

Latin American Nations Win Independence



As a Young Historian, I will be able to...

- List the causes of growing discontent in Latin America, including the influence of the Enlightenment.
- Trace the influence of the American and French Revolutions on Latin America.
- Describe the revolutions in Haiti, Mexico, and Central America.
- Explain how South American nations won independence, including the role of Simón Bolívar.

Latin America Ripe for Revolution

Peninsulares- Members of the highest social class that dominated Latin American political & social life

Creoles- European-descended Latin Americans who owned the ranches & mines, resented they held no power in politics

Mestizos- People of Native American & European descent and..

Mulattoes- People of African & European descent, angry they were denied rights

Enlightenment Ideas

Educated creoles began to read enlightenment thinkers & hear reports of America's independence

Simon Bolivar- Young creole who fought for “liberty, equality, & fraternity”

Napoleon takes over Europe & places his brother in charge of Spain, Latin America saw a weakness



Haiti Fights for Freedom

French planters controlled Haiti for sugar plantations with half a million slaves

Toussaint L’Ouverture- Former slave who used his self education to lead slave revolt

1798- Toussaints army takes control of the island & slavery is banished

France tries to fight back, but surrender. 1803 the island is declared independent

Revolts in Mexico & Central America

Father Miguel Hidalgo- Priest in Mexico who begins to lead Mexico for independence

He gives the speech “el Grito de Dolores”- The cry of Dolores to rally for revolution

Eventually he is captured & executed & **Father Jose Morelos** takes up the banner

His goal was to abolish slavery, give the right to vote, & improve life for Mexicans



Mexico Revolt

1820 liberals forced the king to write a constitution & Agustin de Iturbide overthrows the Spanish Viceroy

Eventually Mexico sets up the Republic of Mexico

New republics separate creating Guatemala, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, & Costa Rica



Revolts in South America

Simon Bolivar begins a revolution in Venezuela in 1810, beginning a series of civil wars

He then marches across the Andes with the llaneros (cowboys) & takes Bogota by surprise

Jose de San Martin- Helps Argentina win independence, then joins forces with other revolts to free South America

Civil wars caused bitter rivalries to split into more countries

Don Pedro- Emperor of Brazil from Portugal that allowed a constitution & massive rights for the country

