

# Taíno Society



Taínos sleeping in cotton hammocks

Taínos lived in organised societies headed by a cacique. He was responsible for making and enforcing laws, settling disputes, land distribution, organization of labour, planting and distribution of crops, and leading religious ceremonies.



Taíno woman wearing cotton loincloth

The Taíno society was divided into two classes, the Nitaino, the nobility or upper class and the Naboria, the working or lower class. The Nitaino consisted of the cacique and his family, warriors and artists and ruled over the Naborias who were fishermen, hunters, and farmers.

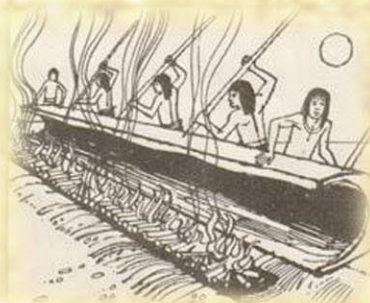
Except for married women, the Taínos, wore little or no clothing. However, on ceremonial occasions they wore accessories made from shell, bone, wood and stone, and elaborate headresses made from feathers.



Caney - the cacique's house



Preparation of casabe (bamy)



Construction of a canoa (canoe)

