



# Latin America's Independence Movement

## Unit 7 Notes



# Spain Builds An Empire...

- Spain conquered most of the lands in the Americas (Portugal = Brazil).
  - Divided empire into provinces
- 2 most important provinces were New Spain and Peru
- Set up a “class system”
  - Native Americans were the lowest

# Treatment of Native Americans

- least powerful class
- forced to work on plantations (haciendas) for European settlers
- also worked in mines after silver was discovered (extremely dangerous)
  - Many died from overwork, malnutrition, or diseases.
- population decreased from 25 million in 1519 to less than 2 million in the late 1500s

# Emergence of Slavery

- European diseases decimated Native American population
- European settlers still needed workers for plantations
  - colonists began importing African slaves to supplement Native American labor
- aspects of Native American & African culture (languages, customs, beliefs, traditions) survived & blended together

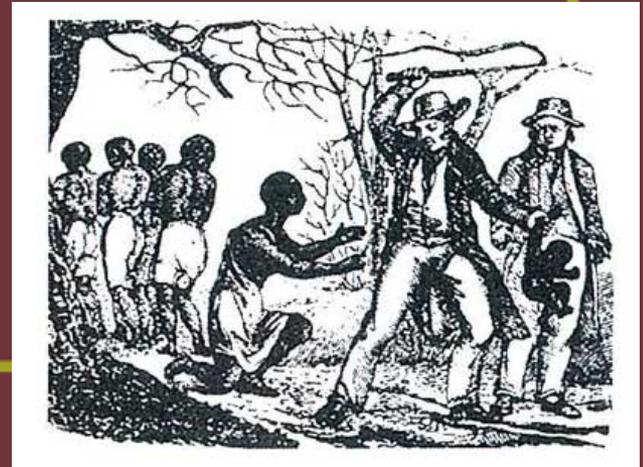


# Blending of Ethnic Groups

- **Mestizos:** people of mixed Native American and European ancestry
  - **Criollo:** had Spanish parents, but was born in Latin America
- **Mulattoes:** people of mixed African and European ancestry

# Triangular Trade

- Ships leaving Europe first stopped in Africa; they traded European goods for captives taken in tribal wars or raids.
- Ships then traveled to America; slaves were exchanged for sugar & other island products.
- Ships returned home loaded with products from the Americas that grew very popular with Europeans.



# Slavery in the Americas

- estimated 8-15 million Africans reached the Americas from the 16th to the 19th century
- The African slave population quickly began to outnumber the Europeans & the Native Americans.
- Slave rebellions were common.





# Foldable

- Create a 3-flap foldable with these labels:
  1. Toussaint L'Ouverture
  2. Simon Bolivar
  3. Miguel Hidalgo
- Inside flap – write important ideas about the leader
- Outside flap – draw a quick sketch of the leader



# Toussaint L'Ouverture

The Liberator of Haitian Slaves



# Toussaint L'Ouverture

- former slave in Haiti; freed in 1777
- 1791: led a huge slave revolt against the French in Hispanola (Haiti and the Dominican Republic)
- France was also fighting a war against Spanish forces in Hispaniola; couldn't deal with slave rebellions
  - promised that any slave who joined the French army & fought the Spanish would be freed
- 1795: L'Ouverture's army helped French defeat the Spanish





TOUSSAINT LOUVERTURE

*Chef des Nègres Insurgés de Saint-Domingue.  
A Paris chez la Citoyenne Lesclapart, N. 40.*

# Toussaint L'Ouverture

- 1801: L'Ouverture led a huge army into a Spanish colony & freed all slaves there
- Six months later, he became "Governor General of Haiti for life."
- 1802: Large French army lands in Haiti
  - wanted to restore old French government & regain control of sugar trade
- L'Ouverture's army fought the French & lost
- French arrested L'Ouverture and sent him to prison in France where he died



# Haiti's Independence

- L'Ouverture's army was outraged; it took up arms again against France.
  - November 1803: defeated last of the French forces
- 1804: declared Haiti independent of French rule
- Haiti became the 1st country in Latin America to break free of European imperialism.



# A Trophy for Touissant L'Ouverture

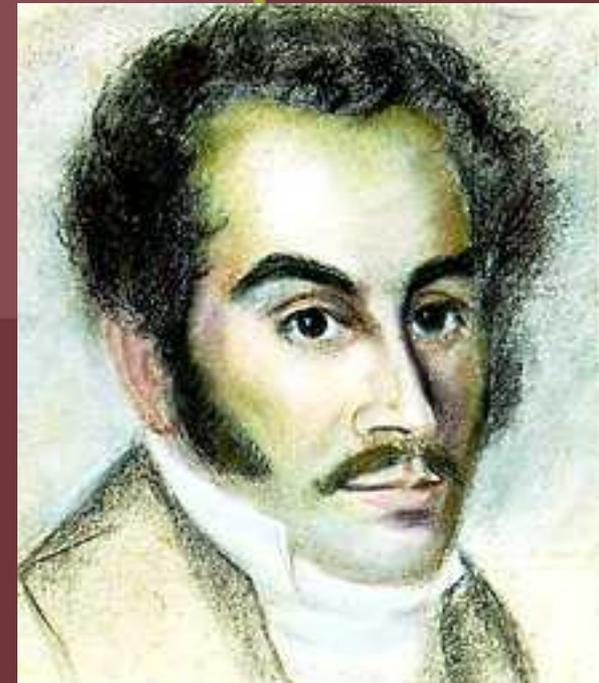
- Create an award for L'Ouverture.
- Make sure that the award directly relates to what he accomplished.
  - Draw your award in your foldable.

- Example Starters: World's Best..., Most Likely to..., First Person to..., etc.



# Simon Bolivar

The Liberator of South America



# Simon Bolivar

- **wealthy Venezuelan** criollo who spent many years traveling Europe
- While in Italy, he discovered his life's purpose: to liberate his homeland from European control.
  - 1810: **Bolivar's army kicks Spanish governor out of Venezuela**
  - 1811: new constitution proclaimed Venezuela's independent of Spanish rule
- Soon after, Spanish royalists defeated the new country's army & Bolivar was forced to flee to New Granada (Colombia).



# *El Libertador*

- Bolivar organized a bigger army & marched back into Venezuela.
- 1813: Bolivar's army won & took control of Venezuela's capital, Caracas
  - Bolivar was nicknamed *El Libertador*.



# El Libertador

- Over the next few years, **Bolivar liberated** New Granada (now **Colombia**), **Ecuador**, **Panama**, **Peru**, & **Upper Peru** (now **Bolivia**).





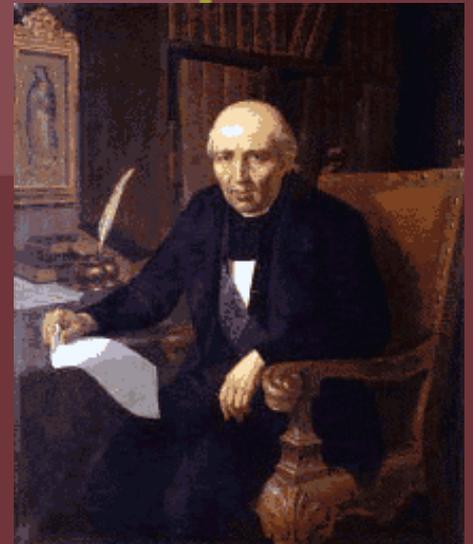
# Symbol for Simon Bolivar

- Create a symbol to help you remember Simon Bolivar.
- Be creative, but also remember the facts!



# Miguel Hidalgo

The Father of Mexico's Independence



# Miguel Hidalgo

- Catholic priest in the town of Dolores
- began the struggle for Mexico's independence in 1810
- September 16th, 1810: "Cry of Dolores" was his call for revolution
- rang church bells and shouted, "Long live our Lady of Guadalupe! Death to bad government! Death to the Spaniards!"
- an army of mestizos & Native Americans rallied behind Hidalgo





# Mexico's Independence

- 80,000 people joined the fight, but the army was soon **defeated by the Spanish**.
  - Hidalgo was captured and **executed in 1811**
- Mexicans continued to fight for independence over the next decade.



# Mexico Continues to Fight

- **1821: Mexico gained independence from Spain.**
- Mexico celebrates September 16<sup>th</sup> as it's Independence Day.
  - The president rings a bell in Mexico city and repeats Hidalgo's "Cry of Dolores."



# A Medal for Miguel Hidalgo

- Create a medal for Miguel Hidalgo.
- Be sure to write why he's receiving the medal.
  - Draw this in your foldable.





## In Your Opinion...

- All of these men had a tremendous impact on the independence of Latin American countries from European rule.
- In your opinion, which leader had the greatest impact on Latin America's independence? Why?
  - On the back of your foldable, write your opinion statement and include 3 reasons that support it.

