

INSTITUTO DE ESTUDIOS PERUANOS,  
LIMA \*

*José Matos Mar*

The Instituto de Estudios Peruanos is an independent, nonprofit organization devoted to social science research. It was founded in 1964 by a group of Peruvian scholars interested in the interdisciplinary study of Peru and its developmental problems. The Institute was officially recognized by the government, through the Ministry of Education, in Ministerial Resolution 2041 of May 1964. The staff consists of five senior researchers and nine associate researchers who share similar institutional goals and a common ideological perspective aimed at reformulating traditional ideas and interpretations of Peruvian reality in order to depict and analyze more accurately the country's economic, political, social, and cultural processes.

The Institute's activities include: studies of the theoretical and practical aspects of development, dependence, and domination, and of the international world system; application to the Peruvian case of the methods and techniques used in the study of universal social realities; studies to improve our knowledge of the Peruvian reality—conceived as a dynamic phenomenon and part of a singular reality (the Andean area), and explicable in the broader context of its relationships with the Western world; informal training of qualified graduates through participation in research projects; diffusion of the results of its various studies and research projects, as well as of the latest trends in social science theory; and consulting—for the government, universities, and other scientific institutions and centers, domestic and foreign.

Future activities include the expansion of our research focus to include the Andean region (Bolivia, Ecuador, and Peru); inauguration of a regular program for training researchers in the social sciences; and intensification of publishing and editorial work. These activities will be carried out with the participation of a select group of social scientists from Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia. We hope that this work will improve the quality of regional studies in the social sciences, contribute to better interpretations of the reality of each country and of the Andean region as a whole, and encourage local researchers to specialize in the study of the region.

\*IEP, Horacio Urteaga 694, Lima 11, Peru

Personnel at the Institute include José Matos Mar—director; Heraclio Bonilla (economic history), Julio Cotler (political science), Alberto Escobar (sociolinguistics and education), José Matos Mar (anthropology), and María Rostworowski de Diez Canseco (history)—permanent research staff; and Oscar Ugarteche and Teobaldo Pinzás (economics), José Manuel Mejía (sociology), Guillermo Cock, José Luis Rénique, and José Deustua (history), and Juvenal Casaverde, Carlos Degregori, and Jürgen Golte (anthropology)—associate researchers.

Some of the research in progress includes "Agrarian Reform and Rural Development," "The Political Evolution of Peru, 1960–1980," "The Formation of Colonial Economic Space in the Andean Region," "Transnational Banking, External Debt, and the Peruvian State, 1968–1978," "International Banking and Peru," "Witchcraft and the Extirpation of Heretics in Peru in the 17th and 18th Century," "Biography of Doctor Luis E. Valcarcel," and "The Sea and Its Resources in the Peruvian Littoral in the 16th Century."