

Chapter 32 Latin America

Vocabulary:

1. PRI
2. United Fruit Company
3. Fidel Castro
4. Liberation Theology
5. Sandinista Party
6. Banana Republic
7. Good Neighbor Policy
8. Alliance for Progress
9. Zapatistas

Objectives:

1. What effect did the United States have on Latin America during Era 6?
2. Why did Latin Americans commence Revolutionary movements during Era 6?
3. How did demographics change in Latin America?

4. How did political ideals and structures change in Latin America during Era 6?
5. How do the Latin American revolutions in Era 6 compare to those of Europe in Era 5?
6. How does religion affect Latin America during Era 6 and why is this different from that of the U.S. and European revolutions?
7. How did women's roles change in Latin America during Era 6?

Outline:

Latin America After World War II

- Economic and political endured a series of broad shifts with economic expansion followed by economic crisis
- Latin American improvements in education, social services, the position of women, and the role of industry changed
- Populist nationalism came into play

Mexico and the PRI

- PRI = Party of the Institutionalized Revolution
- PRI had control of Mexico
- Zapatistas emerged as a guerilla movement that showed how key social issues remained unresolved
- Mexican government responded with repression and negotiation
- Mexico joined NAFTA hoping to spur Mexican industry and trade with the U.S. increased

Guatemalan Reform

- Tried radical solutions
- Suffered from some of the region's worst problems with unequal land distribution, high mortality rate, poor health, and lack of education

- New constitution led to spiritual socialism

U.S. Intervention in Guatemala

- United Fruit Company was the most important foreign economic concern and it caused U.S. intervention
- U.S. negotiated a settlement favorable to the United Fruit Company
- U.S. government promised minimal reforms in Guatemala
- U.S. = eternal intervention that prevented radical change in Guatemala

Cuban Revolution

- Cuba lived in the shadow of the U.S.
- Fluctuations in the world market for Cuba's main product, sugar, revealed the tenuous basis for the economy
- Fidel Castro
 - Cuban revolutionary
 - Initiated a series of socialist reforms
 - Came to depend exclusively on Soviet Union

Military Options and Reforms

- Durability of the Cuban Revolution and the appeal of the Marxist doctrines underlined Latin America's tendency to undertake revolutionary change that left its economic and social structures unchanged
- PRI seemed to be losing its ability to maintain control of Mexican politics
- Christian Democratic parties hoped to bring reforms that would preempt radical left
- Liberation theology
 - combined Catholic theology and socialist principles or used Marxist categories for understanding society in an effort to improve conditions for the poor
 - stressed social equality as a form of personal salvation

New Demographic Trends

- Military began to return the government to civilian politicians
- Sandinista party
 - Nicaraguan socialist movement
 - successfully carried out a socialist revolution in Nicaragua during the 1980s

- Latin American governments faced tremendous problems
 - Large foreign loans caused tremendous level of debt
 - High rates of inflation provoked social instability as real wages fell
- Despite problems in the 1990s, democratic trends seemed to be well established
- Dissatisfaction with NAFTA and economic problems continued

Slow Change in Women's Roles

- After World War 1, women in Latin America continued to live under inequalities in the workplace and in politics
- Ecuador enfranchised women in 1929 and Brazil and Cuba did the same in 1932
- Reformers and revolutionaries feared women would become a conservative force in national politics
 - This attitude along with traditional male attitudes led to a continued exclusion of women from political life
- Women formed various associations and clubs to push for rights
- Feminist organizations, suffrage movements, and international pressures brought change
- Women began joining national political parties
- Women's roles expanded as women entered the industrial labor force
- In mid-1990s positions of women in Latin America was closer to that in western Europe and North America

The United States and Latin America

- Socialist revolutions began in Nicaragua in the 1980s
 - The grounds for these interventions were economic, political, strategic, and ideological
- Banana Republics
 - Governments supported or created by the U.S.
 - Believed to either corrupt or subservient to U.S. interests
- Foreign interventions contributed to a growing nationalist reaction
- The Good Neighbor Policy was introduced
 - Dealt with Latin America in 1933
 - Intended to halt direct interventions in Latin American politics

- U.S. programs such as the Alliance for Progress began in 1961
 - Used to develop Latin America as an alternative to radical political solutions
 - Limited success
 - Failure of development programs led to renewal of direct interventions