Chile

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Specific Causes of Independence
Napoleon’s Invasion of Spain

- Napoleon’s Invasion of Spain
  - Napoleonic Wars
  - Situation of Portugal and Spain
  - Abdication of the King of Spain → Rise of King Joseph
  - → Political chaos
    - → greater autonomy and self-government in the colonies.
    - → Spain was unable to defend its own system in Latin America → lower classes start to plan on their own systems of government in protest.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Napoleon
Subsequent Internal Political Problems

- Brigadier Francisco García Carrasco
  - Known to alienate the Criollo Elites under his command
  - Already some minimal protests and independence agitation (Conspiracy of Tres Antonios)
- Charlotte Joaquina
  - Sister of Ferdinand and the Wife of the King of Portugal
  - Made attempts to take control of the Spanish colonies in Latin America

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Francisco_Antonio_Garc%C3%ADa_Carrasco
Enlightenment

● Neighboring Revolutions inspired Chile
  ○ Argentina
  ○ United States
  ○ French

● General Ideals of The Enlightenment Spread throughout Local Chileans both Lower Class and Elite
  ○ Popular Sovereignty
  ○ Liberty
  ○ Equality

● Political Coup d'Etat by the Carrera Brothers
  ○ Spread the idea of a local democracy
  ○ List of Commands outlined a constitution
Creation of Independent Political Parties

- Carlotists
- Absolutists
- Juntistas
Scorpion Scandal

- **Cause**
  - Spain held a very strict monopoly on international commerce
- **Major Purpose of the Trip** was to smuggle a valuable piece of British cloth into the colony by hiding it on the ship
- **Effect**
  - → Distrust in local gov. and Carrasco
  - → Downfall of the Spanish Royal Governor of Chile and hastened the Independence movement in that country.
Economic Causes

○ Spanish Encomienda System
  ■ Exploitation of Lower Classes and Native Americans

○ Mercantilist Policy
  ■ Limited Chilean Trade to Spanish Ships
  ■ Direct Tax towards Spanish Throne

○ Napoleonic Wars
  ■ Economic Autonomy
  ■ Business Elites and Merchants favored to travel out of the country

○ Local Junta Government
  ■ Idea of Free Trade
  ■ Escape from Economic Crisis
New Autonomy Movement

- **New Autonomy Movement**
  - Spread through Criollo Elite and Lower Classes
  - Illegal arrests in the colonies and Spain solidified opposition to the Governor
  - (July 16, 1810) Carrasco suspended from office and forced to resign
  - September 18
  - Replaced by the next most senior soldier, Mateo de Toro Zambrano Count of la Conquista

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mateo_de_Toro_Zambrano,_1st_Count_of_La_Conquista
Social Classes

● Limited Rights of Native Americans and Lower Classes
  ○ Spanish Encomienda System
  ○ Support of Abolishment of Slavery

● Formation of Juntas
  ○ Spanish Loyalists
  ○ Dilemma of who was in charge in the absence of the divine monarch
  ○ Idea of Popular Sovereignty
    ■ Representation of the Lower Classes

● Wealthy Upper Class
  ○ Wanted Greater Economic Freedom
  ○ Suffered from Heavy Fines
Major Leaders

Who am I kidding it’s just the Carreras and some intellectual contributions
The Carrera Siblings

- Jose Miguel Carrera
  - Most politically active of the brothers
    - Became dictator in 1811 after overthrowing the official elected a year before
    - Had a bitter political rivalry with Bernardo O’Higgins
    - After his defeat at the Battle of Rancagua, he went into exile in Argentina
  - Died in 1821 via execution by Argentinian forces

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jos%C3%A9_Miguel_Carrera#/media/File:Pintura_Jos%C3%A9_Miguel_Carrera.jpg
The Carrera Siblings (cont.)

- Luis Carrera
  - Military leader
  - Exiled after the Spanish Reconquest of Chile
  - In 1814, killed brigadier Juan Mackenna, a strong supporter of O’Higgins, in a duel
    - He was tried for murder and found not guilty
  - Executed in Mendoza, 1818

- Juan Jose Carrera
  - Exiled alongside his brothers
  - Executed with his brother, Luis Carrera

Intellectual Contributions of Leaders

- Bernardo O’Higgins
  - Practical, pragmatic, modest, and stoic, comparable to George Washington
  - Authoritarian
    - Being left in power by San Martin, O’Higgins became a virtual dictator
      - He handpicked the Senate and Legislature
    - He was a liberal
      - Promoted education, equality, and curtailed the privileges of the wealthy

https://twitter.com/BernardoOHiggi2/phot o
Intellectual Contributions of Leaders (cont.)

- Jose Miguel Carrera
  - Ended slavery in Chile
  - Abolished titled nobility
  - Founded the first free newspaper in Chile

- Jose de San Martin
  - More of a war hero than an intellectual leader
    ■ Left O’Higgins to rule while he liberated the rest of Southern Latin America

https://www.thoughtco.com/biography-of-jose-miguel-carrera-2136600
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jose_de_San_Mart%C3%ADn#/media/File:Retrato_m%C3%A1s_can%C3%B3nico_de_Jos%C3%A9_de_San_Mart%C3%ADn.jpg
Major Events and Battles of the Independence Movement
September 18, 1810

- September 18 Meeting
  - The assembly eventually settled on creating an independent government nominally loyal to Ferdinand VII.
  - A junta was elected to name a president of the new government
    - The junta elected Mateo de Toro
- The arrival of Bernardo O’Higgins
  - The son of a former viceroy, O’Higgins would go on to become Chile’s greatest hero in their fight for independence
Bernardo O’Higgins, commanding 1000 rebels, attempted to rescue the besieged forces of Carrera from Spanish general Mariano Osorio. Both O’Higgins and Carrera were able to escape with what remained of their armies.

Osorio marched on the Chilean capital, Santiago, and reinstated Spanish rule.
Rebels Cross the Andes, January 9, 1817

- A combined army of Argentine rebels under the command of Jose de San Martin and Chilean exiles under Bernardo O’Higgins marched over the Andes with 5000 men.

[Image: Crossing of the Andes](https://explorerspassage.com/crossing-of-the-andes/)

[Map: Crossing of the Andes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crossing_of_the_Andes)
Paso de los Andes by Frans Van Riel: 1909

- Depiction of San Martin surveying his troops
- Chilean soldiers in blue uniforms
- Argentinian soldiers in white and red uniforms
- San Martin in black and gold uniform on the horse

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/0/0b/Crossing_of_the_Andes%2C_Riel.jpg
Battle of Chacabuco, February 12, 1817

- The combined army of 3000 Argentine and Chilean rebels under the commands of San Martin and O’Higgins faced off against a hastily assembled force of royalists outside of Santiago.

- The people of Santiago proclaimed San Martin the liberator of Chile and offered him the position of governor
Disaster of Cancha Rayada, March 19, 1818

- San Martin and an army of 7000 rebels pursued the 5000-strong royalist force of Mariano Osorio
- Following the advice of one of his lieutenants, Osorio decided to launch a surprise attack on the rebel camp
- Only around 3500 of the original 7000 rebels remained

Battle of Maipú, April 15, 1818

- 5000 patriots under San Martin faced an equal number of royalist troops under the command of Mariano Osorio
  - 2000 Spaniards were dead and 3000 were captured
- This marked the end of all Spanish resistance in Chile

https://www.wikiwand.com/en/Battle_of_Maip%C3%B3
Specific Outcomes of the War
Spain’s Loss of Chile

- Napoleonic Wars - Shifted the focus of the Spanish Empire on their homefront
  - Greater Autonomy and Freedom of the Chilean Colonies to practice local government and trade
- Joint forces of the Chilean and Argentine Militias defeated the powerful Spanish Forces
- Use of Guerilla Warfare and Strategic Knowledge of the surrounding terrain gave the Chileans an advantage (Crossing of the Andes)
- Battle of Maipu determined the defeat of the Spanish Royalist Forces where O’Higgins gained control of the entire southern part of South America
Success of the Chilean Revolution

● (Positive) Socially
  ○ Creoles gained a greater social standing compared to the Spanish-born citizens
  ○ Lower Classes remained oppressed

● (Negative) Politically
  ○ O’Higgins became a supreme dictator which differed from the promise of a democratic government
  ○ Maintained Strict Rule and then was exiled
  ○ Political Instability was inevitable from the number of political experiments and changes
  ○ Constitution eventually dissolved
  ○ Civil War broke out

https://www.officeholidays.com/holidays/chile/independence-day-of-chile
Political and Economic Chaos

- **Period of Political and Economic Chaos (1823-1830)**
  - Formation of a Secular Dictatorship with the rule of Bernardo O’Higgins
  - Many presidents and subsequent constitutions rose and fell following the exile of O’Higgins
  - Internal Rivalries and Political Chaos
  - Financial and Economic Disorder
  - Rise of lawlessness
  - Division of political parties
  - Diego Portales

- **Formation of Free Trade**
  - Trade with other countries (Loss of Mercantilist Policies)
  - Less taxes and regulations on certain goods

https://www.google.com/search?q=arrow+going+down&rlz=1C5CHFA_enUS776US776&xatrACE=5BGN4NK&ei=VMyoPMHDMmpm97fJjfsLCA&ved=2ahUKEwiGhfeviMPnAhWSpp4KHesfCwvAEwQzAQoAegQAw#imgrc=_hqiFVZsyLDD0M
Immediate Effects
Bernardo O’Higgins Steps Down

- O’Higgins’ policies were beginning to infringe on the privileges of the oligarchy.

- As soon as the Spanish threat had been eliminated and a military leader was no longer needed, the wealthy oligarchs got to work removing O’Higgins from power.
Jose de San Martin

- José de san martín a general and supreme leader defeat of royal forces at Chacabuco and Maipu (1817 to 1818) which Chile to independence
- Bernardo O’higgins ruled the country as the supreme director (1818 to 1823)
- New reform to change the social powers in Chile
- A new divide in social standing between the Creoles O’higgins and Jose Carreras
Struggles between upper and lower class

- The political and armed struggle between Conservative and Liberals of upper class vs. lower class persisted over O’higgins reform till 1830
- Conservatives were victors leading to a shift in representation
- The Conservatives (Creoles) wanted to retain the institutions of law, property, family, and religion inherited from their colonial status
- This separation of class was a huge factor in political unrest because more often than not class determined where you stood politically
Political leaders

- The years following Bernardo O’Higgins resignation were troubled by an internal political split between the oligarchy and the army.
- Governmental disorganization led to political and class rivalries.
- New outlook on Authoritarian leaders.
- Installment of juntas.
- Nomination of Jose Tomas Ovalle as provisory president and Diego Portales as cabinet minister.
- Use of income and property tax to decrease debt.

[Images of Bernardo O’Higgins and Jose Tomas Ovalle]
Foreign Diplomacy
Economic Situation

- Valparaiso developed as a main port
- Exports became much more drastic
- Money could be used to finance foreign debts

Treatment of Foreigners

- Chile treated all foreigners equally and fairly
- 1858 President Montt celebrated the role of foreigners in the country
- 1864 Chilean maritime trade was opened to foreign ships
Chilean Relations with the British

- Chilean economic welfare was reliant on the British
  - 1870 Britain bought 60% of exports and supplied 45% of imports
  - Nearly 70% of all Chilean exports went to Britain by 1890
  - At least ⅓ of all Chilean imports were British textiles between 1858-1880
    - Other supplies such as coal, hardware, nails, etc. as well

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Chilean Relations with the British (cont.)

- British people integrated into Chilean society
  - 1854-1885 British population in Chile grew from <2,000 to >5,000 people
    - 76.4% of residents had skilled professions by 1880
  - Banco de Valparaiso founded in 1855
  - Britons were in most of the high financial positions in Chilean society
The Monroe Doctrine

- Doctrine discouraged European nations from attempting certain policies
- Chile wanted to remain politically independent from European countries
  - Went to war to protect the Monroe Doctrine
    - Declared war on Spain to protect Peru in 1866
    - Chile and Peru triumphed despite Spanish aggression
    - Fighting over by 1867, treaty in 1871

https://www.history.com/topics/us-presidents/james-monroe
Rise, Politics, and Impact of Later Caudillo Rule
Immediately following Revolution

- Diego Portales and the Chilean oligarchy and a new constitution in effect until circa 1925
  - Circle of power

- Joaquin Prieto comes to power around 1832
  - Wages war vs. the Peruvian-Bolivian Confederation; decisive win, boosts popularity
Peruvian-Bolivian Confederation

- Bolivian dictator was Andres Santa Cruz
  - Overthrew Peru and divided it into North and South, placing an acting President in charge of each

- P-B Confederation lasted from about 1836 to the end of 1839
Dictators and Presidents in Chile

- Opened free trade port under Prieto
  - Led to a prospiring economy
- Attracted foreign merchants and incentivized protection from Europe and USA
- Failed attempt for a coup de tat, referred to as the “revolution of 1851”
  - Leads to more liberal governing
- Circa 1855, Roman Catholic Church rises against the Pres. Joaquin Prieto

Pictured above: (top right) Joaquin Prieto, (middle) Manuel Bulnes, (bottom) Manuel Montt
Post Presidential Era

- Church and Jose Joaquin Perez vs. Joaquin Prieto
  - Circa 1860, Liberal Republic forms and separates from church. This limits the ability of the church to have a great amount of influence and dominance in religious matters in Chile.

- 1886-1891 ~ President Jose Manuel Balmaceda tried to renew economic strength by reclaiming the income from the saltpetre mines, which would boost his political power, to no avail.
  - The oligarchy in Chile refused to allow this because they knew the implication that this move would boost Balmaceda’s power and his sphere of influence.

- This led to a short-lived civil war, resulting in Balmaceda’s resignation from the Presidency.

- Parliamentary Republic is formed after the decline of Balmaceda, leaving the oligarchy with the ability to take control of that, and wield a lot of power within the country of Chile.