**Wari Presence in the Vitor Valley (Arequipa, Peru)**

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1. **Introduction:** The Vitor Valley, in the coastal zone of southern Peru, preserves remains of most periods of Andean history, including the Middle Horizon Milo complex.

2. **Settlement:** Milo 2, at the valley bottom, preserves the remains of many residential structures, some with Wari-type burials below the floors of subsequently abandoned rooms.

3. **Ramada vessels:** The Ramada culture, primarily known from burial contexts (figures 7 and 10), is characterized by distinctive vessels, made of a local paste (fig. 9).

4. **Milo 3:** On a table-mountain south of Milo 2 are the remains of Milo 3, with rectilinear structures and a plaza with a view of the volcanoes Chachani and Misti (the local apus).

5. **Ceremonial area:** Adjacent to this plaza is a D-shaped structure, typical of Wari architecture, apparently intrinsically placed into previously existing architecture.

6. **Wari ceramics:** The surface of Milo 3 preserves remarkably few potsherds; however, the remains of four imported Wari vessels were recovered (fig. 8).

7. **Ramada cemeteries:** Several large, heavily disturbed Ramada cemeteries are present in Vitor Valley, the finds in these display Nasca rather than Wari influence (fig. 10).

8. **Wari fabric:** Both in Milo 2 and Milo 3 sherds have been found from vessels with typical Wari forms and decorations, made of a pink fabric with relatively small fieldspar inclusions.

9. **Local fabric:** Other sherds are from vessels imitating Wari designs, but made of a local paste rich in relatively large fragments of plagioclase minerals and volcanic glass.

10. **Discussion:** It seems evident that around 700–1000 CE (the Middle Horizon) the Vitor Valley was inhabited by a population with the Ramada culture, which comprised a mix of local and Nasca elements. During some or all of this period the valley was apparently controlled from a Wari outpost (the Milo complex). While maintaining their cultural identity, the local population incorporated elements of Wari culture into their material culture, and most likely also their ideology. To date no obvious Mixe-Tecoan influences were identified in the Vitor Valley.

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**References and Acknowledgments:**


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