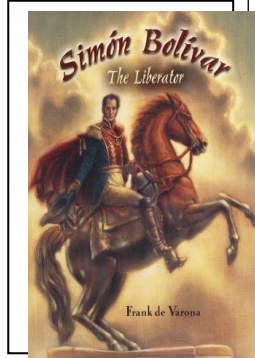
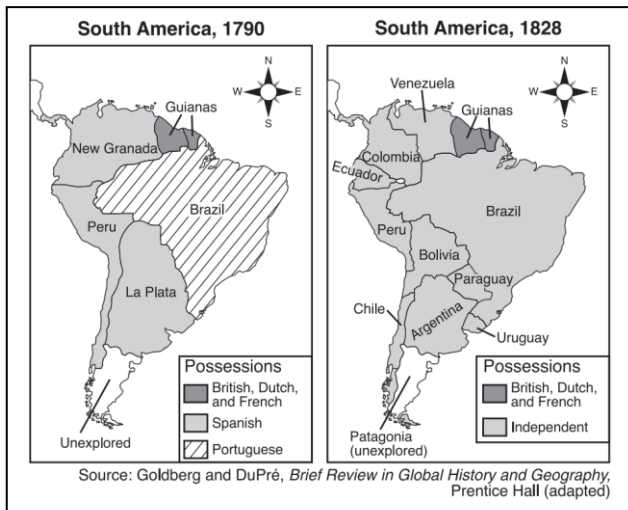
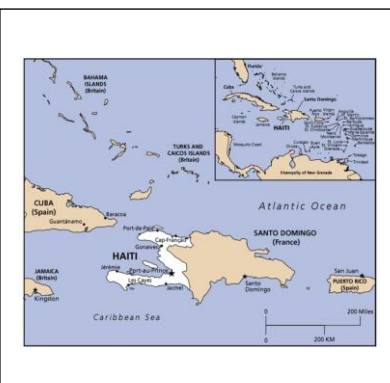
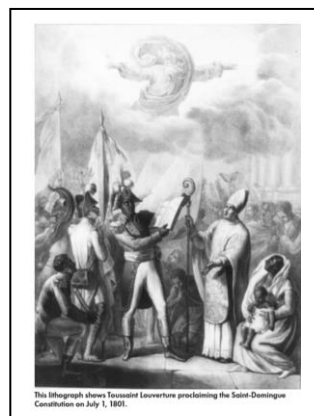
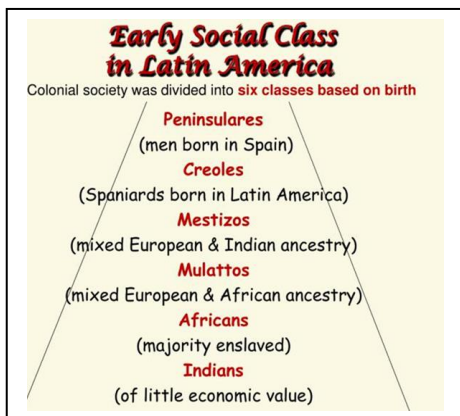


Aim #7b: How did colonial revolutions in Latin America reshape the Americas?



Mini Lecture

- As the French Revolution was causing turmoil in Europe, **colonial** revolutions were spreading through the Americas. Revolutionary fever had spread to the Americas. Thirteen British colonies had already declared independence in 1776 (forming the U.S.). French & Spanish colonies soon followed.
- In the wake of the French Rev., enslaved Africans in the French Caribbean colony of Saint Domingue rose in rebellion. The colony was on the island that contains the present-day countries of Haiti & the Dominican Republic.
- The sugar plantations on Haiti provided France with great wealth. The enslaved Africans who worked on the plantations greatly outnumbered the French colonists. As the slaves' anger at their harsh treatment built up, some began to look for opportunities to revolt. When the slaves heard of the French Rev., they felt that the French would be too busy dealing w/ the turmoil in France to send troops across the Sea.
- In 1791, Toussaint L'Ouverture, a freed slave, led a successful uprising against the colonists. He remained in control until Napoleon retook the island in 1802- jailed L'Ouverture (he died in 1803). L'Ouverture's successor, Jean-Jacques Dessalines, drove out the French & Saint Domingue became independent in 1804.
- The **Haitian Revolution** was the largest successful slave rebellion in history. It spread fear among slave owners throughout the Americas- who reacted with new laws to repress slave in their own countries.
- In Spanish America, a free & relatively wealthy class of people drove the colonial revolution for independence.
- Creoles**, colonists who were born in Latin America to Spanish parents, wanted to be free of the heavy hand of Spain's economic & political dominance. They tended to be wealthy owners of land, mines, & businesses. They were also well educated & aware of Enlightenment ideas behind revolutions in U.S. & France. But they resented their second-class status to **peninsulares**.
- In 1808, when the armies of Napoleon conquered Spain, the Latin American colonists took their opportunity to revolt.
- The struggle to free Venezuela in 1808 was led by **Francisco Miranda & Simon Bolivar**. Miranda fought in the French Rev. & tried to get help from the English government. They gained independence in 1811, but Spain retook the country a year later- Miranda died in prison.
- However, Bolivar escaped to Colombia- he continued the struggle for independence. Finally, between 1819 & 1825, rebels drove the Spanish out of Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, and Peru.
- Bolivar was honored throughout the region. People referred to him as The Liberator. He served as president of Colombia and Bolivia is named after him.
- Post-independence, Bolivar attempted to unify Latin America but failed because of natural boundaries. Creoles took sole power & political leaders became **Caudillos** (military dictators).



Independence Movements in Latin America

Long-Term Causes	Immediate Causes
European domination of Latin America	People of Latin America resent colonial rule and social injustices
Spread of Enlightenment ideas	Revolutionary leaders emerge
American and French revolutions	Napoleon invades Spain and ousts Spanish king
Growth of nationalism in Latin America	
Immediate Effects	Long-Term Effects
Toussaint L'Ouverture leads slave revolt in Haiti	Attempts made to rebuild economies
Bolívar, San Martín, and others lead successful revolts in Latin America	18 separate republics set up
Colonial rule ends in much of Latin America	Continuing efforts to achieve stable democratic governments and to gain economic independence

Review Questions:

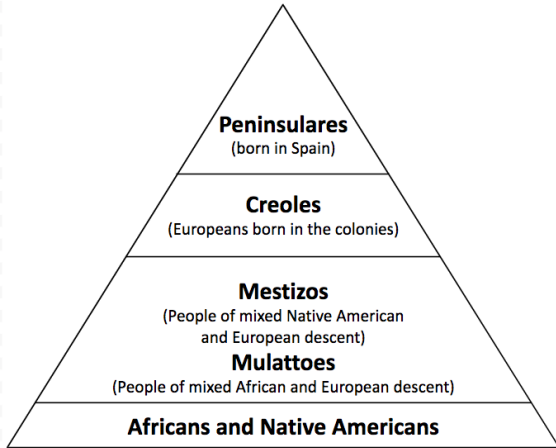
- How did the French Revolution impact & influence revolutions in Haiti & S. America?
- How did social structure contribute to discontent in Latin America?

The **French Revolution inspired** other **political revolutions**.

The actions taken by the citizens in France to rebel against their government and the ideas of “liberty, equality, and fraternity,” democracy, and **nationalism** inspired independence movements in **Haiti, South America, and Mexico**.

Discontent in Latin America

How did the social and ethnic structures in Spanish colonies lead to discontent?



- **Creoles** → resented being treated as second class citizens by the Peninsulares
- **Mestizos and Mulattoes** → angered that they were not treated as citizens and did not have the same power as whites
- **Native Americans and Africans** → angered by enslavement and inhumane treatment

In the 1700s, educated creoles read the work of Enlightenment thinkers. Many creoles were sent to Europe to study as well. While there, they were inspired by the ideals of a revolution and national sovereignty or the authority of a state to govern itself or another state.

In 1808, Napoleon invaded Spain, ousted the Spanish king and placed his brother Joseph in control of Spain and its colonies. Many in Latin America saw this as a moment of weakness and an opportunity to reject foreign rule and demand freedom from the colonial crown.

1. Was everyone in the Spanish colonies angry for the same reasons? Explain.
2. How did many creoles come into contact with ideas of revolution and freedom?
3. Why did Latin American leaders decide to fight for their freedom after 1808 instead of an earlier time?

Simón Bolívar

Years: 1783 – 1830

Country: Venezuela, Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru and Colombia

Colonial Power Fought: Spain

Simón Bolívar was a Venezuelan military leader who was instrumental in the revolutions against the Spanish Empire. Born into wealth, Bolívar was sent to Spain for his education and quickly got involved in political life in Europe. After France, led by Napoleon Bonaparte, invaded Spain in 1808, he became involved in the resistance movement and played a key role in the Spanish American fight for independence. When Napoleon named Joseph Bonaparte King of Spain and its colonies, which included Venezuela, Bolívar joined the resistance movement. The resistance group based in Caracas gained independence in 1810, and Bolívar traveled to Britain on a diplomatic mission.

Finally, Bolívar returned to Venezuela and began a campaign to take control of that country from the Spanish. He and his followers invaded Venezuela on May 14, 1813. Bolívar was hailed as El Libertador (The Liberator), though civil war soon erupted in the republic, forcing him to flee to Jamaica and seek foreign aid. There he wrote his famous "Letter From Jamaica," detailing his vision of a South American republic with a parliamentary setup modeled after England and a life-long president. In 1825, the "Republic of Bolivia" was created in honor of the inspirational leader, hailed by many as El Libertador.

1. What impact did the French Revolution and Napoleon have on Simon Bolivar and Venezuela's independence movement?
2. What impact did Bolívar have on South American independence movements?