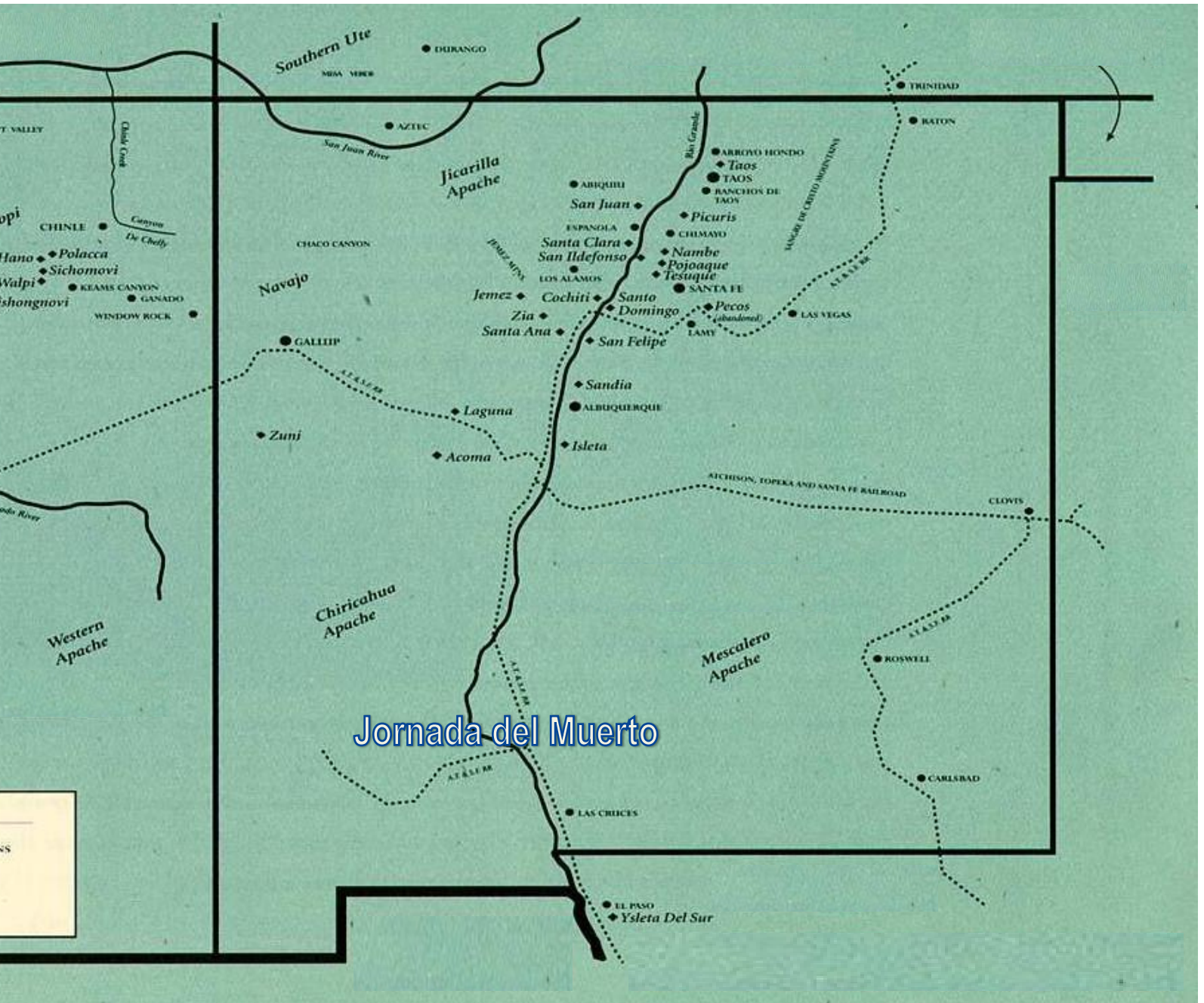


Jornada del Muerto – Journey of the Dead Man

The History of a Space



- The Jornada has no reliable source of water – all travelers to this region must bring their own drinking water. It occupies the northern portion of the largest arid region of the continent.

- To the north during the 16th century, 150 Puebloan communities surrounded by fields and field houses could be found. These communities were considered part of the larger, Mogollon culture, which existed between 200 CE and 1520 CE.
 - Mogollon Puebloans lived masonry apartment houses that were built at ground level and rose one to three stories high. These pueblo villages sometimes contained 40 to 50 rooms arranged around a plaza. Such traits, together with others, were probably introduced to the area by Ancestral Pueblo. There is evidence from this period that Ancestral Pueblo and Mogollon individuals lived peacefully in the same villages.¹
- Raiders came in from the north, called Tagú-kerésh² – nomadic peoples that also traded with the Mogollon Puebloans (providing them with items such as buffalo meat and hide).
 - Tagú-kerésh hunted with longbow and spears. They lacked livestock, but dogs carried their belongings. They had adopted some farming techniques from the Mogollon Puebloans.



¹ Encyclopedia Britannica. (2018). Mogollon culture | North American Indian culture. [online] Available at: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Mogollon-culture> [Accessed 6 Nov. 2018].

² Today they are referred to as the Apache Nation.

- According to authors Joseph P. Sánchez, Robert L. Spude, Art Gómez:

Pueblo village life followed the agricultural seasons, each with its distinctive hunting activity, religious festivals and rituals, and games. Villagers flowed out to the surrounding landscape in spring for planting. Summer was for tending crops, fall for harvest, and winter for feasts, rituals, dances, and socializing. The diverse Puebloan lands grew corn, beans, squash, and gourds, as well as cotton, tobacco, and feed for domesticated turkeys. Small dogs and turkeys were kept in pens, but there were no large domesticated livestock. The Puebloan knowledge of seasons, planting, and harvest became encoded in religious ceremonies, kachina dances, and chants. Despite lacking a writing system, the Puebloans preserved their stories by passing them down through bearers of oral traditions. Men joined expeditions to hunt buffalo on foot, finding their prey along the Pecos River and in vast herds on the plains, and mingling or competing with the nomadic hunters there.

A Pueblo community . . . included . . .
a central town surrounded by surplus-producing farmsteads, a trade network for obtaining necessary goods, and a rich religious life. The Puebloans lacked a class of feudal lords, having learned to live without creating a true elite among themselves or an expansive central governmental authority. Pueblo polities were more like city-states than feudal principalities. Some researchers believe this egalitarianism was fundamental to Pueblo survival and reflected group decision making among a relative small number of people.