

DARK CONSTELLATIONS

Peru, America

Australia

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Milky Way – Hatu Mayu (Sky River)

The Milky Way is present in the astronomical traditions of various aboriginal cultures. Many groups view the Milky Way as a heavenly river and identify dark clouds or nebulae as animals in their daily lives.



HATUN MAYU – RIO DEL CIELO



The Incas, with significant astronomical knowledge, named the stars forming constellations and had a unique type of "constellation" the dark clouds (yana phuyu) that draw the arms of the Milky Way.

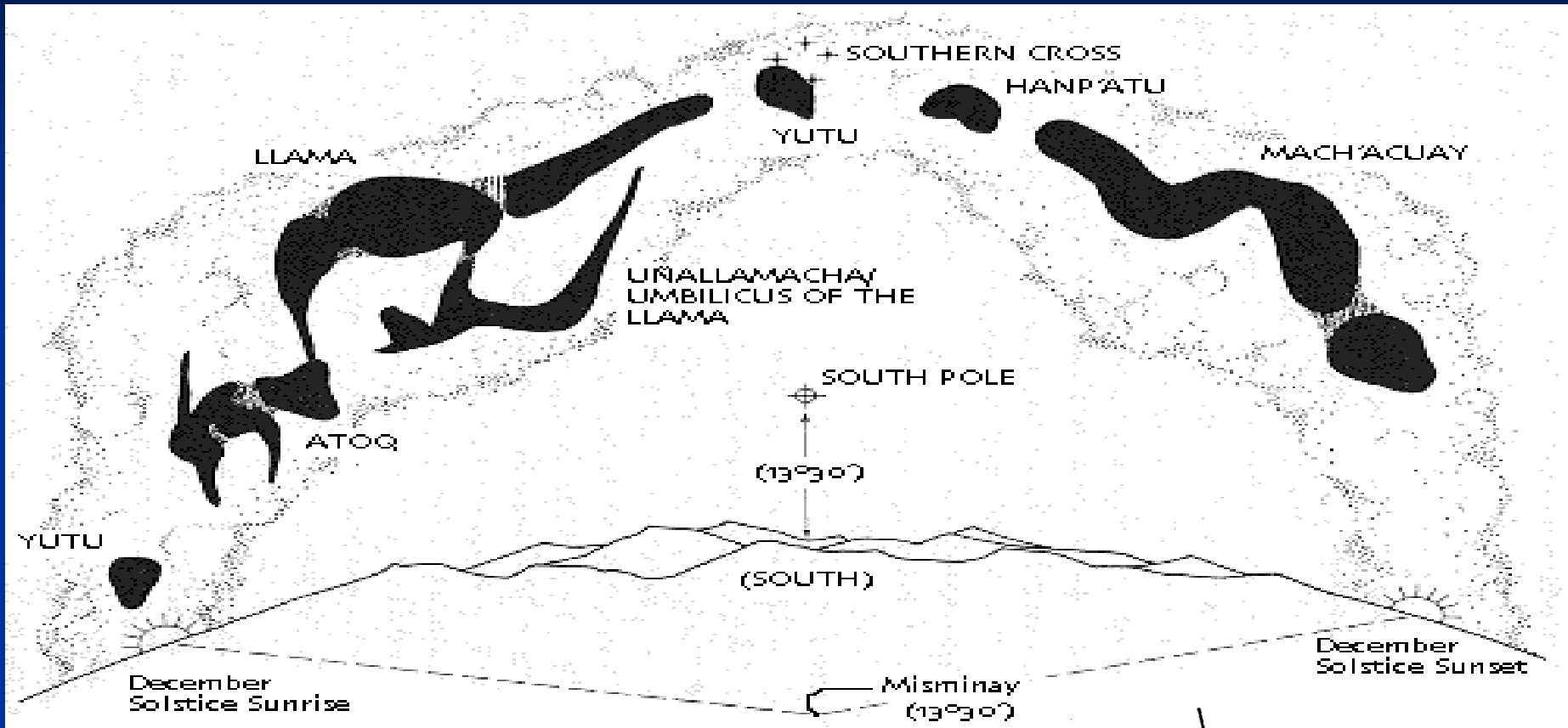


The dark constellations were classified according to their color in yana (dark), muru (multicolored or mottled) or red.



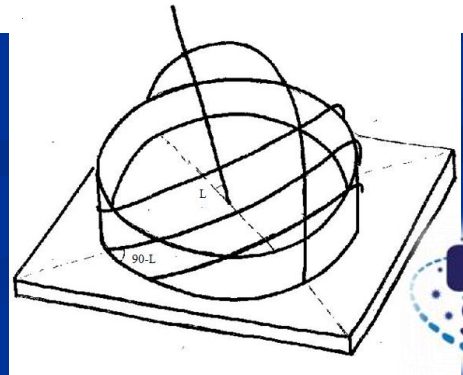


The Chakana was identified with the Southern Cross.



Credit: At the crossroads of Earth and Heaven, Gary Urton.

Note the position of the Milky Way on the December solstice





In order of appearance, beginning September-October:

- Snake (Mach'acuay)





- Toad (Hanp'atu)





- Partridge (Yutuo or Llutu)





- The llama (Yacana)
- Lactating llama (Uñallamacha)





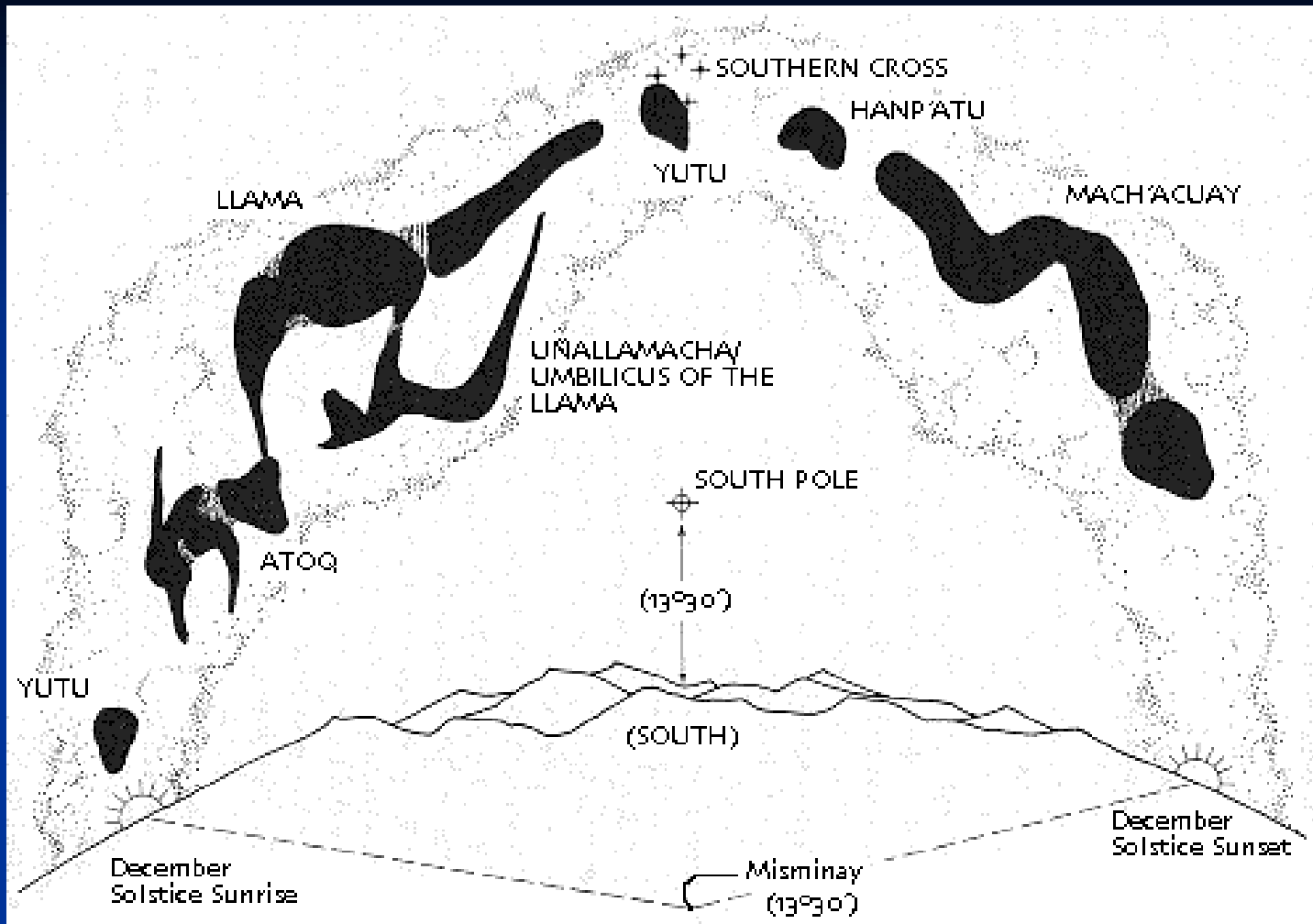
- The fox (Atoq)





- The Shepherd





They used cairns around the towns to perform observations. They made a lunar calendar for religious festivals and a solar one for agriculture.



Credit; Jessica Gullberg, based on the description by Ghillar Michael Anderson in Fuller, Anderson, Norris, 2014



In several Australian Aboriginal peoples, (New South Wales) the best known constellation, is the so-called "Gawarrgay", the "Emu in the sky"

An Emu drawn by the dark clouds within the plane of the Milky Way, near the Southern Cross, form the head, and the body extends along the Milky Way to the galactic center in Scorpio and Sagittarius.





Other constellations recognized by Australian peoples are the Kangaroo, located towards the tail of the Emú and beyond this constellation, the dark spaces of the Milky Way represent two crocodiles visible in late summer.

When the Emu and the Kangaroo start to put on, the crocodiles are very visible, the belly of the emu becomes the head of the first crocodile, and thus they recognized the moment to prepare the initiation ceremony, in September and October.



Cedit: Robert S. Fuller



**Many Thanks
for your attention !**

