



Brazil's Path to Independence

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Pre-Napoleon



- Followed mercantilist principles
 - Laws that banned manufacturing in Brazil were passed
 - Portugal was nearly totally dependent on Brazilian goods
- No foreign ships allowed in Brazilian ports
- No competition between the Portuguese and native-born élites

The Government in Exile



- In 1807, Napoleon invaded and occupied Portugal
- The royal family fled to Brazil
 - established the government in Rio de Janeiro
 - Prince Dom João made Brazil the capital of the Portuguese Empire
- Brazilian ports were opened to foreign trade
 - revoked decrees that prohibited certain manufacturing

Post-Napoleon



- British liberated Portugal from the French in 1811
- The royal court remained in Brazil
- Brazil is made equal to Portugal in 1815
- This angered the Portuguese who broke out into rebellion in 1820 and demanded the return of their king
- The king acquiesced to these demand in 1821 and returned to Lisbon
- However he left his son, Dom Pedro, behind to rule Brazil in his absences

Independence



- Portuguese attempts to return Brazil to the state of a colony outraged Brazilians
- Brazil declared independence on September 7, 1822 and made Dom Pedro Emperor
- Made a constitution that gave the emperor a lot of power
- Independence was relatively non violent with at most just over 6,000 people dying