The deformed skulls

In the Archaeological Museum in Lima, Peru, is a showcase displaying a collection of skulls in very strange ways. You can also find such material exhibited in the Museum of Ica, Peru, and other archaeological museums in South America. They are usually labeled or something similar "deformed skulls for ritual Práticas".

The data we have about these skulls are incomplete, making it difficult to know what was the context in which they may have lived with other men define their age and what is its origin. There are very different skulls together, as if they came from different species, similar but with differences with mankind.

The first thing striking about these skulls is its size and shape. Based on form, above all, the specimens were classified into four groups, which have dubbed "Coneheads" ("bugle head" as the aliens from the TV), type "J" and type "M". There is one more, possibly the oldest, which has been dubbed "premodern".
The publication for the first time some photos of these skulls on the Internet, in the discussion that was generated immediately appeared many supporters of the idea that these rare forms are due to intentional deformation of the skulls that were applied for ritual reasons, aesthetic or religious; a custom known, for example, ancient Nubia, Egypt and other cultures. The deformation occurred in children from an early age, applying pressure by means of tables, leather belts, ties and other material artifacts, due to the constant compression, managed to be deformed skulls and grow with unusual shapes. The truth is that whatever the method used, the process takes to change the way but never the volume, since the deformation being due to compression, could never increase cranial capacity. The deformed skulls by these methods rituals maintain the capacity in cubic centimeters is known in humans, showing deformation by pressure on the front, side and down to the nape. Instead skulls of this study, cone-shaped usually, although other kinds of deformities, not look anything like those resulting from the usual ways of deforming the skulls, a fact that anthropologists have accepted.

(Pique on the images to enlarge) intentional deformations of skulls produced by cultures Neolithic and Bronze Age, considered "extreme" by anthropologists, although neither approach deformity South Skulls images from http://www.ameritech.net/users/esteinberg/defcrania.html
The first skull we analyze comes from Paracas, a region of Peru, and is identified by the number 177 and the legend "Deformation Paracas". He has been dubbed "premodern", mostly because it presents features of men above the present human species, *Homo sapiens*. It has the following peculiarities: the front of the head resembles an individual pre-Neanderthal family, but the lower jaw, though more robust than modern human, has the shape and characteristics similar to those seen in the current. Skull shape has no point of comparison with those of *Homo erectus*, Neanderthal and modern humans. Some minor Neanderthal characteristics appear as the occiput in the lower rear of the skull and the flattened shape of the bottom; other characteristics point more to *Homo erectus*. The angle of the skull base (and thus the angle of the plane of the upper jaw) is unusual. One can not exclude the possibility that by coincidence concerned a case of a deformed individual, but it is highly unlikely that the angle of the front causes a modification of the lower jaw during growth required to approximate human types with the edge of the protruding chin. The answer to these questions would seem to be that these skulls are representatives of premodern human or humanoid.
Magnon) had larger cranial capacity (about 1600-1750 cc) than the modern human (1450 cc). The reduction in cranial capacity (specimens of modern humans after the 10,500 years before Christ have smaller crania) is a puzzle in itself, but falls outside the scope of this report.

![Homo erectus and Homo sapiens](Images of the Interactive Museum of Natural Sciences)

No less strange that there appeared a remnant of pre-modern man in South America, since for the Orthodox anthropology such skull simply could not be there, because according to the schemes accepted there were no humans in North America more than 35,000 years before Christ It considers that came to South America much later. By this time, the only humans who arrived in the continent were the modern anatomy. There are some scientific sources they believe there were humans of all species in both Americas and dates are much earlier, all based on numerous anomalous archaeological finds, but scholars remain on their preconceived positions and accept no new ideas.

The "premodern" skull and study the three specimens were then found in the region of Paracas in Peru. This does not mean that they are contemporary or that are related. It is possible that the "premodern" is a precursor of type "Conehead" but because there is no aging analysis can only speculate in this regard.
Type "Conehead" is very unusual because of the shape and volume of his skull. There are pictures of three very similar specimens, which would seem to exclude, given that the deformities that occur in Nubia have a lot of individual variation, the possibility of any random deformation. When compared to each other the three specimens of type "Conehead", it is noted that variations in the individual characteristics of these skulls fall within the range of what is considered normal in morphology. There is no doubt that they are closely interrelated, and those who have analyzed representatives believe they can be quite a different branch of the genus *Homo*, or perhaps an entirely different species.

The overlap comparative specimen C1 with a modern skull shows some level of inaccuracy because of the degree of distortion that occurs when rotating silhouettes to bring them into position. As arises from the observation of specimens C2 and C3, the bottom of the skull does not deviate from the norm, and the general proportions are correct.
The enormous size of the skull cap is evident in the three photographs. It can be estimated by interpolation with the shape of a normal skull, a minimum capacity of 2200 cc, but could reach 2500 cc. With these sizes, the shape of the skull may have been a biological solution—a survival mechanism of the species to the growth of the cranial mass. The conical shape of the heads facilitate deliveries, reducing the risk of extinction of the species due to the inability to give birth to such creatures head size. However this configuration has not survived, leading to the conclusion that something did not work on adaptation, preventing this type of biological solution has representation among modern men.

The type "J" has other questions. It is equivalent to a modern skull almost all respects, but there are several factors out of proportion. The size of the eyeballs is roughly 15% higher than that of the modern population, although not a major deformity. The most significant difference is the huge skull cap, whose capacity is estimated between 2600-3200 cc. Again, the age of the specimen is unknown.

The skull named type "M" is a variant having a still more bizarre that form the above examples. It is incomplete, because good lack of the lower area of the face. What emerges from the parties that do exist is that the facial area would be within normal proportions of a standard human skull. The cranial vault, however, is the largest of all the specimens studied. The two protruding lobes of the skull are highly anomalous and has striking perfection of their symmetry, they seem to be very difficult to achieve during growth by applying external mechanical pressure. It is even rarer when calculated that the cranial capacity of this specimen can be easily greater than 3000 cc.
Both "J" and "M" are on the verge of biological impossibility. The only explanation I can imagine who has analyzed these cases is that these copies is prolonged beyond normal in humans neoteny, which is the period that has some kind to grow. This would have allowed the abnormal growth of the skull. If so, it means that the life span of these specimens would have been substantially higher than the average modern human type.

Finally I must say that any conjecture that these specimens are actually deformations or pathological cases, It should be strongly supported. From time to time appear abnormal shapes and types of growth in the modern human population; However, the deformations are within a given range for each species. The largest human skull documented in the medical literature had a cranial capacity of 1980 cc, although normally. It is necessary to consider that any abnormal pathological growth of the skull of an individual brings with consequences early in the development of the individual concerned, virtually without exception. Nature is very cruel in this respect and never forgives. However, all specimens studied were mature individuals.

The ability of the cranial vault (and hence brain mass) and intelligence are not directly related. The individual listed in the records as the one with the largest skull (mentioned earlier) was a
moron, while Anatole France, whose skull measured only 1100 cc, was a brilliant writer.

Unless otherwise indicated, human skulls in this report were photographed by Robert Connolly on a trip he took around the world with the intention of collecting materials about ancient civilizations. The discovery of these unusual skulls was unexpected, he had not planned. Connolly published his photos on a CD-ROM entitled “The Search For Ancient Wisdom”, edited in Cambrix, 1995. All entries include a number, but it is not clear whether the US telephone (it seems) to order or other identification: 1-800-992-8781 or 1-80 10-992-8781 Castilian This report was adapted and expanded by Eduardo J. Carletti (c) 2002 work Lumir G. Janku, (c) 1996, published in English in several places.

Other foreign and / or deformed skulls:

(Pique on the image to enlarge)

Conehead  Conehead  Conehead  Conehead  Premodern

Dude "M"? (1) (2) Child Star (3) Child Star (3) Type "M"

(1) and (2) photos National Museum of Archaeology, Anthropology and History of Peru. (3) Photos of the site "Starchild Project".

(Pique on the image to enlarge)

This photo was taken in 1975 by Karen Scheidt. The skulls have shown been called "Gods of Cholula." (3)