

## **Essay on the Tradition of the Andean Food Culture (1)**

### **- Table of the Inca Elite in Cuzco -**

Hidefuji Someda

Department of Area Studies, Osaka University of Foreign Studies

8-1-1, Aomadani-higashi, Minoo-shi, Osaka, 562-8558, Japan

#### **Summary**

In Japan, due to the traditional euro-centric attitudes, indigenous cultures of Latin America, such as the Maya and the Aztec in Mesoamerica and the Incas in South America have been regarded exclusively as an exotic and enigmatic past. They are considered only as historical monuments or visible vestiges, which are foreign to the present Latin America. This essay intends to reconsider such negative views. It will be discussed that despite the long inhumane Spanish rule and Europe-orientated policy in the 19th and 20th centuries, traditional elements of Andean food culture have survived to the present days.