

Questions:

1. What are the condition of labor for the in the mercury and silver mines according to Espinossa?
2. Why are there abuse? Whose interest do the mines serve?
3. Do the operation of the Potosi mine represent hierarchies working for network interest, networks working for hierarchy interest, or some combination of both Explain. Would the Tlaxcala Cabildo or Zhang Han approve of the operation?

According to the history of labor system in mercury mines that I read in the book there were forced labor system in the mining. The system was called MITA and based the warrant of the warrant the owners had a right to the MITA of 13, 1300 Indians in the working and exploitation of the mines. It includes three types of mines which have been discovered, those recently and now discovering and those will be discovered in the future. Furthermore the Corregidor of Potosi had the obligation to coordinate it between all provinces and form them all over it. This power includes the provinces between Cuzco, over the El Collao and also frontier of Tarija and Tomina. The Corregidor was very powerful and has authority over all four mentioned provinces. The Indian was allocated based on the capacity of each province and if the fill to full fill the allotment then he has the authority to salaried or report them to suspend their job. The process of sending these workers was under the authority of a Capitan that who was selected yearly and this process was take place in every year to send Indian workers and exploit them regularly. This process was functioning badly because the villages was depopulated day by day due to the great number of losses. This was the reason to rise extortion and abuses on the part on inspectors toward the poor Indian people. The was running and depriving the caciques and depriving them from their property and carry off them from the chains as they could not fulfill the MITA assignments.

There was abuse because 13,1300 are divided up every four months into three MITA. Each was consist of 4433 Indians who was working on the range and in the 120 smelters in the Potosi. These MITA Indians were paid each day or be paid 4 reals. There also were some people who were not obligated or hire themselves voluntarily and these workers were paid 12 to 16 reals and some up 24 reals according to their reputation and the knowledge of getting the ore out. In this cases the payment of the people outside of the territory was less and the people with good reputation of royal recommend people was paid more. There was no any right for Indian workers to defend themselves. If they did they will fire.

Second Question Answer:

As I got from the statement the royal family was abusing the rights of the workers and exploiting from them to gain more rich and they workers did not have the right to defend themselves. All the rights was in favor of the

I think that the operation of mining was combination of both type of interest because the mercury was kept in the store houses of the king and from there the transported to the llama back to the port of Chinchabambilla and where there were vault and factor of appointed by royal council, then they shipped them to the port of San Marcos de Arequipa from which it is carried by Herd of llamas and mules to potsi.