



Spanish-American Wars of Independence



Finn Juenemann, Ember Hallaway,
Davis Wingard



Spanish-American Wars of Independence

- United States gained independence, but Spanish Americans still didn't have autonomy
- Spanish Americans were geographically divided
 - Led to conflict between divides in the viceroyalties
- Especially difficult for creoles
 - Lower social and economic standing
 - Led to resentment of higher classes and the Spanish

Spanish-American Wars of Independence

- Spanish Americans refused to recognize Joseph Bonaparte as king of Spain
 - Creoles argued that “without a king, the people were sovereign”
- Push for autonomy began
 - Inspired by the U.S. and French Revolutions
 - Created independent governing bodies
 - Juntas

New Spain and the cause of Mexican Independence

- Largest population, yet most diverse.
- Started September, 16, 1810.
 - Father Miguel Hidalgo
- Appealed to creoles, Native Americans, mestizos, free African Americans, and mulattos.
 - Redistribution of land, abolition of slavery and *Indian Tribute*.
- Plan failed.
 - Weak army, strong local militia.
- Hidalgo captured and executed in 1811.

New Spain and the cause of Mexican Independence

- Father José Maria Morales.
 - 1814 drafted Constitutional Decree for the Liberty of Mexico.
 - Captured and executed.
 - Years of prolong guerrilla warfare.
- Agustin de Iturbide
 - Plan de Iguala
 - Independence from the Spanish Throne
 - Supremacy of Roman Catholic Church
 - Equality for peninsulares and creoles.
 - Successful army
 - Emperor of Mexico in 1822

Republic of Venezuela

- There were multiple localized calls for independence before it became a country wide movement
- Creoles declared Venezuela an independent nation on July 5, 1811
- Venezuela fought Spain and themselves

Venezuela Continued

- Spanish control only spurred on the revolution and united the diverse people
- The Spanish army was divided and battered by the widespread patriot force
- An army coup weakened the Spanish forces more

Even More Venezuela

- The Spanish were forced to retreat from the country
- They did not officially recognize Venezuela as a free country, but Venezuela had gained its independence
- In 1830, Venezuela officially became an independent republic

Fun Fact

Venezuela's economy has faced such a major inflation recently that its currency, the Bolivar, is seven times less valuable than the virtual World of Warcraft gold currency