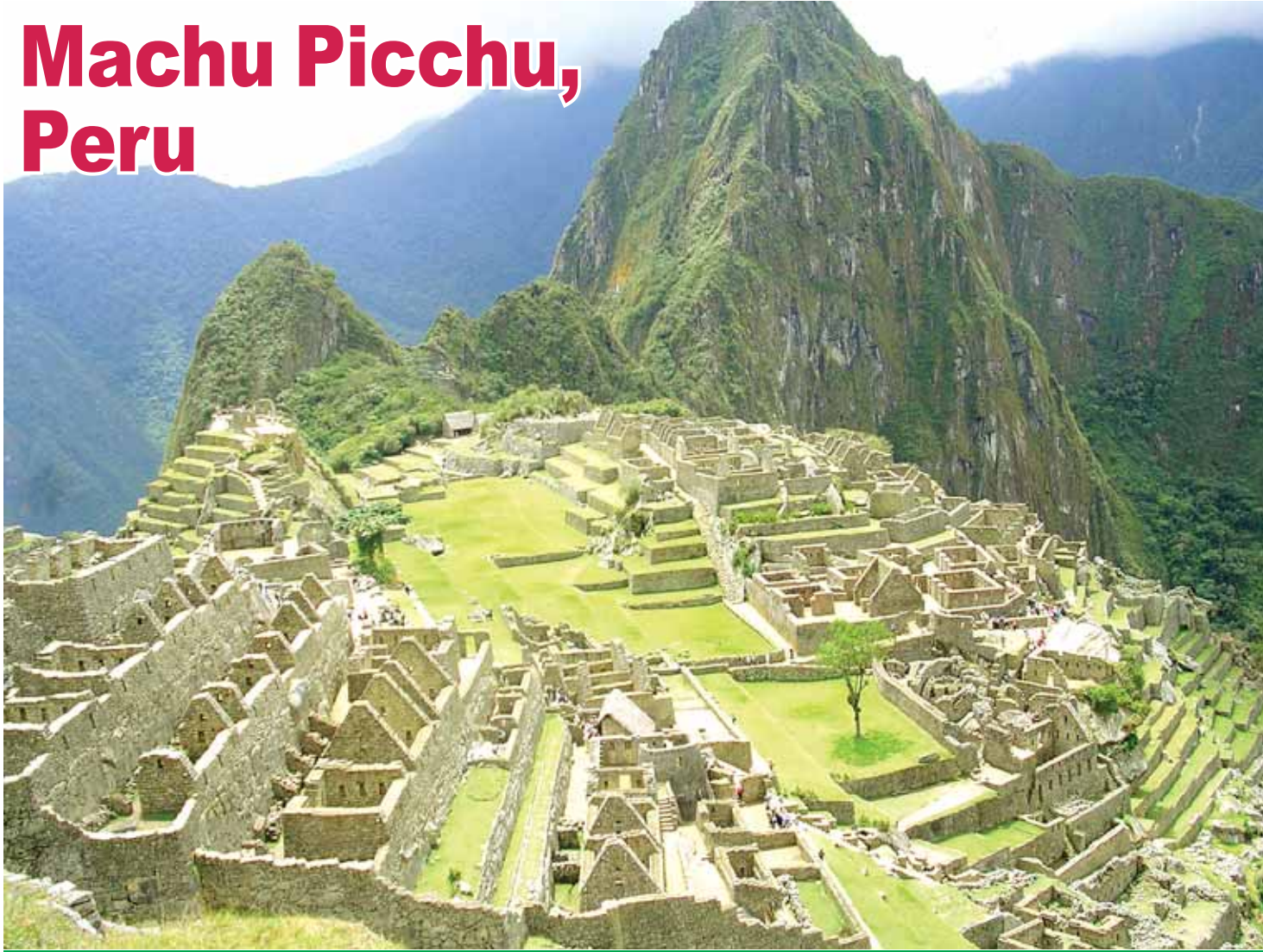


## Machu Picchu, Peru



Machu Picchu lies in the southern hemisphere, some 13 degrees south of the equator. It is 80 kilometers northwest of Cusco, on the crest of the mountain Machu Picchu, located about 2,450 metres (8,040 ft) above mean sea level, over 1,000 metres (3,300 ft) lower than Cusco, which has an altitude of 3,600 metres (11,800 ft). As such, it had a milder climate than the Inca capital. It is one of the most important archaeological sites in South America, one of the most visited tourist attractions in all of Latin America and is the most visited tourist attraction in Peru.



## The Eastern Ghats



The Western Ghats, Western Ghats or the Sahyādrī constitute a mountain range along the western side of India. This range runs north to south along the western edge of the Deccan Plateau, and separates the plateau from a narrow coastal plain along the Arabian Sea. The range starts near the border of Gujarat and Maharashtra, south of the Tapi river, and runs approximately

1,600 km (990 mi) through the states of Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala ending at Kanyakumari, at the southern tip of India. These hills cover 160,000 km<sup>2</sup> (62,000 sq mi) and form the catchment area for complex riverine drainage systems that drain almost 40% of India. The Western Ghats block rainfall to the Deccan Plateau[1] The average elevation is around 1,200 m (3,900 ft).[2] The area is one of the world's ten "Hottest biodiversity hotspots" and has over 5000 species of flowering plants, 139 mammal species, 508 bird species and 179 amphibian species; it is likely that many undiscovered species live in the Western Ghats. At least 325 globally threatened species occur in the Western Ghats.

## The brightest star



The Polar or North Star, is the most important star in the heavens. This star does not revolve like all other stars but stays somewhat fixed. At the time of the construction of the Pyramid of Giza, the true North Star was known as Thuban (Heb. The Subtle

Draconis (Dragon), or the Dragon star. This star shown directly down the Descending Passage in the Pyramid of Giza, which was built in exact alignment with True North. At this very same time the star cluster known as the Pleiades appears with the Dragon Star. They

co-mingled then, in the heavens at the Vernal Equinox. The North Star is known as the "Gate of Heaven" for its position it holds. "The North Star has been removed from the Dragon Star." The Lesser Fold is its constellation today, and "Al Ruccaba" is the name of its Polar Star.

## Kongamoto

The Kongamoto are pterodactyl like creatures said to inhabit the Congo, Africa. "In Zambia and Zimbabwe, people are afraid of the flesh eating Kongamoto, a flying lizard with a great wingspan and a long beak filled with teeth, much like the long extinct pterodactyl". The etymology of Pterodactyl dates from 1830, from the french ptérodactyle (1821), from the Mod.L. genus name, from Gk. pteron "wing" + daktylos "finger". Maybe of interest for further research "Daktyl" also refers to a member of a group of mythological beings who dwelt on Mount Ida (The tallest mountain on the island of Crete) and were metal workers and magicians. Pterosaurs were the first ever flying vertebrates (animals with backbone).



## Earliest traces of human habitation in India

The earliest traces of human habitation in India are the rock shelters at Bhimbetka in Madhya Pradesh on India's central plateau. Their Stone Age paintings have been dated from 28,000 to 7,000 BC. Recorded history begins in the Bronze Age with the Indus Valley and Vedic Era civilizations between 3,300 and 500 BC.

Throughout this long history many cultures and civilizations have risen and declined, though Islam and Hinduism have been a repeated core and cultural influence. All have played a part in the evolution of this complex country. Some rulers – notably Emperor Ashoka of the Maurya Dynasty and later emperors Babur, Akbar, Jahangir and Shah Jahan of the Mughal Dynasty - left an indelible legacy for subsequent generations.

India's historical influence on the world has been profound through prolific trade. From ancient times to the British Raj, India amassed fabulous wealth, even during the politically turbulent medieval period (12th to 16th centuries AD). Textiles, spices, ivory, gem stones, carpets and much more were shipped as far afield as Europe, China, East Africa, Persia, central Asia and the Far east.



## Atlantis an advanced island civilization

Atlantis is the subject of a legend about an advanced island civilization that was destroyed or lost. Stories about Atlantis are first mentioned in Plato's dialogues Timaeus and Critias, in which characters say it was destroyed by an earthquake or a tsunami about 9,000 years before the time in which Plato wrote. The story claims Atlantis was somewhere outside the Pillars of Hercules. According to Plato, the story originated with Ancient Egyptian priests.

Some people believe that the stories are fictions made up to serve the purposes of Plato's dialogs. But others take them as if they were serious historical accounts.

There have been dozens — perhaps hundreds — of locations proposed for the classical Atlantis. Some are more-or-less serious attempts at legitimate scholarly or archaeological

works; others have been made by psychic or other pseudoscientific means. As continental drift became better understood and accepted during the 1950s, most "Lost Continent" theories of Atlantis have been proven conclusively false.

Some cultures have "lost civilization" myths. In some cases, it has been argued that there is a common historical event or real "lost civilization" at the root of some or all of these legends, but there is considerable disagreement between the competing hypotheses. It may be that these legends have arisen from many different historical events, and are only just now being associated by modern theorizers because of their similarity. It may also be that these legends are entirely fictional, but for some reason have arisen and remained popular in many different cultures at different times.